Cardinal elector: Conclave ‘opens up a new future’

By Carol Zimmermann
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Canadian Cardinal Marc Ouellet said the conclave “opens up a new future” for the church and is a responsibility the cardinals see as “their main task.”

In a Canadian Broadcasting Corp. interview March 4, he said the cardinals are all considering the meaning of the “extraordinary decision of Pope Benedict” to resign and understanding that decision’s impact on the church.

When asked if he considered himself a possible contender for pope, the Canadian cardinal, one of the 115 cardinal electors, said he is “just trying to live ... day after day in obedience to God and his word,” fulfilling his duties and leaving the next day to God.

He said all of the cardinals have to be ready to take on the role as leader of the church.

“We have to be, to some extent, prepared,” he said, but noted that as far as thinking about it personally, he would “cross the river when I get to the bridge, and we are not there.”

Cardinal Ouellet, who heads the Congregation for Bishops, noted that there had been a focus on European popes for centuries but that today it would not be a surprise for a pope to come from Asia, Africa or America.

“This discernment (of who will be pope) will be quite unexpected,” he added, which has always “been the case in a way.” He said the cardinals did not “expect the election of John XXIII, and we did not expect the election of (Cardinal) Ratzinger.”

The Canadian cardinal also reiterated the often-repeated saying about the conclave: “He who goes in a pope comes out a cardinal.”

With that in mind, he said even though his name might be circulating in the media as a possible papal contender, he is “very careful to go beyond this sort of media expectations.”

In response to a question about the church’s response to the sex abuse scandal, the cardinal said: “We have learned from our mistakes,” stressing the need to “listen carefully to victims” and focus first on them.

The cardinal, who has spoken out about evils of clerical sex abuse, was among a group of bishops who led a penitential vigil in Rome last year asking for forgiveness for the sex abuse scandal, the cardinal said: “We have learned from our mistakes,” stressing the need to “listen carefully to victims” and focus first on them.

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In response to a question about the church’s response to the sex abuse scandal, the cardinal said: “We have learned from our mistakes,” stressing the need to “listen carefully to victims” and focus first on them.

The cardinal, who has spoken out about evils of clerical sex abuse, was among a group of bishops who led a penitential vigil in Rome last year asking for forgiveness for failing to protect children and serving instead as an “instrument of evil against them” when Catholic officials shielded perpetrators from justice.

He told the CBC that he thinks the church may have apologized enough, but he is not sure.

He also noted that the issue of abuse is not just a “Catholic problem; it is a human problem” and hopes that efforts to combat it by the Catholic Church, although not perfect, “could be alas of example for others in society.”

Cardinals discuss needs of Church before conclave

By Carol Zimmermann
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY — The College of Cardinals used the March 4 and 5 pre-conclave meetings to discuss needs of the church.

Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, the Vatican spokesman, could not give specific details of the discussions because he is bound by an oath of secrecy to give only general information. He said March 5 the subjects were “broad and varied,” and included “the activity of the Holy See and its various dicasteries, their relationships with the bishops, the renewal of the church in the light of the Second Vatican Council, the situation of the church and the needs for new evangelization in the world, including in different cultural situations.”

He noted that by the end of the March 5 session, 33 cardinals “from every continent” had addressed the group. The meeting was attended by 115 cardinals.

There was a presentation that day about the modifications Pope Benedict XVI made to the conclave rules, allowing the cardinals to begin a conclave less than 15 days after the end of a pontificate.

Father Lombardi also announced that the Sistine Chapel, where the conclave will take place, was officially closed to tourists beginning the afternoon of March 5 so workers could begin preparing it. The major work involves putting in a false floor so there are no steps, then putting in

continued on page 5
“Feed My Sheep”

We have entered into an important period between pontificates known as the sede vacante or interregnum. As I write this column, the cardinals are gathering in Rome in preparation for the upcoming conclaves during which they will elect the next successor of Peter and Vicar of Christ.

The cardinals are already engaged in an important series of meetings during which, both formally and informally, they are getting to know one another and learning about the challenges and opportunities facing the Church in various parts of the world. These meet- ings will continue until the conclaves begin. At that point, only the cardinal electors, those under the age of 80, will be sequestered for the work of prayerfully choosing the next pope under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. These are days of great consequence for the Catholic Church and for humanity. Our task is to pray and fast for the cardinal electors and for the one whom they will choose and who is already known to the Lord.

Under the glare of intense media attention and global scrutiny, a great deal of energy is being expended speculating about who the next pope might be. What does the Church need? Should he be a young pope? Will he be an Italian or will the cardinals look beyond Europe for the first time in the 2000-year history of the Catholic Church? Some say what is needed is a pope who can manage and reform the huge bureaucracy of the Roman curia. Others focus on making sure the finances of the Vatican are in good order. Undoubtedly, the next pope will have to continue addressing the consequences of the terrible clergy sexual abuse crisis that began to rock the Church in 2002.

One thing is certain. There is no going back. The papacy of the third millennium has to maintain its papacy of the Third Millennium has to maintain its apostolic visits around the world than had ever seen any other human being.

Time will tell what the rich legacy of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI may be, but one thing is already crystal clear. Through his preaching, teaching and writing he focused his attention on Jesus Christ. He reminded us that what is primary is friendship with Jesus and communion with him in and through his Church.

Benedict XVI may be, but one thing is already crystal clear. Through his preaching, teaching and writing he focused his attention on Jesus Christ. He reminded us that what is primary is friendship with Jesus and communion with him in and through his Church. The essential path for Catholics is the path of discipleship. It is from this intimate communion with Jesus in the Holy Spirit that the New Evangelization is born. We are called to become missionary disciples. In our time, we are witnessing the Catholic Church’s rediscovery of its evangelical mission for the sake of the world.

The next pope will most likely continue to lead the Church along the path that the Holy Spirit has marked out for us during the watershed events of the Second Vatican Council and these recent and remarkable pontificates. We should not expect any rupture with the past but rather a grace-filled continuity that is rooted in the Gospel mandate Christ gave to Peter for the sake of the Church: “Feed my sheep.” (Jn 21:17).
Saint Ann’s Nursing Home staffers garner praise, gratitude for response to helicopter crash

By Tina Korbe Dzurisin
The Sooner Catholic

The professional and personal response to a Feb. 22 crash of an EagleMed helicopter on Archdiocesan property continues, as helicopter crew member Billy Wynne recovers in a Dallas hospital, friends and family mourn the losses of pilot Mark Montgomery and nurse Chris Denning, who both died in the crash, and counselors assist the Saint Ann’s Nursing Home staff who rescued Wynne from the wreckage of the crash.

Minutes later, more jet fuel exploded. The fire out and Wynne on his way to the hospital, the little community of disaster responders professionals waited for representatives from the Medical Examiner’s Office to arrive to extricate the bodies from the wreckage.

In the meantime, Oklahoma City Fire Department Chaplain Ted Wilson sought out Saint Ann’s courageous first responders — who had already related their testimony to investigators — to minister to them as he could.

“I just let them talk and tell their story and tell about their emotions,” Wilson said.

“What he heard inspired him. They reached into fire without gloves or equipment to pull (Wynne) out,” Wilson said. “We (firefighters) do it with gloves and all that gear, but they didn’t. They risked their lives. We were able to get there and take over, but, had they not done what they did, he would not have been alive.”

Sister Kathy Olsen, a licensed clinical social worker who works at the Catholic Pastoral Center, arrived at Saint Ann’s Nursing Home as the first responders were talking to Chaplain Wilson, and Monica Palmer and Sister Betty Kehoe of the Catholic Charities Saint Joseph’s Counseling Center arrived shortly thereafter.

