Oh Good and Gracious Lord,  
We Thank You for Your Servant  
Eusebius J. Beltran

Ordained to the Priesthood May 14, 1960
Bishop of Tulsa from 1978-1992
Archbishop of Oklahoma City 1993-2010

For more on Archbishop Beltran's years in Oklahoma, turn to Pages 3-7 of this issue.

Lent Begins Ash Wednesday, March 9

The Lenten obligation, as determined for Catholics in the United States by our bishops, requires that fasting be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. The law of abstinence from meat is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent.

Who must fast?
All Catholics who are between the ages of 18 and 59. The obligation ceases when one begins his/her 60th year.

Who must abstain?
All Catholics who are 14 years and older.

What does fasting mean?
The observance of fasting means that those obliged may take only one full meal on the day of fast. Two lighter meals (not equal to another full meal) are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs. Eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

What does abstinence mean?
The law of abstinence forbids the eating of meat. Voluntary abstinence refers to refraining from lawful pleasures in a spirit of penance. Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat.

Can anyone be dispensed or excused from fast and/or abstinence?
Individuals with just cause may be dispensed by a priest. Those who are ill or have a similar serious reason are excused from the observance of fast and abstinence. Catholics are reminded that they should not lightly excuse themselves from this obligation and if they do so, they then need to compensate with prayer and other voluntary acts of penance.
Our Lenten Journey to a Renewed Faith

On Ash Wednesday the entire Church embarks on its annual Lenten journey. Lent calls to mind the 40 days which Jesus spent in the desert following his Baptism in the Jordan at the outset of his public ministry. During those days, Jesus prayed, he fasted and he was put to the test. We enter into these 40 days of Lent in the same spirit of prayer, penance and charity to prepare ourselves to celebrate, with mind and heart renewed, the saving mystery of our Redemption. Lent leads us by stages to the celebration of the Sacred Triduum, which is the very heart and center of the Church's liturgical calendar.

The culminating moment of our Lenten experience takes place during the night of Holy Saturday at the Easter Vigil when the catechumens of the Church are baptized into Christ's saving death and resurrection. At that same liturgy, those of us already baptized and prepared by our Lenten discipline also solemnly proclaim and renew the commitments of our baptismal faith.

The link between Lent and Baptism is as strong as it is ancient. The practice of enrolling those preparing for Baptism during the Rite of Election at the Cathedral on the First Sunday of Lent is an element of the restored catechumenate which highlights the historical connection between Baptism and the season of Lent.

In most cases it is the practice of the Catholic Church to baptize during infancy. The practice of infant Baptism emphasizes that faith is a gift. We have done nothing to earn or make ourselves worthy of the forgiveness of sins or divine adoption as children of God. Yet these effects of Baptism are purely God's gift to us.

Baptism is the threshold to a new life. Baptized into Christ's death, we rise with him in victory. Made children of God by adoption through the saving waters of Baptism and the gift of the Holy Spirit, we are incorporated into the Church which is the Body of Christ. Baptism makes us fit and able to receive the other sacraments of the Church which help us to grow toward our full maturity in Christ and assume our proper responsibilities for the mission and service which he has entrusted to the Church.

Lent gives us the opportunity to renew our gratitude for the new life purchased for us at such a price so that we may become better stewards of the gifts we received in Baptism.

through Baptism we die to a life of sin, so as to live for Christ. But the flesh, that is, our wounded human nature, does not relinquish its hold easily. It takes a lifetime to fully embrace our high calling and put on “the mind of Christ.” The discipline of Lent trains us through prayer, penance and almsgiving, and through pondering the word of God to grow daily in faith and holiness.

Seminary Burses

A $200 donation was made to the Father Joseph Beltran Seminary Burse by Mr. & Mrs. Henry Cebulski.

A $200 donation was made to the Father Stanley Rother Seminary Burse by an anonymous donor.

A $100 donation was made to the Father Stanley Rother Seminary Burse in Thanksgiving for the faithful service of Archbishop Beltran by Rosalie and Mike Seikel.

A $10 donation was made to the Father Stanley Rother Seminary Burse by the Gary Conner Family, Lawton.

Father Joseph Beltran
Seminary Burse
$98,290

Father Stephen Bird
Seminary Burse
$11,200

Father Denis Blackledge
Seminary Burse
$8,337

Father Wade Darnall
Seminary Burse
$10,545

Father Larry Gatlin
Seminary Burse
$10,000

Father Bernard J. Havlik
Seminary Burse
$51,710

Father James A. Kastner
Seminary Burse
$10,820

Bishop Stephen A. Leven
Seminary Burse
$64,628

Father John A. Petuskey
Seminary Burse
$11,850

Father Clement E. Pribil
Seminary Burse
$6,351

Father Stanley Rother
Seminary Burse
$195,446.74

Archbishop Charles Salatka
Seminary Burse
$185,970

Father John Scheller
Seminary Burse
$10,000

Father Gerald Ucker
Seminary Burse
$10,098

Totals as of 1/30/2011

$11,200

$98,290

$10,820

$64,628

$11,850

$6,351

$195,446.74

$185,970

$10,000

$10,098
Thank You Archbishop Eusebius J. Beltran

Thank you, Archbishop Beltran, for your many years of episcopal ministry in the Diocese of Tulsa and especially in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City! You have been a wise and loving shepherd. I am profoundly grateful for your fidelity in ministry and selfless dedication to God’s people. I look forward to our continuing fraternal collaboration for the well-being of the Church. “Well done, good and faithful servant!”

