

“The fruit of your womb”

The tabernacle in the Cathedral of St. Joseph depicts the Annunciation of Mary, Ark of the New Covenant and Mother of the Church.
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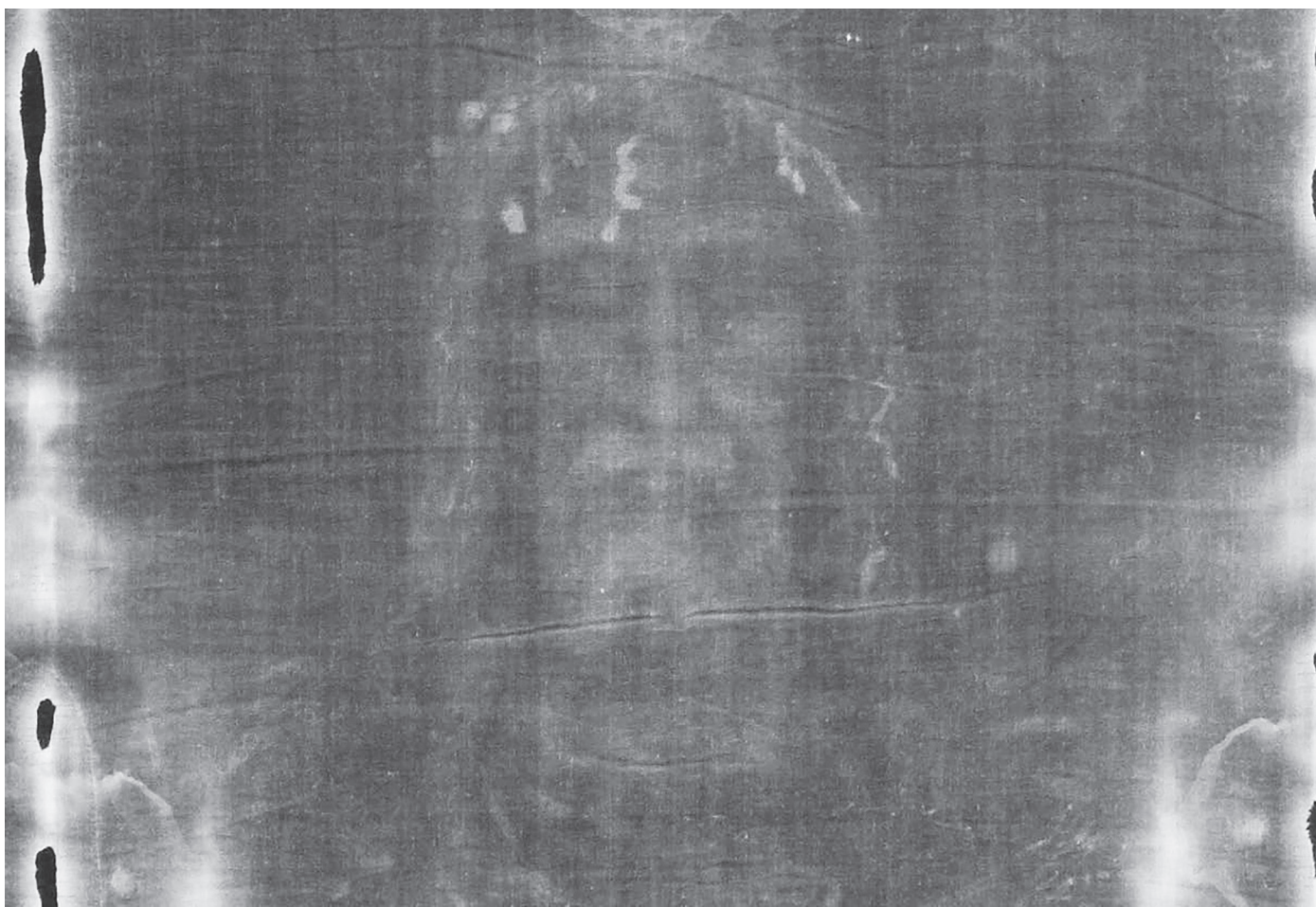
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The CATHOLIC MISSOURIAN

March 29, 2024 • Vol. 67 No. 20

Newspaper of the Diocese of Jefferson City

Shroud puts focus on Christ's death, resurrection



This digital photo of the face on the Shroud of Turin has been inverted to a positive and converted to black and white with enhanced contrast in Photoshop. The image has been rotated from its original horizontal view. The Shroud of Turin is believed to be the cloth in which Jesus was buried after his death on the cross.
— CNS photo/Paul Haring

Shroud of Turin expert's observations point to Holy Week observance

By Jay Nies

Much in the way sunlight passes through a windowpane, life rushes back into the body of a man who was tortured and executed three days before.

The sealed tomb fills with energy as the Son of God returns from the dead and is raised to new life, leaving behind an indelible record.

“I know that some people speak of the Shroud as a miracle, and maybe it is,” said Father Andrew Dalton of the Legionaries of Christ, a world-renowned and highly respected authority on the Shroud of Turin.

“But to me, the miracle is the Resurrection,” he stated. “What we see on the Shroud is the natural effect of that supernatural event.”

The Shroud of Turin is widely believed to be the cloth in which Jesus was buried after his violent death.

It bears blood stains consistent with Biblical accounts of his scourging, crowning with thorns, crucifixion and burial, and when photographed presents the haunting image of a man's face and body.

“Jesus's cadaver rose miraculously, and the natural effect of that phenomenon is what bears its trace on the Shroud,” said Fr. Dalton, who teaches Biblical theology of the passion of the Christ at the Pontifical Athenaeum Regina Apostolorum in Rome.

He sat down for an extensive interview while visiting this diocese in January to give lectures in Jefferson City and Columbia.

He believes the Shroud of Turin is

See SHROUD, page 21

New deanery, diocesan pastoral plans announced during Chrism Mass

Presented in the context of the Priesthood and sacramental life of the Church

By Jay Nies

The Prayer After Communion put an exclamation point on all else that had been said and prayed at this year's Chrism Mass.

“We beseech you, almighty God, that those you renew by your Sacraments may merit to become the pleasing fragrance of Christ, who lives and reigns for ever and ever.”

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight, priests and deacons of the diocese and an ample delegation of the faithful from all five deaneries were gathered in the Cathedral of St. Joseph the

afternoon of the Tuesday of Holy Week.

Bishop McKnight blessed the holy oils and consecrated the Sacred Chrism that will be used to administer sacraments throughout the diocese in the upcoming year.

He also joined the priests in renewing the promises they made at their priestly ordination.

It was the first Chrism Mass to be celebrated in the Cathedral since its rededication last May, following a substantial renovation and expansion.

The Gospel reading for the Mass (Luke 4:16-21) recounted Jesus's powerful and authoritative preaching when he

See CHRISM MASS, page 14

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MOVING? If you are moving or changing parishes, please fill out information below. Clip and mail to THE CATHOLIC MISSOURIAN, 2207 West Main Street, Jefferson City, MO 65109-0914. Or complete the online form at diojeffcity.org/update-information. Allow two weeks.

NEW ADDRESS

NAME _____

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CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

NEW PARISH _____

OLD PARISH _____

03/29/24

Assistant Director of Campus Ministry

St. Thomas More Newman Center Parish in Columbia, Mo. is seeking to fill the position of Assistant Director of Campus Ministry. To see a full job description, go to <https://www.comonewman.org/job-openings/>.

Principal Needed



Mary Immaculate School in Kirksville, Mo., is accepting applications for a principal for the 2024-2025 school year. We are a Catholic elementary school, serving pre-k through 8th grade, with a current enrollment of 92 students. This position requires a strong Catholic identity, commitment to growth, collaborative spirit and strategic vision that embraces a strong partnership with parents and the parish community. The principal reports directly to the pastor, and would lead staff by example in the areas of continuing educational and professional growth. A job description and application can be found at diojeffcity.org/school-office. Questions can be directed to Dr. Erin Vader, Superintendent of Catholic Schools at evader@diojeffcity.org.

Teachers Needed - Westphalia



St. Joseph School in Westphalia, Mo., a Catholic K-8 school, is seeking to fill the following teaching positions:

ART TEACHER — Develop and implement art curriculum aligned with national and diocesan standards; plan and facilitate art lessons; foster positive and inclusive classroom environment; and showcase student artwork through exhibitions and within the halls of the school. Experience in teaching art in K-8, proficiency in art mediums and techniques, and integration of Catholic values and principles within lessons.

MUSIC TEACHER — Strong background in music education, deep appreciation for Catholic values and the ability to create engaging and enriching music experiences for students. Previous music teaching experience, proficiency in playing the piano, organ, and playing music for Masses is preferred.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHER — Promote health, fitness and teamwork among students; experience in teaching PE to students in K-8; develop and implement age-appropriate PE lessons that promote physical fitness, skill development, student team building and sportsmanship; and integration of Catholic values and principles within lessons.

SECOND GRADE TEACHER — Teach the sacraments; develop and implement engaging lesson plans that align with the school's curriculum and Catholic teachings; ability to create positive classroom environment; and use a variety of instructional strategies to promote active learning. Candidate should have good communication skills to collaborate with colleagues, parents and administration, hold a BS in Education and current teaching certificate.

If interested in any of these positions, please submit cover letter, resume and three references to Patricia Kirk at pkirk@stjosephwestphalia.org.

Correction: St. Peter J.C. new Mass times

A notice in the March 15 edition of *The Catholic Missourian* contained an incorrect time in the revised Mass schedule for St. Peter Parish in Jefferson City.

The correct times are:

- Saturday Vigil at 4:30 p.m.
- Sunday Masses at 8 and 10 a.m. and in Spanish at noon.
- Weekday Masses at 12:03 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays, and at 8 a.m. and 12:03 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

We apologize for the error.

Carmelite prayer ministry email

The Carmelite Nuns' ministry is to pray for the intentions of the people and Church of Jefferson City. Please email them at: carmelofjc.prayers@gmail.com.

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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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Morrison Mass time

Sunday Mass in Assumption Church in Morrison is celebrated at 8 a.m. during the summer.

Pray for deceased priests

Mar. 31 — Fr. Joseph G. Lawlor, Missionary Service, Peru (2011)
Apr. 7 — Fr. Robert J. Chenoweth, St. Louis (2003)
Apr. 8 — Fr. Bernard H. Mers, Holy Guardian Angels, Brinktown (1984); Fr. Richard Cronin, Immaculate Conception, Loose Creek (2019)
Apr. 10 — Fr. William F. Flanagan, Holy Rosary, Monroe City; and St. Stephen, Indian Creek (2014)

Teaching Positions — Tipton, Mo.

St. Andrew Catholic School in Tipton, Mo. has multiple junior high teaching positions. We are departmentalized in the junior high; subjects available are Science, Social Studies, ELA and Religion. 7th or 8th grade homeroom and content taught is dependent on experience and qualifications.

A successful candidate is a practicing Catholic in good standing or a teacher who, consistent with the mission of St. Andrew School, promotes and teaches the Catholic faith. Applicants should hold the appropriate Missouri teaching certification or its equivalent. All interested persons should contact the Principal, Kara Higgins, at khiggins@saintandrewpirates.com.

1st & 2nd Grade Teacher

St. Clement School in St. Clement, Mo., has an opening for a 1st and 2nd grade classroom teacher for the 2024-2025 school year. A successful candidate is a practicing Catholic in good standing who can minister to students regardless of subject area or a teacher who, consistent with the mission of St. Clement School, promotes and teaches the Catholic faith as reasonably determined by the principal. Applicants should hold the appropriate Missouri teaching certification, or its equivalent. All interested persons should complete the application at tinyurl.com/StClementTeacher and contact the Principal, Laurie Schuckenbrock, at lschuckenbrock@stclementmo.org.

Administrative Assistant



The Chancery Office of the Diocese of Jefferson City is seeking an experienced administrative assistant to support the Director of Religious Education & Youth/Young Adult Ministry and the Coordinator of Women's Ministry. Requirements include: at least 5 years' experience; intermediate to advanced skills in Word and Excel; experience with website content management (preferred); ability to prioritize tasks and support more than one director; and willingness to assist with events.

This is a full-time position offering a competitive wage with comprehensive benefits which include life insurance, long-term disability, medical, dental, vision and a matching 403(b) retirement plan.

Applicants are encouraged to apply on [Indeed.com](https://indeed.com) or send resume to hrdir@diojeffcity.org.

Principal Opening — Loose Creek

Immaculate Conception School in Loose Creek, Mo. is currently accepting applications for a principal for the 2024-2025 school year. We are a Catholic elementary school, serving kindergarten through 8th grade, with a current enrollment of approximately 104 children. This position will involve day-to-day interactions with parents and students in an ongoing effort to provide our community with a strong Catholic faith and a healthy and challenging academic environment. The principal reports directly to the pastor, and should lead an exemplary Catholic life in addition to continuing educational and professional growth. A job description and application can be found on the diocesan web page at diojeffcity.org/school-office. Questions can be directed to Dr. Erin Vader, Superintendent of Catholic Schools at evader@diojeffcity.org.

Bishop addresses June 1 ordinations, Eucharistic Revival events, prayers for peace

By Jay Nies

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight has summoned Rev. Mr. Christopher Hoffmann to be ordained a priest and seminarian Gregory Clever to be ordained a transitional deacon.

Both ordinations are scheduled to take place at the same Mass on Saturday, June 1, in the Cathedral of St. Joseph.

The bishop announced the

pending ordinations as part of his remarks at the end of the Chrism Mass, which he celebrated with the priests of the diocese on March 26, the Tuesday of Holy Week, in the Cathedral.

He invited everyone to attend the ordinations.

“All are welcome for this important celebration for the life and mission of our local church,” he said.

Rev. Mr. Hoffmann is a seminarian at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio; Mr. Clever is a seminarian at Mundelein Seminary in Mundelein, Illinois.

Both men served in liturgical roles at the Chrism Mass.

•The bishop also urged the faithful to take part in activities this July that are related to the National Eucharistic Revival.

The diocese will welcome pilgrims from the western Eucharistic Pilgrimage, which will begin in San Francisco and converge with the other three pilgrimages from the north, south and east in Indianapolis for the national Eucharistic Congress.


On July 1-5, parishes in Sedalia, Boonville, Colum-

bia and Jefferson City and the Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows in Starkenburg will host events related to the pilgrimage.

“There will be many ac-

tivities for the young and old in which to participate,” said Bishop McKnight.

See ANNOUNCEMENTS, page 19



Bishop McKnight's Calendar

MARCH

Mar 29 Good Friday Service, Cathedral of St. Joseph, 7 pm, Jefferson City

Mar 30 Easter Vigil, Cathedral of St. Joseph, 8:10 pm, Jefferson City

APRIL

Apr 2 Council of Deans Meeting, 11 am; Presbyteral Council Meeting, 1 pm, Chancery

Apr 3 Confirmation Mass, Immaculate Conception Parish, Loose Creek and St. Louis of France Parish, Bonnots Mill, 6:30 pm, Immaculate Conception Church, Loose Creek

Apr 4 Confirmation Mass, St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, St. Thomas and St. Cecilia Parish, Meta, 6:30 pm, St. Thomas the Apostle Church, St. Thomas

Apr 9 Stewardship Council Meeting, 9 am; Priests' Personnel Board Meeting, 1:30 pm, Chancery; Confirmation Mass, Immaculate Conception Parish, Macon, St. Mary Parish, Shelbina and the Mission of Sacred Heart, Bevier, 6:30 pm, Immaculate Conception Church, Macon

Apr 10 Confirmation Mass, St. Joseph Parish, Westphalia and St. Anthony of Padua Parish, Folk, 6:30 pm, St. Joseph Church, Westphalia

Apr 13 Mass for the Diocesan Stewardship Conference, 8 am, Cathedral of St. Joseph, Jefferson City; Confirmation Mass, St. Anthony Parish, Camdenton and Our Lady of the Lake Parish, Lake Ozark, 5 pm, St. Anthony Church, Camdenton

Apr 14 Confirmation Mass, Cathedral of St. Joseph Parish, 10 am; Confirmation Mass, St. Andrew Parish, Holts Summit, St. Anthony of Padua Parish, St. Anthony, St. Lawrence Parish, St. Elizabeth, St. Mary Parish, Milan, and St. Mary Parish, Unionville, 1 pm, Cathedral of St. Joseph, Jefferson City

Apr 15 Pontifical College Josephinum Good Shepherd Dinner, 5:30 pm, Columbus, Ohio

Apr 16 Pontifical College Josephinum Board of Trustees Meeting, 8:30 am, Columbus, Ohio

Apr 17 Fr. Tolton Regional Catholic High School Senior Retreat Mass, 1:50 pm, Cathedral of St. Joseph; Confirmation Mass, St. Joseph Parish, 6:30 pm, Pilot Grove

Apr 18 Spire Meeting, 11 am, Chancery; Confirmation Ceremony, St. Peter Parish, 6:30 pm, Proto-Cathedral of St. Peter, Jefferson City

Bishop McKnight's April prayer intention for our Local Church

For a greater awareness of and respect for our common home in building an authentic human ecology: May we be good stewards of the gift of creation in defending all human life.

