

## Enormous pumpkins

St. Elizabeth parishioner Nick Voss mixes prayer and hard work to grow staggeringly large pumpkins and turn them into impressive works of art.

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# The CATHOLIC MISSOURIAN

November 12, 2021 • Vol. 65 No. 10

Newspaper of the Diocese of Jefferson City

## Catholic Charities Refugee Resettlement seeking help



Upon their arrival, refugees from Afghanistan board a bus at Dulles International Airport in Dulles, Virginia., Sept. 1, 2021, taking them to a processing center. — CNS photo/Kevin Lamarque, Reuters

**Community sponsorships will help resettle 300 refugees from Afghanistan in the area**

**Fulton Rotary Club offers a template**

By Jay Nies

The Fulton Rotary Club's communal sponsorship of a resettling family from Afghanistan is uniting people of all ages, creeds and political stripes behind an essential cause.

"Yes, we'll give them a lot, we'll provide a lot," noted Dr. Robert Hansen PhD, one of the leaders of the Fulton Rotary Club's refugee resettlement project. "But they've already given us so much, and they haven't even arrived yet!"

Fulton Rotary has been working with Refugee Services of Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri (CCCNMO) to welcome a family of 13 to Fulton this month.

These 13 are among about 300 people fleeing Afghanistan, many of whom eligible for special immigrant visas, who will be resettled in Central Missouri following the collapse of the Afghan government this summer.

Many of those fleeing from Afghanistan currently qualify for special immigrant visa status in the United States, based on the danger they would likely suffer for having worked for or with the U.S. during the Afghan War (2001-21).

Several U.S. federal agencies screened and vetted the people who are being admitted to this country.

They technically are not classified as refugees but are eligible for the same services refugees receive from the U.S. government.

"They're here because they have a well-founded fear of severe persecution

See RESETTLEMENT, page 14

## Vatican extends traditional All Souls' Day indulgences through all of November

See related article, Page 4

Catholic News Service

Vatican City

With the COVID-19 pandemic still underway and with restrictions on gatherings still in place in some countries, the Vatican has again extended the period of time when people can earn a plenary indulgence for visiting a cemetery and praying for the souls of the faithful in purgatory.

Cardinal Mauro Piacenza, head of the Apostolic Penitentiary, a Vatican tribunal dealing with matters of conscience, said the indulgences traditionally obtained during the first week of November can be gained throughout the entire month of November, the Vatican announced Oct. 28.

The cardinal said he was acting in response to "pleas recently received from various sacred pastors of the Church because of the state of the continuing pandemic."

Traditionally, the faithful could receive a full indulgence each day from Nov. 1 to Nov. 8 when they visited a cemetery to pray for the departed and fulfilled other conditions, and, in particular, when they went to a church or an oratory to pray Nov. 2, All Souls' Day.

Because of the pandemic and the popularity in many cultures of visiting cemeteries for All Souls' Day, some local governments and dioceses closed cemeteries in the first week of November to prevent crowding. That led Cardinal Piacenza to issue a decree in 2020 extending the period for the indulgences.

The decree for 2021 renewed those provisions.

Indulgences are granted when a Catholic visits a cemetery to pray for the dead, goes to confession, attends Mass and receives the Eucharist and prays for the intentions of the pope.

See ALL SOULS, page 8

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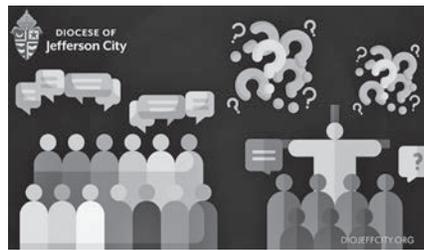
OLD PARISH \_\_\_\_\_

11/12/21

## Diocese releases online videos on COVID-19 and vaccines

The Jefferson City diocese has produced and released five short online videos on the benefits of the COVID-19 vaccine.

Each video features a Catholic ethicist or health-care provider addressing, in under a minute, topics such as the morality of the vaccine; young people and COVID-19; the vaccines' safety and effectiveness; the risk of side ef-



fects versus the benefits; and COVID-19 and pregnancy. The videos are posted online at [diojeffcity.org/public-health](http://diojeffcity.org/public-health) and are being shared on the diocese's social media platforms. The videos were made possible with support from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation through the Catholic Cares Coalition, [catholiccares.org](http://catholiccares.org).

## Thanksgiving meals in Camdenton, Jefferson City, Sedalia

St. Anthony Parish in Camdenton, Immaculate Conception Parish in Jefferson City and St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Sedalia will serve free meals on Thanksgiving Day (Thursday, Nov. 26) for anyone in

their communities who are in need of a good meal.

### Camdenton

St. Anthony Parish will sponsor its 16th Caring & Sharing free Thanksgiving

dinner consisting of turkey and all the trimmings from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the parish hall downstairs from St. Anthony Church, 1874 N. Business Route 5.

All are invited, especially people who are homeless, alone, who cannot afford the "holiday trimmings," and all who would enjoy sharing a free dinner in the company of others.

Volunteers will deliver meals to people who are homebound or cannot come to the church hall for the dinner.

To request a delivered meal, call Tracy Peters ahead of time at 573-480-6886.

To volunteer with the preparation of food or the serving or delivering of meals, call Kris Pauls at 573-292-0309, Tracy Peters 573-480-6886 or the parish office at 573-346-2716.

### Jefferson City

Immaculate Conception Parish will offer dine-in, carry-out, and delivery of traditional Thanksgiving favorites

### The Catholic Missourian

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*"A diocesan paper serves as a bond of unity by publishing diocesan happenings and promulgating official regulations and decrees. It also plays a teaching role by reporting notable events of a religious and secular nature, and interpreting them in the light of Christian principles."*

— Bishop Joseph M. Marling C.P.P.S., July 7, 1957

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## Pray for deceased priests

Nov. 16 — Fr. John B. Roettger, St. Anthony of Padua, Folk (1961)

Nov. 17 — Fr. J. Patrick Quinn, Sacred Heart, Rich Fountain; and St. Alexander, Belle (1999)

Nov. 18 — Msgr. Jerome O. Sommer, PA, St. Robert Bellarmine, St. Robert (2012)

Nov. 24 — Fr. Frank A. Bussmann, St. Peter, Fulton; and St. Jude Thaddeus, Mokane (2017)

Nov. 25 — Msgr. Joseph T. Bugler, St. Mary, Shelbina (1997)

Nov. 26 — Fr. Leo A. Stamm, St. Joseph, Martinsburg (1975)

Nov. 27 — Fr. Vincent A. Linnebur, Sacred Heart, Columbia (2007)

## Campus Ministry & Adult Faith Formation Positions

St. Thomas More Newman Center Parish in Columbia, Mo., serving the University of Missouri-Columbia (Mizzou) and two other colleges, is accepting applications for the **Assistant Director of Campus Ministry**. The Assistant Director reports directly to the Director of Campus Ministry and serves with a team of priests, two other professional campus ministry staff, FOCUS missionaries and student interns. This position has a primary emphasis on ministries related to new student outreach, retreats, spirituality, service and communications. An excellent candidate will live the Catholic faith in his/her daily life; balance a Catholic theological background with pastoral skills; and have strong communication, organization and planning skills.

St. Thomas More Newman Center Parish is also accepting applications for a full-time **Director of Adult Faith Formation** to serve a diverse parish community on the campus of the University of Missouri. This position reports directly to the Pastor and serves with a team of faith formation ministers including RCIA Director, Middle School/High School Youth Minister and Director of Grade School Religious Education, as well as with college campus ministry. This position is responsible for the faith formation of adults in the Catholic tradition.

For full job descriptions, visit [www.comoneyman.org/job-openings](http://www.comoneyman.org/job-openings).



College Ministry at  
**NEWMAN**  
PARISH

homebound or elderly and anyone in need of a good meal.

Home deliveries will take place on Thanksgiving Day before noon.

Meals will be available for pick up in the St. Patrick Chapel basement, 415 E. Fourth St., between 11 a.m. and noon that day.

To request a meal, call 660-827-2311 or 660-826-2062 and leave a message, including name, address, phone number, the number of meals needed, and whether they need to be delivered.

The limit for delivery is 10 meals per address.

Volunteers are needed to bake and donate cookies ahead of time and also to help set up, fill, assemble and deliver the meals and clean up.

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### Sedalia

St. Vincent de Paul Parish will serve its annual Thanksgiving Day dinner for people who

## Correction

An incorrect date for the Hunter's Breakfast in Bahner was included in the Things to Do Page in the Oct. 29 print edition of *The Catholic Missourian*. The correct date is Nov. 13.

## J.C. St. Peter Mass time

The Saturday Vigil Mass in St. Peter Church in Jefferson City will be offered at 4:30 p.m., as of Nov. 6.

## Meta Deer Season Mass

The Saturday Vigil Mass in St. Cecilia Church in Meta will be at 7 p.m. on Nov. 13 and 20, because of deer season. The Mass is usually at 5 p.m.

## Ecumenical community Thanksgiving services

In addition to Mass being available in many Catholic parishes on Thanksgiving Day (Thursday, Nov. 25), many local ministerial alliances organize ecumenical Thanksgiving prayer services in the days leading up to the holiday as a chance to pray as one faith community and take up an offering for local people in need. These services are a long-standing tradition in areas of the diocese and offer a rare opportunity to gather and pray united with members of other Christian congregations. Here is a partial list of ecumenical Thanksgiving prayer services that are scheduled in the diocese. **All services are at 7 p.m. unless noted.**

**Centralia** — Sunday, Nov. 21, United Methodist Church  
**Cuba** — Thursday, Nov. 18, Deer Creek Church  
**Edina** — Sunday, Nov. 21, Assembly of God Church  
**Eldon** — Sunday, Nov. 21, Ninth Street Christian Church

**Fayette** — Sunday, Nov. 21 at 4 p.m., Grace Fellowship Church  
**Hermann** — Sunday, Nov. 21 at 6 p.m., Hermann Methodist Church  
**Monroe City** — Monday, Nov. 22, United Methodist Church

**Palmyra** — Sunday, Nov. 21 at 1 p.m., Palmyra Methodist Church. Father Matthew Flatley will give a message.  
**Steelville** — Wednesday, Nov. 17, NHIM Fellowship  
**Unionville** — Tuesday, Nov. 23, St. Mary Church

## Parish Mission in Columbia Nov. 28-30

Redemptorist Father Peter Schavitz, a seasoned parish mission preacher whose faith, stories, humor and words continue to spiritually impact thousands, will lead a parish mission on Sunday through Tuesday, Nov. 28-30 in Columbia.

Sessions will be held at 7 p.m. each evening at Sacred Heart Church, 105 Waugh St.

Fellowship and refreshments follow each session.

The Wednesday session will

include Mass.

The theme is “Let Your Faith Blossom.”

All are invited to attend any or all of the sessions.

Fr. Schavitz has wide and varied apostolic experiences: youth, adult, couple, divorced, and nuns’ retreats; seminary professor; vocation ministry; parish ministry; provincial administration; and, involvement in several radio and video projects.



## Official Decree of Appointments

*The Most Reverend W. Shawn McKnight, Bishop of Jefferson City, makes the following appointments:*

### PRIESTS

**Reverend Ernest Dike**, in residence at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Columbia, and to assist with coverage for priests.

*This appointment is effective December 15, 2021*

**Reverend William L. Korte**, from Parochial Administrator of St. Anthony of Padua Parish, St. Anthony and to continue as Pastor of St. Lawrence Parish, St. Elizabeth.

*This appointment is effective November 4, 2021.*

**Reverend Ignitius Nimwesiga**, to Parochial Administrator of St. Anthony

of Padua Parish, St. Anthony, and to continue as Assistant Pastor of Cathedral of St. Joseph Parish, and part-time Chaplain at Helias Catholic High School, both in Jefferson City, and as an intern in the Catholic Schools Office at the Chancery.

*This appointment is effective November 5, 2021.*

### DEACONS

**Deacon Kent D. Boettger**, has departed the

Diocese of Jefferson City and consequently all faculties, permissions and ministries granted have ceased.

*This action is effective from September 27, 2021.*

**Deacon L. Michael Long**, to medical early retirement, continuing with faculties for service under the direction of his pastor.

*This appointment is effective from September 27, 2021.*

**Given at the Chancery this 5th day of November 2021.**

**Most Reverend W. Shawn McKnight, S.T.D.**  
Bishop of Jefferson City

**Very Reverend Jason T. Doke, S.T.L.**  
Ecclesiastical Notary

### Bishop McKnight's November prayer intention for our Local Church

For a deeper spirituality of stewardship among all the baptized: That from our gratitude for God's many blessings we may offer our personal gifts and talents in service to the evangelizing mission of the Church.



### Intención del mes de noviembre del Obispo McKnight por nuestra Iglesia Local

Por una espiritualidad de 'buenos administradores' más profunda en todos los bautizados: Que desde nuestra gratitud por las muchas bendiciones de Dios podamos ofrecer nuestros dones y talentos personales al servicio de la misión evangelizadora de la Iglesia.

*Please be so kind as to make this a part of your group and private prayer.*



## Bishop McKnight's Calendar

### NOVEMBER

- Nov 13-18** United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Fall Plenary, Baltimore, MD
- Nov 18-20** National Catholic Youth Conference, Indianapolis, IN
- Nov 30** Mass, Moberly Correctional Center, 4:30 pm, Moberly

### DECEMBER

- Dec 1** Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri Board Meeting, noon, Jefferson City; Confirmation Ceremony, St Brendan Parish, 6:30 pm, Mexico

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## People throughout the diocese gather in prayer for the faithful departed during this month of remembrance

By Jay Nies

A light shone in the darkness in Our Lady of the Snows Cemetery in Mary's Home throughout the night before Nov. 1, the Solemnity of All Saints.

Children from Our Lady of the Snows School had placed tiny electric candles on each of the headstones and along the circular walkway through the cemetery.

Many of the students have relatives and ancestors buried in the cemetery.

"They're important!" said fifth-grader Madelyn Doerhoff. "They're human beings, and every human being is special in their own way."