Most Reverend Paul S. Coakley
Archbishop of Oklahoma City

Archbishop Beltran is a pastor whose only focus is that we become one in Christ. This was the motto he chose 33 years ago for his coat of arms, “We are One in Christ,” and he has lived this reality since. This is most evident in the way that the Archbishop celebrates Mass. I feel privileged every time I concelebrate with him.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Edward J. Slattery
Bishop of Tulsa

Archbishop Beltran celebrated Mass at Sacred Heart in El Reno on a weekday morning. Following Mass, he commented to Father Phil Donohoe that with so many retired people participating in Mass, the parish should consider building a retirement center. Ten years later, Saint Katharine Drexel Retirement Center became the first parish-based retirement center in the Archdiocese. It has been a success from day one. Plans are under way to expand creating a memory care center on the campus. And before all of this, Archbishop Beltran authorized the re-opening of Sacred Heart School, which had closed in 1965. Today the school has close to 100 students from pre-K through fifth grade. Archbishop Beltran often said, “Work as if everything depends on you and pray as if everything depends on God.” Thank you Archbishop Beltran for your faith in God and the example you have given to us.

The people of Sacred Heart, El Reno

Timeline

The following is a timeline of events that have occurred during Archbishop Beltran’s 50-plus years as a priest.

May 16, 1960 — Archbishop Beltran was ordained to the priesthood.
Nov. 8, 1960 — The election of the first Catholic president of the United States, President John F. Kennedy.
March 1, 1961 — U.S. Peace Corps founded.
May 5, 1961 — The first American in space.
July 1961 — Chubby Checker introduced the Twist on American Band Stand.
1961 — The Vietnam War officially begins.
1962 — The Internet was first launched.
June 21, 1962 — U.S. Supreme Court handed down the decision on Engel v. Vitale that stated prayer in the public schools was unconstitutional.
Oct. 11, 1962 — Vatican II was opened.
Aug. 28, 1963 — Martin Luther King Jr., I Have A Dream speech.
Nov. 22, 1963 — JFK assassinated.
Feb. 7, 1964 — The Beatles land in the U.S.
June 12, 1964 — Nelson Mandela was sentenced to life in prison.
July 2, 1964 — The Civil Rights Act was passed.
March 1, 1966 — The Miranda rights were passed into law.
Jan. 15, 1967 — The first Super Bowl was played in Los Angeles.
April 4, 1968 — MLK Jr. assassinated.
July 20, 1969 — Man walks on the moon.
Nov. 10, 1969 — Sesame Street first airs.
1971 — The floppy disk was put on the market.
May 28 and July 17, 1972 — Watergate burglaries.
Feb. 6, 1973 — The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City and the Diocese of Tulsa were created.
1975 — Microsoft founded.
Thank You, Archbishop Beltran

In February 1978, when I first heard the name “Eusebius Beltran,” I must admit that I wasn’t sure how to pronounce his name. Saint Eusebius was not on my radar screen! Little did we know then how blessed the Catholics of Oklahoma would be to have this wonderful man as a shepherd for 33 years. Only recently did we learn that he has surpassed the record length of service of Bishop Meerschaerd by just a few months.

Having worked first for Bishop, then Archbishop Beltran, I soon realized that his love of God and the Catholic faith are foremost and never waivers. His attitude is always positive. On the physical side, he has always had so much vitality that he has been dubbed the Energizer Bunny.

His love of God and the Church spills over into his daily life, whether he is celebrating the Eucharist, meeting with his priests or staff, visiting in the nursing homes and hospitals, prisons and schools. Much of the good work that he does goes undetected because he never seeks credit or praise.

I hope that Archbishop Beltran knows how much he is admired and respected and that we are grateful for his presence and leadership in Oklahoma. Thank you, Archbishop Beltran.

Carol Davito
Secretary to Archbishop Beltran

Timeline

1977 — The VCR was put on the market.
May 25, 1977 — Star Wars movie released.
Feb. 28, 1978 — Father Beltran was appointed Bishop of Tulsa.
Aug. 26, 1978 — Albino Luciani is elected as Pope and takes the name John Paul I.
Sept. 28, 1978 — Pope John Paul I dies. Bishop Beltran was in Rome for Pope John Paul I’s entire 33-day papacy.
Oct. 16, 1978 — Karol Józef Wojtyla is elected Pope, taking the name John Paul II.
1979 — Mother Teresa awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.
March 28, 1979 — Three Mile Island meltdown.
Nov. 4, 1979 — Iran hostage crises begins.
May 13, 1981 — Assassination attempt on Pope John Paul II.
May 22, 1980 — Pac-Man was introduced.
Summer 1980 — U.S. boycotts the Summer Olympics in Moscow.
1981 — Cell phones were first introduced.
June 1981 — AIDS is identified.
Aug. 12, 1981 — The personal computer was introduced.
Sept. 22, 1981 — First woman appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court.
Nov. 13, 1982 — Vietnam War Memorial opened in Washington, D.C.
1984 — The Internet was made available to the public.
April 23, 1985 — New Coke is introduced.
Sept. 1, 1985 — Wreck of the Titanic found.
1987 — DNA first used to convict criminals.
Nov. 9, 1989 — The Berlin Wall fell.
Dec. 25, 1991 — The cold war ends when the USSR was declared officially dissolved.
Nov. 24, 1992 — Archbishop Beltran was appointed Archbishop of Oklahoma City.
The faculty, staff and students of St. Mary’s School in Ponca City would like to congratulate you on your retirement! We thank you for being a happy and faithful servant to the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City and for your unwavering support of Catholic Education. Our schools have flourished under your exemplary leadership. May God continue to bless and keep you.

Dear Archbishop Beltran,
“Goodbye.” “We’ll miss you.”
“We wish you could come back.”
“We hope you would love us.”
“We hope you have a great time.”
“Bless you.” “We love you.”
Thank you for being such a good leader for our church!
Love and prayers,
Mrs. Hill and Mrs. Yarbrough’s Pre-K classes at St. Eugene School

Archbishop Beltran,
The students, faculty and staff of Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School thank you for your prayers and support of Catholic education over the years. We especially want to thank you for your great efforts in rebuilding our school. Your guidance and wise leadership have been instrumental in our success. Our continued prayers will be with you.