Intención del mes de abril del Obispo McKnight por nuestra Iglesia Local

Para una mayor conciencia y respeto por nuestra casa común en la construcción de una auténtica ecología humana: Que seamos buenos administradores del don de la creación al defender toda vida humana.



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



This petition goes too far for Missouri!

Don't sign your rights and freedom away by signing an abortion initiative petition that would alter Missouri's Constitution!

Don't let lobbying groups and out-of-state special interests inject abortion politics where it doesn't belong and where it isn't wanted.

This extreme initiative petition could:

- Legalize abortion as a method of birth control and abortion after a baby can survive outside the womb.
- Allow abortion clinics in your neighborhood – even near schools and churches.
- Give power to judges and the government to force Missouri taxpayers to fund abortions.
- Permit governmental intrusion in health care decisions made by parents with their children.

Don't be fooled! Signature collectors might tell you that it's for "women's health" or "reproductive rights" or "to restore Roe"—or that it's "pro-life" or "pro-choice"—or say anything to get you to sign. **Don't believe them!**

DECLINE TO SIGN any petition that lets lobbying groups and the government take away your rights and freedom! Tell family, friends, neighbors, coworkers and everybody to **DECLINE TO SIGN**.

The future of Missouri is counting on you!

For more information on **Decline to Sign**, contact Missouri Stands with Women at mostandswithwomen.org



Missouri Stands with Women

The Church loves you and cares about you. Pregnant? Help is available. Contact Optionline.org or call or text 800-712-4327. Experienced abortion? (for women and men) Supportafterabortion.com. Call or text 844-289-HOPE (4673).



¡Esta petición va demasiado lejos para Missouri!

¡No renuncies a tus derechos y libertades firmando una petición de iniciativa sobre el aborto que alteraría la Constitución de Missouri!

No permitamos que los grupos de presión y los intereses especiales de fuera del estado inyecten políticas sobre el aborto donde no pertenecen y donde no son deseadas.

Esta petición de iniciativa extrema podría:

- Legalizar el aborto como método anticonceptivo y el aborto después de que el bebé pueda sobrevivir fuera del útero.
- Permitir clínicas de aborto sin licencia en su vecindario, incluso cerca de escuelas e iglesias.
- Dar poder a los jueces y al gobierno para obligar a los contribuyentes de Missouri a financiar abortos.
- Permitir la intrusión gubernamental en las decisiones de atención médica que toman los padres con sus hijos.

¡No se dejen engañar! Los recolectores de firmas podrían decirle que es por "la salud de las mujeres" o "derechos reproductivos" o "para restaurar a Roe" (o que es "provida" o "proelección"), o decir cualquier cosa para lograr que usted firme. **¡No les crean!**

¡NIÉGUESE A FIRMAR cualquier petición que permita que los grupos de presión y el gobierno le quiten sus derechos y libertades! Dígame a sus familiares, amigos, vecinos, compañeros de trabajo y a todos que NO FIRME.

¡El futuro de Missouri cuenta contigo!

Para obtener más información sobre cómo negarse a firmar, comuníquese con Missouri Stands with Women en mostandswithwomen.org



Missouri Stands with Women

Catholic men's conference to focus on heroic virtue in action

DATE: April 19-20

By Jay Nies

Father William Peckman hopes every participant will have his complacency reduced to ashes during the inaugural Heart of a Hero Men's Conference on Friday and Saturday, April 19 and 20, in Jefferson City.

"I want these men to leave on fire, saying, 'I'm going home and I'm going to be that heroic protector and provider,'" said Father William Peckman, one of the conference's speakers.

The event be held from 5 to 8:30 p.m. on Friday and from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday in Cana Hall in the lower level of the Cathedral of St. Joseph, 2303 W. Main St. in Jefferson City.

It will include talks by five inspiring speakers, Mass, Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Confessions, and Benediction.

The theme will be 2 Timothy 1:7 — "For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather of power and love and self-control."

The host will be the Jefferson City-based Men of Signum Crucis, a Catholic fraternity of men.

Organizers expect hundreds of participants from all over the Midwest to attend.

Fr. Peckman's talk will be titled, "Heart of a Hero."

"That's something I'm very fired up about," said Fr. Peckman, pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish in Macon, St. Mary Parish in Shelbina and the Mission of Sacred

Heart in Bevier.

"The Scriptures tell us that the husband is the spiritual head of the home," he noted. "Not should be, but IS."

Brian Miller, director of evangelization and discipleship for the Archdiocese of St. Louis and organizer of an annual Men's Conference there, will give a presentation titled, "Set the World on Fire."

In it, he'll give practical advice on living as a disciple of Christ in the heart of the Church and on being sent out on mission into the world.

He'll address challenges to sharing the faith in a secular environment, as well as practical tips to help evangelize in an increasingly hostile environment.

"If we want to be Christ-like, we have to take Christ's holiness and also his mission out into the world," Mr. Miller stated.

"It will require sacrifice and each person being uniquely who God needs you to be," he said. "You have gifts and talents that your family and the world desperately need."

Mr. Miller developed his missionary zeal while serving for four years as a FOCUS Missionary to evangelize college students on several campuses throughout the country and through a profound encounter with Christ during Pope St. John Paul II's visit to St. Louis in 1999.

Mr. Miller will outline the need for faith- and mission-driven men in every level of society.

THIS MEN'S CONFERENCE IS HOSTED BY THE MEN OF SIGNUM CRUCIS

HEART OF A HERO MEN'S CONFERENCE

CANA ROOM, CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOSEPH
JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

APRIL 19
5:30 PM - 8:30 PM

APRIL 20
8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

INCLUDES MIDDAY MASS, AND ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS DURING THE LUNCH BREAK

\$30 FOR EITHER DAY
\$40 FOR BOTH DAYS
\$20 FOR STUDENTS
NO CHARGE FOR PRIESTS AND SEMINARIANS

SCAN FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER!!

HEAR FROM OUR AMAZING PRESENTERS:

LAMAR HUNT JR. FRIDAY, 6:30 PM
FATHER BILL PECKMAN SATURDAY, 9:00 AM
ADAM WRIGHT SATURDAY, 10:00 AM
DR. ANDREW SWAFFORD SATURDAY, 1:15 PM
BRIAN MILLER SATURDAY, 2:15 PM

WWW.MENOFSIGNUMCRUCIS.COM/MENS-CONFERENCE

"FOR GOD DID NOT GIVE US A SPIRIT OF COWARDICE BUT RATHER OF POWER AND LOVE AND SELF-CONTROL"
2 TIMOTHY 1:7

"We all long to see our churches come alive, the communities we belong to being lifted up and transformed," he said.

"I will talk about how I've seen all of this happen, how there's hope and light in the Church, and give them some tips on how to make that happen," he stated.

Heroic virtue

Fr. Peckman is the author of *A Young Catholics Guide to Spiritual Warfare* and co-author of *Let Freedom Ring: A 40 Day Tactical Training for Freedom from the Devil*.

He cited repeated studies indicating that a father's level of spiritual engagement has enormous bearing on whether his children will practice their faith as adults.

He'll address that correlation in his talk, as well as the reasons he and Father David Veit started the Camp Maccabee summer camp to help high-school-age boys claim their identity as heroes, providers, protectors and the spiritual heads of their households.

"Virtue, virtue, virtue!" Fr. Peckman stated. "Without that, you can't have the hero-

ism."

He'll draw on highlights from Bishop Thomas J. Olmsted's "Into the Breach: An Apostolic Exhortation to Catholic Men, my Spiritual Sons in the Diocese of Phoenix."

He'll cite examples such as how firefighters and other first-responders ran into the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

"What we see there is self-giving love at its highest level in the modern age," the priest stated.

"They knew from their training that there was no guarantee that they'd come back out. But they ran in at break-neck speed anyway."

Craving connection

Mr. Miller knows firsthand the value of cultivating friendship and camaraderie among Catholic men.

"That's where the transformation really takes place," he said. "You know you're not alone and that the Lord is calling you to do something, and you have the support and encouragement from the guys around you who lift you up."

He said that in this age,

American men tend to be lonelier than ever before.

"Guys are clearly very hungry for community and for the challenge to make them better men," he stated.

"Sometimes, we're stubborn and want to do it all on our own," he noted. "But we're much more effective when we have a community to lean on and to encourage us and help us do these things."

Society, suffering and survival

The evening presentation on April 19 will be given by Lamar Hunt Jr., founder of the Loretto Foundation.

His father was the founder and longtime owner of the Kansas City Chiefs football team, as well as a seminal contributor to the foundation of Major League Soccer in America.

The foundation is dedicated to helping to build strong families and support communities by promoting the intrinsic dignity of all human beings, with a special focus on people who are poor and underserved by society.

Mr. Hunt is active in a variety of charities across Kansas City in addition those offered through the Loretto Foundation.

He believes that strong families come from strong communities and vice versa.

Saturday presenters will also include:

•Adam Wright, on-air host of the Covenant Network Catholic Radio's "Roadmap to Heaven" program, speaking on "The Redemptive Power of Suffering."

He previously served for 16 years in parish music ministry and youth and young adult ministry.

•Catholic author, editor and speaker Andrew Swafford STD, professor of theology at Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas, speaking on "Spiritual Survival."

He is co-author of *Gift and Grit: How Heroic Virtue Can Change Your Life and Relationships*; *A Catholic Guide to the Old Testament*; and *What*

See MEN'S CONFERENCE, page 18

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Uganda Kitchen Project fundraiser at Our Lady of Lourdes Interparish School exceeds goal

By Jay Nies and Jennifer Calkins

A project to build a new kitchen for a large Catholic boarding school in Uganda will move forward, with money to spare.

Unwavering support from students, staff, families and Our Lady of Lourdes parishioners allowed Our Lady of Lourdes Interparish School (OLLIS) in Columbia not only to meet but exceed its Uganda Kitchen Project fundraising goal.

The project addresses the urgent need to build a modern, energy-saving, eco-friendly kitchen at St. Donozio Ssebugwawo Mixed Day and Boarding Primary School in Kisubi, Uganda.

Father Simon Jude Kanyike, associate pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, is a missionary priest from Uganda. His home parish in the Archdiocese of Kampala will benefit immensely from this project.

St. Donozio Ssebugwawo School has been providing education to pupils since 1909.

But its outdated kitchen infrastructure has been hindering the delivery of quality services, which is essential for better nutrition and health of its 1,145 students (660 in the boarding school, 485 in the day section), ultimately affecting their ability to learn.

“God brought Fr. Simon to us, and we believe it was for a very good reason,” said Alice Klice, an eighth-grade class representative at OLLIS. “Since Father has brought so much to our parish, we want to give back in a way that also is like God shining through us to the people of his home parish.”

OLLIS students took the lead in organizing fundraising activities such as fun days and middle school social events.

Parents, faculty, staff and parishioners also played a generous role by donating to the cause.

By December 2023, the OLLIS community raised \$63,801 toward the project, surpassing the initial target of \$52,740.

The surplus funds will help pay for furnishings for the new kitchen, ensuring a functional and welcoming space.



LEFT: Our Lady of Lourdes Interparish School students present a ceremonial check to Father Simon Kanyike to build a new kitchen for a boarding school in his home archdiocese. — Photo by Dr. Katie Helfer

RIGHT: Fr. Kanyike stands next to the bulletin board that marked the progress in reaching and then exceeding the fundraising goal.



Gifts of gratitude

Members of the OLLIS Student Council spoke adamantly about helping others, even those who are a great distance away.

“It’s super-important because we’re really blessed at this school and we have a nice kitchen staff and they make us all food, and they don’t have that,” said Mary Rege, an eighth-grade student council representative.

“Since we can help them, it’s good to help them,” she said.

“Kindness is the best thing you can do,” stated Gabrielle Whorley, student council vice president.

“If we were the ones in their situation, we’d want someone to help us,” said student council president Elleri Elsenraat.

She added that Fr. Kanyike has been great for Our Lady of Lourdes Parish and everyone likes him.

Alice agreed.

“He’s done so much in our community that we wanted to give back to his community and do something important to help his community,” she said.

The students said they recognize God at work in this project.

“I believe God told us to help others, so we should do all we can to help them,” said Gabrielle.

“God has blessed us and we

have all these resources we can use and they don’t have those resources,” said Mary. “So by doing this, we can help them have a better education so they can learn more about their faith.”

Elleri said the Bible is filled with examples of God urging people to help others in need.

“He gave his whole self to us, and we want to strive to be like him,” she noted. “So, it’s always great for us to try to be like him and do what we can.”

They said helping financially isn’t enough they need to keep praying for the children in Fr. Kanyike’s home diocese.

“We should pray that they have good, nourishing meals to be able to learn and grow up to be able to do whatever they want to do,” said Elleri.

“We can pray that they have good nutrition so that they have energy to learn more about what they want to do and about their faith, and for their health and wellbeing,” said Mary.

Elleri pointed out that having regular access to good

meals will be an important part of having that prayer answered.

“They don’t hesitate!”

OLLIS Principal Elaine Hassemmer emphasized that the students took the lead on this project.

“They did it!” she said. “God bless this parish. I mean, they raised a lot of money in two months. A lot of money! They don’t hesitate to give.

That’s for sure!”

She said that as the students and parishioners celebrate this achievement, they’ll keep praying for the students and staff of the school in Uganda.

“We extend our heartfelt gratitude to each person who contributed to this noble cause,” she said. “May God bless you abundantly as we make a positive impact on education and well-being across continents.”

Jennifer Calkins is Director of Communications for Our Lady of Lourdes Parish and Our Lady of Lourdes Interparish School, both in Columbia.

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Tolton Catholic senior makes Fr. Tolton mosaic with 20,400 dice

By Jay Nies

Nate Pfenenger took his chances, rolled the dice and came out a winner.

Specifically, he turned 20,400 black dice into an intricate, larger-than-life-size mosaic portrait of Venerable Father Augustus Tolton.

"I didn't think it was going to be a big thing," said Nate, a senior at Fr. Tolton Regional Catholic High School in Columbia. "I just thought it would be a really fun and memorable art project."

Never one to settle for the ordinary, Nate says all of his art projects are "out of the box," or beyond the scope of everyday thinking.

"I've used Rubik's Cubes to make a mosaic of my dog," he said. "I've made a bonsai tree out of twisted wire. I've painted cartoon characters on a pair of shoes. And now, I've made a mosaic out of dice."

In search of his latest challenge, he recalled seeing several images that were created with dice.

He talked to his art teacher, Lonnie Tapia, who suggested he use this unusual medium to capture Fr. Tolton, a Missouri native born into an enslaved family, who grew up to become the first recognizably Black, Roman Catholic priest in the United States.

"Mr. Tapia gives his students so much freedom," Nate noted. "As long as it qualifies as

art, he'll pretty much let you do it, within reason."

Nate went into the project not knowing whether he would ultimately succeed with it.

"You do still learn something from failure," he noted. "In life, too, it doesn't mean you should give up if you fail at something. You use it as a stepping stone to future success."

His first big challenge for this work was to acquire enough dice for the project.

"No store carries that many dice," he noted.

He wound up ordering the dice from a wholesale distributor and having them shipped from China.

"And then, they got seized by U.S. Customs two or three times," Nate noted. "That was quite the experience."

He got some funny looks while buying 112 bottles of Super Glue, spread out across several stores in Columbia.

"Turns out, whenever you go buy 30 or 40 tubes of Super Glue at the same time, people's first thought isn't that you must be making a big dice mosaic," Nate pointed out. "So, I did get some weird looks."

He bought black dice with white dots, which worked well for illustrating Fr. Tolton's dark skin.

He chose to reproduce perhaps the most familiar image of Fr. Tolton so that everyone, especially his schoolmates, would recognize him.

His parents agreed to cover the cost of the materials.

Planning and logistics were essential for the project.

"Once I developed my own system for how to do it, my



Nate Pfenenger, a senior at Fr. Tolton Regional Catholic High School in Columbia, displays the mosaic portrait of Venerable Father Augustus Tolton that he created out of 20,400 black dice. Fr. Tolton (1854-97) was born into an enslaved family in northeastern Missouri, escaped to Illinois with his family and overcame enormous obstacles to become the Roman Catholic Church's first recognizably Black priest in the United States.

— Photo by Jay Nies

system worked," he said.

He used a computer image-generator to create the pattern for the mosaic.

He then set about learning the shades of each face of the dice.

"The No. 1 side is going to have the least amount of white, so it's going to be the darkest color, going up to six, which is going to have the lightest color," he said.

"And so you eventually just paint in with dice, in a sense," he said.

He broke the pattern down into barely recognizable sections of 100 dice apiece.

He held the dice in each section together with blue painter's tape, then marked the section in relation to where it would go in the finished work.

He created the sections during his art period and during his study period each day, then took them home and glued them together to a thick sheet of medium-density fiberboard (MDF).

"I drew up a grid of all the sheets of 100, and I assigned each one its own code, based on the row and numbers," he recalled.

"So, I put like a serial number on the back, with a notation, so I'd know where that section fits into the pattern."

He was surprised to hear that his system was similar to how Old World artisans in Italy created and shipped in sections the mosaics that were installed last year in the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Jefferson City.

