

THE CATHOLIC MIRROR

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November 16, 2018

Vatican weighs in on abuse reform proposals

The Vatican asked U.S. bishops meeting in Baltimore this past week to hold off on voting on reform measures related to the sexual abuse of children by clergy until a meeting of bishops' conference presidents from around the world in February.

See story on page 13.

St. Theresa School to get 3-D printers with STEM grant

Partnership with local businesses help students envision future professions

By Kelly Mescher Collins
Staff Writer

St. Theresa Catholic School in Des Moines was named one of 13 schools in Iowa to receive a grant of up to \$25,000 in materials and professional services by the Iowa Governor's STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Advisory Council.

The grants were awarded for STEM BEST (Businesses Engaging Students and Teachers) projects.

Matching funds from the school were required to receive the grant, which were raised at their annual gala, said principal Ellen Stemler.

The STEM BEST Program fosters a learning environment where students are able to participate in real workplace projects designed by business professionals and teachers and apply K-12 science, technology, engineering and mathematics to skills, knowledge and behaviors needed for STEM careers.

St. Theresa currently has a partnership with Dowling Catholic High School and the following seven business partners:

- Kemin Industries
- Accumold
- Stone Path Engineering

Continued on page 3

Introducing Deacon Downey

Des Moines native takes final step before becoming a priest in June 2019



Katzie and Ben Photography LLC

Deacon James Downey, of St. Theresa Parish in Des Moines, was ordained a transitional deacon on Sept. 27 at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. He is pictured above second from right. After he finishes his studies in Rome, he will be ordained a priest with Deacon Mark McGeary, who is currently studying at Mundelein Seminary in Mundelein, Ill. Their ordination is slated for June 21 at St. Ambrose Cathedral in Des Moines.

All are invited to priestly ordination Dec. 14

All invited to attend ordination of Deacon Ryan Andrew at St. Ambrose Cathedral in Des Moines

By Kelly Mescher Collins
Staff Writer

Deacon Ryan Andrew, who grew up attending Christ the King Parish on Des Moines' south side, will be ordained a priest for the Diocese of Des Moines on Friday, Dec. 14, at 7 p.m. at St. Ambrose Cathedral in Des Moines.

The public is invited to attend.

Deacon Andrew, who teaches at Dowling Catholic High School in West Des Moines, said he's looking forward to bringing Christ to others.

"What I'm looking forward to most about being a priest is celebrating Mass to bring Christ to the people of God [in

the Eucharist]," Deacon Andrew said. "I'm really looking forward ...to hearing confessions, to be an instrument and a ministry of God's forgiveness to people."

It took a lot of prayer and courage to step out after first hearing God's call.

"When I first realized I was called to be a priest...I was afraid," Deacon Andrew said. "What would this mean for the people that I know? How will they react to me? How will they react to me wanting to be a priest?"

He was also afraid because it's so countercultural.

"The Lord just kept calling me and said, 'Trust in me, have faith,'" Deacon Andrew said.

Though fears kept creeping in, Deacon Andrew kept

moving forward.

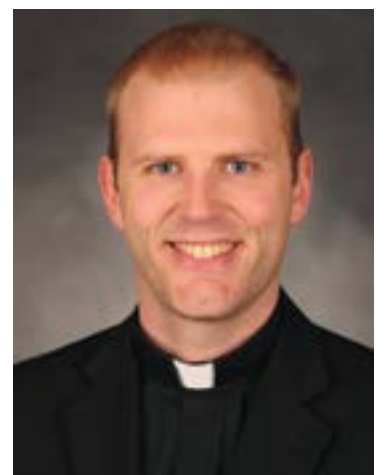
"I said, 'I gotta do this – the Lord's calling me...,'" he said. "And here I am today to be ordained a priest. I am so glad I said 'yes' to the Lord. He's given me many blessings and I'm just very grateful, joyful and just very happy that the Lord gave me the strength to say 'yes' to him and be a minister of his."

Deacon Andrew's mother, Jane Andrew of Christ the King Parish, said the family is looking forward to his ordination.

"Our family is very excited and happy for him and he just expanded [our faith]," she said.

"He's God's instrument..." Jane said. "I think he's going to be a wonderful priest."

Deacon Andrew will



Deacon Ryan Andrew

begin his first official priest assignment as Dowling Catholic's chaplain in January. He'll also serve St. Pius X Parish in Urbandale part-time.

Seeking the common good

It seems nearly everyone is breathing a sigh of relief with the conclusion of the elections on Nov. 6. The unfortunate negativity of contemporary political campaigns wears thin. The repetitive advertising grows tedious. The rhetoric divides rather than unites.

The new moment afforded by the cessation of political overload hopefully does not signal a return to stagnation. May the opportunity inspire a commitment to the common good – seeking to benefit all God’s people.

The pursuit of the common good, in the present, pertains both to us in the Church as well as in secular society.

In the Church

The revelations of the grand jury report from Pennsylvania on clerical sexual abuse, while detailing a period of the past, is woefully discouraging. Such behavior cannot be condoned. Permanent reform must be undertaken.



By
Bishop
Richard
Pates

In confronting the scourge, the recurrent trauma of the victims needs to be addressed. Essential to the healing process is a listening posture, counseling/therapy opportunity and bottomless compassion that will move those hurt to the eventual road of wholeness.

The evolution in the Church in the understanding of pedophilia led to the 2002 adoption of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops “Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People.” This move over subsequent years has eventuated in a dramatic decrease by Church personnel in sexual abuse of minors. It has virtually flat lined. We are grateful for the extensive, preventative steps that

have been taken.

Encouraged by the positive reform achieved over the past 16 years, we now must boldly attend to the next stage with regard to Church leadership and bishops in their transparency and accountability. Such is possible and with appropriate determination can be achieved.

In the meanwhile, we are called to engage in the primary mission of the Church, in the marvel of participation in the sacramental life and prayer in our parishes and institutions of the Diocese of Des Moines. When we highlight and dedicate ourselves to these central dimensions of divine life, we are blessed indeed in experiencing the common good.

In Secular Society

On the basis of being initiated into his very life through Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist, Jesus challenges us to be light and salt to the world. Remarkably, this means God lives in and through us!

The new moment after the election, calls us to refocus on the witness we are expected to bring to our times. Can we be instrumental in pursuing the common good and giving credibility to God’s love and justice for all his children?

The basis for our action rests in the respect for the gift of human life from the moment of conception throughout every phase of its experience until natural death.

Setting aside political divisions, we adopt a positive expression of our Catholic/Christian commitment to the sacredness of life. A fundamental principle guiding our action is the vision of Pope Francis. “We are all one human family. We are all brothers and sisters.”

In our service to our brothers and sisters, might the common good entail the following?

- Attending to the plight of refugees and immigrants by addressing the root causes responsible for their leaving

their native countries and in the United States finally enacting comprehensive immigration reform?

- Confronting racism and giving life to the reality that all God’s children are equal?

- Cherishing the gift of creation by our engagement with the rhythm of nature and not trashing the precious elements that sustain life and its quality?

- Sharing the world’s goods intended for all and maintaining the dignity of our fellow humans by ensuring work, decent housing, eliminating hunger, providing adequate healthcare, fighting poverty and maintaining peace?

The new moment is an opportunity to move beyond that which has been debilitating, hypocritical and squandered into the sunshine of the common good. A renewed beginning point might be what President George H.W. Bush described as a kinder, gentler nation.

Bishop’s Schedule

Saturday, November 17

Des Moines – Open House, School of Mary Montessori, 11 a.m.

Lacona – Confirmation, Holy Trinity Church of Southeast Warren County, 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, November 18

Indianola – Mass and Dedication, Phase III offices and Classrooms, St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, 10:15 a.m.

Des Moines – Serra Club’s Bishop’s Appreciation Dinner, Latin King, 5 p.m.

Monday, November 19

Des Moines – Catholic Pastoral Center and Catholic Charities Thanksgiving Mass and Luncheon, Pastoral Center, 11 a.m.

Tuesday, November 20

Des Moines – Diocesan Finance Council, Pastoral Center, Noon
West Des Moines – Legatus Mass, Dinner and Mother Assumpta Presentation, St. Francis of Assisi Parish and Des Moines Golf and Country Club, 6 p.m.

Wednesday, November 21

Des Moines – Diocesan Executive Committee, Catholic Pastoral Center, 1 p.m.

Thursday, November 22

Des Moines – Thanksgiving Mass, St. Ambrose Cathedral, 10:30 a.m.

Des Moines – Luncheon with International Priests, Embassy Club, Noon

Friday, November 23

Des Moines – “In the Heartland with Bishop Pates” on Iowa Catholic Radio, Des Moines; KVSS, Omaha, 9 a.m.

Saturday, November 24

Winterset – Installation Mass of Father Thomas Dooley, St. Joseph Parish, 5 p.m.

Sunday, November 25

Irish Settlement – Installation Mass of Father Thomas Dooley, St. Patrick Parish, 8 a.m.

Winterset – Installation Mass of Father Thomas Dooley, St. Joseph Parish, 10 a.m.

Monday, November 26

Des Moines – Diocesan Building Commission, Catholic Pastoral Center, 1 p.m.

Tuesday, November 27

Council Bluffs – Blessing of

New Ultrasound Machines, Gift of Knights of Columbus, Assure Women’s Center, 5 p.m.

Red Oak – Blessing of New Ultrasound Machines, Gift of Knights of Columbus, Pregnancy Center of Southwest Iowa, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, November 28

Des Moines – Mass with Students, Holy Trinity Parish, 8:30 a.m.

Des Moines – Priests’ Personnel Board, Catholic Pastoral Center, 2 p.m.

Cedar Falls – Mass and Dinner with students, University of Northern Iowa, 6 p.m.

Thursday, November 29

Des Moines – Mass with Students, St. Joseph Parish, 8:30 a.m.

Ames – Mass and pizza with students, Iowa State University, 6 p.m.

Friday, November 30

Des Moines – “In the Heartland with Bishop Pates” on Iowa Catholic Radio, Des Moines; KVSS, Omaha, 9 a.m.

Sunday, December 2

Mt. Ayr – Confirmation, St. Joseph Parish, 8 a.m.

Ankeny – Msgr. Stephen Orr’s retirement celebration, Our Lady’s Immaculate Heart Parish, 1:30 p.m.

