A Call to Prayer for Life

December 29, 2012

Communications of
St. Thomas Becket

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

This year promises to be one of great consequence on many fronts for our Church and our Nation. With the looming threat to our religious liberty posed by the HHS mandate, the rapid erosion of respect for human life and the unprecedented assault on the institution of marriage taking hold in our nation, we bishops of the United States are issuing a Call to Prayer.

St. Thomas Becket, whom the Church honors as I write this letter, was a martyr for the sake of justice. As Archbishop of Canterbury, he steadfastly defended the rights of the Church against the unjust interference of his king. He wrote, “If we who are called bishops desire to understand the meaning of our calling and to be worthy of it, we must strive to keep our eyes on him whom God appointed high priest forever, and to follow in his footsteps.” In a similar spirit during our November Plenary Assembly, we bishops of the United States determined that it is our duty as shepherds to mobilize the entire Church against the threats against people of faith in our day.

Consequently, we have issued a Call to Prayer for Life, Marriage and Religious Liberty.

I want to join my voice to that of my fellow bishops in summoning the faithful, clergy and episcopate of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City to embrace this coordinated spiritual effort to combat these looming challenges to the free and public exercise of our faith. We ought to understand this spiritual effort in conjunction with the Year of Faith, as much as we are defending concerns that are assigned to our faith as the public consequences. These threats call for a public witness and a concerted spiritual effort.

There are many ways to participate as individuals, families, parishes and schools. Here are five key components to this Call to Prayer:

- **Beginning now and continuing through Christ the King Sunday on Nov. 24, 2013, cathedrals and parishes are urged to have a monthly Eucharistic Holy Hour for Life, Marriage and Religious Liberty.
- **Family and individuals are encouraged to pray the daily Rosary, especially for the preservation of Life, Marriage and Religious Liberty.
- **Parishes are encouraged to hold monthly prayer meetings, to pray for the pro-life movement and the annual March for Life.
- **At Sunday and daily Masses, we encourage that the Prayers of the Faithful include special intentions for respect for all human life from conception to natural death, the strengthening of marriage and family life and the preservation of religious liberty both in our nation and abroad.
- **Recognizing the importance of spiritual and bodily sacrifice in the life of the Church, we encourage abstinence from meat and fasting.

Parishes Called to Welcome, Support People with Mental Illness

By Christine M. Williams

Catholic News Service

PHILADELPHIA — When Deacon Tom Lamberti’s wife was hospitalized for open heart surgery, friends brought unsolicited meals to the family’s door.

“For three or four weeks, every day at 6 o’clock, the bell would ring and a different family would bring us dinner,” he said.

Those neighbors and fellow parishioners were responding to a need.

But a different illness in his family some years later garnered no responses.

“When our daughter was diagnosed with mental illness, no one came to the door,” he said.

That was 25 years ago, and Deacon Lamberti, who co-chairs the National Catholic Partnership on Disability’s Council on Mental Illness, said awareness is essential in overcoming the stigma associated with a disease of the mind.

In the United States, severe or persistent mental illness affects one in 17 Americans. The mental illness disability rate has more than doubled since the 1980s and increased six-fold since the 1950s. Some clinicians and researchers believe the increase has been influenced by external factors, including environmental and social causes.

Other experts theorize that a widening set of criteria for diagnosing mental illness — which was once thought to be a result of chronic or irreversible conditions — has led to a rise in the number of people living with such a disability.
Catholic Schools Keep Faith First

As those might notice who occasionally scan my published calendar, I spend a lot of time visiting our Catholic schools. Every year I travel to each of our 22 Catholic elementary and secondary schools around the Archdiocese. Among these we have two traditional high schools, one virtual high school, 18 elementary schools and one school for children on the autistic spectrum. I am proud of each of these institutions. Each one represents a shared commitment among parents, pastors, administrators, faculty and staff, the parishes and the Archdiocese.

From the earliest days of the Church’s history in the United States and in Oklahoma, Catholic schools have had an irreparable role in the life and mission of the Church. Much of the credit for this rich heritage is owed to the religious women and men who pioneered some of our earliest Catholic schools. We celebrate that ongoing commitment and legacy annually during Catholic Schools Week, which we observe this year beginning Jan. 27.

The theme for Catholic Schools Week 2013 is “Catholic Schools Raise the Standards.” Our schools are committed to pursuing and promoting excellence in every sphere. We can achieve this, however, only if we are clear about why we exist at all. As we seek to raise standards across the board, we raise highest the standard of our faith.

During this Year of Faith it is good to emphasize the privileged opportunity that Catholic schools have in regard to strengthening and handing on our Catholic faith. As an expression of the Church’s mission, our schools’ primary purpose is to be evangelizing communities of disciples. Catholic schools are privileged places of evangelization. Here faith is nurtured through a close collaboration with parents. Faith is celebrated through worship and prayer. Faith is lived out in loving service to others. Faith is strengthened as it is integrated across the entire curriculum and in every facet of the educational environment. Here we pursue excellence in academic instruction as well as faith formation. We do this by being authentically Catholic in our teaching and practice, but also by including of students from every social, economic and ethnic background.

We welcome students of other faith traditions, but view them as an opportunity to appreciate the fullness of our Catholic faith and heritage. In order for our Catholic schools to continue to flourish, we have to strategize ways to grow our enrollment and to make Catholic schools accessible to more and more children. Our schools need a solid financial footing if they are to remain viable. Our schools need ways to procure tuition assistance to those who otherwise could not afford the benefits of a Catholic school education. These remain some of our greatest challenges, and the greatest threat to the continued flourishing of our Catholic schools.

Our Catholic schools have flourished because of the generous stewardship of families, religious women and men, priests and parishioners who together have made tremendous sacrifices to make Catholic schools available for their children, grandchildren and their neighbor’s children. It has always been a shared commitment and a shared sacrifice.

The future depends on our ability to sustain this spirit of stewardship. We are benefiting from the sacrifices of those who have gone before us. And we have to keep in mind those who will come after us. Parents of today’s Catholic schoolchildren cannot be left to shoulder the full cost of Catholic education alone. For most it is simply too expensive. Whether or not we have children in Catholic schools, we all benefit from maintaining strong Catholic schools.

I hope you enjoy the insert in this issue which profiles our Catholic schools and how we are striving to keep them strong.

Archbishop Coakley’s Calendar

The following events are part of Archbishop Coakley’s official calendar.

January 15 — Department Head Meeting, Catholic Pastoral Center, 10 a.m.
January 15 — Mass at Catholic Pastoral Center, 11:30 a.m.
January 15 — Finance Council Meeting, Catholic Pastoral Center, 2 p.m.
January 15 — Archdiocesan Lay Review Board Meeting, Catholic Pastoral Center, 3:30 p.m.
January 15 — Opening Ceremony for Father Stanley Rother Hispanic Cultural Institute, Family Center at St. Joseph Church, Norman, 7 p.m.
January 16 — Private Council Meeting, Catholic Pastoral Center, 9:30 a.m.
January 16 — Holy Mass, Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 6 p.m.
January 17 — Envisioning Leadership Team Meeting, Catholic Pastoral Center, 10 a.m.
January 18 — Mass at Catholic Pastoral Center, 11:30 a.m.
January 20 — Martin Luther King Jr. Mass, Corpus Christi Church, 11 a.m.
January 20 — Mass for Filipino Feast of the Holy Infant Jesus, Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 4 p.m.
January 22 - January 24 — Catholic Leadership Institute Episcopal Formation Workshop, Orlando, Fla.
January 25 — March for Life, Washington, D.C.
January 27 — Confirmation, Christ the King Church, Oklahoma City, Okla., 12:15 p.m.
January 27 — Mass and Dinner with students at St. Thomas More University Parish and Student Center, Norman, 5 p.m.

