

THE CATHOLIC MIRROR

Vol. 53, No. 9

September 20, 2019

Ordination day nears; here's what to expect

By Anne Marie Cox
Staff Writer

Volunteers and diocesan staff are putting the finishing touches on plans for the episcopal ordination of Bishop-elect William Joensen on Friday, Sept. 27.

Seating

A crowd of 1,500 to 1,600 is expected for the ordination at St. Francis of Assisi Church in West Des Moines.

Guests for the ticketed event include clergy from the Archdiocese of Dubuque, the Diocese of Des Moines, visiting bishops, representatives of the diocese's 80 parishes and friends and family of the bishop-elect.

About 1,000 people can be seated in the worship space, with an overflow room set up to accommodate others.

A ticket will be needed to enter the worship center and the overflow room.

Parking and Entry

There will be some reserved parking spaces in the St. Francis Parish parking lot for bishops, volunteers and media. The rest of the parking areas will be available to the public.

Entrance for the event will be the north and south circle drives of the church. These are also the drop-off sites for elderly and disabled. No cars will be allowed to park in the drop-off lanes.

Additional parking will be available just south of Ashworth Road at Lutheran Church of Hope, which has generously offered to assist by providing shuttles from its parking lot to St. Francis.

Mass

The ordination Mass will include Dubuque Archbishop Michael Jackels as the presider with the other two Iowa bishops as co-consecrators, Sioux City Bishop R. Walker Nickless and Davenport Bishop Thomas Zinkula.

Continued on page 10

Back to school



Photo by JoAnn Jensen

Bishop Richard Pates welcomed students back to school while celebrating a Mass of the Holy Spirit at Dowling Catholic High School in West Des Moines on Aug. 29 and at St. Albert School in Council Bluffs on Sept. 11.

'Gentle Ben' loved being a pastor

By Anne Marie Cox
Staff Writer

Father Benedict Kenkel, one in a long line of men and women from Shelby County who answered God's call to religious life, died Aug. 28 at the age of 91.

A priest for 66 years, he served parishes across the diocese.

"He loved being a priest. He loved being a pastor," said his brother, George Kenkel. "I think one of the best memories of all the people he served was that he was a very gentle, religious man. Some of them even considered him 'Gentle Ben.'"

He graduated from St. Joseph High School in Earling and went to Conception Seminary

in Conception, Missouri and Catholic University in Washington, D.C.

Father Kenkel was ordained on June 4, 1953 at St. Ambrose Cathedral by Bishop Edward Daly. After ordination, he completed studies for a degree in Canon law from the Angelicum in Rome.

Father served several parishes across the diocese: St. Ambrose Cathedral, St. Anthony in Des Moines, St. Mary in Rosemount, St. Peter in Council Bluffs, St. Mary in Guthrie Center and St. Cecilia in Panora.

He served as the dean of studies at Mt. St. Bernard Seminary in Dubuque from 1962-1968. He assisted the diocese's Tribunal Office and served on several boards and committees.

"He was a tremendous

pastor," said Father Chuck Kottas, pastor of St. Peter Parish in Council Bluffs. "Everywhere he went, he was very concerned for his people."

Father Kenkel never talked about himself but preferred to talk about his parish and what parishioners were doing.

It was because of his kindness that St. Peter Church in Council Bluffs has a trust that provides some funds to help with maintenance, said Father Kottas.

Father Kenkel had



Father Benedict Kenkel

visited a sick man who was the owner of the local pharmacy. The man was so impressed, he wanted to help Father Kenkel's parish and created a trust that continues to benefit the parish today.

"The parish forever will be blessed by Father Ben's efforts," said Father Kottas.

George Kenkel remembers his brother's devotion to family.

Father Kenkel "loved to come home on the weekends to spend time with his family," he said.

Father Kenkel retired in 2001 and was the first priest to reside in the St. Francis Priest Residence in Council Bluffs. Most recently, he had lived at Elmcrest Retirement Center in Harlan.

Welcome, Bishop Joensen

The New Moment

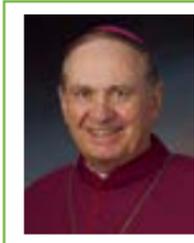
A heartfelt and warm welcome is extended to Bishop William Joensen as he enters into the role as 10th bishop of Des Moines.

The center of his anticipated ministry was expressed clearly in his statement on the occasion of the July 18 announcement of his appointment as the chief shepherd of this local church.

“My greatest hope and heart’s desire as a priest, soon to be bishop, is that people have the graced chance to encounter Jesus, to experience his love and mercy (as I certainly have!) and to form a friendship with him through sacred scripture, the life of the sacraments – especially the Eucharist – and through communion we know with one another. Jesus is the truth I’ve staked my life on . . .”

Such a profession coincides with the very nature of the church as Pope Paul VI emphasized in his Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Nuntiandi: The Church Exists to Evangelize*.

In the summer of 2017, a combination of 17 diocesan staff and parishioners traveled to Orlando, Florida to participate



By
Bishop
Richard
Pates

in the convocation of U.S. Catholic leaders. Its purpose was to integrate into the American church the mission and vision of Pope Francis in his Apostolic Exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium*, the Joy of the Gospel.

The outcome produced an excitement to take back to the people of our diocese, a newly found insight that generated hope. The signs of the times cast a pall over the future: a precipitous decline of the faith especially among the younger generation; a morality built on relativism; widespread indifference to the unborn, poor, suffering, elderly, migrants, all shunted to the peripheries of society; a paralyzing materialism embedded in profit-centered economics; continuing destructive pressure on an exhausted natural environment; and so many who are saying “no” to God.

Encouraged by the leadership of Pope Francis and the empowering liturgies and presentations of the convocation, our diocesan representatives in response to the signs of the times returned with the vision of The New Moment. This framework has been gradually shared parish by parish awakening the communities to the hope therein.

The relationship with Jesus that anchors The New Moment is based on the identity attested to by Peter: “You are the Son of God, you have the words of life.” It also enjoys the deep, personal commitment of love with the Lord similar to that of the apostles and disciples in their time. It is developed through prayer and experienced as part of a conscious faith journey.

The earliest followers of Jesus became total disciples. Their lives were informed and expressed on the basis of the bond, the relationship with their God and brother. Individually, they came together as church, as the Body of Christ being light and leaven to society.

These disciples of Jesus embraced the vocation of a missionary. Dedicated successors

have followed them and gone to the ends of the earth – responding to the Gospel imperative to “Go” and likewise make disciples.

Today, the destiny of missionary activity is right at hand as we confront the signs of the times, in our families, our neighborhoods, among our co-workers and in the very fabric of our culture and civil communities. We “Go” emboldened by sacrificial love, not judgmentalism, confident that in the end good will triumph over evil.

This experience of The New Moment focuses on young adults, oftentimes referred to as “the millennials.” The signs of the times seemingly concentrate on this particular group especially in terms of long-term fidelity to the faith. Of course, our ministry is intended for all generations.

Enter Bishop William Joensen. He has spent a great portion of his ministry educating and forming young adults with an expressed appreciation on their part. He has tapped into their thirst for a philosophical understanding of faith as they seek to embrace it in the face of many moral dilemmas especially

in the interface of faith and science.

Our community has been praying fervently for a new bishop for over a year. With humor, we thought perhaps Pope Francis had lost our address. Not so. The wait has been well worth it. All very much look forward to Bishop Joensen’s coming and The New Moment that accompanies him.

The New Moment Prayer takes on added meaning:

O God of all times,
In The New Moment, help us to
deepen
our relationship with Jesus as we
engage our
calling as His disciples. May we
bravely go out
in witness to the Lord’s
compassion and mercy,
in order to touch all generations,
especially the millennials.
Give us insight into your intimate
love
and grant us courage to embrace
The New Moment.
We ask this through your Son
Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Bishop Pates Schedule

Friday, Sept. 20
Des Moines – “In the Heartland with Bishop Pates”, Iowa Catholic Radio, Des Moines; KVSS, Omaha, 9 a.m.
Des Moines – Daily Mass, St. Ambrose Cathedral, 12:10 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 20 – Monday, Sept. 23
Des Moines – Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre Jerusalem annual meetings and Investiture

Monday, Sept. 23
Des Moines – Diocesan Executive Committee, Catholic Pastoral Center, 12:30 p.m.
Des Moines – Farewell, Mercy College of Health Sciences, 2:30 p.m.
West Des Moines – Serra Club Priest Appreciation Cookout, Walnut Woods Park, 4 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 24
Des Moines – Vocation Department, Catholic Pastoral Center, 8:30 a.m.

Des Moines – Mass, MercyOne, 11:30 a.m.

Thursday, Sept. 26
Des Moines – Solemn Vespers, St. Ambrose Cathedral, 7 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 27
Des Moines – “In the Heartland with Bishop Pates”, Iowa Catholic Radio, Des Moines; KVSS, Omaha, 9 a.m.