Des Moines – Mass, St. Anthony Parish, 5 p.m.

Tuesday, December 4

Des Moines – Diocesan Executive Committee, Catholic Pastoral Center, 1 p.m.

Thursday, December 6

West Des Moines – Christmas Luncheon, Dowling Catholic High School, Des Moines Golf and Country Club, 11:30 a.m.

Des Moines – Meitler Schools’ Strategic Planning, Catholic Pastoral Center, 2 p.m.

Friday, December 7

Des Moines – “In the Heartland with Bishop Pates” on Iowa Catholic Radio, Des Moines; KVSS, Omaha, 9 a.m.

Saturday, December 8

Des Moines – Immaculate Conception Holy Day Mass, St. Ambrose Cathedral, 8:30 a.m.

Ankeny – Installation Mass of Father Adam Westphal, St. Luke the Evangelist Parish, 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 9

Ankeny – Installation Mass of Father Adam Westphal, St. Luke the Evangelist Parish, 8:30 a.m.; 10:30 a.m.; 6 p.m.

Tuesday, December 11

Des Moines – Vocation Department, Catholic Pastoral Center, 8:30 a.m.

Des Moines – Bishop’s Council, Embassy Club, 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 12

Des Moines – Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, St. Ambrose Cathedral, Midnight

Thursday, December 13

Des Moines – Blessing of Chalice of Deacon Ryan Andrew, St. Ambrose Cathedral, 12:10 p.m.

Friday, December 14

Des Moines – “In the Heartland with Bishop Pates” on Iowa Catholic Radio, Des Moines; KVSS, Omaha, 9 a.m.

West Des Moines – Iowa Catholic Radio Christmas Party, Fire Creek Grill, 11 a.m.

Des Moines – Priesthood Ordination, Deacon Ryan Andrew, St. Ambrose Cathedral, 7 p.m.

Saturday, December 15

Des Moines – Installation Mass of Father Ray Higgins, St. Theresa Parish, 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 16

Des Moines – Installation Mass of Father Ray Higgins, St. Theresa Parish, 8:30 a.m.; 10:30 a.m.

Des Moines – Priests’ Christmas Celebration, Bishop’s Residence, 5 p.m.

Monday, December 17

Des Moines – Hispanic Pastoral Commission, 3 p.m.

Tuesday, December 18

Des Moines – New Moment, Catholic Pastoral Center, 3 p.m.

Wednesday, December 19

Des Moines – Diocesan Executive Committee, Catholic Pastoral Center, 1 p.m.

Thursday, December 20

Des Moines – Catholic Pastoral Center Christmas Mass and Luncheon, St. Ambrose Cathedral and Pastoral Center, 12:10 p.m.

Des Moines – Vespers Service and Christmas Dinner with Religious Sisters, St. Ambrose Cathedral, 5:30 p.m.

Friday, December 21

Des Moines – “In the Heartland with Bishop Pates” on Iowa Catholic Radio, Des Moines; KVSS, Omaha, 9 a.m.

Council Bluffs – Priests’ Christmas Celebration, St. Peter Parish Hall, Noon

Friday, December 21 –

Saturday, December 22

Griswold – Bishop’s Priesthood Vocation Retreat, Creighton Retreat Center, 7 p.m.

Sunday, December 23

Atlantic – Seminarian and Family Christmas Celebration, Ss. Peter and Paul Parish, Noon

THE CATHOLIC

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Atlantic religious community comes together in wake of man's death

Community helps bury the dead – a Corporal Work of Mercy



Rudy Moses, left, making his First Communion earlier this year at Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Atlantic.

By Kelly Mescher Collins
Staff Writer

Rudy Moses, 21, was a young man who could be found on Sunday mornings at Mass at Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Atlantic.

Locals would also find Moses, a native of the island country of Micronesia, riding his bike around town and near the church.

He had moved to Atlantic in 2017 to live with his aunt.

"He was very friendly and he would ride his bike by here all the time..." said Mary Jo Robinson, secretary of the parish. "He always stopped and made the sign of the cross when he went by the church.

"He had just received his first communion in August and he was a very devout Catholic," Robinson continued.

Unfortunately, it was while riding his bike just outside the church that Moses was hit by a car and died as a result of his injuries.

"Nobody knows what happened," Robinson said.

The family wanted to send the body back to Micronesia so his parents and sister, still in their native country, could see Moses one last time before laying him to rest.

"We knew there was going to be some financial issues [sending his body back]," Robinson said. "And so the funeral home sent out letters to various churches [seeking donations] and we mentioned it at Mass."

Ss. Peter and Paul parishioners, individuals and local churches from various denominations stepped up and made donations to cover the costs.

"The outpouring generosity of our Christian community in Atlantic for Rudy Moses reflects the faith we hold in Jesus," said the pastor, Father Chinnapan Devaraj, better known as Father Chinna. "It bears testimony to how we care for the weak, the vulnerable and the poor among us – without allowing them to suffer on their own. Our kindness confirms that the spirit of God is at work within our parish community. Human tragedies destroy religious boundaries and we bring ourselves closer to the sufferer."

Moses' aunt accompanied the body back to Micronesia

after the funeral Mass was celebrated by Father Chinna in Atlantic.

"Reflecting on fragility, Xavier le Pichon can't emphasize enough of the fact that the health and strength of a community is determined by the way it cares for the vulnerable, the suffering and the marginalized," Father Chinna said.

"We see Jesus constantly attending those in the margins, those ostracized, and those weak and vulnerable, offering health and offering them a place."

St. Theresa receives STEM grant



STEM instructor Ronda McCarthy and Principal Ellen Stemler with St. Theresa students.

Continued from page 1

- 515 Des Moines Maker Space
- Bayer U.S. Crop Science (formerly Monsanto)
- NeXT1 INC.
- Kreg

"Our business partners have vowed support in inviting us to their business to come out and tour what a real STEM professional would do," said Ronda McCarthy, a middle school science teacher at St. Theresa. "And we get to talk to them about what they do in their job so our students can maybe see themselves in one of their professions. We get to learn all about their company.

"Some of the business partners are also pledging their support..." McCarthy added. "So that if we do projects here at school then we can go there and present to them and they'll give us feedback on those projects."

The grant money and matching funds will be used to purchase two 3-D printers, electronics, create several different workspaces and more. The area will be fitted with sewing machines and robotics.

Eighth grader Chloe Burrows helped build an underwater drone with four other girls.

"It was cool learning how to do this," Burrows said.

Sixth grader Ben Klavivl has been building a game in a program called Unity. He enjoys the freedom to select an activity he's interested in.

"I think programming games in Unity is fun because it's a creative outlet."

"This really is validating what the school has been doing for years and strengthening the possibilities for these kids..." Stemler said. "We're incredibly grateful to the governor's STEM council, the Drake STEM Hub, business partners and especially the parish family of St. Theresa."

Pilgrimage to France: Lourdes, Paris and Normandy

Presented by Collins Travel and Pilgrimages



Hosted by Father Andrew Windschitl
Pastor of St. Mary-Holy Cross Parish in Elkhart

..and by Jason Collins, M.A.,
founder of Collins Travel and Pilgrimages and
active member of St. Francis Parish, West Des Moines

Cost: \$4,799
Includes round-trip
airfare, hotel, all
breakfasts & dinners,
transportation in
Europe, museum
entrance fees & local
guides. \$100 discount if
paid by Jan. 1.

Join us for this Incredible Journey of Faith and Adventure to France: Lourdes, Paris and Normandy June 14-23, 2019!

Things we'll do in Lourdes:

- Grotto where Our Lady appeared
- Participate in candlelight procession
- Participate in Blessed Sacrament procession
- Mass in the Basilica
- Opportunity to bathe in Lourdes water
- Childhood home of St. Bernadette

Things we'll do in Paris

- Visit the Notre Dame Cathedral
- Famous Mona Lisa at Louvre Museum
- Take in Paris from atop the Eiffel Tower
- Mass at Sacre Coure, hilltop photos after
- Historic Champs-Élysées Boulevard
- Catacombs of Paris
- Wonderful French cuisine and wine

Things we'll do in Normandy:

- Visit the D-Day Beach
- Pray at the American Cemetery
- Visit the Mont-Saint-Michel
- Mass on the island
- Explore city of Bayeux
- Visit Lisieux, home of St. Therese

This trip includes daily Mass, opportunity for confession, time for shopping and relaxation! SPACE LIMITED TO 20 PEOPLE. Find day-by-day itinerary and short, 90-second video at www.CollinsTravel.biz and click on "Pilgrimages."



NEW: Pilgrimage to Poland, September 2019
with Father Joe Pins, pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Des Moines

Trip includes visit to historic sites of St. Faustina, St. Maximillion Kolbe and Saint Pope John Paul II. More details coming soon! Sign up for our newsletter at www.CollinsTravel.biz for updates on this trip and other pilgrimages. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for updates and travel tips! Questions? Email Jason@CollinsTravel.biz or call 515-850-6133.



God draws us in community

A great joy I've had as a father is watching my kids fall in love with the saints.

We often read our kids stories from the lives of the saints. We have hand-painted "saint dolls" that the kids can play with (Gabriel is often found playing baseball games with them, and I'm always impressed with St. Augustine's pitching!). We often remember feast days at dinner and during our nighttime prayers.

The saints remind us that as Christians our family extends beyond the walls of our home, or even beyond the Thanksgiving dinner table. As members of Christ's body, our family includes those who have gone before us – the canonized men and women who are exemplars of the faith, and who intercede for us and

Marriage & Family Life

By
Adam Storey



accompany us in all the moments of our lives.

During the month of November, we are reminded that our family moves even beyond the canonized saints, to the holy souls in purgatory for whom we intercede until they enjoy full and perfect communion with God.

Just as the stories of the saints are important for our growth in the faith, I think the stories and lives of those who are closer to us are vital in our formation in the life of discipleship.

My family has the great blessing of living right next to Glendale Cemetery in Des Moines, and so every day on my way to work I'm reminded of the local men and women who I am called to pray for, and who I believe can intercede for me.

I often pray for the repose of the souls of all those buried in Glendale, and I ask for the intercession of those who have joined God in eternal life.

It's a particular gift to ask for the intercession of Father Jim Kiernan, or my sister Rachel, who passed away weeks after her birth, or even my own stillborn

daughter, Zita. With hopeful confidence in their salvation, it is a great consolation to have their support in my own journey.