He said he's grateful that he had no mishaps or injuries, in light of the quantity of heavy-duty adhesive he was using.

"I don't know how it happened, but I didn't even get any of it on my fingers," he stated.

He estimated that between planning and project, gathering the materials, placing the dice in squares and gluing the sections into place, the project took about 200 hours to complete.

There was little glamour about actually executing the project.

"I won't lie, there were days when it was kind of boring to work on and I kind of got tired of it," said Nate.

But he never lost sight of

how satisfying it would be to finish the work well.

The completed image weighs over 100 pounds.

"One thing I found funny was when I was working on assembling the final picture in the art room, everyone thought it was the art teacher's work, not mine," he noted.

"So, everyone was like, 'Wow! Mr. Tapia brought in a new piece of art!'" he said. "And I was like, 'No, I did that!'"

Nate said he started out not knowing much about Fr. Tolton's life story.

"Now, going to a school that's named after him, you do learn what kind of weight his name carries and his importance as a person," he noted.

"And I did learn a bit more about him along the way, because I figured I should know something more about the person I was making," he said.

Viewing the finished artwork is a lesson in bal-

ance and perspective.

"You have to step back to see it as an image of Fr. Tolton, and then when you get up close, you end up seeing the individual dice," said Nate.

He noted that he mistakenly placed one of the die at a 90-degree angle in relation to where it was supposed to be in the finished work.

"If you look very carefully, you can find it," he said.

Knowing where it is, Nate recognizes the misplaced die the second he looks at the image.

"It's an imperfect art piece," he stated. "But I think that's where the perfection lies. Not everything is perfect, so I think there's something kind of satisfying about it."

Besides, Fr. Tolton's life, right up to the moment of his death at age 47 of heat exhaustion, seemed anything but perfect.

Nor is the work of promoting unity and reconciliation among people who look different from one another anywhere near completed.

Nonetheless, Fr. Tolton is

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See FR. TOLTON, page 18

Cathedral's tabernacle reinforces oneness of the Eucharist, the Paschal Mystery

Adorned with images of Mary, Mother of the Church and Ark of the New Covenant

By Jay Nies

Like the Apostles who caught a glimpse of Jesus's glory at his Transfiguration, people aren't in much of a hurry to leave the Cathedral of St. Joseph these days.

They tend to linger and take it all in.

"Because it's beautiful," said Bishop W. Shawn McKnight. "It's the beauty of the art that moves people. It also instructs them and leads them into contemplation, which is exactly what liturgical art is supposed to do."

Bishop McKnight was talking specifically about the Cathedral's tabernacle, which was fashioned in Spain last year as part of a substantial renovation, expansion and renewal of the Cathedral, mother church of the diocese.

The purpose of the renovation was to enhance the half-century-old Cathedral's beauty, functionality, capacity for hospitality and conduciveness to uniquely Catholic worship.

Artisans from Granda Liturgical Arts (granda.com) built the tabernacle according to established Church norms and the specifications submitted by Bishop McKnight, architectural consultant William Heyer, and the Cathedral renovation committee.

Gold-plated and adorned with blue trim enamel, the tabernacle evokes the Ark of the Covenant that was carried by the Israelites during their time in the desert, and later kept in the holiest room of God's Temple.

Images of angels, also reminiscent of the Ark of the Covenant as described in the Book of Exodus, flank both sides of the tabernacle, each holding a vigil candle.

The doors on the front of the tabernacle are illuminated with a colorful depiction of the Annunciation — the moment the Virgin Mary agreed to become the mother of the Savior.

"Mary is the Ark of the



The front of the tabernacle built for the Cathedral of St. Joseph during its recent renewal and expansion depicts the archangel asking Mary if she would be the mother of the Messiah. In saying "yes," she became the Ark of the New Covenant and would become the Mother of the Church. The angels placed on both sides of the tabernacle are reminiscent of the Ark of the Covenant that was carried by the Israelites during their time in the desert, and later kept in the holiest room of God's Temple.

— Photos by Jay Nies

New Covenant because she is the mother of our Lord, and she's also the mother of the Church," said Bishop McKnight. "That's what's being expressed here."

He said the tabernacle, beautifully fashioned of solid, precious materials by seasoned liturgical artists, hints at the value of the treasure it holds — the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Christ in the Holy Eucharist.

"Just as no disciple is greater than his teacher, no container is more precious than its contents," the bishop noted.

From previous generations

The enameled panels on the doors depicting the Annunciation were made using an ancient technique involving the placing of finely ground colored glass dust onto a copper sheet, which is then fired in a kiln.

"This technique is called 'pictorial enamel,' because it resembles a painting," said Lucas Viar Basterra, director of the Project Department for Granda Liturgical Arts.

It is particularly complicated because each ground glass color has a different melting temperature, and the colors change and transform in the kiln.

"So, the artist has to paint almost blind," he noted.

Mr. Viar said a signature

detail of a Granda tabernacle is the importance of the decoration and finish of the interior.

"This is a feature that our founder, Father Felix Granda, instilled into our workshop's culture," Mr. Viar stated.

"Not only because of the theological truth that what is important is who is inside, but also as a catechetical reminder for the priest and anyone else who opens the door of the Real

Presence," he said.

Sacramental grace

Bishop McKnight pointed out how the Cathedral's various artworks and liturgical fixtures, including the tabernacle, all tie together.

"It's really all one piece, the whole sanctuary," he said. "All the various parts relate to one another."

The tabernacle and altar line up with the crucifix and the

shimmering mosaic — depicting the Holy Trinity, the Apostles and the waters of Baptism — above the sanctuary, and with the stained-glass window at the other end of the center aisle, depicting Jesus feeding the 5,000.

These things instruct the faithful on many levels.

"When we're talking about the Eucharist, we're not just talking about the Sacrament and the Real Presence, but also the relationship between the Eucharist and the Church," said Bishop McKnight.

He called to mind Pope St. John Paul II's observation that "the Eucharist makes the Church and the Church makes the Eucharist."

The bishop noted that the resplendent mosaic above the tabernacle illustrates the Paschal Mystery — the incarnation, passion, death and resurrection of Jesus — which is exactly what the Eucharist is.

"The Eucharist is the supreme Sacrament, because it is the only Sacrament that is the sacrament of the Paschal Mystery itself," he stated.

See **TABERNACLE**, page 15



QUESTION CORNER

Sports fandom and sin; a little-known U.S. apparition

By Jenna Marie Cooper
OSV News

Q: Is it a sin to go to a ballgame and wish bad things for the other team? (Austin, TX)

A: I suppose that depends on what is meant by “bad things.” It’s not a sin to go to a ballgame and hope — or perhaps even pray — that our preferred team would win. And naturally, prayer for the victory of one team implies our hope that the other team would lose. The other team potentially losing is a “bad thing” that is baked into the very nature of the game as a possibility, so hoping that our team will win, even at the expense of the other, is entirely legitimate.

However, it would be wrong to harbor a wish or a desire for anyone’s serious and real harm. It likely would be a sin to, for instance, hope specifically that the star player on the opposite team sustains a career-ending injury, or that some other tragedy would befall the team or its players.

Q: I read there is a shrine in Wisconsin recognized as having had a Marian apparition. Why hasn’t it been made more public? (Albany, NY)

A: Yes, there is a shrine in Champion, Wisconsin (near the city of Green Bay) which is at the site of a recognized Marian apparition — the only approved Marian apparition within the national borders of the United States.

The story of Our Lady of Champion — until recently called “Our Lady of Good Help” — began in 1859 when a young Belgium immigrant named Adele Brise saw a woman in white appear between two trees in the middle of a path through the woods. The woman identified herself as “the Queen of Heaven” and told Adele: “Gather the children in this wild country and teach them what they should know for salvation.” Adele subsequently devoted her life to catechizing the local children, and over time other women came to join her in her work. Adele’s father built the first small chapel over the spot where Our Lady had first appeared; this was later replaced by a larger church, and eventually the grounds of the shrine came to include a convent and a school building as well.

The first great miracle associated with the apparition site occurred on October 8, 1871, during the Great Peshtigo Fire. Fearing for their lives, the people from the surrounding countryside fled to the grounds of the shrine, where Adele led them in prayer for Mary’s intercession and deliverance. Although the flames destroyed 1.2 million acres, the fire stopped just short of the grounds of the shrine, charring the outside of the shrine’s fence but leaving everything within it miraculously untouched. Over the years many other healings and miracles occurred at the site, evidence of which is still visible there today.

I have personally visited the Shrine of Our Lady of Champion on more than one occasion, and I don’t know why it is not more well-known as a national place of pilgrimage. One thought is that, although the shrine is a beautiful and prayerful place, it is much smaller and more humble than other, more famous Marian apparition sites like Lourdes and Fatima. Another possible historical reason is that although the Great Peshtigo fire was the most destructive in American history, it is often overshadowed by the Great Chicago Fire which occurred at roughly the same time. Because of this, the shrine’s miraculous preservation from the Great Peshtigo Fire might be easy to

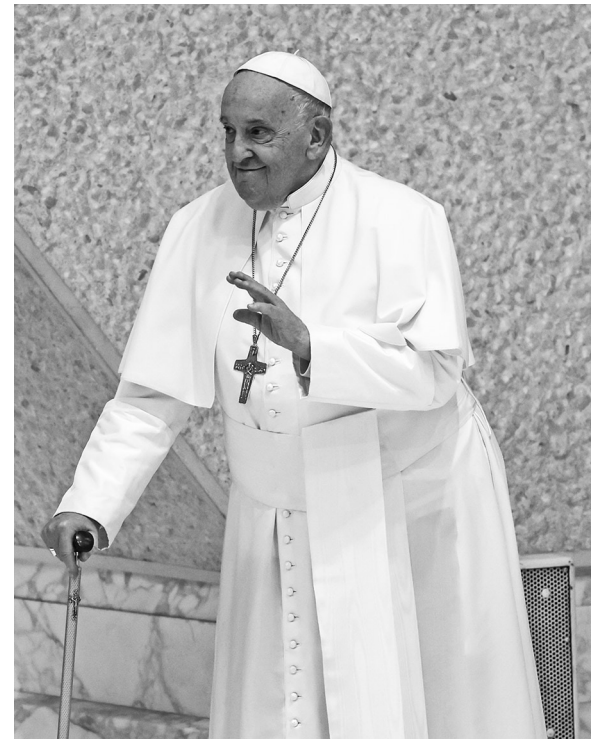


Papal Audience March 27, 2024

Dear brothers and sisters,

In our continuing catechesis on the virtues, we now turn to patience, which has its supreme model in the example of Jesus during his Passion. The patience of Jesus did not consist in a stoic endurance of suffering, but was the fruit of his love. St. Paul also associates patience with the love of God, who is “slow to anger” and quick to repay evil with good. Indeed, Christian patience and forbearance is the most convincing witness to Christ’s love. This Holy Week, let us ask the grace of the Holy Spirit to imitate Christ in his patience and compassionate love, which forgives all wrongs and shows mercy even to his enemies.

I extend a warm welcome to the English-speaking pilgrims and visitors participating in today’s audience, especially the groups from the Philippines, Pakistan, Canada and the United States of America. As we prepare for the Sacred Triduum, I invoke upon all of you the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ. God bless you!



The Church and the world need women’s contributions, pope says

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

Vatican City

The Catholic Church and the world itself need the gifts and contributions of women, especially in bringing people together and overcoming tensions and violence, Pope Francis wrote.

“Ours is a time seared by hatred, in which our human family, which needs to feel the power of love, is instead frequently scarred by violence, war and ideologies that stifle the noblest feelings of the human heart,” he wrote. “Precisely in this context, the contribution of women is more necessary than ever.”

Pope Francis prepared his text for an audience with people participating in a March 7-8 conference, “Women in the Church: Builders of Humanity.” While the pope met participants in the Apostolic Palace at the Vatican March 7, he had an aide read his speech.

The conference, hosted by Rome’s Pontifical University of the Holy Cross, was sponsored by several pontifical universities and coincided with the celebration March 8 of International Women’s

Day.

Using the example of 10 holy women — most, but not all, canonized saints — conference speakers looked at how Catholic women have contributed to the Church and society through their groundbreaking work in education, spirituality and the promotion of peace or dialogue. The examples included: Sts. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Kateri Tekakwitha and Teresa of Kolkata.

In different times and places and “each in her own distinct way,” the 10 women “gave proof through initiatives of charity, education and prayer, of how the ‘feminine genius’ can uniquely reflect God’s holiness in the midst of our world,” the pope’s text said.

And “because the Church is herself a woman — a daughter, a bride and a mother,” he wrote, “who better than women can reveal her face?”

Pope Francis asked that Catholics put aside “any aggressive and divisive attitudes” and that they exercise “careful discernment to discover, in docility to the voice of the Spirit and in faithful

communion, fitting ways for the grandeur and the place of women to be increasingly valued in the People of God.”

An important aspect of the vocation of women, he wrote, is to be the “builders” the conference title referenced. Being a builder is “cooperating with the Creator in the service of life, the common good and peace.”

Women “know how to bring people together with tenderness,” the pope wrote. “With their unique capacity for compassion, their intuitiveness and their connatural inclination to ‘care,’ (they) are able, in an outstanding way, to be for society both intelligence and a heart that loves and unites, to bring love where love is lacking, and humanity where human beings are searching to find their true identity.”

Pope Francis also used his text to thank the pontifical universities for holding up to their students the lives and works of the 10 women saints and he asked them and all Catholic universities to make “every effort to present students with testimonies of holiness, especially of feminine sanctity,” that can inspire them.

Joseph's perfect wife and her perfect son

By Hosffman Ospino
OSV News



A while ago, writing about St. Joseph, I was intent on lifting up his human experience while calling out quick attempts to idealize this important person in Jesus's life. Joseph was a husband, a father, an immigrant, a worker, a neighbor, a friend, a companion.

In response, I received a note from Joe Benevento in July 2021. A professor of English at Truman State University for 40 years who retired in 2023, Benevento is a novelist, poet, musician, family man and committed Catholic. We've continued to correspond ever since.

He shared a similar interest in Joseph the human being, the flesh-and-bones husband and father who has been a source of curiosity and inspiration throughout Christian history, and told me about a novel he had just completed and was accepted for publication.

My Perfect Wife, Her Perfect Son (Addison & Highsmith) was released in 2023. As soon as I received a copy, I paused all other reading and delved into the novel. The work did not disappoint. It is a novel, and thus, readers must expect to encounter the literary freedoms that this genre affords.

The novel is written in the first person. Joseph, Mary's husband, tells a story familiar to Christians, yet he does it from the perspective of a man whose life is not as extraordinary as his wife's or her son's. Joseph speaks as a man who loves Mary and Jesus sincerely, yet struggles to comprehend the demands of that love.

Perhaps this is the novel's greatest achievement. It invites the reader to ponder with Joseph what does it mean to live with Mary, a woman chosen by God from eternity to be the mother of the Savior of the world, and Jesus, God's Word made flesh.

Benevento introduces us to a Joseph who must contend with the fact that he is an everyday human being, married to a woman adorned with many perfections to fulfill God's salvation plan, raising

a son who is unlike any other child — starting with the way he was conceived.

Mary and Jesus throughout the novel seem to have a good sense of God's will for them and about their roles in history. Joseph doesn't! He was not preserved from original sin. He does not enjoy any special knowledge of reality, except for what he hears in dreams.

In Benevento's novel, Joseph is attracted to Mary in the human ways that a regular husband is attracted to his wife. He loves her company, provides for her, seeks her affection and desires intimacy. He also quarrels with Mary and sometimes feels distant from her. Joseph is not devoid of humanhood.

I have read a good number of books and short stories about Joseph that portray him in almost angelic ways. Many of these have been written by unmarried authors. Benevento, who is married and a father of four children, has the audacity to tackle some topics that may seem

taboo when reflecting about the relationship between Joseph and Mary. He does it with care, creativity and faithfulness to the tradition.

In his relationship with Jesus, Benevento's Joseph teaches and mentors him as a father; he gets upset and distressed at certain behaviors. He corrects Jesus when necessary. As Jesus grows into adulthood, Joseph must learn to let go. Although not a perfect father, Joseph does not appear as an absentee or disengaged one.

The Scriptures don't tell us whether Joseph ever came to terms with the experience of living with a perfect wife and her perfect son. Benevento, however, imagines Joseph on his deathbed holding their hands with much gratitude and feeling "blessed ... perfectly blessed" because of them.

Hosffman Ospino is professor of theology and religious education at Boston College.

In praise of singing

By Laura Kelly Fanucci
OSV News



The first thing I noticed about our parish was the music. Everyone sang. From the moment the opening hymn began, the sanctuary was filled with a robust chorus. I looked around and couldn't believe my eyes (or ears) — adults, children, women and men were all singing at full voice.

I grew up in a typical Catholic church where the congregation mostly listened to the choir or cantor, so I came to assume the same whenever I'd visit a new parish. You might find beautiful instrumental music or an exceptional choir, but rarely would the people in the pews respond with more than a mumbling "Amen."

But now our parish has changed my mind.

