

THE CATHOLIC MIRROR

Vol. 56, No. 7

July 21, 2023

Congratulations! Father Jason Lee, our newest priest



Photo by Chelsea Dellaca

Father Jason Lee was ordained a priest June 23 in a rite rich in symbolism in word, gesture, and sacred signs.



Photo by Anne Marie Cox

Deacon Lee prostrates himself as a sign of his submission to God's will and humble service of his Church.



Photo by Chelsea Dellaca

In a gesture received from the Apostles themselves, Bishop William Joensen lays hands on Father Lee's head.



Photo by Chelsea Dellaca

His hands blessed with Sacred Chrism, Father Lee is entrusted to consecrate the Eucharist and bless the faithful.



Photo by Anne Marie Cox

Newly ordained Father Lee blesses a young family that traveled from Minnesota to celebrate his ordination with him.

Anticipation grows for WYD pilgrims

By Anne Marie Cox
Staff Writer

On July 25, 57 pilgrims bound for World Youth Day in Portugal will leave the Des Moines airport for a life-changing experience.

The young adults will see the universality of the Catholic Church while also experiencing various cultures that make up the Church.

Doh Noh saw a microcosm of that in Des Moines.

The 19-year-old parishioner of St. Ambrose Cathedral and other young adults from her parish volunteered at Principal Park and held a cultural food day at her parish to raise funds for the trip.

"It brought all of our cultures together," she said. "It made me think on an international level all of the Catholics around the world who will come together."

St. John Paul II began World Youth Day with a gathering in Rome that was expected to draw 60,000 pilgrims, though 250,000 arrived. Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis have continued to gather young adults to accompany them on a worldwide level, to encourage their openness and hopes, hear concerns and requests, and pass on the truth and love that is Christ.

The Iowa pilgrims are leaving early so they can spend several days in the Diocese of Lieria-Fatima to stay with local Catholic families, experience their culture, sight-see and visit the site of the apparition of Our Lady of Fatima. Then they go to Lisbon for the international gathering, where they'll hear speakers and celebrate Mass with Pope Francis.

For Des Moines seminarian Stan Asjes, there are three reasons why he wants to go.

One, it's a unique opportunity to have a truly universal experience of the Church.

Two, a unique fellowship



Photo by Anne Marie Cox

Antonio Bañuelos teaches World Youth Day pilgrims Madi Oule and Elaida Sium how to make wrist rosaries out of thread. They can make as many as they want and trade them with pilgrims from around the world when they get to Portugal for World Youth Day.

can be experienced.

"I think we will learn a lot from each other as a group, and I also hope to be an authentic witness to what it means to say 'yes' and follow one's vocation," he said.

Three, the pilgrimage offers an opportunity to deepen one's spiritual life by encountering God in a new way.

"The spirituality of pilgrimage, which involves a commitment to prayer and poverty, is something which is often forgotten in the contemporary life of the Church," Asjes said.

No matter how much one prepares, there will be discomforts and things that might not go as expected when hundreds of thousands of people come together.

"It's a pilgrimage, not a vacation," said organizer Justin White, diocesan director of Young Adult Evangelization.

Perhaps the first challenge

was just getting documentation. About half of the pilgrims are from St. Ambrose Cathedral and some of the parishioners, who are refugees or immigrants, did not have the documentation they needed. About seven or eight drove to the Portuguese embassy in Washington, D.C. for personal interviews to complete their paperwork.

Noh and her friend Dah Meh are from the Karenni ethnic group along the Thailand/Myanmar (formerly known as Burma) border. They marvel at having come from Thailand to the United States and now preparing for a trip to Portugal.

"I'm really excited," Noh said. "I want to get a lot out of it, especially because I'll be away from home. I want to make memories that I can share with my parents because they won't be able to go with me."

She sees World Youth Day as an evangelization opportunity

and can't wait to be in the presence of Pope Francis, who will celebrate Mass for the young adults.

Meh also is looking forward to experiencing cultures from around the world.

"It's extremely awesome! We worked really hard to be able to come this far and we're almost there. We have to continue to thrive, commemorating and sharing our faith. Our faith at St. Ambrose is evident no matter how close or far we are from the parish."

What Noh learned even before stepping on the plane was that a faith community that works together can make what might seem impossible possible. Parishioners helped her file for a passport and for U.S. citizenship and assisted with fundraising.

"It was an experience I had with my community and it brought us closer," she said.

Heartbeat law on hold

A Polk County judge granted a temporary injunction blocking enforcement of Iowa's new "heartbeat" law on July 17.

The bill was signed on July 14 by Gov. Kim Reynolds after the state legislature passed the bill in special session on July 11.

The law prohibits abortions after a heartbeat can be detected. The ACLU and Planned Parenthood filed a lawsuit against the law last week claiming it was unconstitutional.

The judge's order allows the Iowa Board of Medicine to proceed with rule making for the law.

The Catholic bishops of Iowa released a statement after the bill was passed. They said:

"We commend the Iowa legislature for passing a law that would prohibit abortions after a child's cardiac activity can be detected. As Pope Francis has said, 'Let us respect and love human life, especially vulnerable life in a mother's womb.' For us, this is a matter of personal rights and dignity and the common good. Human life is precious and should be protected in our laws to the greatest extent possible.

"As a state and as a society, we should commit ourselves to working for the protection of all vulnerable populations from violence — wherever individuals and groups are at risk. We urge people of good will in Iowa both to work for an end to the practice of abortion and to join us in tireless, unremitting and compassionate solidarity with pregnant women in distress, with the men who fathered these children, and with families in need."

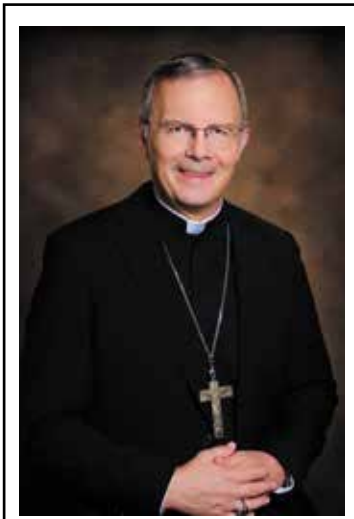
Not only the lonely — Part II

Last month I drew from the U.S. Surgeon General's advisory report on "Our Epidemic of Loneliness and Isolation" to reflect on the experiences of social disconnection and loneliness faced by persons of all ages in our society, especially young people. I indicated that the report is not all bad news but recognized reasons for hope in areas of society that can help inoculate us against despair. Religious faith that draws us into closer connection with other persons (I would add, including the Divine Persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) and that stretches us beyond exclusive ties among like-minded, demographically similar people is vital for human "heart health" on both the natural and spiritual levels.

The report identifies the precious and yet precarious "social capital" of trust and empathy that are both the root and the fruit of social connections.

Trust sparks communication and cooperation, and improves population health, economic prosperity, and social functioning—goods of a natural and supernatural order. For Christian believers, trust finds its ultimate source in Jesus, whose Divine Mercy softens the antagonism and wariness we have toward others when we regard them as strangers. Mercy attends trust and generates deeper trust when we see one another as recipients of a love we did not merit, but mutually, deeply desire.

The report highlights a "virtuous cycle" between a sense of social connection and a disposition to engage in volunteer service. We commend adults who devote some of their summer



Bishop William Joensen

vacation time such as those at Saints John and Paul Parish in Altoona to accompany young people in Catholic Heart Workcamp mission experiences assisting in home repair projects, feeding the hungry, assisting at social agencies, and overall serving as ambassadors of joy for children, the elderly and disabled. The cultivation of an appetite for service is a lifelong gift that blesses others and oneself; it infuses love into neighborhoods and other vacant "deserts" where isolation and loneliness prevail. As Pope Francis observes in "Fratelli tutti," his message on fraternity and social friendship, "Only a gaze transformed by charity can enable the dignity of others to be recognized and, as a consequence, the poor to be acknowledged and valued in their dignity, respected in their identity and culture, and thus truly integrated into society" (FT n. 187).

The Holy Father and the Surgeon General concur that hu-

man flourishing depends on diversifying social relationships beyond our own background groups, power status, and generation. The social decline of "core discussion networks" composed of people with whom we have conversations about world events, politics, health, leisure activities, and religion correlates with the degree of societal polarization fueling skepticism and animosity among political and even religious groups. Pope Francis enlists French Catholic philosopher Gabriel Marcel where he comments, "I communicate effectively with myself only insofar as I communicate with others." We need to encounter real faces to love who stretch us beyond our families and small groups. "Our noblest social instincts can easily be thwarted by self-centered chats that give the impression of being deep relationships." "Close groups and self-absorbed couples that define themselves in opposition to others tend to be expressions of selfishness and mere self-preservation" (FT n. 87).