Archbishop Beltran — Thank you for all you have done to help make the Oklahoma City Archdiocese Catholic school system the great success it is today. Your leadership during the past years has been an inspiration to all of us. Your example of God’s love for each of us was evident during your visits to our school each year. We extend our congratulations and best wishes to you on your retirement. Feel free to come visit us any chance you get.

From the faculty, staff and students of St. Philip Neri Catholic School

Timelines
May 1, 1994 — Nelson Mandela elected president of South Africa.
April 19, 1995 — Oklahoma City Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building bombing.
June 30, 1997 — Hong Kong returns to Chinese rule.
May 3, 1998 — The Euro is created.
1998 — Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone is released in the United States.
1999 — The world awaited the Y2K bug.
Sept. 11, 2001 — Terror attacks on New York and Washington, D.C.
Oct. 23, 2001 — Apple introduced the IPod.
March 20, 2003 — Invasion of Iraq.
February 2004 — Facebook is launched.
February 2005 — YouTube is launched.
April 2, 2005 — Death of Pope John Paul II.
April 19, 2005 — Father Joseph Alois Ratzinger is elected Pope, taking the name Benedict XVI.
Aug. 29, 2005 — Hurricane Katrina hits Louisiana.
Aug. 24, 2006 — Pluto loses its status as a planet.
2007 — Apple introduces the IPhone.
September 2009 — The first e-book reader is launched in the United States.
Aug. 5, 2010 — 33 Chilean miners were rescued from a mine collapse after 69 days.
Dec. 16, 2010 — Archbishop Beltran’s resignation was accepted, Bishop Paul S. Coakley, bishop of Salina, Kan., was appointed fourth Archbishop of Oklahoma City.
Archbishop Beltran,
Congratulations and best wishes on your retirement. Especially, thank you for your wonderful example of episcopal ministry and your friendship. God’s continued blessings on you.

Bishop David E. Fellhauer
Diocese of Victoria in Texas

UNITED IN THANKSGIVING
FOR A FRUITFUL
AND FAITHFUL EPISCOPAL
MINISTRY BY
ARCHBISHOP EUSEBIUS
JOSEPH BELTRAN

May the trees you planted and the seeds you sowed with the grace of God grow and produce much fruit for the Gospel of Christ in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

+Rutilio J. del Riego
Auxiliary Bishop of San Bernardino

Your Excellency,
For your faithful service as Archbishop of Oklahoma City, may God grant you every happiness and good health as you continue to serve the Church of God.

Cordially yours in Christ,
The Most Reverend Thomas G. Doran, D.D., J.C.D.
Bishop of Rockford

I join with the people of Delaware and Maryland’s Eastern Shore in wishing Archbishop Beltran a peaceful and well-deserved retirement. We thank God for the Archbishop’s many years of ministry in Oklahoma and pray that God will grant him good health as he begins this phase of his life in service to Our Lord.

+ Most Rev. W. Francis Malooly,
Bishop of Wilmington

Thank you Archbishop Beltran for the blessing that your lifetime of ministry has been for me and the Church. Just as you are inspired by the martyrdom of Father Stan Rother, so also I am inspired by your courageous leadership of the Church in Oklahoma. The Church has experienced tremendous growth under your leadership and for that I am grateful.

Bishop Anthony Taylor
Bishop of Little Rock

Dear Archbishop Beltran:
Thank you for the long and dedicated service you have given to God’s people while you were the main shepherd of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. May our kind God pour out many new blessings upon you, and I appreciate the friendship we have enjoyed for many years.

God’s peace.
Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI,
Bishop of the Diocese of San Angelo

For Archbishop Beltran’s retirement...
Although your day-to-day work will take on new meaning, no doubt you will continue to touch lives through your never-ending vocation of priesthood.

Bishop Terry J. Steib and The Diocese of Memphis in Tennessee wish you continued blessings in retirement.

Dear Archbishop Beltran,
Thank you for your years of service to the Church. Your inspiring leadership has brought great growth and devotion to the Church. I congratulate you on your retirement and pray you enjoy continued good health.

+Daniel F. Walsh
Bishop of Santa Rosa in California

I am very happy to call Archbishop Eusebius Beltran my friend. I have known Archbishop Beltran for many years. He was very kind to me when I was first ordained a bishop. We would often sit together at the meetings of the USCCB. I am grateful for Archbishop Beltran’s good example of fidelity to the Church and a fraternal spirit in relationship to his brother bishops.
Archbishop Beltran, may the Lord bless you with a very happy retirement. Thank you for sharing with the Church your wonderful gifts.

Fraternally yours in Christ,
++cjc
Most Reverend Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap.
Archbishop of Denver

For more on Archbishop Beltran, more thank-you notes and a photo timeline, go to the Archdiocese webpage at www.catharchdioceseokc.org
Scholarship Established In Honor of Archbishop Beltran

Catholic Charities Announces Plan For Lawton Community

OKLAHOMA CITY — The board of directors of Catholic Charities has established a new special endowment in honor of Archbishop Beltran. Molly Bernard, president of the board of directors, made the announcement at Catholic Charities annual meeting held in Oklahoma City at St. Francis of Assisi Parish on Feb. 21.

The Archbishop Eusebius J. Beltran Scholarship Fund has been established for the purpose of providing tuition scholarships to children who live at Villanova Apartments in Lawton to St. Mary’s Grade School at Blessed Sacrament Parish. These apartments are sponsored by Catholic Charities, and serve 64 low-income families in Lawton.