“It seems to have been well-received from the staff and residents,” Olsen said. “Some of the residents also needed some attention,” Olsen said. “Some of them had seen the fire or heard the crash and they needed to talk to someone. An event like this (amplifies) many of their ordinary concerns and frustrations. Some of them were also confused, as we wanted to calm them. I also wanted to talk to the first responders. I just wanted to thank them for their courage.”

In the days to come, many people — from Wynne’s family to several local reporters — expressed a desire to do the same. The Saint Ann’s responders were steadfast in their refusal to claim the spotlight for themselves.

“They’re very heroic; they’re not looking for glory in any way,” Olsen said. “They’re ‘salt of the earth’ people. They were working off the instinct of their heart. Not only do they provide care inside, but they rush to help outside. You hear about ‘onlookers.’ They weren’t onlookers. They were on-site.”

Palmer echoed Olsen.

“They were silent,” she said. “The natural response when something like this happens is to run away from danger. Some people run to it, and I’m in awe of that. For someone to put that aside and run toward someone who needed help is incredible.”

Tina Korbe Dzurisin is the director of communications for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

Helicopter crash prompts ongoing outreach to those affected

By Tina Korbe Dzurisin
The Sooner Catholic

The professional and personal response to a Feb. 22 crash of an EagleMed helicopter on Archdiocesan property continues, as helicopter crew member Billy Wynne recovers in a Dallas hospital, friends and family mourn the losses of pilot Mark Montgomery and nurse Chris Denning, and counselors attend the Saint Ann’s Nursing Home staff and residents who witnessed the crash.

Wynne, the lone crew member to survive the crash, was transferred from OU Medical Center in Oklahoma City to Parkland Hospital in Dallas in the late afternoon Feb. 22. As of the afternoon of March 4, the hospital listed his condition as critical.

Oklahoma City Fire Department Chaplain Ted Wilson said Wynne’s family has been with him at the Dallas hospital since he was moved there. Parkland Hospital was chosen because it houses both a burn and trauma center, Wilson said.

“In Oklahoma City, we have a level one burn center and a level one trauma center, but they are not under one roof,” Wilson said. “Parkland has both units under the same roof.”

Wynne suffered both burn and trauma injuries in the pre-crash, Wilson said. Co-workers, friends and family members of pilot Mark Montgomery and nurse Chris Denning, who both died in the crash, gathered at a memorial service Saturday, March 2.

“Mark was an excellent pilot, a master aviator who spent the last seconds of his life trying to save others,” EagleMed president Larry Buggy said according to a Norman.com report of the service. “Chris was a professional healer who ministered many and saved untold lives.”

At Saint Ann’s Nursing Home, the staff and residents who witnessed the crash — either by sight or sound — have spoken repeatedly with counselors to process the experience of that day.

“We like to do follow-up as far down the road as we possibly can,” said Monica Palmer, Catholic Charities associate director for clinical services.

Palmer, along with Sister Kathy Olsen of the Catholic Pastoral Center and others, responded to the staff and residents the day of the crash. On Feb. 28, Palmer and Olsen facilitated a debriefing for the Saint Ann’s Nursing Home staff who rescued Wynne from the wreckage of the crash.

“It was a very phenomenal thing,” Palmer said. “Even as a counselor, you feel the trauma yourself. (The debriefing) was therapeutic not only for them but also for me because I could already see how they were doing better. To see God’s work and their efforts to be supportive of each other and take those steps to get back to a new normal enabled me to breathe a sigh of relief.”

The “response to the responders” has been a team effort, Palmer said.

“It seems to have been well-received from the back the staff and residents have given us,” she said. “They have felt really cared for. I credit (Saint Ann’s Nursing Home director) Dorothy (Joyce) with that. The Archbishop also came out the day of the crash and people were very touched and honored he was there. He gives individual blessings and it was one of the most healing things that could have happened that day.”

Tina Korbe Dzurisin is the director of communications for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.
The unique impossibility of the papacy

ROME — At the point at which John Paul II began his papacy in the first volume of his biography of him, Witness to Hope, I homed some thoughts from Hans Urs von Balthasar and tried to explain a bit of the uniqueness of the papal office.

"To be pope is to take on a task that is, by precise theological definition, impossible. Like every other office in the Church, the papacy eschews for the sake of holiness. The office, though it is a creature of time and space, and holiness is eternal. No one, not even a pope who is a saint, can fully satisfy the office's demands. Yet the office, according to the Church's faith, is of the will of God, and the office cannot fail, although the officiary will always fail short of the mark. That distinction between the office and the man who holds it is a consolation to any pope. According to (Balthasar), it is also 'immutably terrible.' The office reflects the unity of person and mission in Jesus Christ, of whom the pope is vicar. Every pope, the saints as well as the secondclass, stands at an utterly trag¬ ic place (Balthasar continued), because he cannot be fully what the office demands. If he tries to be that, he immediately makes himself the equal of the Lord. If he considers himself too easily with the thought that he must, necessarily, fail, he betrays the demand that the office makes of him, the demand of radi¬ cal love. The office of Peter always reflects Christ's words to Peter—that, because of the depth of his love, he will be led where he does not want to go (John 21:18).

But if the job is essentially, impos¬ sible the Church is not without the resources of history and contemporary experience to imagine the quali¬ ties one would like to see in the man who must, as someone must, take up this uniquely impossible yet essential task. In Evangelical Catholicism: Deep Reform in the 21st-Century Church, published just before Pope Benedict XVI's stunning announce¬ ment of his resignation, I suggest seven such qualities.

A profound and transparent faith. The pope must be so convoked of the Catholic symphony of truth, and so transparent to it in his own life, that he readily invites others into friend¬ ship with Jesus Christ, simply by being who and what he is. The preaching, catechesis and teaching are important, but they come 'after' transparency to Christ and his love. Natural resilience amplified by grace. The pope must be able to draw from the wellspring of his prayer an abundance of energy, patience, endurance and compassion. The pope knows the wickedness and evil one of the world in macrocosm and the ser¬ vices of individual men and women in microcosm. The grace of strength is needed to bear that burden of knowl¬ edge without being crushed by it must build on a natural physical and psychological hardness and resilience.

Pastoral experience. John Paul II's papacy as previewed by the work as archbishop of Cracow and his suc¬ cessful ministry there. That model makes sense for future popes, who must have demonstrated evangelical¬ ly effective pastoral leadership and a capacity to meet the challenges of aggressor secularism, which did not end when the Berlin Wall came down. Good judgment in people. A holy, brilliant, honest decent pope will find his ministry impeded if he does not have shrewd judgment in choosing men for high Church offices, both as local bishops and as leaders in the Church's central administrative machinery in Rome.

Openness and curiosity. One of the keys to the success of John Paul II's papacy was his openness in terms of inputs from outside conventional clerical channels. A 21st-cen¬ tury pope must look to a whole range of information to inform his own evan¬ gelical ministry.

Courage. A man who seems dilettante but not ways to address them is ill-qualified for the papacy. So is a man easily rattled by difficulties. Doing what is hard and aborting the criticism for doing it is part of the essential responsibility of the pope.

Languages. In a multilingual Church, a multicultural pope is help¬ ful. All of which suggests that national¬ ity is irrelevant in choosing a pope.

George Weigel's column is distrib¬ uted by the Donor Catholic Register, the official newspaper of the Archdiocese of Denver. Phone: 303- 715-3215.

