The goal of advancing Christ’s mission in the world is getting a boost through a new religious leadership program called the Blessed Stanley Rother Institute.

The Rother Institute, which is named in honor of the Oklahoma priest, missionary and martyr who gave his life for his faith, will provide faith formation for spiritual leaders in the archdiocese, including religious education directors, Catholic school teachers and principals, parish catechists, youth ministers, deacons and RCIA coordinators.

According to Jim Beckman, executive director of evangelization and catechesis for the archdiocese, the mission will be achieved through catechetical workshops, certification courses and theology degree programs. Beckman said deacons already are in classes, and the curriculum for other lay ministers will be up and running by the fall.

One Church, Many Disciples campaign to strengthen growing parishes

The number of Oklahomans has grown substantially in recent years. In just the seven years between 2010 and 2017, the state’s population increased by more than 179,000 people. This growth has brought with it an increase in the number of Catholics as well.

For more than 100 years, Catholics made up only about 4 percent of the state population, but Catholics now comprise an estimated 8 percent of the population. Today, there are more than 200,000 Catholics who make up the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City in central and western Oklahoma.

Parishes in south Oklahoma City such as Sacred Heart, Saint James the Greater and Little Flower are starting to feel the effects of the growing number of parishioners. Saint James the...
archbishop.coakley@archokc.org
Ph: (405) 721-9351

March 4 – Confirmation, 12:15 p.m., Christ the King, OKC
March 6 – All School Mass, 9:45 a.m., Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School, OKC
March 6 – Oklahoma Conference of Communities Leaders meeting, 11:30 a.m.
March 6 – One Church Many Disciples Wave 2 volunteer orientation, 6 p.m., St. Peter, Woodward
March 7 – 7th – 8th School Mass and championship visit, 6:45 a.m., St. Mary, Lawton
March 8 – Archbishop’s School Advisory Council meeting, 7:30 a.m., Catholic Pastoral Center
March 8 – Personnel Board meeting, 10 a.m., CPC
March 8 – Mass, 11:30 a.m., St. Francis de Sales Chapel, CPC
March 8 – One Church Many Disciples Wave 2 volunteer orientation, 6 p.m., St. John, Edmond
March 10 – Mass at Oklahoma Catholic Women’s Conference, 8 a.m., Edmond Conference Center
March 10 – Confirmation, 5 p.m., St. Eugene, OKC
March 11 – Mass and groundbreaking for new school, 11 a.m., St. Thomas More University Parish, Norman
March 11 – St. Ann Retirement Center Board meeting, 8 a.m., CPC
March 13 – Finance Council meeting, 2 p.m., CPC
March 13 – Priests Continuing Formation Committee meeting, 3 p.m., CPC
March 13 – Mass with UCO students, 7 p.m, Y Chapel at UCO, Edmond
March 16 – One Church Many Disciples Wave 2 volunteer orientation in Spanish, 6 p.m., Little Flower, OKC
March 17 – ACCW Woman of Achievement Mass and luncheon, 11 a.m., Epiphany, OKC
March 17 – Confirmation, 3 p.m, St. Joseph, Norman

Archbishop Paul A. Coakley
Black and Indian Mission collection bolsters programs in archdiocese