The development of Villanova Apartments has a longtime connection with Blessed Sacrament Parish. In the late 1970s, when Father Thomas Wade Darnall was pastor of Blessed Sacrament Church, he and J.C. Kennedy used donated property to leverage federal funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to build the original apartments. Mr. Kennedy personally oversaw the management of these apartments until his death in 1993. In the following years, the property experienced deterioration, debt and safety issues.

Working with Mercy Housing Services of Denver and Gorman Property Management of Bartlesville, Catholic Charities assumed the sponsorship and redevelopment of Columbia Square in 2006. With the use of federal tax credits and a redevelopment loan from HUD, the property was totally rebuilt and rededicated in November 2009. The property was renamed Villanova Apartments, dedicated to St. Thomas of Villanova and in recognition of Father Darnall. Villanova Apartments has received national recognition for its energy-efficient design and use of environmentally sound products.

Through the redevelopment period, Catholic Charities worked with both Blessed Sacrament and Holy Family parishes to enlist their social outreach efforts to help support the residents living at Villanova.

“We had excellent interest and cooperation from Father Stafford, Father Seeton, Father Fuller, Father Larkin and Father Joe Ross, who advised on the project and motivated parish members to volunteer services,” stated Tim O’Connor, executive director of Catholic Charities.

Parish volunteers provide welcome baskets to the residents as they move into their new homes. The JustFaith team from Blessed Sacrament established a mentoring project for the children.

Chuck Wade of Lawton, vice president of Catholic Charities board of directors, said, “The new scholarship fund honoring Archbishop Beltran is another step in connecting the parish outreach ministries with the families who are living at Villanova Apartments. Archbishop Beltran has been a strong advocate for both Catholic Charities and Catholic education, and the board of directors is pleased to acknowledge his gifts in establishing this endowment.”

The initial contribution to this endowment has been provided through an estate gift to Catholic Charities. Catholic Charities will use the future earned interest to provide scholarships to Villanova students.

Contributions to this fund may be sent to Catholic Charities or the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma and designated for the Archbishop Eusebius J. Beltran Scholarship Fund.

Wouldn’t It Be Wonderful...

Archbishop Beltran was presented with the new Archbishop Eusebius J. Beltran Scholarship Fund created in his honor at the Annual Catholic Charities meeting. The fund will provide tuition scholarships to children who live at Villanova Apartments in Lawton to St. Mary’s Grade School.

When Archbishop Beltran got up to the microphone to say thank you, he surprised the audience with this story.

“Years and years ago when we were in the beginning stages of working with Villanova, I was there for a meeting early. So I sat in my car and waited. And as I sat there I saw the children that lived there coming home from school. All of them running around, and I thought, wouldn’t it be wonderful if they all could go to St. Mary’s. What an impact that would make in their lives and the futures of their families. So I thank you very much for this.”
Catholic Charities Awards

OKLAHOMA CITY — Catholic Charities held its annual meeting and awards presentation Feb. 21 at Saint Francis of Assisi Church. Mass was celebrated by Archbishop Eusebius J. Beltran, Emeritus. A number of priests from throughout the Archdiocese as well as religious took part in the celebration.

Howard H. Hendrick, director of the Oklahoma Department of Human Services, was the keynote speaker at the awards presentation. Hendrick said the struggling economy is hitting families and especially children hard. Some statistics provided by Hendrick are only described as “staggering.”

In January, some 30 percent of Oklahoma children were on food stamps. Only 12 percent of Hispanic children live in a two-parent household. Among Asian children, 31 percent live in a single parent household and are living in poverty.

Hendrick said the breakdown of the family is creating dire consequences for the state and its children.

The “deterioration of the family is the biggest problem our children are facing,” Hendrick said. “Children losing a parent, being raised in a single-parent home is what so many of our children today are facing. Faith-based organizations have a big part in rebuilding our society.

“We as a society have lost our moral compass and we can either lament to each other or do something about it,” said Hendrick. “The core value we need in this country is family. You (the Catholic Church) are committed to the core value of family, which needs to be revitalized in our society. We need to find a way in our state and nation to help moms and dads. We have to do that to help the other problems in society,” he said.

Awards presented were:

**CLERGY/RELIGIOUS AWARD**

This award recognizes an outstanding priest, religious brother, religious sister or deacon who has promoted the mission of Catholic Charities through service and advocacy.

**Sister Diane Koorie**

R.S.M.

As chair of the Commission for Justice and Human Development for several years, Sister Diane has led this voluntary group in exceptional ways. She has played a vital role in orienting and educating its membership in our call to social justice and has been active in revitalizing its role in the Archdiocese. As the commission’s chair, Sister Diane has kept the Catholic Charities board of directors informed of its work, and has encouraged members to participate in the educational and advocacy programs which the commission has undertaken.

Sister Diane has initiated the Annual Legislative Breakfast at which elected public representatives are invited to learn about Catholic Social Teachings and the importance of these teachings in the development of public policy. As a member of the Catholic Charities board of directors, Sister Diane currently chairs its Long-Range Planning Committee and has served on the Governance Committee. As a member of the Sisters of Mercy, she is deeply committed to the care of the elderly Mercy Sisters in her convent.

Sister Diane is always willing to assist and serve Catholic Charities. She is deeply committed to the mission of her religious community and of Catholic Charities. As an educator, she has provided leadership in our Archdiocese in connecting the adult religious education programs to the call to serve others.

**ORGANIZATION AWARD**

This award recognizes an outstanding parish, parishes or voluntary group, including social ministry groups or community organizations, working with Catholic Charities.

**Grace Rescue Mission**

The collaboration between Grace Rescue Mission and Catholic Charities is a good example of how different faith-based organizations can work together to meet a critical need.