West Des Moines – Episcopal ordination and installation of The Most Reverend William M. Joensen, St. Francis of Assisi Parish, 2 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 28
Des Moines – Confirmation & reception, St. Anthony Parish, 10 a.m.

Bishop-elect Joensen Schedule

Sunday, Sept. 29
West Des Moines – Confirmation & reception, Sacred Heart Parish, 4 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 30 – Thursday, Oct. 3
Ames – Diocesan Priests’ Workshop, Gateway Hotel and Conference Center

Thursday, Oct. 3
Altoona – Iowans for LIFE banquet, Prairie Meadows Conference Center, 6 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 4
Des Moines – “In the Heartland”, Iowa Catholic Radio, Des Moines; KVSS, Omaha, 9 a.m.

Sunday, Oct. 6
Des Moines – Mass and celebration of 30th anniversary of becoming a basilica, Basilica of St. John, 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday, October 8
Des Moines – Diocesan Executive Committee, Catholic Pastoral Center, 12:30 p.m.
Urbandale – Andrew Dinner, St. Pius X Parish, 6 p.m.

Wednesday, October 9
Adel – Senales Summit Session, St. John Parish, 9 a.m.

Thursday, October 10
Des Moines – Pro-life rally and prayer vigil, Iowa State Capitol, 10 a.m.

Friday, October 11
Des Moines – Iowa Catholic Radio, Des Moines; KVSS, Omaha, 9 a.m.

Saturday, Oct. 12
Waukee – Confirmation, St. Boniface Parish, 10 a.m.
Des Moines – Holy Family Barn Bash

Sunday, Oct. 13
Des Moines – Missionary Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass, St. Ambrose Cathedral, 10:30 a.m.

Monday, Oct. 14
Des Moines – Diocesan Executive Committee, Catholic Pastoral Center, 1 p.m.

Tuesday Oct. 15 – Thursday Oct. 17
Griswold – Region IX Hispanic Ministers, Creighton Retreat Center

Tuesday, Oct. 15
Des Moines – Confirmation, St. Mary of Nazareth Parish, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 17
Iowa City – Dinner and Mass, Newman Center, University of Iowa, 6 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 18
Des Moines – Iowa Catholic Radio, Des Moines; KVSS, Omaha, 9 a.m.

THE CATHOLIC

MIRROR

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The Catholic Mirror (ISSN 0896-6869) is published monthly for \$20 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 Richard Pates made the following appointments effective Sept. 6, 2019

Father Protas Opondo Okwalo, SJ – from assignment in East Africa to Pastoral Administrator of St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Catholic Student Center, Drake Newman Community.

Father Nipin Thakidipurathu Scaria – of the Diocese of Kanjirapally, India to Parochial Vicar at Sacred Heart Parish, West Des Moines

Effective Sept. 23, 2019

Father Augustine Clement Kwabena Owusu – of the Diocese of Kononga-Mampong in Ghana to Chaplain of St. Albert Schools, Council Bluffs.

Father James Ahenkora -- as Pastor of St. John Parish, Greenfield and St. Patrick Parish, Massena to Pastoral Administrator of St. Patrick Parish, Council Bluffs.

Bishop Richard Pates

Bishop of Des Moines

Jason Kurth

Chancellor

Farmer who invited a saint to Iowa dies

Joe Hays died just weeks before the 40th anniversary of historic visit

**By Anne Marie Cox
Staff Writer**

Farmer Joe Hays, who penned a letter inviting St. John Paul II to Iowa in 1979, died Aug. 31. He was 78.

Born in Salem, Illinois, his family moved to Colfax when he was a child. He married his wife, Ann, in 1961 at St. Bernard Church in Osceola. They were blessed with four children.

Hays served in the U.S. Navy and worked for John Deere for 36 years.

But it was his involvement with rural life issues and the Catholic Church that put his name in the history books.

“When Joe Hays learned the pope was coming to the United States, he was concerned that the pope would be visiting only large, metropolitan areas,” said Monsignor Steve Orr. “Since he had been asked to be a part of a Region IX study on issues of rural life, he felt the pope would get the wrong impression of the United States if he didn’t visit the ‘breadbasket,’ ‘heartland’ of the U.S.

“I don’t think he would have been so proactive about this had it not been for his involvement in what eventually became the document on rural life [published by the bishops of Region IX] called *Strangers and Guests*,” Monsignor Orr said. “When he met up with Bishop Maurice Dingman, he turned one of the bishop’s own proverbs back on him: Bishop Dingman often said the best ideas come from the little people.

“Joe Hays told the bishop, ‘I am one of the little people.’ And the rest unfolded after Bishop Dingman forwarded the letter with his own cover letter

through the Apostolic Delegate (now called a nuncio) and shared it with the U.S. bishops conference team that was working on the papal visit. Within two weeks we got the call that the possibility of including rural America on the trip was gaining ground and the Vatican representative (Archbishop Marcinkus) would be visiting Des Moines soon,” explained Monsignor Orr.

“When he came with Father Bob Lynch, now the retired bishop of St. Petersburg in Florida, they were impressed with what the area had to offer and returned to Rome with the recommendation of including a short stop in Des Moines as part of the trip.”

Hays and his family were given the privilege of bringing up the gifts at the offertory of the Mass.

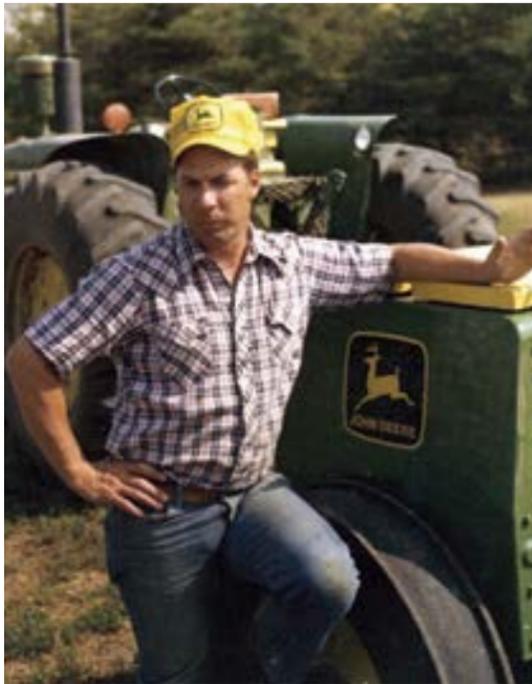
Monsignor Frank Bognanno said Hays was a humble man and “always had a great smile knowing that he had some part to play in the visit of St. John Paul II to Iowa.”

The pope’s visit to Iowa was not only historic because it was the first time for a visit from the Holy Father but because of what St. John Paul II said while he was here.

“The influence of that visit on the diocese and the Church is hard to gauge objectively but there are two striking signals of its value,” said Father Robert Grant, a Des Moines priest and professor at St. Ambrose University.

“First, it was the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, patron of the environment. Secondly, the pope’s homily on that day can be counted as the first papal statement on environmental theology ever issued.

“Of course, references to nature (mostly to natural



Joe Hays, who farmed near Truro, heard St. John Paul II was coming to the United States. Fearful that he’d only see the big cities, Hays invited the pope to come to Iowa. On Oct. 4, 1979, the Holy Father visited St. Patrick Church at Irish Settlement and celebrated an outdoor Mass for thousands at Living History Farms. Above right, he’s showing a rosary he received from St. John Paul II.

resources) go back 2,000 years and *Rerum Novarum* – the first of the so-called ‘social encyclicals’ begins a modern emphasis on God’s creation,” he said.

“But then and there Pope John Paul II took a modest step beyond the earth-as-resources theology to a more thorough and rich idea of nature’s intrinsic value. Twenty-five years later, as a

professor of environmental theology at St. Ambrose University, it struck me sharply that perhaps his influence on me personally was stronger than I’d thought,” said Father Grant.

“In any case, Pope Benedict pursued the theology of nature’s intrinsic value further and Pope Francis continues that trend, even while circling back

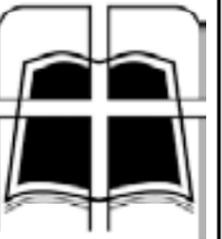
to the idea that right relationship with God’s creation must include social and economic justice for the world’s marginalized.

“I am absolutely sure that St. John Paul II would heartily embrace that theology of relationship,” said Father Grant.

The funeral Mass for Hays was celebrated Sept. 6 at St. Joseph Church in Winterset.

STEPHEN MINISTRY





INTRODUCTORY WORKSHOP

A Half-Day Workshop Featuring:

Session 1: Ministering to Those Experiencing Grief

Session 2: An Introduction to Stephen Ministry

Session 3: How to Care in a Distinctively Christian Way

When:
Saturday, October 26, 2019
9:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. (check-in and on-site registration begin at 8:00 A.M.)