It's a foretaste of heaven to look around Mass and witness the full participation of the people of God. Turns out, the wider Church agrees. In the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy issued by the Second Vatican Council, we find robust encouragement for active participation: "Religious singing by the people is to be intelligently fostered so that in devotions and sacred exercises, as also during liturgical services, the voices of the faithful may ring out according to the norms and requirements of the rubrics" (*Sacrosanctum*

Concilium, 118).

What's more, this vocal participation in the liturgy becomes a means for grace: "And the people reply to God both by song and prayer ... when the Church prays or sings or acts, the faith of those taking part is nourished and their minds are raised to God, so that they may offer Him their rational service and more abundantly receive his grace" (*Sacrosanctum Concilium*, 33).

All this makes me wonder: are we teaching younger generations of Catholics how to sing?

Few sports fans would refuse to stand and sing for the national anthem or "Take Me Out To The Ball Game." Many drivers belt out their favorite tunes on the radio in the car. But do we bring the same enthusiastic participation to Mass?

Of course, context matters. Worship is meant to be reverent, not raucous. But full and active participation in the liturgy means not just silent respect but singing, too. The cantor or choir are meant to be the leaders we follow, not the soloists we watch. We are not spectators but participants in these sacred mysteries.

My high school choir director often quoted St. Augustine that "singing is praying twice." Sacred song sinks into our bones, giving God glory. We don't need to be professional singers or have perfect pitch, only to raise our voices in praise and thanksgiving together.

If your own singing has lagged as an adult, what a perfect practice to add to

REFLECTION

History and mystery

By Mark Saucier

Frank Silecchia was a New York native and an excavation laborer — a pick-and-shovel guy.

When his city begged for search-and-rescue volunteers after the 9/11 attack, he stepped up.

Two days later, after 12 hours of scouring the smoldering wreckage, he wanted to check one more place for survivors.

Crawling through the pile of debris in the lobby atrium of Building Six, he found, dangling from the mangled structure, a remnant of welded beams in the shape of a 20-foot cross.

Silecchia and fellow workers wanted to save it. It was eventually placed in the National September 11 Museum and Memorial.

A lawsuit was filed, claiming that the display of the Ground Zero Cross was an endorsement of Christianity, violating the separation of church and state.

An appellate court ruled that there is a difference between history and religion. Essentially, the Ground Zero Cross is a historical image and can be displayed in a public institution.

For many, that ruling was welcome, but looking back on it this Holy Week, there is something vaguely disturbing.

I wonder if, for many of us, the cross has in fact become a historical artifact.

Sure, it's popular in glittering jewelry and bold tattoos. Good Friday always puts it center stage, but do we wrestle with what it means today?

There is a litany of theologies of the cross, from bloody atonement to the simple cruel consequence of opposing the status quo.

But ultimately, the significance of the cross comes not in subscription to a particular belief, but a personal encounter.

Far more than any ransom or retribution, Jesus nailed to the killing tree is a sign of love and hope.

We all know that love hurts. When someone close to us is in pain, in loss, in grief or in fear, we cannot help but suffer with them.

In love with us, our God shares our agony and afflictions, guiding us through our suffering.

The story of the cross cannot be told without an empty tomb. That is the crowning hope, that our suffering will not last, that we will endure, that there is life beyond the torment.

At the foot of his cross, amid choking smoke and unimaginable death, Frank Silecchia said that he could almost hear God saying, "The terrible thing done at this site was meant for evil, but I will turn it to good. Have faith. I am here."

What do you hear at the foot of yours?

See FANUCCI, page 19

Encounter

AT CATHOLIC CHARITIES

**Community unites:
Resource Fair marks Catholic Charities
Food Pantry second anniversary**



By Jennifer Hudson

To address the growing needs of mid-Missourians, community organizations and local collaborators are strengthening relationships to provide essential support and resources.

The Catholic Charities Food Pantry serves as a lifeline for individuals and families experiencing food insecurity.

As we commemorate the anniversary of the Food Pantry, we reaffirm our commitment to serving our neighbors.

This milestone holds profound significance for our agency and community because it symbolizes resilience, compassion and the unwavering dedication of volunteers and supporters who have worked tirelessly to provide services rooted in Catholic Social Teaching.

By implementing a client-choice grocery store model, our pantry provides food security to our neighbors in a way that encourages healthy choices, reduces waste and honors the dignity of each person.

Since opening in January of 2022, the Food Pantry has fostered a spirit of belonging and



solidarity during challenging times.

As we reflect on the profound impact we have had on our community, we are amazed that in only two years we have served 2,811 unique households (7,606 individuals) and distributed over 776,350 pounds of food.

This work is made possible through continued partnerships with Feeding America, The Food Bank of Central and Northeast Missouri, and local

grocery stores.

To date, pantry staff have rescued over 104,500 pounds of food, helping to reduce waste and reallocate resources.

On March 22, Catholic Charities celebrated the Food Pantry's second anniversary by hosting its 3rd Annual Community Resource Fair at the central office in Jefferson City.

This event served as a celebration, but more importantly, highlighted the collective efforts of staff, volunteers, and community partners — all gathering to address needs that extend far beyond food security.

We partnered with over 20 organizations and service providers, all with a shared goal of connecting individuals to valuable and essential community resources.

From healthcare services and educational programs to employment opportunities and housing assistance, each participating agency offered a wide array of support mechanisms

tailored to enhance the well-being of community members.

Participating agencies included: MU Extension Nutrition Program, Invictus Health and Wealth, Missouri Department of Social Services, Home State Health, Housing Authority of the City of Jefferson, Central Missouri Community Action (CMCA), Common Ground Community Building, Rehabilitation Services for the Blind, Missouri Job Center & COPIC, SSM Health/St. Mary's Hospital, Rape and Abuse Crisis Services, Missouri First Steps, Align Chiropractic Clinic, Missouri Department of Transportation, Community Health Center of Central Missouri, Compass Health Network, Southwest Early Childhood Center — Jefferson City Public Schools, Parents as Teachers, Pregnancy Help Center, The Food Bank of Central and Northeast Missouri, Landmark Recovery Center, Safer Home Collaborative, Jefferson City Fire Department, and

Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri.

This Resource Fair fosters long-term community engagement and collaboration. By bringing together a diverse range of organizations and services under one roof, the fair encourages networking, resource sharing and collective problem-solving.

It strengthens community bonds and empowers individuals to take proactive steps towards improving their lives.

When asked, Diane Elam, a devoted member of the pantry staff said, "I am continuously humbled and proud of the work we have done since opening two years ago and am in awe of the impact we have made in the lives of our community. The relationships we have established and the work we have done to always be ready to serve our neighbors is paramount. We are also so grateful for our wonderful volunteers and supporters with whom our work would not be possible."

Catholic Charities, along with local agency partners, volunteers and supporters, serve as a testament to the collective commitment to supporting those in need and building a stronger, more resilient community.

As we move forward, let us continue to work together, uplift one another and strive toward a brighter future for all.

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‘We are not alone, abandoned or afraid,’ patriarch of Jerusalem says on Palm Sunday

By Paulina Guzik
OSV News

Jerusalem

When Christians gathered in Jerusalem to remember Jesus’ entry into the city, it was one of a few joyful moments in the Holy Land, “crushed by so much hatred” in the months following the Oct. 7 Hamas attack on Israel.

“Despite the war and everything going on around us this year, we have once again chosen to celebrate Jesus’ triumphal entry into the Holy City,” said Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa, Latin patriarch of Jerusalem, as the traditional Palm Sunday procession moved through the streets of the city.

“We have joined voices with those who sang in Jerusalem two thousand years ago: ‘Hosanna Filio David,’ Hosanna to the Son of David,” he said. Especially now, it is “even more important and necessary to shout strongly that Jesus is our Messiah, He is our Lord,” the patriarch said March 24.

Over the past months, Cardinal Pizzaballa said, many felt “lost or alone and without reference points,” and “crushed by so much hatred.”

“This war, which is so terrible and seems never-ending, sometimes leads us to fear for the future of our families,” he added.

Walking through the unusually empty streets of Jerusalem, given the Holy Week and Easter time, the patriarch emphasized that the celebration in this time, when many of the dioceses “could not join us,” makes it all the more important to “shout with strength and faith that we have a point of reference, Jesus Christ.”

“We are not alone, we are not abandoned, and above all we are not afraid!” the Church leader emphasized in his message for Palm Sunday.

“Following Jesus also means accepting the way of the cross,” something Christians in the Holy Land “unfortunately know well,” he continued, because their “ordinary life is often a *Via crucis*, a painful road, marked by many obstacles, misunderstandings, rejections and hostilities of all kinds.”

“Yet this does not discourage us,” the patriarch said.

Father Waldemar Cislo, director of the Polish section of pontifical charity Aid to the Church in Need (ACN), said that when he saw the patriarch as they entered Holy Week, “he told me it’s the saddest experience that he has ever had in the Holy Land — to see empty streets of Jerusalem for Easter” and experience the suffering of so many Christians in the region.

“There are no pilgrims, and that means no income for local Christians, who also are barred from working in Jerusalem,” if their permanent residency is in the Palestinian West Bank, Fr. Cislo told OSV News.

Cardinal Pizzaballa said Jerusalem is a land that is holy, but “wounded because it is invaded by so much hatred and resentment.” “Woe to us if we allow ourselves to be contaminated by all of this,” he said in his Palm Sunday message. “Today, we want to ask God to preserve our hearts from these feelings of enmity. For we cannot remain friends of Jesus if we cultivate enmity in our hearts. We cannot love Jesus, if we do not love one another, and if we do not have the courage to be close to all, even in the present tragic circumstances in which we live in. We want to live, suffer, and act with Him and for Him.”

Fr. Cislo, who spends Holy Week in the Holy Land, said that the painful division between Jews and Palestinians is very much visible today throughout the Holy Land. Hamas militants killed over 1,200 people on Oct. 7 in an attack that brought back horrors of the Holocaust to many Israelis. Israel started a war with Hamas right after the attack, which as of March 25 has killed over 32,000 people in the Gaza Strip, according to the Health Ministry in Gaza.

“Cardinal Pizzaballa told me he prays that the Lord slides the stone over the tomb of hatred, so that it ends once and



Altar servers process during Palm Sunday Mass at Holy Family Church in Gaza City on March 24. Over 500 Christians shelter in the parish amid the ongoing Hamas-Israel war.

— OSV News photo/courtesy Latin Patriarchate in Jerusalem

forever here in the Holy Land,” Fr. Cislo told OSV News.

Praying for peace for Jerusalem and the region, the patriarch asked for “peace, which is a cordial and sincere welcoming of the other, a tenacious willingness to listen and to be in dialogue, that opens roads on which fear and suspicion give way to understanding, encounter and trust.”

“Peace is the element that is missing,” said Fr. Cislo. “Jesus came and said, ‘Peace be with you’ and it’s precisely peace and peace only that this land needs. Enough killing children,” he lamented.

Cardinal Pizzaballa said the thoughts of Christians present during the Palm Sunday celebration were with “those who cannot be here with us today, and especially with our brothers and sisters in Gaza,” to whom he had a message of closeness: “You are not alone,” assuring them of prayer.

“The whole Church in Jerusalem is united with you, embraces you and appreciates your testimony of strength and courage,” the patriarch emphasized.

According to the sources close to ACN, conditions for the small Christian community that remains in the Gaza Strip have deteriorated over the last four months. Since the conflict began, 30 Christians

have died in Gaza.

The situation in Gaza is increasingly desperate, with the region divided into two parts: north and south. Finding food and fuel continues to be very difficult in the north, where exorbitant prices make life even harder.

But despite dire conditions, a group of over 500 Christians sheltering in Holy Family Parish in Gaza City celebrated Palm Sunday “in the most solemn way,” said a social media post on X, formerly Twitter,

Pope: Relationship with God should be intimate

Catholic News Service

Vatican City

Just as Jesus drove out merchants from the temple in Jerusalem, Christians should cleanse themselves from a transactional relationship with God by developing an intimacy with him like that of a family in their home, Pope Francis said.

Speaking to some 20,000 people gathered in St. Peter’s Square to pray the Angelus March 3, the pope highlighted the spiritual significance of the temple and said people’s various conceptions of the temple represent “different ways of approaching the Lord.”

Citing the day’s Gospel

by the Latin Patriarchate, which also shared joyful pictures of the celebration.

“We know well how difficult it is, after almost six months, to stand amidst this terrible dark night that never seems to end, to stand united and steadfast, amidst the hunger and violence that surrounds you,” Cardinal Pizzaballa said, adding, “For you, too, as for all, will come the dawn of the third day, the news of the resurrection.”

The patriarch also urged pilgrims to return to the Holy Land: “We are waiting for you. Do not be afraid, return to Jerusalem and to the Holy Land! Your presence is always a presence of peace, and we sincerely need peace today, may you come and bring us your peace.”

Fr. Cislo echoed his call: “It’s the best you can do to support the Holy Land — come and visit! The pilgrimage places such as Jerusalem and the West Bank are safe for pilgrims.”

As the Church entered “the week of the Passion,” Cardinal Pizzaballa asked that the days “give us strength,” and reminded all that this time of the year shows everyone the Lord “does not leave us alone.”

reading from St. John, in which Jesus tells those selling goods in the temple to “stop making my Father’s house a marketplace.”

Pope Francis said the temple should be understood as a house where “we go to encounter the Lord, to be close to him, to be close to our brothers and sisters, to share joys and sorrows.”

In the Gospel reading Jesus resorts to “harsh” words and actions — driving merchants out of the temple with a whip and overturning the tables of the money-changers — because he does not accept that the temple be transformed into a market, Pope Francis said.

“Pieta” statue in Marshall evokes remembrance, sacrifice, love

By Pam Whitney

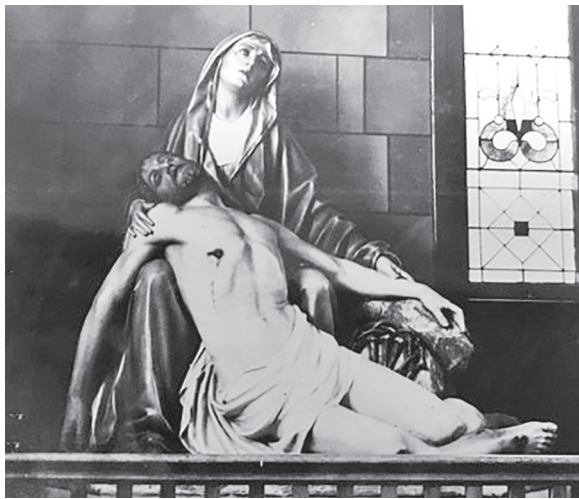
Some people remember it from the old St. Peter Church.

It was painted in detailed color and given by the Ordway Family while they were grieving the death of their son in World War I.

The following is an article published in the local newspaper in 1917:

“Funeral at 9 a.m. from St. Peter’s Catholic Church — The remains of the late Frederick E. Ordway came in from France Sunday afternoon at 4:20 on the Missouri Pacific, accompanied by an escort.

“The remains were taken to Parish M. Walker’s undertaking parlors, where they remained until Monday when they were taken to the home of the moth-



This black-and-white photo, taken in 1932, is the only known image of the “Pieta” statue in St. Peter Church in Marshall that shows it before it was painted white.

er, Mrs. Harry Ordway on West Arrow.

“A large crowd was at the depot to meet the remains.

“The Eighty-ninth Division was around Stenay, (France).

“The Neuse River divides the town. The Germans were holding the north part of the town

and the Americans were in possession of the south part.

“It was the ninth day of November. It was in the Argonne offensive.

“The Germans were being pushed back and the Americans were advancing. The Americans were crossing the Neuse.

“The night of Nov. 10, 1918, sometime after midnight, an American soldier went down to the banks of the

river to cross.

“He wore the chevrons of a sergeant. With him was a part of his company.

“Machine gun bullets were splattering the mud from the river bank on the soldiers as they advanced to the pontoon bridges. Bursting shrapnel filled the air.

“Just as this sergeant started across the stream, a shrapnel shell burst right above him.

“Death was instantaneous. “Tenderly, friends picked up the lifeless body.

“That sergeant was Frederick E. Ordway, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Ordway.

“He was in Company K of the 356th Infantry.

“When he was killed, he was

23 years old. Practically all his life had been spent around Marshall.

“The funeral service will be conducted at St. Peter’s Catholic Church at 9 o’clock Tuesday morning, conducted by Rev.



This face of the Blessed Mother shows what it looked like with seven layers of white paint. — Photo by Pam Whitney

Francis O’Neill, and the remains will be laid to rest in Ridge Park Cemetery.

“The pallbearers will be members of his company and an escort from the American Legion.”

When Sgt. Ordway’s family donated the “Pieta,” which

depicts Mary holding her Son’s lifeless body after it was taken down from the cross, the statue was painted in colorful detail.

A black-and-white photo taken in 1932 is the only record of the statue with its original colors.

As time and mishaps happened through the years, the statue got chipped and damaged.

It was eventually painted in a solid white to resemble Michelangelo’s marble “Pieta” in St. Peter’s Basilica in Vatican City.