Since the opening of Catholic Charities Sanctuary Women’s Development Center, Grace Rescue Mission has partnered with Catholic Charities to provide critical support for the homeless women and children who are served there. Scott Allen, director of Grace Rescue Mission, volunteered to meet the need for noon meal service to the clients of Sanctuary at no cost to Catholic Charities.

In addition to the meals served daily, Grace Rescue Mission provides security services for Sanctuary. This arrangement has reduced the operating expenses of Sanctuary by more than $15,000 annually.
ARCHBISHOP EUSEBIUS J. BELTRAN AWARD

Since 1998, this award is presented to a Catholic lay person who has made a significant contribution to improving quality of life in Oklahoma through outstanding leadership and community service.

Michael J. Milligan
Michael J. Milligan is honored as the 2010 recipient of the Archbishop Eusebius J. Beltran Award for his dedicated service to the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City and his community. For more than 30 years, Mike has volunteered both his time and his professional services as a Certified Public Accountant and attorney in support of community education, health and social service programs. Mike also serves as managing trustee of the Robert Glenn Rapp Foundation and oversees distribution of grants for educational programs that make a difference in the lives of youth through programs promoting character and leadership.

As a member of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Oklahoma City, Mike has served as chairman of its Finance Council for more than 15 years. He is an active Fourth Degree member of Knights of Columbus Council 4601 and served as its treasurer for more than 20 years. He has coached many sports teams at Rosary School for more than 20 years, and served as athletic director and treasurer for the Rosary Home and School Association.

SERVANT LEADER AWARD

This award is given to a Catholic Charities employee in recognition of outstanding service and leadership at Catholic Charities.

Nancy Largent
In five years of service to Catholic Charities, Nancy Largent has exceeded the requirements and responsibilities of her position. She sees a need and responds. In her position as Director of Administration, she has worked to engage the staff in the strategic planning process and in the process for reaccreditation.

She exemplified Servant Leadership by coaching and guiding staff and empowering them to attain excellence in their positions.

Nancy strengthens the financial stability of the agency through her stewardship and planning. She enhances the presence of Catholic Charities in the parishes and throughout the Archdiocese.

Special recognition is given to Katy Brooks, Refugee Job Developer, and Jessie Gonzalez, Assistant Director of Immigration, for their hard work and dedication.

CORPORATION AWARD

This award recognizes a corporation, business or organization that has contributed material, financial or human resources to promote the mission of Catholic Charities.

Propak Logistics
Through the partnership of Propak Logistics and the Refugee Resettlement Program of Catholic Charities, many refugees have found a positive work environment at which their cultures are respected. Propak strives to ensure clients understand what is expected of them, despite language barriers. Case managers can be sure that their clients work in a safe environment with good pay and opportunities for advancement.

Propak's appreciation for diversity has allowed refugee families to become self-sufficient. Their employment experience at Propak expedites the refugees' assimilation and acculturation.

Diversity and cultural differences are appreciated at Propak, which continues to offer gainful employment to refugee clients.

Archbishop Beltran with Mike Milligan.

Catholics Living Justice Day Set

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Catholic Church is the Body of Christ and it is built on the Good News of Jesus. Catholic Social Teaching is based on the dignity of the human person and the sanctity of life and it makes each of us responsible for living, proclaiming and sharing this Good News. We are not called to insulate ourselves from the world, but rather we are directed to make this world a better place in which to live.

In response to these mandates, the Commission for Justice and Human Development of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, which works in the Archdiocese to promote justice and peace, is sponsoring “Catholics Living Justice Day” March 15 at the Oklahoma state Capitol. “Catholics are invited and encouraged to come to the Capitol to learn about how legislative advocacy is a part of evangelization, to more deeply explore Catholic Social Teaching and to learn how our faith speaks to pending legislative issues,” says Sister Diane Koorie, chair of the commission.

Catholics Living Justice Day will begin at 8:15 a.m. with breakfast and will be followed at 9 a.m. by a workshop focused on the connections between the gospel and advocacy. It will be held in the Governor’s Conference Room on the second floor. All of the legislators will also be invited, but each parishioner is encouraged to personally contact his or her own legislators and to encourage them to join us both for breakfast and for the workshop. Parishioners should make reservations for themselves by March 11 by calling (405) 523-3003 or e-mailing bvanpool@catholiccharitiesok.org. Assistance in locating a legislator’s name and contact information is available at www.capitolconnect.com.

The workshop will include presentations about the role of the faith community in the legislative process, an overview of the legislative process itself, current legislative issues and the Gospel connection to advocacy.

For more information or to register, call Becky VanPool, director of Parish Outreach and Program Development of Catholic Charities, at (405) 523-3003.
Center of Family Love Finalist In State Contest

OKARCHE — The Center of Family Love (CFL) has been selected as a finalist for the Oklahoma Nonprofit Excellence (ONE) Awards in the community health services category. The fourth annual ONE Awards, sponsored by the Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits, will take place at Southern Hills Country Club in Tulsa on April 2. The event serves to honor and recognize some of the best nonprofits in the state. Jim O’Brien, the executive director at CFL, stated, “We are very honored and privileged to be selected as a finalist for this prestigious award from the Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits. We believe in our mission, which is to provide lifetime quality of care for individuals with developmental disabilities.” Out of 70 organizations nominated for this year’s awards, only 27 were named finalists. Awards are presented to a winner and two finalists in each of the following nine categories:

- Arts and Humanities
- Community
- Community Health Services
- Education
- Health Services
- Self-Sufficiency
- Seniors
- Sports and Recreation
- Youth Development

The winners in each category are awarded $7,500, and two finalists in each category receive $5,000. At the conclusion of the program, one nonprofit is selected as the overall winner and receives $10,000 for its organization. A total of $160,000 will be awarded to nonprofits that evening.