Together, the students chanted the Litany of Saints as they processed from the church to the cemetery the morning of Nov. 1 to retrieve the lights.

After completing the litany, they prayed silently together in the walkway, near the burial place for babies and children.

"May they be one with the One Who is eternal life," Principal Mary Burgess prayed. "May the beauty of their lives shine forevermore, and may our lives always bring honor to their memory."

### Prayer and penance

The following day, Father Roberto Ike, pastor of St. Andrew Parish in Holts Summit, couldn't get the Blessed Mother off of his mind.

In his homily for the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed (All Souls Day), he recalled how an angel spoke to the three shepherd children in Fatima, Portugal, six months before Mary first appeared to them in 1917.

"The angel told them that they are supposed to do penance," Fr. Ike noted.

The angel had to explain to them the meaning of penance.

"It means that they offer everything that's going on in their lives to God, and whatever they offer would go toward saving souls!" said Fr. Ike.

The only souls they could help save are souls in purgatory, he noted.

"Just imagine that!" the priest stated. "You and I, through our

baptism, can also offer up whatever penances we can in order to save souls."

He emphasized that Jesus is the intercessor: "We do penance so God will save these souls," he said.

Fr. Ike said penance amounts to everyday trials and difficulties that come with living.

"The difficulty you're having paying your bills: that's penance," he stated. "The struggle you have raising your children, the agonizing difficulty you're having worrying about your children: that's penance."

The priest encouraged everyone to act upon any inspiration to pray for their friends and loved ones who have died.

"God will not inspire you to pray for someone who is already condemned," he explained. "If you have the inspiration to pay, to offer something up, that is because God wants you to do that for the salvation of that person."

After Holy Communion, the parish's youth choir, directed by Chris and Laura St.

**Photos from these events will be posted in *The Catholic Missourian's* online edition, [cathmo.com](http://cathmo.com). Select "Photo Galleries" from the "Multimedia" tab on the menu bar.**

Clair, sang a meditation by Jaime Rickert titled, "We Remember Them."

Fr. Ike then led a Rosary procession by flashlight to the tall illuminated cross in the parish cemetery.

After mediating on the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary, he led them in praying the Litany of the Blessed Virgin.

### Like gold purified

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight and about 25 priests gathered in St. Joseph Church in Westphalia on Nov. 5 to celebrate Mass for the repose of the souls of all the deceased priests of this diocese.

Father Greg Oligschlaeger, pastor of Holy Rosary Parish



**Father Daniel Merz offers Mass by candlelight the evening of Nov. 2, the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed (All Souls) in Sacred Heart Church in Columbia.**

— Photos by Jay Nies

in Monroe City and St. Stephen Parish in Indian Creek, preached the homily.

"A Christian dies in Christ," he noted. "And those two words, 'in Christ,' make all the difference in the world."

Quoting Scripture, he said all who live in Christ and die in Christ will also rise with Him.

"He offers us His victory over death," the priest stated.

He commented on all the good work God had done through each priest's ministry before they died.

"Even though we carry this treasure, this Priesthood, in earthen vessels — our frailty, our humanity, our sinfulness — it is holy," said Fr. Oligschlaeger.

"Because as ones who stand in His place at the altar, we share in Our Lord's own High Priesthood in our ministry of word and sacrament," he said.

Aware of their own need for prayers, priests are quick to offer them for those who have gone before them.

"We pray that their souls may be with God," he told the congregation. "And when we die, we beg of YOUR prayers for us, confident that the love of Jesus Christ, Who gave us the gift of Priesthood, is stronger than death."

Referring to the first reading from the Book of Wisdom, he noted that God gave everyone an eternal soul that is gold within.

"But the sin of this world, our temptations and sins, can sometimes tarnish that gold,"

he said.

Yet, God wants His people to be with Him.

"So through our sacrifices, through our willingness to seek forgiveness and penance, He melts away all those impurities so that we might be with Him in eternal glory," the priest said.

He emphasized that contrary to earthly wisdom, death is not "the last period after the last sentence of the last chapter of our human story."

"The story is not birth, life and death but rather life, death and resurrection!" he said. "Death does not have the last word. Life does! And that's life eternal."

Priests are called to offer themselves up in service every day — not just at Mass but as a pastor and shepherd and father to God's people.

"And when we stumble and fall, we can seek Christ's forgiveness, we can continue to get up and follow Him," the priest said.

He called on everyone to continue praying throughout this month for deceased priests and for all the faithful departed, "that they may receive that eternal reward and be with God in the promise of everlasting life."

At the end of Mass, Father Christopher Cordes and Father John Schmitz read the names of all the deceased priests of the diocese, in order of their deaths.

"Receive their souls, O holy ones," the St. Joseph School Choir sang. "Present them now to God Most High."

### "Not just for us"

University of Missouri stu-

dent Ben Roth addressed fellow pilgrims from of St. Thomas More Newman Center Parish the night of All Souls Day.

They were gathered in historical Sacred Heart Church, located near the University of Missouri Campus, for Mass by candlelight.

"This Mass is not for us," he asserted. "It is for our loved ones who have gone on, beyond the veil, who anxiously await the eternal joy of our King."

That evening at Mass, heaven would touch earth, he said.

"You all know someone who is no longer with their family here on earth," he said. "You know someone who needs prayers. This Mass is for them."

Father Daniel Merz, pastor of St. Thomas More Newman Center Parish in Columbia, presided at the Mass.

"We gather in communion with those who have gone before us but who are not separated from us," he said. "They are tied to us by a bond that is stronger than death."

"They are in need of our prayers," he stated.

He noted that Jesus said the eternal fire of hell is intended only for the devil and his angels.

"That fire was never intended for us!" Fr. Merz proclaimed. "We are intended for glory! Heaven is God's desire and will for us."

Fr. Merz then spoke of the need for purification — in this life and often in the next.

"In our first reading from Wisdom, we hear that as gold in the furnace, God proved them. He purified them. He refined them."

That refinement in the fire of God's love should be happening right now, in this life.

"That's what our striving for excellence is all about," said Fr. Merz. "Striving for God, striving not just for good but for the best!"

People strive, and God purifies.

"That's our whole understanding of purgatory," he said, "that I strive for heaven, but heaven is only for what is

See REMEMBER, page 15

# PROMISE TO PROTECT



# PLEDGE TO HEAL

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Any known or suspected abuse or neglect of children or adults should be immediately reported to the appropriate legal authorities.

**To report concerns or suspected abuse by diocesan personnel, also contact:**

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**reportabuse@diojeffcity.org | 573-694-3199**



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## Every day is Veterans Day for Sedalia parishioner

By Jay Nies

Latisha Koetting has made it her mission to ensure that U.S. military veterans receive the honor they deserve, 365 days a year.

That's been a tall order these past 20 months for the staff of the Missouri Veterans Home in Warrensburg, where she is supervisor of volunteer services.

"Our veterans stood on the front lines for us," said Mrs. Koetting, a member of St. Vincent de Paul Parish of Pettis County. "During the pandemic, we got to be on the front lines for them. We got to say, 'We're locking arms and standing strong and doing everything we can to protect you like you protected us.'"

In honor of her efforts to honor veterans and help make their lives better, Mrs. Koetting has been chosen to be the grand marshal of this year's Sedalia Veterans Day Parade on Saturday, Nov. 13.

"I don't know what they're honoring me for!" she said. "I'm the one who's lucky enough to work in a place where it's Veterans Day every day."

Mrs. Koetting considers the residents and her coworkers at the Veterans Home to be her second family.

"This is a second home ... and it's THEIR home," she said. "You want them to see you and engage with you and feel comfortable."

She works with the Veterans Assistance League on fundraisers to help pay for activities for the home's residents.

"Those are things that enhance the lives of our veterans — everything from bingo to Friday happy hour," she said.

She also carves out plenty of time for visiting each resident, especially since volunteers haven't been allowed into the home since March of 2020.

"My brain doesn't shut off,"

she said. "The veterans are my inspiration. Anything I can do to enhance their lives, I'll jump right up and try to figure it out."

She is convinced that this is where God wants her to be.

"I love that I can make a difference every day," she said. "I never have to question that. I know I am making a difference."

### Opportunities lost and found

Mrs. Koetting has four children and a stepdaughter, ages 19 to 32, with her husband, Chris.

She comes from a family of veterans, including her grandfather, who served during World War II.

"I was not smart enough in my younger years to sit down with my grandfather and ask him about his time in the service," she said. "I always thought, 'I'll ask about it next time.'"

Only after he died did she realize what she had missed out on.

She was working as the newsroom clerk for the *Sedalia Democrat* newspaper in 2000 when the staff started planning its Veterans Day coverage.

She suggested placing a notice in the paper, asking local World War II veterans to submit their recollections, along with then-and-now photos of themselves.

"We had so much response, we wound up running six stories in that paper, and then one every week for three months," she noted.

She eventually asked for there to be a weekly Veterans Page in the paper.

"Can you fill a whole page every week?" Publisher Frank Lyons, now deceased, asked.

"I think we can!" Mrs. Koetting answered.

She augmented the veterans' stories from the paper's nine-county readership area with news from the American Legion and combat veterans and with reports on people entering basic training, embarking on overseas deployments and receiving promotions.

"My favorite thing was do-



Latisha Koetting, a member of St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Sedalia, stands by the flag outside the Missouri Veterans Home in Warrensburg, where she is the director of volunteers.

ing those veterans stories," she said. "Looking at the pictures and hearing their voices and listening to their stories and hearing back from them after we printed them. It was so cool!"

"There definitely is an art to it," she said. "There were a couple of them that I literally sat with on their death bed. We talked through what they were proud of, what they hoped they'd be remembered for."

### Moments in time

Early in 2013, Mrs. Koetting got a call from a man named Fred Hogue in Jacksonville, Florida.

He was looking for the burial place of Paul Robert Ford, a Sedalia native who was killed in the Korean War.

Mrs. Koetting's research revealed that Mr. Ford is buried in the city's Crown Hill Cemetery.

Mr. Hogue drove 1,100 miles to visit his old friend's resting place.

Mrs. Koetting notified some of Mr. Ford's extended family, who greeted Mr. Hogue when he arrived.

Mr. Hogue recounted how he and Mr. Ford were best friends during the war and would always go out on patrol together until their commander told them to go separately.

That night, Mr. Ford said, "I'll take patrol duty tonight and then you can relieve me."

Mr. Ford was killed by friendly fire in the line of duty that night.

"Fred felt like Paul took a bullet for him," said Mrs. Koetting. "He looked for him for 60 years after that to thank him for his service."

She still gets calls from family members of people she interviewed years ago.

"Sometimes they incorporate it into their funeral services," she noted, "because somehow in that moment in time, I was able to pull more information from them than their family did in their lifetime."

### "My better self"

Mrs. Koetting had been coordinating the *Sedalia Democrat's* Veterans Page for 13 years when the person who preceded her as supervisor of volunteers at the Veterans Home retired.

Mrs. Koetting sent in her resume.

Upon accepting the position, she told her friends: "I'm finally doing what I feel I'm being called to do."

She pours herself into her work.

"Everything I do goes back to enhancing their lives," she said.

Some of the residents ask her why she puts in so much effort.

"I say, 'I work so hard because of you!'" she said.

She believes veterans inspire her in every way to "be my better self."

"They teach you to worry less and embrace the moment, to just stop and listen," she said.

Veterans Day is now her favorite holiday.

"Because I get to celebrate

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See VETERANS, page 23

# Harvest season: Parish community gardens feed the hungry

By Eddie O'Neill

"The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few," Jesus told the crowd in the ninth chapter of Matthew. "Therefore, pray earnestly to the Lord of the Harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."

It could be said that prayers have been answered at a handful of community gardens in the Diocese of Jefferson City this past year.

Record-breaking harvests and eager green thumbs have become the norm at these three parish gardens.

## Interfaith Community Garden, Columbia

For the laborers and gardeners at the Interfaith Community Garden in Columbia, there is plenty to celebrate.

The volunteers there just wrapped a record-breaking harvest of 1,800 pounds of produce, which were donated to the local food pantry.

"The old record was 1,500 pounds, but everything went so well this year," said organizer Lily Chan.

The community garden began in 2009 as a collaboration between St. Thomas More Newman Center Parish and the nearby Congregation Beth Shalom.

The 60-by-70-foot garden is on Congregation Beth Shalom's property off of Green Meadows Road in Columbia.

"We began with a simple common purpose — to feed the hungry and take care of the earth by not using chemicals," Mrs. Chan explained. "Among

other things we have turnips, lettuce, spinach and summer sweet potatoes."

She added that the garden is worked by a skeleton crew of about a dozen volunteers along with several community groups from the University of Missouri, making it a true community garden.

"We have four coordinators of the garden — two from Newman and two from Congregation Beth Shalom," Mrs.

Chan related. "Both congregations at Newman and Beth Shalom are very supportive of the garden."

## St. Vincent de Paul, Sedalia

The roots of St. Vincent de Paul Parish's community garden in Sedalia took shape due to a well-respected junior high science teacher, Barb Hagebusch.

Around eight years ago, she began a garden outside Sacred Heart School to help teach students about biology and ecology.

Precious Blood Father Mark Miller, who was pastor at that time, wanted to take the idea a step further.

"He wanted to create some raised-bed gardens near the school garden in order to raise produce for our community food pantry, the Open Door Food Pantry, in Sedalia," said parishioner Joy Simon, who heads the gardening project.

Mrs. Simon estimates

Mrs. Simon added that she and around 10 volunteers plant twice a year — once in April and again in August.

"We grow a lot of greens like lettuce, green beans, spinach and other vegetables such as tomatoes and potatoes, as well," Mrs. Simon said.

Thanks to a grant from Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri, the St. Vincent de Paul gardeners were able to update their garden tools and start on a new project — a Rosary memorial garden.

"We are very excited about the Rosary garden," said Mrs. Simon. "It will be a stone path, with flowers along the way that will wind through the current garden. We hope to start on it in the spring."

Whether it's planting the green beans or planning the Rosary path, one thing is certain for Mrs. Simon and her crew: this ministry is a real blessing.