I can detect the resonances of the Holy Spirit surfacing in the report's advocacy for "building a culture of connection" founded on the core values of kindness, respect, service, and commitment to one another, and our own recent expression of our Diocese of Des Moines' vision and mission, centered on the call to **cultivate connections in Christ**. Through various forms of encounter with Jesus, especially in each other and in the Eucharist, the invitation to friendship with him draws us together in communities where life flows freely, and gratitude becomes our graced response to all

we experience, even if it involves hardship and suffering.

As our vision statement proclaims, Jesus is not simply the loving "giver" who pours out his body and blood, his very life for others. He shows us God's humility in not being afraid to share his "need" for us. God's truest friends, including saints such as St. Teresa of Calcutta, know that he still thirsts for souls to whom we are called to show love, to reveal that whatever we do for the hungry, naked, imprisoned, the vulnerable and least among us, we do for him. And in the process, these connections sown and sealed in the Spirit endure forever.

We do not need to digitally alter our image or our story. Jesus wants to incorporate our story into his story, which is more incredible than anything we could have imagined. God is revealed to be for all eternity a Trinity of persons perfect in love and relationship, united in being God and yet not a closed, gated community to which we cannot gain access. The Father sends his Son in the fullness of time so that we can participate in the communion of love who is God, thanks to Jesus becoming God-with-us, both human and divine in the wonder of the Incarnation. Jesus greatly desires to eat and drink with us as he did with disciples and the multitudes drawn around him. He then fulfills his desire to BECOME food and drink for us in the mysterious, miraculous gift of the Eucharist.

Three years ago this month, the Vatican Dicastery for the Clergy reflected on the evolving nature of the parish as the lynch-

pin of faith life: "With the Parish no longer being the primary gathering and social center, as in former days, it is thus necessary to find new forms of accompaniment and closeness. A task of this kind ought not to be seen as a burden, but rather as a challenge to be embraced with enthusiasm."

The parish is no longer primarily a geographical territory, but a "living space" in which the potential for connections exists. We cannot be trapped in nostalgia for the past or simply remain locked into activities at the parish or other levels that are a "sterile attempt at survival," permitting indifference and disconnection to prevail.

I do not believe that God's Spirit wills this diminishment for us as a people who have been richly anointed and blessed by God with the stimulus of the Gospel pulsing through our ears into our hearts and minds. I believe that with the guidance of the recently revived Diocesan Pastoral Council, its partner commissions, and other "organs" in the Body of Christ already initiating new modes of connection within and beyond parishes, that any epidemic of loneliness and disconnection will be checked. Where we are now as a society and a Church will yield to something beautifully human, mysteriously divine, and evangelically potent. I do not fully comprehend how this mission will play out and precisely what shape it will take, but I invite you to accompany me and so many others who share this vision so that we can resurrect trust and delight in the life-giving connections God proposes to us in Christ.

No Solamente los Solitarios —2da Parte

El mes pasado tomé del reporte consultivo del Cirujano General de los Estados Unidos sobre "Nuestra Epidemia de Soledad y de Aislamiento" para reflex-

ionar sobre las experiencias de desconexión social y aislamiento que enfrentar las personas de todas las edades en nuestra sociedad, especialmente los jóvenes. Mencione que el reporte no está lleno de malas noticias, pero que reconocía razones que daban esperanza en áreas de la sociedad que pueden protegernos contra la desesperación. La fe religiosa que nos lleva a una conexión más cercana con otras personas (yo añadiría, incluyendo a las Personas Divinas, Padre, Hijo y espíritu Santo) y que nos extiende más allá de lazos exclusivos entre personas que piensan similarmente o con similitudes demográficas es vital para la "salud del corazón" humano tanto al nivel natural como el espiritual.

El reporte identifica el precioso y al mismo tiempo riesgoso "capital social" de la confianza y la empatía que son a la vez la raíz y el fruto de las conexiones sociales.

La confianza promueve la comunicación y la cooperación, y mejora la salud de la población, la prosperidad económica y la función social — bienes de un orden natural y sobrenatural. Para los creyentes cristianos, la confianza encuentra su principal frente en Jesús, cuya Divina Misericordia suaviza el antagonismo y la

desconfianza que tenemos contra los demás cuando los consideramos extraños. La misericordia atiende la confianza genera una confianza más profunda cuando nos vemos unos a otros como receptores de un amor el cual no merecemos, pero que deseamos con mutua profundidad.

El reporte señala un "círculo virtuoso" entre el sentido de conexión social y una disposición a conectarse en el servicio como voluntario. Felicitamos a los adultos quienes dedican algo de sus vacaciones de verano, como aquellos en la Parroquia de SS John & Paul en Altoona, que acompañan a los jóvenes en la misión de Catholic Heart Workcamp en donde asisten en proyectos de reparaciones de casas, alimentando a personas con hambre, ayudando a agencias sociales, y sirviendo de manera general como embajadores de gozo para niños, adultos mayores y personas con discapacidades. El cultivar un apetito de servicio es un don para toda la vida que bendice a los demás y a uno mismo; inculca el amor en los vecindarios y otros "desiertos" vacantes en donde prevalecen el aislamiento y la soledad. Como dice el Papa Francisco en Fratelli tutti, su mensaje sobre la fraternidad y la amistad social, "Sólo con

una mirada cuyo horizonte esté transformado por la caridad, que le lleva a percibir la dignidad del otro, los pobres son descubiertos y valorados en su inmensa dignidad, respetados en su estilo propio y en su cultura, y por lo tanto verdaderamente integrados en la sociedad" (FT n. 187).

El Santo Padre y el Cirujano General coinciden que la prosperidad humana depende en la diversificación de relaciones sociales más allá de nuestros propios

grupos de origen, condición de poder y generación. El retroceso social de "cadenas centrales de discusión" que se componen de personas con quienes tenemos conversaciones respecto a eventos mundiales,

política, salud, actividades recreativas y religión se relaciona con el grado de polarización social que estimula el escepticismo y el desánimo entre grupos políti-

Continued on page 8

THE CATHOLIC

MIRROR

Bishop William Joensen
Publisher

wjoensen@dmdiocese.org

Anne Marie Cox
Editor

acox@dmdiocese.org

The Catholic Mirror (ISSN 0896-6869) is published monthly for \$25 per year by the Diocese of Des Moines, 601 Grand Ave., Des Moines, Iowa 50309. Periodicals postage paid at Des Moines. POSTMASTER: Send changes to THE CATHOLIC MIRROR, 601 Grand Ave., Des Moines, Iowa 50309.

PHONE: (515)237-5046

EMAIL: mirror@dmdiocese.org

DIOCESAN WEBSITE:
www.dmdiocese.org



Official

Bishop William Joensen has made the following appointments effective July 13.

Rev. Jason Lee, to parochial vicar, Our Lady's Immaculate Heart Parish, Ankeny.

Rev. Matthew Luft, OSB, a priest of St. John's Abbey, Collegeville, Minnesota, to canonical administrator, St. Pius X Parish, Urbandale.

Faithfully in Christ,
Most Rev. William Joensen, Ph.D.
Bishop

Chancellor

Why do a procession?

The Lord is present where we live our lives

By Anne Marie Cox
Staff Writer

Join Bishop William Jonsen in praising God and publicly witnessing to our Catholic faith by participating in the second annual diocesan Eucharistic procession on Saturday, Aug. 19.

Mass begins at 9 a.m. at St. Anthony Church's grotto in Des Moines. After Mass, a Eucharistic procession will go 1.6 miles to St. Ambrose Cathedral, where benediction will be prayed. Refreshments will be available at the Catholic Pastoral Center, across High Street from the cathedral.

In the spirit of the national Eucharistic Revival initiative, the Diocese of Des Moines invites everyone to participate as they can. The faithful can come to Mass, walk in the procession, watch and pray as the procession goes by, or meet the procession at the cathedral for prayer and fellowship, said diocesan organizer John Huynh. Transportation is being arranged to take walkers back to St. Anthony after the conclusion of the procession.

Why should the faithful participate?

"This procession, like any other one, is done to symbolize life. Just as we journey through life, we're on the road with Jesus and we're moving toward heaven. In a procession, we're journeying with Jesus.



Photo by Kelly Mescher Collins

This year's Eucharistic procession route, from St. Anthony Parish's grotto to St. Ambrose Cathedral, is a 1.6-mile pilgrimage that's open to all. Join us for 9 a.m. Mass at St. Anthony and a public profession of faith or meet us at the cathedral for benediction.