Where:
St. Mary of Nazareth Catholic Church
4600 Meredith Dr
Des Moines, IA 50310

Cost:
\$15 per person, or \$50 per congregation (four or more)

To Register:
Visit www.stephenministry.org/workshop or call Stephen Ministries at (314) 428-2600

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ST. LUKE

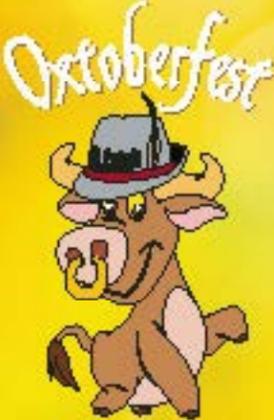
THE EVANGELIST

CATHOLIC PARISH

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Oxtoberfest

Saturday, October 12, 2019
2:00pm - 8:00pm



- 5K Stampede
- Kids' Activities
- German-themed food (with kid's option)
- Costume contest
- Stein Holding Contest
- Silent auction
- And much more!

**Please join us for this family-friendly event
to celebrate the feast of St. Luke!**

Register at: www.slte.org/oxtoberfest

Immigration policy blocks woman's opportunity

Guest Column

By
Mayra Moriel
de Bañuelos



The V Encuentro process, which is a five-year consultation process for Hispanic Ministry in the United States, is making progress this month in Rome with the Holy See.

Some of the members of the Subcommittee of Hispanic Affairs for the U.S. bishops along with other diocesan leaders, formed part of a delegation that is set to present the results the V Encuentro process to Pope Francis this week.

Throughout this week, the delegation team has been meeting with different Vatican leaders such as Cardinal Peter Turkson, who is the prefect for the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, as well as with Dr. Guzmán Carriquiry Lecour, who is the Secretary of the Pontifical Commission for Latin America.

Our diocese is privileged to have one of our own staff members be part of this



subcommittee and delegation, Jessica Hernandez, coordinator of Hispanic Youth and Young Adult Ministry.

Jessica, as a member of the subcommittee, was invited to go with this group to present the work done with the V Encuentro, and as a representative for other Hispanic young adults in the United States.

Unfortunately, Jessica had to decline this invitation due to her legal status (DACA recipient), which does not allow her to travel outside of the country.

Jessica has used this opportunity to raise awareness of the issue that we still are experiencing of not having a pathway to citizenship for more than

800,000 young adults who, like Jessica, are building God's kingdom in the United States in an effort for a better nation with stronger families.

She is an example of a broken immigration system that blocks the development of talented young people who greatly contribute to improve our communities.

We all can do something about this by contacting our legislators and asking them to make it right for these young men and women who only know this country and call it their own. The Iowa Catholic Conference has frequent calls for action on this issue and other social justice matters that concern Catholics in Iowa.

Above are members of a U.S. bishops' subcommittee, who will present to Pope Francis the results of a five-year process called V-Encuentro. Des Moines' Jessica Hernandez, pictured at right, would be going with the subcommittee on which she serves. But because she is a DACA recipient, she fears she may not be able to re-enter the United States.



Want a tough stain out?

We immediately hear the response as though it's a Sunday choir, "Shout it out!"

Some of the most intense stains found in clothing and carpet are ink, blood and juice.

Yes, there are also the classics, namely ketchup, mustard and grass. But with today's trends, we should mention the staining power of sriracha, kombucha, and kale smoothie.

After applying selected cleaning products, we take great pride when those dreaded permanent stains are washed clean as new from such toxic staining substances.

This is understandable for the protection of our clothing and carpet, but what about the matters that stain our hearts.

Experiences of grief, regret, and betrayal are three of the more common emotional stains that hurt our hearts.

Maybe we can't use a cleaning product to get rid of them, but I bet many of us have tried to "shout" them out a time or two but to no avail.

Truly, most of the conflicts that come into a counselor or pastor's office are due to "tough stains" such as these. Some of these emotional stains have been set so

Let's Get Psyched



By Deacon Randy Kiel

deeply within the fabric of the heart that the stain passes on to the next generation.

It is never a small deal when someone's feelings are hurt. Hurt feelings are a significant matter. If we minimize someone's hurt feelings, we set their stain deeper.

If we deny our own hurt feelings, we set our own stain. If we try to magically pray away the hurt, we set the stain even further.

When a relationship causes the hurt feeling, or the stain, it must be cleansed within a relationship. This would most preferably be with the one who hurt the other but this is not always possible nor is it always recommended.

When the hurt feelings come from life, then it will be life itself that is needed

to cleanse the stain.

When the hurt comes from a spiritual place and wounds the spirit of the person, then the Church, as Christ, must become the cleanser and healer.

TV commercials show us a perfectly cleaned white shirt coming straight out of the wash but God did not create us to be cleansed this way. Scripture teaches that through Christ's blood our sins are washed white as snow.

This does not mean that there will be no mental or emotional residue. He knew we would be stained and broken. Back in the medieval days of inventing stained glass, people reveled to see historical stories come to life before their own eyes in full color.

With masterful craftsmanship, what better way to depict the stains of sin upon humanity and the brokenness of our Savior than through a stained glass window?

The master artisan of a stained glass window can see the whole story. He can see how to use each stained piece of broken glass to create a picture of life that would have never been known by the original piece itself. The master will spend

hours, maybe even a lifetime, making sure every fragile piece of glass is broken as it should be. He will carefully select the colors of stain needed to create the desired look, only to be fully revealed at its completion. Not one piece knows for sure why it fits where it does or how the color works for the bigger picture.

Each broken piece has a perfect fit.

Life has a way of breaking us and people have a way of staining us. We even stain ourselves at times, don't we?

God, our Master Artisan, is creating a masterpiece with each one of us. Let us never try to simply "shout" out our stains but rather offer them over to him to become the picture that he sees and that he wills for us, for his Church, and for the world.

Only he is the light that illuminates our living windows of stained and broken glass.

Deacon Randy Kiel is the founder of Kardia Counseling and serves Holy Trinity Parish in Des Moines. To connect with him, email randy@kardiacounseling.com.

Road to sainthood is paved with challenges, mistakes and sometimes detours

My wife and I are always excited when football season begins.

I think there are few things better than enjoying an afternoon relaxing, eating snack food, and watching an exciting game.

I'm always amazed by the talent and skill that both college and professional teams exhibit. We enjoy the results of their hard work, but what we don't see are the long hours in the weight room, watching film, and the countless drills mastering the fundamentals.

Football season reminds me that excellence is achieved through dedicated work, through practice and even through learning from mistakes. This is true of

Marriage & Family Life



By
Adam Storey

football, and I also think it's true of family life.

I want to be a great husband and a great dad. I want to be patient, and generous, and sacrificial. I want greatness, and football season reminds me that if I

want greatness, I have to want the work, too.

Patience doesn't just happen, it's a learned habit, something that takes time and effort to grow into. Often times, I want the virtue but I don't want to take the time to learn it!

Becoming great doesn't happen overnight and it doesn't come without frequent mistakes.

As disciples we know that growing as a family requires grace, it's less about what I do and more about receiving what God wants to do within me.

The good news is that this is an invitation open to all of us.

I'll probably never be a cornerback in the NFL (although let's not totally rule it out), but I am invited to holiness, I am invited to be a saint. And so are you!

But it doesn't come without work, it doesn't come without difficulties and detours, and most important it doesn't come without receiving God's gratuitous grace. I hope this fall we can all be inspired to desire greatness a little bit more, and to say yes again to the hard work this entails!

Adam Storey is the diocesan director of Marriage & Family Life. He can be reached at astorey@dmdioocese.org or 515-237-5056.

Ask a Priest

Q. I am going to visit my relatives who do not attend Mass on Sundays. I usually do attend Mass and do not want to offend them. What should I do?

A. I SUPPOSE IT depends on whether or not your relatives are also Catholic. If so, you can invite them to join you when you go on Saturday evening or Sunday morning. If you think they are not interested, just let them know that it's important to you, and that it shouldn't conflict with other plans they may have with you.

Q. Can I skip Mass when I am traveling?

A. JESUS ASKED HIS disciples to "Do this in memory of me." He didn't get down to details like "how often" and "on which day." From the earliest days, the Church has gathered on the first day of the week, Sunday, the Lord's Day. That was the day that Jesus was raised from the tomb. Early Christians celebrated a "little Easter" every Sunday. Later in Church history, the season of Easter and the season of Lent came into being. Can you skip Mass when traveling? Only in situations when there is no church in the area. You wouldn't skip a night's sleep or a meal. You shouldn't skip Mass either.

Q. My parish does not have Vacation Bible School. May I allow my children to attend one in a Protestant church? Can they attend a bible camp?