"I enjoy the people coming together and all the giving of time and talent," she said. "It is something straight out of the Gospel."

## St. Peter, Marshall

When the Bethel family vehicle pulls in to the Community Food Pantry in Marshall, the volunteers there know blessings

are coming.

As of early November, the amount of graciousness has weighed in at 1,068 pounds of produce to be given out to people in the area who are most in need.

The potatoes, tomatoes, beets, turnips and carrots have all been harvested from St. Peter Church's community garden.

This was the garden's first year.



Children of St. Peter Parish in Marshall work in the community garden. — Photos by Jannifer Bethel

"I was expecting maybe several hundred pounds, but have been blown away by how much we been able to pick," said Jann Bethel, one of the organizers of the 40-by-80-foot plot of land near St. Peter Church.

Mrs. Bethel said she couldn't have done it without the help of her three daughters, Mabrie, Breckin and Kinseley (ages 12, 11 and 4), and fellow parishioner Al Turhan.

The dedicated gardeners of St. Peter's knew that God was smiling down on the garden project when a June storm inundated the Marshall area and resulted in flooding around Saline County.

The community garden at St. Peter went unscathed.

"Numerous area gardens were destroyed except for ours," said Mrs. Bethel. "We knew that we were on to something good."

## Kind of a homecoming



Gerry Kliethermes displays a photo of his high school junior class standing in the sanctuary of the former La Salette Seminary Chapel in 1969. The seminary closed after his junior year and the students transferred to St. Henry's Preparatory Seminary in Belleville, Illinois. The La Salette Seminary Chapel was recently renovated and expanded to become Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri's center of charitable outreach. "I haven't been back here since high school," Mr. Kliethermes said with awe during an Oct. 16 open house. "This brings back a lot of memories." — Photo by Jay Nies



that the harvest has tripled in weight and in enthusiasm from its humble beginnings eight years ago.

"We now have 12 8-by-10 gardens, and in early November we topped off at around 300 pounds of produce to Open Door," she told *The Catholic Missourian*.

"That was our last delivery, and the pantry was so happy to receive it as they do not get many greens," she said.

## QUESTION CORNER

## Dating divorced individuals/ Bowling at the name of Jesus

By Father Kenneth Doyle  
Catholic News Service



**Q. I have a question regarding dating people who are divorced (Catholic or non-Catholic). At my age (42) it seems like the majority of those in the dating pool are in fact divorced. Many of these potential dates are through online dating apps, which don't list the person's whole history. Then there is the issue of knowing whether the person's marriage was even valid to begin with. These are questions that, I feel, need to be asked over the course of several dates. So my question is this: Is it OK for a Catholic to date someone who is divorced? (Bel Air, Maryland)**

**A.** Certainly before entering any kind of serious romantic relationship, a Catholic should know whether the person he or she is dating is free to marry in the Catholic Church. (And it is good to consider how quickly — especially at the age of 42 — a dating relationship can become serious.)

In terms of knowing whether someone's previous marriage was valid in the Church's eyes, it is safest to presume that it was. Certainly two non-Catholics have no responsibility to get the Catholic Church's approval before marrying, and the assumption is that the couple was in good faith and that their decision must be honored.

I can understand — especially with the advent of online matches — that you wouldn't want to “grill” a potential date at the very outset on the circumstances of their first marriage; but fairly early in the relationship you would want to know that, should you decide to marry, the two of you would be free to marry in the Church.

Should your dating partner need a Church annulment from a previous marriage, you should know in advance that that process could take several months. The questionnaires are extensive and seek to examine whether there was some reason — psychological or emotional — that may have hampered the first couple from entering into a permanent relationship.

**Q. I am a “cradle Catholic,” born 90 years ago. I am troubled by the lack of reverence given of late to the name “Jesus.” From childhood, that name has always prompted me to bow my head in reverence, but I never see that done anymore. I, as a party of one, am asking people to restore this simple gesture of respect. (Duluth, Georgia)**

**A.** The custom of bowing at the name of Jesus has a long history in the Church. It takes its origin from something St. Paul said in his Letter to the Philippians (2:9-10): “God greatly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every other name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend ... and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.”

To kneel or genuflect at every mention of Jesus might distract from the flow of prayer, and so in the 13th century Pope Gregory X found a reasonable accommodation. In 1274, he wrote this to the Dominican friars:

“Recently, during the council held at Lyons, ... we have also judged it proper to persuade the faithful to demonstrate more reverence for that Name above all names, the only Name to which we claim salvation — the Name of Jesus Christ, who has redeemed us from the bondage of sin. Consequently, in obedience to that apostolic precept, ‘In the Name of Jesus let every knee be bent,’ we wish that at the pronouncing of that Name, chiefly at the Holy Sacrifice, everyone would bow his head in

See FR. DOYLE, page 11

## Papal Audience

November 10, 2021



Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Today we conclude our series of catecheses on St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians. We have seen Paul speak in a variety of ways as apostle, theologian and pastor, opening up the inexhaustible riches of Jesus Christ. Paul's personal encounter with the Risen Lord led him

to proclaim boldly the freedom from sin and death won by Christ's victory on the Cross, and the new life bestowed on us by the Holy Spirit at our baptism. Paul's insistence that charity is the fulfilment of the law should lead us enthusiastically to pursue the way of Christian love and to cultivate the fruits of the Holy Spirit. Nor should we ever grow weary or discouraged by our failures or apparent lack of progress. St. Augustine evokes the image of Christ asleep in the boat amid the storm to remind us that whenever we feel weary and the tempests of life threaten to overwhelm us, we need but awaken Christ in our hearts, trusting in His faithful presence and the life-giving power of His Spirit. With St. Paul, may we constantly rejoice in the newness, joy and freedom of the new life proclaimed by the Gospel.

I greet the English-speaking pilgrims and visitors taking part in today's audience, especially the groups from England and the United States of America. In this month of November, let us pray for our deceased loved ones, and for all who have died, that the Lord in His mercy will welcome them into the Kingdom of heaven. Upon all of you, and your families, I invoke the joy and peace of Christ. May God bless you!

## ALL SOULS

From page 1

An indulgence is a remission of the temporal punishment one deserves for one's sins; people often will seek the indulgence on behalf of a loved one who has died or, especially in early November, for an unknown soul in purgatory.

The Church teaches that prayer, particularly the Mass, and sacrifices may be offered on behalf of the souls in purgatory. The feast of All Souls differs from the Nov. 1 feast of All Saints precisely because it offers prayers for the eternal peace and heavenly rest of all those who died in a state of grace, but not totally purified.

*The Catechism of the Catholic Church* says, “All who die in God's grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death they undergo purification so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven.”

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## How do we respond to the anger in our nation?

By Effie Caldarola  
Catholic News Service



When we first moved to Omaha, Nebraska, 10 years ago, my husband was in a store's parking lot trying to squeeze a purchase for our new house into his trunk. He was

having a tough time.

A woman with a van, a mommy-mobile, was loading her groceries next to him.

"If you don't live too far from me, I'd be happy to load that in my van and follow you home," she said.

Although he managed to fit the item in the trunk, we were impressed with this stranger's generous attitude, a Midwestern trait, but also an American one.

Where is that all-American kindness right now? I have to remind myself that it's all around us, but you have to look hard. We live in an angry nation right now.

And sadly, I sometimes find myself being angry right back, and I know that's not where my faith calls me. In a recent daily reading, Christ admonishes hypocrites who criticize their neighbors and are blind to their own faults.

"How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me remove that splinter in your eye,' when you do not even notice the wooden beam in your own eye?"

Christ challenges us to meet the anger around us with peace and self-awareness.

At a Southern school board meeting Sept. 7, a high school student testified in favor of school masks. He recounted how his grandmother had died of COVID-19, and he attributed it to a lack of mask wearing.

People jeered. A woman behind him, a smirk on her face, laughed. Someone told him, this 11th grader whose grandma had died, to shut up. Never mind that those folks were given ample time to testify about their own opinions.

At a local parish, a man got up during the homily at Sunday Mass and ranted loudly at the priest about the mandate for masks in the parish school.

This, despite the fact that polls show the majority of Americans favor school mask mandates.

This behavior is wrong. But the sad thing is that negativity begets negativity. It's contagious.

Recently, I was shopping at Target, where masks are now required of employees. Omaha is having a surge in COVID-19 cases and intensive care units are dangerously full. I was heartened by the large number of mask wearers I saw.

But then, walking toward me, an unmasked woman sneezed loudly, without using her arm or sleeve to cover the sneeze.

See CALDAROLA, page 18

## Rejection letters and the spiritual life

By Christina Capecchi



Just as "Tiger King" became a defining show of our early quarantine days and "Bridgerton" carried us through the first COVID winter, "Squid Game" has dominated this

fall. It's not hard to see how the Korean drama resonates more deeply in the pandemic's long shadow.

The nine-episode Netflix series depicts a survival game with 456 participants desperate for money. It's dark and riveting.

Every day new headlines tout the show's global success, shattering record after record. "Squid Game" became the first Korean show to reach the No. 1 spot on the U.S. Netflix chart. Now it's poised to overtake "Bridgerton" and become Netflix's biggest show ever.

Not bad for the show that almost didn't launch, declined by studio after studio for the last decade.

Hwang Dong-hyuk, the writer, started drafting scripts while living with his mother and grandmother. He had to halt the project when he found himself — like the game's contestants — strapped for cash. At one point he sold his laptop for \$675.

Pitching the show was no easier. Prospective investors and actors found the plotline implausible. Then the coronavirus brought us closer to our mortality and underscored the public-health repercussions of the wealth gap.

"The world has changed," Dong-hyuk told *The Wall Street Journal*. "All of these points made the story very realistic for people compared to a decade ago."

Dong-hyuk is now in good company, among literary superstars like Loui-

sa May Alcott, Agatha Christie and J.K. Rowling, all of whom faced repeated rejection early in their careers.

I've been thinking about Dong-hyuk's story as "Squid Game" continues to make news. It's hard to admit, but I don't possess the same kind of persistence.

An exciting new creative pursuit presented itself last spring that, by its nature, has a slow timeline. Not 10 years, but much longer than my typical writing. And I've let it slide to a back burner that conveniently allows denial and good intentions to keep simmering.

The Church teaches that there are four cardinal virtues: prudence, justice, fortitude and temperance. Fortitude is defined as forbearance mixed with courage — to bravely press on. It's a virtue we sorely lack in this Insta-age: Instagram for an instant telegram, Instacart for an instant grocery cart. We expect same-day deliveries, immediate results, click and procure. Anything slower feels irrelevant.

Isn't that a shame?

Because spiritual growth doesn't happen on the first try. Good things are worth working at and waiting for. They mean more.

Jennifer Dukes Lee, a Christian writer from Iowa, is reminding me of this. Her message feels like a permission slip to drop out of the hustle culture: "You were not made for speed."

Her new book *Grow Slow*, and its accompanying Bible study explore this in depth, drawing on the wisdom she's gleaned from farming.

"This is the important work of cultivation — learning to trust the One who is in charge of the growth," Jennifer writes. "If you're like most people, you want things faster, sooner, easier. But life isn't a reality TV competition where someone is suddenly discovered in front of a live audience. As I reflect

on God's cultivating work in me, I believe that the quality of the fruit I produce is directly proportional to the time

God takes to shape me."

See CAPECCHI, page 18

### REFLECTION

## From the dust of the earth

By Mark Saucier

As temperatures and leaves began to fall, I took to the yard to prepare for winter.

Like so many other gardeners and lawn stewards, I cut back dying plants, raked those annoying locust pods, and worked up the bare spots for seeding.

Crushing a few of the stubborn clods of clay in my hands, I remembered an old story.

One day, when God came to check on the earth — as a good creator is wont to do — a group of scientists approached.

"May we have a word with You, God?" they asked.

God welcomed and asked what was on their minds.

"We want to inform You about our new game-changing discovery."

"Yes?" God responded, curious about their scientific breakthrough.

"Well," a physicist replied, "we have discovered the secret to creating life and we no longer need you."

"Could you show Me?" God asked with smile.

"Certainly," a chemist replied and, stealing a trick from the Genesis play-book, she scooped up a handful of soil.

"Wait a minute," God insisted, "you have to use your own dirt."

No doubt those scientists began thinking of a recipe for dirt. After all, most of it is just fragments of rock, broken down over billions of years.

If you don't have that kind of time, you could just mix up a batch of iron, silicon, potassium, magnesium, calcium, trace minerals, and some sodium to taste.

But it gets a little more complicated after that. Soil is not just mineral particles. A critical 10 percent of it is made up of organic matter, water and air.

That single handful of dirt the chemist grabbed was already teeming with life. It had more life forms than the number of people living on earth.

There are the worms: earthworms, grubs and the tiny nematodes.

There are insects, particularly the arthropods — your centipedes, millipedes and mites. And amoebas, fungi and bacteria. A single gram of soil contains a billion bacteria.

It's no wonder moms urge their kids to wash their dirty hands. But first, they might remind their child of just how much life is coating their skin.

And there is the humus, dead and decomposing plants and animals enriching the soil.

We are far from creating dirt from scratch, much less, life from that dirt.

For now, we who are so moved by the heavens, might ponder, as well, the dirt beneath our feet.

Like God, it is alive, generative and providing for us all.

# Hard work, prayers go into growing enormous pumpkins

By Jay Nies

Nick Voss spent much of this summer preparing for the next big thing.

A member of St. Lawrence Parish in St. Elizabeth, Mr. Voss indulges in the speculative sport of competitive pumpkin-growing.

"It's like any job: People see the final product but have no idea what it takes to get there," he said.

His 751.5-pound behemoth handily won first prize at this year's Missouri State Fair.

Other nearly-as-gigantic specimens from his backyard garden mystified students at Iberia R-V Elementary School this fall, where he teaches phys-ed and coaches sports.

"It puts a smile on people's faces, and that's something I like about it," he said.

He recalled that "this whole pumpkin thing" started out as a family competition.

"I thought it would be neat if we get the same kind of seeds and see who could grow the largest pumpkin," he recalled.