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Facing the downstream effects of same-sex parenting

In March, 2013, the British paper The Independent ran an article enti¬ tled, "Children in gay adoptive homes at no disadvantage: Research confirms same-sex couples are just as good at parenting as heterosexuals." The article, based on a study at the University of Cambridge, concluded there was "no evidence" to support the claim that children's masculine or feminine tendencies were affected by having a gay or lesbian parent, nor were the quality of their family rela¬ tionships significantly different. The study outcomes, however, were limited to children four to eight years of age, so any later effects, as they passed through puberty, for example, and "cups of size," were not included. Although The Independent claims that this was the first study to look at how children in non-traditional families fared when compared with heterosexual households, at least two other major studies addressing the same question were published during 2012 — one by Mark Regnerus, a sociol¬ ogy at the University of Texas at Austin, and the other by Loren Marks, a researcher at Louisiana State University. Both studies pro¬ voked compelling evidence counter¬ acting the claim that a child's psychoso¬ cial growth is equally supported in same-sex homes. Adoption seeks to a child who is in extraordinary and urgent need of parents. Adoption exists for the bene¬ fit of the child, not for the couple who adopt him. Same-sex couples who seek to adopt a child can double¬ how to meet the demands of inputs from outside conventional clerical channels. A 21st-cen¬ tury pope must look to a whole range of information to inform his own evan¬ gelical ministry.

"A child in need of adoption is a child who is in extraordinary and abnormal circumstances, a child without parents. Adoption seeks to 'create,' from a social and legal standpoint of view, a relationship similar to what would be natural for a child, meaning a family relationship: moth¬ er, father, child.

A compassionate society seeks to help and assist orphaned children, but no reasonable society can be¬ come with keeping these children of a mother or a father. That is, however, what placing them into a same-sex home inevitably does.

Rev. Tadeusz Pataluszcyk, Ph.D. is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, MA, and is the Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia.

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Of St. Celestine V and Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

Farewell, Papa.

Catholic apologist Scott Hahn Feb¬ 11 described the complex situation that when reflecting on the lead-up to the resignation by the Holy Father:

"Back on April 29, 2005, Pope Benedict XVI did something rather striking, but which went largely unnoticed," Hahn wrote.

"He stopped off in Aquila, Italy, and visited the tomb of an obscure medieval pope named St. Celestine V (1215-1296). After a brief prayer, he left his pallium, the symbol of his own episcopal authority as Bishop of Rome, on top of Celestine's tomb!" (2010). Benedict went out of his way again, this time to visit and pray in the cathedral of Sulmona, near Rome, before the relics of this same saint, Celestine V.

"Few people, however, noticed at the time. "Only now we may be gaining a better understand¬ ing of what it meant. These actions were prob¬ ably more than pious acts. More likely, they were profound and symbolic gestures of a very personal nature, which conveyed a message that a pope can hardly deliver any other way.

"In the year 1294, this man who was elected pope, somewhat against his will, shortly before his 80th birthday (Ratzinger was 78 when he was elected pope in 2005). Just five months later, after issuing a formal decree allowing popes to resign (or abdicate, like other rulers), Pope Celestine V exercised that right. And now Pope Benedict XVI has chosen to follow in the footsteps of this ven¬ erable model." ↔ ↔

"I remember thinking about Hahn’s very points back when Benedict made that visit in 2010. I had read that he left his pallium and thinking to myself, “This means something. This isn’t just a gift... it’s the sym¬ bol of his office. He’s connecting with St. Celestine in a very personal way.”

The Holy Father’s resignation is shock¬ ing to us, but, considering the extreme faith of Benedict XVI, it can only be the work of the Holy Spirit, and we must rejoice in the pope’s enormous decision.

As Catholics, we are actually quite fortunate to be witness to such a slice of history. While it is saddening to see the wilful departure of a kind and loving shepherd, it is with great pity to see him say they recall a time when one pope was as powerless while his predecessor is still among us. It is a run-of-the-mill for the pres¬idency, but a unique opportunity for the papacy.

We faithful have to hang on now. It’s going to be a very bumpy ride for the next couple of years. It is emotionally speaking. The major media and entertainment industry are likely to be less than even-hand¬ ed in their treatment of the legacy of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI's papacy.

Prayerfully, we will come out even stron¬ ger on the other side with our new Bishop of Rome.

Jeney Igoe is a parishioner at Saint Damien of Molokai Church.

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By Scott Hahn

Saint Damien of Molokai Church.

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By George Weigel

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By Father Tadeusz Pataluszcyk

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By Father Fred Aquila
Papal tailors ready no matter what size the new pope is

By Carol Glatz

Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY — Even though a conclave to elect a new pope has not yet started, the papal tailors have the white cassock ready for the new pontiff when he appears less than an hour after his election on the balcony overlooking St. Peter’s Square.

The Gammarelli shop proudly showcased in the street-level window the white wool cassocks in three different sizes: “tall,” “medium,” and “small,” as no one knows who will be the new pope or what his measurements will be.

“We received the order (from the Vatican) to prepare the three outfits a few days after Benedict gave the announcement” Feb. 11 to step down, Lorenzo Gammarelli told Catholic News Service.

It takes three-and-a-half days to cut, prepare and sew by hand one complete cassock, said the sixth-generation family member, so all three were finished “very quickly” by March 1 and displayed in the shop window the morning of March 4.

The shop eventually will deliver the ensemble to the Vatican in time for the conclave and election. The Gammarelli shop was founded in 1798 and has served every 21st- and 20th-century pontiff except for Pope Pius XII, who stuck with his family’s tailor.

It’s not a given that every pope will call on the shop’s services, as the shop always waits to receive orders from the Vatican.

But chances are good they will be called to do work for the next pope “since we have served all these popes,” he said, nodding toward a row of pictures of seven popes on the wall near the shop’s front entrance.

The sets available for the new pontiff to wear after he is introduced with the words “Habemus papam” (“We have a pope”) is already one of our clients, and we already have his measurements on file,” he said.

The old shop, which is located just a few yards from the Pantheon, was bustling as shopkeepers quickly packaged a backlog of orders. One shopkeeper was busily folding magenta scarves for a bishop and sealing them in brown wrapping paper, while another stacked shoe boxes containing black kidskin shoes, men’s size 9, for delivery.

Getting the order of papal cassocks and the altar linens of the upcoming conclave ready trumped all else the past three weeks, Gammarelli said.

“Therefore, now we have to make up the time we lost with clients who had ordered things first” he said.

The shop walls are lined with cardinals’ gowns and shirts containing belts of different weights of black cloth, embroidered fabrics for liturgical vestments and silks in cardinal red and magenta. There are also miniature models of scarlet and black hats as well as a small wooden torso form draped with a cardinal’s full attire.

Large, deep wooden drawers are labeled and contain different kinds of lace fringes, tassels and pompons for the four-colored biretta hat.

One drawer was even labeled “under-things.”

Gammarelli said that while the shop offers full clothing service for the pope, from the skullcap down to the popes shoes and robe, it did not include underwear.

The sets available for the future pope are displayed in the window of the Gammarelli clerical tailor shop in Rome. At the request of the Vatican, the famous shop has prepared three sizes of clerical wear to be used by the new pope immediately after his election. Pictured leaving the store is Dominican Father Thomas Petri, assistant professor of theology at Providence College in Rhode Island. (CNS photo/Paul Haring)
Starting over was a ‘Beginning Experience’

I waited patiently for the Lord; he turned to me and heard my cry. He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire, and gave me a firm place to stand. He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Psalms 40:1-2

By Marka Action
For the Sooner Catholic

I was standing in a furniture store looking at a cabinet of some sort while looking at a rush. I had not taken our couch with me when I had moved out after acknowledging my marriage of 25 years had reached an end. I had gone into the store thinking that I needed something to sit on so I could watch TV. But I found myself confused and wondering how could I possibly pick out a set? To choose an expensive piece of furniture, you needed to have an idea of your future and the life that you would be living. I had no idea what a life lived alone looked like.

At that moment, it was as though total despair had descended on me and I was completely lost. When a clerk in the store stopped, became worried, and stopped to see if I was all right, I knew something had to change!