A. YES. IN THIS DAY of ecumenism, many mainline

churches have wonderful programs that are great for little kids. I've not heard of one yet that teaches doctrine. Mostly the "curriculum" revolves around the love of God, the relationships we have with our neighbors and prayers and songs at their level.

Q. The communion minister was dressed for the beach where I received communion. What is the proper attire when you have this role at Mass? Also, what should I wear at Mass?

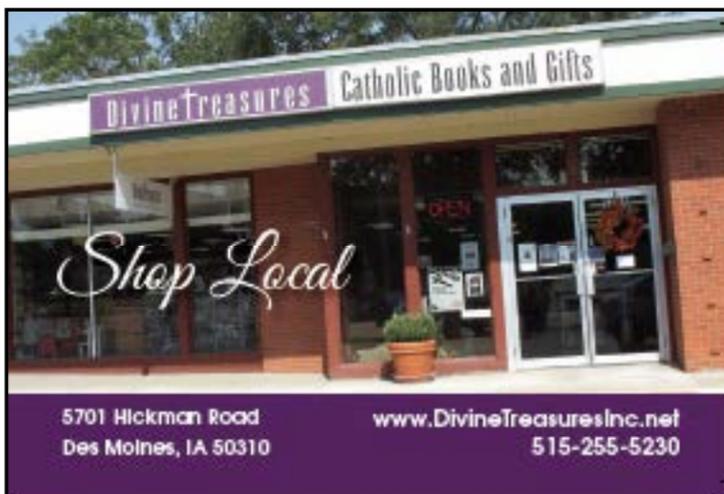
A. I DON'T SUPPOSE IT was a church at the beach, was it? Well, we try to avoid extremes. On the one hand, you don't need to wear a tuxedo or a new dress or pant suit when you are ministering communion. On the other hand, try to be respectful of what you're doing. If you're asked at the last moment to assist, you can't really go back home to change.

Q. Can you suggest some Catholic books I can read while on vacation?

A. I'D RECOMMEND you take a look at a local bookstore to see what they might have available in their religion section. Also if you go online to Catholic publications like U.S. Catholic, America, Commonweal, St. Anthony Messenger, etc., you'll find some selections that you might enjoy.

Got a question for "Ask a Priest" and its author, Father John Ludwig? Send it to communications@dmdiocese.org.

HISTORY IN THE MAKING
Watch the episcopal ordination of Bishop-elect William Joensen on Friday, Sept. 27 at dmdiocese.org or [Facebook.com/dmdiocese](https://www.facebook.com/dmdiocese)



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Local man serves on international Knights board

Antonio Bañuelos, past deputy of the Iowa Knights of Columbus, was elected last August to the Supreme Board of Directors of the international organization.

The board consists of 24 members who guide the order, which has a presence in 15 countries.

He has begun serving a three-year term.

Bañuelos, a native of Mexico and member of St. Ambrose Cathedral Parish in Des Moines, served as the state deputy from 2017 to 2019.

He has worked to build bridges among Catholics of all ethnic groups and nationalities to expand the outreach for the Knights of Columbus worldwide.



Antonio Bañuelos

Missionary image of Our Lady of Guadalupe visiting diocese to encourage prayer for unborn

Iowans for LIFE is sponsoring a visit to the Des Moines diocese by the Missionary Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

The image came to Iowa in 2012 following growth of Planned Parenthood of the Heartland, said Mary Purtle. Since the visit, 18 of 26 Planned Parenthood clinics in Iowa closed.

The image is coming back to encourage prayer for state legislation that will protect the unborn. In 2018, the Iowa Supreme Court struck down a three-day reflection period before an abortion and said abortion is a fundamental right in Iowa's constitution.

The following is a list of locations where people can see the missionary image.

- Oct. 3 - Iowans for LIFE banquet, Prairie Meadows Bishop Ballroom, Altoona. 6-9 pm.
- Oct. 4 - St. Anthony Church, children's Mass, 8:30 a.m. Also 7 p.m. healing Mass.
- Oct. 5 - Planned Parenthood, 1000 E. Army Post Road, St. Francis of Assisi prayer vigil, 10-11 a.m.
- Oct. 6 - Life Chain - St. Theresa Church, Des

Moines, 2-3:30 p.m.

- Oct. 7 - St. Catherine of Siena Church, Mass with rosary following, 5:15 p.m.
- Oct. 9 - St. Joseph Church, Mass, 8:30 a.m.
- Oct. 10 - Iowa State Capitol Rotunda-1st floor - Pro-life rally and prayer with legislators, pro-life groups, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Prayers at Iowa State Supreme Court following.
- Oct. 11 - St. Theresa School Mass 8:35 a.m.
- Oct. 12 - Our Lady of the Americas, Mass, 6:30 p.m.
- Oct. 13 - St. Ambrose Cathedral, Mass with Bishop William Joensen, 10:30 a.m.
- Oct. 15 - Dowling Catholic High School 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Oct. 17 - Christ the King School, Mass, 8:40 a.m.
- Oct. 18 - Christ the King veneration 5:30 p.m. Mass in Spanish, 6 p.m.
- Oct. 19 - Planned Parenthood -1000 E. Army Post Rd, 40 Days for Life prayer vigil with Christ the King Parish, 10-11 a.m.
- Oct. 21 - InnerVisions South Clinic- 500 Army Post Road, Mass with Bishop Joensen, 4 p.m.

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Around the diocese

Sept. 20-22 Fri.-Sun.

Widowed, Divorced, or Separated?

PANORA – Beginning Experience® is a program intended for those suffering the loss of a relationship through death, divorce or separation and who are ready to come to terms with that loss and begin to move forward with their lives. The weekend program is held at the St. Thomas More Center. Contact Father Bob Schoemann at 515-418-1938, Daryl Stahl at 515-480-6617, or Dana Reed at 515-975-3745 for details.

Sept. 22 Sunday

Grilled Chicken and Ham Dinner

LENEX - St. Patrick Church is hosting its annual grilled chicken and ham dinner from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. in their Parish Center. Cost of the tickets are \$8.50/adults; \$5/kids 6-12; age 5 and under eat free.

Sept. 24 Tuesday

Special Needs Ministry

DES MOINES – St. Anthony Parish is hosting a “First Step Meeting” to kick off the process of putting together a special needs ministry at St. Anthony Church at 6 p.m. Caregivers and parents, with their kids, are invited to this meeting to share your stories, fears and needs. For more information contact Tom Hanson at 515-770-7648.

Sept. 28-Oct. 1

Parish Mission

DES MOINES – St. Theresa Parish is having a parish mission called “60 minutes with Jesus” with Father Jim Sichko, an acclaimed international speaker, author and priest of the Diocese of Lexington, Kentucky. Father Jim Sichko will weave his everyday life experiences with the Gospel message. He will be speaking at all the Masses the weekend of Sept. 28-29 as well Sunday, Monday and Tuesday evenings from 7-8 p.m. in the church.

Sept. 29 Sunday

Pancake Breakfast

DES MOINES – St. Ambrose Cathedral Knights of Columbus is hosting a pancake breakfast following the morning Masses. Cost is a freewill offering with proceeds going to help with medical costs for Mike Landis, son of Gayle Landis, who is undergoing cancer treatments.

Sept. 29 Sunday

Parish Fall Festival Dinner

INDIANOLA – St. Thomas Aquinas Parish will be hosting a hot turkey sandwich dinner from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the parish hall. \$10/adults and carry-outs; \$5/children. Beer and soft drinks are also available for purchase.

Oct. 5 Saturday

Harvest Luncheon

DES MOINES – Catholic Woman’s League Fall Harvest Luncheon is at Christopher’s Restaurant in Beaverville. Business meeting at 11:30 a.m., lunch at noon. Speaker is Pastora DeWayne Deroose, of New Life Christian Fellowship. Cost is \$21. Reservations by Oct. 1. Mail to Sue Goodwin, 3001 Beaver Ave., #308, Des Moines, IA 50310. Bring a food item for the needy.

Oct. 10 Thursday

Catholic Social Teaching and How to Form Your Conscience

WEST DES MOINES – Tom Chapman, director of Iowa Catholic Conference, will lead this discussion from 7 – 8:30 p.m. in the St. Clare Room at St. Francis of Assisi Parish. Come learn about the four principles of Catholic Social Teaching and how to form your conscience according Sacred Scripture and Church teaching. Details and registration at saintfrancischurch.org/adultfaith/events or call 515-440-1030.



Youth at St. Mary Parish in Red Oak recently celebrated the sacrament of confirmation with Bishop Richard Pates. Pictured are: Bryan Erp, Alexander Lemus, Ryan Johnson, Jazmyn Perez, Brianda Ramos, Stephany Ramos, Yovanni Ramos, Logan Roberts, Xavier Ross, and Alexis Vera.