Members of his extended family would compare their harvest each year at their family Oktoberfest.

"I'm a pretty competitive person," Mr. Voss acknowledged, "so I'm always thinking of things we can do like that."

As an educator, he has some extra free time over the summer, and he enjoys the outdoor exercise.

About three years into his horticultural odyssey, he found out about the competition for the heaviest pumpkin at the State Fair in Sedalia.



LEFT: Nick Voss, a member of St. Lawrence Parish in St. Elizabeth displays one of the enormous pumpkins he grew in his garden this summer. RIGHT: Mr. Voss and his wife, Dana, carved this deer and a landscape scene into a 300-pound pumpkin he grew.

He won first place in 2019 and 2021. There was no competition in 2020.

Alan Voss of St. Anthony Parish in St. Anthony won second place this year with a 692.5-pound pumpkin.

"He's my dad," Nick Voss noted. "He provides a lot of the materials. He helped pay for the fertilizers and seeds and helped move dirt in and stuff."

Their plants took root in Nick and Dana Voss's backyard in St. Elizabeth.

People often ask Mr. Voss how many pies can be made with pumpkins that large.

"I've never tried to make pies with them," he acknowledged.

Rather, he carves the rinds into giant Jack O'lanterns for Halloween.

"My wife is an art teacher at St. Elizabeth (R-IV) School," he said. "Sometimes she'll draw something on the pumpkin and I'll carve it out."

Their canvases this year were

632 pounds, 525 pounds and several weighing about 300 pounds apiece.

He turned one into an illuminated landscape.

"I carved a silhouette of a deer with mountains in the

growing 300 pounds in just 10 to 15 days, it's really quite remarkable."

Most of his success depends on good seeds, rich soil and "tons of water."

"Water really helps," he noted.

is done."

He has been fortunate enough not to have that happen in the past three years.

"Mine have been in that area where they grow quick but not too quick," he said.

Mr. Voss is well aware that he and his dad can put in all the work, but only God can make the pumpkins grow.

"It's definitely in God's hands," he said. "God is in charge of the weather, and you need good weather to grow something like that."

It's important to pray for rain but nothing too powerful.

"The leaves on those plants are huge," Mr. Voss noted. "So if a big storm comes through, it blows the leaves and stalks over and can kill the plant."

## Hefty harvest

He recently loaded one of this year's pumpkins onto the back of his pickup truck and parked it at school.

The students were awestruck. "I love to see someone's face when they say, 'That's a pumpkin? Are you kidding?'"

Kindergartners went to the gym to meet "the guy who grew this huge pumpkin."

They asked a lot of questions, such as how he got such a heavy, breakable object into his truck.

"I explained how to use a tractor and a loader with straps to pick it up," he said.

Mr. Voss said he enjoys tilling the soil and plans to continue doing it "until I physically can't do it anymore or my wife says, 'I've had enough. I want my yard back.'"



The Voss children visit their dad's backyard pumpkin patch.

background," he said. "This was my best silhouette so far."

After Halloween, he slices the rinds into small pieces and uses them for compost in his yard.

"I let them decompose and recycle them back into the dirt," he said.

## Stunning growth

Mr. Voss is always amazed at how quickly the plants turn sunlight, soil nutrients and water into prodigious produce.

"There are measurements you can take to get an estimated weight," he said. "This one was gaining between 25 and 30 pounds a day for seven to 10 days. The thought of something

He said he could spend two or three hours in the garden every day during the growing season, watering, pruning and baring vines and spraying for bugs and fungus.

"Of course, there are several plants," he noted. "I try to grow at least three plants in case something happens to one of them."

He said pumpkin plants are picky.

"You have to contend with bugs and fungus, and sometimes the pumpkins grow so fast that they split and bust open and start rotting," he said. "Sometimes, you get to the 200- or 300-pound mark and then they split, and your season

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## St. Thomas Knights council celebrates 101st anniversary

By Bill Lueckenhoff

Knights of Columbus St. Thomas the Apostle Council 2149 celebrated its 101st Anniversary the evening of Saturday, Aug. 28.

Father Leonard Mukiibi, pastor of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in St. Thomas and St. Cecilia Parish in Meta, who is the council's chaplain, celebrated the Mass in St. Cecilia Church.

Knights from the St. Jude Fourth Degree Assembly

served as the honor guard.

Following the Mass was a social and banquet at the St. Thomas the Apostle Parish Center in St. Thomas.

The centennial celebration for Council 2149, which received its charter May 30, 1920, had been postponed two times in the past year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The banquet was catered by the Knights and spouses of neighboring St. Elizabeth Council 6640.

The St. Thomas council received remarks by Bob Hawkins, immediate past state deputy and district master of the Fourth Degree, and Mick Gilliam, past state deputy and past supreme director.

State Deputy Mike Grudzinski delivered the keynote address.

Resolutions were presented to the Council Grand Knight by Jeff Cassmeyer, council advocate; state Rep. Rudy Veit on behalf of the Missouri House of Representatives; and state Sen. Mike Bernskoetter on behalf of the Missouri Senate.

A resolution was also received from Missouri Lt. Gov. Mike Kehoe, who was unable to attend the event.

About 150 people, including members, spouses, and guests, attended the event.

Past State Treasurer and Past Council Grand Knight Bill Lueckenhoff served as master of ceremonies.

The council currently has 208 members.

In his address, Mr. Cass-

meyer highlighted the activities of the council over the years and the many charities the council supports.

Gene Luebbering, longtime member and past grand knight and past financial secretary of the council, presented the history of the early years of the council and acknowledged its 42 charter members.

The council also recognized its 46 Past Grand Knights and gave special recognition to its 28 current members with 50

or more years of service.

Longtime member Herb Kroll, age 93, who has been a member of the Council for 74 years, received special recognition and a standing ovation.

Council members offered sincere thanks to all of the spouses for their diligent work with the council over the years, and paid special tribute to the 10 spouses of deceased members in attendance.

Each spouse of a deceased member received a red rose to honor the memory of their deceased loved

one.

This year, the St. Thomas council has raised and donated over \$15,000 in partnership with the Supreme Council and Missouri State Council to purchase a new ultrasound machine for the Pregnancy Help Center of Central Missouri.

The Council has also recently pledged a donation of \$15,000 to St. Thomas the Apostle Parish for the interior renovation of St. Thomas the Apostle Church.



Knights of Columbus Missouri State Deputy Mike Grudzinski presents the Knights of Columbus Centennial Certificate to Jeff Cassmeyer, grand knight of St. Thomas the Apostle Council 2149 at the Council's 101st Anniversary Celebration on Aug. 28.

## Care and Welcome



Share and Care, a ministry of St. Mary of the Angels Parish in Wien, delivers 14 handmade blankets, along with dishes, cooking utensils, waste baskets and personal care items to "Welcome Home" in Columbia. The organization provides transitional and emergency shelter, permanent housing and employment for homeless veterans. The people there were very appreciative of the donations received. Headquartered in the former St. Mary School in Wien, Share and Care accepts donations of clothing, knick-knacks and household goods, which are resold to help local cancer patients, fire victims and other people in need.

## FR. DOYLE

From page 8

token that interiorly he bends the knee of his heart."

The custom took hold and became part of the Church's regular practice. So you are correct in bowing your head when you pronounce or hear the name of Jesus. Although there is no absolute "rule," it is a worthy custom that deserves to endure, reminding us that there are lofty realities that transcend and protect us.

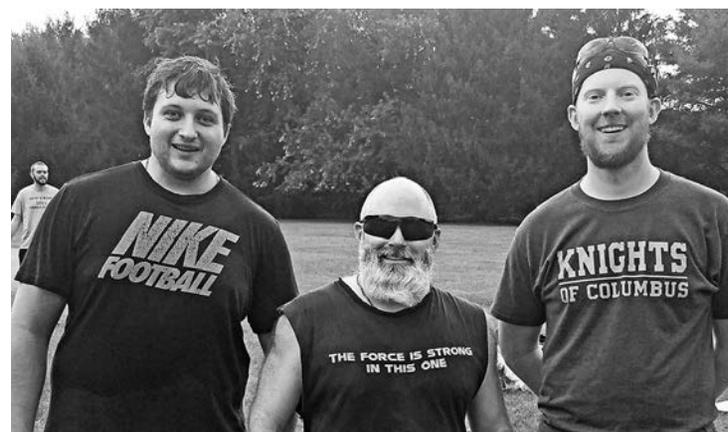
Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at [askfatherdoyle@gmail.com](mailto:askfatherdoyle@gmail.com) and 30 Columbia Circle Dr., Albany, New York 12203.

## Tearing up the Josephinum gridiron



**TOP LEFT:** Seminarian Christopher Hoffman, center, grabs the flag during this year's seminarian "mud run" flag football game during Parents' Weekend at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Worthington, Ohio. **TOP RIGHT:** Seminarisians, parents and friends of the seminary take part in the 4-Miler Run/Walk fundraiser. **LEFT:** Seminarisians Bryce Smith, Philip Novotney and Christopher Hoffmann rest up after the game.

— Photos by Linda Hoffmann



# Pro-Life Club leads fun-filled Pro-Life Day at Tolton Catholic H.S.

By Jay Nies

Tags on bright-colored gift bags proclaimed happy tidings.

“Congratulations! We hope the birth of your new baby will be the beginning of an incredibly wonderful journey for you and your family!”

Students at Fr. Tolton Regional Catholic High School in Columbia filled the bags with necessities for mothers and newborn babies.

“We hope you are always able to look back with happy memories!” another tag stated.

Each bag contained socks, mittens, a onesie, a teether and a baby toy, to be donated to First Chance for Children, an organization that helps local families who have children and are in crisis.

Tolton Catholic’s Pro-Life Club paid for the gifts with funds from the club.

“We pretty much depleted our club funds to be able to give these bags to people, and we just love that we’re able to help organizations through our club and actually make some impact,” said Tolton Catholic senior Emma Spencer, Creative Director of the Club.

Students in nearby classrooms spent their House period decorating baby bibs and onesies for the My Life Clinic and My Life Network, which assist pregnant women who



**LEFT:** Students in Paulina Tramel’s homeroom at Fr. Tolton Regional Catholic High School in Columbia create designs on white cloth baby bibs for clients of My Life Clinic during the school’s Nov. 3 Pro-Life Day observance. **RIGHT:** Sophomore Will Graves, sophomore Wrenn Orey, senior Emma Spencer, freshman Mariana Keegan-Caro and freshman Blake Pingeton display some of the bags of baby gifts they helped assemble during their house period on Tolton Catholic’s Pro-Life Day.

— Photos by Jay Nies

are in crisis.

The club was holding a Pro-Life Day, with activities for everyone. “We’re doing what we can to give support to families who need it,” said Emma.

She said being authentically pro-life means supporting all human life from conception to natural death, including the homeless and the elderly.

“Basically, people from all walks of life,” she said. “And what we’re doing here is making sure babies have something to play with and wear to keep warm. We’re helping their parents and showing love to all of these people, even if they don’t necessarily know it’s

coming from our club.”

It was originally planned that students would also write cards to children in St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis; however, time constraints did not allow this activity. Instead, club members will do this at one of their meetings.

Tolton Catholic’s Pro-Life Club is one of the school’s largest student organizations.

“Some years we have 30 members, and some years we’ve had up to 70,” said Emma. “We’re students who are really supportive and passionate of this movement and really confident about being



pro-life.”

One of the club’s main purposes is to raise awareness of the inviolable sanctity of human life, beginning at conception.

“It’s important to know that these things matter,” said Senior Carley Sapp, the club’s president. “It’s important that somebody speaks out about it.”

Members usually travel to Washington, D.C., each year for the National March for Life, although COVID-19 halted those plans for 2021 and 2022.

Members also volunteer with local organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, Rainbow House, the Food Bank of Central and Northeastern Missouri, and My Life

Clinic.

In the past, the club has spent time praying with Columbia 40 Days for Life on the sidewalk outside Planned Parenthood, a former abortion clinic that still refers women for abortions.

“One day the club prayed out on the sidewalk and a few days later, the Planned Parenthood in Columbia announced they were no longer going to perform the abortions,” said Emma. “We’ve seen God work through our club, showing love and being a community that supports one big movement — the pro-life movement.”

See PRO-LIFE, page 17

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# When life gives you apples, make pies



**LAURIE:** Here are some of the 67 efficient volunteers who gathered in St. Leo's Hall at St. Patrick Church in Laurie Oct. 25 for the parish's annual Apple Pie Making Day fundraiser. They made 502 pies starting at 8:30 a.m., with the kitchen and hall being cleaned up by 2:30 p.m. "Wonderful work by a bunch of great people!" stated parishioner Donald Drake. More photos from this event will be posted in *The Catholic Missourian's* online edition, *cathmo.com*. Select "Photo Galleries" from the "Multimedia" tab on the menu bar.  
— Photos by Photos by Judy Mathews

# A feast for a patron saint's feastday



**ST. ROBERT:** Members of St. Robert Bellarmine Parish in St. Robert celebrate the feastday of their parish and their town on Saturday Sept. 18. The Saturday Vigil Mass in St. Robert Bellarmine Church included a lesson on this 16th- and 17th-century theologian of the Church, who is the patron saint of catechists and catechumens. He died on 17, 1621. After Mass, the congregation enjoyed a dinner celebration. Knight of Columbus St. Robert Bellarmine Council 5401 prepared a pork dinner, even butchering the hogs themselves. The ladies decorated and provided the drinks, and parishioners brought a dish to share. Since Sunday was the birthday of the new pastor, Father Michael Murphy, the celebration concluded with a birthday cake and song.  
— Photos by Diana Fox Bentele



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## RESETTLEMENT

From page 1

of them or their families in their home country," stated Samantha Moog, director of Refugee Services at CCCNMO.

They are being resettled through the nation's nine major refugee resettlement agencies, including the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Migration and Refugee Services (MRS), with which CCCNMO Refugee Services is affiliated.

"This is really a historic moment," Ms. Moog told about 40 people at a Nov. 5 town-hall meeting on Afghan resettlement, in the Sacred Heart Activity Building in Columbia.