At some point, the Marshall “Pieta” was moved to St. Peter School. Some former students, now adults in their 50s and 60s, remember passing it daily in the halls back in the 1970s and ’80s.

One of the priests had the statue painted with glossy white outdoor paint and set it in the elements sometime after the present St. Peter Church was built in 1979.

The statue, intended to be kept inside, suffered much damage and was almost ruined.

It eventually found its way to a corner of the rectory garage, where it sat for many

See PIETA, page 13

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PIETA

From page 12

years, with hand-sized pieces of paint flaking off.

Few knew it still existed.

In July 2011, the parish secretary got the idea to “fix the statue” while Father Kevin Gormley, who was pastor, was gone to his native Ireland for a month of vacation. (It is proven that it is easier to ask forgiveness rather than permission sometimes).

She enlisted the help of a good friend, and they proceeded to strip away six or seven layers of paint, one tiny chip at a time.

Needless to say, it took more than that month!

Father eventually asked for the “mess” be moved out of his garage, and the “mess” was moved into the old secretary’s garage.

Over time, the project became a deep labor of love.

The hard, glossy outside paint gave way to other white coats of paint and repair putty.

Through much time and effort, some of the original coats of paint were carefully uncovered, and glimpses of colors hidden for decades began to peek through.

As the paint was stripped off Jesus’s chest, you could almost see him breathe!

As his hands were cleaned, you could almost feel him hold your hand.

The detail of the image was breathtaking as hints of the original colors were revealed, chip by chip.

It was holy, rewarding work. It became a prayer.

The cleaning process was completed in the fall of 2012.

Then came the hard decision of whether to have the beautiful, detailed statue painted with color or leave it white.

For sure, the details of the piece needed to be carefully preserved so as not to lose the poignant message of this beautiful work of art.

It was decided to send it to a professional artist for restoration.

A parishioner donated the money to have the statue repainted to its original colors.

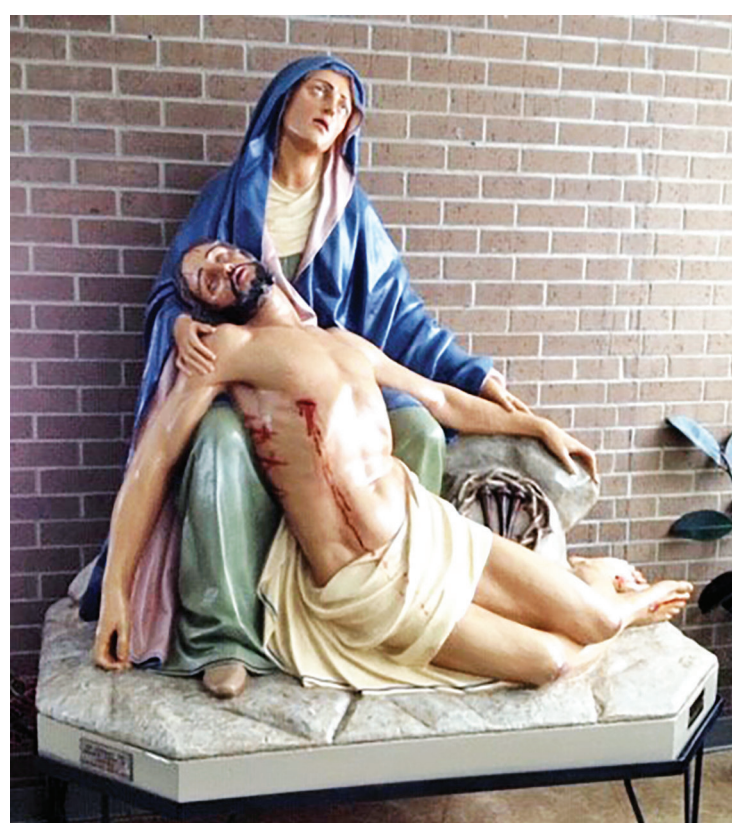
The statue was taken to the Jefferson City area residence of Barb Niekamp, whose family had helped renovate the current St. Peter Church in Marshall.

Well over a century after



LEFT: This is what the “Pieta” statue looked like while seven layers of white paint were being removed from it. **RIGHT:** This is what the statue, repainted by Barb Niekamp of Jefferson City, now looks like in St. Peter Church in Marshall.

— Photos by Pam Whitney



Mrs. Whitney is a member of St. Peter Parish in Marshall. A version of this article was published in that parish’s bulletin.

World War I ended and the “Pieta” statue was donated in Sgt. Ordway’s memory, the restored image has a permanent home in the church.

It serves as a year-round reminder of Jesus’s supreme sacrifice on Calvary, as well as of the men and women who fought and died so that others could live and worship freely.

The statue is moved each

year to the church vestibule during Holy Week, to remind people as they arrive and leave of the price our Loving Lord paid for their souls.

“God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us. How much more then, since we are now justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath,” (Romans 5:8-9).

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DIOCESE OF Jefferson City

CHRISM MASS

From page 1

visited the synagogue in his hometown.

“We, too, have been anointed with the power of the Holy Spirit,” Bishop McKnight proclaimed in his homily. “We have been consecrated to continue the mission of Jesus to bring glad tidings to the poor.”

The bishop spoke of the significance of anointing with oil in the Old Testament, the New Testament and now in the sacramental life of the Church.

“But there is another sense of meaning to ‘anointing,’” the bishop noted, “which denotes not an act but rather a state — a mode of being and acting ... a lifestyle, so to speak.”

“It is the charismatic sense of ‘anointing,’” he said. “It is the idea of sweetness and gentleness, but also of the power and force of persuasion.”

He said that’s the kind of anointing this diocese needs at this moment.

“We need a sense of renewal in the Holy Spirit among the faithful and clergy of our Diocese of Jefferson City, so that we may bring glad tidings to the poor in our communities and in our day,” he said.

“Communities of the Beatitudes”

Toward that end, the parishes in each of the five geographic regions of the diocese, known as deaneries, have been working together for the past year on new pastoral plans for carrying out the mission of the Church over the next three years.

These deanery pastoral plans and a related new diocesan pastoral plan will build on the previous three-year pastoral plan Bishop McKnight promulgated after extensive consultation in 2021.

“These new plans continue the themes of our previous plans,” the bishop noted.

“But they seek to deepen our immersion into the mystery of the Church as missionary: through a greater commitment to living the



LEFT: Priests of the diocese join the bishop at the altar for the Consecration during the Chrism Mass on March 26 in the Cathedral of St. Joseph. **RIGHT:** Bishop W. Shawn McKnight consecrates the Sacred Chrism, which will be used in Baptism, as well as Confirmation, the ordination of priests and bishops and the dedication of churches and altars throughout the diocese through the upcoming year.

— Photos by Jay Nies

spirituality of stewardship, to an even more effective practice of co-responsibility, and by our parishes becoming even better recognized as centers of charity and sanctuaries of mercy,” he said.

Earlier in the day, the bishop signed a pastoral letter titled, “Shaping Our Future Together: Parishes On Mission

More photos from this event have been posted in *The Catholic Missourian’s* online edition, cathmo.com. Select “Photo Galleries” from the “Multimedia” tab on the menu bar.

Together as Communities of the Beatitudes.”

The Beatitudes, an integral part of Jesus’s Sermon on the Mount, includes a litany of blessings: Blessed are the poor ... those who mourn ... those who are meek ... those who hunger and thirst for righteousness ... those who are merciful ... those who are clean of heart ... the peacemakers ... those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness ... and those who endure insults falsely because of Jesus.

“This pastoral letter uses the Beatitudes to provide greater inspiration and specificity for our parishes as centers of charity and sanctuaries of mercy,” said Bishop McKnight.

He acknowledged that all people fall short of living the Beatitudes perfectly in this life.

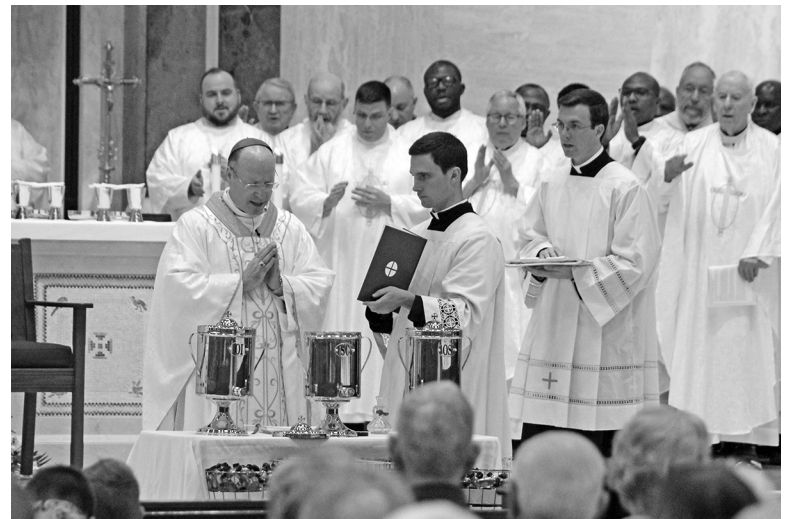
“Each one of us is on the path to conversion,” he noted, “learning how to die to ourselves, like a grain of wheat, or to take up our cross daily and follow the Lord.”

People are aware of God’s closeness when they experience the Beatitudes in faith, said Bishop McKnight, “and we fulfill our mission as Church only when we become a community of the Beatitudes.”

Together, Catholics put the Beatitudes into practice “by accompanying those who grieve the death of a loved one with the Church’s funeral rites; by encouraging future generations to inherit our faith when we walk humbly with them, accompanying them; by fostering reconciliation in peacemaking and the practice of mercy; by standing in solidarity with those pushed to the margins of society because their human dignity is not fully acknowledged; and by exhibiting the gift of fortitude when persecuted for the sake of the Gospel,” the bishop said.

Unity and cooperation are essential in living out the Beatitudes, which is why the deanery pastoral plans focus on parishes working more closely together “to leverage all the charisms we share as the Body of Christ in bringing glad tidings to the poor,” said Bishop McKnight.

He spoke of the need for priests — who have received through the Sacrament of Holy Orders the authorization



to celebrate the Sacraments and preach the Gospel — to be renewed in spirit.

“May you experience the spiritual, interior anointing that allows you to perform your ministry with fervor and anointed authority,” the bishop said to the priests of this diocese. “By a renewal of Spirit, may your ministry be an apostolic success!”

The pastoral letter, the new diocesan pastoral plan and the new deanery pastoral plans were being prepared this week to be widely distributed in English and Spanish and posted on the diocesan website, diojeffcity.org.

Reflection material for small groups and parish councils and committees to use, along with a list of highly encouraged pri-

mary resources, will also be made available.

Bishop McKnight reminded everyone, clergy and laity alike, of the blessing and privilege they enjoy in the life of grace that they received in Baptism to share in the life and mission of the Church.

“May the next three years be a time of renewal in the Holy Spirit for our diocese, in which we embark on new paths, enact new strategies, and embrace new ways of teaching, sanctifying and shepherding the People of God,” he said.

Decades of dedication

At the Chrism Mass, the bishop and the people honored this year’s priestly jubilarians:

See ANOINT, page 23



Laypeople carry banners representing their deaneries during the recessional at the end of the Chrism Mass.

TABERNACLE

From page 7

“All the others are an application of the Paschal Mystery to the different moments of people’s lives, but the Eucharist IS the Paschal Mystery in sacramental form,” he said.

The rich symbolism throughout the mosaic points to all aspects of the Paschal Mystery — “with the hand of the Father, the crucified depiction of the Lord, the giving of the Holy Spirit — along with the Church, symbolized by the tree of life and a peacock, symbolizing the resurrection,” said Bishop McKnight.

“You also have 12 sheep, symbolizing the Twelve Apostles and therefore the foundation of the Church,” he noted.

The mosaic also depicts a river, tying Baptism to the Paschal Mystery, just as one level of the sanctuary flows directly into the nearby Baptistry, highlighting the unbreakable bond between the Eucharist and Baptism.

“And, of course, the ambry off to the side as the repository of the holy oils, invoking the work of the Holy Spirit,” the bishop added.

Present and accounted for

The placement of the tabernacle, the altar, the ambo, the cathedra, the presider’s chair and the “IHS” insignia over the people in the Cathedral all evoke Christ’s presence.

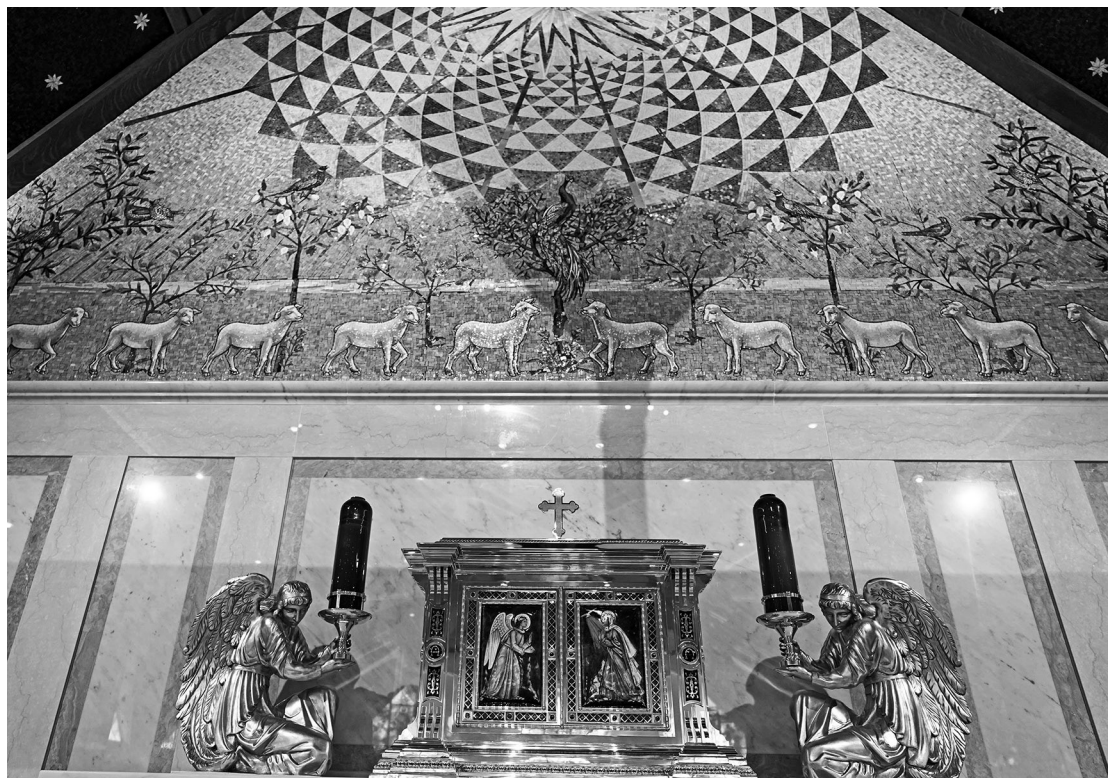
“The Real Presence is not only in the Blessed Sacrament but in our celebration of the Mass, in the ministers and the Church itself and in the proclamation of the Word of God,” he stated with emphasis.

“So artistically, we honor and mark the various presences of Christ — obviously, the tabernacle is manifesting our belief in the Real Presence — the substantial presence and the philosophical understanding,” he said.

“But the altar, in terms of the sacrifice, of the ACTION of the Mass — the Eucharist is ACTION,” he said.

“The ambo, from which the Word of God is proclaimed — it’s got to be noble and substantial.”

The chairs for the priests and deacons in the sanctuary point to Christ’s presence in them as they exercise their sacred duties.



Rich symbolism throughout the shimmering mosaic above the tabernacle in the Cathedral of St. Joseph points to all aspects of the Paschal Mystery — the incarnation, passion death and resurrection of Jesus Christ — as well as the Holy Trinity and the Church. Bishop W. Shawn McKnight emphasized that the tabernacle, the altar, the ambo, the presider’s chair, the bishop’s cathedra and all the other sanctuary furnishings and fixtures function as a single object pointing to the presence of Christ in all aspects of the Mass.

— Photos by Jay Nies

“In the same way, presence of the bishop’s chair — the cathedra — points to the uniqueness of a cathedral, which is the bishop’s church,” he said.

“And we have over the main assembly the markings of the name of Christ, ‘IHS,’ which is the Body of Christ, speaking of the significance of the presence of Jesus among the Church,” the bishop stated.

“Starkly Catholic”

Bishop McKnight said the scale and beauty of the Cathedral — the bishop’s church, the mother church of the diocese — helps to “manifest the reality that our communion and our belonging to the Roman Catholic Church is dependent upon our being in communion with the local successor to the Apostles.”

“The Roman Catholic Church is defined as ‘the communion of churches, of bishops that are in communion with each other and under and in union with the Holy Father,’” he said.

Bishop McKnight said that beyond being a symbol of Church unity, the renovated Cathedral is also a potent instrument for evangelization.

“Evangelization through

beauty,” he specified.

He pointed to the Church’s long history of commissioning world-class artists to create great works of art for the sake of building up the faith for present and future generations.