I n 1884, the U.S. Catholic Bishops estab- lished a charity to support the mission work among African-American, American Indian and Alaska Native people. The charity organized a national collection for what be- came the Black and Indian Mission Office. Today, the annual Black and Indian Mis- sion Collection helps with grants to operate schools, establish parish-based catechetical programs, support teachers, encourage voca- tions to priesthood and religious life, sponsor events and other missionary needs. The gener- osity of the Catholic faithful enables the Black and Indian Mission Office to build the Body of Christ in dioceses throughout the country. This year, the annual Black and Indian Mis- sion Collection in the Archdiocese of Okla- homa City is March 10-11. It is held the second weekend in March, and comes during Lent, which is a time to concentrate on prayer, fasting and almsgiving. The collection comes soon after Saint Katharine Drexel’s feast day on March 9. Throughout the south and west, Diocesan, Catho- lic Indian missions and schools for Afri- can-American and Alaskan Na- tives. One example is the Indian mission school founded in 1901 by Patrick Richard, O.S.B., in what is now Anadarko. The mission collec- tion grants continue Drexel’s and Richard’s school evangelization efforts by supporting and assisting with religious education programs at Saint Patrick in Anadarko and its rural mis- sions; Our Lady of the Rosary in Binger; and Saint Richard in Carnegie. Grant funding has provided school supplies, religious education class materials and Christmas pageant items for the Saint Patrick religious education pro- gram. BMI grants also allowed the archdiocese to establish the American Indian Catholic Out- reach (ACOR) office, led by Deacon Roy Callison (Cherokew). The Prayer in the Four Directions evangelization retreat is supported in part by the mission. Additional programs supported by the grants are the Saint Kateri Tekakwitha American Indian Catholic Outreach
Saint Kateri Tekakwitha Spiritual Center of Oklahoma
Deacon Roy Callison, Coordinator
(918) 822-3251
rcallison@archokc.org

The 5th annual National Catholic Sisters Week March 8-14
Celebrating sisters for all

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


The Carmelites of Saint Therese
2016 Archdiocese of Oklahoma
The Carmelites of Saint Therese
Archdiocese of Oklahoma City
Archdiocese de Oklahoma City
Archdiocese of Oklahoma City

On God We Trust

During the 1995 memorial service following the bombing of the federal building in Oklahoma City, the late great evangelist Billy Graham said, “The spirit of this city and nation will not be defeated. Our deeply rooted faith sustains us.” We characteristic turn to faith during times of crisis. It is what we do in Oklahoma.

In fact, a measure recently passed out of committee at the state legislature proposes the nation’s motto “In God We Trust” be posted in every classroom. At a time when our nation is experiencing tragedies with devasting frequency, why aren’t we turning to God to help shape our response to injustice and vul- nerability.

Unfortunately, we often fail to seek God’s wisdom and strength in preventing and responding to these tragedies. We place our trust in wisdom of a worldli- er sort. Since the most recent school massacre in Park- land., Fla., there have been many anguished and angry cries calling for greater security in our schools, even to the point of arming teachers. Many have called for more strict allowing teachers.

On the other hand, the First Commandment of the Decalogue is clear, “I am the Lord your God, you shall not have other gods beside me.” Many things can become false gods for us by demand- ing our allegiance and submission in ways that are idolatrous. These could be wealth or plea- sure or power.

It is not within my competence to write public policy. But as a pastor, I have an obligation to call people of faith to an examination of conscience. In this matter of school safety, has our faith in God been enlarged by a naïve faith in our safety and our children by arming ourselves to the teeth?

Make no mistake, I am a proponent of the Second Amend- ment. I enjoy the freedoms that the Constitution guar- antees. But, we can make idols of many good things simply by vowing them too much and sub- stituting them for trust in God and the allegiance that is due to Him and Him alone. As people of faith, we are called to offer prayer to the victims of violence, especially innocent children. And, we should. But, we are called to more. We also are called to act. What action are we called to?

To begin with, we must repent. We must begin by acknowl- edging our own blindness and self-deception. We are called to turn to the Lord and seek his wisdom and guidance. God’s ways are not our ways. History shows us that the Lord will use our weaknesses to bring about his will. He has the power to help us.

We are called to more. As people of faith, we are called to more. We need to be in prayer. We need to call on the Lord for help. We need to be in action. We need to be in the world as the Body of Christ. We need to be in the archdiocese.