Seminarian Burses

A $1,000 donation was made to the Father Clement Pribil Seminary Burse by George and Nelda Pribil in memory of their nephew, Father Clement Pribil.

A $1,000 donation was made to the Father John Larkin Seminary Burs by an anonymous donor.

A $500 donation was made to the Father Larkin Seminary Burs by an anonymous donor.

A $500 donation was made to the Father Gerald Ucker Seminary Burs by an anonymous donor.

A $100 donation was made to the Father Larkin Seminary Burs by W. Henry Looby and Steve M. Kotlarz.

A $20 donation was made to the Father Larkin Seminary Burs by Mark A. Schwarz, E.L. Schwartz, Mark A. Schwarz, E.L. Schwartz, Marilyn L. Hickey and Rose Ann Mann.

A $1,000 donation was made to the Father Stanley Rother Seminary Burs by an anonymous donor.

A $400 donation was made to the Father Stanley Rother Seminary Burs in memory of Clara Schwarze from her children: Agnes C. Daniel, Eugene J. Schwarze, Mark A. Schwarz, E.L. Schwartz, Marilyn L. Hickey and Rose Ann Mann.

A $1,000 donation was made to the Father Stanley Rother Seminary Burs by an anonymous donor.

Seminarian Burses from the proceeds of Jamie Biller’s “The Shepherd Cannot Run” CD.

The Sooner Catholic is supported through the Archdiocesan Development Fund.
Prayer continued from Page 1

on Frédex for the intention of the protection of life, marriage and religious liberty.

There will be another national Fortnight of Freedom at the end of June and beginning of July. This Fortnight effort will emphasize marriage in a particular way in the face of the potential Supreme Court rulings expected during this time. It will also emphasize the need for conscience protection in view of the Aug. 1, 2013, deadlines for religious organizations to comply with the HHS mandate. It will emphasize religious freedom concerns in other areas, such as immigration, adoption and humanism as well. The focus will be on the God-given nature of religious freedom and the right to publicly witness to our faith in the public square as well as the rights of individuals and institutions to conduct their professional lives in accord with their religious convictions.

A website with the plan for the Call to Prayer and many additional resources is available at www.usccb.org/marriage-liberty.

I urge you to participate in this important Call to Prayer for our Nation and our Church. With prayerful best wishes for you and yours during this New Year, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Paul S. Coakley
Archbishop of Oklahoma City

January 13, 2013

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Researchers in the mental health field consider the requirement for a diagnosis before pharmaceutical and insurance companies will dispense treatment as a factor as well. Unfortunately, treatment plans have long ignored a patient’s spiritual needs, said Sacred Heart Sister Nancy Keohoe, a clinical psychologist. She authored the book “Wrestling With Our Inner Angels: Faith, Mental Illness, and the Journey to Wholeness.”

When she began working with people with mental illness 30 years ago, faith issues were ignored, because mental health professionals were not trained to adequately respond when a patient spoke about spirituality, she said.

“It was really unheard of in 1981 to have anyone suggest that it would be worthwhile to have a conversation about religion because up until then, it was really just seen as part of a ‘syndrome or a disease,’” she said.

“Either people pathologized it or they ignored it.”

Contrary to the prevailing belief that faith was a part of a patient’s mental illness, Sister Nancy soon discovered that it was often part of an individual’s inner strength. She then organized a group for people who wanted to talk about mental illness and religion. The group meets monthly at St. Paul Parish in Cambridge, Mass. When someone struggles with a severe mental illness, they often feel isolated. Their behaviors may put others at a distance, and they may have difficulty holding a job, keeping relationships and living on their own.

Deacon Lambert said that many people at Sunday Mass privately struggle with mental illness and the vast majority are managing their illness well.

“Nobody’s going to come up and say, ‘Well, I have schizophrenia, but I try to work every day. I hold a job, I have a marriage.’ But I guarantee there’s a lot of people who go as that situation,” he said.

As “people of compassion and justice,” Deacon Lambert said, Catholics can help by creating safe havens for people to talk about their mental illness and allow their faith to be part of their healing. Even a prayer intention at Mass may spark hope, he added.

In reaction to his daughter’s diagnosis, faith played a significant role, the deacon said.

“Our faith was crucial in getting us through that,” he explained. “Through prayer and turning things over to the Lord, saying we’re going to deal with this situation with the strength and hope that comes from God and our faith. That’s really what got us through, quite honestly. It’s so simple as that.”

Father Robert Thibault, director of the Diocese of Fall River’s Pastoral Care of the Sick program, said his work in hospital ministry has brought him in frequent contact with people whose mental illness has left them admittance to the psychiatric ward, often because they are battling suicidal thoughts.

“I have found that people really do reach out, and they seek the presence of God in their lives in a moment like that,” he said. “Usually it’s to find that inner peace. They know that Jesus is the one who is the king of peace.”

Editor’s Note: Information about various ways that parishes can reach out to its members struggling with mental illness can be found on the website of the National Catholic Partnership on Disability at http://ncpd.org/.

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rally. The round-trip bus rate will be $15 per person paid in advance. At 5:30 we will load the bus and leave the S. Francis parking lot for the Capitol. The event begins at 11:30 a.m.

On this day red roses are presented to state legislators as a symbol of the sanctity of life. The red rose also symbolizes a participant’s pro-life stance and their desire the Oklahoma lawmakers also support pro-life issues.

Those attending are asked to bring roses to the Capitol: one for the governor, one for the lieutenant-governor and the senators. Fill out cards asking the state representative and senator. The legislators also support pro-life issues.

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The event begins at 11:30 a.m. Additional seating and chambers for overflow crowds. State legislators will be introduced, and then turns into hope with the help of a nurturing and well-timed program that brings healing to those分离 or divorced. It is designed to provide the tools to help get your marriage back on track. It will give you and your spouse the opportunity to rediscover each other and examine your lives together in a new and positive way. A program in Tulsa will start with a weekend on Feb. 8-10, 2013.

For confidential information about the Retrouvaille program or to register for this weekend session, go to www.helpourmarriage.com or call (405) 695-5759.

The second of the four programs planned for 2013 will be held in Oklahoma City the weekend of April 12-14, 2013.

For more information, go to the website at www.helpourmarriage.com or call (405) 443-3541.

The remaining 2013 weekend dates are Tulsa, Sept. 20-22, 2013, and Oklahoma City, Nov. 8-10, 2013.

Rachel’s Vineyard Brings the Light to Hearts of Those Wounded by an Abortion Experience

Through the Office of Family Life in our Archdiocese, Rachel’s Vineyard Retreats are held twice each year. The testimonies of those experiencing the healing Light of Jesus during the weekend speak volumes. Here are clips of some testimonies:

“I attended Rachel’s Vineyard Retreat this year and the healing I have experienced as a result has changed me deeply and fundamentally. I sort of found God’s forgiveness but He made it possible for me to forgive myself. Healing is possible. There is Hope. A part of me died when I had my abortion and God’s healing is restoring me.”