It's supposed to remind us that through our life, we're ideally moving closer and closer to heaven," said Father Trevor Chicoine,

diocesan director of Worship.

Here's another way to look at it.

"On the road of life, we're

going to encounter challenges and trials," he said. "The point of life is conversion of heart and conversion of mind so that, ideally, one

day we reach heaven in perfect union with Jesus. A procession is almost a mini-snapshot of what a Christian life should look like: We start. We end, and in between, we grow."

Why do Catholics do public processions?

"We give praise and honor to God because we love Jesus," said Father Chicoine. "We want to adore him, to be with him. Secondly, we want to give public witness to our faith. It's not just what we do in church that's important but it's what we do out in the highways and byways of life. We're not afraid to be seen to be Catholics and to walk with Jesus."

Why do we carry the Eucharist in a monstrance?

"It's like a moving tabernacle," said Father Chicoine. "It houses the Lord in a place of honor where we can reverence, see and be with him."

A procession is symbolic of Christ in church and out in the world, said Father Chicoine.

"A group of faithful Catholics follow Jesus through the streets where we play, where we work, so that the Lord isn't just present to us in our sanctuaries but he's present out there where we live our lives."

THE FIVE FIRST SATURDAYS DEVOTION TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

HISTORY OF THIS DEVOTION

In 1917, in the remote village of Fatima, Portugal, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared on six different occasions to the three shepherd children with an urgent message for the world, which concerned the salvation of souls and peace in the world. On July 13, 1917 Our Lady showed the children a vision of hell and said, "You have seen hell where the souls of poor sinners go. To save them, God wishes to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart. If what I say to you is done, many souls will be saved and there will be peace...I shall come to ask for...the Communion of reparation to be made on the first Saturdays..." Our Blessed Mother fulfilled her promise eight years later on December 10, 1925, when she appeared with the Child Jesus to Sr. Lucia in her convent cell and said, "Have compassion on the Heart of Your Most Holy Mother, covered with thorns with which ungrateful men pierce it at every moment, and there is no one to make an act of reparation to remove them."



THE INTENTION

This devotion is fulfilled with the intention of consoling and making reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary for our own sins, for the blasphemies and ingratitude of unrepentant sinners, and for peace in the world.

OUR LADY'S PROMISE

Then Mary held out her thorn-wreathed Heart and said, "See, my daughter, my Heart encircled by thorns with which ungrateful men pierce it at every moment by their blasphemies and ingratitude. Do you, at least, strive to console me, to tell them that I promise to assist at the hour of death with the graces necessary for salvation all those who, in order to make reparation to me, on the First Saturday of five successive months, go to confession, receive Holy Communion, say five decades of the Rosary, and keep me company for a quarter of an hour, meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary."

HOW TO MAKE REPARATION TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

The faithful are invited to make the following four steps on five consecutive first Saturdays as part of the devotion.

1. Go to confession on a day of your choosing close to the First Saturday.
2. Receive Holy Communion in a state of grace. For those who may have difficulty fulfilling this requirement on Saturday, Our Lord told Sr. Lucia: "The practice of this devotion will be equally acceptable on the Sunday following the first Saturday when my priests, for a just cause, allow the faithful."
3. Pray five decades of the Holy Rosary. When praying the Holy Rosary Our Lady invited us to insert between the decades: "O my Jesus, forgive us our sins; save us from the fires of Hell. Lead all souls to Heaven, especially those who are in most need of Thy mercy."
4. Spend 15 minutes in silent prayer meditating on one or more of the mysteries of the Holy Rosary.

You are invited to morning Mass at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in West Des Moines to celebrate this devotion with me at 7:15 a.m. on August 4.

Paid Advertisement

Ready to roll: 24 Hispanic leaders ready for mission

They join about 125 who've already become active in their faith communities



Photo by Mayra Moriel de Banuelos

Bishop William Joensen sent 24 Hispanic lay leaders, who recently graduated from a faith formation program, out into their parishes and their broader communities to sow God's spirit.

**By Anne Marie Cox
Staff Writer**

Leadership tools and confidence. Armed with these, 24 Hispanic men and women were sent on mission June 25 by Bishop William Joensen to sow God's spirit in their faith communities.

The 24 comprise the fifth cohort of the Hispanic Lay Ecclesial ministry program in the Des Moines Diocese.

Started 10 years ago, the program has formed 150 Spanish-speaking leaders who work with their pastors and parish leadership in the Des Moines Diocese to help people know and love God more deeply.

The Diocese uses instructors and curriculum from the Instituto De Liderazgo Pastoral based at the University of St. Mary of the Lake in Mundelein, Illinois.

Through the program, students discovered what their gifts and talents are, what needs their parishes have, and then collabo-

rated with their pastors on a project to help fill the need.

"Most of the projects respond to the needs of the parishes," said Mayra Moriel de Banuelos, diocesan director of Hispanic Formation. "Many of them are in hospitality, which aligns with the mission of the bishop."

For this post-pandemic cohort, it's concerning that there appears to be fewer people attending Mass.

"The reason people may not be coming back is that they don't feel they belong to a community," Moriel said. "There are many groups in the Church and they have to get united and work together, work in communion."

An example would be one parish's young adult group reaching out to other parishes to invite their young adults to join them.

The class drew people who had different reasons for joining.

"Some students are people who were not very active in their parishes but wanted to learn and wanted to respond. They look

at this program as a way to get trained to be able to respond to the needs that they see," Moriel said.

"We have others who see this program as a way to grow personally and they see that need in their own families. They ask: 'How can I be empowered to respond to the needs of my family and all the families in my community?'"

Students in this latest cohort spent 20 months going through a process to discover more about themselves and how Christ works through them.

"In the Hispanic community, we talk about evangelization. We know who is God, but sometimes I don't think we know who we are. First, think about who you are and from there you have to discover where God is in your life through all of the experience that you have," said Nelly Lorenzo, director of El Instituto.

"Then we move to two courses on Scriptures. If you know yourself, you will discov-

er God in you. We have a course on Christian spirituality. How do you express your spirituality in the community? Then we have mission. How are you going to express that spirituality in your community?"

The students came from seven different parishes: Christ the King, St. Anthony, Our Lady of the Americas, Basilica of St. John, all in Des Moines; plus St. Boniface in Waukee, St. Patrick in Perry and Sacred Heart in West Des Moines. Their graduation was May 6. They gathered for a retreat June 23-25 and celebrated their new mission to share God's love in a Mass with Bishop Joensen.

It is hoped that the next cohort can incorporate folks in Council Bluffs and other parts of the diocese.

Students are transformed by

the program.

Aura Martinez, associate director for El Instituto, said, "It's beautiful to see how their perspective changes to 'I am called, I am part of this Church and there is something I can offer it.'"

The Catholic Mirror helps us get stories of faith and inspiration to the faithful of our Diocese every month. Please help us continue this important ministry by taking a subscription. Go to dmdiocese.org/giving and click on Special Collections.

Edward Jones

Helping you build a secure financial future

Matt Kneifl, financial advisor recognized by *Forbes*

**Matt Kneifl, CFP®, AAMS®
Financial Advisor**

1100 73rd Street | Windsor Heights, IA 50324
(515) 279-2219 | Matt.Kneifl@edwardjones.com



Member SIPC
Source: April 2023
Forbes.com

We're close in all the ways you need.
Yes, we are located nearby for your convenience.
Through the years, we have formed close relationships with the families we serve.
As neighbors, we are there when needed most.
With a skilled and caring staff.
With a warm and comforting atmosphere.
With answers and options few funeral homes can offer.

Iles Funeral Homes
Celebrate Life the Way You Lived It
www.IlesCares.com

SUPPORT THE CAUSE OF LIFE
with a variety of assets, including:

- Cash
- Real Estate
- Marketable stock & securities
- Retirement assets such as mandatory IRA distributions
- Life Insurance
- Grain
- And More!

PULSE
life ADVOCATES
515-255-4113 • pulseforlife.org

in partnership with
The Catholic Foundation of Southwest Iowa

Parish takes innovative approach to expansion

By Anne Marie Cox
Staff Writer

It's typical when a parish adds on to a church to push out a side wall or back wall to add more seating.

Not at Sacred Heart Church in Woodbine.

For a renovation and expansion the parish had in mind, the church was literally split in half and pulled apart.

Before the snow flies, it's hoped new classrooms in the basement will be completed, a new addition in the center of the two existing halves of the church will be built, and a connection between the church and the parish hall will be constructed.

The parish is doing more than just building a structure, though. It's also building stronger relationships in the community, said builder Todd Heistand.