For our parish community, that we would build the Church in African American, American Indian and Alaska Native community through generous support of the Black and Indian Mission Collection.
Lord, hear our prayer

In God we trust

Find more news on the website
By Sooner Catholic Staff
Additional coverage of Church and archdiocesan news and events, only on www.soonercatholic.org.

http://soonercatholic.org

nationalcatholicsistersweek.org
Facebook, Pinterest and Twitter

Monastic Moment – March 23 6:30 pm – March 25 7:30 am
St. Joseph Monastery
1005 N. Comal, Tulsa, OK
A weekend experience of silence and reflection A weekend experience of silence and reflection
For single Catholic women ages 18-35 For single Catholic women ages 18-35
For more information and to register: sfomastery@gmail.com For more information and to register: sfomastery@gmail.com

Office of Vocations OCA
vocations@archokc.org
(405) 721-9351

Black and Indian Mission collection bolsters programs in archdiocese

2018 collection March 10-11

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The Sooner Catholic

By Anamaría Scepeljandan Bidick

Catechism of the Good Shepherd method excites young Catholics

By Eliana Tedrow

Inspirational Catholic who changed lives in America

The previous editor of the Sooner Catholic, Dana Attocknie, has served in various roles of leadership for national, regional and local ministry.

Beckman also is the executive director of Impact-Center, a non-profit dedicated to leadership development in the Catholic Church, and serves as an adjunct professor at the Augustine Institute, teaching on topics of leadership, evangelization and discipleship.

The National Service Committee is a body of leaders in the Catholic Charismatic Renewal who work together to serve the Lord in renewing the grace of Pentecost in the life and mission of the Church.

Sooner Catholic leader chosen for national committee

The Sooner Catholic

By Elaina Tedrow

In his spare time, he edited the diocesan and parish ministry, A graduate from Franciscan University of Steubenville in 1987, Jim Beckman has served in various roles of leadership for national, regional and local ministry.

Beckman serves as the executive director of evangelization and catechesis for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. He has been involved with diocesan and parish presentations, evangelization and leadership development for more than 30 years.

A graduate from Franciscan University of Steubenville in 1987, Jim Beckman has served in various roles of leadership for national, regional and local ministry.

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Worldwide Marriage Encounter announces Oklahoma’s longest married couple

Ardan and Thelma Lee Crum, of Oklahoma City, are the 2018 Oklahoma winners of the Longest Married Couple Project, sponsored by Worldwide Marriage Encounter. They have been married 75 years.

“It is an honor to announce Arden and Thelma Lee Crum as the Oklahoma winners; they have truly shown their long-time commitment to marriage,” explained Rick and Bev Feller, Oklahoma’s Marriage Encounter leadership team.

The couple officially will be recognized at an upcoming ceremony.

The program said the Crums met when they were about age 11, when Arden visited his uncle’s farm near Pond Creek. The farm was catty-cornered from Thelma Lee’s parent’s farm. He began to pursue her by taking her to horseback riding. She stood him up for their first date because she had a tendency to fall off horses. Arden kept up his pursuit, traveling from Oklahoma City to court her. They married soon after she graduated high school on July 8, 1942.

When asked if they had any marriage advice for couples today, Thelma Lee stated, “Pick out a good god first. If you pick somebody that’s a good person, you start out right.” Arden offered, “Kiss her goodnight every night. If that works, it’s the start of a good one.”

Worldwide Marriage Encounter couples chooses couples based on nominations. To learn more about the Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekends in Oklahoma, go to www.wwme.org or contact (405) 321-0990 or stm-ou.org.

The Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma and the Bobby Dean Little Trust recently awarded more than $85,000 in pastoral music and fine art grants to 27 parishes and schools in the archdiocese. This is the fourth year of the grants program after establishing a Pastoral Music and Fine Arts Endowment Fund seven years ago. Each year of the program, the Bobby Dean Little Trust has collaborated with the foundation to fund the awardees.