By remembering and telling their stories, we weave our lives closer together, a reminder that God draws us to himself not in isolation, but in community.

So this month, as we pray for the holy souls in purgatory, I want to invite you to deeper relationship with those who have gone before us. Tell their stories, ask for their help and, most importantly, pray for them!

Adam Storey is the diocesan director of Marriage & Family Life. Contact him at 515-237-5056 or astorey@dmdiocese.org

Three points of contact

Nick had no idea that he was giving me spiritual direction.

The young shuttle driver was simply driving me back to the shop where my car had been serviced. He shared about learning carpentry as a teenager by working with his older brother in the construction business.

"I used to be afraid of heights. But that changed when the boss, my older brother, pulled a dirty trick on me. We were working on a tall building and I had climbed nearly to the top of my ladder. Suddenly it began to tremble! I looked down only to see him peering back up at me with a big grin on his face. He had grabbed both sides from a lower rung, causing the ladder to shake!"

"Wow!" I exclaimed. "Were you angry?"

"Yeah. For a minute. Until I learned why he did it. He first made sure that I had three points of contact, knowing that I would be perfectly safe when he shook me."

Now I was really curious. "What do you mean three points of contact?"

"One hand and two feet. Or two

Guest Column

By
Bill Sheridan



hands and one foot. As long as I was in either position, I was not going to fall."

His story intrigued me. And it made me think about my journey away from, and road back to, Mother Church.

I was a cradle Catholic growing up in a small northeast Iowa village. I attended Catholic grade school. Served Mass. Followed the rules.

As a young adult, I taught English at a Catholic high school. I lectured on Sunday and was once president of the PTA. We sent our three sons through 12 years of Catholic school education.

And then, to the surprise of friends

and family, I left the Catholic Church for five or six years.

During that sabbatical, I attended a myriad of Protestant churches and became active in a Full Gospel Businessmen group. I was searching for a closer relationship with our Lord. And in the process, met many wonderful people and learned to love Scripture.

It was an amazing journey. Frankly, one that I do not regret.

But the Holy Spirit guided me home. To my roots. To the one, holy, Catholic, and apostolic Church.

Now I will never leave. Now I have three points of contact, similar to shuttle driver, Nick. They were there for me all the time had I taken full advantage of them.

1) Mass, with the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. I had taken this marvelous sacrament for granted. Our separated brethren consider communion to be only a symbol or remembrance. But in the Church founded by Jesus himself, we receive the body, blood, soul and divinity of our Lord and savior in communion.

2) The powerful sacrament of

reconciliation. Confession. Telling the Lord through his earthly priests that we're truly sorry for having offended him and others. And walking away completely absolved of those sins. With a clean slate. Forgiven.

3) Daily prayer, including scripture. Mixing it up with various activities such as studying the catechism (marking it up with notes and yellow highlighters.) Listening to Catholic radio and watching EWTN. Reading about the early Church fathers. Our heritage goes back 2,000 years, not 500. The rosary. The Divine Chaplet. So many opportunities.

These are the three points of contact that help keep me from falling.

So, thank you Nick the shuttle driver. I appreciate the rides from and back to the fix-it shop. But I'm more appreciative of learning a wonderful technique to help me hang onto my spiritual ladder, the Roman Catholic Church.

Bill Sheridan is a parishioner of St. Pius X Church in Urbandale.

Miracle began largest, peaceful conversation to Christianity

This coming Dec. 12, we will be celebrating the apparition and miracle of Our Lady of Guadalupe, when at the foot of the Tepeyac Hill in Mexico she appeared to San Juan Diego, a native Aztec. The story of the four apparitions has been told for five centuries to multiple generations and it continues warming the hearts of Christians in all the Americas.

The miracle of Guadalupe marked the beginning of the largest peaceful conversion to Christianity in history.

The Spanish missionaries of several religious orders (Franciscans, Dominicans, Jesuits) had tried for almost ten years to bring the native Aztecs to the light of Christ's Gospel. They were trying to overcome a well-developed religion that celebrated warrior gods that had defeated their enemies in majestic battles that created the sun, the stars, and the mountains.

The white conquerors had destroyed most of their temples and sacrificial altars. The God of the friars was hanging from a wooden cross, dead and defeated. He showed no heroic armors nor daring weapons.

Also, the teachings of this new God were about earthly sacrifice to gain a greater reward in the next life. For years

Guest Column

By
Antonio Bañuelos



they had sacrificed other humans in order to have a better life on Earth. The cultural clash was so great that only few were converting and accepting the true light.

The apparition of Our Lady of Guadalupe brought a whole new light in the evangelization of the New World.

Moreover, Our Lady of Guadalupe's physical appearance gave them an image both familiar and prophetic to them. Her face looked as one of them, as if she had been born in the Great Tenochtitlan.

She proclaimed herself as the mother of the true and living God in their own language. The gods they had known only communicated through the priests. The mother of the living God was speaking to a regular and humble man and he could talk back to her.

She asked him to contact the

higher priest asking for a new temple. Her skin color though was different. It wasn't white nor that of the Aztecs. It was a bronze colored skin that would bring the birth of a new race: the mestizo. She asked for a temple where her children could worship the true God, that one that looked dead on the cross but that had risen from death with a victory much greater and daring than that of the warrior gods of their parents.

The message of the Virgin Mary at the Tepeyac was much different than the other major Marian apparitions such as the one at Lourdes and Fatima. The apparitions in Europe spoke of penitence and the conversion of sinners. Guadalupe brought a message of motherly love and comfort in this life.

"Do not be afraid. Am I not here, I who am your mother? Aren't you under my shadow? Aren't I your health?" These words came more in tune with the Aztec tradition of a protective mother. A mother that speaks on behalf of the true God, her Son and therefore has direct intercession with him. This message and apparition lead to the conversion

The message of Guadalupe led to the conversion of over 9 million Aztecs in the next two decades. Her promise was not limited to the Spanish colonies, she

had claimed the entire New World to her Son's Kingdom and, over time, it would become the largest cradle of Catholics in the world.

St. John Paul II declared Dec. 12 as the Solemnity of Our Lady of Guadalupe, naming her Empress and Patroness of the Americas.

The story of Guadalupe continues bringing thousands back to the Church and giving hope to millions of Catholics (and thousands of non-Catholics) for a better future in a divided and uncertain world.

When we face anger, confusion, and fear in our environment, when things seem to get worse and the horizon presents itself with dark clouds, let us remember the message of Guadalupe, the Star of the New Evangelization for all the Americas, Latinos, Anglos, African-Americans, Asian-Americans and Natives: Listen and let it penetrate your heart...do not be troubled or weighed down with grief. Do not fear any illness or vexation, anxiety or pain. Am I not here who am your Mother?

Antonio Bañuelos is the State Deputy of the Iowa Knights of Columbus and a member of St. Ambrose Cathedral Parish.

Ask a Priest

Q. Is an extraordinary communion minister allowed to bless children that comes up with their hands across their chest?

A. YES. It's a lovely practice. Children can feel included as they approach the Lord's Table with their families. It's also a nice practice for parents to bless their children as they prepare to go to bed. Parents can help them say their prayers and then trace a cross on their daughter's or son's forehead.

Q. Where do bishops go when they retire? What responsibilities do they have and do they act in an advisory manner?

A. EVERY BISHOP is different. Some retire in the area where they served as diocesan bishop. Others move closer to members of their families. Some for health reasons will go south; others to retirement centers. Some bishops make themselves available to diocesan bishops to help with confirmations and ordinations. Some give retreats and days of recollections for parishes or priests' groups. They are still members of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, but they do not have a vote on matters before the group.

Q. Who leads the diocese when the bishop leaves if no one has been appointed?

A. IF A BISHOP DIES, retires, or is incapacitated, there are two ways to temporarily answer the need for the leadership of a diocese. The first is that the Vatican can appoint a temporary administrator. The second, if that first option is not exercised, is for the diocesan consulters to elect someone to serve as administrator. (Consulters are appointed for five-year terms in each diocese to serve the bishop in certain matters.) In both cases, the administrator serves until a new bishop is appointed.

Q. How are priests supporting each other through the priest scandal and how can we support them?

A. MOST OF OUR ATTENTION should be focused on those who have suffered because of abuse from a priest. Secondly, those who are guilty of abuse should be held accountable and removed

from ministry. Thirdly, the large majority of the rest of the priests should be encouraged by one another and by the faithful. It's a sad state of affairs. Suffering involves all three groups. Many priests belong to priest support groups that meet regularly. Those gatherings allow priests to share the trials and burdens of ministry with one another.

Q. How do you feel about burying St Joseph when selling a house?

A. IT'S CRAZY. If it "works," well, good. If it doesn't, well, too bad. Sometimes religious objects or rituals become superstitious, and they are to be avoided. I'm not sure where or when that practice began, but St. Joseph is not a real estate saint. Let's give him the dignity he deserves as the husband of Mary and the foster father of Jesus.

Q. What is the connection between Halloween and All Saints Day?

A. THE WORD "Halloween" comes from an older version of English which means "All Hallows Eve" – the day before All Saints Day. In a time of superstitions, the treatment of deceased saints led to ghosts and goblins. It can be a fun holiday, but the Feast of All Saints (and All Souls the next day) are times for us to reflect on our limited time on earth and the ways that we can respond to the gospel in our lives. When we see Halloween costumes and masks, maybe we could mentally dress up as disciples of the Lord.

Q. When is the pope coming again to visit in the U.S.?

A. IT'S HARD TO SAY. Ever since the pontificate of St. Paul VI, it's become a custom for popes to travel internationally. Pope Francis has made a number of pilgrimages in his five years as Bishop of Rome. He has appointed cardinals from smaller and poorer countries. It stands to reason that he'll visit some of those places before he makes a return trip to the USA.

Got a question for "Ask a Priest" and its author, Father John Ludwig? Send it to communications@dmdiocese.org or *The Catholic Mirror*, 601 Grand Ave., Des Moines, IA 50309.

Stay Connected!