Oct. 13 Sunday

Harvest Festival

HARLAN – St. Michael’s Harvest Festival Dinner will run 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Rosman Parish Center. A Staley’s chicken dinner will be served. Cost is \$12/adults, \$5/children ages (3-10), children under 3 free. Raffle, paddle wheel, cake walk, and country store.

Oct. 13 Sunday

Oktoberfest

COUNCIL BLUFFS – St. Peter Parish is holding its annual Oktoberfest from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. at St. Albert High School. Cost is \$10/adults and \$5/children under 12. Country store, craft bazaar, raffles, bingo, kids carnival, kids raffles.

Oct. 13-16 Sun.-Wed.

Parish Mission

NORWALK – St. John the Apostle is holding a parish mission each evening Sunday–Wednesday with a potluck dinner provided at 6 p.m. on Wednesday. Guest speaker is Father Blaise Czaja. All are welcome.

Oct. 18 & 25 Fridays

Fall Fish & Chicken Dinners

INDIANOLA – The Indianola Knights of Columbus will

be hosting their annual Fall Fish & Chicken dinners from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the St. Thomas Aquinas Parish hall. \$10/adults & carry-outs; \$3/children. Desserts are available with a free-will donation.

Nov. 23 Saturday

Holiday Hop

WINTERSSET – Come shop and eat some good food at the Holiday Hop at St. Joseph Parish from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Ongoing Events

Thursdays

Alpha at St. Francis of Assisi

WEST DES MOINES – Alpha helps bring people into a relationship with Jesus Christ by sharing the good news of the Gospel. Sessions include a meal, video, and open discussion. Open to all adults. Invite a friend of any faith or no faith. All are welcome. Meets Thursdays, Nov-Nov. 14, 6-8 p.m., Serra Room. Retreat day, Oct. 19, 8:30 a.m.–4 p.m. Serra Room. Details and registration at saintfrancischurch.org/adultfaith/shareyourfaith.

Wednesdays

Divine Mercy Chaplet

DES MOINES – The Divine Mercy Chaplet is prayed on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at St. Augustin Chapel.

Latin Mass

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

JustFaith

JustFaith is designed for people who want to live more simply, love more compassionately, and make a difference by responding to the needs of the world. JustFaith is made up of three stand-alone, eight-week sessions that can be taken individually or together, in any order. Each eight-week session contains one–two books, several videos, a retreat experience, an encounter or immersion experience, and an opportunity for action.

Each session is \$80 per person. Scholarships are available for those who qualify. To learn more, please call 515-782-3054 or email centerforsocialministry@gmail.com.

To register, go to centerforsocialministry.org; mail to Center for Social Ministry, 4211 Grand Ave., Des Moines, IA 50312; or call 515-782-3054.

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**Meadows Bishop Ballroom
Altoona**

Get the details and register

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We will be blessed at our banquet by having one of the actual 4' x 6' digital replicas of the original Miraculous Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe, blessed by Pope John Paul II.

CYC makes a difference

**By Katherine Swoboda
Contributing Writer**

August's edition of *The Catholic Mirror* highlighted the invaluable contribution of Catholic Youth Camp to youth in our diocese.

In July, 36 St. Ambrose Cathedral parishioners were particularly affected by this unique faith formation opportunity. Their experiences witness to CYC's power in helping youth deepen their faith.

St. Ambrose is home to people from around the world, including many African and Asian refugees. We accompany our refugee community as they rebuild their lives in Iowa.

Devoted to helping our children grow in faith, catechists wanted refugee youth to experience CYC.

However, attending

camp is a far reach. Camp fees cannot be covered easily. Many of the families are large, and parents work long hours.

The entire parish mobilized to make camp happen for the youth. Children's parents contributed. Youth mowed lawns, washed cars, babysat, raked leaves and picked up trash in parks to raise money.

This united effort allowed 36 refugee youth to attend CYC where they were immersed in Catholic faith, attending daily Mass, participating in the liturgy, learning about sacraments, prayer, sharing faith with priests, sisters, seminarians and CYC counselors.

Days included swimming, ziplining, dancing, singing, games, sports and hiking. When parents picked up the youth at CYC after closing Mass, they were met with tears. The kids did not want to leave.

CYC marks just one



week in these young people's year, but that week's impact is profound. It is best expressed by the youth themselves. When asked about their favorite part of CYC, elementary and middle school students answered: "Mass," "altar serving," "faith program," "learning about God,"

"Exposition," and "communion." Dari, a middle school student shared, "At camp I did the (altar) serving. I was so scared in my heart. Then, when I did it, I felt good. I want to do it at church now."

High school students had powerful sacramental encounters

and interactions with those who have entered religious life:

"I loved confession. I just felt different and so good afterward. When we all finished and were praying, (the camp director) said Jesus had touched us each in confession and when he said that I just started to cry, but it was good not sad. I feel so good now and I want to keep it going," said Agnese.

"The sisters were so nice. They were always happy. They always smile. You just feel happy when you are with them," said Andria.

"I miss the sisters (nuns). They taught us about JOY—it's about Jesus, Others, You," said Genet.

"Confession and Mass were the best parts. The songs at Mass are good. All of me felt different after confession," said Israel.

"Everyone at Catholic camp is nice. It's not like school where kids are bad. I want to be there all the time because everyone is nice," said Adenguli.

The week after returning, one fifth-grade boy proclaimed, "My dad gave me a dollar this week. I saved it for camp next year!"



Above right: St. Ambrose Cathedral parishioners with School Sisters of Christ the King at CYC. Above, St. Ambrose parish youth with their CYC counselor.

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MIT graduate pursues religious life

By Anne Marie Cox
Staff Writer

Four years ago, Mariah Mullen, a top-notch student in her high school in rural Clarinda, went to Massachusetts Institute of Technology with the intention of becoming an astrophysicist.

She graduated in June with a philosophy degree, and last month entered the Michigan-based Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist.

"I'm at peace," she said. "I'm ready. I know that I'm off to something better. Everything is going to be okay."

Her journey diverged from its original path amid a combination of searching for the right major and a growing interest in her faith.

When she was in high school, Mullen had attended a summer program at Harvard University that included a class on the relativity of physics. She was drawn to astrophysics and "answering big, cool questions."

"And then I took physics and decided that probably wasn't for me," she said.

She changed her college major to chemistry.

Amid her science classes, she had courses on philosophy of religion, bioethics and political philosophy. She did well in those and they seemed more interesting than science.

"At the same time, I was becoming very active in the Catholic community, where all of my friendships were," she said. She became involved with Fellowship of Catholic University Students, also known as FOCUS, and Tech Catholic Community, also known as TCC, and a bible study.

She describes herself as having a "nugget" of faith before heading off to college, "but I wasn't very well formed." When she went to college, she encountered a chaplain who explained the faith on an intellectual level that she liked.

"He understands the importance of formation and doctrine. If you try to live the faith as an adult with an understanding of it when you were in elementary school, it's not really going to work.



Mariah Mullen, of St. Clare Parish in Clarinda.

Platitudes don't really cut it," she said. "He had a lot of emphasis on becoming a saint. It's not something I had ever really considered before."

Mullen had a classical philosophy class in which they talked about ancient Greek philosophy.

"I thought it was really cool studying Aristotle and Plato," she said. "While our faith needs to be childlike, our intellect doesn't necessarily."

She wanted to go on a retreat with religious communities, but three times she was turned down.

"I didn't pray regularly, which is actually a hard habit to develop. At least in my case, I lacked discipline and regularity," she said.

The Dominican community welcomed her and she has developed a prayer life.

"I had in my head this picture of, okay, I'll just discern religious life and God will tell me, 'No' and then I will go and get married like I want to," she said. "It did not work out as planned."

There is no downside to discerning religious life, she said.

"Even if I wasn't entirely sure, what's the worst that will happen if you try to give your whole life to God and he's like, 'Oh thank you! This is not actually what I was calling you to but I appreciate your willingness.' Nothing bad is going to happen," she said.

"I want to catechize the youth. There are so many people who don't have formation and I was one of them," Mullen said.

"I also think that knowledge of the good leads to love of the good," she said. "While you can't necessarily spout doctrine to an atheist and they'll become Catholic, I do think that pointing out the beauty of the truth is appealing. And unless you harden your will to it, the truth is going to win you over sooner or later."

Mullen will be known as Sister Mariah while she is a postulant for one year. Then, she will become a novice for two years. After this, she will make simple temporary vows, followed by final vows.



Mariah Mullen stands by a statue of St. Clare outside her home parish in Clarinda.

VOCATIONS: What is

Seminarians building bonds th

By Kelly Mescher Collins
Staff Writer

In years past, the diocese had seminarians studying in seminaries across the Midwest and in Rome.