At the end of Mass a few weeks later, the priest announced a retreat for people who were widowed, divorced or separated. I heard him say that Beginning Experience was for those who were ready to move on after their loss.

My interest was sparked. Even though I had been separated for quite some time, I still had no idea about the future. Because I could not understand where I had gotten life so wrong in the past, how could I make sure I made good choices now? If anyone had suggestions, I was ready to listen. “Can you tell me a little more about Beginning Experience?” was all I asked after I finally stopped and made the call. A very nice person told me about how the weekend had helped him so much with the grief he had been suffering since the death of his wife.

He explained how it had helped him to accept the past, look at the person he had become, and then envision all the wonderful possibilities ahead. He told me that they provide excellent meals and there was a Mass for the whole group before everyone went home. And you know what … he was right.

I was anxious going in, but I felt so much relief and peace at the end of the weekend. I am a different person than the lost soul standing in the store causing others to worry. I found joy and many friends who understand and listen without judging. So give yourself a gift and join me for the Beginning Experience set for March 22, 23 and 24. The retreat is at the Catholic Pastoral Center at 7561 NW Expyway. It costs just $100 for all food and lodging. If you really need help with the costs, it is available. For any questions you may have, please call Tonya at (405) 556-0994 or try the Office of Family Life at (405) 723-5651 Ext. 108.

I am looking forward to having the opportunity of meeting you. Together we can all have the sunshine a little brighter as we once again find joy in our hearts.

Bingo at St. James, March 21
OKLAHOMA CITY — Bingo at St. James Catholic Church, 401 N. Classen Blvd., will begin again March 21. Food and beverages reasonably priced will be served at 5-30 p.m. Bingo begins at 6 p.m. All games (some new games) including two blackouts are $10.

The proceeds and special recognition for all players born in January, February or March. A large flat screen TV will be given away in October and all players get an entry into the drawing.

Skirvin plays host to The Green Tie Gala for Catholic Charities
The Green Tie Gala, an annual fundraiser for Catholic Charities, was March 8 at the Skirvin Hotel in downtown Oklahoma City. Clara Ross, publisher of The Oklahomaian, was the special honoree for this 25 event.

The day will begin at 9 a.m. with Mass celebrated by Father John Metzinger at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. The March will follow at 10:30 a.m. and go from the Cathedral to the state Capitol, about 2.4 miles. The March will travel along NW 23rd and those who don’t wish to walk the entire route are invited to join in anywhere along the way.

Last year, several thousand people participated in the first March for Life and organizers are hoping for a good or greater turnout this year. The March is to demonstrate to the state of Oklahoma “how we feel about the sanctity of life,” said Krich. She said prayers for success of the March are appreciated.

For more information, contact her at debra1215@hotmail.com.

Catholic Charities-OKLAHOMA CITY — Catholic Charities is holding its annual March for Life event. Those who have suggestions, I was ready to listen. “Can you tell me a little more about Beginning Experience?” was all I asked after I finally stopped and made the call. A very nice person told me about how the weekend had helped him so much with the grief he had been suffering since the death of his wife.

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For more information, contact her at debra1215@hotmail.com.

Catholic Charities-OKLAHOMA CITY — Catholic Charities is holding its annual March for Life event. Those who have suggestions, I was ready to listen. “Can you tell me a little more about Beginning Experience?” was all I asked after I finally stopped and made the call. A very nice person told me about how the weekend had helped him so much with the grief he had been suffering since the death of his wife.

He explained how it had helped him to accept the past, look at the person he had become, and then envision all the wonderful possibilities ahead. He told me that they provide excellent meals and there was a Mass for the whole group before everyone went home. And you know what … he was right.

I was anxious going in, but I felt so much relief and peace at the end of the weekend. I am a different person than the lost soul standing in the store causing others to worry. I found joy and many friends who understand and listen without judging. So give yourself a gift and join me for the Beginning Experience set for March 22, 23 and 24. The retreat is at the Catholic Pastoral Center at 7561 NW Expyway. It costs just $100 for all food and lodging. If you really need help with the costs, it is available. For any questions you may have, please call Tonya at (405) 556-0994 or try the Office of Family Life at (405) 723-5651 Ext. 108.

I am looking forward to having the opportunity of meeting you. Together we can all have the sunshine a little brighter as we once again find joy in our hearts.

Bingo at St. James, March 21
OKLAHOMA CITY — Bingo at St. James Catholic Church, 401 N. Classen Blvd., will begin again March 21. Food and beverages reasonably priced will be served at 5-30 p.m. Bingo begins at 6 p.m. All games (some new games) including two blackouts are $10.

The proceeds and special recognition for all players born in January, February or March. A large flat screen TV will be given away in October and all players get an entry into the drawing.

Skirvin plays host to The Green Tie Gala for Catholic Charities
The Green Tie Gala, an annual fundraiser for Catholic Charities, was March 8 at the Skirvin Hotel in downtown Oklahoma City. Clara Ross, publisher of The Oklahomaian, was the special honoree for this 25 event.

The day will begin at 9 a.m. with Mass celebrated by Father John Metzinger at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. The March will follow at 10:30 a.m. and go from the Cathedral to the state Capitol, about 2.4 miles. The March will travel along NW 23rd and those who don’t wish to walk the entire route are invited to join in anywhere along the way.

Last year, several thousand people participated in the first March for Life and organizers are hoping for a good or greater turnout this year. The March is to demonstrate to the state of Oklahoma “how we feel about the sanctity of life,” said Krich. She said prayers for success of the March are appreciated.

For more information, contact her at debra1215@hotmail.com.
Oklahoma Catholic Broadcasting expands reach with addition of powerful KKNG

"You are to deliver my words to them whether they listen or not, for they are a tribe of rebels." Ezekiel 2:7

By Ray Drex
Sonner Catholic

OKLAHOMA CITY — Jeff Finnell said it was about six years ago when Deacon Bill Rowden told the 900 or so men attending the annual Catholic Men’s Conference that some fellows were working to create a Catholic radio station in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

Deacon Rowden said the men had an information booth set up along with the other vendors at the conference and anyone interested in learning more about their idea could stop and visit with them.

“I think a few guys came by to wish us luck and said they would pray for us,” Finnell said. “One man gave us a $20 bill.”

If you need proof of what the Lord can do with $20 and some prayers, look no further than Oklahoma Catholic Broadcasting.

On March 1, Oklahoma Catholic Broadcasting began broadcasting on Oklahoma City’s KKNG, 97.3 FM. Once well known for its classical music and later for country and western, KKNG is now broadcasting Catholic content 24 hours, seven days a week.

Finnell knows for sure, it’s reaching more than half the population in the state. That audience will grow again when, on March 18, KTLR 890 AM Spanish Catholic Radio will begin broadcasting Catholic content in Spanish. The Spanish broadcast will air each day from 5 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, said the Hispanic Catholic community “is deeply indebted to those responsible for Oklahoma Catholic Radio.”

“I’m going to buy that man a steak,” Moreno said of Finnell, who serves as president of Oklahoma Catholic Broadcasting.

Finnell is quick to point out he had plenty of help from an idea first discussed in June of 1996 to where Catholic radio is today in Oklahoma.

Archbishop Emeritus Eusebius J. Beltran gave approval for Finnell and the others to pursue their plan, while Archbishop Paul S. Coakley has continued the support, voicing promotional spots encouraging Oklahoma Catholics to tune in and help support the communications ministry.

Deacon Larry Sowles has been on board with Finnell since the beginning; as has Fred Pope and Father Prayce Overall. Tom Krug and Marlene Stapp also continue to serve on the board for Oklahoma Catholic Broadcasting.

Finnell credited Tyler Media with helping to negotiate what he described as “not your normal business deal,” opening the door to the KKNG studios.