@DMDiocese

Volunteer, local businessman act as angels to refugee family



Photo by Kelly Mescher Collins

Paulette Valdez of St. Pius X Parish in Urbandale and Larry Hunt Jr., owner and operations manager of Roto-Rooter Des Moines, who came to the aid of a Burmese family. Pictured are the father, Kyaw Pi, and mother, Ka Nu. Their children are Ka Muie Paw, Mar Saw Paw, Eh Lwet Htoo, Eh Tha Phey Paw, Anna Pi and Lucy Pi. Missing is their oldest son Ku Kpw Htoo.

By Kelly Mescher Collins
Staff Writer

When a family of Burmese refugees was resettled in Des Moines about six years ago through Catholic Charities, volunteer Paulette Valdez was there to help.

"What stronger way to connect to members of a family than during one of the most difficult and frightening times in their lives," said Valdez, a member of St. Pius X Parish in Urbandale. "(When they're) fleeing from persecution and possible death in their home countries while summoning the courage to begin again in a place they have never even visited with a language and way of life completely foreign to them."

As a volunteer for the Catholic Charities Refugee Resettlement Program, Valdez was asked to help the family of nine get acclimated and take them to medical appointments.

The official volunteer duties ended after the family had been in the United States for three months, but Valdez kept in touch with the family, continuing to help them whenever necessary. They've become good friends – practically family, Valdez said.

"I see them several times a month – sometimes several times a week," Valdez said.

So when the family had a major plumbing problem in their nearly 100-year-old house recently, Valdez was one of the first people outside the family to hear about it. The problem was so major that a portable toilet had to be rented.

Roto-Rooter Des Moines (based in Grimes) came to the house and examined the problem. Workers cleared the line, but pipes under the driveway would need replacing. The final bill was several thousand dollars, said Larry Hunt, Jr., owner and operations manager.

"[My guys on site said]

"I will call my boss. This might be an early Christmas present for you," Hunt said.

Roto-Rooter covered the costs for all parts and labor after the initial visit – the family was not charged. The company even paid for the portable toilet rental.

"These opportunities are gifts for me because we are all servants in one area or the next," Hunt said. "I've been doing this 29 years, so I've seen a lot. When you get families in this situation, you have to do what's right and what's in your heart. And if you're a servant, it means you're not making money, but it's about helping out your fellow man."

"There are times where people look at you and that's Christ looking back at you," Hunt continued. "We can all make lots of [money] and not give anyone anything, but at the end of the day you're going to have to meet the maker one day and that's what it's all about – helping those in need."

Valdez and the family were extremely appreciative and thankful to Roto-Rooter. Valdez brought cookies, cards and family photos to the office.

Elsie Rotich, program manager and resettlement director for the Catholic Charities Refugee Program, said they appreciate volunteers like Valdez, who are critical for accomplishing the work of resettling refugees.

"Volunteers are very vital to the refugee resettlement process," Rotich said. "They help us with a lot of things. Volunteers help us collect donations, set up apartments and organize our warehouse."

In 2017, Catholic Charities resettled 139 refugees: 55 children and 84 adults. The program set up 48 apartments, placed 88 refugees in jobs and readied 101 for work.

Catholic Charities is in need of more volunteers. To get involved, contact Rotich at erotic@catholiccharitiesdm.org or call 515-237-5095.

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Around the diocese

Nov. 19 Monday Catholic Widows and Widowers

DES MOINES -- Luncheon at Barratta's Restaurant at 12:30 p.m. For more information and reservations contact Judy LaRonde at 515-988-7791.

Nov. 29 Thursday An Advent Evening of Reflection

WEST DES MOINES -- Experience an inspirational evening of learning and prayerful reflection from 7-9 p.m. at St. Francis of Assisi Church in the parish hall and sanctuary as we prepare to enter the season of Advent. Our presenter will be popular speaker, teacher and radio guest Katie Patrizio. Register at saintfrancischurch.org/adultfaith/events or call 515-440-1030. Free will offering. Limited childcare available with advance registration.

Dec. 1, 2 Saturday-Sunday Annual Craft & Bake Sale

DES MOINES – St.

Anthony Altar & Rosary Society annual craft and bake sale will be Dec. 1 from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Dec. 2 from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Variety of handmade crafts and delicious baked goods. Raffle. For more information email St. Anthony Altar & Rosary at stanthonyaltarandrosary@gmail.com.

Dec. 1 Sunday Cookie Carnival

LENOX - St. Patrick Parish is having its annual Cookie Carnival from 10 a.m. until gone. Homemade cookies and candy for \$10 per box. Free delivery in town or phone in order to pick up at 641-333-2565.

Assumption Holiday Market & Craft Fair

GRANGER – Shop with unique crafters and direct sales vendors in the Assumption gym from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. The Assumption Catholic Women's Club will have their Holiday Cookie Walk. Drawings will be every 30 minutes for \$10 Vendor Bucks certificates to be used

during the fair. Must be present to win. New vendors welcome; call Brenda at 515-999-2239.

Bazaar, Breakfast with Santa
DES MOINES – St. Theresa Parish is having its annual Altar & Rosary Society Church Ladies Bazaar from 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. featuring more than 20 vendors. Cookie walk and lunch available. "Breakfast with Santa" seatings at 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. Children will have a small breakfast, participate in an activity, and have some time with Santa. Seating is limited. Make reservations by calling 515-255-2876

Dec. 2 Sunday Celebration for Father Steve Orr

ANKENY – Our Lady's Immaculate Heart is hosting a Celebration of Service for Father Steve Orr. Prayer service and recognition at 1:30 p.m. followed by a reception in the social hall, 2-4 p.m. at Our Lady's Immaculate Heart Church. All are welcome.

Dec. 8-9 Saturday-Sunday Fair Trade Sale

COUNCIL BLUFFS – The public is invited to a Catholic Relief Service Fair Trade Sale, at St. Patrick Church, 4 Valley View

Drive, Dec. 8 from 7 - 11 a.m. and after the 5 p.m. Mass; and Dec. 9, after the 7:30, 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Masses. For additional information, contact Kathleen Tinley, 402-677-0863, kathleen.tinley@gmail.com.

Dec. 9, 16, 23 Friday Beginning Experience

DES MOINES -- Beginning Experience Open House will meet on three Friday nights; Dec. 9, 16 and 23 from 7-8:30 p.m. at St. Augustin Church Hall.

What if you became widowed, separated or divorced? What if life changes in the blink of an eye? How do you cope? How do you deal with the grief, loss and pain? Beginning Experience can help. You don't have to suffer alone. The open house gives beginning steps of healing and is also an invitation to attend our weekend of Jan. 18-20. Contact Dana Reed at 515-975-3745, Mike Losee 515-360-8268 or Father Bob Schoemann 515-418-1938 for details.

Dec. 11-12 Our Lady of Guadalupe

To see a list of activities for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, turn to page 15.

Dec. 12 Wednesday Ablaze

COUNCIL BLUFFS – Ablaze is praise, worship, and adoration of the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus founded by Father Michael Voithofer, of the Omaha archdiocese. Ablaze evenings are filled with praise, worship, and adoration of Jesus in the most Blessed Sacrament at Corpus Christi Parish/Queen of Apostles Church from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Children, youth and people of all generations are welcome.

Dec. 15-19 Advent Mission

INDIANOLA / ST. MARY'S -- Vientian Father DickGielow will present an Advent mission with the theme: Aspire to Inspire Before You Expire.

Dec. 15-16: At all weekend Masses

Dec. 17: 7 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Parish in St. Mary's

Dec. 18: 7 p.m. at St. Thomas Aquinas in Indianola

Dec. 19: 5:30 p.m. at St. Thomas

Latin Mass

DES MOINES – The Latin Mass at St. Anthony Parish in Des Moines is at 5 p.m. on Sundays and in the main church.

Thank you



On Nov. 7, the Diocese of Des Moines presented Prairie Meadows a small gift in gratitude for its \$200,000 Legacy Grant that made the Prairie Meadows Community Room possible at the newly renovated Catholic Pastoral Center in downtown Des Moines. The gift is a small piece of the original paver that lined the plaza around the Catholic Pastoral Center prior to the renovation. Pictured from left to right are Maureen Kenney, diocesan director of stewardship, Julie Stewart, Prairie Meadows director of community relations, and Jason Kurth, diocesan chancellor.

Theatrical production a hit for prolife group



Photo by Lisa Bourne

"A Clash of Creeds" theatrical production penned by Tom Quiner took the stage during the annual fundraising dinner for Iowans for LIFE. Pictured above are: Jill Ziegler as An Rand, Jackie Schmillen as Margaret Sanger, Frances Patrick as St. Teresa of Calcutta, and Alex Tillinghast as G.K. Chesterton. Iowans for LIFE had its largest turnout, up 30 percent from last year.



Boldly Sent youth rally draws hundreds

Hundreds of youth were Boldly Sent to live their faith in confidence after the youth rally at the Iowa Events Center in Des Moines. At left are youth from St. Michael Parish in Harlan. Bottom left are youth from the Des Moines area. Bottom right are youth from St. Thomas Aquinas Parish in Indianola.

Photos by Kelly Mescher Collins



Pets blessed for Feast of St. Francis



Pets were blessed across the Diocese of Des Moines in celebration of the Feast of St. Francis. Top: Father Ray McHenry of St. Francis Parish in West Des Moines blesses pets. Middle: A dog braves the elements in a rain jacket for the pet blessing at St. Francis. Bottom: Deacon Fred Cornwell blesses pets at St. Luke Parish in Ankeny.

Schools strategic plan process continues

The diocesan strategic planning process for Catholic schools is moving forward with conversations between the Blue Ribbon Committee and a number of different organizations in the diocese.

A vision statement is being developed that is intended to provide an overall long-term vision as well as outline the foundational beliefs that will drive the plan and the work of the strategic plan.

In addition to the vision statement, planning leadership -- the chair of the Blue Ribbon Committee, Dr. Jerry Deegan, along with diocesan Schools Superintendent Dr. Tracy Boday and consultant Alan Meitler -- have been meeting with a variety of diocesan groups to get their feedback.

"We have had some very good meetings over the past few months," said Deegan. They met with the Presbyteral Council, the diocesan Finance Committee, and the Catholic Foundation of Southwest Iowa.

"Each meeting produced great discussion and provided wonderful input and feedback,"



he said. "These groups have a key role in helping develop the details of the final plan."

In addition, there was a Blue Ribbon Committee meeting and a gathering with pastors of the elementary schools in the Des Moines metro area.

"These meetings have also produced wonderful input and feedback," Deegan said.