Today, the seminarians have mostly been grouped together at two major seminaries at their request. They're developing deeply rooted friendships that will benefit them in years to come.

"Others in the future may choose to go to other seminaries," said seminarian Nick Smith. "The message from us is not that we are only sending to two seminaries but that we enjoy the respective programs in St. Paul (Minnesota) and have benefitted greatly from them and our brotherhood."

Incoming seminarians have their choice of three colleges with seminaries, though many of them choose to be together, too.

"Life is much different than at a regular college," said diocesan Vocations Director Father Ross Parker. Minor seminary students have college classes and regular prayer times. Many offer service in area parishes or local charities.

Grouping the seminarians together allows them to give each other support on their path of discernment, Father Parker said. It also affords them opportunities to get to know each other and pray together.

Twelve of the 16 seminarians are at St. Paul Seminary or St. John Vianney Seminary, both on the same campus of St. Thomas University in St. Paul, Minnesota. Another four are studying at the Pontifical North American College in Rome.

"We call seminarians from the same diocese 'Diocesan brothers,'" said seminarian Jake Epstein. "And it's as simple as that: they're my brothers and they'll be my brother priests for as long as God gives us to work together for his glory and for his people."

This will have benefits given the wide geographic area the Diocese of Des Moines covers.

"In some parts of the diocese, parishes are pretty far apart so now is our chance to grow in that fraternity that we'll share for the rest of our lives," Epstein said.

Smith sees long-term benefits.

"Fraternity is so important for priestly fruitfulness, so beginning to develop that in the seminary years with our hometown brothers is valuable to all of us," he said.

Seminarians Jason Lee, Alex Kramer and Smith were in college together at St. John Vianney. Lee said it was a blessing to have Kramer and



Top photo, from left to right: Stan Asjes, Brad Robey, Luis Cabrera and Luke Miksanek pray during a Mass before the seminarians headed back to school in August.

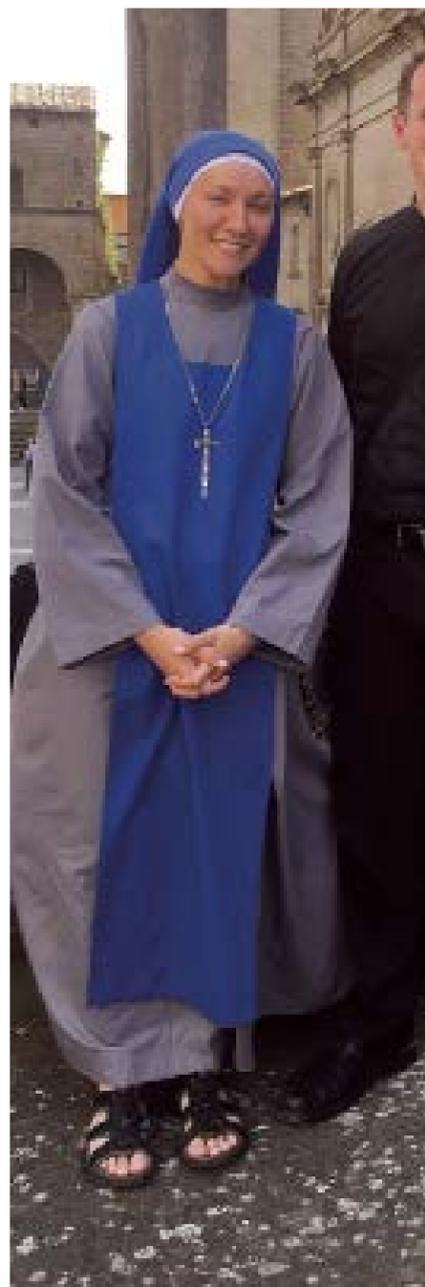
At right, Father James Downey joins seminarians Alex Kramer and Max Carson in Rome, where they are studying.

Smith with him.

"I did not know Nick or Alex well when I first entered seminary," he said. "We got to know each other very fast. I was in a new community in Minnesota and it was natural to bond with the guys from Des Moines. In a sense, the guys I study with from the Diocese of Des Moines have become brothers.

"This brotherhood is formed in a common mission to bring Jesus Christ to our home Diocese of Des Moines as future priests," he said. "It is in this brotherhood that we support each other through prayer, listening to each other's joys and struggles, challenging one another, and supporting each other in our vocation."

Kramer said that while he has close friends from Anchorage, Alaska to Mobile, Alabama and as far away as Ireland, "The most important fraternal bonds are those between the brothers of the same diocese."



God calling you to do with your life?

at will last a lifetime

Meet the newest seminarians



JONATHON ARRIOLA
Freshman, St. John Vianney
Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota
Home Parish: Christ the King

At first, the only reason I wanted to go to seminary was to merely discern my vocation.

The seminary is indeed the place to do that. But after talking to Bishop Richard Pates and other brother seminarians, I have come to realize that the seminary has a larger purpose: To help one become a better man and priest for Christ and his people, a better man and perhaps a good dad, or a better man and a better server of the Church.

I felt a pull in my heart attracting me to the priesthood after my family and I moved to Des Moines in 2016. Yet, it was probably in me a long time ago.

Back in California, where my family and I come from, I was an altar server at my parish, St. Mary of the Nativity.

We used to do a youth Mass on Saturdays which provided the opportunity to serve on the altar.

On one occasion after Mass, a very tall, young priest asked me after procession, "Have you ever thought of becoming a priest one day?"

Sort of uncomfortable at his question I said, "Nahh" and dismissed the idea.

But I think his question moved something in me even if slightly.

That is one of the earliest and last times I came across the question, "Is Jonathon called to be a priest one day?"

In my sophomore year of high school, I began to pray and read about the saints. These practices nurtured my spiritual growth.

When I prayed in my room, I would imagine myself placing my hands on people's heads in prayer, like I had seen priests do. I was becoming aware of the inspiration/desire in me to become a priest one day.



I guess it was a call.

This call lived in me throughout my time in high school, but my disposition to it wasn't always the same.

I disliked when people

asked me, "You're going to be a priest, right?"

Or when they would pick on me because they knew I was planning on pursuing this path one day. This made me sort of indifferent to my vocation.

And to top it off my prayer life wasn't too good.

I feel satisfied and eager with the fact that I am entering the seminary. I look forward to becoming a better version of myself as "All man, and all priest." or as whatever I'm called to do in my life.

Please pray for us. Your prayers are important. God bless you.

LUKE MIKSANEK

Pre-Theology I, St. Paul Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota
Home Parish: St. Ambrose Cathedral

I was born in Chicago but raised in Rochester, Minnesota, where I began violin lessons at the age of five.

The idea of becoming a priest first entered my head in late high school, but I paid little attention to it. So much of my life experience had been steering me in the direction of music exclusively, so changing course seemed like too much effort.

Hence, I proceeded to earn a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in music. I was to win a contract with the Des Moines Symphony beginning in fall 2016.

But the idea of becoming a priest never ceased to surface. In fact, having effectively "made it" as a professional musician, my sense of rest career-wise put into even greater relief my sense of unrest vocation-wise.

After making myself known to Father Ross Parker, director of the Vocations Office, and after many months of focused prayer and spiritual reading, I began my formal application as a candidate for the priesthood in February 2019 and was accepted at the end of the summer.

One lesson I have learned on my discernment adventure thus far is that following the will of God does not require as much effort as I previously believed.

The important thing is to aim our feeble effort in the right direction: towards God. He meets us more than halfway!

Just consider the Parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32, esp. v. 20) and the very person of Jesus Christ, by whose humble sacrifice the whole human race, incapable of saving itself, may be saved.



Des Moines man makes final vows with Augustinians



Brother Nicholas Mullarkey made his solemn profession of vows, or final vows, with the Order of St. Augustine in June. He attended St. Anthony School in Des Moines and Dowling Catholic High School in West Des Moines. He was a seminarian for the Diocese of Des Moines before discerning the Augustinian religious community was where God was calling him. He is pictured with Augustinian Father Bernard Scianna.

Here's what to expect on ordination day

Continued from page 1

Pope Francis' representative in the United States, Archbishop Christophe Pierre, will affirm that the Holy Father named Bishop-elect Joensen as the 10th bishop for the Diocese of Des Moines.

The ordination rite will occur after the homily. Archbishop Jackels will use chrism oil to consecrate the bishop-elect. The archbishop will give him three signs of a bishop:

- an episcopal ring;
- a miter;
- a crosier (pastoral staff).

Streaming

Whether you have a ticket or not, everyone will be able to watch the ordination and pray as one faith community. Those without tickets will be able to go online and watch the

service beginning at 2 p.m. A live broadcast will be carried at dmidiocece.org, facebook.com/dmideocece and through Iowa Catholic Radio.

Public events

There are two opportunities open to everyone to welcome Bishop-elect Joensen to the diocese.