"We've got a lot of volunteers from Woodbine who have been helping from digging the holes to hauling things in, and standing up the steel trusses," he said.

The innovative project can be completed thanks to the local share of the Ignite! capital campaign, the volunteers who are helping, and a desire to do something special for the parish's 120th anniversary.

Since the church needed some long-overdue exterior work done, the parish consulted with parishioner Heistand, who has a company that takes old historic buildings like offices and warehouses and converts them to apartments that he and his wife, Mary, manage. Heistand heard the church plans and said, "Why stop there?"

They dreamed big.

The classrooms in the basement of the church were barely bigger than closets, said Father Joel McNeil, the pastor.

And the church, which seated 100 comfortably, needed more room. Heistand said his four daughters had their weddings in



Photo by Anne Marie Cox

Sacred Heart Church in Woodbine is being renovated and expanded in an innovative way that preserves the historic integrity of the worship space and gives workers greater access to the basement level for work. Local workers have come together on the project, saving funds and strengthening bonds in the community.

Dunlap because their hometown church was too small.

The parish also imagined a connecting corridor between the church and the parish hall that sits right next to the church.

Father McNeil once visited a church that was built in the early 1900s, like Sacred Heart. When that community grew in the 1930s, they cut the church in half, pulled it apart, and filled in the middle. Father McNeil asked Heistand if that could be done with Sacred Heart Church.

It's an unusual approach, Heistand said, but it makes sense given Sacred Heart has no space on either side to expand. On one side is the street and on the other side is the parish hall.

With the church split in half, it was easier to access the basement for the renovation there, said Father McNeil. It wasn't hard to move half of the church because it sat on beams rather than a concrete pad.

"When the house movers came, they joked and said this is the only time they've moved half

a house," he said.

In addition to the classrooms and seating for about 100 more people in the church, the worship space is getting new siding, new roofing, an upgraded electrical system, and new air conditioning.

When the parish came to the diocesan Building Commission for approval for the project, it was challenged to ensure that the facility was accessible for the disabled. Given space constraints, a

long ramp wasn't feasible and an elevator will be installed in another phase of development.

Architect Rick Emswiler, who helped design the new parish classroom space at St. Mary Church in Hamburg, designed a ramp that has 90-degree angles going around the space where a low-use, limited application elevator will eventually be installed. The LULA elevator is cheaper than a commercial-use elevator,

Heistand said.

"They came up with a good solution," said Father McNeil.

Heistand and his wife, who was the sister to the late Father Tom Coenen, grew up in Woodbine, and they raised their family there.

"It's such a cool historic little church," he said. "We wanted to make sure it didn't look any different once the expansion was in."

Victim Assistance Advocate

The diocese's Victim Assistance Advocate, Sam Porter, is a staff member at Polk County Victim Services. He helps people who are or were minors when they were victims of abuse by the clergy through a complaint process. He also helps them seek support and counseling services. Porter can be reached at

515-286-2024 or Sam.Porter@polkcountyia.gov.

EXCEL
MECHANICAL CO., INC.

AIR CONDITIONING • REFRIGERATION • HEATING
COMPRESSED NATURAL GAS • MED GAS • BUILDING AUTOMATION
CERTIFIED BACKFLOW TESTING • PLUMBING

www.excelmechanical.us

(515) 288-1450



Edencrest






Seven Exceptional Edencrest Locations to Serve You!

Edencrest at Timberline	
515-422-8096	
14001 Douglas Pkwy, Urbandale, IA 50323	
Edencrest at Riverwoods	Edencrest at Green Meadows
515-250-3052	515-204-7467
2210 E Park Ave, Des Moines, IA 50320	6750 Corporate Dr, Johnston, IA 50131
Edencrest at The Legacy	Edencrest at Beaverdale
515-422-8096	515-250-3052
2901 Cedar St, Norwalk, IA 50211	3410 Beaver Ave, Des Moines, IA 50310
Edencrest at Siena Hills	Edencrest at The Tuscany
515-313-3814	515-313-3814
455 SW Ankeny Rd, Ankeny, IA 50023	1600 8TH SE, Altoona, IA 50009

Around the Diocese

July 22 Saturday Annual Ignatian Retreat

URBANDALE -- Emmaus House's Annual Ignatian Retreat Day features presenter Amy Hoover, former director of the Creighton University Retreat Center and lay minister at Our Lady's Immaculate Heart in Ankeny. All are welcome to join a day of retreat. Go to TheEmmausHouse.org for more details.

July 26 Wednesday RAGBRAI

DES MOINES -- The four Iowa dioceses are teaming together to coordinate Mass as RAGBRAI rides through each diocese. For Des Moines, the cathedral will offer Mass at 5 p.m.

Aug. 3-5 Thursday-Saturday Holy Trinity Parish Garage Sale

DES MOINES -- Save your donations and bring them to Holy Trinity Church beginning July 30 after 10:30 a.m. Mass and continuing on July 31 and Aug. 1. Our garage sale will run on Aug. 3 and 4 from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. and Aug. 5 from 9 a.m. until noon.

Aug. 6 Sunday Annual Chicken Dinner

ST. MARYS - The 78th Annual Chicken Dinner will be at the Immaculate Conception Church Hall in St. Marys. Opening prayer will be at 12:30 p.m. with serving hours from 12:30-5:30 p.m.. Games for all ages, face painting, farmers market, raffle items and we will be selling our commemorative cookbooks and cups. Carry out dinners are also available. The cost of the dinner is adults/\$15 children ages 3-10/\$5.

Aug. 11-12 Friday-Saturday St. Joseph Parish Garage Sale

DES MOINES -- St. Joseph Parish will accept donations (no TVs, computers or exercise equipment) on Aug. 6 from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. and Aug. 7-9 from 5-7 p.m. The garage sale will be Aug. 11 from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Aug. 12 from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Volunteers Needed

DES MOINES -- At the Catholic Charities' Food Pantry, volunteers are needed: 'shop' with guests as they receive their 3-day monthly food supply, prepare 'rescued' food bags, help pick up/deliver/load/unload carloads of donated food items and pitch in where needed. Typical shifts are 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. Monday - Thursday and 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Friday. Go to catholiccharitiesdm.org/contribute/volunteers to join our team!

Feed the hungry

DES MOINES -- Sign up to provide a meal at Catholic Charities Emergency Family Shelter. We need volunteers to deliver a cooked meal or ingredients for a complete meal to the shelter. Several dates are open this summer in July and August. Contact knovak@catholiccharitiesdm.org.

Weekly through Sept. 28 Bishop Drumm Guild Garage Sale

JOHNSTON - This garage sale will be held each Thursday morning until Sept. 28 on Bishop Drumm's campus in Johnston from 8:30-12:30 pm. Donations are accepted on the Thursdays of the sale at the garage located on the campus or by calling Helen Thull at 515-669-4621.

Celebrating lives of dedicated service

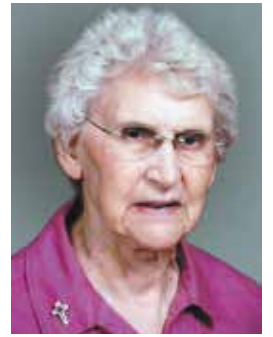
70 years

Sister Helen Vinton, formerly Sister Helen Jean, is celebrating her 70th jubilee as a Sister of Providence. Born in Nebraska, she ministers as a life quality consultant and senior executive officer at Southern Mutual Help Association in New Iberia, Louisiana.

Sister Helen entered the

congregation on July 22, 1953, and professed perpetual vows in 1961.

During her time in Des Moines, Sister Helen wrote policy research articles for the National Catholic Rural Life Conference from 1975-80. She has also ministered in Indiana, Illinois and Louisiana.



Sister Helen Vinton

60 years

Sister Virginia Jennings celebrated her diamond jubilee (60 years) last month.

Sister was born in Des Moines and raised in Sioux City. She entered the Dubuque Franciscans in 1962, was received as a novice in 1963 and professed final vows in 1970.

Sister served as a teacher and principal in parish schools in Illinois and Iowa and also in ad-

ministrative roles for the congregation.

She served the Des Moines Diocese at St. Ambrose Parish from 1996-2004 and Ss John and Paul in Altoona from 2008-2018.

Sister Virginia is now enjoying retirement at Mount St. Francis Center in Dubuque.

Cards can be sent to Sister Virginia at 3390 Windsor Ave., Dubuque, IA 52001.



Sister Virginia Jennings

Longtime educator, Sister Judith Bisignano dies

Sister Judith Bisignano, originally from Des Moines, died June 9. She was 81 years old and in the 58th year of her religious profession in the Adrian Dominican Congregation.