“We are incarnational be-

ings,” he noted. “We are molded and shaped and led back to God by the beauty of the world around us. Therefore, we have to use our best for these sacred places — the best materials and the best art.”

He called to mind how the

inspired authors of Exodus and 1 Kings list the names of the artists and craftsmen whose charisms were used in fashioning the first tabernacle for the Ark of the Covenant, as well as the first temple in Jerusalem.

“All of that has meaning, because fashioning quality materials into the finest works of art shows what we value,” the bishop said.

The Cathedral, originally built only a few years after the Second Vatican Council, continues after its renovation to uphold the principles and ideals put forth by the Council.

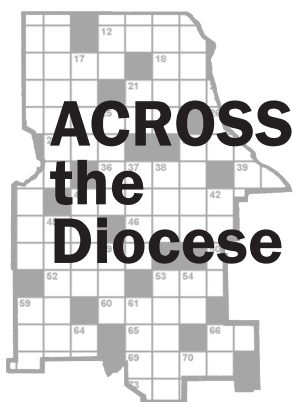
Chief among these is a restored understanding that every baptized Catholic is called to holiness and to full, active, conscious participation — not only in sacred worship at Mass but also in the Church’s mission of leading souls into an ever-deeper relationship with Christ.

The artwork in the Cathedral, created by artists from nearby and from around the world, combines timelessly traditional elements with the bold and wide-open geometry of mid-century architecture.

“Our Cathedral is starkly Catholic,” Bishop McKnight noted. “That’s why it looks the way it does.”



The enameled panels on the doors depicting the Annunciation were made using an ancient technique involving the placing of finely ground colored glass dust onto a copper sheet, which is then fired in a kiln.



By Father Donald Antweiler

ACROSS

1. Bread was the _____, basic food for the people of Israel throughout their history and certainly in the time of Jesus.
8. Letters for St. Louis, the largest metro area in the State.
11. "The Lincoln boys enjoyed being _____ our house. Their semi-public life in the White House, with its servants, messengers, guards and secret service men, often interfered with their play," —*Tad Lincoln's Father*; a memoir by Julia Taft Bayne.
12. "Found any murderers lately, Mr. Holmes?" Inspector Lestrade demanded with a mischievous _____. The man's idea of subtlety was elephantine," —*The West End Horror*; Nicholas Meyer.
13. Mary at Fatima in May of 1917 asked the faithful to pray the _____ every day.
14. What an apartment dweller typically pays every month.
16. New Testament prophetess (Luke 2:36).
18. Comparative suffix.
19. Letters for the media person or dept. of a company.
20. "When I saw myself in these large rooms, I felt like a poor little _____, and I asked myself what I would dare say to the Bishop," —*Story of a Soul*; autobiography of St. Thérèse of Lisieux.
21. The _____ Foundation is the leading pro-life research org. in the country; among other things, enabling pregnancy health centers to more effectively help young mothers in need of help. Its headquarters is in Jefferson City.
24. What the winners of the Superbowl and World Series can be titled.
26. "Start driving. Head _____." 'Why?' 'Because after hearing what I'm about to tell you, you might want to
27. Short for Electrical Engineering degree.
28. "Bread was revered: any _____ over the size of an olive were expected to be gathered, and never simply discarded," —*Daily Life in the Time of Jesus*, Henri Daniel-Rops.
31. Expression of alarm, horror or surprise.
33. Licensed caregivers.
35. The N _____ Ranch is 60,000 acres in the foothills of central Montana's Snowy Mountains. It is considered one of the premier operating and sporting ranches in the West.
36. Lion's den prophet. 34th book of the Bible (abbr.).
37. The Eucharist is called "Holy _____, because the liturgy concludes with the sending forth (mission) of the faithful, so that they may fulfill God's will in their daily lives," —*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #1332
39. "_____ Sesame," said Ali Baba; from the Arabian fairy tale "Ali Baba & the 40 Thieves."
42. Hydrochloric, nitric or sulfuric.
44. "...if a man does not know how to manage his own household, how can he _____ care of the church of God?" (1 Timothy 3:5).
46. _____ TODAY is a nationwide American daily newspaper, founded in 1982, headquartered in Virginia.
48. "...but then worldly anxiety and _____ of riches choke the word and it bears no fruit," (Matthew 13:22).
49. "And all the people shall answer, '_____!'" (Deuteronomy 27:15).
50. Though Missouri was a slave State, it voted to stay in the Union during the Civil War and so was not considered a "Southern" State. After 1898 the States between the East Coast and the Far West were called _____ west.
51. Radical Keratotomy (_____) is the term used for surgery to correct nearsightedness.
52. "Soon" for Shakespeare.
53. _____-GYN.
54. Prefix for cord or mind.
55. A type of sandwich.
56. "Three years earlier (1919) Lenin issued a _____ order: to kill anyone who dared to observe Christmas," —*A Pope and a President*, Paul Kengor.
58. _____-Wan Kenobi, a Jedi Master from Star Wars.
59. Letters for Orthodox Union, the largest coalition of Orthodox synagogues in the U.S. The Orthodox more strictly adhere to God's Law expressed in the Torah and Talmud. Orthodox are 10% of the Jewish population in the U.S. and 25% in the State of Israel.
60. Scott Joplin, "King of _____ time" music, studied music at a college in Sedalia and played there in the Queen City Cornet Band, among others, and also opened his own piano studio. He moved to St. Louis and eventually to New York.
61. "The desk at which Pres. Herney was currently sitting inside the _____ Office had once belonged to his idol Harry Truman," —*Deception Point*, Dan Brown
64. The light sentence the defendant received seemed to most like a mere slap on the _____.
66. "Barley or wheat grains were ground between two _____, almost always by women, and this was done at home," —*Daily Life in the Time of Jesus*.
69. Abbr. for high school graduate.
71. "It is a citizen army, accustomed...to taking orders, yes — but to taking indignities, _____," —*Up Front*, Bill Mauldin.
72. Bro's sibling.
73. "There is no radio or _____, no airplanes, machinery or passing cars. In the 20th century we are so accustomed to hearing sound all the time, the silence feels creepy," —*Timeline*, Michael Crichton.
75. "Jerusalem...how many times I yearned to gather your children together, as a _____ gathers her young under her wings..." (Matthew 23:37).
76. "Since bread would become _____ very quickly, one would bake only enough for a day or two," —*Daily Life in the Time of Jesus*.
79. Abbr. after corporate companies.
81. Dir. from Mary Immaculate Parish in Kirksville, Mo. to St. Joseph Parish in Palmyra, Mo.
82. Let's end on a high _____ by mentioning the one thing we are most thankful for.
83. Temperamental prophet but with good practical sense combined with deep faith in God; 16th book of the Bible (abbr.).
10. "...on the ten-stringed _____ offer praise," (Psalms 33:2).
15. Gun club.
17. The second of the two major divisions of the Bible (abbr.).
20. Abbr. for the month that brings May flowers.
22. The only State with East & West borders fully bounded by navigable rivers (abbr.).
23. Mao _____ Tung.
24. "To make bread rise, esp. the heavy barley bread, women used strong small-seeded _____ and forage grasses, and barley yeast," —*Daily Life in the Time of Jesus*.
25. _____Donald's restaurants are the world's largest toy distributor.
29. _____ and Pa Kettle were comic film characters in a series of 10 classic comedy movies in the late 1940s & 50s.
30. "Bread was revered: bread was never to be cut, but always _____," —*Daily Life in the Time of Jesus*.
32. "From the crushed barley or wheat grains came flour, then the dough was made and worked in _____ troughs," —*Daily Life in the Time of Jesus*.
34. Wipe that _____ off your face or you'll be sorry!

CLUES continued on page 17

CLUES

From page 16

38. Suffix for Gator or lemon.
40. "...I do not wish to write you with ____ and ink. Instead, I hope to see you soon..." (3 John 1:13-14).
41. One of the first five books of the Bible, together called Torah, or the Pentateuch by Christians. This one is named for two different censuses taken, at its beginning and at its end.
43. "...my servant is lying at home paralyzed, suffering dreadfully.' Jesus said to him, 'I will come and ____ him,'" (Matthew 8:6).
45. ____, *amas, amat*; Latin 101.
47. Yes in the Yucatan.
52. Full white garment priest wears under the chasuble.
53. First of the two major divisions in the Bible (abbr.).
54. "...do not let the sun set on your anger, and do not leave ____ for the devil," (Ephesians 4:26-27).
55. ____ weevils are invasive & have been the scourge of U.S. cotton growers since 1892. Amazingly, they recently have been eradicated in the U.S. Here in Mo., the USDA program started in 2001 and finished in 2008.
56. "One of the college kids, from Kirksville, Mo., assured me, 'When I have children, I'm going to be ____ they all work in the National Parks in the summertime!'" —Ketchikan, Alaska; Charles Kuralt's America.
57. "For the first few months back, doctors would poke and prod; astronauts are essentially outsized lab ____," —*An Astronaut's Guide to Life on Earth*, Col. Chris Hadfield.
59. "Child,' said the Lion, 'I am telling you your story, not hers. No one is told any story but their ____,'" —*The Chronicles of Narnia: The Horse and His Boy*, C.S. Lewis.
62. "For though the fig tree blossom not nor fruit be on the ____..." (Habakkuk 3:17).
63. "When one person is seen to be the source of all our happiness and all our pain, if our peace of mind depends on that one ____, then we are separated as far from God as we can be," —*Woman of the Pharisees*, Francois Mauriac.
65. Suffix for solo or terror.
67. Letters for a Catholic health system based in St. Louis with a hospital in Jeff. City. The letters stand for Sisters of St. Mary.
68. Capital of Norway.
70. "The poor ate barley bread, the ____ ate bread from wheat," —*Daily Life in the Time of Jesus*.
74. Letters for Vehicle Identification Number on a car.
75. "From ET's perspective, it might seem presumptuous and laughable for us humans to be worried about whether or not ____, -she, or -it, can be welcomed to baptism," —*Would you Baptize an Extraterrestrial?* Frs. Guy Consolmagno and Paul Mueller, Vatican Observatory astronomers.
77. The 2nd book that contains the 10 commandments; 5th book of the Bible (abbr.).
78. "The task is finished. I am free. Why should I not go to my village and be as I was before? It is heaven! And ____ wonder that I desire it," —*Personal Reflections of Joan of Arc*, Mark Twain.
80. The largest man-planted forest in the U.S. is in this Mo.-bordering State (abbr.).

See ANSWERS, page 19

From death to new life



This stained glass window in Holy Guardian Angels Church in Brinktown depicts the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus.

— Photo by Jay Nies

Young people are the living hope of a missionary Church, pope says

By Carol Glatz

Catholic News Service

Vatican City

Young people need to understand how much Christ loves them unconditionally and how much the Church needs their voices and presence, Pope Francis said.

"Dear young people, you are the living hope of a Church on the move! For this reason, I thank you for your presence and for your contribution to the life of the Body of Christ," the pope told the world's young people in a written message.

The pope's message was released by the Vatican March 25 to mark the fifth anniversary of his apostolic exhortation "*Christus Vivit*" ("Christ is Alive"), published in 2019 and reflecting on the 2018 Synod of Bishops on young people, the faith and vocational discernment.

Pope Francis said he wanted to reach out again to young people with a message that could be "a source of renewed

hope for you."

Christ is alive, he said in his message, and "his love for you is unaffected by your failings or your mistakes. He gave his life for you, so in his love for you he does not wait for you to be perfect."

"Walk with him as with a friend, welcome him into your life and let him share all the joys and hopes, the problems and struggles of this time in your lives," the pope wrote. "You will see that the path ahead will become clearer and that your difficulties will be much less burdensome, because he will be carrying them with you."

"In today's world, marked by so many conflicts and so much suffering, I suspect that many of you feel disheartened. So together with you, I would like to set out from the proclamation that is the basis of our hope and that of all humanity: 'Christ is alive!'" he wrote, and "he loves you with an infinite love."

"How greatly I want this proclamation to reach every one of you, for you

to accept it as living and true in your own lives, and feel the desire to share it with your friends!" the pope wrote.

Pope Francis noted that April 14 will mark the 40th anniversary of the first great gathering of young people that, during Pope St. John Paul II's Holy Year of the Redemption, "was the seed of the future World Youth Days."

Pope Francis recalled his first World Youth Day as pope in Rio de Janeiro in 2013, and how "I urged you to make your voices heard! 'Hagan lio! Make a mess!'"

"Today, once again, I ask you: make your voices heard! Proclaim, not so much in words but by your life and your heart, the truth that Christ is alive! And in this way, help the whole Church to get up and set out ever anew to bring his message to the entire world," he wrote.

He encouraged young people to never "leave us without your good way of 'making a mess,' your drive, like that of a clean and well-tuned engine, and your own particular way of living and proclaiming the joy of the Risen Jesus!"

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Diocese of
Jefferson City

Need more info about an event or want to see more events?
Visit the diocesan EVENT CALENDAR at diojeffcity.org/events.
Want your event listed?
Fill out the ONLINE FORM at diojeffcity.org/event-listing.

Fundraisers & Social Events

Apr. 7

Brinktown, Holy Guardian Angels Parish Spring dinner, 11 am-4:30 pm

Apr. 14

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

Apr. 19

Jefferson City, Helias Marching Band trivia night & silent auction, 6-10 pm, Helias old gym

Apr. 21

Koeltztown, St. Aloysius & St. Boniface fried chicken & baked ham dinner, 11 am-5:30 pm, St. Boniface annex building

Meetings & Conferences

Apr. 2

Shelbina, Protecting God's Children, VIRTUS® training, 6-8 pm, Fr. Buhman Center

Apr. 7-8

Mexico, "Encountering Jesus in the Eucharist: Becoming the Very Mystery We Receive," Eucharistic Revival presented by Dr. Mary Amore (with meal following), 6 pm, St. Brendan Church, to RSVP email parishoffice@saintbrendans.org

Apr. 19-20

Jefferson City, "Heart of a Hero" Men's Conference, hosted by Men of Signum Crucis, Cathedral of St. Joseph, for info or to register visit menofsignumcrucis.com

Eventos del Ministerio Hispano

abril 14

Sedalia, Planificación Familiar Natural - Familia de las Américas, 9 am-noon, Parroquia San Patricio, Para información sobre instructores y clases contacte a Enrique Castro al 573-680-3650 o por correo electrónico a ecastro@diojeffcity.org, para más información sobre este método, visite diojeffcity.org/natural-family-planning/ y/o familyplanning.net/es

abril 6

Columbia, Retiro de Quinceañera, 9 am-3 pm, Sagrado Corazón, para más información contacte a Diácono Enrique Castro al 573-680-3650 en su celular o en WhatsApp o por correo electrónico a ecastro@diojeffcity.org; **Marshall**, Retiro Parroquial: Buena Administración, 9 am-3 pm, San Pedro, para más información contacte a Diácono Enrique Castro al 573-680-3650 en su celular o en WhatsApp o por correo electrónico a ecastro@diojeffcity.org

Faith Formation & Spiritual Renewal

Every Tuesday

Jefferson City, "Tuesday With Faith," small group discussions, 6:30-8 pm, Immaculate Conception Parish's Pleus Hall, for info, call 573-645-2478 or email jimkemna@gmail.com

Every Friday

Jefferson City, Centering Prayer Group, Immaculate Conception Parish, 11 am-noon

Apr. 6

Shelbina, "Illuminate Our Path" Women's Ministry Spring Pilgrimage, 9 am-4 pm, St. Mary Parish, for info or to register, visit diojeffcity.org/womens-ministry

Apr. 11

VIRTUAL, "Fuel the Body, Fuel the Soul," monthly program sponsored by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, 7-8 pm, for info visit <https://bit.ly/fuel-the-body-and-soul>

Apr. 17

Jefferson City, Monthly gathering of the Men of Signum Crucis, 5:30-8 pm, Helias Catholic High School, for info visit menofsignumcrucis.com

Apr. 20

Columbia/Jefferson City/VIRTUAL, "Living Flame 1" 7-session program on in-depth spiritual study and enrichment of centering prayer, 9 am-2 pm; participants may join via Zoom or in-person at Broadway Christian Church in Columbia or Immaculate Conception Church in Jefferson City; to register visit cocemo.com

org

Apr. 25-28

Camdenton, Men's Cursillo Weekend #73, St. Anthony Parish, for info or to register email jeffcity.diocese.cursillo@gmail.com or visit diojeffcity.org/cursillo

Liturgical

Apr. 7

Jefferson City, Divine Mercy Sunday services, 5-6 pm, St. Peter Church

Apr. 9

Starkenburg, Second Tuesday Mass, with Sacrament of Reconciliation, Rosary and luncheon following Mass, 11 am-1 pm, Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows

Apr. 17

Jefferson City, Crusader Family Mass, 7:15-8:30 am, Helias Catholic High School's St. Pius X Chapel

Apr. 25

Westphalia, Rogation Day procession, 6-7 pm, St. Joseph Church

Youth & Young Adults

First Wednesdays each month
Jefferson City, Rooted/Connected/Searching in Community young adult group, 5-8 pm, Immaculate Conception Parish's Pleus Hall, for info visit icangels.com/youngadults

Third Sundays each month

Jefferson City, Young Adult Mass, 5 pm, Immaculate Conception Church

Health & Wellness

Apr. 4

Columbia, Blood drive, 9 am-3 pm, Fr. Tolton Regional Catholic High School

Apr. 15

Rich Fountain, Blood drive, 2-6 pm, Sacred Heart School cafeteria

MEN'S CONFERENCE

From page 4

We Believe: The Beauty of the Catholic Faith and co-host of Ascension's video series filmed in Rome under the same title.