“To any woman who has had one or many abortions and has the need to be reconciled with God and maybe her Church, the retreat is a wonderful gift she could give to herself! You are able to experience the sadness, grief and shame in the company of other women and men feeling very much the same. This pain turns into hope with the help of a nurturing and well-trained team. You are not rushed or hurried; you are given time to reflect and become open to the healing process. It was like a light had been turned on in my life again. I came out of the darkness and into Light. A great weight has been lifted from my shoulders. I was finally able to grieve for my children without feeling the guilt that I had been carrying around for so long. I was finally able to forgive myself and release my hatred toward God. You must come in order to finally heal. Please come.”

During 2013, Rachel’s Vineyard Retreats will be held May 24-26 and Dec. 6-8. Please contact the team at the confidential phone line or email. We are happy to answer questions and to arrange one-on-one time for those who are seeking a confidential meeting prior to deciding about coming to a retreat. Phone: (405) 823-3844 or email rachelsvineyardokc@gmail.com.

Additional information about this ministry can be found on the website: www.rachelsvineyard.org.

Retrouvaille Program Helps Hurting Marriages, Spouses in Rediscovering and Healing Process

Help for those with hurting marriages is coming to Oklahoma once again during 2013. The Retrouvaille program provides marriage help for couples seeking reconciliation. Retrouvaille is highly successful in saving hurting marriages, even bringing reconciliation to couples who have already separated or divorced. It is designed to provide the tools to help get your marriage back on track. It will give you and your spouse the opportunity to rediscover each other and examine your lives together in a new and positive way. A program in Tulsa will start with a weekend on Feb. 8-10, 2013.
Annual Men’s Conference Scheduled for Feb. 16

NORMAN — The Oklahoma Catholic Men’s Annual Conference “In This Father’s Footsteps” will be held Saturday, Feb. 16 at the Embassy Suites Convention Center. The day begins at 9 a.m. and concludes with Mass celebrated by Archbishop Conley at 4:30 p.m. The theme of this year’s event is Upon This Rock — "You Are Peter, and Upon This Rock I Will Build My Church." (Matthew 16:18)

Special sessions are planned for teams and registration can be made at www.CatholicMen.net.

The following is a list and brief description of the speakers scheduled for the day.

**Father Dave Dwyer**

**Popular National Radio Host: The Busted Halo Show - Catholic Channel on SiriusXM 129**

*Vet Father Dave and The Busted Halo Show on Facebook*  
*Father Dave on YouTube*  

Father Dave Dwyer, CSP, is a radio personality for a hit music radio show and the anchor of Catholic Channel on SiriusXM. He received a bachelor’s degree in philosophy from the University of Notre Dame and a master’s degree in religion from St. Mary’s Seminary & University. He was ordained a priest in 1992 and has served as pastor, parochial vicar, and director of religious education. He is also the author of four books. Father Dave also co-hosts the weekly show “Conversation with Cardinal Dolan.”

**Father Jack Wagner**

**Humorous Speaker; Host of Young Men’s Lunch**  

Father Jack Wagner attended the University of Notre Dame and later a master’s degree in theology from Pontifical Gregorian University. He was ordained a priest in 2000 and served as pastor, deacon, and spiritual director. He is also the author of seven books.

**Father Richard Fragomeni**

**Humorous Speaker; Teacher and Preacher**  

Father Richard Fragomeni is author of “Total Partnership,” which in turn led to several books. He is known to listeners as “Happy Dave.” He holds a master’s of divinity from the Catholic University of America and a bachelor of science degree in communication from Syracuse University.

**William Federer**

**Historian and Leading Defender of Religious Freedom**  

William Federer is a nationally known speaker, best-selling author and president of Americafirst, Inc., a publishing company dedicated to researching America’s noble heritage. His work comprises theology, interpretation theory and poetry. A priest of the Diocese of Albany, N.Y., Father Fragomeni is a nationally acclaimed speaker, author, retreat master and teacher, traveling across North America presenting to conferences and workshops on liturgical, sacramental and intellecual topics.

**Father Richard Fragomeni**

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Mount St. Mary Students Bring Joy and Help to Sisters of Mercy

OKLAHOMA CITY — The physical presence of the Sisters of Mercy at Mount St. Mary has dwindled since the school was founded in 1903. Scenes of teaching Sisters gone out of the black-and-white photographs that line the main hallway of the school, but today, the sole representative of the order is Sister Betty. However, thanks to Sister Betty—who has the energy of 10 young Sisters and, if you ask her students, the suavity ability to be in two places at once—and the actions and example of so many devoted Bettekos, the spiritual presence of the Sisters at The Mount is still strong, touching and forming the heart of each individual who comes here to learn, teach or work. The Sisters brought Mercy to Oklahoma City, and it lives still in our school: on lips that pray, in hearts that love, through hands that serve. And this Advent season, Mount students thanked the Sisters for their love, prayers and enduring influence by visiting the retired Sisters to spread mercy and celebrate the coming joy of the birth of Christ.

Several student groups from the Mount spent time with the Sisters this past month. The Aviation Club and the baseball team helped the Sisters prepare for Christmas, as together they decorated their community space and trimmed the Christmas tree. The Sisters also enjoyed a visit from the choir at The Mount, who entertained them with Christmas carols and sacred music. And finally, the Spanish Club and Spanish National Honor Society teamed up with the art department to make Christmas cards for the Sisters. Each Sister received five beautiful cards, each one handcrafted with love by an art student and handwritten by a Spanish club member, who wrote messages en español to the two Spanish-speaking Sisters.

These acts of mercy and joy are a symbol of the strong relationship between Mount St. Mary and the Sisters of Mercy. The Sisters founded our school to be a beacon of Mercy in Oklahoma City, and every day Mount students and staff carry on their work.

Cultural Institute to Hold Opening Ceremony on Jan. 15

NORMAN — The Father Stanley Rother Hispanic Cultural Institute of St. Joseph’s Catholic Church invites everyone to attend the 2013 Opening Ceremony on Tuesday, Jan. 15 at 7 p.m. The ceremony will be held at St. Joseph’s Parish Center gym. Most Rev. Paul S. Coakley, Archbishop of Oklahoma City, will be the keynote speaker at the spring semester’s opening ceremony for the Institute’s fifth anniversary. Everyone is invited. You do not have to be a member of the Institute to attend that night’s festivities. The Hispanic Cultural Institute will once again offer participants an opportunity to learn the Spanish Language and Cultural Studies every Tuesday from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Enrollment for the spring classes will continue until Jan. 27. Registration forms are available at the Parish Center vestibule or iruiz4@att.net. We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday, Jan. 15. Please come to enjoy our celebration and to learn more about the program. The Institute would also like to thank all previous participants in the Cultural Studies and Spanish Language Program. Your commitment and enthusiasm are an inspiration to us all.

For more information or to register, please call the St. Joseph Parish Office at (405) 321-8080, and/or email mariadejp-ruiz@ou.edu or visit http://hculturalinstitute.blogspot.com.

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CORNERSTONE

Your Gift Continues Forever

The stories of good people doing good work for our Church throughout central and western Oklahoma are abundant. Many good works have happened because of gifts to the Catholic Foundation that support the ministries of our Church. The Catholic Foundation maintains numerous parish and school-based endowments to meet specific needs.