The Pastoral Music and Fine Arts Endowment Fund was established to promote and celebrate the performing and visual arts throughout the archdiocese. Below is a list of the 2018 recipients:

- Blessed Sacred Heart, Lawton – Fine arts performance series
- St. Balbina, Oklahoma City – Liturgy, music, and visual art
- Good Shepherd, Marietta – OCP music workshop
- Holy Spirit, Mustang – Hand bell choir

Holy Name of Jesus, Chickasha – Expand music program, hymnals, sheet music
- Mother of Sorrows, Apache – Electronic keyboard
- Our Lady of Sorrows, Chandler – Improve choir equipment
- Prince of Peace (St. Helen), Altus – Music board mixer, stands, portable keyboard, new hymnals
- St. Akin, Elgin – Electronic keyboard, replaced speakers
- St. Charles Borromeo, OKC – Liturgical music enrichment, young adult musicians, canters, chairs
- St. Damien, Edmond – Electronic piano, song books for choir
- St. Francis Xavier, Sulphur – 2018 Breaking Bread missals

St. John Nepomuk, Yukon – iPad pro, foot pedal and apps for Mass, digitizing Mass sheet music
- St. Joseph, Blanchard – Piano, dolly, sound system
- St. Joseph Old Cathedral, OKC – Collaboration with local university music students
- St. Mary, Archdioce – Renovation of choir left, chairs, music racks
- St. Mary, Clinton – Choral camp for St. Mary and St. Anne
- St. Patrick, Anadarko – Passport for microphone and instructional music, stands, chairs
- St. Mary, Oklahoma City – New keyboard for Children Church

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Catholic Foundation awards educational grants

The youth group at St. Rose of Lima in Perry recently installed a Smart TV, Blu-Ray player and speakers in a classroom at the parish. The electronic equipment was purchased with an educational grant from the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma. The equipment allows students to access religious digital content during religious education classes.

Catholic Foundation board member Barbara Hallfield presented an educational grant check to Sharonan Stanton at St. Rose of Lima in El Reno for the purchase of 24 iPads and two iPad charging stations for middle school classes. The iPads will allow the students to have portable access to technology in the classroom, and supplement the classroom educational experience.

Catholic Foundation pastoral music and fine art grants announced

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Rite of Election 2018

Holy Name of Jesus, Chickasha

Saint Francis Xavier, Enid

Blessed Sacrament, Lawton

Saint Eugene, Weatherford

Holy Trinity, Okarche

Saint Eugene, Oklahoma City

Saint Francis of Assisi, Oklahoma City

Saint Thomas More University Parish, Norman

Saint Mary, Ponca City

Saint John the Baptist, Edmond

Holy Family, Lawton

Feb. 18
The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Oklahoma City

Photos Chris Porter/Sooner Catholic and provided
A martyr for the faith, Poland

Jesus our true big brother!

Abba’s son is love incarnate

By J.E. Helm

The Catholic Senator

Jesus Christ, in the fullness of his humanity, is the true elder brother, Jesus Christ, in the fullness of his divinity is our Christ, our Saviour and our Brother.

He is the first-born, the first to be resurrected and the first of a multitude of brothers and sisters.

Even after he ascended into heaven, he did not leave us, he never abandoned us, he is with and in us. Jesus promised to remain with his brothers and sisters until the end of time.

He accomplished this by sending us the wonderful gift of his spirit. The result of each of us is that Christ shall be the first-born and sisters until the end of time.

This Scripture passage will help you talk to your family about God

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Lánzate a lo más Profundo

En Dios confiamos

Durante el servicio conmemorativo de 1995 después del bombardeo del edificio federal en Oklahoma City, el gran evangelista Billy Graham escribió: “El espíritu de esta ciudad y nación no será domado fru-
damente arrasada nos susto. ‘Típicamente reclamamos en tiempos de crisis. Es lo que hacemos en Oklahoma. De hecho, una medida recientemente aprobada por el comité en la legislatura estatal propone que el lema de la nación ‘In God We Trust/En Dios confiamos’ se anuncie en todas las escuelas. En un momento en que nuestra nación está experimentando tragedias con frecuencia aterrorizantes, ¿por qué no reclamamos a Dios para ayudar a dar forma a nuestra respuesta a la injusticia y la vulnerabilidad? Desafiándonos a nosotros, merece faltanamos en buscar la sabiduría y responder a estas tragedias. Pues nuestros condamnados en la sabiduría de un tipo más mun-
ra para ti otros desvanece de mii...”. Muchas cosas pueden convertirse en desenlaces falsos para nosotros enriqueciendo nuestra fealdad y sumisión de maneras que son idiólatras. Estas podían ser reglas, normas, o poder. No es de mi competencia escribir políticas públicas. Pero como pastor, tengo la obligación de maneras que son idólatra. Estos podrían ser
do con es-