Sister Judith, formerly known as Sister John Catherine, was born to Alphonse "Babe" and Catherine (Dwyer) Bisignano. She graduated from St. Joseph Academy in Des Moines in 1960 and held a bachelor's degree in biology, master's degree in biology and science teaching in earth science, and a doctorate in education.

Sister Judith spent 45 years ministering in education in New Mexico and Arizona. In 2015, she helped co-found Maketai, a Tucson-based non-profit organization

focused on supporting programs to protect the Ecuadorian rainforest and its Achuar people.

Sister Judith was preceded in death by her parents; her sister, Sister Mary Alphonse Bisignano, BVM; and her brother, James. She is survived by her brothers, Joseph, of West Des Moines, and John, of Pennsylvania; loving family; and her Adrian Dominican Sisters.

Memorial gifts may be made to Adrian Dominican Sis-



Sister Judith Bisignano

ters, 1257 East Siena Heights Drive, Adrian, MI, 49221.

Beloved Dowling Catholic teacher dies

Longtime Dowling Catholic High School teacher and friend, Timothy Sheaff, died June 21.

Sheaff grew up in Ankeny, and graduated from Dowling Catholic, where he met his wife, Christy, and The Catholic University of America. He and Christy married in 1990 and raised six children.

His life revolved around his family and God.

He began teaching drama, debate, speech and film at Dowling Catholic in 1997. A coach of the nationally-renown Speech and Debate team, he founded a national debate tournament. He

was inducted into the National Speech and Debate Association Hall of Fame and the Iowa High School Speech Association Hall of Fame.

"Tim was a pillar of Dowling Catholic," said the high school President Dr. Dan Ryan. "You felt his presence at so many of our events and through his high expectations in the classroom, in speech and debate and through the performing arts. His demonstration of personal faith and commitment to our mission made Tim an individual you cannot replace, but rather you try to emulate."

IOWA
CATHOLIC
RADIO
NETWORK



IowaCatholicRadio.com

Coming Soon...

9/25 -9/29 ON-AIR FALL FUNDRAISER

VISIT IOWACATHOLICRADIO.COM FOR MORE INFO

Wisdom of Saint Benedict Rule for Everyday Life

August 17, 6 p.m. - August 20, 1 p.m.
Schuyler, NE



In this retreat with **Fr. Anastasius Reiser, OSB, Fr. Adam Patras, OSB and Br. Tobias Dammert, OSB**, we will explore Benedictine values like the balance of prayer and work, *lectio divina*, and the importance of silence in our noisy world. Come and treat yourself to a spiritual encounter in a peaceful setting.

Register now at www.StBenedictCenter.com

Creative Praying with *The Saint John's Bible*

August 19, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Schuyler, NE



We will pray with passages from Scripture (*lectio*) and let illuminations from *The Saint John's Bible* help us connect with them more deeply (*visio*). We will then be invited to visually express what is in our hearts. **Glenda Dietrich Moore, BFA**, is an artist, spiritual director and ordained minister in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Register now at www.StBenedictCenter.com

St. Benedict Center

www.stbenedictcenter.com
Retreats@stbenedictcenter.com
402.352.8819

Clark family to celebrate Catholic schools

By Nicole Evans
Contributing Writer

The Diocese of Des Moines will honor educators, administrators and volunteers for their exceptional service to Catholic education during the second annual Bishop's Celebration of Catholic Schools on Aug. 26 at St. Francis of Assisi in West Des Moines.

All are invited to attend to congratulate those who will be honored and celebrate the life-changing effect of a faith-centered education, which has been offered in the Diocese for more than 150 years.

Keynote speakers feature the Clark family. Dowling Catholic High School alumna Anne Nizzi Clark, daughter of Bob Nizzi, a former counselor and coach at Dowling Catholic High School, and her husband, Brent, chose St. Francis of Assisi and Dowling Catholic for their three children: Blake, Caitlin, and Colin.

Anne will share her experience with the Diocese of Des Moines Catholic schools as a stu-



The Clark family will be at the Aug. 26 Bishop's Celebration of Catholic Schools at St. Francis Parish in West Des Moines.

dent and as a parent. The Clark family will discuss how Catholic education helped position each for success in the classroom and beyond.

Three people were selected from 70 nominations to be honored for their impact at Catholic schools and their commitment to

faith, academic excellence, and fostering a vibrant school community. They are:

- Administrator of the Year, Misty Hade, St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic School in Ankeny
- Teacher of the Year, Ann Levine, St. Malachy Catholic School in Creston.



Misty Hade



Ann Levine

• Volunteer of the Year, Katie Fitzgerald, St. Anthony Catholic School in Des Moines

"All of this year's nominees are stellar examples of faith in action with a desire to promulgate the Catholic faith through strong, vibrant Catholic schools," said Donna Bishop, superintendent of Schools. "While it was difficult to narrow the honorees down to



Katie Fitzgerald and her family

three individuals, I believe the three chosen were the best of the best. We are blessed to have such amazing administrators, teachers and volunteers advocating on behalf of our Catholic schools."

Honorary chairs of the second annual event are Tom Chapman, executive director of the Iowa Catholic Conference, and John George and Mary Goddard, of the Kremer Foundation. The foundation has awarded more than \$80 million in tuition grants to Catholic elementary schools nationwide including several in the Des Moines Diocese.

Four couples are co-chairing the event. They are: Stephanie and Spencer Cox, of St. Francis of Assisi in West Des Moines; Tracy Deutmeyer and Matt Edwards, of St. Luke the Evangelist Parish in Ankeny; Sara and Dan Huegerich, of St. Pius X Parish in Urbandale; and Annie and Andrew Salgado, of Christ the King Parish in Des Moines.

For tickets and more information, visit dmdiocese.org/catholic-schools/support or call 515-237-5079.

Three seminarians take next big step toward priesthood




Photo by Jeanne Thill



Photo by Anne Marie Cox


Seminarians Connor Lynch (pictured above left with his family), Dominic Nguyen and Luke Mohan (pictured above right with Bishop William Joensen) were accepted by Bishop Joensen to Candidacy, a major step in their journey to priesthood. Lynch will begin studies in Rome in the fall. Nguyen will study at St. Paul Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota, and Mohan will go to St. Joseph Seminary in Yonkers, New York.

Get your message into 30,000 households in the Diocese of Des Moines. Call Sandy with your advertising needs: 515-237-5046.




DO YOU PAY IOWA TAXES? LET CTO HELP YOU PAY LESS!

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE 75% IOWA TAX CREDIT
BY DONATING TO THE
CATHOLIC TUITION ORGANIZATION



FOR EVERY ONE DOLLAR DONATED

=




GET \$.75 CENTS BACK IN TAX CREDITS

Call Mark at (515) 237-5010... Fulfill Your Pledge by December 15, 2023

The bottom line? It's for the KIDS... and their futures!

DONATE or PLEDGE TODAY
www.CTOIowa.org



No Solamente los Solitarios —2da Parte

Continued from page 2

cos e incluso religiosos. El Papa Francisco menciona a Gabriel Marcel cuando comenta, “Sólo me comunico realmente conmigo mismo en la medida en que me comunico con el otro.” Debemos encontrar rostros de amor reales que nos extiendan más allá de nuestras familias y pequeños grupos. “El más noble sentido social

hoy fácilmente queda anulado detrás de intimismos egoístas con apariencia de relaciones intensas.” “Los grupos cerrados y las parejas autorreferenciales, que se constituyen en un “nosotros” contra todo el mundo, suelen ser formas idealizadas de egoísmo y de mera autopreservación.” (FT n. 87).

Puedo detectar como surge la resonancia del Espíritu San-

to en el reporte consultivo para “construir una cultura de conexión” basada en los valores centrales de amabilidad, respeto, servicio y compromiso con los demás y en nuestra propia más reciente expresión de la visión y misión de nuestra Diócesis de Des Moines, centrado en el llamado a CULTIVAR CONEXIONES EN CRISTO. Por medio de varias formas de encuentro con Jesús, especial-

mente unos con otros en la Eucaristía, la invitación a una amistad con Él nos une en comunidades en donde la vida fluye libremente y la gratitud se convierte en nuestra respuesta natural con todos aquellos con quienes no encontramos, incluso si esto consiste en momentos difíciles y sufrimiento.