Additional endowments support:
- Catholic Schools Endowment
- Scholarships
- Parish and School Grants Program
- Catholic Charities
- Educators of The Year Awards
- Vocations and Seminarians
- Priest Retirement
- Worship & Spiritual Life
- Youth Ministries
- Our Lady of Guadalupe Youth Camp
- Family Life
- Hispanic Ministries

Your gift will invest in the future of our faith because the income from your gift will continue to support those ministries for years to come. A new Endowment can easily be established through a one-time gift, a bequest or a planned giving gift in the form of a will, trust, annuity or other estate planning arrangement.

For more information on Planned Giving, contact The Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma, Inc.

P.O. Box 32180, Oklahoma City, OK 73123
(405) 321-4115 www.cfook.org bsemtner@catharchdioceseokc.org

Please Remember the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City in Your Estate Plans.
Sacred Heart of Jesus is an agreement to conform and without sentimentalism, the devotion to the Year-End Gifts Boost Catholic Charities Over $2.5 Million Goal

If We Wish To Save Society, We Must First Save Our Families

If the company of Christ is cultivated in our homes, gives us His Body and Blood in Holy Communion …

What exactly is meant by enthronement and what is seemingly a very radical and ambitious statement. enthroning homes to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This

If the company of Christ is cultivated in our homes, gives us His Body and Blood in Holy Communion …

If we draw close to Christ in the mystery of his heart this enables us to dwell on the great mystery of our faith, that God is

If We Wish To Save Society, We Must First Save Our Families

If the company of Christ is cultivated in our homes, gives us His Body and Blood in Holy Communion …

When one’s home is enthroned to the Sacred Heart, it becomes a “domestic church” whereby one invites Jesus into their home by way of a simple ceremony such as the Mass offered as stated above, where a picture of the Sacred Heart is blessed and then taken home and prominently displayed in the home acknowledging Christ as King. One LeVell promised to bless all homes that displayed an image of the Sacred Heart. However, it should be stated that enthronement of the Sacred Heart is not something to be taken lightly. It is a serious commitment and there is preparation required.

This article is but a brief introduction to the Sacred Heart. All are invited to come to the First Friday Mass at the Pastoral Center to learn more about this time-honored and beloved devotion and experience a vibrant faith-filled community where people come together with their families not only to partake of the tremendous benefits devotion also to enjoy fellowship with each other. Little by little, soul by soul, we can transform the world but we must first start with ourselves and our families always and everywhere through the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Year-end gifts from more than 200 people helped to boost the 2012-13 Catholic Charities Appeal over its $2.5 million goal. With more than 6,700 donors throughout the Archdiocese, this appeal is the most successful annual fund drive in Catholic Charities 100-year history

Catholic Charities has recorded $2,529,000 in gifts and pledges, of which $1.7 million has been received.

The number of individual donors increased by 25% this year, which is an important factor in the success of the campaign. Some 28 parishes and 19 missions increased their support by more than 10 percent over the previous year. The average individual contribution is $360, which represents an 11% increase over the last year. The total received in the previous appeal was $2,359,700.

The proceeds of this appeal support the operating expenses for 14 social service programs which serve more than 35,000 people in Oklahoma each year.

Since 92 cents of every dollar received supports client services, donors can rest assured the added support of Catholic Charities’ mission.

By Jeremy A. Ingle

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, under the direction of Archbishop Paul S. Coakley, recently wrote in Today’s Catholic, the diocesan newspaper for Tarrant’s South Bend, it is “but just some relic of the past … when we draw close to Christ in the mystery of his heart this enables us to dwell on the great mystery of our faith, that God is love.” (June 2012)

Cardinal Raymond Burke, during his time as Archbishop of St. Louis, elaborated further: “The Enthronement of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is a true way of living always in the company of Christ Who gives us His Body and Blood in Holy Communion …

If the company of Christ is cultivated in our homes, His company will be cultivated in every sector of life for the transformation of our society and of our world into a civilization of love.” (Women of Faith and Family www.wff.org).

Understood fully and correctly and without sentimentalism, the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus is an agreement to conform one’s life to Christ by living in Him, and Christ, forever the Giver, comes to live in love. Out in this way, the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus becomes a “way of life,” His life, which is always a life lived in love and for love.

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, under the Office of Family Life, sponsors the First Friday Mass at the Pastoral Center every month beginning with Adoration and the Sacrament of Penance at 5:30 and culminating with Mass at 7 p.m. Families, or single persons, can take advantage of this opportunity to have a Mass of Enthronement at the Pastoral Center during the First Friday Mass celebrated by Father George Puppo, the spiritual director of this apostolate.

When one’s home is enthroned to the Sacred Heart, it becomes a “domestic church” whereby one invites Jesus into their home by way of a simple ceremony such as the Mass offered as stated above, where a picture of the Sacred Heart is blessed and then taken home and prominently displayed in the home acknowledging Christ as King. One LeVell promised to bless all homes that displayed an image of the Sacred Heart. However, it should be stated that enthronement of the Sacred Heart is not something to be taken lightly. It is a serious commitment and there is preparation required.

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Catholic Charities Over $2.5 Million Goal

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The number of individual donors increased by 25% this year, which is an important factor in the success of the campaign. Some 28 parishes and 19 missions increased their support by more than 10 percent over the previous year. The average individual contribution is $360, which represents an 11% increase over the last year. The total received in the previous appeal was $2,359,700.

The proceeds of this appeal support the operating expenses for 14 social service programs which serve more than 35,000 people in Oklahoma each year. Since 92 cents of every dollar received supports client services, donors can rest assured the added revenues will greatly assist Catholic Charities to reach even more families and individuals this year.

“We have a strategic plan to strengthen our efforts in both the rural areas of the Archdiocese as well as in the Oklahoma City metro area, and with the support of many loyal donors, we will begin to help more families and children, at a time when public support of essential programs is expected to decline,” said Tim O’Connor, executive director of Catholic Charities.

Catholic Charities will continue to accept pledges and donations for this appeal. Chuck White, president of the board of directors, expressed appreciation to those who contributed to this appeal and to all who worked to ensure its success. He especially thanked our clergy, who effectively encouraged their parishioners’ prayerful consideration and support of Catholic Charities’ mission.

If We Wish To Save Society, We Must First Save Our Families

If the company of Christ is cultivated in our homes, gives us His Body and Blood in Holy Communion …

“Do not suppose,” he said, “that the Sacred Heart of Jesus is just some relic of the past … when we draw close to Christ in the mystery of his heart this enables us to dwell on the great mystery of our faith, that God is love.” (June 2012)

Cardinal Raymond Burke, during his time as Archbishop of St. Louis, elaborated further: “The Enthronement of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is a true way of living always in the company of Christ Who gives us His Body and Blood in Holy Communion …

If the company of Christ is cultivated in our homes, His company will be cultivated in every sector of life for the transformation of our society and of our world into a civilization of love.” (Women of Faith and Family www.wff.org).

Understood fully and correctly and without sentimentalism, the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus is an agreement to conform one’s life to Christ by living in Him, and Christ, forever the Giver, comes to live in love. Out in this way, the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus becomes a “way of life,” His life, which is always a life lived in love and for love.

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, under the Office of Family Life, sponsors the First Friday Mass at the Pastoral Center every month beginning with Adoration and the Sacrament of Penance at 5:30 and culminating with Mass at 7 p.m. Families, or single persons, can take advantage of this opportunity to have a Mass of Enthronement at the Pastoral Center during the First Friday Mass celebrated by Father George Puppo, the spiritual director of this apostolate.