"Right now in our country and throughout the world, in terms of refugee resettlement, this particular situation is really moving communities to take action," she said.

CCCNMO is the only agency that works with the U.S. government to settle refugees in Central Missouri.

The sudden surge in refugees and special immigrant visa holders has put a heavy strain on Catholic Charities Refugee Services' resources.

"People have been arriving almost every day," said Ms. Moog. "It is an extraordinary effort that we're making and we're rising to the call to get these people into a safe place where they can start rebuilding their lives."

The needs are tremendous.

Despite taking on additional staff, "we're not built to do this kind of refugee response," Ms. Moog noted. "That's why we're calling on local communities for assistance."

Community sponsorships enhance Catholic Charities Refugee Services' ability to resettle people, and it builds community support for its work.

"That's where community sponsorship is really critical," she said. "In order to resettle all of these people, we need churches, organizations, groups and individuals in the community to work with us."

### Service above self

"This is simply the right

thing to do," Bishop W. Shawn McKnight said. "Our Lord spent the first years of His life as a refugee in Egypt. He has shown us what Scripture means: 'You shall love the stranger as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt.'"

The Fulton Rotary Club is an affiliate of Rotary International. The nondenominational civic organization's motto is "Service Above Self."

Discussion about helping resettling people from Afghanistan began in August, before the fall of Kabul.

"We became serious in terms of accelerating what we're doing following the takeover (of the Afghan government) by the Taliban," said Dr. Hansen, a member of First Presbyterian Church in Fulton.

A family of St. Peter parishioners in Fulton is already helping an Afghan refugee family in the area, with tangible and practical assistance from fellow parishioners.

"And now we (the Rotary

working with Fulton's city government, local churches, civic groups and institutions to prepare for the family's arrival.

The response has been tremendous.

"What we found in Fulton is that it crosses all kinds of political, religious and every other kind of line possible," said Dr. Hansen. "People are supporting them no matter what."

Members formed 11 groups to handle various aspects of



**Ismat Kaakar, Afghan Program Director for Catholic Charities Refugee Services, talks about the rich and diverse culture of his homeland during a town hall meeting Nov. 5 in the Sacred Heart Activity Building in Columbia.**

— Photo by Jay Nies

### "Just ask"

Several Fulton Rotarians observed that most refugee resettlement in this country takes place in larger communities, which often have larger immigrant populations and access to more services.

"But we asked ourselves, 'Why not a small town?'" said Dr. Hansen. "We've already had some refugee families live here and excel. You don't need to have a big city to make it work."

He noted that a past Westminster College president, a retired U.S. Army general, helped his Afghan interpreter resettle in Fulton 13 years ago.

"That family stayed and became successful in so many ways," said Dr. Hansen. "His daughter was valedictorian at Fulton High School. Academically, they have all adapted and excelled."

Likewise, several refugees from Rwanda have settled in Fulton "and have done exceptionally well here," he said.

The key for a task of this magnitude is for everyone to get involved, especially in a city with a population of 12,800.

"We have people from all — ALL! — areas of our community, which is a really neat thing," Dr. Hansen noted. "We quickly went from six to nine to 12 to 30 and now 45 volunteers. People are wanting to help. All you have to do is ask."

He noted that Westminster College, "from the president on down," has been a solid

supporter of the Rotary's preparations for incoming refugees.

Westminster College Fraternity Delta Tau Delta owns a large home in the city and will allow the Afghan family to live there rent-free for a period of time.

The college is providing financial support and in-kind services, including home furnishings and information technology assistance.

"We're also working to get two of our own (Westminster) graduates out of Afghanistan right now," said Dr. Hansen.

One is still in Afghanistan, another has fled with her family to neighboring Tajikistan.

Frishta Aslami, CCCNMO's Afghan program coordinator, is a Westminster graduate from Afghanistan and knows both of the women the college is trying to help.

### Mutual benefits

Dr. Hansen said he hopes that 15 years from now, the people from Afghanistan who resettle in Fulton will be able to say that "this community has open arms, they invited us in and tried their very best to provide everything we needed, and we've made great relationships and we think we want to settle here long-term. And we hope that our kids will also settle here."

Meanwhile, the cause has created solid relationships in the community among people who might never have gotten to know each other.

Catholic and Protestant Christians, Muslims, Jews, Buddhists, agnostics and atheists are putting their shared values into action.

"There are so many people from different faiths who are part of this group," said Dr. Hansen. "I think all of them are responding to a sense of commitment, many of them out of their spiritual foundation and conviction."

"It's one of those interfaith kind of things that can bring a community together," he stated. "In that way, we benefit



**U.S. Military Police walk past Afghan refugees at the Village at Fort McCoy U.S. Army base, in Wisconsin, Sept. 30, 2021.**

— CNS photo/Barbara Davidson, Reuters pool

Club) are waiting for our first family," sometime in the first half of November, said Dr. Hansen.

"We hope that they stay settled in Fulton!" he stated. "We will help them get their start and their feet underneath them, and they are free to go anywhere anytime. But we hope they stay."

Fulton Rotary has been

the family's integration into the community, including education, transportation, healthcare, housing and employment.

"Each of the teams has a task," said Dr. Hansen. "It's so much easier if you divide up the tasks than to have a few people trying to do everything."

See NEIGHBORS, page 15

## REMEMBER

From page 4

perfect.”

So it makes sense that when the body, which is affected by sin, dies, the soul was impacted by that and needs to be purified.

“That’s why we’re gathered here this evening, to add our voices of prayer and supplications for those in purgatory, who are being purified, who are longing, straining, stretching for heaven,” said Fr. Merz.

“And let us also be inspired by the vision of the souls in purgatory straining to be saints,” he said. “Let us long and strain for heaven as well!”

### “Sacred ground”

The principal urged her students in the Mary’s



Students of Our Lady of the Snows School pray for the faithful departed in their parish cemetery Nov. 2.

Home cemetery to speak softly and walk gently.

“We’re on sacred ground,” she told them.

School assistant Paula (Bax) Evers is a lifelong Mary’s Home parishioner and graduate of Our Lady of the Snows School.

“I love this tradition,” she said of the lights and procession. “I have lots of family at rest here.”

She noted that a cemetery can seem frightening to a child.

“But it’s not a scary place,” she said. “It’s more of a special place, and they should feel comfortable coming here.”

“It’s a blessed cemetery, with lots of our loved ones here,” she said.

## NEIGHBORS

From page 14

as much as the refugee families who are coming.”

### “Life and death”

“We are going to get 300 new neighbors,” Martha Means, Catholic Charities’ refugee resettlement AmeriCorps VISTA, proclaimed during the Nov. 5 gathering in Columbia.

“We want our community to be ready and welcoming and show them the hospitality and love that we have here in Central Missouri,” she stated.

She said community sponsorships are a great way for congregations, civic groups and other local organizations to help with refugee resettlement.

A group needs to have at least 10 dedicated volunteers to carry out the necessary work of resettlement.

“It’s a lot of work resettling people from different countries here in mid-America,” she said.

Many evacuees from Afghanistan came here with few belongings and have been staying in temporary quarters on U.S. military bases.

“They have great need,” Ms. Means said. “We are really asking the community of central Missouri to step up and assist our organization in the resettlement of our new neighbors.”

Ms. Moog said CCCNMO has a committed staff representing nations throughout the world.

She noted that about one (1) percent of refugees who leave their homeland out of fear of persecution or death get the opportunity to be resettled in another country.

“So the refugees we resettle

here are a very, very small minority of the refugees around the world,” she said.

She referred to the United States’ operation to resettle the 100,000 who were airlifted out of Afghanistan “an emergency humanitarian program.”

“It is a matter of life and death for some people,” she said. “And we are seeing an unprecedented migration of people in this short period of time.”

She noted that 40 percent of the Afghan evacuees currently living on military bases are children, and that there are also thousands of pregnant women.

“The military bases were not built to accommodate so many people, so the conditions are not ideal,” she said.

### Seeking self-sufficiency

Ms. Moog said community sponsorships last for six months, which is usually enough for refugee families to become self-sufficient.

“I think with community sponsorship assistance, it will be even quicker,” she said.

A Catholic Charities Refugee Services case manager works with the sponsoring group to determine what resources and assistance each refugee needs.

Community sponsors have 24-hour access to a telephone interpretation line that recognizes 240 languages.

CCCNMO Refugee Services Community Engagement Coordinator Valérie Berta noted that the agency has resettled about 4,000 refugees from many nations since 1975.

“By the end of this effort



Students of St. Peter Interparish School in Jefferson City show their solidarity with refugees from Afghanistan in this Oct. 26 photo. Students and staff collected and participated in donating over \$1,200 in gift cards for Catholic Charities Refugee Services to help refugees. — Photo from the St. Peter Interparish School Facebook page

we’re facing now, we will have resettled many, many more,” she said. “We need community support. We need help doing this work and facing this situation.”

“This work,” she noted, consists of helping families start a new life in a new country after leaving their home with little more than the clothes on their back.

“They need a lot of assistance to rebuild their lives,” said Ms. Berta. “So we offer temporary financial assistance to help with food, housing, supplies — basically anything you need to rebuild your life.”

CCCNMO provides trained case managers to help each family with the paperwork that goes with all the services the family requires.

Catholic Charities Refugee Services also provides employment services and help for people learning English as a new language.

Ms. Berta said the goal for every family is self-sufficiency.

“They need to be able to provide for themselves,” she said.

One of the most important things volunteers can do for their new neighbors is help acclimate them to the culture.

“Take them to a park, help them with the grocery shopping and develop a relationship that will help immensely in that cultural integration and that sense of belonging,” she said.

### “In this together”

Monsignor Gregory Higley,

pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Columbia, invited CCCNMO Refugee Services to hold the Nov. 5 gathering at Sacred Heart.

“I hope we’re successful with all of this,” he said. “I hope we can do what Fulton is doing, here in Columbia, not just with churches but also with groups and organizations.”

“We have lots of resources available here, particularly volunteers,” he noted.

Dr. Hansen pointed out that almost everybody in this country has ancestors who were immigrants or refugees.

“They resettled here,” he said. “We stand on their shoulders and we want these people to be able to get their shot and a fair chance.”

On behalf of the Fulton Rotary Club, he asked for prayers for the people being resettled, “and then to look around in your own life and see if you can help, whether big or small.”

“And recognize that we’re all in this together, that we all need to make a commitment to these families,” he said.

*For additional assistance with resettlement efforts, the public is encouraged to donate by texting “WelcomeMO” to 91999, giving online at [cccnmo.diojeffcity.org/give](http://cccnmo.diojeffcity.org/give), or mailing a check payable to CCCNMO to PO Box 104626 Jefferson City, MO 65110-4626.*

*Community groups are encouraged to become a Community Sponsor; learn more at:*

*[cccnmo.diojeffcity.org/community-co-sponsorship](http://cccnmo.diojeffcity.org/community-co-sponsorship)*



By Father Don Antweiler  
**ACROSS**

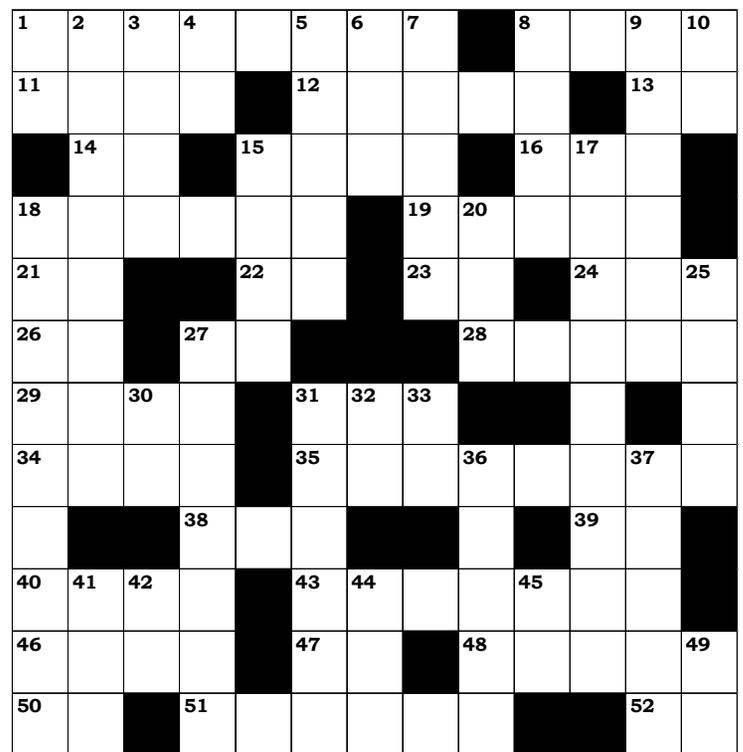
1. Vatican City is a sovereign fully independent nation-state and is regarded as the \_\_\_ nation on earth in both area and population.
8. Letters for United States Postal Service.
11. The tribe of Israel exclusively chosen from the 12 tribes of Israel to serve as priests (Numbers 3:5-10).
12. "Praise not a man for his \_\_\_; despise not a man for his appearance," (Sirach 11:2).
13. Land \_\_\_!
14. Prefix for vine or vest.
15. Vatican City has its own telephone system, \_\_\_ office, and pharmacy.
16. Mata Hari or Kim Philby or Alrich Ames.
18. Vatican City is the base of the Holy See, which consists of the \_\_\_ of Rome (the Pope) and the central governance of the Roman Catholic Church.
19. Vatican City is 109 \_\_\_,

21. In other words, from *id est* in Latin.
22. Shoe width.
23. Letters for Blue tiger school.
24. \_\_\_ de Janiero, Brazilian city dominated by a colossal 98-foot-high Christ the Redeemer statue, completed in 1931.
26. Abbr. for the last book of the Bible.
27. Dorothy's Auntie \_\_\_.
28. "Put on the \_\_\_ of God so that you may be able to stand firm against the tactics of the devil," (Ephesians 6:11).
29. The Church & rectory of St. Francis Xavier parish in \_\_\_, Mo. was listed on the Nat. Register of Historic Places in 2016, perhaps partly because the body of Fr. Ferdinand Helias, apostle of central Mo., is entombed in a side vestibule of the Church.
31. The want \_\_\_ for hiring employees appeared in newspapers, billboards and on buses.
34. Short for Hannibal LaGrange College (now Univ.); a liberal arts Baptist-affiliated college of 1,200 in Hannibal, Mo.
35. "Priscus declares it was God, or Zeus or Hermes or Apollo, who died on that \_\_\_ cross! Do not laugh

- at me I implore you," — Plotius, Roman soldier; *Dear and Glorious Physician* by Taylor Caldwell.
38. Car club.
39. Prefix for core or tire.
40. Service and lobbying org. for over 50ers.
43. Vatican City has its own \_\_\_ system under the Holy See. It's operations and expenditures have been reported publicly since the early 1980s.
46. "So (Zacchaeus) ran ahead and climbed a sycamore \_\_\_ in order to see Jesus..." (Luke 19:8).
47. Pope St. John Paul \_\_\_.
48. "Abandon all hope, ye who \_\_\_ here," —inscription over the entrance to hell in Dante's *Divine Comedy* (1320 A.D.)
50. "*Ora \_\_\_ labora*"; prayer and work; Benedictine motto.
51. One of Santa's reindeer.
52. "On opening (the basket), she looked, and \_\_\_, there was a baby boy crying!" (Exodus 2:6).