Como lo proclama nuestra declaración de visión, Jesús no es simplemente el “donante” amoroso que derrama su vida por los demás de su cuerpo y de su sangre. El nos muestra la humildad de Dios al no tener miedo de compartir la “necesidad” que tiene de nosotros. Los amigos más verdaderos de Dios, incluyendo a santos como Santa Teresa de Calcuta, saben que él aún tiene sed de almas de aquellos quienes han sido llamados a mostrar amor, a revelar que no importa lo que hagamos por el hambriento, por el desnudo, por el preso, el vulnerable y el más pequeño entre nosotros, lo hacemos por él. Y en el proceso, estas conexiones sembradas y selladas en el Espíritu duran por siempre

No necesitamos alterar digitalmente nuestra imagen o nuestra historia. Jesús quiere incorporar nuestra historia en su historia, la cual es más increíble que cualquier cosa que pudiéramos imaginar. Dios se revela para ser, por toda la eternidad, una Trinidad de personas perfectas en amor y en relación, unidas en ser Dios, pero sin ser una comunidad cerrada y cercada a donde no podemos entrar. El Padre envía a su Hijo en la plenitud del tiempo para que pueda participar en la comunión de amor que es Dios, gracias a Jesús que se convierte en Dios con nosotros, humano y divino a la vez en el milagro de la

Encarnación. Jesús tiene un gran deseo de comer y beber con nosotros, así como lo hizo con sus discípulos y con las multitudes a la que atraía. Él cumple su deseo de CONVERTIRSE en alimento y bebida para nosotros en el misterioso y milagroso regalo de la Eucaristía.

Hace tres años en este mes, el Dicasterio del Vaticano para el Clero reflexionaba sobre la cambiante naturaleza de la parroquia como la base fundamental de la vida de fe: “Cuando la Parroquia ya no es el principal centro social ni de reunión, como lo era antes, en por lo tanto necesario encontrar nuevas formas de acompañamiento y cercanía. Una tarea de este tipo no debe verse como una carga, sino como un reto que debe acogerse con entusiasmo.”

La parroquia ya no es fundamentalmente un territorio geográfico, pero un “espacio de vida” en el cual existen las conexiones potenciales. No podemos quedar atrapados en la nostalgia del pasado o quedar simplemente atrapados en las actividades en la parroquia o en otros niveles que son “un estéril intento de sobrevivencia,” que permiten la indiferencia y en donde prevalece la desconexión.

No creo que el Espíritu de Dios desea esta reducción en nosotros como un pueblo que ha sido ungidos y bendecidos ampliamente por Dios con el estímulo del Evangelio pulsando por nuestros oídos hacia nuestros corazones y nuestras mentes. Creo que, con la guía del recientemente reactivado Consejo Pastoral Diocesano, las demás comisiones, y otros “órganos” en el Cuerpo de Cristo que ya comienzan nuevos modos de conexión dentro y más allá de las parroquias, que puede revisar cualquier epidemia de soledad y desconexión. El lugar en donde estamos ahora como sociedad y como Iglesia va a dar lugar a algo hermosamente humano, misteriosamente divino y evangélicamente potente. No comprendo plenamente el cómo esta misión va a resultar ni precisamente qué forma va a tomar, pero les invito a acompañarme a mí y a tanto otros que comparten esta visión para que podamos resucitar la confianza y el gusto de las conexiones que dan vida que nos propone Dios en Cristo.

CARING ABOUT YOUR LOSS AND SHARING IN YOUR FAITH

Prayer to St. Joseph for a Happy Death

O blessed Joseph who died in the arms of Jesus and Mary, obtain for me, I beseech you, the grace of a happy death.

In that hour of dread and anguish, assist me by your presence, and protect me by your power against the enemies of your salvation.

Into your sacred hands, living and dying, Jesus, Mary, Joseph, I commend my soul.

Amen

John & Mark Parrish,
parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

CALDWELL PARRISH
FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY

Urbandale • Adel • Winterset • CaldwellParrish.com

DES MOINES' ONLY CATHOLIC-OWNED & OPERATED FUNERAL HOME.

Get fuel for the soul during RAGBRAI! In the spirit of the national Eucharistic Revival, Mass will be offered at each overnight stop along the route. Come to St. Ambrose Cathedral Aug. 26 for 5 p.m. Mass!

4Dioceses Cycling 4 Christ

If you post pictures from our sites & events, include: **#4DiocesesCycling4Christ.**

Let the church accompany you on this great ride across Iowa!
† - denotes overnight stays

For other Catholic-sponsored amenities go to:
 Diocese of Sioux City – scdiocese.org
 Diocese of Des Moines – dmdiocese.org
 Archdiocese of Dubuque – dbqarch.org
 Diocese of Davenport – davenportdiocese.org

IOWA DIOCESES:

- DIocese OF SIoux CITY**
- DIocese OF DES MOINES**
- ARCHDIOCESE OF DUBUQUE**
- DIocese OF DAVENPORT**

Stay connected along the ride

Consejero sobre Asistencia de Víctimas

El Consejero sobre Asistencia de Víctimas es un empleado de Polk County Victim Services. Ella 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

Deacon Tinley, dedicated to family and faith, dies

Perhaps Deacon Emmet Tinley heard the same call from God as St. Francis: "Rebuild my Church."

Council Bluffs Deacon Chuck Hanna considered this as he remembered his friend, Deacon Emmet Tinley, who died June 21 at the age of 80.

"Emmet's faith never wavered and his hope never waned. He lived a life of great gusto and has earned a heavenly reward," Deacon Hanna said as he preached the funeral homily. "Our sorrow that he is no longer with us is very real and painful, but we should rejoice that he has found his place in heaven and remember all the good he did, the love he shared, and the privilege we had of knowing him."

Deacon Tinley worked on sharing God's love through his family, his parish and the broader diocesan community.

Domestic Church

Deacon Tinley married Susan Ternus and together, they raised six children.

He was a rock for his family, which suffered much pain over the years. He and Sue had one child, Rose Marie, who was still-born. He also had three brothers and two sisters die prematurely.

"In each of these tragedies, Emmet held the family together," said Deacon Hanna. "The weight of these losses would have broken many, but not Emmet."

Deacon Tinley's son, Tim, also admired his father's strength.

"While he could be incredibly silly at times, his children could always count on his steadfast believe in us, and his advocacy," he said.

Deacon Tinley worked a number of jobs before settling into a career as a certified pub-



Deacon Emmet and Susan Tinley

lic accountant and in banking as a certified bank auditor. Though he worked long hours, he always made time for family, according to Tim.

"He found a way to be a constant presence for his children. He rarely missed games, swim meets, concerts or plays," he said. "Somehow, he made sure we all had our own special memories with him."

Parish

Deacon Tinley was long involved in parish life.

While attending Creighton University, he was an organist at St. Francis Church in Council Bluffs.

"I remember midnight Masses, when he'd end with the organ turned all the way up and 'Joy to the World' was ringing out enough to shake the building," said Deacon Hanna.

At St. Patrick Parish in Council Bluffs, it seemed as though he was involved in everything from lecturing to serving as a Eucharistic minister and musician.

After retirement, he became St. Patrick Parish's business manager. Having a hand in nearly everything, "he became the unof-

ficial project foreman" when the parish built a new worship space.

"He was here daily, sometimes more than once," said Deacon Hanna.

For his parish's new home, Deacon Tinley obtained two pieces of stained glass that came from the original St. Francis Church where he played the organ years earlier.

Diocese

In the early 1980s, Deacon Tinley and Sue considered a call to the diaconate. But given both were pursuing master's degrees and were busy raising children, they decided the timing wasn't right.

Years later, the timing was right and Deacon Emmet was ordained in 2006.

"The Tinleys threw themselves into the program," said Deacon Hanna. "They joined the formation team. The team was responsible for selection (of deacon candidates) and formation. This required countless hours of meetings, interviews, and ultimately trips to Conception Abbey to walk beside the candidates in formation."

The Tinleys accompanied three groups of deacon candidates through the formation process. Deacon Tinley not only helped deacon candidates become ordained, as chair of the Deacon Council he was responsible for continuing education for those who were ordained and serving in the Diocese.

Tim thanked everyone at the funeral for their love and support.

"So many parishioners eagerly jumped into action to ensure we were all able to say goodbye to him in his spiritual home."

Friendship with God and others celebrated in summer



Holy Trinity Parish in Des Moines held Vacation Bible School for youth in kindergarten to fifth grade.



At St. Patrick Parish in Missouri Valley, Tiffani York and her son, Grant, (above) learn about St. Kateri Tekakwitha and how the Native Americans learned about Jesus.



Our Lady's Immaculate Heart Church in Ankeny had 160 children, including five individuals with special needs, at its Vacation Bible School.