When one’s home is enthroned to the Sacred Heart, it becomes a “domestic church” whereby one invites Jesus into their home by way of a simple ceremony such as the Mass offered as stated above, where a picture of the Sacred Heart is blessed and then taken home and prominently displayed in the home acknowledging Christ as King. One LeVell promised to bless all homes that displayed an image of the Sacred Heart. However, it should be stated that enthronement of the Sacred Heart is not something to be taken lightly. It is a serious commitment and there is preparation required.

This article is but a brief introduction to the Sacred Heart. All are invited to come to the First Friday Mass at the Pastoral Center to learn more about this time-honored and beloved devotion and experience a vibrant faith-filled community where people come together with their families not only to partake of the tremendous benefits devotion also to enjoy fellowship with each other.

Little by little, soul by soul, we can transform the world but we must first start with ourselves and our families always and everywhere through the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.
Catholic Schools Raise the Standards!
and You’re Invited To See Why!

The theme for Catholic Schools Week 2013 is “Catholic Schools Raise the Standards.” Our Schools typically celebrate Catholic Schools Week with Masses, open houses and activities for students, families, parishioners and the community at large.

The Catholic Schools Week 2013 theme supports the recent launch of the National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools, that ensure the effective operation and responsible governance of Catholic schools across the country, thus promoting high academic standards and Catholic identity. The logo designed for the week illustrates a chart of steady growth culminating in the highest achievement of all, a cross representing the faith that underscores all Catholic education.

High academics, high parental involvement, low student-teacher ratios, and value-based education all lead to an outstanding education for students attending Catholic elementary and secondary schools.

For more information about enrolling your child in one of the Oklahoma Catholic schools, please call or visit the school of your choice from the list on these pages. Be a part of this faith-filled experience!

The Year of Faith and our Catholic Schools

In October 2011, in an Apostolic Letter called Porta Fidei, Pope Benedict XVI called for a Year of Faith to be held from October 11, 2012 to November 24, 2013. The Year of Faith marks the 50-year anniversary of the opening of Vatican II and the 20-year anniversary of the publication of the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

The Year of Faith, declared by Pope Benedict XVI, is an opportunity for Catholics to experience a conversion - to turn back to Jesus and enter into a deeper relationship with him. The Pope has described this conversion as opening the “door of faith” (Porta Fidei; see Acts 14:27).

In an accompanying document from the Vatican, Catholic schools are called to “offer students a living witness to the Lord and to nurture their faith” (note with Pastoral Recommendations for the Year of Faith, January 6, 2012). This is being done through special events, retreats, speakers, service projects, study of the Youth Catechism and discovering the documents of Vatican II, especially the four constitutions on divine revelation (Dei Verbum), the sacred liturgy (Sacrosanctum concilium), the pastoral constitution on the Church in the modern world (Gaudium et spes) and the dogmatic constitution on the Church (Lumen Gentium).

There is not a better way to celebrate the Year of Faith than to look at the dedicated teachers who serve the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City with many years of service.

The 2012 Catholic Schools Educator of the Year was Dottie Morris, Third Grade Teacher, All Saints Catholic School. Her nominator, Leslie Schmidt, Principal, All Saints Catholic School stated, “Dottie does it all! She reaches every student with her devotion to faith, her total commitment to Catholic education and her desire to always learn something new. She prays for her students and with her students on a daily basis. She is a faith leader for our kids and our teachers. She teaches her students to live their faith.”

David Morton, Principal, Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School, said the following of Marie Engel, Bishop McGuinness High School English Teacher and Catholic Schools Educator of the Year Finalist, “Truly believing that teaching is her vocation, Marie embraces the opportunity to...”
develop students spiritually, academically and socially, both in and out of the classroom. Due to Marie's five year community involvement with the Catholic Charities Green Tie Gala for the benefit of the Women's Sanctuary, she encouraged last year's Freshman class to become involved in the sanctuary. As a result, this year's senior class has adopted the Women's Sanctuary, a day-shelter for homeless women, as the focus of their class project.”

Gayle Nixon, Saint James the Greater Catholic School 3rd Grade Teacher and also a Catholic Schools Educator of the Year Finalist, was also praised for her faith and dedication in a nomination by her principal, Anne Coddling. She said, “Grounded firmly in her faith, Mrs. Nixon exemplifies all that is good about Catholic education: prayerfully teaching little ones to follow God’s teachings, modelling her lifelong Catholic values of loving service to neighbors, presenting academically with the conviction that every child is unique and capable of achieving success and carefully guiding her class through the day with patience, justice and a sense of dignity for each child. She is a Catholic school teacher - and all that this entails. Every single one of the 31 years of Mrs. Nixon’s career has been spent in Catholic education in service to the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City at St. James the Greater Catholic School.”

The Archdiocese is blessed with many great and dedicated educators who not only share their knowledge but share their Catholic faith, faith and every day, which makes the education that our students receive very unique and enriching.

Catholic schools are exceptional learning communities centered on building faith and strengthening the whole human person. Marketing that message to build enrollment and philanthropic support requires a compelling values proposition, a strong plan, committed leadership as well as continued training and education. In this Year of Faith, please join in supporting the Catholic Schools of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City through your personal prayers, financial assistance and by promoting their value to others.

Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of OKC:

Five year enrollment statistics

2007-2008 School Year:
Elementary Enrollment: 4,119
High School Enrollment: 1,962
Total Enrollment: 5,081

2011-2012 School Year:
Elementary Enrollment: 4,147 - 0.7% increase in a 5 yr period
High School Enrollment: 1,998 - 0.5% increase in a 5 yr period
Total Enrollment: 5,145 - 2.4% increase in a 5 yr period

Catholic Elementary School Graduates & High School:
In 2008, 67% of our 8th grade graduates attended Catholic High School. In 2011, 66% of our 8th grade graduates attended Catholic High School. In 2011, our two high schools graduated 256 students. Of the senior’s 228 went to college. This represents 90.2%.
Service to Commemorate 2013 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma Alliance for Liturgy and the Arts will present a prayer service to commemorate the 2013 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity on Sunday, Jan. 20 at 4 p.m. at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, 1060 N. Council Road, Oklahoma City. All are invited.

The service will include music, prayer, sacred readings and presentations by two speakers:

* The Right Reverend Doctor Edward Konieczny, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Oklahoma
* The Reverend Michael Girlinghouse, Lutheran Bishop of the Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod (ELCA)

This year marks the 106th annual observance of the Week of Prayer, which began in 1908.

Hobby Lobby says willing to pay $1.3 million in health mandate fines

By Michelle Basman
Catholic News Agency

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CNA) - The Oklahoma-based arts and crafts retailer Hobby Lobby says it is willing to pay fines of $1.3 million per day to follow its owners’ religious beliefs, which conflict with the federal mandate that requires coverage of abortion-inducing drugs.

“The company will continue to provide health insurance to all qualified employees,” said Kyle Duncan, general counsel for The Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, which is representing Hobby Lobby in the case. “To remain true to their faith, it is not their intention, as a company, to pay for abortion-inducing drugs,” he explained.

Hobby Lobby’s founder and CEO, David Green, has said that his family—which has owned the company since its 1972 founding—will continue seeking to serve God through their business decisions. In addition to making significant charitable donations, the company closes all of its stores on Sundays so that its employees have time to worship and rest with their families.

However, the Greens’ ability to run their company in accordance with their religious beliefs is being threatened by the contraception mandate, which was finalized by the Department of Health and Human Services in January 2012. The mandate requires all employers, regardless of their religious convictions, to provide health insurance plans that cover sterilization and contraception, including some drugs that can cause early abortions. As Christians, the Greens say they are opposed to facilitating any type of abortion, including those caused by “morning after” and “week after” pills.