An evening prayer service, called vespers, will be held the night before the ordination. All are welcome at 7 p.m. on Sept. 26 to St. Ambrose Cathedral for a service at which the cathedral's doors will literally be opened as the diocese welcomes him.

Immediately following the ordination on Sept. 27, a public reception will be held at the Hy-Vee Ron Pearson Center, 5820 Westown Parkway in West Des Moines beginning at 4:30 p.m.

More than 70 years have passed since an episcopal ordination has been celebrated here

The last episcopal ordination celebrated in Des Moines was in 1948, when Bishop Edward Daly became the fourth bishop of the diocese.

Following him, Dubuque Auxiliary Bishop George Biskup was appointed the Des Moines diocese's fifth bishop and the first native-born Iowan to serve central and southwest Iowa.

It was 51 years ago when the last priest was ordained a bishop to serve the Diocese of Des Moines. Bishop Maurice Dingman, originally from St. Paul, Iowa, celebrated his episcopal ordination in 1968 in Davenport.

Following Bishop Dingman, three consecutive auxiliary bishops from the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis served the Des Moines diocese: Bishop William Bullock, Bishop Emeritus Joseph Charron C.P.P.S., and Bishop Richard Pates.

Both the last Iowan to serve the Des

Moines diocese and newest bishop accentuated their love for their home state.

"As I look forward to my work in Des Moines, I am reassured by the fact that I am a native son of Iowa with a deep and abiding love for its soil and the souls of its people," said Bishop Dingman to the press. "That I will remain to travel its hills and its valleys, to admire its crops and its beauty, is a source of inestimable gratitude." (*The Catholic Church in Southwest Iowa*, pp.254-255)

At the recent news conference announcing his appointment, Bishop-elect William Joensen said: "I may be fortunate to have lived and studied in different places in the country and even the world, but I love this state and its people with their rootedness in the land and their deep faith, and I've always wanted to spend my life here serving others."

Local women attend national DCCW convention



Des Moines Diocesan Council of Catholic Women who attended a national convention include: Carolyn Smith, Connie Sampers, Joan Gubbels and Nancy Larson.

Watch the ordination of Bishop-elect William Joensen on Friday, Sept. 27 at dmidiocece.org or [Facebook.com/dmideocece](https://facebook.com/dmideocece).
Not near a screen?
Listen on Iowa Catholic Radio.

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

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

Nearly 700 Catholic women from around the nation gathered in Atlanta to celebrate the National Council of Catholic Women's 99 years of service to the Church.

Attending from the Des Moines Diocesan Council of Catholic Women were Carolyn Smith of Glenwood, Connie Sampers of Red Oak, Joan Gubbels of Council Bluffs and Nancy Larson of St. Mary Parish in Shenandoah.

Larson was inducted as the new statewide province

director for the next two years.

Attendees from Iowa networked at a province dinner, where they talked about greater collaboration. The group included the Des Moines diocese's representatives plus province director Alma Meyers of Marion, Mary Ann Ruether of Le Mars, Mary Rausch of Fort Atkinson, Rozena McVey of Walker and Sherry Nillas of Sheldon.

Father Jim Tigges, of Fort Dodge, joined the Iowa group.

Bishop-elect William Joensen will be the guest on Iowa Catholic Radio's morning show with Jon Leonetti on Tuesday, Sept. 24 at 7 a.m.



Waukee pastor installed



Photo by Anne Marie Cox

Father Chinnappan “Chinna” Devaraj was installed on Aug. 24 and 25 as the pastor of St. Boniface Parish in Waukee. When the bishop installs a pastor, he blesses the relationship between the priest and parishioners.

Diocesan-wide book study focuses on relationship with Christ



Photo by Anne Marie Cox

Author Joe Paprocki kicked off a diocesan-wide book study for educators and catechists on Aug. 19 based on his book *Under the Influence of Christ*.

Educators and catechists gathered Aug. 19 to kick off a diocesan book study using Joe Paprocki’s tome *Under the Influence of Jesus*.

Monthly, each school’s teachers will read a chapter or two and discuss reflection questions. Parish catechetical teams are invited to participate as well.

“This will accomplish two things: To help people to critically reflect on their own faith journey,

as well as to allow Christ to penetrate a little bit deeper into their hearts,” said John Huynh, diocesan director of the Faith Journey program.

“By doing those things – to reflect and let Christ penetrate – the truth of that reflection will be reaped by their students. They will pass it on as models, through their witnessing to students and those they interact with,” he said.

Evangelization goes to the state fair



Two Iowa State Fairgoers stop by a booth staffed with deacons, where Deacon Tom Bradley was answering questions and handing out prayers, rosaries and holy medals.

Tune in to the bishop’s radio show every Friday at 9 a.m. on Iowa Catholic Radio and Spirit Catholic Radio Network.

Upcoming shows feature expansions of what we’ll see at the episcopal ordination of Bishop-elect William Joensen and stories from when St. John Paul II came to Iowa.

Sept. 20 -- Father Trevor Chicoine on what happens in the episcopal ordination liturgy

Sept. 27 -- Bishop-elect William Joensen on what he’s thinking before he becomes the shepherd for the Diocese of Des Moines

Oct. 4 -- Find out who the keynote speaker was at the annual priests’ workshop

Oct. 11 -- Monsignor Steve Orr reflects on the 40th anniversary of St. John Paul II’s visit.

Tune in to Iowa Catholic Radio’s morning show with Jon Leonetti on Tuesday, Sept. 24 at 7 a.m. to hear Bishop-elect Joensen talk about how he’s prepared to lead the Diocese of Des Moines.

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USCCB leaders: Admitting fewer refugees ‘runs counter’ to U.S. values

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- A proposal to reduce the number of refugee admissions to the United States to fewer than 30,000 “would be wholly counter to our values as a nation of immigrants,” said the president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and the chair of the bishops’ Committee on Migration.

“America welcomes refugees; that is who we are, that is what we do. Such reductions would undermine

America’s leadership role as a global champion and protector of religious freedom and human rights,” they said in a joint statement Sept. 13.

Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, USCCB president, and Bishop Joe S. Vasquez of Austin, Texas, the committee chairman, were responding to reports that administration officials will recommend to President Donald Trump the number of refugees accepted be below 30,000,

“already an historic low.”

Since Congress passed the Refugee Act in 1980, the U.S. had admitted on average 95,000 refugees annually. In recent years, the U.S. has accepted between 50,000 to 75,000 refugees per year. The number was capped at 45,000 after Trump became president in 2017 and was scaled back to 30,000 refugees for fiscal year 2019.

Setting caps on the number of refugees to be accepted from five global regions is done at

the beginning of each fiscal year by the president, in consultation with Congress. The deadline for the upcoming consultation is Sept. 30.

Cardinal DiNardo and Bishop Vasquez noted the Catholic Church is preparing to celebrate the World Day of Migrants and Refugees Sept. 29, so “we are reminded of Pope Francis urging us all to work for a ‘globalization of solidarity’ with refugees, not a globalization of ‘indifference.’”

The prelates noted that beginning with European refugees in the aftermath of World War I, the U.S. Catholic Church “has more than a century of experience resettling vulnerable populations to a safer life and one in which they have contributed to the greatness of America.”

“The 3.4 million refugees that America has welcomed since 1975 have paid billions of dollars in taxes, founded companies, earned citizenship and bought homes at notably high rates,” they said.

“In light of refugees’ extraordinary contributions to our country, and of the world’s struggle with the greatest forced displacement crisis on record and historic highs in religious persecution, we categorically

oppose any further reductions in the refugee resettlement program,” Cardinal DiNardo and Bishop Vasquez said.

Earlier this year, reports the Trump administration was considering “zeroing out” refugee admissions all together were roundly condemned by the USCCB, other faith-based organizations and religious orders.

In a Catholic News Service interview in July, Bill Canny, executive director of the USCCB’s Migration and Refugee Services, noted the historically low number of refugees admitted to the U.S. over the past couple of years, saying: “Of the millions of refugees around the world, only about 1% will be resettled, that number will decrease and leave more people vulnerable if these actions come to fruition.”

He said the administration should reconsider making these devastating cuts.

“Our military relies on the work of interpreters while in the field and those interpreters are putting their lives and their families’ lives on the line. To not open our arms to them when they have done so for us, would go against who we are as a nation,” Canny said.



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CNS Photo/Giorgos Moutfis, Reuters

Refugees from Afghanistan are seen at a makeshift camp in Samos, Greece on June 25. Catholic and other faith-based groups said July 19 they are “appalled” by reports officials in the Trump administration are considering “zeroing out” the number of refugees accepted by the United States.

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Pope: God conquers evil with love, forgiveness of sins



CNS photo/Vatican Media

Pope Francis waves as he leads the Angelus from the window of his studio overlooking St. Peter's Square at the Vatican on Sept. 15.