Shop Local

5701 Hickman Road
Des Moines, IA 50310

www.DivineTreasuresInc.net
515-255-5230

Ecclesiastical Restoration

Joseph L. Loving
Studio Joe's
302 Ave. F
West Point, Iowa 52656
Cell: 319-470-8646
studiojoes@mchsi.com

Refurbishing & Restoration
Altar Refinishing 23K Gold-Leafing

Sealing our Solidarity

Support *The Catholic Mirror* with a gift of \$25 or more.

Scan here to give online.

You can now receive *The Catholic Mirror* through email!
Sign up at dmdiocese.org/catholic-mirror to receive a digital copy.

What if I told you . . .

- > I have a seminar you could attend for FREE
- > You can get your questions answered
- > AND learn about have the retirement you'd like
- > Well, you're in luck!

Join us Thursday, August 17th 10-11:30
LIFE IS A BALANCING ACT - FALL PREVENTION
West48 Conference Center | 1601 48th St, West Des Moines

RSVP Recommended: (515) 321-7059 or online at www.StraightTalkSeniorLivingSeries.com

HAMILTON
LAW FIRM, P.C.
DES MOINES - STORM LAKE - SIOUX CITY

Established in 1876, we're one of Iowa's most experienced law firms.
515.309.3536, 12345 University Ave., Clive, IA 50325

World Day for Grandparents & the Elderly

Sunday, July 23



Ken and Kathy Waller, married 52 years ago at St. Edward Church in Creston, have four children, 10 grandchildren, two daughters-in-law, one son-in-law, and one granddaughter-in-law.



Grandparents Tom and Marilyn Wagner with grandson Jonah Gerjets when he was confirmed last October at Our Lady's Immaculate Heart Church in Ankeny.

A letter from Pope Francis celebrating World Day for Grandparents, Elderly

Dear brothers and sisters!

"His mercy is from age to age" (Lk 1:50). This is the theme of the Third World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, and it takes us back to the joyful meeting between the young Mary and her elderly relative Elizabeth (cf. Lk 1:39-56). ... God wants young people to bring joy to the hearts of the elderly, as Mary did to Elizabeth, and gain wisdom from their experiences. Yet, above all, the Lord wants us not to abandon the elderly or to push them to the margins of life, as tragically happens all too often in our time.

This year, the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly takes place close to World Youth Day. Both celebrations remind us of the "haste" (cf. v. 39) with which Mary set out to visit Elizabeth. In this way, they invite us to reflect on the bond that unites young and old. The Lord trusts that young people, through their relationships with the elderly, will realize that they are called to cultivate memory and recognize the beauty of being part of a much larger history. Friendship with an older person can help the young to see life not only in terms of the present and realize that not everything depends on them and their abilities. For the elderly, the presence of a young person in their lives can give them hope that their experience will not be lost and that their dreams can find fulfillment. Mary's visit to Elizabeth and their shared awareness that the Lord's mercy is from generation to generation remind us that,

alone, we cannot move forward, much less save ourselves, and that God's presence and activity are always part of something greater, the history of a people. Mary herself said this in the Magnificat, as she rejoiced in God, who, in fidelity to the promise he had made to Abraham, had worked new and unexpected wonders (cf. vv. 51-55).

To better appreciate God's way of acting, let us remember that our life is meant to be lived to the full, and that our greatest hopes and dreams are not achieved instantly but through a process of growth and maturation, in dialogue and in relationship with others. Those who focus only on the here and now, on money and possessions, on "having it all now", are blind to the way God works. His loving plan spans past, present and future; it embraces and connects the generations. It is greater than we are, yet includes each of us and calls us at every moment to keep pressing forward.

For the young, this means being ready to break free from the fleeting present in which virtual reality can entrap us, preventing us from doing something productive.

For the elderly, it means not dwelling on the loss of physical strength and thinking with regret about missed opportunities. Let us all look ahead! And allow ourselves to be shaped by God's grace, which from generation to generation frees us from inertia and from dwelling on the past!

In the meeting between



Bill and Shirley Jorgensen, of St. Mary-Holy Cross Parish in Elkhart, shared a moment with their daughter and her husband, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. This was the last photo of Bill with his family before he passed away in the fall of 2021.

Mary and Elizabeth, between young and old, God points us towards the future that he is opening up before us. Indeed, Mary's visit and Elizabeth's greeting open our eyes to the dawn of salvation: in their embrace, God's mercy quietly breaks into human history amid abundant joy. I encourage everyone to reflect on that meeting, to picture, like a snapshot, that embrace between the young Mother of God and the elderly mother of St. John the Baptist, and to frame it in their minds and hearts as a radiant icon.

Next, I would invite you to make a concrete gesture that would include grandparents and the elderly. ...

The World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly is meant to be a small but precious sign of hope for them and for the whole Church. ...

To you, the young who are preparing to meet in Lisbon or



Grandparents Deacon Jim and Mary Houston with their granddaughter Mary Josephine (Josie) Pierce on her First Communion day at St. Pius X Parish in Urbandale. Deacon Houston offered his granddaughter the cup.

to celebrate World Youth Day in your own countries, I would ask: before you set out on your journey, visit your grandparents or an elderly person who lives alone! Their prayers will protect you and you will carry in your heart the blessing of that

encounter. I ask you, the elderly among us, to accompany by your prayers the young people about to celebrate World Youth Day. Those young people are God's answer to your prayers, the fruits of all that you have sown, the sign that God does not abandon his people, but always rejuvenates them with the creativity of the Holy Spirit."

Maintenance Custodian

St. Joseph Parish in Earling Iowa is seeking a full time (30-38 hours/week) Maintenance Custodian. Work hours can be flexible and will vary as needed. Main duties include assuring the parish ground and facilities are maintained in good condition, and in a safe manner. Performs some maintenance repairs as needed; and performs all janitorial cleaning duties of the facilities including deep cleaning. Skills and/or abilities desired, but not required, including ability to lift or move heavy objects, basic electrical and plumbing knowledge, and ability to operate basic tools and equipment needed to perform the job. Compensation is based on the candidate's experience and skills. Resumes may be sent to Father Andrew at PO BOX 225 Earling, IA 51530 no later than August 15th.

Pope Francis picked the date of World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly to coincide with the feast of Jesus' grandparents, Ss. Joachim and Anne. This year, the feast is July 26.

Substance and appearance: A lesson from the Eucharist

“Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven.” (Mt 6:1)

The Eucharist, body and blood of Christ under appearances of bread and wine, is the source and summit of our Catholic faith. The importance of appearance and substance was driven home to me years ago when I first arrived in Miami, a lesson that deepened my appreciation of the spiritual meaning in the Eucharist.

When I first saw Miami from the plane as we were descending, it seemed calm, unperturbed, and simple. Once landed, I encountered a reality with greater complexity and harshness than the appearance that greeted me just minutes before. Isn't this kind of the same thing as the sacrament of the Eucharist? The bread and wine remain ordinary in appearance, but

Food for the Journey

By John Huynh



we know they have been changed into the extraordinary Body and Blood of our Lord.

The sacrament of the Eucharist teaches us a critical spiritual lesson: Our faith is less about surface appearances and more about the substance within. In today's world, we sometimes see religious symbols, like rosaries and crosses, used as mere accessories, their deeper significance diluted in superficial display when the person wearing them acts contrary to

the Gospel. The Eucharist ought to remind us that Christianity requires more than just an outward display of faith; it demands the inner substance of love.

When we wear Christian symbols but act in ways contrary to the teachings Jesus has given us, it's like the city of Miami as I initially viewed it - attractive in appearance, but lacking in substance. Being a Christian involves more than donning crosses or attending church; it's about cultivating a relationship with Christ that transforms us to live in a way that draws us closer to him.

Our goal should be to emulate the Eucharist - unassuming on the outside, but profoundly transformed within. The Eucharist both demands and helps us to achieve this inner transformation so we can embody the three theological virtues of faith, hope, and love.

My experience of Miami taught me that while appearances communicate one facet of a reality, it's the substance that truly reveals to us the totality of that reality. A deep love of Christ means Jesus must be woven deeply into the fabric of our being. The true essence of Christianity is reflected in our actions, thoughts, words, and how we treat others, not simply in the things we put on.

Thus, the Eucharist is a powerful reminder of the delicate balance between appearance and substance. As we partake in the Eucharist, we should seek to embrace transformation and allow Christ to renovate our inner beings.

John Huynh is the diocesan director of Social Justice.

Fully alive: The summertime invitation to glorify God

The idea came on my birthday, one of those fully formed thoughts that arrives unbidden, a cerebral click.