Hobby Lobby is one of more than 100 plaintiffs that have sued over the mandate, arguing that it violates the First Amendment’s religious freedom protection.

The federal government has argued that the owners are singular, for-profit companies cannot exercise freedom of religion in their business decisions.

Archdiocese Parishes Celebrate Feast of Our Lady With Faith

By Rex Hogan
For the Sooner Catholic

The windows at Holy Angele Church were opened before Mass the night of Dec. 12. As a brisk 9-degree temperature blew through the packed parish, hundreds more gathered outside to celebrate Mass on this, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Before Mass, hundreds of people gathered to walk in the mile-long procession in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

“The feast day is a very special day,” said Father Michael Chapman, pastor at Holy Angele. “It’s a well-expected day, particularly in Mexico. It’s a time when people are looking to change their lives.”

The Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe originated in 1511. It was then that a poor peasant by the name of Juan Diego was walking from his village to Mexico City. He suddenly saw a vision of a teenage girl, who asked that a church be built where Diego was standing. Diego recognized the girl as the Virgin Mary.

A church was built on the site, which is now known as The Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Sacred Heart Parish and Little Flower Parish also celebrated the Feast Day with Mass and processions.

The international theme chosen for the 2013 observance of the Week of Prayer is “What Does God Require of Us?” taken from the Book of Micah, Chapter 6, Verses 8 to 10.

The mission of the Oklahoma Alliance for Liturgy and the Arts, a Christian not-for-profit interdenominational organization, is to enhance communal worship by promoting the vocal and performing arts in Oklahoma churches.

For more information about the event or to obtain materials, go online to www.geii.org, which is the website for the Graymoor Ecumenical and Interreligious Institute.

“On the night of the Last Supper, Jesus prayed for his disciples, ‘that all may be one,’” (John 17:21). “Unfortunately, today all Christians are not united. The goal of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is to pray for the unity that Christ wills by whatever way he wills it.”

Father Stephen Bird
¿Hay Alguien Allá Fuera?

Por el Padre Shane Tharp

Lánzate a lo más Profundo

Luka 5:4

El futuro depende de nuestra capacidad de mantener este espíritu de mayordomía. Nos están beneficiando de los sacrificios de aquellos que han ido antes que nosotros. Y tenemos que tener en cuenta aquellos que vendrán después de nosotros.

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El Vaticano Dice Que 2.3 Millones de Personas Acompañaron al Papa 2012

Por Catholic News Service

Ciudad del Vaticano — Más de 2.3 millones de peregrinos y visitantes acompañaron al papa Benedicto XVI por varias motivos, como para una audiencia, una liturgia u otra oración en común en el Vaticano o en Castel Gandolfo durante el año 2012 dijo el Vaticano.

Un vocero de la Prefectura de los asuntos del Papa, dependencia que coordina las audiencias en el Vaticano y distribuye boletos gratis para audiencias populares y liturgias, dijo que las cifras se calcularon por el número de boletos distribuidos y por cientos de asistentes a las oraciones.

El total de 2,351,200 que asistieron a eventos, con participación del papa, incluye el número de las personas que estuvieron presentes en una de las 43 audiencias generales semanales en el Vaticano o en la residencia veraniega de Castel Gandolfo, así como audiencias especiales para grupos en particular, Misas y otros actos de liturgia, y un cálculo aproximado del número de asistentes en la Plaza de San Pedro, en el patio de la villa número de asistentes en la Plaza de San Pedro y en el patio de la villa.

El total de participantes del año que terminó, 2012, fue menor de lo que se informó con respecto al 2011, de unas 200,000 personas menos. En una tabla de estadística, distribuido el 4 de enero por la oficina de prensa y difusión del Vaticano, la prensa calculó que desde la elección del papa Benedicto XVI en abril del 2005 hasta el final del año pasado de 2012, más de 20.5 millones de visitantes y peregrinos han acompañado al papa para eventos tanto en el Vaticano como en Castel Gandolfo. En las cifras dadas a conocer por la prefectura, a cuyo cargo todavía hasta tiempo reciente el cardenal de los Estados Unidos James M. Harvey, se incluyó el número de personas que asistieron a eventos en la Ciudad de Roma, las diocesis italianas y países extranjeros que el papa ha visitado.

Hermano católico el presente artículo y los que continuarán después de este, tienen el propósito de leerlo o navegar por agudas profundidades y derramarse en la enseñanza de la Iglesia Católica. Doctrina que ha sido puesta en entredicho tanto, burlesca, insultada y ridiculizada por las Iglesias no católicas, grupos protestantes y sectas que se dicen ser cristianas. Iniciamos prescindiendo el término protestante. Su origen cuando un grupo de reformadores, se atrevieron a manifestar su disonancia y desaparición en contra de una ley imperial (llamado la dota de España) en 1529 el edicto de Worms en Alemania que prohibía enseñar las doctrinas luteranas en algunas ciudades del país germano, donde no eran conocidas. Por eso protestaron, de ahí el apelativo protestante. Nos queda claro entonces que el hermano católico, que se dicen protestantes a los hermanos cristianos no católicos, no hay por protestar en contra de la Iglesia, sino por haber protestado en contra de la Iglesia, pero sin protestar en contra de un efecto que prohibía la enseñanza de la nueva doctrina luterana.

En el artículo de hace quince días, decía ya algo sobre el protestantismo como base introductoria a la historia y la teología protestante. Veamos en que estaba en desacuerdo con los protestantes, todo un conjunto de factores que ocasionaron este hecho. Se acepta y reconoce que la Iglesia Católica poseía una de las crisis más graves de su historia. Abusos y vidas pecaminosas del clero. Pero esta no fue la razón, de pronto pudo haber solo el liderazgo que encontró el papa. La causa real, según Martin Lutero entendía la doctrina católica. Veamos en que estaban de acuerdo los protestantes, y reformadores. Ya aquel no tenía de la Revelación la Iglesia primitiva y las generaciones que vinieron después. La tradición era una referencia valiosa para la interpretación de los textos sagrados y su enseñanza. Al rechazar entonces a la tradición y con ella su magisterio, dio origen a la libre interpretación de la Biblia y como consecuencia lógica se desarrolló una doctrina distinta a la católica y de allí todos los ataques que recibimos hoy. Porque cada uno ya podía interpretar los textos sagrados a su antojo, sin ninguna guía u orientación, autoridad que les orientara para entender la Biblia según su óptica, ¿quien tenía la verdad? ¡Quién estaba enseñando lo correcto? Por eso hay existen más de 52,000 grupos protestantes, cada uno con la misma Biblia, pero con verdades diferentes.

Ante la situación de la libre interpretación, donde cada quien interpreta como entiende y enseña como se ha formado sobre ellos mismos como protestantes y reformadores. Aquí no estábamos de acuerdo con el otro, se ha allá contravertido la enseñanza de folate et al. Así, por eso, no solo los reformadores se apartaron de la Iglesia Católica dividiéndose, sino que entre ellos también se dividieron y continúan dividiéndose.

La Iglesia Católica siempre se ha dividido o cambió, pero la solución no era el tiempo que tomaron Martin Lutero y otros junto con él. El ejemplo de los santos San Juan de la Cruz, San Luis San Francisco, San Ignacio renunció con más fuerza el vaticano que todos los protestantes juntos, porque los santos, dioses y dioses, homúnculos como varcos santos de Dios, entendían que se desde dentro la Iglesia y bajo la autoridad instituida por Jesucristo, donde podemos hacer los cambios con la asistencia del Espíritu Santo y la gracia de Dios.