Finnell said Mike Miller, KKNG station manager, first approached Oklahoma Catholic Broadcasting about the idea of leasing the station.

The board had been discussing ways to grow when Miller’s call came to them.

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Finnell stated, “God has provided us with the people to pay the bills” with each and every step Oklahoma Catholic Broadcasting has taken.

“We are taking measured steps, but they are steps of faith,” said Finnell.

Oklahoma Catholic Broadcasting has been able to create a system Finnell describes as “Chinese checkers” linking the broadcast together.

With towers in Lawton in the southwest, Prague in the east central and seen in the southeast with a signal to McAlester, Catholic radio content is reaching much of the state.

KKNG, Finnell said, can be picked up as far north as Guthrie and south to the Arbuckle Mountains, as well as to near Weatherford on the west and Shawnee to the east.

With a few more links, Oklahoma Catholic Broadcasting may soon be reaching as far as Wichita Falls and the Oklahoma panhandle. One thing Finnell knows for sure, it’s reaching hearts and minds.

“Archbishop Coakley told us he was called to the Oklahoma County Jail to confirm three prisoners who have been listening to our broadcast,” Finnell said. He said the same broadcast will eventually make its way into the state prison in McAlester.

Just as Christ instructed his Apostles to cast their fishing nets, Finnell said, “Archbishop Coakley challenges us to ‘Put out into the deep,’ so that’s what we’re doing.”

He admitted the cost to operate a station with the reach of KKNG will be more expensive, but added, “God has provided us with the people to pay the bills” with each and every step Oklahoma Catholic Broadcasting has taken.

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Susan Conway, one of the speakers at the March 2 Oklahoma Catholic Women’s Conference, signs copies of her book for conference participants. For full coverage of the conference, please visit www.soonercatholic.com. (Photo by Anamaria Scaperlanda Biddick.)
Archbishop Coakley celebrates Mass, dedicates new Holy Innocents Chapel

By Ray Dyer
Sooner Catholic

WARR Acres — Archbishop Paul S. Coakley celebrated Mass and blessed and dedicated the new Holy Innocents Chapel Feb. 22.

The chapel, located at 6114 NW 23rd St., is nestled in an office area and sits about 20 feet from the only abortion clinic in Oklahoma County. The Mass and dedication was attended by more than 60 people, not a huge turnout, but overflowing considering Holy Innocents is designed to hold about 40.

Father Price Oswalt led the charge to create the chapel and the Holy Innocents Foundation. He said he got the idea several years ago while watching a program on EWTN in which a priest from New Mexico described opening a chapel across the street from an abortion clinic in Albuquerque. It is believed the Warr Acres chapel is only the third of its kind in the United States.

Archbishop Coakley said Holy Innocents was created to be a place of prayer and reflection. While he said no way would those inside Holy Innocents confront those entering the nearby abortion clinic, the Archbishop made clear the purpose of the prayer and adoration Chapel.

Holy Innocents exists to "prayerfully witness to the sanctity of life," the archbishop said. In doing so, he said, the prayerful mission is to put the "clinc out of business."

"This is not the place to shout or demand an end to abortion," Archbishop Coakley said. He said there is a place for that to occur, but at Holy Innocents the focus is on prayer, including for those who are involved in working in the abortion industry.

The goal is for Holy Innocents to eventually offer 24-hour perpetual adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. More adorers will be needed for this to take place.

"This is a big commitment," the archbishop said. "There is much work to do."

Toni Harrelson is coordinating the Adorers for Holy Innocents. An hour a week is the requested commitment. Harrelson can be reached at (405) 341-2199 or by email at AdorationHolyInnocents@gmail.com

At right, Oklahoma City Thunder forward and NBA All-Star Kevin Durant poses with childhood friend and St. Gregory's University basketball player Devonte Young Feb. 23 at W.P. Wood Field House on the SGU campus. Durant was in attendance to support Young on his Senior Night. Young's mother, Jacqueline, is on the left. At left, Durant visits with Father Louis Vander Ley and Father Patrick McCool. (Photo by Brother George Hubl, O.S.B.)
Saint Katharine Drexel opens new memory unit

Archbishop Paul S. Coakley blessed and dedicated the new Cottage at Saint Katharine’s in a visit to El Reno last week. He was assisted by Father Mark MASON, pastor of Sacred Heart Church.

The 16-unit memory care center was added to Saint Katharine’s Assisted Living Center, a 59-person retirement home that was opened in 2007 by Sacred Heart Catholic Church in partnership with the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

Anderson House served as general contractor for the project, while the $2.9 million addition was designed by ADG of Oklahoma City.

Brenda Miller serves as executive director for Saint Katharine’s.

Archbishop Emeritus Beltran honored by Knights of Columbus with Excalibur Award for service

By Patrick B. McGuigan

OKLAHOMA CITY — Archbishop Emeritus Eusebius J. Beltran was honored at the anniversary awards dinner of the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus.

With worldwide attention focused on a papal vacancy, it seemed appropriate that this year’s dinner fall on what is designated the Feast of the Chair of Saint Peter.

Paul Weg, a regional leader of the Knights, presented Archbishop Emeritus Beltran the Excalibur Award for his services to the Catholic Church and to Oklahoma.

In an introspective address, Archbishop Beltran said, “I have had a happy life. I have felt blessed, always feeling close to God, thanks to my Church and to Oklahoma.”

He added, “I have had a happy life. I have felt blessed, always feeling close to God, thanks to my Church and to Oklahoma.”

As young Eusebius grew up, his oldest sister “begged and begged to become a nun before she went to the convent.” Eventually, she became a nun. Sister Susana Beltran served a lifetime as an African missionary before retiring in the United States. She is now 88.

Archbishop Emeritus Beltran said she felt the call to priestly life. Years later, he said he wrote a letter to his grandmother to tell her of his studies at St. Charles Seminary in his home state of Pennsylvania. He invited her to his priestly ordination. She was unable to come, and, yet, “Because of her prayers, she had five grandsons who became priests, serving in the United States, Argentina and Spain.”

The Archbishop Emeritus encouraged attendees, especially young people, to learn what God intends for their lives. He observed, “Every person has a vocation. Each one of you is called to a definite life, to a calling from God. Discover the plan God has for you. If you find it, follow it.

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Addressing fellow members of the Knights, Archbishop Emeritus Beltran said, “The Knights have interrelated with my vocation throughout my life.”

Archbishop Coakley, chairman of the St. Katharine’s Board, points out one of the features of the new memory care center to Bishop McGuinness. At left, 5-year-old Aviator Wall prepares to sample one of the “cottage cookies” at the blessing ceremony. (Photos by Ray Dyer)

Rock It Old School theme for Irish dinner, auction

Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School recently celebrated its 27th annual dinner and auction.

The “Rock It Old School” vintage rock-and-roll-themed event was held at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. More than 450 guests were in attendance.

Guests viewed more than 400 auction items at four separate silent auctions as well as bay board displays, fixed price events, Sweet Shoppe and Dutch auction items.

The audience participation events “Lady Luck” and “Heads or Tails” were once again board displays, fixed price events, Sweet Shoppe and dutch auction items.

Archbishop Emeritus Beltran honored by Knights of Columbus with Excalibur Award for service

Archbishop Emeritus Beltran was honored by the Knights of Columbus at this year’s anniversary dinner of the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus.

With worldwide attention focused on a papal vacancy, it seemed appropriate that this year’s anniversary dinner of the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus be held at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. More than 450 guests were in attendance.

Archbishop Emeritus Beltran was honored by the Knights of Columbus at this year’s anniversary dinner of the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus. The highlight of the evening was the raffle drawing for $10,000. The winner was Bishop McGuinness alum parent Mark Lester.