The day began with a brief summer rain, and a chill still hung in the air. I headed to the gym, rolling down my windows and cranking up the radio. Bruce Springsteen crooned “Dancing in the Dark,” the ballad of a listless young man searching for inspiration.

“Man, I'm just tired and bored with myself.”

As the wind blew my hair and my body shivered from the cold, the words formed in my head: “I want to feel alive.” They had the weight of a New Year's Resolution set on a birthday, the kind of goal-setting I crave each time I blow out candles. And the goal instantly gave me direction, a compass for the year ahead.

So much of our modern quest for wellness hinges on good versus bad, indulgence versus deprivation. It is a reward system that never settles itself out, doling out guilt and gold stars in uneasy patterns.

To seek out, instead, whatever makes us feel more alive — this fills the lungs

Twentysomething

By Christina Capecchi



with air. This feels simpler. No analysis is required; we immediately know the answer. Does it make me feel alive?

Yes or no.

And then we proceed.

It is not hedonistic; it is, in fact, spiritual. It honors the Creator, reverencing the one wild and precious life we are given. It calls to mind ancient words from St. Irenaeus, a great theologian of the Church: “The glory of God is man fully alive.”

God wants us to live our lives to their fullest capacity. He's yearning for us to embrace the beauty of creation with the gifts He has given us — strong legs, clear eyes, big hearts, nimble fingers. One part Theology of the Body, one part Carpe

Diem.

Presented with an iPhone full of apps, a pair of tennis shoes and a cloudless blue sky, what will we choose? Will it make me feel more alive or numb?

This approach naturally finds a balance, combining thrills and comforts, requiring discipline while delivering fun.

Sometimes it points us to a treat — tomato soup and a grilled cheese sandwich savored on a rainy day. Other times it asks us to resist the couch in lieu of a morning walk. Sometimes it means staying up late to enjoy a fire and fellowship. Other times it means going to bed early because your body needs the rest.

St. Irenaeus' mantra replaces all the secular metrics: Am I happier? Am I thinner? More popular? More productive?

The overarching question: Am I fully alive? Am I glorifying God?

Summer is the perfect time to pose this question and then enjoy simple childhood delights like walking barefoot in grass. Even if we don't know the research affirming its health benefits, we know in our hearts: It makes me feel alive.

I've been keeping a running list of

the little things that make me feel alive. Some are cozy, like an old quilt paired with a good book. But many involve contrasts that tingle, shocking me awake. Putting on a wet swimsuit. Rising early to read Scripture. Pushing myself to swim a few more laps.

Gretchen Rubin, the bestselling author and happiness expert, has landed on the same path. She famously charted “The Happiness Project,” distilling reams of research alongside personal experiences. Her new book is titled “Life In Five Senses: How Exploring the Senses Got Me Out of My Head and Into the World.”

In an era of mindless scrolling, Rubin recognized, we have become so numb that the notion of embracing the five senses feels novel. And this season bursts with multi-sensory happiness: the smell of fresh-mown grass, the sound of frogs croaking, the swing of a hammock.

May we soak it all in, feeling the tingle of being fully alive, giving God all the glory.

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

Relating to both Jesus and Christ

Father Ron Rolheiser



For too many years, for me, Christ was simply Jesus' last name: Jack Smith, Susan Parker, Jesus Christ. Intellectually, I knew better; but practically, both in my private faith and as a theologian, I functioned as if Christ were simply Jesus' surname. Whether in prayer, writing, or preaching, I almost always used the two names together, Jesus Christ, as if there were a perfect identity between the two.

There's not. Jesus is a divine person inside the Trinity, someone who once walked this earth as a flesh and blood individual and who now is with the Father as part of the Godhead. And although he is also the key component inside the reality of Christ, Christ is more than Jesus.

Christ is a mystery which also includes us, Jesus' followers on earth, the sacraments, the Word (Scripture), and the church. Scripture is clear: We are the Body of Christ on earth. We don't represent Christ, replace Christ, or are some vague

mystical presence of Christ. We are the Body of Christ, as too are the Eucharist and the Word (the Christian scriptures).

That distinction has huge implications both for our private faith and for how we live out our faith in the church. To simply identify Jesus and Christ impoverishes our discipleship, irrespective of which name (Jesus or Christ) we most relate to.

Let me begin with a mea culpa: In living out my faith, I more easily and existentially relate to Christ than to Jesus. What that means is that I have a belief in and a lifelong commitment to the reality of the resurrection, to Jesus' teaching, to the church, to the sacraments, and to the Christian scriptures. I believe that participation in the Eucharist is the single most important thing I do in life, that the Sermon on the Mount is the greatest moral code ever written, and that the church, despite all its faults, is the Body of Christ on earth.

But, unlike many of the faith-filled mystics and saints that I read, and unlike many of my Evangelical friends and colleagues, I struggle to have a real sense that Jesus is an intimate friend and lover. I struggle to be the beloved disciple in John's gospel who has his head reclining on the breast of Jesus and for whom one-to-one intimacy with Jesus relativizes everything else. I know that Jesus is real and wants a deep one-to-one intimacy with each of us; but truth be told, I struggle to actually

feel that most days and to make it the central part of my discipleship. Commitment to the Eucharist, Jesus' teaching, and the church are, save for graced affective moments in prayer, the heart of my faith and lived discipleship. Habitually I relate more to Christ than to Jesus.

And, let me risk adding this: I believe that is also true for various Christian churches. We have churches that relate more to Christ and churches that relate more to Jesus (not that either excludes the other). For example, my own church, Roman Catholic, is a very Christ-centered church. Ecclesial community, Eucharist, the sacraments, and Jesus' teachings are key. No true Roman Catholic can ever say that all I need is a private relationship to Jesus. That is also true of most Anglicans, Episcopalians, and mainline Protestants. It is less true for churches within the Evangelical family, where the salient mandate in the Gospel of John to have an intimate relationship to Jesus more easily becomes the central tenet within Christian discipleship.

It is not that the different churches exclude the other dimension. For example, Roman Catholicism, Anglicanism, and mainline Protestantism emphasize private prayer as a means to relate to the person of Jesus as an intimate friend and lover. To this, Roman Catholicism brings its rich (sometimes over-rich) tradition of devotional prayer. Conversely, Evangelicals,

with their strong focus on Jesus, use communal services of the word and preaching as their major way to relate to the wider mystery of Christ.

We have something to learn from each other. Churches, just as individuals, must be about both, Jesus and Christ, that is, focused on a personal relationship with Jesus and participation in the historical incarnational mystery of Christ, of which each of us is part. We must be focused on Jesus, but also on the Eucharist, the Word, and the community of believers — each of which is the Body of Christ. Our faith and discipleship must be both deeply private and visibly communal. No Christian can legitimately say, my discipleship consists wholly in a private relationship to Jesus, just as no Christian can legitimately say, I don't need Jesus, I only need church and the sacraments.

We are disciples of Jesus Christ, both the person and the mystery. We are committed to a set of teachings, a set of scriptures, the Eucharist, and to a visible community we call the church — as well as to a person named Jesus who is the heart of this great mystery and who wants to be our friend and lover.

Oblate Father Ron Rolheiser is a theologian, teacher, and award-winning author.

Lead, they'll follow.

Empowering men to live
their faith at home, at work
and in the community.



Knights of Columbus®

LIFE INSURANCE • DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE • LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE • RETIREMENT ANNUITIES



kofc.org/join
Promo Code:
BLESSEDMCGIVNEY





kofc.org/unete
Codigo:
BLESSEDMCGIVNEY




Michael Bormann
General Agent
563-689-6801
michael.bormann@kofc.org
Eastern Iowa



Neil Pfeifer
General Agent
402-379-0180
neil.pfeifer@kofc.org
Western Iowa



Walker Bormann
Assistant General Agent
563-219-5800
walker.bormann@kofc.org
Eastern Iowa



Donnie Kenkel
Field Agent
712-579-9066
donald.kenkel@kofc.org
Council Bluffs, Atlantic, Red
Oak, Glenwood, Avoca/Walnut,
Shenandoah, Portsmouth



Rob Ryan
Field Agent
515-490-8753
robert.ryan@kofc.org
West Des Moines, St. Francis,
Sacred Heart



Pete Seuntjens
Field Agent
712-880-0044
peter.seuntjens@kofc.org
Harlan, Earling, Audubon,
Dunlap, Logan



Gregory Waddle
Field Agent
515-218-3550
gregory.waddle@kofc.org
St. Augustin, St. Anthony's,
Christ the King



Justin Wadle
Field Agent
515-975-2688
justin.wadle@kofc.org
Perry, Ankeny,
Des Moines/All Saint's



Knights of Columbus®

Knights of Columbus,
1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510