"We're having conversations about what options exist for working more collaboratively," said Boday.

Meitler Consulting and the Blue Ribbon Committee will meet again in January. The goal is to have a final plan to share in March.

"We want to thank the many people we have met with and for the exceptional feedback we have received," said Deegan.

"Making a great plan takes time

and patience and we appreciate that people across the board have generously given both."

A separate strategic plan will be developed for St. Albert Catholic Schools in Council Bluffs and there is a discussion on whether the plan should separately address rural diocesan schools from Des Moines metro-area schools, said Boday.

St. Patrick School in Perry is working on short-term and long-term planning.



Dr. Jerry Deegan

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Catholic Charities Programs and Staff

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A TIME OF THANKS

Dear Friends of Catholic Charities:

It is with gratitude we share our story about Catholic Charities in this issue of the Catholic Mirror. November is a special month in giving thanks and extending blessings to all whom we encounter. At Catholic Charities, helping those in need is fundamental to our mission and Catholic Social Teachings.

Our mission is to provide family-centered services that empower individuals and strengthen families. Through our programs, we strive to touch the lives of families and individuals by providing basic care and needs in service to our most vulnerable populations.

- We advocate for those who are hungry through our Food Pantry and Outreach Center.
- We advocate for those who are homeless through our Emergency Family Shelter.
- We advocate for those who experience emotional or mental distress through our Counseling Center.
- We advocate for those who are new to Iowa through our Refugee Resettlement Office.
- We advocate for those who suffer from domestic violence, sexual assault and sex trafficking through our Council Bluffs facilities.

At Catholic Charities, we open our hearts and healing hands to each person with dignity and respect. We are blessed by an engaged and committed Board of Direc-

Our mission is to provide family-centered services that empower individuals and strengthen families. Through our programs, we strive to touch the lives of families and individuals by providing basic care and needs in service to our most vulnerable populations.

Working together, we offer our services to all individuals and families in need...because we all need a little help along the way. We ask for your prayers and for your support in our advocacy efforts to advance Catholic Charities, to sustain our social services ministry, and to serve all who need our services. Thank you and Thanksgiving Blessings to you and your families.

tors who provide leadership and vision to Catholic Charities. Our staff and volunteers demonstrate a passion and compassion for all we serve in sharing their time and talents. Our friends and donors share their many gifts and generous spirit, as demonstrated through our parishes and from our community.



Barbara Q. Decker, J.D.
Executive Director

Working together, we offer our services to all individuals and families in need...because we all need a little help along the way. We ask for your prayers and for your support in our advocacy efforts to advance Catholic Charities, to sustain our social services ministry, and to serve all who need our services. Thank you and Thanksgiving Blessings to you and your families.

Barbara Q. Decker
Executive Director



Catholic Charities Services

Counseling Program

Stress and anxiety are part of our daily lives, but what do you do when it gets to be too much? Professional therapy is one way to work through stress and anxiety. Our licensed, professional therapists work with clients of all faiths and backgrounds to address issues including depression, anxiety, stress, marital issues, relationship problems, child behavior problems, trauma, abuse, and more. For an appointment call: **Des Moines 515-237-5045 • Council Bluffs 712-328-3086**

Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Program

(formerly Phoenix House)

Sometimes the victim is the last one to know they need or deserve help. Catholic Charities Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Program provides services to anyone faced with these issues through a 24-hour crisis phone line, emergency shelter, court advocacy, empowerment education, support groups, and outreach to under-served populations. **Our program serves nine counties in southwest Iowa:** Audubon, Cass, Fremont, Harrison, Mills, Montgomery, Page, Pottawattamie, and Shelby.

24-Hour Crisis Line:
712-328-0266 or toll-free at 888-612-0266
Iowa Sexual Abuse Hotline 1-800-284-7821

Emergency Family Shelter

(formerly St. Joseph Emergency Shelter)

Catholic Charities Emergency Family Shelter keeps homeless families together during a very difficult time in their lives. Our goal is to help each family leave the shelter with stable housing, financial stability, and empowerment to live a successful, sustainable life. Catholic Charities Emergency Family Shelter is part of Centralized Intake.

All families seeking shelter should contact Primary Healthcare Outreach, the Centralized Intake agency in our community - 515-248-1850.

Food Pantry (formerly St. Mary Family Center)

Open to all Monday - Friday, 10:00 AM - 3:30 PM
1815 Hubbell Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50316

We are part of the DMARC Pantry Network and provide nonperishable food items, along with daily donated food items. Please call 515-262-7290 or visit our website to find out about qualifications.

Empowerment Services

1815 Hubbell Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50316

Find classes, resources, services, and local agencies to help get around barriers in your life! From basic financial management to professional counseling, we want to help anyone in need to succeed!

Refugee Resettlement

Catholic Charities Refugee Resettlement works through the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and the U.S. State Department. Resettlement services include case management, employment assistance, transportation, cultural orientation, and assistance navigating local offices and services to achieve self-sufficiency and a stable home in their new community.

Adoption Search Services

A service for those adopted through Catholic Charities or Christ Child Home. Catholic Charities, Diocese of Des Moines maintains the records of all those placed for adoption throughout its history. **To request an adoption search call 515-244-3761.**

Consider supporting the mission of Catholic Charities at www.catholiccharitiesdm.org!

Caritas Awards: Honoring our dedicated volunteers.

Caritas is Latin for charity, and each year Caritas Awards are given by Catholic Charities to individual volunteers and to an organization. The award recognizes and thanks volunteers and supporters who show compassion to those in need; serve with humility; and display love for all people. We could not provide these services without the commitment and support of our volunteers. In total, volunteers provided more than 9,600 hours of service to our programs, to Catholic Charities and to our community.



Our award winners with executive director Barbara Decker, shown clockwise from top left:

Board of Directors - Rick Ball

Volunteer Organization - Mercy College of Health Sciences represented by Dr. Joe Moravec, Dr. Joan McCleish (who also received the Caritas for the **Emergency Family Shelter**), Bo Bonner, and Dr. Jennifer Miller;

Global Advocacy Team - Dr. Phil Kohler;

Food Pantry - Mary Ann Saluri;

Refugee Resettlement Program - Jordan Schellinger (joined by program staff Elsie Rotich, manager, and Sinishaw Iticha);

Not pictured: **Special Events** - Patricia McManus & Nancy Rice

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Catholic Charities Programs and Staff

Catholic Charities Board of Directors

Our Link to the Community



Pictured l to r: John Cortesio, Marilyn Sharp, Anne Brennan, Rachel Torres, Stephanie Sarcone, Lois Brookhart, Dale McCleish, Joe Happe, Fr. Ambrose Ladu, Christopher Welp, Bishop Pates, Steve Kramer, Barbara Decker, Rick Ball (Past Vice-Chair), Jason Follett. Not pictured: Sue A. Kenny and Mike Curran.

Executive Team:

The Most Reverend Richard E. Pates, *President & Chairman*

Barbara Decker, J.D., *Executive Director*
Joe Happe, *Vice-Chair*

Steve Kramer, *Finance Committee Chair*
Stephanie Sarcone, *Executive Committee Member*

Welcome to Iowa!

Refugee arrivals are always exciting. As Catholic Charities staff, family, and friends gather at the Des Moines International Airport, anticipation grows as they wait for planes to land. The weary travelers are happy, relieved, and a bit disoriented from a long day of life-changing travel. The day after they arrive, the process of setting up a new home, cultural orientation, and lots of paperwork (just to name a few) begins!



Left: A young Burmese family arrives on October 14. Min U is 30 years old. He fled from Burma in April of 2006 to a Malaysian refugee camp. He lived in the camp for 12 years where he met his wife, Ngun Chin (28), and they had 2 children. They arrived with two large suitcases with their belongings. Catholic Charities and their family and friends in Des Moines will help them settle in the community. Right: An emotional greeting between sister and brother on October 1.

Retirement Wishes

Two of our long-standing staff members have announced their retirement from Catholic Charities this winter. Ken Bresnan, Parish Outreach Liaison has been with the agency for over 8 years. He has contributed many hours on the road visiting parishes, coordinating volunteer and collection drives, and advocating for those in need.



Ken Bresnan
Parish Outreach Liaison



Pat Nestvedt
Director of Programs

Pat Nestvedt, Director of Programs has been with Charities for over 15 years. His role evolved over the years. Currently he oversees accreditation, compliance, grants, and programs.

Congratulations and many thanks to Ken and Pat for their dedicated service to the mission of Catholic Charities and those we serve! Both will retire in late December.

Counseling Program

Stress and anxiety are part of our daily lives, but what do you do when it gets to be too much? Professional therapy is one way to work through stress and anxiety, and the therapists in Catholic Charities Counseling Program provide the insight and support needed to manage life problems in a more productive way.



Our licensed, professional therapists work with clients of all faiths and backgrounds to address issues including depression, anxiety, stress, marital issues, relationship problems, child behavior problems, trauma, abuse, and more. We specialize in treating couples and families, with a focus on observing the patterns among family members and helping each member to make changes in how they relate to one another.

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To schedule an appointment:

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en Español
515-237-5018

Council Bluffs
712-328-3086

INVITATION TO ALL!

Please join us at our annual No Room at the Inn reception on Friday, December 7 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 601 Grand Ave., Des Moines, Iowa.

This event benefits our Catholic Charities Emergency Family Shelter. The shelter provides a safe, clean environment for families to live while they seek permanent housing, along with employment, childcare, and education during their stay.



The shelter provides a private room for each family, three meals and two snacks daily, laundry facilities, and necessary personal care items, as well as transportation assistance through bus tokens or cab vouchers at no cost to our guests.

As the largest family shelter in the area, we offer a 30 day emergency shelter stay that can be extended based on individual needs. The shelter is staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Last year, we served more than 300 guests with approximately 60% who were children.

The circumstances facing our families who come to the shelter vary. Yet all are experiencing the prospect of homelessness, of hunger, and of insecurity in our Central Iowa community. Providing them with essential life-sustaining needs begins to rebuild and strengthen their lives and the lives of their children.

By participating in this event, you will help us to help families in crisis.

REGISTER TODAY!



No Room at the Inn

a holiday reception benefiting Catholic Charities Emergency Family Shelter

Friday, December 7 • 6:00 - 9:00 pm
Catholic Pastoral Center, 601 Grand Ave, DM

\$50 per ticket • delicious food / live music / silent auction

Register online at www.CatholicCharitiesDM.org/events or call 515-237-5078. Registration also available at the door.