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Office of Communications staff to spearhead media relations and social media outreach

A Q-and-A with Director of Communications

Tina Korbe Dzurisin

By Sooner Catholic Staff

In February 2013, Archbishop Paul Coakley created the Office of Communications to enhance the many extant communications channels of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, by, among other things, coordinating media relations for the Archdiocese and spearheading Archdiocesan social media efforts.

This month, we caught up with Director of Communications Tina Korbe Dzurisin to find out how it’s going so far.

TD: That’s the first question everyone asks me! It’s pronounced “Zur-ISS-in.” My maiden name was Korbe (pronounced KOR-bee), and I thought that was hard.

SC: What is your role as the Director of Communications?

TD: Like every office at the Catholic Pastoral Center, the Office of Communications exists to support the teaching, sanctifying and governing ministry of the archbishop in whatever way we can and in whatever way he needs.

More specifically, the Office of Communications exists to ensure that the community at large and the Catholic Pastoral Center to convey important information and ideas through our many distribution channels.

SC: Tell us a little bit about your background.

TD: I call myself a “Kok-Oks-ee” because I was born in Kansas, but grew up primarily in Oklahoma and Arkansas. I graduated from the University of Arkansas and started my career in Washington, D.C. I come to the Archdiocese with a background in public policy research and analysis, grassroots coalition-building and media relations, professional blogging and investigative journalism. Previously I’ve worked at public policy think tanks at both the national and state level, as well as at a national news commentary website.

SC: What are your goals for the Office of Communications?

TD: At both the parish and Archdiocesan level, priests, religious and lay Catholics provide a wide variety of programs and resources that invite anyone and everyone to a renewed encounter with Christ. My goal is to reduce the chances that someone will miss-out on a Church-related opportunity simply because he or she didn’t know about it—and to increase the chances that Oklahomans of all stripes will come to know and love the Lord!

SC: What are your impressions of the job so far?

TD: My very first day was the day Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI announced his plans to resign. My second week on the job, a helicopter crashed between Saint Ann’s Nursing Home and Saint Ann’s Retirement Center, both owned and operated by the Archdiocese. The first event came as a powerful reminder that, while I work for the Church in a particular location, the Church is, indeed, universal. The second event came as an equally powerful reminder that life is short.

John Paul II once said, “Life has meaning to the extent that it becomes a free gift for others.” Three of the staff members at Saint Ann’s Nursing Home made their lives a gift for others when they risked personal injury to rescue helicopter crew member Billy Wynne (Page 3).

The archbishop makes his life a gift for others every single day—just check out his calendar (Page 2)! This job provides me with an opportunity to do the same—and I will certainly do my best.

SC: How have communications efforts changed since the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City was first established in 1905?

TD: We’ve seen so many incredible technological advancements—from the telephone to the television to the Internet to smart phone to social media—that have increased the pace and volume of communications. Professional communications is no longer a one-way affair; it’s a dialogue. Publishing a statement or broadcasting a message is just the first step in a long process that includes seeking feedback and incorporating that feedback into future efforts. Professional communications today is also very much a 24/7 affair.

Archbishop Coakley is a perfect example of the way the field has changed. Not only does he personally vent the many parishes of the Archdiocese, write letters and record audio messages, as previous archbishops have done, but he also communicates via email, Facebook and Twitter—all of which he can check on his iPhone.

SC: What are your predictions for the future of communications—particularly within the Church?

TD: Writer Maria Superlanski has a great piece on the Our Sunday Visitor website called, “In praise of the pope who tweeted.” In it, she writes “Pope Benedict’s eight-year reign may be deemed the blink of an eye in the Church’s existence. But he bequeaths the next pope a number of impressive digital initiatives, not the least of which are 2.5 million Twitter followers. All this, from an 85-year-old pontiff who was born the year that the first transatlantic telephone call was made via radio from New York City to London.” It’s safe to say the Church has acknowledged that social media is a powerful vehicle for the truth and will continue to use websites like Facebook and Twitter as instruments of evangelization.

SC: What will stay the same?

TD: The Gospel truth is the Gospel truth—and the Church will never stop teaching it. Furthermore, evangelical Catholics will continue to share the good news in at least one way they always have—by personally inviting friends, family and other acquaintances to come to know Christ and His Church. As Archbishop Coakley writes in this edition’s “Put Out into the Deep” column (Page 2), “Social media is certainly a valuable tool, but it cannot replace personal presence and witness.”

SC: How can members of the Archdiocese connect with the Office of Communications?

TD: Please check the Archdiocesan website regularly; we update it daily Monday through Friday. That address is http://archokc.org. If you’re on Facebook, please “Like” the official page of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. If you’re on Twitter, follow us @ArchOKC—and follow Archbishop Coakley @ArchbishopOKC. We also just created a brand new tips line for the Sooner Catholic. Send us your feedback about this issue of the newspaper and/or story ideas for future issues by emailing tips@archokc.org.

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Edmond scouts earn Eagle rank

EDMOND — Two scouts earned the rank of Eagle and are members of Troop 331 at St. Monica Catholic Church. John Shelden and Wilbert Hundl III were honored with the highest Scout ranking last year.

John, 17, is a junior at Edmond North High School. His parents are Susan Bennett and David Shelden. He has been a member of Unit 531 at St. Monica’s since joining Cub Scouts as a Tiger Cub. John’s Eagle project involved redesigning a section of the multi-use trail at Lake Arcadia. The section of trail that was eroded has been moved and has a drainage system that will ensure erosion control in the future.

John is a member of Order of the Arrow. He has earned 27 merit badges and served in numerous leadership positions in the troop.

Wilbert is a freshman at Edmond North High School. He is the son of Paula and Wilbert Hundl II. Wil earned the highest rank in Scouting in less than three and a half years. Wil is an active member of St. Monica Parish, participating in the youth group and Confirmation classes. Wil’s Eagle service project was revitalizing a courtyard at SunRay Elementary School in Edmond. This project will allow for safe and comfortable outdoor learning opportunities for students at the school.

Wil is a member of Order of the Arrow. He has earned 22 merit badges to date. In addition to holding the position of Senior Patrol Leader, Wil has served many positions of leadership within the troop.
Bills to protect religious liberty advance at both state and national level

By Sooner Catholic Staff

In the first month of the 2013 regular session of the Oklahoma legislature, House and Senate committees have approved nearly 500 bills for consideration by the full House or Senate respectively. Among them in House Bill 1918, a bill that aims to protect the religious liberty of employers to provide their employees with insurance that covers contraceptives, including abortifacients, or face steep fines. Sponsored by Oklahoma Republican members of the House of Representatives March 5 introduced a bill to protect conscience rights for both workers in the health care industry and for employers in light of the federal mandate requiring employers to cover contraceptives, sterilization and abortion-inducing drugs. The Health Care Conscience Rights Act would offer a full exemption from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services mandate for individuals and health care entities that refuse to provide, pay for, or refer patients to abortion providers because of their religious beliefs, according to a report from the Catholic News Service.

SGU to Rebless Benedictine Hall

St. Gregory’s University in Shawnee, Okla., will host a brief ceremony Monday, March 11, at 10 a.m. to officially commemorate the start of the Benedictine Hall Centennial Restoration Project.

Benedictine Hall, the historic heart of St. Gregory’s, was completed in 1915 and damaged during the earthquake that shook central Oklahoma on Nov. 11, 2011, resulting in the loss of the structure’s iconic towers. Long seen as the symbol of St. Gregory’s, the restoration of Benedictine Hall will launch a larger campaign to revitalize the entire campus.

The ceremony to bless the Benedictine Hall Centennial Restoration Project will take place in front of Benedictine Hall and will include remarks from St. Gregory’s President Greg Main and a blessing by Abbot Lawrence of St. Gregory’s Abbey.