**DOWN**

1. In bibliographies, letters for *Sine Loco*, meaning the place of publication is unknown.
2. Vatican City is in the heart of Rome bordered by a 2-mile circle of \_\_\_ and renaissance walls, except for St. Peter Square.
3. Rental car agency.
4. Periodic Table letters for Lithium, a soft silver-white metal.
5. In the Great Depression, many couples chose to \_\_\_ because the resources for a traditional wedding seemed nonexistent.
6. Distress letters.
7. Wheat cereal with 100% of daily value of 11 vitamins and minerals.
8. Cold war foe.
9. Word referring to the normal functions of a living



10. "I sometimes get \_\_\_ lonely when surrounded by thousands," —Union officer Alpheus Williams on the loss of most of his comrade friends in mid-1864 Civil War fighting; from *Embattled Courage* by Gerald Linderman.
15. The most famous \_\_\_ by Shakespeare is said to be Sonnet #18 titled "Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?"
17. Vatican City is the only independent nation in the world to choose not to be an official voting member of the UN. Instead it has chosen to be present as The Holy See, the Catholic Church, with the status of \_\_\_ Observer Mission, to be a non-partisan moral voice.
18. Because the population of Vatican City State is basically celibate, there is no national annual \_\_\_, and hence no need for elementary or secondary schools.
20. Letters for Cath. Univ. of America; established in Washington, D.C. as a Catholic graduate and research univ. in 1887 with approval by Pope Leo XIII; 5,700 students.
25. My dentist urged me to exercise good \_\_\_ hygiene.
27. "Then they tried again to arrest (Jesus); but He \_\_\_ from their power," (John 10:39).
30. Bashan's best (Numbers 21:33).
31. "It is good to know that out there in a forest, there is \_\_\_ where something fairly close to the sheer happiness of being alive is possible," Sylvain Tesson (2 wds.).
32. Abbr. before a physician's name.
33. Yes for Juan.
36. "The butcher, the baker, the candlestick-\_\_\_," — from the nursery rhyme "Rub-a-dub-dub, Three men in a tub."
37. Raphael or Gabriel.
41. The St. Louis \_\_\_ Museum has the world's largest collection of Max Beckmann paintings which include "Christ and the Woman Taken in Adultery."
42. Prefix for cord and view.
44. A Bible location that marked a border of Israel's territory (Numbers 34:11).
45. \_\_\_ the name of the Father....
49. Internet country code for Romania.

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# PRO-LIFE

From page 12

English teacher Paulina Tramel, the group's faculty advisor, often reminds members that it starts with a commitment to making a difference in one person's life.

Carley joined the Pro-Life Club her freshman year because many of her friends were getting involved.

"I ended up loving it, and now I'm President!" she said.

She pointed out that most of the club's members are young women.

"We have a few guys but they're not as active," she said. "We're working on that."

She believes it's important for young men to also take a stand on safeguarding pre-born human life.

"A man should be just as big a part of it," she said. "It's something that's important to everybody, not just women, because people's lives are in your hands."

The Pro-Life Club has hosted guest speakers, including women who have had an abortion and are dealing with regret and remorse, as well as women who have given their babies up for adoption suffer with feelings of remorse, regret and grief.

"We love and support them," said Emma. "But having women come and talk about how they've had those experiences has really reas-

sured us of what we believe and why we're fighting for it."

Carley said it's essential to be able to point women who are pregnant and in crisis toward the many services that are available to them.

"They have a lot of options available to them," she said.

She's convinced that the Pro-Life Club is helping to do God's work at Tolton Catholic and beyond.

She prayed for "more people to get involved in the Pro-Life Club, in order to gain momentum and do even bigger things!"



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## Fundraisers & Social Events

Nov. 12

Mexico, K of C fish fry, 4-7 pm

Nov. 13

Bahner, St. John's Altar Society hunter's breakfast, 6-11 am

Nov. 14

Belle, St. Alexander Parish Fall Dinner, 11 am-4 pm; Glasgow, St. Mary Parish Fall Dinner, 11 am-2:30 pm; Wien, St. Mary of the Angels Parish PSR & CYO Fall breakfast, 7-11 am

Nov. 16

Jefferson City, St. Peter Inter-parish School Wendy's fundraiser, 6:30 am-midnight, Mo. Boulevard location only

Nov. 21

Argyle, K of C drive-thru chicken dinner, 11 am-5 pm

Nov. 25

Camdenton, St. Anthony Parish free Thanksgiving dinner, 11 am-2 pm; Tipton, St. Andrew Parish Thanksgiving Festival, 11 am-2 pm

Dec. 4

Shelbina, K of C Farm Toy Show, 9 am-3 pm, Fr. Buhman Center

Dec. 4-5

Columbia, St. Thomas More Newman Center Parish Christmas Resale, 8 am-1 pm, multi-purpose room

Dec. 5

Vienna, K of C breakfast, 7:30-11 am

Dec. 10

Mexico, K of C fish fry, 4-7 pm

Dec. 12

Belle, St. Alexander Parish breakfast, 7-11 am

## Eventos del Ministerio Hispano

13-14 Noviembre

Sedalia, Retiro de Crecimiento, Escuela del Sagrado Corazón, favor de inscribirse llamado a Marcelino Chavez al 660-631-3748

## Meetings & Conferences

Nov. 12-13

Westphalia, Family-friendly Marian Conference, with speakers, Mass, Adoration, Confession fellowship & food, Fri 5-9 pm, Sat 6:30 am-4:30 pm, for info or to register visit [stjosephwestphalia.org](http://stjosephwestphalia.org)

Nov. 20

VIRTUAL, Couple to Couple League natural family plan-

ning introductory session, 8-9 am, to RSVP email [MidMoNFP@gmail.com](mailto:MidMoNFP@gmail.com)

Dec. 6

VIRTUAL, Couple to Couple League natural family planning introductory session, 8-9 pm, to RSVP email [MidMoNFP@gmail.com](mailto:MidMoNFP@gmail.com)

Dec. 8

VIRTUAL, Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri refugee resettlement program orientation, 5:30-6:30 pm, for info or to register, contact Diana Twombly at 573-442-7568 or [dtwombly@cccno.org](mailto:dtwombly@cccno.org)

Dec. 18

VIRTUAL, Couple to Couple League natural family planning introductory session, 8-9 am, to RSVP email [MidMoNFP@gmail.com](mailto:MidMoNFP@gmail.com)

## Liturgical

Nov. 22

Jefferson City, Blessing of Music Ministers for the Feast of St. Cecilia, prayer service, blessing and reception, 7-9 pm,

Cathedral of St. Joseph

## Retreats & Spiritual Renewal

Nov. 14

Columbia, Postcursillo Ultreya, 2-4 pm, Sacred Heart Church

Nov. 14-17

Jefferson City, "Where is God These Days?" parish mission with Fr. John Mark Etensohn, OMI, 6:30 pm each evening, Immaculate Conception Church

Nov. 28-30

Columbia, "Let Your Faith Blossom" parish mission with Fr. Pete Schavitz, C.Ss.R., 7 pm each evening, Sacred Heart Church

## Health & Wellness

Nov. 16

St. Robert, Blood drive, 2-6 pm, St. Robert Bellarmine fellowship hall gym

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**CAPECCHI**

From page 9

I want God to take His time shaping me. I'm working on the patience and perspective that make way for persistence. I'm trying to see red lights as yellow lights, to hear "no" as "not yet." Maybe something better is around the corner — when it is ready, when I am ready, when the time is right.

*Christina Capecchi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minn.*

*Father in Heaven,  
Creator of all and source of all goodness and love,  
please look kindly upon us and receive our heartfelt  
gratitude in this time of giving thanks.  
Thank you for all the graces and blessings  
You have bestowed upon us, spiritual and temporal:  
our faith and religious heritage; our food and shelter,  
our health, the love we have for one another,  
our family and friends.  
Dear Father, in Your infinite generosity,  
please grant us continued graces and blessing  
throughout the coming year.  
This we ask in the Name of Jesus, Your Son, Amen.*

## CALDAROLA

From page 9

I felt a surge of anger. Was she ignorant, or willfully proclaiming her right to spread germs?

So instead of being positive about my fellow shoppers who were wearing masks, I took a sense of anger home with me. Then I remembered St. Ignatius, who urged us to always give others the benefit of the doubt.

Maybe this woman forgot her mask at home. Maybe she was having a really bad day. Maybe she was a victim of all the disinformation spewed by crazy websites and conspiracy theorists.

Maybe I should have said a prayer for her and focused on my own lack of charity.

Here's the thing: I can't control other people's behavior.

I can only control me. I don't want to be the person who simmers with anger. I took my anger today to prayer. I realized I want to be the lady with the van, the one who observes people around her and reacts with kindness.

Negativity is contagious, but so is positivity. I want to be that positive person. Find a good cause and work for it. Don't overload on social media. Find the good in people. Be where Jesus is.

## Anniversaries

**Argyle, St. Aloysius**  
Keith & Jan Tappel, 31 years

**Boonville, Ss. Peter & Paul**  
Bob & Doris Stoecklein, 67 years  
Herman & Betty Gerke, 62 years  
David & Phyllis Lauer, 59 years  
Wayne & Sharon Lammers, 53 years  
Joe & Linda Young, 53 years  
Robert & Linda Horst, 48 years  
Jack & Mary McCush, 48 years  
Randy & Lila Huebert, 47 years  
Bruce & Brenda Oser, 47 years  
Don & Jill Campbell, 45 years  
Eddie & Paula Wiemholt, 44 years  
Scott & Dianne Jackson, 42 years  
Jerry & Debra Rapp, 42 years  
David & Cindy Lang, 41 years  
Tom & Cindy Larm, 39 years  
Mark & Kathleen Maier, 38 years  
Darin & Diana Gerke, 35 years  
Mike & Sharon Ivy, 33 years  
Tim & Susan Krumm, 30 years  
Russell & Karla Lang, 29 years

**Brinktown, Holy Guardian Angels**  
Bill & Jo Ann Bauer, 56 years  
Travis & Angie Otto, 21 years  
Pat & Carrie Kleffner, 16 years  
Corey & Amy Neier, 12 years

**Brookfield, Immaculate Conception**  
Matthew & Louise Gladbach, 50 years  
Bill & Cherrie Paalhar, 46 years  
James & Deborah Tollerton, 44 years  
William & Janice Allen, 41 years  
Paul & Donna Barger, 36 years  
Pat & Kathryn O'Kane, 34 years

**Camdenton, St. Anthony**  
Bud & Carolyn Phillips, 64 years  
Deacon Richard & Nancy VonGunten, 64 years  
Raymond & Irmengard Kearns, 60 years  
Rich & Kathy Hodits, 38 years  
Bill & Joanne Koncen, 30 years  
John & Janice Kelsey, 20 years  
Nathan & Jennifer Palafox, 10 years

**Jefferson City, St. Peter**  
Bob & Janice Phillips, 18 years

**Jonesburg, St. Patrick**  
Mike & Kathy Mohrmann, 56 years  
David & Pam Roth, 56 years  
Steve & Cheryl Angelo, 17 years

**Kahoka, St. Michael**  
Don & Rosalie Clift, 59 years

**Koeltztown, St. Boniface**  
Chris & Bobbie Wulff, 14 years

**Kirkville, Mary Immaculate**  
Paulie & Lovella Schmitz, 63 years  
Eldon & Jo Ellen Hays, 57 years  
Jerry & Lysle Meyer, 53 years  
William & Mary Mangini, 43 years  
Dana & Sarah Delaware, 42 years  
Dan & Celia Hagan, 41 years  
Bob & Mary Jane Kiefer, 40 years  
Jim & Betty Cox, 38 years  
Heinz & Mary Lou Woehlk, 34 years  
William & Trish Sexton, 33 years  
Terry Mock & Nancy Bucher, 29 years

**Marshall, St. Peter**  
Ted & Carol Wolfe, 51 years

**Martinsburg, St. Joseph**  
Brad & Theresa Shramek, 43 years  
Clarence & Janis Deimeke, 42 years  
Burt & Dawn Miller, 14 years

**Milan, St. Mary**  
John & Beth Mino, 42 years  
Brad & Mary Bohle, 29 years  
Juvenal Osorio & Fernanda Nava, 29 years

**Mokane, St. Jude Thaddeus**  
Roman & Vicki Miller, 51 years  
Mike & Debbie Droste, 47 years

**Palmyra, St. Joseph**  
James & Florence Fohey, 62 years  
James & Jane Church, 61 years  
Rich & Susie Wolfmeyer, 49 years  
Rick & Pauline Jones, 43 years  
Howard & Paula Kroeger, 42 years  
Donald & Judy Fessenden, 40 years  
Darrell & Nancy Neisen, 40 years  
Randy & Susie Obert, 20 years  
Gary & Catherine Williams, 19 years  
Craig & Meredith Illa, 14 years  
Adam & Stacey Jones, 11 years  
Brad & Cassidee Wigle, 10 years