Times and cost

The cost per person for the conference is \$30 for either day; \$40 for both days; \$20 for students; and no charge for priests and seminarians.

Pre-registration is highly recommended, so the organizers know how many people to plan for.

Check-in for the Friday session begins at 4:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 5:30 p.m. and Mr. Hunt's presentation at 6:30, followed by a reception.

Registration on Saturday will begin with coffee and donuts at 8 a.m. Welcoming remarks will be at 8:45 a.m.,

with the talks starting at 9 a.m.

The Men of Signum Crucis was founded for its members to support one another in their quest for deeper knowledge and love of God and the living of their faith.

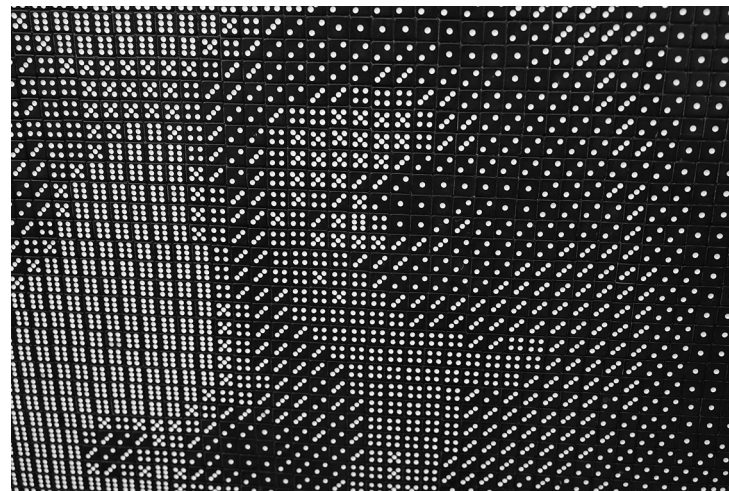
As the Men's Conference draws near, Mr. Miller asked for prayers for open hearts both for the speakers and the men who will hear them.

"Pray that I continue to be transformed into the servant I need to be, and from that will flow the blessings," he requested.

Contact Mark Rehagen at 573-680-2520 or mrehagen@beliascatholic.com for information.

To learn more about the event or to register, visit:

menofsignumcrucis.com/mens-conference



This close-up image of part of Nate Pfenenger mosaic portrait of Venerable Father Augustus Tolton shows some of the 20,400 black dice that were used to create the image. — Photo by Jay Nies

FR. TOLTON

From page 6

well along the path of being formally declared a saint.

Nate said he was surprised at how much attention the finished work has attracted, beginning with a post on the school's Facebook page and continuing with articles in the *Columbia Missourian* and now *The Catholic Missourian*.

For other young artists thinking about taking on such a complicated project, Nate suggests lots of planning and coordination, along with pa-

tience and humor for dealing with the unexpected.

"Just like anything else in life, do your research, know what you're getting into, and make sure you have the dedication to see it through to completion," he said.

As for his grade, Mr. Tapia gave Nate a 100-percent score for the project.

"I'm happy about that," said Nate. "Doing all that work to get a 'B' would be mildly unfortunate."

To submit items for the PEOPLE PAGE, including **Baptisms, Birthdays** for ages 90 and older, **Anniversaries** of 10+ years in increments of 5 ONLY (e.g., 15, 25, 45 years, etc.), **Marriages, Deaths, Elections, Honors and Appointments**, please go to:
diojeffcity.org/update-information

Baptisms

St. Thomas, St. Thomas the Apostle — **Amyra James Bax**, daughter of Anthony Bax & Elizabeth Lueckenhoff

Birthdays

Brookfield, Immaculate Conception — **Doris Dennis**, her 100th on Mar. 22; **Sybil Schreiner**, her 96th on Mar. 29

St. Thomas, St. Thomas the Apostle — **Martha Strope**, her 99th on Mar. 27

Salisbury, St. Joseph — **Beverly Henke**, her 90th on Mar. 16

Marriages

Mary's Home, Our Lady of Snows — **Brooke Evers & Tyler Schmid**

Deaths

Argyle, St. Aloysius — **Bernard Falter**

Columbia, Our Lady of Lourdes — **Peggy Bruch; Bernard Burger; Anna Gasperson**

Jefferson City, Immaculate Conception — **Donna Groner; Nordelle Lueckenhoff**

Wardsville, St. Stanislaus — **Marvin Lueckenotte; Jeannette Mattie**

A priest for 70 years



Father C. Duane "Bo" Ryan gathers with members of his extended family after the Chrism Mass on March 26. Fr. Ryan, a retired priest of the Kansas City-St. Joseph diocese, who has spent nearly 30 years living and ministering in retirement near the Lake of the Ozarks, will note his 70th priestly anniversary on April 3. He's looking forward to celebrating his 95th birthday on May 25.

Baltimore Archdiocese ministers to crew aboard ship involved in bridge collapse

OSV News

Baltimore

The Archdiocese of Baltimore's Apostleship of the Sea is normally a "friendly face" for international seafarers visiting the port. That role is about to expand, according to its director, Andy Middleton, after a containership was involved in the catastrophic collapse of one of Baltimore's major thoroughfares.

The Francis Scott Key Bridge collapsed about 1:30 a.m. March 26 after a 900-foot container ship collided with one of its major support pilings.

According to state and U.S. Coast Guard officials, a search-and-rescue mission was underway for an unknown number of

survivors. Middleton said the Apostleship of the Sea, based at St. Rita Parish in Dundalk, had ministered to members of the crew on March 24 and 25, delivering Easter boxes to the group aboard *Dali*, which was berthed at Seagirt Marine terminal.

Middleton said he had been in touch with a member of the crew just hours after the collision and all were safe and uninjured.

The organization, begun by the archdiocese in 2003 to serve visiting crews, plans to assist the sailors once bridge debris is removed from the ship and it settles in a berth.

Baltimore Archbishop William E. Lori said he was saddened and asked for prayers for all involved.

FANUCCI

From page 9

your Lenten observance: singing more at Mass. Remember that your children, grandchildren and all young people in the pews are watching. What are we teaching children by the way we sing?

You might start by singing more at home. Growing up, my family added a sung grace after the traditional "Bless us, O Lord" prayer. Today my own family sings a short hymn before dinner to match the liturgical season. Each night I get to hear voices, old and young, warble "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days" and remember how Christ came for all of us, from toddlers to teenagers to tired adults — and everyone in between.

Music makes us human. From the first rhythms of our mother's heartbeat in the womb, we grow attuned to the

world through song: lullabies, childhood ABCs, birthday celebrations, and holiday favorites. But if we stop singing in worship — out of insecurity, boredom, habit or sheer laziness — we miss what full participation in the liturgy means: the grace it brings us and the glory it gives to God.

In its ancient roots, the word "enthusiasm" means to be inspired or inhabited by God. This Lent, let us bring our enthusiasm to Mass and pray together in song, that we might all be filled with God's Holy Spirit, from generation to generation.

Laura Kelly Fanucci is an author, speaker, and founder of Mothering Spirit, an online gathering place on parenting and spirituality.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

From page 3

"Your participation and that of your children is very much desired by me," he stated.

•The bishop also asked everyone to commit to pray for peace throughout

the world,

"Ukraine, the Holy Land, Sudan, and now closer to home, Haiti, could use our prayers and especially our spiritual support for our Christian brothers and sisters," he said.

QUESTION

From page 8

overlook. Finally, on a practical level, traveling to rural Wisconsin can be difficult from many other parts of the United States.

Still, the Our Lady of Champion is very much with a visit! And given that Our Lady loved humility in her earthly life, the humbleness of her shrine here shouldn't deter would-be pilgrims.

Jenna Marie Cooper, who holds a licentiate in canon law, is a consecrated virgin and a canonist whose column appears weekly at OSV News. Send your questions to CatholicQA@osv.com.

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 Diocese of Jefferson City

Crossword puzzle answers

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

“We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you!”



Eighth-graders at St. Joseph School in Westphalia present the Shadow Stations for the Parish on March 22 in the school gym.

— Photos from the St. Joseph School, Westphalia Facebook page

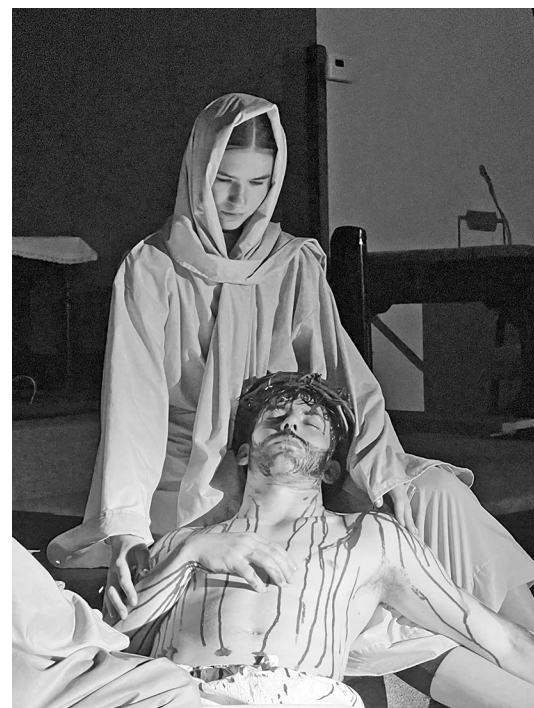
“By your holy cross ...”



Mrs. Belshe’s Class at Our Lady of the Snows School in Mary’s Home, with help from Mrs. Hoecker’s students, present the Shadow Stations of the Cross in Our Lady of Snows Church.

— Photos from the Our Lady of the Snows Catholic School Facebook page

“You have redeemed the world!”



Young people from Holy Rosary Parish in Monroe City and St. Stephen Parish in Indian Creek act out the Stations of the Cross on Palm Sunday in St. Stephen Church.

— Photos by Lindsay Thome



Palm leaders

Fourth-graders at St. Joseph School in Salisbury strip and prepare all the palms to be distributed on Palm Sunday in St. Boniface Church in Brunswick, St. Mary of the Angels Church in Wien and St. Joseph Church in Salisbury.

— Photo by Father Jeremy Secrist

SHROUD

From page 1

one of the most effective tools for evangelization in the Christian arsenal.

“Ours is to heed Jesus’s Great Commission: ‘Make disciples, baptize them, teach them what I taught you, and know that I am with you always,’” the priest noted.

“The Shroud offers us a great opportunity to do that,” he said.

He’s convinced that the most convincing of all signs and wonders is when Christ moves the human heart.

“There is no greater healing than to bring someone out of the darkness and into the dominion of the beloved Son,” the priest stated. “In fact, I would gladly trade 1,000 physical healings for the changing of one human heart.”

He said the Shroud helps bring conversion to many hearts by addressing Jesus’s passion, death and resurrection head-on.

“I think it really pulls on people’s heartstrings,” the priest stated. “We were made to have a face-to-face encounter with God, and this is a little, earthly picture of that encounter.”

“When we stand and behold the face, I feel it’s a little beckoning from God himself, saying, ‘Look at me. Come and see,’” he said.

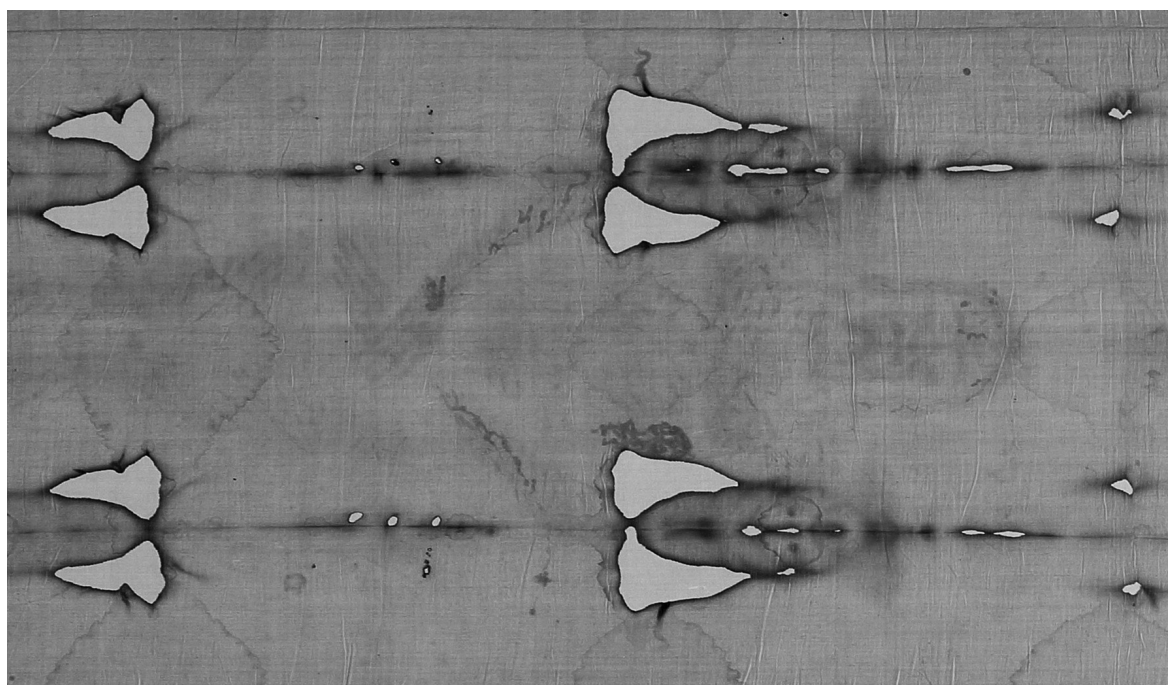
Source of blessings

Fr. Dalton noted that the Shroud taps into people’s innate curiosity about science, nature and the world around them, along with their thirst for things that are transcendent.

“There’s a physicality about the resurrected body,” the priest stated. “He who went to the cross is now glorified. And what does he do when he appears to the Apostles? He shows them his wounded hands and side and says, ‘Peace be with you.’”

“He’s saying, ‘It’s me! Not a phantom or a ghost!’” the priest proclaimed. “That which lives will indeed be glorified forever! That which is broken will be restored!”

As physical evidence of that



A detail view of the Shroud of Turin is seen during a preview for journalists at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Turin, Italy, April 18, 2015.

— CNS photo/Paul Haring

restoration, the Shroud presents a mirror of the Gospel, which is sacrificial love beyond all fathoming.

“This is the whole story,” said Fr. Dalton. “Everything depends on it and is downstream from it. Everything else is scaffolded on this revelation.”

Jesus said, “Take up your cross each day and follow me,” (Luke 9:23) meaning that his cross and passion are inextricably woven into the life of his followers.

“The Paschal Mystery — Jesus’s passion, death and resurrection — is the source and summit of Christian life,” said Fr. Dalton. “If you look at the Gospels themselves, they are Passion narratives with long introductions.”

Pope Benedict XVI stated, “Don’t be afraid of the cross. It’s the source of every blessing.”

The wounded Christ, clearly depicted on the Shroud, invites the faithful to claim his wounds, as well as their own, as a conduit of grace.

“They are precisely where his grace flows into us,” said Fr. Dalton.

Jesus, upon his death on the cross, descended into the netherworld, filling it with light and hope.

“When light shines in darkness, the darkness is dispelled,”

the priest noted. “There’s no fight there.”

So it is when Christ freely lays down his life and takes it back up.

“He’s showing himself as being utterly of a higher order,” Fr. Dalton pointed out. “There’s simply no competition. He says to Satan, ‘Concentrate all your strength on me. I’ll take the blow. I’ll receive all you show me.’”

“And then he says, ‘That’s it? Is that all you got?’”

In truth, God has already definitively won the battle.

“The only question is: Are we remaining in Christ?” said Fr. Dalton. “Christ, the head, is already seated in glory. If we’re members of his body, if we remain with him, we are coheirs.”

Unmistakably authentic

Fr. Dalton referred to how historians look for “documents and monuments” to mark events in history.

“Regarding Jesus’s death and resurrection, we have the documents,” said Fr. Dalton. “We have Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. We also have Josephus and Tacitus and others.”

“And we have monuments!” he stated. “Namely, archaeological objects such as the Shroud of Turin and the Sudarium of Oviedo” — the lat-

ter being the cloth that covered Jesus’s face while he was taken down from the cross.

These objects are consistent with Scriptural accounts of Jesus’s passion and death.

“Not only are they compatible with the Biblical narrative, but they’re mutually illuminating — the artifact on one hand and the narrative on the other hand, both shedding light on each other,” he said.

These artifacts invite people specializing in every discipline imaginable — from archaeology to botany to chemistry to photography — to investigate and believe.