O’Brien stated, “We continue to promote awareness of developmental disabilities across the state of Oklahoma and how CFL provides services to assist our residents to live their lives as independently as possible. This award is a testament to the service and excellence shown by our employees and the support from our board. 2011 is an exciting year for CFL as we are expanding our services by constructing two new 16-bed intermediate care homes to meet the needs of the developmental disabled.”

“All the finalists for this award deserve praise and recognition for the admirable service they provide to their communities,” said J. Jerry Dickman, chairman of the ONE Awards Selection Commission. “These nonprofits represent some of the best in the state.”

The commission, chaired by J. Jerry Dickman (Tulsa), includes Michael A. Cawley (Ardmore); Nance Diamond (Shawnee); Frederick Drummond (Pawhuska); Ken Fergeson (Altus); R.H. Harbaugh (Tulsa); Kim Henry (Oklahoma City); Phil Lakin Jr. (Tulsa); Frank Merrick (Oklahoma City); Polly Nichols (Oklahoma City); Rev. George Young (Oklahoma City); and Stanton L. Young (Oklahoma City).

The Center of Family (CFL) Love is a nonprofit agency located in Okarche, which provides quality lifetime care for individuals with developmental disabilities. CFL is home to 117 adults with the sole purpose to serve adults with profound or severe mental and motor disabilities. Our vision is to be the leading developmentally disability provider in the state of Oklahoma, which will result in individuals living their lives as independently as possible. CFL provides intermediate care (ICF/MR), geriatric care, residential group homes and vocational services in three locations including Okarche, Kingfisher and El Reno. Facilities in Okarche include an ICF/MR, the Loosen Geriatric Center, two residential group homes, a vocational workshop, a horticultural center and a gift shop. Additionally, CFL has community residential group homes in El Reno and Kingfisher and a vocational workshop in Kingfisher.

Steven R. Janco to Give Music Workshop March 19

OKLAHOMA CITY — A workshop for choir directors and choir members titled “Music and the Revised Roman Missal: Challenges and Opportunities” will be held March 19 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 Northwest Expressway, Oklahoma City.

The forthcoming implementation of the revised Roman Missal presents parish musicians with both challenges and opportunities. Where do we stand? What’s at stake? Where do we go from here? Explore strategies for evaluating new and adapted musical settings of the new missal texts, making effective choices, and maximizing music’s potential to assist our assemblies through a time of liturgical transition. Samples of Mass settings from the major liturgical music publishers will be provided.

Dr. Steve Janco is director of the Rensselaer Program of Church Music and Liturgy at Saint Joseph’s College in Rensselaer, Ind. He also serves as Director of Liturgy and Music at St. Eulalia Parish in Maywood, Ill. Janco is a well-known composer of liturgical music and a frequent presenter at national conventions and diocesan conferences. He is a member of the music staff of the Chicago Office for Divine Worship, serves as chair of the Education Committee of the Council of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians, and is a member of the board of directors of the North American Forum on the Catechumenate.

In the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, we have frequently used music composed by Janco at Archdiocesan ceremonies. “The Hand of the Lord Feeds Us” was used at the recent Installation Mass of Archbishop Coakley. “Mass of the Angels and Saints,” published by G.I.A., and “Mass of Redemption,” published by W.L.P., are widely used throughout the United States. Janco has also composed a new setting, “Mass of Wisdom,” published by W.L.P. We thank World Library Publications for helping to sponsor this workshop.

Cost is $10 per person (includes lunch), payable in advance. Please mail names and payment to Office of Worship, P.O. Box 32180, Oklahoma City, Okla. 73132. For more information, call Mary Fahy at (405) 721-5651 Ext. 158. Registration deadline is March 8.
PIEDMONT — The role of the Benedictine Sisters of Red Plains Spirituality Center is about to take a new form. In 2009, the members of Red Plains Monastery decided that it was in their best interest to merge with a larger community. They chose to become a part of Mount St. Scholastica in Atchison, Kan. Since then, five members of the community have moved there and six have continued their ministries in Oklahoma.

Their ministries have a long and rich history, beginning with the establishment of Peace House in Oklahoma City in 1980. It became a center for education and advocacy on justice issues such as nuclear arms, women’s issues and assistance for refugees.

Another significant contribution to the region is the Retreat in Daily Life. This interfaith program provides a weekly, seven- to nine-month prayer experience for anyone who wants a deeper relationship with God under the guidance of spiritual directors and the support of other seekers. There have been 1,300 persons from many faiths who have participated over the past 25 years. So many people became interested in spiritual development that the Sisters also began a four-year training program to prepare more people to become spiritual directors for others. Nearly 100 people have completed that program.

The Sisters will turn over this legacy of education and spiritual formation to Mary Diane Steltenkamp, Joanne Forgue and Kay Britton, who will work closely with the Archdiocesan Offices of Pastoral Ministry and/or Worship and Spiritual Life. A celebration for the transfer of leadership will occur in fall of 2011. Steltenkamp, who will be director of the spiritual direction practicum, praises the heritage she is receiving. “There is no question that the Retreat in Daily Life, the Spiritual Direction Practicum and the Weekend Retreat Days offered by the Sisters of Benedict over the past 30 years have forever changed the spiritual landscape of Oklahoma.”

All of the Sisters plan to be in Atchison by the end of October of 2012, where some will contribute their skills to Sophia Spirituality Center there. There will be only limited offerings at Red Plains after June 2011.

With knowledge of the inevitability of their departure, the Sisters have taken to heart Paul’s message in 2 Timothy 2:2: “Everything that you have heard me teach in the presence of many witnesses … pass it on to trustworthy people, so they in turn will teach others.” Archbishop Eusebius Beltran has praised them for having been a dedicated presence “schooled in Benedictine spirituality through times of social change.” At the time of their transfer to Atchison, he commended them for “doing this right, in prayerful deliberation, and maintaining a sense of hope and service to the church.”