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- God forgives sins so that joy, not sadness, can flourish once again in one's heart, Pope Francis said.

"How do you conquer evil? By welcoming God's forgiveness and the forgiveness of one's brothers and sisters," the pope said Sept. 15 during his Sunday Angelus address.

With confession, God forgives and takes away the sin, "making us new inside and that way he makes reborn joy, not sadness, not darkness in the heart, not suspicion, but joy," he said.

In his address, the pope focused on the Sunday Gospel reading in which Jesus responds to those who criticized his choosing to welcome and eat with sinners.

The pope said Jesus responds with three "stupendous" parables, which everyone should read in the Gospel of St. Luke, chapter 15, to be reminded of the beauty of God's love for everyone, but especially for those who do not know him or are unable to open their hearts to him.

In the three parables -- the one lost sheep, the lost coin and the prodigal son -- God shows that no matter what, "you have a place" in God's heart and

are precious in his eyes, he said.

He will always wait for his sinning children to return home and will welcome and love them like the lost sheep, the pope said.

"Do not be afraid, God loves you, he loves you as you are and he knows that only his love can change your life," he said.

However, people might still refuse God's infinite love for them, the pope said. This can happen when someone, like the prodigal son's brother, feels righteous and believes that evil is found in others, not oneself.

"Let us not believe we are good, because alone, without the help of God, who is good, we do not know how to overcome evil," he said.

Sometimes people may mistakenly think God is more a master than a father, a God who is more strict and rigid than merciful, a God who conquers evil with force rather than with forgiveness, he said.

"That's not the way it is. God saves with love, not force, offering himself, not imposing himself," said Pope Francis.

The pope asked everyone to have courage and understand that, "with God, no sin will have the last word."

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En las Tierras del Corazón Con el Obispo Pates

Bienvenidos, Obispo Joensen

El Nuevo Momento

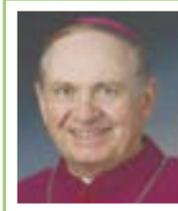
Le ofrezco una cálida bienvenida de todo corazón al Obispo William Joensen al asumir su papel como el 10mo obispo de Des Moines.

Él expresó claramente el centro de su anticipado ministerio en su declaración el 18 de julio en ocasión del anuncio de su nombramiento como principal pastor de esta iglesia local.

“Mi mayor esperanza y deseo de corazón como sacerdote, y pronto a ser obispo, es que la gente tenga la gracia de encontrar a Jesús, de vivir su amor y su misericordia (¡así como yo ciertamente lo he hecho!) y que forme con Él una amistad por medio de la sagrada escritura, la vida de los sacramentos – especialmente el de la Eucaristía – y por la comunión con que nos conocemos los unos a los otros. Jesús es la verdad en la que he aventurado mi vida...”

Tal profesión coincide con la naturaleza misma de la iglesia como lo enfatizó el Papa Paulo VI en su Exhortación Apostólica Evangelii Nuntiandi: La Iglesia Existe para Evangelizar.

En el verano del 2017, una combinación de 17 personas entre personal de la diócesis y miembros de las parroquias viajaron a Orlando, Florida para



By
Bishop
Richard
Pates

participar en la convocatoria de líderes católicos de los Estados Unidos. Su propósito era el de integrar en la iglesia americana la misión y visión del Papa Francisco en su Exhortación Apostólica, Evangelii Gaudium, la Alegría del Evangelio.

El resultado produjo una emoción de traer a la gente de nuestra diócesis una nueva fundada visión que generaba esperanza. Las señales de los tiempos nos dan un vistazo al futuro: un declive precipitoso de la fe, especialmente entre la generación más joven; una moral basada en el relativismo; una muy extendida indiferencia por los no nacidos, por los pobres, por los que sufren, por los ancianos, por los inmigrantes, todos ellos aislados en las periferias de la sociedad; un materialismo paralizante centrado en economías centradas en las ganancias; una continua y destructiva presión en un ambiente natural exhausto; y tantos que están diciendo “no” a Dios.

Motivados por el liderazgo del Papa Francisco y las estimulantes liturgias y las presentaciones en la convocatoria, nuestros representantes diocesanos, en respuesta a las señales de los tiempos, regresaron con la visión del Nuevo Momento. Este marco de referencia se ha compartido gradualmente parroquia por parroquia despertando las comunidades a la esperanza que tienen en su interior.

La relación con Jesús que encalla El Nuevo Momento está basada en la identidad de la que da testimonio Pedro: “Tú eres el Hijo de Dios, tú tienes palabras de vida.” Goza a la vez de un compromiso de amor profundo y personal con el Señor, similar al de los apóstoles y discípulos en su tiempo. Se ha desarrollado por medio de la oración y se vive como parte de un caminar consciente en la fe.

Los primeros seguidores de Jesús se convirtieron en discípulos en su totalidad. Sus vidas fueron transformadas y se expresaban en base al lazo, la relación con su Dios y hermano. Individualmente, se conformaron como iglesia, como el Cuerpo de Cristo siendo luz y levadura para la sociedad.

Estos discípulos de Jesús acogieron la vocación de un misionero. Sus dedicados sucesores les han seguido hasta los confines de la tierra – respondiendo al comando del Evangelio de “Vayan” y hagan de ellos mis discípulos.

Hoy, el destino de la actividad misionera está al alcance de nuestra mano al confrontarnos con las señales de los tiempos, en nuestras familias, nuestros vecindarios, entre nuestros compañeros de trabajo y en la misma composición de nuestras comunidades culturales y civiles. Nosotros “vamos” envueltos de un amor de sacrificio, sin juicios, con la confianza de que al final, el bien triunfará sobre el mal.

Esta experiencia de El Nuevo Momento se enfoca en los adultos jóvenes, a quienes frecuentemente se les refiere como “los milenios.” Estas señales de nuestros tiempos parecen concentrarse en este grupo en particular, especialmente en términos de fidelidad a largo plazo a la fe. Por supuesto, nuestro ministerio está dirigido hacia todas las generaciones.

Y llega el Obispo William Joensen. Él ha dedicado una gran porción de su ministerio educando y formando adultos jóvenes, quienes expresan un gran agradecimiento de su parte. Él les ha tocado en su sed de

entendimiento filosófico de la fe cuando buscan acogerla de frente a tantos dilemas morales, especialmente en la interfase de la fe y la ciencia.

Nuestra comunidad ha estado orando fervorosamente por un nuevo obispo por más de un año. Bromeando, pensábamos que al Papa Francisco se le había extraviado nuestra dirección. No es así. La espera ciertamente ha valido la pena. Todos esperamos ansiosamente la llegada del Obispo Joensen y El Nuevo Momento que le acompaña.

La Oración de El Nuevo Momento toma un significado adicional:

Oh, Dios de todos los tiempos,
En el Nuevo Momento, ayúdanos
a profundizar
nuestra relación con Jesús al
responder a nuestro
llamado como Sus discípulos.
Que podamos valientemente salir
a dar testimonio de la compasión
y misericordia del Señor,
para poder tocar todas las
generaciones,
especialmente a los milenios.
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Pope brings his message to southern Africa

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Rejecting violence, promoting interreligious harmony, caring for the environment and stamping out government corruption were high on the agenda Sept. 4-10 when Pope Francis visited Mozambique, Madagascar and Mauritius.

"The pope's very presence will be his principle message to the people of

Mozambique," said Father Giorgio Ferretti, of Mozambique, before the trip.

"Just the fact of him walking these streets, meeting the people, speaking to them will be a great message of peace," he said.

After 15 years of civil war in Mozambique, a peace agreement was signed in 1992, concluding a two-year mediation process facilitated by the Rome-

based Community of Sant'Egidio, the Catholic archbishop of Beira and representatives of the Italian government.

The country has been at peace for 27 years, "but there still hasn't been a real de-militarization of some parts of what had been the armed opposition, so we must still pray and work for peace in this country," Father Ferretti said.

"Then, in the north of the country, in the province of Cabo Delgado -- where there are

Americans, Italians and others involved in the extraction of gas -- there has been disorder; it still is not clear at all whether we are dealing with Islamic fundamentalists, but there has been violence," he said.

When the incidents began in October 2017, many were quick to suspect Islamic fundamentalists; however, others believe the violence is more closely linked to the foreign expansion of the natural gas

industry in a region where most people are very poor.

St. John Paul II's visit to Mozambique in 1988 "laid the foundations for a commitment to peace," Father Ferretti said.

"Now, the visit of Pope Francis can be like a final seal on that process for an effective and definitive peace in the country. This is the great hope of the church and the people for the visit of the pope."



CNS photo/Pul Haring
Pope Francis arrives to visit the Akamasoa "Community of Good Friends" in Antananarivo, Madagascar on Sept. 8.

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