El Papa Benedicto XVI llegó para la audiencia general en el Vaticano. (CNS photo/Paul Haring)

Por Padre Raúl Sánchez

Cortas Enseñanzas de Apología Católica No 7

Para entender la doctrina y la enseñanza de una iglesia de iglesias no católicas, y otros grupos protestantes y sectas que se dicen ser cristianas. Iniciamos prescindiendo el término protestante. Su origen es cuando un grupo de reformadores, se atrevieron a manifestar su disonancia y desaparición en contra de una ley imperial (llamado la dota de España) en 1529 el edicto de Worms en Alemania que prohibía enseñar las doctrinas luteranas en algunas ciudades del país germano, donde no eran conocidas. Por eso protestaron, de ahí el apelativo protestante. Nos queda claro entonces que el hermano católico, que se dicen protestantes a los hermanos cristianos no católicos, no hay por haber protestado en contra de la Iglesia, sino por haber protestado en contra de la Iglesia, pero sin protestar en contra de un efecto que prohibía la enseñanza de la nueva doctrina luterana.

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Catholic Summer Camp
For Youth Entering 3rd through 12th Grade

Archdiocese of Oklahoma City
Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Summer Camp 2013

14 January 13, 2013
Sooner Catholic

Mission
Our mission is to nurture positive Catholic values in young people. We promote the personal and spiritual growth in each young person by developing their proper life, social skills, independence, and respect for others. Our theme this year is “Write Path as you go…” James 3:7.

Age Limits
Any youth who has finished the 3rd grade through the 12th. There is no great concern whether they are going into or coming out of one of the grades. Non-Catholic friends are welcome. Campers are not allowed to have camp and return during their camping season. Written permission is required if campers teem with someone other than a parent or guardian at the end of camp.

Staff
The counselors are college students and high school seniors and seniors who love camp. All camp staff members are screened and have completed the Archdiocesan Safe Environment Training. You also have the chance to meet the staff when you drop your child to camp. Joining us during camp to share their faith will be great, memories, young adults and adults who work with youth who are also screened and trained in Safe Environment.

Meals
We will have a full staff working in the kitchen preparing delicious camp food for all the campers. Three meal plans plus two snacks are provided daily. Please do not send food, money or valuables with your camper or in the mail. Mail is delivered daily to campers. To insure prompt delivery, mail must be hand-carried to us at the time of the camper’s arrival

ACTIVITIES
There are crafts, hiking, swimming, (ground pool), fishing, water sports, archery, soccer, and more!

Here is a Sample of a Typical Day at Camp

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Staff Prayer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00</td>
<td>Morning Prayer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30</td>
<td>Community Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30</td>
<td>Field Games</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 pm</td>
<td>Evening Game or Activity in Small Groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00</td>
<td>Supper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>Snack</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The schedule and activities vary by week to be age appropriate for each set of campers.

Seed Registration & Deposit To:
(Catholic Youth & Young Adult Office)
PO. Box 32180
Oklahoma City, OK 73132
Email: CYAYAO@myarchok.org

Date to Remember
In the month of May Parent Parties will go out in the mail. Medical Consent Form and Medical Release Form must be returned to our office prior to the start of the camp season.

Camp Information

Catholic Youth & Young Adult Office

Oklahoma City, OK 73132

Check out our Website: www.archok.org for availability and FAQs.

Sooner Catholic

2013 Summer Camp

Registration Form

(Print Name)

Name ________________________________

Address ________________________________

City/State/Zip __________________________

Home Phone (_____) _______ (____) _______

Mobile Guardian Cell (_____) _______ (____) _______

Day Guardian Cell (_____) _______ (____) _______

Email ________________________________

Parents/Guardians _________________________

Print ________________________________

School ________________________________

Current Grade ________ Age ________ Gender ________

First Time Camper (check one) Yes ______ No ______

Shirt Size

Youth S (6-8) _ M (9-10) _ L (11-14) _

Adult S _ M _ L _ XL __ XL __

Camp Sessions

Camp 1 _______ June 9-14 Grades 4 & 6
Camp 2 _______ June 23-28 Grades 5 & 6
Camp 3 _______ June 30-July 5 Grades 7 & 8
Camp 4 _______ July 16-21 Grades 4 & 5
Camp 5 _______ July 28- Aug. 3 Grades 7 & 8
Camp 6 _______ Aug. 5-10 Grades 4 & 5

Date of Birth ____________________________
JANUARY
15 Choric Healing Mass, 5:30 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 3051 SW 5th St., Oklahoma City. For more information, call (405) 686-4406.

18-19 Hoops 4 Hope is a tournament with the four Catholic high schools coming together to raise money and awareness for Catholic Charities. Entry to the games is a donation of an item or cash to Catholic Charities. All games will be played in the MSM gymnasium.

18-25 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

20 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Archdiocesan Mass and Multicultural Tribute at Corpus Christi Church. Mass starts at 11 a.m. and the Tribute will follow Mass at 12:15 p.m. For more information, call (405) 523-3001.

20 The Secular Franciscan Order of St. Francis Fraternity meets at 1:30 p.m. at St. Anthony’s Hospital Chapel. For more information, call Jim Dadower at 830-8688.

20th Annual Feast of the Holy Infant Jesus at Our Lady’s Cathedral. Mass is at 4 p.m. and a procession, dinner and cultural presentation will follow.

20 Prayer Service for Week of Christian Unity at 4 p.m. at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, 16600 N. Council Road, Oklahoma City. All are invited.

24 Father Stanley Rother Guild Mass at 7 p.m. at St. Eugene Parish in Oklahoma City. This Mass is a time to come together and pray for the Cause of Canonization for Father Rother. Members of the Guild will be at the Mass to answer questions and talk about Father Rother and the Guild. All are welcome.

25-27 Marriage Encounter Weekend at the Catholic Pastoral Center. Contact John and Tena Franklin at (405) 209-3145 or tena.john.franklin@gmail.com to register or for any questions.

25 Becoming the Child I Always Wanted To Be, Father Bill Pruett will be the presenter for the Annual Health Care Retreat, from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Mercy Health Center. Cost is $50 including lunch. For more information, contact Glenda Bronson, RN, at (405) 936-5226 or glenda.bronson@mercy.net.

26 Catholic Singles Winter Dance. From 7 to 11 p.m. with mix and mingle, 7 to 8 p.m. Snacks welcomed. For more information, contact Al Frey at 631-0763.

For a full and up-to-date Calendar and Jobs Box, go to www.soonercatholic.org

Long-Term Subtitute Teacher
St. Philip Ner National Catholic School is in need of a long-term substitute teacher for fifth grade. Certification is preferred. If interested, contact Mary Drasel at 737-4406

Director of Music
Holy Family Catholic Church in Lawton is looking for a Director of Music. Please send resume to the listed email. Holy Family Catholic Church, 1010 NW 82 St., Lawton, OK 73505. Email: karinabukka2008@yahoo.com Website: HolyFamilyLawton.org

Safe Environment Coordinator
The Archdiocese is seeking a Safe Environment Coordinator. The Safe Environment Coordinator is a member of a team of Archdiocesan professionals who are charged with developing and implementing the Archdiocesan Safe Environment Program. The position is part-time (approximately 18 hours per week). Applicants should have in-depth experience in child protection services, education and/or behavioral sciences. Job duties include planning, implementing and training sessions and workshops for Archdiocesan personnel and配套 coordination with their Safe Environment Programs. If interested, please send a complete Archdiocesan Application (available on the Archdiocesan website) and resume to Erik Kanes, Chancellor, Catholic Pastoral Center, P.O. Box 32190, Oklahoma City, Okla. 73123.