“No matter your career or discipline, you can find something that pertains to the Shroud,” said Fr. Dalton. “Christ took on our humanity and shared our nature, and we know that nature because we live it.”

Every attempt to reproduce the Shroud by any naturalistic means has failed.

“We can’t do it in a lab, especially not at the micro level,” Fr. Dalton noted.

Every detail — from the shape of the body and the ratios of one limb to the other, to the blood flows, to the folding of the thumbs from damage to the nerves in the hands — is captured with medical precision.

In-depth studies of the

Shroud in the 1970s ruled out the presence of varnish, pigments, brush strokes, directionality or any trace whatsoever of human artwork.

Nor was the image produced by heat or by any type of photography, which wasn’t invented until the 19th century.

“All who set out to debunk the Shroud’s authenticity — it’s like Good Friday all over again, the enemy’s plot is a flop!” said Fr. Dalton.

There are multiple hypotheses for how the Shroud came into being, but none can be scientifically proven.

“That’s where Christians need to step up and say, ‘What if it was not created by naturalistic means? What if it’s the natural result of a supernatural occurrence?’” he said.

No greater love

The message of the Shroud of Turin is the same as that of the Gospel narratives of Jesus’s life, death and resurrection: God’s unfathomable love.

“Jesus shows divine love in ways that we simply cannot doubt,” said Fr. Dalton. “It is in deed and in truth that he loves us, and when you look at the cross, when you’re looking at his image in the Shroud, you’re seeing him say, ‘I love you.’”

The priest pointed out that Jesus was not a victim of human beings — as Jesus himself told Pontius Pilate (John 19:11) — but of divine love. And every detail in the Biblical narratives of the Passion reveals some aspect of that love.

“It would be too easy to glance over the details of the Passion,” said Fr. Dalton. “But the Shroud forces you to pause on it.”

The cross was the means by which Jesus, who had emptied himself of glory in becoming human, returned to his glorified state at the right hand of the Father.

In order to follow Christ, people must take up their own crosses in the form of the trials they face each day.

“Jesus tells us, ‘I am the way,

See IMAGE, page 23

Memory book: Pope reviews his life and shares dreams for future

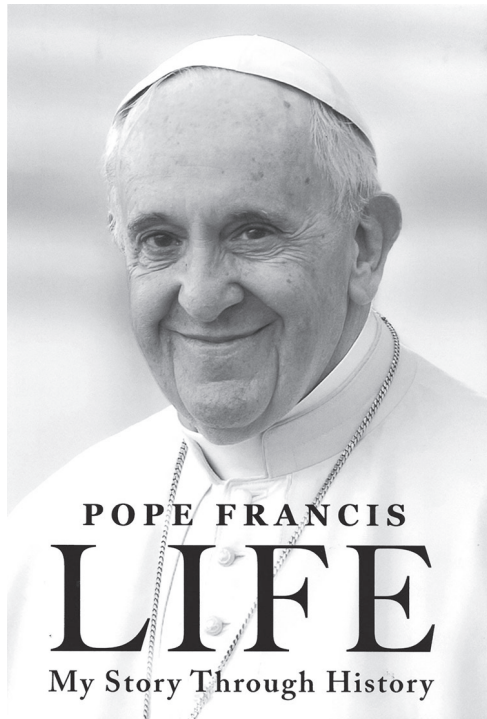
By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

Vatican City

Asked to reminisce about his life and where he was at key moments in history, the 87-year-old Pope Francis obliged, but also used the opportunity to talk about the lessons the events hold today and his hope for the future.

The book, *Life: My Story Through History*, written with Italian journalist Fabio Marchese Ragona, begins with Pope Francis explaining that while he was only 3 years old when World War II started, he remembers his parents talking about a “monster” — Hitler — and his family and neighbors sharing letters from relatives still in Europe.

“Even though it happened more than 80 years ago, we must never forget the moments that devastated the lives of so many innocent families,”



the pope said in the book.

“War eats you up inside,” he said, before adding, “You see it in the eyes of young children who no longer have any joy in their hearts, only terror and tears.”

Since Russia’s large-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022, he has spoken often of meeting Ukrainian children who still look frightened even though they are safe in Italy.

The book, published by

HarperCollins, generated headlines March 14 when excerpts were published with the pope saying he had no plans to resign, he knows some people strongly disapprove of the way he has carried out his ministry and he defended the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith’s note that priests can give informal blessings to gay couples.

Perhaps less newsy, but still strikingly strong were his comments about antisemitism, about abortion and about migration.

He talks about growing up as a child of immigrants in a neighborhood full of immigrants and wonders if they initially were considered a threat when, “in fact, they were just trying to make a future for their children.”

Hostility to immigrants, he said, is the fruit of “prejudice that corrupts the soul; it is wickedness that kills.”





While he remembers the tension and worries of adults around him during World War II, it was only as he grew up that he learned about the Shoah and Hitler’s murderous rampage against Jews, Roma, homosexuals and people with disabilities.

“We cannot turn a blind eye to cases of anti-Semitism, racism or discrimination,” the pope said. “We must defend the sanctity of human life. The name of God is profaned and defiled in the madness of hate.”

Describing watching with other young Jesuits as Apollo 11 Commander Neil Armstrong became the first person to walk on the moon in 1969, Pope Francis moves quickly to a discourse on the marvels of scientific and technological advancement, but also the need to ensure that progress is used ethically.

That ethical care is lacking in the development of increasingly sophisticated weapons of war, he said, and especially in the manipulation of unborn human life, such as with in vitro fertilization and surrogacy.

Movie Ratings

 General Patronage	Kung Fu Panda 4 (PG)
 Adults and Adolescents	Cabrini (PG-13) Guadalupe: Mother of Humanity (not rated)
 Adults	The American Society of Magical Negroes (PG-13) Arthur the King (PG-13) Dune: Part Two (PG-13) Imaginary (PG-13) Madame Web (PG-13) One Life (PG)
 Morally Offensive	Immaculate (R)

Ratings are supplied by OSV News Service.

“We must always protect human life, from conception to death,” he said. “I shall never tire of saying that abortion is murder, a criminal act; there is no other word for it. It involves discarding, eliminating a human life that is without fault. It is a defeat for everyone who carries it out and anyone who is complicit in it: mercenaries, killers for hire!”

Pope Francis also talks about the state of the Church and the world today.

“I still cultivate a dream for the future: that our Church might be a meek, humble, servant church, with all the attributes of God — therefore also tender, close and compassionate,” he said. “We must simplify things as we look to the future, overcome clericalism, that is, the view of clerics as an elite with an attitude of moral superiority over and distance from the faithful. It has become a disease, a plague!”

The pope said the Church must act as a mother, “who embraces and welcomes everyone, even those who feel they are in the wrong and have been judged by us in the past. I think, for example, of homosexuals and transsexuals who seek the Lord but are rejected or persecuted.”

The Gospel mission of pro-

claiming God’s love to all, he said, is the foundation of the approval he gave in December to the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith’s publication of “*Fiducia Supplicans*” (“Supplicating Trust”), which allows Catholic priests to bless a same-sex or other unmarried couple. However, it cannot be a formal liturgical blessing, nor give the impression that the Church is blessing the union as if it were a marriage.

“They are all children of God and must be welcomed with open arms,” Pope Francis said.

However, he said, the blessings do not mean the Church is in favor of same-sex marriage, because “we do not have the power to change the sacraments created by the Lord.”

The pope did, though, reaffirm what he has said in the past about civil unions: “these people who experience the gift of love should have the same legal protections as everyone else.”

The key to the future, Pope Francis said, is for everyone to pray more and to love more.

“How many things would have gone differently in the past 80 years of history if love and prayer had motivated human beings rather than the thirst for power,” he said.

On air

Mustard Seed

Sunday Scripture readings and reflections

Sundays, 10:06 am, KWIX-AM 1230, Moberly
Sundays, 8 am, KRLL-AM 1420, California

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IMAGE

From page 21



Father Andrew Dalton of the Legionaires of Christ speaks on the Shroud of Turin. — Submitted photo

the truth and the life,” Fr. Dalton noted. “Can we expect any other pathway than the one he showed us?”

Learning about and venerating the Shroud inevitably leads to a deeper understanding of the mission Jesus came to fulfill.

“This historical document we possess is not magic, it’s not a vending machine,” Fr. Dalton insisted. “It is something that draws us squarely before the mysteries of Christ in order for us to pray. And as we pray, we’re changed.”

“Beholding and contemplating the image of Christ causes transformation to come within us,” the priest noted. “In that way, the Shroud is just the doorbell. It says, ‘Come in.’”

As in a mirror

Fr. Dalton visits parishes throughout the world to give presentations on the Shroud of Turin.

He encourages dioceses and Catholic institutes of higher learning to obtain a high-resolution digital image of the Shroud for study and

contemplation.

He said the Shroud offers an astounding opportunity and a credible means of sharing the Gospel with people who do not yet believe.

“When I’m preaching at Mass, if I go over 10 minutes, I see people looking at their watches,” he noted. “But with the Shroud, two hours isn’t enough. People are standing in line afterward, wanting to find out more.”

The Shroud resonates with people’s curiosity and desire for truth.

“Our faith is not about fairy tales or fables but an event in history that actually took place,” said Fr. Dalton. “We celebrate the Incarnation — that the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.

“We also celebrate that he did that in order to accomplish a saving sacrifice,” the priest continued. “Namely, the baby wrapped in swaddling clothes grew up and was one day wrapped in a winding sheet and placed in a tomb.

“From that place, he’s reborn into glory. That’s a picture of what we all must also do. We die with him in order to rise with him.”

Fr. Dalton likened the Shroud to the mirror image St. Paul wrote of in his famous “Love is patient, love is kind” passage in 1 Corinthians 13.

“It’s a mirror-life image of something that lies directly beyond the veil,” said Fr. Dalton. “We hope and wait for the day when we see him as he is. But for the time being, we have this insight into what he was.”

A video of Fr. Dalton’s Jefferson City presentation can be found on the Cathedral of St. Joseph’s Facebook page at:

[facebook.com/JCCathedral](https://www.facebook.com/JCCathedral)

ANOINT

From page 14

•Father C. Duane Ryan, a retired priest of the Kansas City-St. Joseph diocese who served for many years in our diocese and currently lives in Sunrise Beach, celebrating his 70th priestly anniversary on April 3;

•Father Kevin Gormley, a retired priest of the diocese, celebrating his 60th anniversary; and

•Father Henry Ussher, a missionary priest from the Diocese of Wiawso, Ghana, currently serving in our diocese, celebrating his 25th anniversary.

Father Brendan Griffey, a retired priest of the diocese who is celebrating his 50th anniversary this year, was unable to attend due to illness.

To bring glad tidings

Seminarians served in vari-

ous liturgical roles at the Mass.

Lay representatives of each of the five deaneries carried banners in the opening procession and the recessional.

Colleen Abbott, chair of the Diocesan Pastoral Council (DPC) and one of its Southwest Deanery representatives; DPC Central Deanery representative Sarah Robinson; and DPC See City Deanery Representative Earl Pabst presented the offertory gifts of water, wine and bread.

Four deacons presented the oils for blessing and consecration:

Deacon Matthew McLaughlin, director of the Rolla Newman Center, who also assists the pastor of St. Patrick Parish in Rolla, St. Anthony Parish in Rosati

and Immaculate Conception Parish in St. James, presented the Oil for the Catechumens.

Deacon Bradley Jones, who assists the pastor of St. Martin Parish in St. Martins and ministers to people living in nursing homes, presented the Oil for the Sick.

Deacon James Haaf, who assists the pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Westphalia and St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Folk and ministers to people living in nursing homes, presented the fragrant balsam for the Oil for Chrism.

Deacon Larry Hildebrand, who assists the pastor of St. Stanislaus Parish in Wardsville and St. Margaret of Antioch Parish in Osage Bend and serves as a chaplain at the Jefferson City Correctional Center, presented the Oil for

Daily Readings

Sunday, Mar 31

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD
Acts 10:34a, 37-43
Ps. 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23
Col. 3:1-4 or 1 Cor. 5:6b-8
Jn. 20:1-9 or Mk. 16:1-7

Monday, Apr 1

Acts 2:14, 22-33
Ps. 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11
Mt. 28:8-15

Tuesday, Apr 2

Acts 2:36-41
Ps. 33:4-5, 18-20, 22
Jn. 20:11-18

Wednesday, Apr 3

Acts 3:1-10
Ps. 105:1-4, 6-9
Lk. 24:13-35

Thursday, Apr 4

Acts 3:11-26
Ps. 8:2ab, 5-9
Lk. 24:35-48

Friday, Apr 5

Acts 4:1-12
Ps. 118:1-2, 4, 22-27a
Jn. 21:1-14

Saturday, Apr 6

Acts 4:13-21
Ps. 118:1, 14-15ab, 16-21
Mk. 16:9-15

Sunday, Apr 7

SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY
Acts 4:32-35
Ps. 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24
1 Jn. 5:1-6
Jn. 20:19-31

Monday, Apr 8

THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD
Is. 7:10-14; 8:10
Ps. 40:7-11
Heb. 10:4-10
Lk. 1:26-38

Tuesday, Apr 9

Acts 4:32-37
Ps. 93:1-2, 5
Jn. 3:7b-15

Wednesday, Apr 10

Acts 5:17-26
Ps. 34:2-9
Jn. 3:16-21

Thursday, Apr 11

St. Stanislaus, bishop and martyr
Acts 5:27-33
Ps. 34:2, 9, 17-20
Jn. 3:31-36

Friday, Apr 12

Acts 5:34-42
Ps. 27:1, 4, 13-14
Jn. 6:1-15

Saturday, Apr 13

St. Martin I, pope and martyr
Acts 6:1-7
Ps. 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19
Jn. 6:16-21

The Holy Father’s prayer intentions for April:

We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.

Sponsored by

Chrism.

The Oil of Catechumens is used for infants during the baptismal ceremony, and for the anointing of the elect during the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) as they prepare to be baptized.

It designates all members of the Church as learners and gives them a protecting strength against evil.

The Oil of the Sick is used for healing in the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick.

Sacred Chrism, named for Christ, is used in Baptism, as well as Confirmation, the ordination of priests and bishops and the dedication of churches and altars.

Permanent deacons of the diocese carried the bottles of blessed oil and consecrated Chrism downstairs to Cana Hall, where they were sorted in order to be sent to parishes in appropriate quantities with each pastor.

A reception was held in Cana Hall after the Mass.

Pope writes meditations for *Via Crucis* at Colosseum

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

Vatican City

For the first time in his 11-year papacy, Pope Francis has chosen to write his own meditations for the Good Friday

Way of the Cross service at Rome's Colosseum, the head of the Vatican press office said.

For the service March 29, Pope Francis has chosen the theme "In prayer with Jesus on the way of the cross," Matteo

Bruni, the press office director, told reporters March 26.

Pope St. John Paul II began a tradition in 1985 of entrusting the writing of the meditations to cardinals and other Church personalities, well-known writers or groups of people, including young people and journalists. However, he wrote the reflections himself for the Colosseum ceremony during the Holy Year 2000.

Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger wrote the meditations for Good Friday 2005, less than a month before being elected Pope Benedict XVI. Throughout his pontificate, though, he entrusted the drafting to different people each year.

The meditations in 2023 focused on the theme, "Voices of peace in a world at war." Several dicasteries of the Roman Curia formulated the prayers and meditations drawing from comments made at meetings with Pope Francis by people suffering from a lack of peace.

Pope Francis has asked Catholics to observe 2024 as a year of prayer in preparation for the Holy Year 2025.

The choice of "in prayer with Jesus" as the theme for the Way of the Cross, Bruni told reporters, is an indication that it will be "an act of meditation and spirituality with Jesus at the center."

Bruni also told reporters that as of March 26 Pope Francis was still planning on

attending the service. However, the weather and the pope's health will be the deciding factors.

Vigil Opposing Execution

Brian Dorsey is scheduled to be executed on April 9.

The Missouri Catholic Conference will host a respectful protest on Tuesday, April 9, at noon outside the governor's office (Room 216, State Capitol Building, Jefferson City) to witness against the execution.

The public is invited to participate.

Catholic teaching strongly opposes the use of the death penalty because it disregards the sanctity and dignity of human life.

For more information, call 573-635-7239.

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2024 Women's Ministry Spring Pilgrimage

Join us for a day of prayer and reflection on the Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary with Catholic speaker Jill Simons

Saturday, April 6 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

St. Mary Parish — Shelbina, MO

Register online at
diojeffcity.org/springpilgrimage



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Carry-out plates \$15

Sunday, April 7
from 11am to 4:30 pm

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Ice Cream - Prizes - Country Store

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FR. BILL PECKMAN SATURDAY 9 AM
ADAM WRIGHT SATURDAY 10 AM
DR. ANDREW SWAFFORD SATURDAY 1:15 PM
BRIAN MILLER SATURDAY 2:15 PM

"FOR GOD DID NOT GIVE US A SPIRIT OF COWARDICE BUT RATHER OF POWER AND LOVE AND SELF CONTROL."
2 TIMOTHY 1:7