es de es-

bajar su dientes?”

Jesús, nuestro verdadero hermano mayor!

El hijo de Abbá es amor encarnado

Asegúrese de inscribirse y tarpar en el campamento

Costa total del campamento: 75 por persona

Fechas límite:
Después de 31 de marzo: 30 por persona
Después de 31 de mayo: 60 por persona
Después de 31 de julio: 115 por persona

Fechas importantes:
Los padres para niñosermannos por correo a la dirección: 38 del campamento, pero no tardar antes de 30 días.
Por favor llame a 405-721-2920 o 405-721-3125

José Pedro Ibarra, nuestro verdadero hermano mayor!

El hijo de Abbá es amor encarnado

Algo que mi corazón desea hacer más es ser el verdadero hermano mayor de aquellos que me acercan a mí. Es el que nos acercamos a él para preguntarnos: “¿En qué puedo ayudarles en su viaje hacia el triunfo de nuestra fe y de nuestra vida en Cristo?”

Pedro A. Moreno, O.P. Secretario de Evangelización y Catequesis

O.K.

¿Por qué no recuerde a un colega de su edad o más joven que ha sido sacrificado tanto por nosotros, el bien de Dios, en el camino de su sacrificio, que ha sido testigo de sus sufrimientos. ¿Por qué no recordar a nuestros hermanos en armas a las armas de fuego o la eliminación de esa amenaza? Y, también, ¿por qué no devolver a los maestros a las aulas? En un momento en que la nación “In God We Trust/En Dios confiamos” ha sido debatida en el comité en la legislatura del estado, parece que estamos en un callejón sin salida por más de 200 años. Pero efectivamente, el primer Manifiesto del Decálogo es: “Yo, el Señor, soy tu Dios. No habrá otro dios delante de mi”. Muchas cosas pueden convertirse en desenlaces falsos para nosotros enriqueciendo nuestra fealdad y sumisión de maneras que son idiólatras. Estas podían ser reglas, normas, o poder. No es de mi competencia escribir políticas públicas. Pero como pastor, tengo la obligación de maneras que son idólatra. Estos podrían ser

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O.K.

¿Por qué no recuerde a un colega de su edad o más joven que ha sido sacrificado tanto por nosotros, el bien de Dios, en el camino de su sacrificio, que ha sido testigo de sus sufrimientos. ¿Por qué no recordar a nuestros hermanos en armas a las armas de fuego o la eliminación de esa amenaza? Y, también, ¿por qué no devolver a los maestros a las aulas? En un momento en que la nación “In God We Trust/En Dios confiamos” ha sido debatida en el comité en la legislatura del estado, parece que estamos en un callejón sin salida por más de 200 años. Pero efectivamente, el primer Manifiesto del Decálogo es: “Yo, el Señor, soy tu Dios. No habrá otro dios delante de mi”. Muchas cosas pueden convertirse en desenlaces falsos para nosotros enriqueciendo nuestra fealdad y sumisión de maneras que son idiólatras. Estas podían ser reglas, normas, o poder. No es de mi competencia escribir políticas públicas. Pero como pastor, tengo la obligación de maneras que son idólatra. Estos podrían ser

José Pedro Ibarra, nuestro verdadero hermano mayor!