The Sisters, although no longer physically present, will still continue to pray for the people of Oklahoma and hold them in their hearts. Messages may be posted for the Sisters at the website: mount-osb.org/rp.

Red Plains Benedictines Prepare to Leave Piedmont

Veteran Librarian Named To Post

Recently, Sister Catherine Powers, CND, Director of the Department of Catholic Education of the Archdiocese announced the hiring of a new librarian, Rose Mary Story. Story assumed her responsibilities in the Archdiocesan Library on Feb. 15. Story, who has a master’s degree in library science, has been a teacher and public school librarian for 26 years. In June 2010, she retired from her librarian position at Putnam City North High School.

The librarian position at the Archdiocese has been vacant since longtime librarian Charlotte Janz passed away in early December.

“We feel so blessed to have found an individual with such great credentials as Mrs. Story,” said Sister Catherine Powers.

The Archdiocesan Library serves the Pastoral Ministry and Religious Education programs in the Archdiocese. It contains a wealth of books, periodicals, DVDs and videos to assist Pastoral Ministry students as well as catechists throughout the Archdiocese. The Archdiocesan Library can be accessed online by going to www.catharchdioceseokc.org. Patrons can search the catalog by title, author or subject. The librarian is always willing to mail materials to patrons who are members. Membership simply involves completing an information form and returning it to the librarian.

The new library hours are:
- Tuesday and Thursday: 8:30 - 4:30
- Saturday: 8:30 - 1:30

Pallium Pilgrimage to Rome for Archbishop Paul S. Coakley

The Pallium is a white woolen band worn over the shoulders and is bestowed upon new Metropolitan Archbishops on June 29 at Saint Peter’s Basilica by the Holy Father during the celebration of the Eucharist. The Pallium symbolizes authority and expresses the special bond between the Archbishops and the Roman Pontiff.

June 27 - July 4, 2011
- Pallium Mass - Saint Peter’s Basilica
- Plus … Assisi and Mass with Archbishop Coakley
- TRAVEL PACKAGE AVAILABLE - LAND AND AIR - 8-DAY
- Pallium Events and Sightseeing
- 4-Star Hotels - Breakfast Daily/Three Dinners
- Private Deluxe Motor Coach for Sightseeing
- Professional Tour Escorts
- Daily Mass
- Celebratory Dinner with Archbishop Coakley
- From only $2,770 per person

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1-800-908-BEST (2378) ~ E-Mail: info@bestcatholic.com
Green Tie Gala Event to Help OKC Homeless

OKLAHOMA CITY — Love’s Country Stores and Grace Living Centers are among the sponsors for the 2011 Green Tie Gala, benefiting Sanctuary Women’s Development Center. A St. Patrick’s-themed dinner, the Green Tie Gala will raise much-needed funds to help programs for homeless women and children in Oklahoma City.

Featuring dinner, music and a silent auction, the gala event will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 12 at the Skirvin Hilton Hotel in downtown Oklahoma City.

“Much more than a place to keep warm, Sanctuary gives hope and help to hundreds of homeless women and children each year. As the number of Oklahomans in poverty continues to grow, we are blessed to have such incredible community support for Sanctuary Women’s Development Center,” Catholic Charities Executive Director Tim O’Connor said.

One of those supporters is David Egan, operations director at Cattleman’s Steakhouse. Egan is being honored as grand marshal of the 2011 St. Patrick’s Parade to be held in Oklahoma City on Saturday, March 12.

The position of grand marshal is given each year to a man or woman of Irish descent who has made extraordinary contributions to the Oklahoma City community.

Egan has been a strong supporter of the Sanctuary Women’s Development Center. Egan’s grandparents came to North America in the 1880s first arriving from Ireland in Canada before making their way to New York and Pennsylvania before finally moving to Oklahoma.

“I’m proud of my Irish heritage and I try to reflect positively on that heritage by trying to give back to the community,” Egan said.

This year’s event will also be special for many of its Catholic attendees in that it will be attended by Oklahoma City’s new archbishop, the Most Reverend Paul Coakley.

Located in south Oklahoma City and sponsored by Catholic Charities, with support from other faith-based organizations, Sanctuary has been developed as a day-shelter that provides much-needed resources, support and empowerment to homeless and at-risk women and their children. Last year alone, the center assisted almost 500 women and children of all races and religions by giving a hand-up through counseling, food baskets, housing assistance and job placement services. The program not only provides assistance for basic needs, but also provides a plan and the guidance needed to enable its clients and their families to overcome poverty and become self-sufficient.

All proceeds from the Green Tie Gala and event auction will go toward Sanctuary activities. Sponsorship levels of the Green Tie Gala range from Emerald Isle, which includes those contributing $10,000 or more, to Linen for contributions of $1,500.

Emerald Isle sponsors include Grace Living Centers, Love’s Travel Stops and Country Stores Inc., Smith & Kernke Funeral Directors and Teleflora, Inc./Meinders Foundation.

Gold Sponsors include The Episcopal Diocese of Oklahoma, Dick and Jeannette Sias and SSM Health Care of Oklahoma.


Tickets for the dinner gala are $125 and all proceeds benefit the Sanctuary Women’s Development Center sponsored by Catholic Charities. Irish-inspired musical entertainment will be provided by Timothy O’Brien’s Celtic Cheer. Additionally, the Skirvin Hilton is offering a special room rate for Green Tie Gala attendees who would like to continue the celebration throughout the weekend.

For more information about the Green Tie Gala or to purchase tickets to the event, call (405) 523-3000 or visit www.catholiccharitiesok.org.