For additional information, please contact St. Gregory’s Director of Communications, Rhonnie Hill, at rhill@stgregorys.edu or (405) 878-5302, or Communications Specialist Michael Mahaffey at mmahaffey@stgregorys.edu or (405) 878-5171.
Los Cardenales ya están participando en una importante serie de reuniones en las que, de manera formal e informal, están llegando a conocerse unos a otros y a aprender sobre las desafíos y oportunidades que está enfrentando la iglesia en varias partes del mundo. Estas reuniones continuarán hasta que el Concilio comience. En ese momento, sólo los Cardenales electores, aquellos que tienen menos de 80 años, serán encuestados para que en el momento de oración comiencen el trabajo de elegir al próximo Papa, bajo la guía del Espíritu Santo. Estas son días de grandes consecuencias para la Iglesia católica y para la humanidad. Nuestra tarea es orar y ayudar por los Cardenales electores y por aquel a quien ellos, y que ya es conocido por el Pueblo de Dios.

El tiempo dirá lo que el reino legado del Papa Emerito Benedicto XVI pueda ser, pero una cosa es clara. A través de su predicación, su ministerio, su palabra y escritos centra nuestra atención en Jesucristo. Nos recordará que lo primero es la amistad con Jesús y estar en comunión con Él y con el Papa, el Vicario de Su Iglesia. El camino esencial para los católicos es el camino del discipulado. Es a partir de esta íntima comunión con Jesucristo y el Espíritu Santo, que nuestra Iglesia sigue adelante. Estamos llamados a ser discípulos-misioneros. En nuestros días somos testigos del redescubrimiento de la Iglesia Católica de su misión evangélica por el bien del mundo. El próximo Papa será muy probable que continúe dirigiendo a la Iglesia a lo largo de la ruta que el Espíritu Santo ha trazado para nosotros durante los sucesos decisivos del Concilio Vaticano II y estos últimos y notables pontificados. No debemos esperar una ruptura con el pasado, sino más bien una continuidad llena de gracia que tiene su origen en el mandato del Evangelio que Cristo le dio a Pedro por el bien de la Iglesia: “Apoquienta mis ovejas”. (Lc 21:17)
Es un Número Mágico

**Tres: Es un Número Mágico**

solo cambiando su sentido, sino enseñando cosas

**En principio y de entrada, decimos clara y

La mentalidad protestante, especialmente los grupos que no tienen más de cien años, son los más incisos en esta acusación, del todo errónea, y por ende, desacertada. Muchos grupos protestantes protestan, enseñan y explican cosas que la Iglesia jamás explicó y omite dentro de su doctrina magisterial. Eso hace que posen prejuicios y malos interpretaciones.

Además de ver si es verdad, que nosotras asemos unos símbolos.

En principios y de entrada, decimos clara y retomamos, los católicos NO adoramos imágenes. Las católicas sólo adoramos a Nuestra Señora, Santa Silvia El Rendimiento honor y gloria por las agas de los ángeles.

Entonces, ¿por qué las imágenes en los templos capilla, caso etc.? Las imágenes, las pinturas religiosas, son con representaciones de la suprema de Dios a través de la historia, en su expresión artística ha usado la pintura, las figuras, las esculturas, las dibujos. Todo esto para dar a entender, para comunicar algo. Es bueno recordar, que la Biblia, ya cuí como la totalidad de los libros, solo aparece en el libro IV. Entonces la palabra de Dios se comunicaba de manera oral y se utilizaba el arte para hacer más sensible y comunicar mejor las cosas de Dios. Por eso se dice que las imágenes y las pinturas religiosas es la Biblia de los pobres. las Iluminación eran muy curiosas y muy pocas, pues no existía la imprenta, solo las hace el siglo XV que la invención de esta máquina se hicieron más populares y mas accesibles. Pero en el principios se evangélica de manera verbal y con las imágenes. Las imágenes para el cristiano no son dioses, son un recurso para evangélica, para ser, no para adorar.

El culto de santos es se dirige a las imágenes en el mismo, así como canales y solo bajo estos aspectos los entendemos que nos conducen a Dios.

Los hermanos protestantes afirmen que la Biblia prohíbe las imágenes, basando en el texto de Éxodo 20:4. Pero como se salió ya por nosotros, estos hermanos manipulan los textos, no solo cambiando su sentido, sino enseñando cosas que no enseña la Biblia. Dios jamás prohibió las imágenes, lo prohibe se la imagen sea tenida como "dios" y se confeccione ante ella. Expliquemos, si Dios hubiera prohibido las imágenes, no hubiera mandado a Moisés hacer a Mesías dos querubines de oro (palabras de lo que hay arriba en cielo) para ponerlas en las extremidades de la columna del arcón. (Éxodo 25,20-22); y tampoco hubiera mandado a Moisés hacer una imagen de serpiente (palabras de lo que hay abajo en tierra para ponerla en un lugar (Números 21,8-9). Dije Dios no tiene problemas con las imágenes, pues la mente humana hacer Otros ejemplos están en segunda de Cronicas 11,30, segunda de Cronicas 3,5, segunda de Cronicas 3,7 etc.

Ahora se debe aclarar que es una imagen y que es un ídolo dentro del contexto cultural religioso. La imagen se una representación de una realidad que nos evoca y nos remite a Dios, al cielo, a los santos, a la Virgen. No son dioses, no son ídolos, no se confeciones, se adoram, se veneran como "dios". El culto por muchas imágenes que posea, cantos, voces, cruces etc., no son más que representaciones de una realidad religiosa, que asumimos con cautela, respeto y reverencia, pero nada más.

Los grupos protestantes protestan, son en su simplicidad ignorancia y arrogancia doctrinal grandiosos. Su enseñanza se torna, corta, inacabada, engañoso y perturbador extremismo.

El católico venera las imágenes por lo que representan y adora a Dios por lo que és.

Catholics speak out against Colo. civil unions bill

DENVER (CNA/WPTV News) — Those who testified against a Colorado civil unions bill last week included a Catholic man with same-sex attraction and a Colorado attorney general who was adopted through Catholic Charities.

State attorney general John Suthers told the Colorado House Judiciary Committee his Jan. 28 testimony was “mostly emotional appeal and the specter of inequality.”

The legislation passed the House Judiciary Committee by a vote of 8-3. It now heads to the House Finance Committee before a final vote on the House floor.

Catholic News Agency columnist Patrick Einheber, who writes on the Church’s teaching concerning the order of marriage and the whole thing falls apart.

For the Christian mind, God’s glory fills the world. Everything hints at the great truth that God is, that God loves everything that he has made, and that God seeks after real communion with us. We are well familiar with the dual accounts in Genesis concerning the order and the purpose of Creation. It’s fashionable to think of them as two competing accounts of Creation.

They harmonize with each other, supplementing what the other doesn’t treat. The meaning and purpose of creation fascinates the Old Testament authors. The Wisdom Books, in particular, seriously can rest meditating on essential questions about creation.

The book of Wisdom testifies how everything depends upon God for its existence, that God didn’t create evil, and that, if God didn’t want something to be, it would not be. Creation fascinates the Old Testament authors because creation is so good and so limited.

The experience of sin, suffering and death drives a desire to know God, a desire to live in a loving way with Him, a desire unexplored within its pages.

St. Paul, in his letter to the Romans, finds the resolution. Creation was leading us to know the Creator, but our fallen natures led us to worship the created thing, rather than the Creator himself. It’s in Jesus Christ that the meaning of creation comes into sharp focus.

As the new Adam, Christ restores what Adam’s sin broke. This new Adam puts creation back on course. He consecrates the things of creation — bread, wine, day, night, life, death — so that these things proclaim that God has not abandoned his creation.