El hijo de Abbá es amor encarnado

Algo que mi corazón desea hacer más es ser el verdadero hermano mayor de aquellos que me acercan a mí. Es el que nos acercamos a él para preguntarnos: “¿En qué puedo ayudarles en su viaje hacia el triunfo de nuestra fe y de nuestra vida en Cristo?”

Pedro A. Moreno, O.P. Secretario de Evangelización y Catequesis

O.K.
Holy Innocents’ Chapel perpetual adoration

Innocents’ Chapel next door to the Planned Parenthood abortion clinic in northwest OKC. The chapel, open 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday-Friday, offers perpetual adoration. Holy Innocents’ Chapel is located at 2001 S. Robinson Ave., 73105.

Lenten Organ Recital Series

St. Francis of Assisi’s 3rd annual Lenten Organ Recital Series begins at 3 p.m. each Sunday until March 18. The series begins this weekend, with the presentation of the organ repertoire and Lent for Bents. Recitals are free and open to the public. March 4: “Sacred and secular in Assumption Catholic Church.” March 11: Casey Cantwell, director of music and organist for Assumption Catholic Church. March 18: Alverno College professor of music and organist at St. Francis, OKC.

Lenten Mission

Fr. Alver Hasee will lead a Lenten mission, “Sign and Seal of the Cross,” at 7 p.m. March 12 at Christ the King Parish Center, 3900 S.E. 29, Del City. Contact Fr. Alver Hasee at alverhasee@gmail.com or (405) 242-4595.

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Are you listening?

By Sally Crowe Nash

“Ready or not? ... I wasn’t ready. My ‘do’ list was long, but an opportunity was right in front of me. I’m a big believer in the Roman Catholic Church, because of its definition of luck: ‘Luck is what happens when preparedness meets opportunity.’ I was plowing full-speed into an opportunity. I had the chance to be a part of the premier, pro-life event in the state, Rose Day, at the State Capitol. I would work an information table for one of the participating organizations, Rachel’s Vineyard, and I was going to interview one of the speakers at the event. Experiencing an annual, state-wide event such as Rose Day at the home of history and politics is heady stuff. The whole event is a subject for column, but I will just say that when it came time to hear the speaker in the House Chamber, I found myself seated next to Father Rick Decker, pastor of Presentation of Our Lady of the Beginning Parish and a Catholic radio chaplain.

Now, here is the where the Holy Spirit took its role. Father Rick entertained me with lively tidbits of information about the Capitol and his dad who had been a state legislator. Eventually, conversation turned to Catholic radio.

‘Did you know that you were on Catholic radio last week?’

‘What?’ I was excited, and I was inspired. Someone local had been a guest on a nationally- aired Catholic program.

‘Father Rick, may I use this for my column?’ Then, I prayed a thank you to the Holy Spirit. I love listening to Catholic radio, and I love the fact that others are learning to hear it because of their faith and their love.

Sue Crowe Nash is a columnist for The Oklahoman. Contact her at scrowe@oklahoman.com.
Elaina Murphy, an atrium assistant at Saint Francis, noticed the effects of this. “I am really struck by how the children are listening with their ears and hearts,” she said, “and how they absorb the scripture more than in another environment. There is a certain attentiveness they have to the word of God that they don’t have at home or mass.”

In the quiet, the children encounter God in the Scriptures and the Liturgy. Father Hamilton noted the importance of the dual focus. “The Sacred Scriptures are the Word of God in written form. It is obviously a gift that helps the soul encounter God and His Kingdom. Furthermore, the Church says that the Sacred Liturgy is ‘the summit toward which the activity of the Church is directed; at the same time it is the font from which all her power flows’ (Vatican II, Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, n. 10). The two sacred fonts give the children an enhanced ability to join the entire community in sacred worship,” he said.

“Children have such a unique capacity to fall in love,” Webb said, “CGS catches them at this crucial stage and invites them to fall in love their Good Shepherd. It is a beautiful thing to see our archdiocese making disciples of our youngest members.”

Anamaria Scaperlanda Biddick is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.