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NATIVITY RAFFLE

\$20 per ticket

Benefiting Catholic Charities Emergency Family Shelter
Drawing to be held at No Room at the Inn Holiday Reception on Friday, December 7. Need not be present to win.



Woman's blog about miscarriage helps others

Tessa Roberts encourages women to find a spiritual director to help with healing

By Kelly Mescher Collins
Staff Writer

When Tessa Roberts and her husband, Mack, discovered they were carrying their second child, Tessa could barely contain her excitement. In fact, she quickly shared the news with friends and family on Facebook, who shared in their elation.

Their first child, Rex, is 3-years old.

But their joy and excitement quickly turned to worry and fear when their first appointment at the doctor's office did not go as planned.

"I could just tell by the doctor's face," Roberts said.

The doctor had been having trouble finding a heartbeat. Finally, he found a faint one, though not strong enough to record.

Sensing that something was wrong with her pregnancy, Robert spent the next few weeks begging and pleading with God.

When the couple returned for a second ultrasound, the technician could not find a heartbeat and they were told the pregnancy was "lost." Roberts said the entire experience, including labor and delivery, was traumatic.

The couple named their baby Alma. She is entombed at the Memorial to the Unborn at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in LaCrosse, Wisconsin.

"I'm incredibly grateful that my faith was strong to begin with, because I knew I could turn to Jesus with my anger ...and knowing that I could come to him with all of my emotions," Roberts said. "Sometimes I have yelled."

A spiritual director has helped Roberts in dealing with struggles of faith and emotions.

She strongly encourages other women dealing with loss to find a spiritual director or local Stephen Minister of their own.

She has also had a tremendous amount of support at her parish, St. Mary of Nazareth in Des Moines, where she serves as adult faith formation director.

"Someone to help you manage the spiritual struggles," Roberts said. "It sounds so big and when I just talk about it and bring it out into the light, you can validate that and speak truth into lies.

"I am finding there are a lot of trust issues that have come up in my faith," Robert continued. "I am grateful that I have had all the experiences of God's love and that I can still hold his hand while I'm screaming at him. But I can see how it's driven some women farther away - it's very trying."

She also felt compelled to share the loss on Facebook, especially since she had already made it public that they were expecting.

"I questioned for a long time - should we not share? Maybe it would be easier to not share the heartache," Roberts added. "People rejoiced in the life before it was lost. I think it would have been a lot lonelier [without sharing]."

She also started blogging about her experience at InHisPasture.blogspot.com, in the hopes that it would help other women.

"So many people have confided in me," Roberts said, noting that miscarriage is common; it happens to nearly one in four women.

"I got a letter from my grandma about a miscarriage she had that my dad didn't know about," she continued. "So I've had responses from women my age but also older women have found courage to speak about it. It was

such a different culture.

"I am so thankful for the people I know who have had the courage to share and gave me the courage to share," Roberts added. "And even having all of that... there's still this constant spiritual lie whispering in my ear that I shouldn't talk about it."

In fact, it happened the day before attending the All Saints Day Mass, a day of significance for Roberts since Alma is now a saint in heaven.

Someone asked Roberts if Rex was her oldest or youngest child.

"And I said 'He's my only so far,'" Roberts said. "And instantly it was like my heart broke because I knew it wasn't true."

A number of resources have been a source of support for Roberts, including:

- Catholic Miscarriage Support: <http://www.catholicmiscarriagesupport.com/>
- Facebook support group "Mommy To A Little Saint - Catholic Pregnancy and Infant Loss Support"

Robert's husband Mack said these are challenging times.

"It's difficult sometimes to surrender everything entirely over to God," Mack said. "We think that we have far greater power over our own lives than we actually do. This unfortunate loss, as much as it hurt... helped me to remember this fact. God is in control. We only need to trust Him and love him, even in the difficult moments that we don't entirely understand.

"I know that everything will be okay..." Mack continued. "He holds us in His loving hands, and will bring good from this loss. We now have a precious little saint interceding for us in heaven.



Tessa Roberts, of St. Mary of Nazareth Parish in Des Moines, with her husband, Mack, and their son, Rex, at the Memorial to the Unborn at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in LaCrosse, Wisconsin, where their baby, Alma, is entombed.

God's love for us shines through those painful moments, and is there through it all waiting for us on the other side, as the pain fades."

The diocese has offered pregnancy and infant loss Masses several times in the past in both Des Moines and Council Bluffs, coordinated by Deacon Joel Schmidt, to provide healing.

"Often when a mother has lost a baby to miscarriage, what she needs most is permission to grieve," Deacon Schmidt said. "However, that's precisely what society denies her. Well-intentioned comments like, 'There was probably something wrong, anyway,' or 'You're young; you'll have more,' marginalize and commoditize the life lost by suggesting it wasn't a life worth living or can simply be replaced.

"This invalidates the pain of a mother's wounded heart silently crying out, 'But I loved THIS baby! I miss THIS baby!'" Deacon Schmidt continued. "This is why it is incumbent upon the Catholic Church, as society's last bulwark of human dignity at all stages of life, to step into the breach and offer opportunities to both grieve the life lost and celebrate the life

lived, even if only for a short time inside the mother's womb."

Dates have not yet been set for the next pregnancy and infant loss Masses.

Adam Storey, diocesan director of the Office of Marriage and Family Life, agreed that it's important for the church and community to help people going through these difficult times.

"Losing a child at any stage is one of the most painful experiences a family can go through," Storey said. "In these moments, especially when so many families suffer in silence, it is important for the Body of Christ to be present, and accompany our families in their grief.

"The loss of a child is a reminder that Jesus did not come to remove all suffering, but to be with us in our suffering, and to transform our suffering so that it can be a part of his redemptive plan," Storey said. "God hates death, and we should, too. The loss of a child at any stage is a searing reminder that death remains in this world. And yet, as Christians we can have hope because we know that Christ has conquered death."

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St. John's Catholic Church a Parish of the Archdiocese of Omaha on the Jesuit campus of Creighton University is seeking a full time Director of Parish Life. The primary responsibility of this position is to enable ongoing parish life including faith formation, pastoral care, to collaborate with the liturgical formation of the community and administration. To carry out the mission of the parish with the Pastor, the staff and the parishioners of St. John's. Preferred candidates will have a Bachelors or Master Degree in the area of Theology, Pastoral care/ministry or a parish ministry background. Experience working in a Parish setting is highly recommended. Familiarity with Ignatian spirituality and ongoing Christian Formation is greatly appreciated and celebrated at St. John's. For a complete job description or to submit a resume, please contact Fr. Lorn J. Snow, S. J. at lornsnow@creighton.edu or St. Johns Church at Creighton University 2500 California Plaza, Omaha, NE 68178

Catholic foundation grants fund various projects

**By Rachel Seidl
Contributing Writer**

The Catholic Foundation of Southwest Iowa, founded in 2012, made its first grant just two years later.

In the four years since that first grant, the foundation has watched its grant program grow.

In its initial year of grant giving, the foundation awarded one grant to Faith Journey, a catechetical program for educators in the diocese's Catholic schools.

Since then, the number of grant applications has increased to 33, and the amount of money given in grants has increased to \$50,000.

In just four short years, this grant program has helped several parishes.

St. Clare Parish in Clarinda received a grant in 2017 for a new sound system in its church.

"The old system had many ups and downs and challenges. Sometimes when we'd be celebrating Mass, you'd get echoes, deafening echoes, from nowhere. People would be closing their ears because the

sound was jarring," said Father Eze Venantius Umnakwe, pastor at St. Clare's. "You could trip over it and get injured, and the church would be in trouble."

The parish is now equipped with eight speakers spread throughout the upper and lower levels of the church along with wireless microphones.

"We are happy with the results. So are our ears," said Father Eze.

In the same year, the foundation gave a grant to the St. Thomas More Center that has helped to pay for safety equipment such as life jackets, and high ropes safety equipment like harnesses and helmets.

"That was crucial to everything that we do here," said Alex Kautzky, executive director of the center. The grant award also funded equipment that encourages participants to sing along during Mass and follow along with the readings.

This year, the St. Thomas More Center, in Panora, received a grant for a camera that has and will continue to digitally promote Catholic Youth Camp, based at the center. Additionally, the grant helped sponsor campers

who come from lower-income families and refugees. The youth learned about and grew in their faith through their week at CYC.

Any Catholic parish, school, or organization within the Diocese of Des Moines is able to apply for a grant through the Catholic Foundation of Southwest Iowa. Once applications are collected, award recipients are selected by the foundation's Board of Directors.

Applications for the current grant program are open and posted on the foundation's website. Applications are due Feb. 25. For additional guidelines, important information, or the application, visit catholicfoundationiowa.org/grant-program/ or contact Rachel Seidl at rseidl@catholicfoundationiowa.org.

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Hamburg man celebrating 100 years of life

Martin Goracke says secret to staying young is to keep moving



Martin Goracke of St. Mary Parish in Hamburg with his daughter Lois and son-in-law at his 100th birthday party.

**By Kelly Mescher Collins
Staff Writer**

In July, long-time Hamburg resident Martin Goracke, of St. Mary Parish, celebrated his 100th birthday.

Friends, family and the community came out to celebrate Goracke's milestone and many more sent cards.

The town also made him grand marshal of the parade for Hamburg's annual Popcorn Day celebration in September.

Despite his 100 years, Goracke still lives at home alone. His wife, Florence, passed away five years ago.

He enjoys keeping busy with housecleaning, laundry, mowing the yard, raking leaves, walking (and sometimes even running) on the treadmill and eating lunch at the hospital.

He's active at St. Mary Parish as well, said longtime friend and parish secretary Cheryl Phillips.

"He is friendly to everyone," Phillips said.

He also plays an important role at church.

"He greets everyone every Sunday [before Mass]," Phillips said. "He's the doorman."

Before that his role was climbing the stairs and ringing the church bells every Sunday before Mass.

For 28 years, he rang the church bells every Sunday until he turned 90.

He only stopped because the parish automated the bell.

"He seems very fit and stands straight," Phillips said, adding that a neighbor recently saw him working on his roof. "It's just kind of amazing."

Goracke said he enjoys his independence. "I can do anything I want to do."