RCIA provides us all with a moment of reflection. When we seek participants. What is the central mystery of the Christian Faith? The usual response is Jesus. Although we call ourselves Christians, the central mystery of Faith is not Jesus; it is the Holy Trinity. That’s the great mystery of Faith. That one God is three divine persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, living in indissoluble communion with each other that which is both distinct (you can identify the component) and inseparable (you lose a component and the whole thing falls apart).

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Summer Camp Staff
Our Lady of Guadalupe Summer Camp has openings for this summer. Are you interested in making a difference in the life of a child? Download an application at http://archokc.org/youth-and-young-adults/summer-camps/summer-camp-staff. Deadline is March 15.

Refugee Job Developer Catholic Charities has an opening for a creative and energetic social service provider to work with employers to build relationships leading to job placement for clients in the Refugee Resettlement Program. Preference will be given to bilingual clients (Burmese or Arabic). Submit resumes to Human Resources, Catholic Charities, 1501 N. Classen Boulevard, Oklahoma City, OK, 73106. For more information, email nlargent@catholiccharitiesok.org

Refugee Case Manager Catholic Charities has an opening for a creative and energetic social service provider to provide case management services in our Refugee Resettlement program. Requires a degree in social work or a related field and the ability to establish and maintain relationships with local community service providers. Bilingual candidates with Burmese, Arabic or Spanish language skills preferred. Submit resumes to Human Resources, Catholic Charities, 1501 N. Classen Boulevard, Oklahoma City, OK, 73106. For more information, email nlargent@catholiccharitiesok.org.

Bilingual Case Manager Catholic Charities has an opening for a Bilingual Case Manager. This opportunity exists for a creative and energetic social service provider to provide care management services in our Family Hope program. Requires a degree in social work or a related field and the ability to establish and maintain relationships with local community service providers. Preference will be given to bilingual clients (Spanish). Submit resumes to Human Resources, Catholic Charities, 1501 N. Classen Boulevard, Oklahoma City, OK, 73106. For more information, email nlargent@catholiccharitiesok.org.

Bilingual Receptionist Catholic Charities seeks a bilingual receptionist (Spanish). Successful candidate will possess the following: computer proficiency, including word processing, database management, and Excel; organizational skills and ability to multitask; excellent typing skills; positive communication skills, and the ability to relate to and professionally interact with staff, volunteers and the public. Send cover letters, resumes and salary history to Human Resources, 1501 N. Classen Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK, 73106, or email nlargent@catholiccharitiesok.org.

Part-Time Driver Catholic Charities has an opening for a part-time driver (25 hours per week) to provide transportation for clients of the Refugee Resettlement Program. Position requires a valid Oklahoma Driver’s License and a good driving record. The driver will provide transportation to English language classes, employment and other social service-related activities. Evening availability is required on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. Submit resumes to Human Resources, Catholic Charities, 1501 N. Classen Boulevard, Oklahoma City, OK, 73106. Application may also be made in person. For more information, email nlargent@catholiccharitiesok.org.

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Summer Internship Catholic Charities and the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) to provide a 10-week paid summer internship for any U.S. Catholic who is interested in community service and leadership development. Applicants must be open to the values of participation, option for the poor, and solidarity and leadership, and show potential for continued leadership. Internships are paid at a rate of $12.00 per hour and include an expense-paid orientation in Washington, DC, May 29 to May 31, 2013. Deadline for applications is March 15. For more information, call Bucky VanPool at (405) 543-5001 or email bvanpool@catholiccharitiesok.org.

Choir Director Tinker Air Force Base Chapel is seeking a Catholic Choir Director. The successful applicant should be familiar with Roman Catholic worship practices, rites and music, have at least three years experience and be able to pass a background investigation. Interested applicants should obtain a Statement of Work from Chapel and submit a resume and bid for CCHD $1,000 by 4 p.m. on March 29. Interviews for each in which the applicant will demonstrate proficiency in vocal and instrumental performance, will be conducted the week of April 1. For more information, call the Tinker AFB Chapel at (405) 734-2112.

Cafeteria Help Needed Bishop McGuinness Cafeteria is now taking applications for part-time cafeteria help. If interested, please contact Laura Scott by email lmcoklahoma@sbcglobal.net or call 405-846-0568 for an appointment.

Director of Pastoral Care Via Christi Village, Ponca City, OK The position is responsible for the delivery of spiritual care, as part of the care team, to residents, their loved ones and, as appropriate, staff. Responsible for coordinating services and programs to strengthen the spirit and supportive of Catholic doctrine and the Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services. Apply online at www.viachristi.org or in person at Via Christi Village, Ponca City, OK, 73760.
OLOG — More than 140 college and university students from around the state attended the 2013 Oklahoma Catholic College Student Conference. The weekend retreat was held at Our Lady of Guadalupe Camp in early February.

The students enjoyed the opportunity to meet and connect with other Catholic college students from around Oklahoma. They spent the weekend learning about documents of Vatican II in breakout sessions, listening to prominent speakers like Bob Rice and Francis Beckwith, and having a blast playing Catholic Trivia.

There were morning prayers, adoration and Mass celebrated by Archbishop Paul Coakley and Bishop Edward Slattery. Among the colleges represented were OSU, OU, TU, St. Gregory’s, Southwestern, Southeastern, Panhandle State, UCO, USAO, OSU-OKC, East Central, Mid America Christian University and even a few from out of state.

Students took an active role in the weekend. Amanda Ortiz, an intern with the St. Thomas More Campus Ministry at OU, helped lead praise and worship during the weekend. She said the weekend emotionally and spiritually prepared her for the rest of her school semester. Ortiz said she felt “better equipped to strengthen her relationship with God and the community” after her time at the college conference.

Oklahoma Catholic university students take part in retreat

Among the college students from around the state, the weekend was able to facilitate discussion and new connections between Catholic college students. The students learned about ways to live out their Catholic faith as young adults and college students. FOCUS missionaries from the University of Oklahoma and Tulsa University introduced the group the concept of leading a Bible study, showing that it was feasible and perhaps simpler than expected for college students to create their own Bible studies with their peers.

Students like Lucy Ferminius, a student at the University of Oklahoma and a leader in St. Thomas More’s Campus Ministry, said she especially enjoyed the weekend’s talks, which focused on topics relevant to college students, including the Catechism and the evolution of Catholic doctrine.

Through the weekend, the students were able to grow deeper in their Catholic faith and answer the call of the New Evangelization.

Saint Ann health fair April 17

OKLAHOMA CITY — Saint Ann Retirement Center is hosting the annual “Health Fair and Open House” on Wednesday April 17. This special event will take place in the Grand Theater from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Healthy snacks and beverages will be served. Representatives from various health-related organizations will be on hand to discuss health issues and the services they provide. The event will feature drawings for gifts donated by vendors. Guests will be able to tour the facility.

Saint Ann’s currently has a spring special for available one-bedroom Independent Living apartments. To reserve a table at the health fair, call Richard, Martha or Teresa at 405-722-0547. Saint Ann Retirement Center is located at 7501 W. Britton Road.

Supporting Seminarian Education

The Seminarian Burse Fund at the Catholic Foundation continues to ensure financial resources are available for seminarians of the Archdiocese. Last year, contributions of $265,000 did not cover the expenses of over $885,000 faced by the Archdiocese in the future. The Foundation’s mission is to continue to ensure that financial resources are available for seminarians of the Archdiocese. Last year, contributions of $265,000 did not cover the expenses of over $885,000 faced by the Archdiocese in the future. The Foundation’s mission is to continue to ensure that financial resources are available for seminarians of the Archdiocese.

For more information on Planned Giving, contact:

The Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma, Inc.
P.O. Box 32180, Oklahoma City, OK 73123
(405)721-4151 • www.cfook.org • semtner@catharchdioceseokc.org

Please Remember the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City in Your Estate Plans.