**St. Martins, St. Martin**  
Bernard & Catherine Rustemeyer, 65 years

**Vienna, Visitation**  
Karl & Carolyn Lake, 59 years  
Wayne & Alice James, 50 years  
Ryan & Lori Hayes, 18 years

**Wardsville, St. Stanislaus**  
Clifford & Loretta Siebeneck, 70 years

**Westphalia, St. Joseph**  
Norbert & Eileen Plassmeyer, 60 years

**Wien, St. Mary of the Angels**  
Eddie & Mary Lee Nanneman, 49 years  
Larry & Norma Weimer, 48 years  
Larry & Margaret Noll, 45 years  
Jerry & Sharon Weimer, 39 years

## Birthdays

Brookfield, Immaculate Conception — **Martha C. Flynn**, her 97th on Nov. 19

California, Annunciation — **Dorothy Schnieders**, her 94th on Nov. 22

Chamois, Most Pure Heart of Mary — **Marie Hackmann**, her 100th on Nov. 7

Martinsburg, St. Joseph — **Margaret Primus**, her 100th on Nov. 2

Rich Foundation, Sacred Heart — **Helen Rudroff**, her 94th on Nov. 1

Salisbury, St. Joseph — **Gertie Henke**, her 90th birthday on Nov. 11

Sedalia, St. Vincent de Paul — **Anna Marie Wright**, her 90th on Nov. 3

## Marriages

Hermann, St. George — **Erin Gerlemann & Aaron Brinker**

Holts Summit, St. Andrew — **Malorie Crocker & Levi Elliott**

Jefferson City, Immaculate Conception — **Emily Campbell & Ryan Gartner**

Jefferson City, St. Peter — **Ellie Lacy & Ignacio Placencia; Lyndsey Dryden & Wade O'Bryan; Kaylie Huber & Scott Randolph; Tasha Stuckenschneider & Jason Stevens**

Moberly, St. Pius X — **Alicia Aulbur & Greg Riles**

Russellville, St. Michael — **Jordyn Schmidt & Quentin Matheis**

St. Martins, St. Martin — **Alyssa Schulte & Sam Hayden**

Taos, St. Francis Xavier — **Makenzy Kliethermes & Travis Henke, Kallie Kerperin & Samuel Schroeder**

Wien, St. Mary of the Angels — **Tegan Weimer & Luke Brehm; Paige Weimer & Cody Londo; Lydia Henke & Preston Ward**

## Baptisms

Argyle, St. Aloysius — **Dallas Anthony Swarthout**, son of Tony & Melanie Swarthout

Cuba, Holy Cross — **Knox Harrison Earhart**, son of Clayton & Kaitlyn Earhart

Eldon, Sacred Heart — **Aria Opal Horvath**, daughter of Jeremy & Michelle Horvath

Hermann, St. George — **Baker Jane Hays**, daughter of Ryan & Hilary Hays; **Annsley Mae Meyer**, daughter of Jeffrey & Elise Meyer

Jefferson City, Immaculate Conception — **Mays Christian Johnson**, son of Martin & Lauren Johnson

Jefferson City, St. Peter — **River Davidson Hendren, Hadley Marie Hendren, William Perkins**

Marshall, St. Peter — **Patricia Fabian-Garcia, Alan & Yulissa Ruiz**

Martinsburg, St. Joseph — **Hagan Calder Deimeke**, son of Keith & Jessica Deimeke

Mary's Home, Our Lady of Snows — **Merida Rose Evers**, daughter of Tim & Ashley Evers

Moberly, St. Pius X — **Infinitee Lee and Aliahan Harold Eugene Campbell**, children of Christopher & Kyra Campbell

St. Martins, St. Martin — **Sawyer Brauner**, son of Dylan & Carrie Brauner

## Deaths

**Sister Bridget (formerly Sister Mary Philip) Sherlock** — of the Sisters of Mary of Co. Swinford, Ireland, who taught at St. Joseph Cathedral School in Jefferson City — on April 13 in Ireland

**Sister Rita (formerly Sister Mary Wilbert) Boul** — of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word, former teacher & principal of Immaculate Conception School in Jefferson City — in San Antonio, Tx.

Boonville, Ss. Peter & Paul — **Robert J. Hurt**

Columbia, Our Lady of Lourdes — **Beverly Kabrick, William Willenbrink**

Eldon, Sacred Heart — **Harold C. Berendzen**

Holts Summit, St. Andrew — **Linus Kroll, Laura A. Lepper**

Jefferson City, Cathedral of St. Joseph — **Mary Dellbringge, Mildred J. Jansen, Francis A. Jones, David F. Monnig, Rena J. Webb**

Jefferson City, Immaculate Conception — **Aaron W. Bentley, Charyl Clarkston, Helen Hart**

Jefferson City, St. Peter — **Lloyd L. Dulle, Agnes C. Eynard, Ray Herzing**

Lake Ozark, Our Lady of the Lake — **Elijah A. Torres**

Laurie, St. Patrick — **Savilla J. Brown**

Linn, St. George — **Shirley A. Lock**

Loose Creek, Immaculate Conception — **Harold W. Muenks**

Moberly, St. Pius X — **Matthew Marek**

Rhineland, Church of the Risen Savior — **Shirley J. Miller**

Russellville, St. Michael — **Ronnie Remley**

St. Anthony, St. Anthony of Padua — **Flavian J. Volmert**

St. Martins, St. Martin — **Carolyn J. Silvey**

Salisbury, St. Joseph — **John Hartmann**

Sedalia, St. Vincent de Paul — **Thomas Darrah**

Taos, St. Francis Xavier — **Edward H. Eiken, Richard Prenger Sr.**

Wardsville, St. Stanislaus — **Emily R. Rowden**

## Names for the People Page

Information for the People Page comes from parish correspondents and individual parishioners, as well as bulletins and newspapers. Submissions for anniversaries (10 years or more), birthdays (90 years or more), and baptisms, deaths, marriages and initiations of local parishioners may be e-mailed to [editor@di-ojeffcity.org](mailto:editor@di-ojeffcity.org) or mailed to *The Catholic Missourian*, 2207 West Main Street, Jefferson City, MO 65109-0914.

## Crossword puzzle answers

O	T		R	E	N	N	O	D	L	E
R	J	N	E	I	I				R	E
G	N	I	N	V	A				V	V
N	E	V		V	V				R	
T	V	N	I	M	I	R	C		G	H
V	V		S	D	V		S	O	V	L
R	O	R	M	V			M	E	V	A
O	I	R		T			E	E		I
S	E	R	C	O	P		O	H	S	B
L	P	S		L	S	O	P		I	D
O	H	S	K	O	O	T	I	A	V	T
S	J	S		L	S	T	L	V	M	S

# Boonville Rosary Walk



Sixth- and eighth-graders at Ss. Peter & Paul School in Boonville, along with adult parishioners, pray a walking Rosary on the parish grounds Oct. 7 to celebrate the Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary.

— Photo by Theresa Krebs



Students of St. Francis Xavier School in Taos, including members of the LIFE Runners Team, pray for the unborn on a September afternoon.

— Photos from the Francis Xavier Catholic School-Taos Facebook page



# Truman the Tiger visits Columbia OLLIS



The University of Missouri-Columbia's Truman the Tiger visits Our Lady of Lourdes Interparish School in Columbia Oct. 13.

— Photo by Whitney Manda

# Prayers at the flagpole



Students of St. Elizabeth R-IV School in St. Elizabeth gather around the flagpole outside their school to pray for their nation during the national See You at the Flagpole ceremony on Sept. 24.

— Photo by Andrea Holtmeyer

# They've got her number



Mindy Schneider's students at Immaculate Conception School in Macon persuaded her to leave the classroom so they could build her a "cake" for her 21st birthday on Sept. 24. "They think I'm turning 21 today. I'll go with their answer!" she said.

— Photo from the Immaculate Conception School Facebook page

# Jesus stays with a tax collector in Jericho

By Jennifer Ficaglia  
Catholic News Service

One day, Jesus and the apostles were traveling toward Jericho.

Along the way, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. He heard a crowd going by and learned that Jesus was coming.

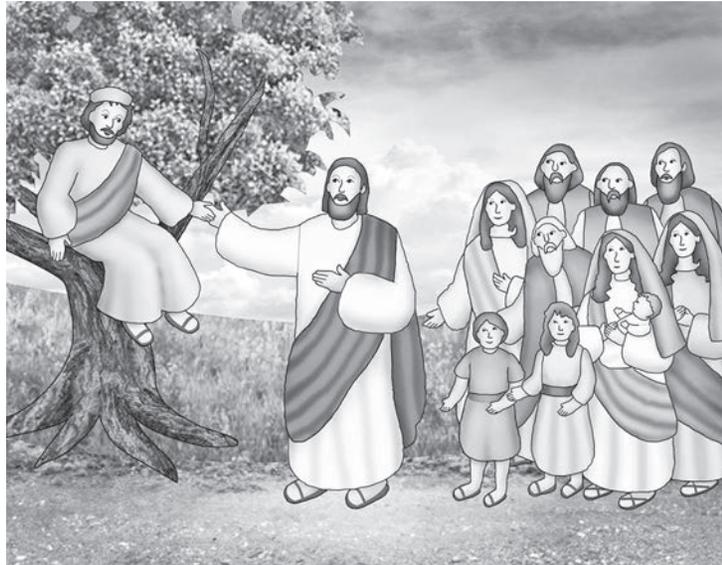
“Jesus, Son of David, have pity on me!” the blind beggar shouted.

Jesus had the man brought to Him and asked what He could do for him.

“Lord, please let me see,” he answered.

“Have sight; your faith has saved you,” Jesus said as the man’s sight was restored.

As Jesus and His friends entered Jericho, a resident of the city named Zacchaeus was ea-



gerly awaiting his chance to see Jesus.

But Zacchaeus, a wealthy chief tax collector, was short in stature and could not see over the crowd.

So, he decided to run ahead, climb a sycamore tree and wait for Jesus to pass by.

When Jesus came near the tree that Zacchaeus had climbed, He looked up.

“Zacchaeus, come down quickly, for today I must stay at your house,” Jesus said.

Zacchaeus immediately scrambled down from the tree and received Jesus with joy.

When people in the crowd heard and saw what was going on, they began to grumble.

“He has gone to stay at the house of a sinner,” they complained.

Zacchaeus knew that the people of Jericho thought badly of him because he was a tax collector.

During Jesus’ time, some of the most hated people were tax collectors.

Not only did they work to collect tax money from fellow Jews on behalf of the oppressive Roman Empire, they greedily charged more than

was owed and kept the extra money for themselves.

Zacchaeus looked at Jesus. “Behold, half of my possessions, Lord, I shall give to the poor, and if I have extorted anything from anyone I shall repay it four times over,” he declared.

Jesus looked pleased with what Zacchaeus had promised.

“Today salvation has come to this house because this man too is a descendant of Abraham,” Jesus said. “For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save what was lost.”

### Read more about it... Luke 19

1. What did Zacchaeus do so he could see Jesus?
2. At whose house did Jesus want to stay in Jericho?

## Bible Accent

Tax collectors are mentioned quite a few times in the New Testament.

For example, in Luke 5:27-32, we read that Jesus called the tax collector Levi — also known as Matthew — to be one of His apostles.

After he was called, Levi gave a great banquet for Jesus. There were many tax collectors dining at the table with them.

The Pharisees and scribes complained that Jesus was eating with tax collectors and sinners. But Jesus said He came to call sinners to repentance, not

the righteous.

In Luke 18, we can read a parable that Jesus told about a tax collector and a Pharisee.

One day, a Pharisee and a tax collector came to the Temple area to pray, Jesus said.

“O God, I thank you that I am not like the rest of humanity — greedy, dishonest, adulterous — or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, and I pay tithes on my whole income,” the Pharisee prayed.

The tax collector, on the other hand, stood off at a distance and wouldn’t raise his

eyes toward heaven. As he beat his breast, he prayed, “O God, be merciful to me a sinner.”

Jesus said that the tax collector went home justified, because “everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

## Essay

Describe a time when you reached out to a person who others had shunned.

## Saint Spotlight



Giovaniello Fasani was born in Italy in 1681. He was educated by the Franciscans in Lucera, joined the order at age 15 and took the name Francis Anthony. He earned a doctorate in theology in 1705 and taught at the Franciscan college in Lucera for the rest of his life. He was renowned for his teaching, his preaching and his mercy. He also was concerned for the well-being of the poor and prisoners. St. Francis Anthony died in 1742, and we remember him on Nov. 29.

## Puzzle

Using the hints provided, fill in the blanks in the sentences about tax collectors and paying taxes.

1. Doesn't your teacher pay the \_\_\_\_\_ tax? (Matthew 17:24)
2. If he refuses to listen even to the church, then treat him as you would a \_\_\_\_\_ or a tax collector. (Matthew 18:17)
3. The tax collectors and \_\_\_\_\_ were all drawing near to listen to Him. (Luke 15:1)
4. This is why you also pay taxes, for the \_\_\_\_\_ are ministers of God. (Romans 13:6)



Answers: 1. Temple; 2. gentile; 3. sinners; 4. authorities.

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## Who is this award-winning scientist and sainthood candidate?

**Most famous geneticist, Jérôme Lejeune, becomes biggest pro-life advocate when discovery is used for evil**

Jérôme Lejeune, the world's most famous geneticist, also became one of the most devoted supporters of the pro-life cause when his colleagues ardently supported the extermination of the very patients he was trying to save.

*Jérôme Lejeune: A Man of Science and Conscience* (Ignatius Press), by Aude Dugast, takes readers on an incredible journey of this man's life, one featuring Nobel Peace Prize nominations, a close friendship with St. John

Paul II, hundreds of prestigious accolades, and a will to serve patients whom society deemed worthless — those with Down syndrome.