Executive Director
Center of Family Love is opening in Okarche. Prefer experience in long-term care or with developmentally disabled. If interested, please email resume to HBHFinc.org.

School President
Kapuan Mount Carmel Catholic High School in Wichita, Kan., is seeking applicants for the position of school president. The president will be a practicing Catholic of great personal and professional integrity who will work with the diocesan school office and the principal to assure the implementation of the Catholic philosophy and mission. Responsibilities will include maintaining external relationships and public relations, supervising student recruitment, fundraising, development efforts and managing the school’s finances. For more information, contact Bob Voboril, Superintendent, at cso@catholic-dioceseofwichita.org.

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High School in Wichita, Kan., is seeking applicants for the position of school president. The president will be a practicing Catholic of great personal and professional integrity who will work with the diocesan school office and the principal to assure the implementation of the Catholic philosophy and mission. Responsibilities will include maintaining external relationships and public relations, supervising student recruitment, fundraising, development efforts and managing the school’s finances. For more information, contact Bob Voboril, Superintendent, at cso@catholic-dioceseofwichita.org.

Long-Term Subtitute Teacher
St. Philip Ner National Catholic School is in need of a long-term substitute teacher for fifth grade. Certification is preferred. If interested, contact Mary Drasel at 737-4406

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Across Oklahoma

Annual Health Care Retreat
OKLAHOMA CITY — Father Bill Pinetti, pastor of St. James Catholic Church, will be the presenter for the Annual Health Care Retreat on Friday, Jan. 25. The retreat will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Mercy Health Center. This retreat day will provide an opportunity to reflect on our journey, a journey which always begins and ends with the Lord. The vacation that chooses us is largely determined with how we perceive God in our life.

Sponsored by Mercy Health Center and Catholic Charities, this day is intended for physicians, nurses, clinical and non-clinical health-care workers, pastoral ministers, spiritual directors and chaplains. Cost is $50 including lunch. For more information, contact Glenda Bronson, RN, Mercy Community Services, or by phone at (405) 340-0691 Ext. 109.

Natural Family Planning

EDMOND — Practicing Natural Family Planning in your marriage can make a difference, because NFP is more than just a way to plan your family; NFP changes the way you relate to your spouse, because it allows you to give each other the complete gift of yourselves with nothing changed and nothing held back. With NFP, you truly live the love of your marriage vows!

Learn the Sympto-Thermal Method of Natural Family Planning with Scott and Gail Hunt, certified instructors, on Sunday, Jan. 20 at 7 p.m. at St. John the Baptist Church, 9th and Boulevard, in the basement council room. Register for the class online at www.ccli.org. Class fee is $140 for materials including new computer program and smart phone app. (need-based scholarships available).

Free child care is available upon request. Contact Gail Hunt at 952-381-4932 or Dr. Harry Kocurek at (405) 340-0691 Ext. 109.

Rosary School Auction

OKLAHOMA CITY — Rosary School will have its annual fundraiser, “All You Need is Love, Peace and Auction” on Feb. 2.

This will be a fun-filled ‘60s inspired evening with great food and drink to benefit Rosary School. Item donations and cash contributions are tax-deductible. For more information and to make a reservation, please check out the auction link at www.rosaryschool.com.

Queridos Hermanos y Hermanas en Cristo,

El año 2013 promete ser uno de gran importancia en muchos frentes para nuestra Iglesia y de nuestra Nación. Con la inmanente amenaza a nuestra libertad religiosa planteada por el mandato del Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos de Estados Unidos, HHS por sus siglas en inglés, la rápida erosión del respeto por la vida humana y el acoso a los propietarios, con sede en la institución del matrimonio se arregla en nuestra nación, los chivos o de Estados Unidos están emitiendo un llamado a la oración.

Santo Tomás Becket, a quien la Iglesia honra muestra escrita esta curta, fue un mártir por la causa de la justicia. Como Arzobispo de Canterbury él firmemente defendió los derechos de la Iglesia contra la interferencia impuesta en su rey. El escribió: “Si nosotros, los que somos llamados obispos deseamos comprender el sentido de nuestra vocación y ser dignos de ella, debemos esforzarnos por mantener nuestros ojos en aquel a quien Dios ha puesto como sumo y eterno auxiliar y seguir sus pasos.” En un espiritu similar durante nuestra Asamblea Plenaria de noviembre nuestros obispos de los Estados Unidos determinaron que se nuestro deber como pastores el movilizar a toda la Iglesia en contra de las amenazas contra los derechos de los que se dejan en nuestros días.

En consecuencia, hemos emitido un Llamado a la Oración por la Vida, Matrimonio y la Libertad Religiosa. Quiero unir mi voz a la de mis hermanos obispos en convecar a los fieles, clero, religiosos y religiosas de la Archidiócesis de Oklahoma City a abrazar este esfuerzo espiritual coordinado para combatir estas reyes que se vuelvan para el ejercicio libre y público de nuestra fe. Debemos entender este esfuerzo espiritual junto con el Año de la Fe, en la medida en que estamos defendiendo intereses que son parte integral de nuestra fe y de sus consecuencias públicas. Estas amenazas exigen un testimonio público y un esfuerzo espiritual concordado.

Hoy muchas maneras de participar como individuos, familias, parroquias y escuelas. Aquí tienen cinco elementos claves para este Llamado a la Oración.

1. A partir de ahora y hasta el Domingo de Cuaresma el 24 de noviembre de 2013, se les invita a las catedrales y parroquias a tener una Hora Santa de Adoración Eucarística mensual por la Vida, Matrimonio y la Libertad Religiosa.

2. Anunciamos a las familias e individuos a rezar el Rosario diariamente, sobre todo por la preservación de la Vida, el Matrimonio y la Libertad Religiosa.

3. Habrá otra Quincena Nacional por la Libertad religiosa en nuestras escuelas, parroquias y sitios de cacerola religiosa.

4. Llamado a la Oración por nuestra Suprema esperanza durante esos días. También se hará hincapié en la necesidad de protección de la conciencia en vista de la fecha límite del 01 de agosto 2013 para que las organizaciones religiosas cumplan con el mandato de HHS. También se hará hincapié en las preocupaciones sobre la libertad religiosa en otras áreas, como la inmigración, la adopción y servicios humanitarios también. La atención se centrará en la naturaleza de la libertad religiosa como don de Dios y el derecho a dar testimonio públicamente de la propia fe en todos los ambientes, así como los derechos de los individuos y de las instituciones para llevar a cabo su vida profesional de acuerdo con sus convicciones religiosas.

5. Un sitio en la web con el plan para el llamado a la oración y muchos recursos adicionales está disponible en www.usccb.org/life/marriage-liberty. Los hijos a participar en este importante Llamado a la Oración por nuestra Nación y nuestra Iglesia. Con oraciones y mejores deseos durante este Año Nuevo.

Sinceramente suyo en Cristo,

Reverendísimo
Pablo S. Coakley
Arzobispo de Oklahoma City