The secret to staying young is to keep moving, he said.

"Just don't sit down and look out the window," he said. "My motto is to keep moving. Don't just sit there day after day and stare at the door."

"That's the problem with old people - they sit down and forget to get up," Goracke continued. "And that's the worst thing you can do. I'm a firm believer in keep moving around."

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Caravan heads to Mexico City; Guadalupe basilica opens for migrants

By David Agren
Catholic News Service

CORDOBA, Mexico (CNS) -- The caravan of migrants making its way through Mexico has started arriving in Mexico City, where the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the world's most-visited Marian shrine, has opened its shelter for pilgrims to weary Central American migrants.

At least 1,000 migrants departed Nov. 5 from Cordoba, 190 miles southeast of Mexico City, hoping to make a final push to the national capital. They were joined by another group departing from Puebla -- closer to Mexico City -- where they had received assistance and slept in parishes.

One caravan set out Oct. 12 from San Pedro Sula, Honduras, and mushroomed in size as it moved northward. Its participants have pushed through borders and past police blockades, slept on sidewalks and in town squares and suffered illnesses and injuries brought on by long walks in hot and inclement weather.

Catholics working on the immigration issue in Central America say caravans have become a preferred form of traveling through Mexico, where crimes are commonly committed against migrants traveling solo or in small groups. Caravans, they say, offer security in numbers and make it unnecessary to pay high fees to human smugglers. In interviews in southern Mex-

ico, most of the migrants said they were fleeing a combination of violence, poverty and an inability to make ends meet in the northern triangle of Central America: Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador, three of the poorest and most violent countries in the hemisphere.

The caravan has captured international media attention and been monitored by everyone from Mexican state human rights commissions to priests and religious to civil society organizations -- something observers say has prevented the police, wishing to avoid an embarrassing incident, from acting against the migrants.

"We feel protected. There are human rights people, nuns, the Catholic Church, the Red Cross," said Edwin Paz, 41, a mechanic who left Honduras with his wife -- two-and-a-half months pregnant -- and teenage son.

Paz tried to travel through Mexico on his own a decade ago, riding atop a train known as La Bestia. He was detained by railway security in northern Mexico and asked pay \$200, which he didn't have, and was subsequently turned over to police and deported.

"Good-hearted Mexicans have been helping us," he said at a shelter in Cordoba.

Parishes across southern Mexico have fed the migrants and collected clothes and shoes for them. Some Mexicans of humble means have offered what they can: plates of beans, rice and tortillas; plastic bags filled with water and gently used clothing.

A group of religious belonging to The Missionaries of the Risen Christ -- which includes nurses, physicians and psychologists, working with support from Caritas Mexico -- has set up a tent at each stop, where they tend to medical issues such as wounded feet, twists and sprains, and children with coughs, colds and fevers.

"Grab onto something strong," said Sister Antonia Becerra, leader of the religious working with migrants, at an assembly of caravan participants in the town of Pijijiapan. "And there's nothing stronger to grab onto than Jesus Christ."

As the caravan proceeded through the Gulf Coast state of Veracruz and a zone notorious for crimes committed against migrants, members of the Missionaries of the Risen Christ started helping caravan participants by flagging down rides for them. They figured motorists would be more trusting of people in habits. "In the name of charity, please take two people," Brother Jonathan Ortiz, dressed in his black habit and waving a red handkerchief, asked a driver near Sayula, Veracruz. The driver did not pick up any passengers, but others were willing to help.

The religious put out a call for better shoes, blankets and sweaters as the caravan arrived in central Mexico, where the altitude tops 7,000 feet and nighttime temperatures are chilly.

U.S. President Donald Trump has said the caravan will not be welcomed and sent troops to the border with Mexico ahead of its possible arrival.

The Mexican government has offered caravan participants temporary work permits and social benefits. It said in a Nov. 3 statement that 5,347 migrants with caravans were in the country, while 2,793 refugee claims had been made.

Bishops applaud final rules providing expanded moral and religious exemptions to HHS Mandate

WASHINGTON--The final rules announced Wednesday by the federal government regarding the HHS mandate "allow people like the Little Sisters of the Poor, faith-based schools, and others to live out their faith in daily life," according to leaders of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo, Archbishop of Galveston-Houston and President of the USCCB, and Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Chairman of the USCCB's Committee for Religious Liberty, are applauding the Trump Administration's decision to finalize regulations providing expanded religious and moral exemptions from the mandate requiring health insurance coverage of sterilization, contraception, and drugs and devices that may cause abortions.

Cardinal DiNardo and Archbishop Kurtz offered the

following joint statement in response:

"We are grateful for the Administration's decision to finalize common-sense regulations that allow those with sincerely held religious or moral convictions opposing abortion-inducing drugs, sterilization, and contraception to exclude such drugs and devices from their health plans. These final regulations restore free exercise rights in accordance with the First Amendment and long-standing statutory protections for religious freedom. The regulations allow people like the Little Sisters of the Poor, faith-based schools, and others to live out their faith in daily life and to continue to serve others, without fear of punishing fines from the federal government."

Pope recognizes martyrdom of Wisconsin brother

By Cindy Wooden
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Francis has recognized the martyrdom of De La Salle Christian Brother James Miller, who was born in Wisconsin and was shot to death in Guatemala in 1982.

The recognition of the martyrdom of Brother James, or Brother Santiago as he also was known, clears the way for his beatification; the date and location of the ceremony were not immediately announced. Publishing news about a variety of sainthood causes Nov. 8, the Vatican said Pope Francis had recognized as "blessed" a 15th-century Augustinian brother, Michael Giedrojc.

The recognition amounted to the "equivalent beatification" of Brother Giedrojc, who was born in Lithuania and died in Krakow. With the pope recognizing that over the course of centuries the brother has been venerated by thousands of Catholics, the normal process leading to beatification is not needed.

Brother Miller, the U.S. martyr, was born Sept. 21, 1944, in Stevens Point, Wisconsin. He met the Christian Brothers at Pacelli High School there and, at the age of 15, entered the order's juniorate in Missouri. After the novitiate, he taught

Spanish, English and religion at Cretin High School in St. Paul, Minnesota, for three years. He also was in charge of school maintenance and served as the football coach.

Some websites refer to him as "Brother Fix-it" and an icon featured on the website of the Christian Brothers of the Midwest shows him wearing overalls.

In 1969, he was sent to Nicaragua, where he taught and helped build schools. According to the De La Salle Brother's website, "His religious superiors ordered him to leave Nicaragua in July 1979 during the time of the Sandinista revolution. It was feared that since he worked for the Somoza government, he might be at risk."

Returning to the United States, he again taught at Cretin High School. But in January 1981, he was sent to Guatemala, where he taught at a secondary school in Huehuetenango and at a center that helped young indigenous people learn job and leadership skills.

While on a ladder making repairs to the building on the afternoon of Feb. 13, 1982, he was shot several times by three hooded men and died instantly. No one was ever arrested for his murder. Funeral services were held in Guatemala and in St. Paul before he was buried in Polonia, Wisconsin.



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Vatican asks USCCB to delay vote

BALTIMORE (CNS) -- At the urging of the Vatican, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops will not vote on two proposals they were to discuss at their Baltimore meeting regarding their response to the clergy sex abuse crisis.



CNS Photo/Bob Roller
Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo, of Galveston-Houston, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, during the Nov. 12 fall general assembly of the USCCB in Baltimore.

Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, USCCB president, informed the bishops as they opened their fall general assembly Nov. 12 that the Vatican wanted the bishops to delay any vote until after a February meeting with the pope and presidents of the bishops' conferences around the world that will focus on addressing clergy abuse.

Affected are proposed standards of episcopal conduct and the formation of a special commission for review of complaints against bishops for violations of the standards.

Cardinal DiNardo said he was disappointed that no action would be taken during the assembly, but that he was hopeful that the delay "will improve our response to the crisis we face."

The cardinal's announcement came two days after Pope Francis met with Archbishop Christophe Pierre, apostolic nuncio to the United States, at the Vatican. Archbishop Pierre returned to the United States Nov. 11 in time for the first day of the U.S. bishops' general fall assembly in Baltimore.

However, at a midday news conference, Cardinal Di-

moment" in church history.

Cardinal DiNardo opened his presidential address pointing to the weakness within the church that has led to the clergy abuse crisis.

He called for action to lift the entire brotherhood of bishops from a place of weakness that has allowed the clergy sex abuse crisis to exist.

While there were to be no votes on specific action at the meeting, he said the deliberations the bishops would undertake would set them on the route to healing for the church and for victims of abuse.

He also held up his own weakness to victims, saying: "Where I have not been watchful or alert to your needs, wherever I have failed, I am deeply sorry."

Cardinal DiNardo urged the bishops to root themselves in the life and teaching of Jesus to lead the church and the victims of abuse to healing.

He also called for the bishops to focus on the needs of victims so that "our example not lead a single person away from the Lord."

He also said that the bishops must be as accountable as anyone else in ministry in the church and that they, like priests and other church workers, must adhere to the same standards of conduct identified in the "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People."

Nardo said the request to delay action came from the Congregation for Bishops.

The assembly planned to move forward with discussion of both proposals from the bishop's Administrative Committee.

In response, Cardinal Blase J. Cupich of Chicago suggested the general assembly move forward with its discussion of the two proposals. He also called for a special assembly in March to weigh and vote on the measures after being informed by the outcome of the February meeting in Rome.

"It is clear that the Holy See is taking seriously the abuse crisis in the church," Cardinal Cupich said, adding that the February meeting was a "watershed

Diocese complying with Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People

The Diocese of Des Moines is complying with the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People.

Bishop Richard Pates received an Oct. 3 letter from StoneBridge Business Partners, which conducted the latest audit of the Diocese of Des Moines.

"We are writing to inform you that the Diocese of Des Moines is in compliance with the data collection requirements for the 2017/2018 Charter audit

period," according to the letter.

"We have reviewed this information and will be forwarding the documents to the Secretariat of Youth and Child Protection for use in the 2018 Audit Report," it said.

The diocese has been found compliant with every audit regarding the charter, approved by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in 2002 to ensure a safe environment in Catholic churches and schools.