Lejeune received international recognition when he discovered the extra chromosome that causes Down syndrome. But that was only the beginning of his extraordinary career in the scientific field. He became an expert on atomic radiation, part of the team that researched the authenticity of the Shroud of Turin, and a medical expert who testified at significant court cases in the United States involving embryo adoption.

To write this definitive biography, Dugast, the postulator for the cause for canonization for Lejeune, spent 11 years consulting thousands of archives.

She met at length with Lejeune's wife and relatives, families of his patients and his French and foreign collaborators.

*Jérôme Lejeune* delivers a page-turner of unbelievable events of this man's life, his relentless pursuit of truth through both faith and science, and courage to speak on behalf of the preborn child to his colleagues who shunned him for such action.

Lejeune was a man of deep faith and insatiable love for

those with Down syndrome. He dedicated his life to giving their lives dignity and, ultimately, to find a cure, which he was never able to accomplish.

His work caught the attention of St. John Paul II, with whom he developed both a lifelong friendship and working relationship, eventually being appointed the head of the Pontifical Academy for Life by the pope.

The cause for beautification and canonization for Lejeune was initiated on June 28, 2007.

"Aude Dugast captures the spirit of Jérôme Lejeune, whose life embraced the paradoxes of the saints," said Jesuit Father Robert Spitzer, president of the Magis Center of Reason and Faith and author of *Healing the Culture*. "He was a man of the world within a man of faith — an example of the transformative love of Christ radiating from a consummate professional. This highly engaging story is filled with inspiration on how to live and 'stay the course' — a modern Man for All Seasons."

## Movie Ratings



General Patronage

Ron's Gone Wrong (PG)



Adults and Adolescents

The Addams Family 2 (PG)  
Mass (PG-13)



Adults

Dune (PG-13)  
Eternals (PG-13)  
The Many Saints of Newark (R)  
No Time to Die (PG-13)  
Venom: Let There Be Carnage (PG-13)



Limited Adult Audience

Antlers (R)  
The Last Duel (R)  
Last Night in Soho (R)



Morally Offensive

Halloween Kills (R)

Ratings are supplied by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Film and Broadcasting Office. Visit [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org) for current reviews.

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## 'A Samurai in the Vatican,' Nov. 17, PBS

By John Mulderig  
Catholic News Service

New York

An intriguing but largely forgotten historical incident is skillfully recounted in the documentary "A Samurai in the Vatican."

Presented as part of the series "Secrets of the Dead," the film premieres Wednesday, Nov. 17, 9-10 p.m. central time on PBS. Broadcast times may vary, however, and viewers are advised to check local listings.

In the early years of the 17th century, Japanese nobleman Date Masamune was angling for power as his nation transitioned from a period of factious infighting to the more stable rule of the Tokugawa shoguns.

As part of his bid for expanded influence, Masamune dispatched two very different ambassadors on a journey that would take them first to Mexico and then on to Europe.

One envoy was samurai Hasekura Tsunenaga. The son of a disgraced official in Masamune's court who had been forced to commit ritual suicide, Tsunenaga was trying to rehabilitate his family's reputation by undertaking such a perilous mission for his overlord.

Accompanying Tsunenaga was Spanish-born Christian missionary Luis Sotelo, a Franciscan friar.

Fluent in Japanese, Sotelo hoped that his em-

bassy on Masamune's behalf would bolster the aristocrat's favorable attitude toward Christianity and perhaps result in his own appointment as a bishop in his adopted country.

Masamune's goal was to win the approval of the Spanish king, Philip III, for expanded trade between his realm, centered on the northeastern city of Sendai, and the vast territory then known as New Spain.

This colony included not only modern-day Mexico, California and much of the Southwest of the United States but portions of Central and South America as well.

To obtain Philip's consent, Tsunenaga and Sotelo met first with his envoy in the New World, Viceroy Diego Fernández de Córdoba, then with the monarch himself and finally with Pope Paul V.

To accomplish all this, they had to cross both the Pacific and the Atlantic, traveling much of the globe and visiting, successively, Mexico City, Madrid and Rome, among other destinations.

The Italian leg of their expedition came about because indecisive Philip, who was uneasy about Masamune's project, tried to leave a final decision about it up to the pontiff.

However, although Paul looked favorably on Sotelo's religious proposals, he ultimately declined to involve himself in the commercial

See SAMURAI, page 23

## VETERANS

From page 6

them and show them how special they are," she said.

### "A most magical week"

Two years ago, to mark the 100th anniversary of the first Veterans Day (and the 101st anniversary of the end of World War I), Mrs. Koetting and her staff organized six consecutive days of activities at the Veterans Home.

She invited historians, military personnel, chefs and performers from all over the area to help the veterans celebrate "Army Day," "Marine Day," "Navy Day," "Air Force Day," "Coast Guard Day" and "Women in Service Day."

"It was the coolest, most magical week," she stated. "That was in November 2019. Four months later, the world shut down."

The pandemic has forced Mrs. Koetting and her co-workers to get creative with their activities and fundraising, including drive-through events and virtual celebrations.

"We do it as a team," she said. "Over here, it definitely is a work family."

### "Friends up above"

Mrs. Koetting's father, a U.S. Army vet, died in 2019.

"He's still one of my biggest inspirations," she stated. "I feel him every day in what we do."

She has no qualms about getting close to so many peo-



**Letisha Koetting greets Korean War veteran Fred Hogue, whom she once helped complete a 60-year quest.**

ple who might soon answer their Final Call to Duty.

"That is the hard part of the job, especially when you're dealing with a lot of loss," she said. "But you have to have balance and not let it harden your heart and have that keep you from getting close to the next person and the next."

She knows she's not doing it alone.

"I have an entire army of friends up above!" she said.

She never forgets that veterans — those at rest and those still awake — are in God's hands.

"I always pray for strength for them," she said. "Some of them are fighting to get better, some just to see another day."

"I pray for courage for them, because it's not easy," she stated. "For peace, because some of them are struggling. Some of them saw things that we have no idea about. It's haunting."

"They did what they had to do," she noted. "But some feel

that because they did what they had to do, they won't be forgiven. They all have goodness in their hearts. They all fought and were scared and did their best.

"And I pray for them to know that they're loved and cared about and will not be forgotten," she said.

### Powerful connections

This August, Mr. Hogue's daughter called Mrs. Koetting and invited her to his induction ceremony at the Mount Soledad National Veterans Memorial in San Diego, California, in August.

"So he flies in from Florida, she flies in from Arizona, and I fly in the night before from Missouri," Mrs. Koetting recalled.

When they saw each other, they all shed tears of joy.

"It was amazing," said Mrs. Koetting. "It really captures how investing just a little bit of time can make these lifelong connections that you don't know how powerful they are until much later."

That's why it's important not to wait to sit down and listen to people's stories.

"Pay attention," Mrs. Koetting advised. "If you have a veteran in your life, make the time to sit down and ask the questions you want the answers to."

"If you don't ask now, you may wind up never knowing."

## SAMURAI

From page 22

aspect of the duo's embassy.

Besides Philip's dithering, other factors that weighed against the success of the unlikely pair's venture included the shogunate's hardening attitude toward Christian proselytism — the faith would be suppressed altogether in Japan not long afterward and the island empire closed to almost all outsiders.

Tsunenaga and Sotelo's trek thus represented, in a sense,

the end of an era.

Professor Jesús San Bernardino Coronil, who teaches Asian studies at Spain's University of Seville, serves as the audience's principal guide to these events. Other experts who appear include historians, archivists and at least one theologian.

Believing viewers will be especially interested in the final question on which the program focuses: How sincere

was Tsunenaga's conversion to Catholicism, a transformation solemnized by his 1614 baptism?

Did the subsequent persecution of the faith lead Tsunenaga, who took the Christian name Felipe in honor of the sovereign to whom he had been sent, to abandon it?

Sotelo's fate is more clearly established than that of his companion. After returning to Japan in disguise, he was mar-

## Daily Readings

### Sunday, Nov 14

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Dn. 12:1-3  
Ps. 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11  
Heb. 10:11-14, 18  
Mk. 13:24-32

### Monday, Nov 15

St. Albert the Great, bishop and doctor of the Church  
1 Mc. 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63  
Ps. 119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158  
Lk. 18:35-43

### Tuesday, Nov 16

St. Margaret of Scotland; St. Gertrude, virgin  
2 Mc. 6:18-31  
Ps. 3:2-7  
Lk. 19:1-10

### Wednesday, Nov 17

St. Elizabeth of Hungary, religious  
2 Mc. 7:1, 20-31  
Ps. 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b, 15  
Lk. 19:11-28

### Thursday, Nov 18

The Dedication of the Basilicas of St. Peter and Paul, Apostles; St. Rose Philippine Duchesne, virgin (USA)  
1 Mc. 2:15-29  
Ps. 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15  
Lk. 19:41-44

### Friday, Nov 19

1 Mc. 4:36-37, 52-59  
(Ps.) 1 Chr. 29:10bcd, 11abc, 11d-12abcd  
Lk. 19:45-48

### Saturday, Nov 20

1 Mc. 6:1-13  
Ps. 9:2-4, 6, 16, 19  
Lk. 20:27-40

### The Holy Father's prayer intentions for November:

We pray that people who suffer from depression or burn-out will find support and a light that opens them up to life.

### Sunday, Nov 21

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

Dn. 7:13-14  
Ps. 93:1-2, 5  
Rv. 1:5-8  
Jn. 18:33b-37

### Monday, Nov 22

St. Cecilia, virgin and martyr  
Dn. 1:1-6, 8-20  
(Ps.) Dn. 3:52-56  
Lk. 21:1-4

### Tuesday, Nov 23

St. Clement I, Pope and martyr; St. Columban, abbot; Blessed Miguel Agustín Pro, priest and martyr (USA)  
Dn. 2:31-45  
(Ps.) Dn. 3:57-61  
Lk. 21:5-11

### Wednesday, Nov 24

St. Andrew Dũng-Lạc, priest, and companions, martyrs  
Dn. 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28  
(Ps.) Dn. 3:62-67  
Lk. 21:12-19

### Thursday, Nov 25

St. Catherine of Alexandria, virgin and martyr; Thanksgiving Day (USA)  
Dn. 6:12-28  
(Ps.) Dn. 3:68-74  
Lk. 21:20-28  
or, for Thanksgiving Day:  
Sir. 50:22-24  
(Ps.) 1 Chr. 29:10bcd, 11abc, 11d-12abcd  
Lk. 17:11-19

### Friday, Nov 26

Dn. 7:2-14  
(Ps.) Dn. 3:75-81  
Lk. 21:29-33

### Saturday, Nov 27

Dn. 7:15-27  
(Ps.) Dn. 3:82-87  
Lk. 21:34-36

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tyred in 1624. He was beatified by Pope Pius IX in 1867.

Mature themes aside, "A Samurai in the Vatican" is free of objectionable material and makes for highly informative and educational viewing.

Teens as well as grown-ups

will profit from learning about the important episode in diplomatic and religious history the show seeks to rescue from oblivion.

*Mulderig is on the staff of Catholic News Service.*

## National collection to help break the cycle of poverty to be taken up Nov. 20-21

For 50 years, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) has been the official domestic anti-poverty program of the U.S. Catholic bishops.

Raising public awareness about poverty and its causes and working to break the cycle of poverty in the United States, the annual collection will be taken up in parishes throughout the diocese the weekend of Nov. 20-21.

More than 38 million people live in poverty in the United States. This collection helps community leaders who work to expand access to affordable

housing, health care, and education.

The collection also supports the development of worker-owned businesses, and advocates for changes to structures that keep people in poverty.

Individual dioceses receive 25 percent of the funds collected to support local efforts. The remainder is allocated to larger programs after a thorough review of applications to assure they fall in line with Catholic Church teachings, said Ralph McCloud, CCHD executive director at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Auxiliary Bishop David G.

O'Connell of Los Angeles, co-chairs the bishops' subcommittee overseeing CCHD.

He said he has seen the value of the kind of work CCHD supports since the late 1980s when he was a pastor in South Los Angeles, a poor community with a large minority population.

He said faith-based community organizing can help people realize they have the power to make necessary changes in institutions that perpetuate injustice.

"I love the work of the organizing," he said. "I love to have seen over the years that people think about themselves in a different way because of the work of the organizing. They begin to see themselves as leaders. They see that they are not victims. They think about (the question of) 'How do we have some rela-

tional power here to turn things around?'"

Originally known simply as the Campaign for Human Development, the program took shape in the late 1960s following rioting that erupted in response to continued racial and ethnic hostility in many American cities.

The U.S. Catholic Conference, as the bishops' public policy arm was known then, wanted a program that would address the causes of poverty.

Church leaders realized that charity alone was not enough to stop poverty and that a program that raised up the voices of people living in dire circumstances would lead to systemic change.

After months of meetings and discussions among bishops, Cardinal John F. Dearden of De-

troit in July 1970 announced the formation of the anti-poverty campaign.

The first collection occurred in November that year and has continued annually the weekend before Thanksgiving since.

### For more information

Facts about poverty and success stories from groups supported through the annual CCHD collection may be found by visiting: [povertyusa.org](http://povertyusa.org)

CCHD's annual report provides a presentation of the use of collection funds and the scope of its reach and impact, along with the CCHD newsletter "Helping People Help Themselves."

*Contributing to this article was Dennis Sadowski of Catholic News Service in Washington, D.C.*

★ ARGYLE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ★

**CHICKEN DINNER**  
Sunday, November 21  
11 am-5 pm



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**Blessing of Music Ministers  
Feast of St. Cecilia**



**Monday, November 22**  
7-9 pm  
Cathedral of St. Joseph, Jefferson City

All music ministers in the diocese are invited for a prayer service, blessing & reception

RSVP to [JeffersonCityMO@nprm.org](mailto:JeffersonCityMO@nprm.org)

St. Mary Parish Annual  
**FALL DINNER**  
Drive-Thru • St. Mary School parking lot  
**Glasgow**  
**Sunday, November 14**  
**Turkey, Ham, Dressing, Dessert and More!**  
Carry-outs \$12, Bottled drinks \$1  
Served from 11 am to 2:30 pm

Stop by the Knights of Columbus Hall for more festival fun!  
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