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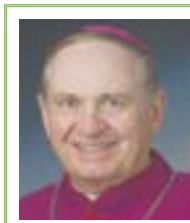
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Buscando el Bien Común



By
Bishop
Richard
Pates

Parece que casi todo mundo está tomando un respiro de alivio con la conclusión de las elecciones el 6 de noviembre. La desafortunada negatividad de las campañas políticas contemporáneas es muy desgastante. Los anuncios repetitivos se vuelven tediosos. La retórica nos divide más que unimos.

Esperamos que el nuevo momento que nos da el que hayan terminado la cargada política no sea la señal de un regreso a la inmovilidad. Que esta oportunidad nos inspire a comprometernos con el bien común – buscando el beneficio para todo el pueblo de Dios.

La búsqueda del bien común, en el presente, nos involucra tanto a nosotros en la Iglesia, así como a la sociedad secular.

EN LA IGLESIA

Las revelaciones del reporte del gran jurado de Pensilvania respecto a abusos sexuales del clero, a pesar que detallan un período en el pasado, son alarmantemente desconsoladores. No se debe tolerar tal comportamiento. Se debe tomar una reforma permanente.

Al confrontar la desgracia, debemos atender el trauma recurrente en las víctimas. Es esencial para el proceso de sanación que se asuma una postura de escuchar, ofrecer oportunidades de consejería y terapia, así como una interminable compasión que pueda llevar a aquellos que han sido afectados al eventual camino de la plenitud.

La evolución en la Iglesia con respecto al entendimiento de la pedofilia llevó a que en el año 2002 la Conferencia Episcopal Católica de los Estados Unidos adoptaran el “Estatuto para la Protección de Niños y Jóvenes.” Esta acción ha causado a través de los años una dramática reducción de abuso sexual de menores por parte del personal de la Iglesia. Éste ha quedado virtualmente estático. Estamos agradecidos por los extensivos pasos preventivos que se han tomado.

Motivado por la reforma positiva que se logró en los

pasados 16 años, ahora debemos enfrentar la siguiente etapa con determinación respecto al liderazgo de la Iglesia y de los obispos en su transparencia y responsabilidad. Esto es posible y, con la determinación adecuada, puede lograrse.

Mientras tanto, estamos llamados a conectarnos en la misión principal de la Iglesia, en la maravillosa participación en la vida sacramental y en la oración en nuestras parroquias e instituciones de la Diócesis de Des Moines. Cuando nos enfocamos y nos dedicamos a estas dimensiones centrales de vida divina, recibimos la bendición de vivir el bien común.

EN LA SOCIEDAD SECULAR

En base a que somos introducidos a su vida misma por medio del Bautismo, la Confirmación y la Sagrada Eucaristía, Jesús nos reta a ser la luz y la sal para el mundo. Marcadamente, esto significa que ¡Dios vive en y por medio de nosotros!

El nuevo momento luego de las elecciones, nos llama a enfocarnos nuevamente en el testimonio que se demos. ¿Podemos ser instrumentales en la búsqueda del bien común y

dando credibilidad al amor de y a la justicia de Dios para todos sus hijos?

La base de nuestros actos se basa en el respeto por el don de la vida humana desde el momento de la concepción a través de todas las fases de su existencia hasta la muerte natural.

Al poner de lado nuestras diferencias políticas, adoptamos una expresión positiva sobre nuestro compromiso Católico/Cristiano con la santidad de la vida. Un principio fundamental que nos guía en nuestras acciones es la visión del Papa Francisco. “Todos somos una sola familia humana. Todos somos hermanos y hermanas.”

Al servir a nuestros hermanos y hermana, ¿podría el bien común significar lo siguiente?

- ¿Atender el problema de refugiados e inmigrantes atendiendo las causas fundamentales que los empujan a dejar sus naciones de origen y que en los Estados Unidos se ponga en efecto una reforma migratoria

comprehensiva?

- ¿Confrontar el racismo y dando vida a la realidad de que todos los hijos de Dios somos iguales?

- ¿Protegiendo el regalo de la creación conectándonos con el ritmo de la naturaleza y no destruyendo los preciosos elementos que sostienen la vida misma y la calidad de ésta?

- ¿Compartiendo los bienes del mundo que están destinados para todos y manteniendo la dignidad de todos los seres humanos asegurándoles empleo, vivienda digna, eliminando el hambre, ofreciendo cuidados médicos adecuados, luchando contra la pobreza y manteniendo la paz?

El nuevo momento es una oportunidad de ir más allá de los que nos ha debilitado, de la hipocresía y que nos ha alejado de la luz del bien común. Un punto de comienzo renovado puede ser lo que el Presidente George H.W. Bush describió como una nación amable y más gentil.



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Consejero sobre Asistencia de Víctimas

El Consejero sobre Asistencia de Víctimas es un empleado de Polk County Victim Services. El ayuda a víctimas de abuso sexual por parte del clero durante el proceso de la queja y buscando servicios de apoyo y consejería. Pueden comunicarse al 515-286-2028 o en advocate@dmdiocese.org.

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Schedule of Feast Our Lady of Guadalupe 2018 FIESTA DE NUESTRA SEÑORA DE GUADALUPE

Des Moines

BASILICA OF ST. JOHN

Wednesday Dec. 12
6 p.m. Rosary
6:30 p.m. Mass
8 p.m. Dances and reception

CHRIST THE KING PARISH

Novena Dec. 3-11 at 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday Dec. 12

6 a.m. Mass
Consecration to Jesus through the Virgin Mary
7 a.m. Mañanitas to Our Lady of Guadalupe with Mariachi
6 p.m. Rosary
7 p.m. Representation of the Apparitions, procession
8 p.m. Mass
Consecration to Jesus through the Virgin Mary
9:30 p.m. Dances, reception.

OUR LADY OF THE AMERICAS

Novena Dec. 4-12
6 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 10
Theatrical Representation of the Apparitions
Tuesday, Dec. 11
6 p.m. Healing Mass
7:30 p.m. Dances
8 p.m. Video Virgin de Guadalupe
9 p.m. Mariachi OLOA
10 p.m. Procession to cathedral
11 p.m. Rosary in the cathedral
12 a.m. Mass in Cathedral
1 a.m. Mañanitas Mariachi

OLOA

Wednesday, Dec. 12:
Noon Bilingual Mass
7 p.m. Spanish Mass

ST. ANTHONY PARISH

Tuesday Dec. 11
6 p.m. Rosary & representation of the apparitions
7 p.m. Procession and Mass.
8:30 p.m. Dances, reception.

West Des Moines

SACRED HEART PARISH

Novena from December 4-12
5:30 p.m.
Wednesday Dec. 12
5:30 p.m. - Rosary
6 p.m. - Dances in the parish center with Danzas de Tepeyac
6:30 p.m. - Procession
7 p.m. - Mass
8 p.m. - Festivities in the gym of the school featuring food and entertainment by Los Jóvenes Embajadores

Osceola

ST. BERNARD PARISH

Novena from Dec. 4-11
7 p.m.
Tuesday Dec. 11
Mañanitas to Our Lady of Guadalupe
10 p.m. Rosary
11 p.m. - 1 a.m. Mañanita with Banda Perla del Sur
Wednesday Dec. 12
7 p.m. Mass
8 p.m. Reception

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Man-Up | Event

Restoring Our Integrity

Tuesday, Nov. 13
All Saints Catholic Church
5:20 p.m. - 8 p.m.

MAN-UP IS A CATHOLIC FELLOWSHIP GROUP THAT SEEKS TO INSPIRE ALL MEN OF CENTRAL IOWA TO BE FAITH-DRIVEN LEADERS IN THEIR FAMILY, PARISH, AND COMMUNITY. THE *MAN-UP* RADIO SHOW, HOSTED BY FR. ZACH KAUTZKY AND JOE STOPULOS, AIRS MONDAYS AT 9AM AND 9PM ON IOWA CATHOLIC RADIO.

Join the Man Up group for a Rosary and Mass, followed by food, drinks and a compelling panel discussion moderated by **Fr. Sean Kilcawley**, who is a nationally recognized speaker on Theology of the Body, Human Love and pornography addiction. He currently serves the Diocese of Lincoln as the Director of the Office for Family Life.

In this presentation and discussion, Fr. Kilcawley will draw from the wisdom of Church teaching, his professional background, and his own story of restored sonship to provide a context for hope and healing, evangelization, and freedom in Christ, so that every man has the tools to defend and protect himself and his family from the cultural distortions we face every day.

All Saints Parish will be providing a Fried Chicken Banquet, with buttermilk-battered chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, and a scrumptious dessert!

There will also be a drawing for two \$50 gift certificates for Tumea & Sons Restaurant.

Two with ties to diocese honored for hunger alleviation

Hunger relief effort recognized

Sister Carolyn Farrell, Catholic Relief Services and the late Bishop Maurice Dingman were among 14 people and organizations honored by the World Food Prize with a humanitarian award for their effort to raise funds for food and medicine sent to victims of the Cambodian genocide.

The 2018 Robert D. Ray Iowa SHARES Humanitarian Award honors those who played an instrumental role between Thanksgiving and Christmas of 1979 to raise funds for life-saving food and medicine delivered to 30,000 refugees in two camps at the Thai-Cambodian border.

Iowa SHARES continued to raise funds for the next two years for the doctors and nurses serving the refugees at the border.

Sister Carolyn, originally from Holy Trinity Parish in Des Moines and a graduate of St. Joseph Academy, was the mayor of Dubuque in the late 1970s. She was a regional advocate for Iowa SHARES.

Catholic Relief Services and the Msgr. Robert Charlebois, who worked with CRS, facilitated the relief for the refugees. Teresa Dunbar accepted the award for CRS, and Jim DeHarpporte, regional director of CRS West, received the award for Msgr. Charlebois.

The Diocese of Des Moines and the late Bishop Maurice Dingman were honored for their role in encouraging the Catholic community to help the Cambodian refugees. The award was accepted by Bishop Richard Pates.



Photo by Maharry Photography

Bishop Richard Pates, Teresa Dunbar of Catholic Relief Services, Ambassador Kenneth Quinn, president of the World Food Prize, Lori Dostal, an Iowan who worked for CRS in Cambodia for 20 years, and Jim Deltarporte, of CRS.



We are Called to be Role Models



If you want to join a group of Catholic men and be role models for your family, and help continue caring for our communities, visit www.kofc.org/join

We are Called... Join the Knights of Columbus — visit www.kofc.org/join

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