The Catholic Foundation
CORNERSTONE

Joseph Danne, Farmer and Scientist

In 1922, at the age of 35, Joseph Danne penned his last will and testament on his farm near Kingfisher. His will was as enthusiastic as his devotion to experimentation and plant breeding. In the eight-page hand-written document, no detail was left to chance — for Joseph Danne wanted to accomplish two things when he left this world: First, he wanted no one to profit financially from his experimentation. And secondly, he would bequest all of his worldly possessions to establish the Joseph Danne Foundation, with one intention — “to benefit mankind as much as possible, through the Roman Catholic Church.”

Danne went on to develop a wheat strain he called “Triumph,” which at the time of his death was sowed on two of every three acres of Oklahoma wheat farms.

Joseph Danne was as much a genius as he was a visionary. An eccentric living like a hermit, with little more than an elementary school education, Joseph Danne’s greatest “Triumph” was the impact his well-planned legacy continues to have on the Future of Our Faith through his Foundation administered by the Catholic Foundation.

Does your estate planning include the vision of Mr. Danne? Have you planned to invest in the future of your faith through an endowment gift to your church? We invite you to make a planned gift to the Catholic Church as part of your legacy. Do it today. Do it with the enthusiasm of a Joseph Danne.

For more information on Planned Giving contact:
The Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma, Inc.
P.O. Box 32180
Oklahoma City, OK 73123
(405)721-4115 ■ www.cfok.org
bsemtner@catharchdioceseokc.org

Please Remember the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City in Your Estate Plans
Proposed Law Would Provide Unborn Protection

EDITOR’S NOTE: This letter was sent to members of the Oklahoma House of Representatives who serve on the Public Health Committee. Tony Lauinger, state chairman of Oklahomans for Life Inc., is asking Oklahoma Catholics to contact their state lawmakers and urge them to support House Bill 1888, the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act. The Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act was approved Feb. 22 by the House Public Health Committee, 11-2.

To: House Public Health Committee Members

From: Anthony J. Lauinger, State Chairman
Date: February 14, 2011

We ask your strong support for HB 1888, the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, which would ban the aborting of an unborn child who is capable of feeling pain. The bill is authored by Rep. Pam Peterson and Sen. Clark Jolley.

This legislation has the potential not only of saving many lives, but also of becoming the focus of a national debate in which the unborn child is discussed in very human terms. We believe public discussion of the unborn child’s capacity to feel pain can greatly influence the national abortion debate, much as the partial birth abortion bill did in the 1990s. That discussion demonstrably led to a significant percentage of Americans changing their view of abortion from a pro-abortion position to one which recognizes the unborn child as a living member of our human family.

The Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act has the potential to now take those Americans to the point where they believe the law should protect these babies from being killed. Because HB 1888 is centered upon the humanity of the unborn child, it will help to win hearts and minds in rejecting the violence of abortion.

National Right to Life’s Nebraska affiliate enacted this legislation last year, and this spring other affiliates of National Right to Life (of which we are one) are seeking to do the same. In this way we hope both to save lives in individual states, and also to engender this national focus on the humanity of the baby in the womb.

Moreover, from his writings, we believe there is a good chance that Justice Anthony Kennedy, the justice who casts the deciding vote on the U.S. Supreme Court in abortion litigation, would vote to uphold the bill.

We ask your consideration of the following medical evidence:

1. Pain receptors are present throughout the unborn child’s entire body by no later than 16 weeks after fertilization, and nerves link these receptors to the brain’s thalamus and sub-cortical plate by no later than 20 weeks.
2. By eight weeks after fertilization, the unborn child reacts to stimuli that would be recognized as painful if applied to an adult human — for example, by recoiling.
3. In the unborn child, application of such painful stimuli is associated with significant increases in stress hormones known as the stress response.
4. Subjection to such painful stimuli is associated with long-term harmful neuro-developmental effects, such as altered pain sensitivity and, possibly, emotional, behavioral and learning disabilities later in life.
5. For the purposes of surgery on unborn children, fetal anesthesia is routinely administered, and is associated with a decrease in stress hormones compared to their level when painful stimuli are applied without such anesthesia.
6. The position, asserted by some medical experts, that the unborn child is incapable of experiencing pain until a point later in pregnancy than 20 weeks after fertilization predominately rests on the assumption that the ability to experience pain depends on the cerebral cortex and requires nerve connections between the thalamus and the cortex.
7. Substantial evidence indicates that children who are born missing the bulk of the cerebral cortex, those with hydranencephaly, nevertheless experience pain.
8. In adults, stimulation or ablation of the cerebral cortex does not alter pain perception, while stimulation or ablation of the thalamus does.
9. Substantial evidence indicates that structures used for pain processing in early development differ from those of adults, using different neural elements available at specific times during development, such as the sub-cortical plate, to fulfill the function of pain processing.

As demonstrated above, there is substantial medical evidence that an unborn child is capable of experiencing pain by 20 weeks after fertilization.

We urge your strong support for the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act.

Respectfully,
Tony Lauinger
State Chairman, Oklahomans for Life Inc.

Across Oklahoma

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Training

OKLAHOMA CITY — Formation Training is taking place for those interested in receiving certification in the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd religious education program (Level 1). Christ the King Catholic Church, 8005 Dorset Drive, is hosting the training. Level 1 (Part 1) will be June 16-19 and July 7-10. Level 1 (Part 2) will be June 14-17 and June 28-July 1, 2012. Request a registration form by e-mailing Christie Ardoin at csardoin@cox.net, or call (405) 842-2323.

Adult Faith Classes

PRAGUE — “The Mass Explained” will be the title of the Adult Faith Formation sessions for the Lenten season presented by Father M. Price Oswalt and lay apologists, Rhett Brotherton, each Wednesday night, commencing on March 16 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. The sessions will be held in the Parish Hall, located at 304 Jim Thorpe Blvd., Prague. All are invited to attend. For more information, contact the Shrine Office at (405) 567-3080 or Father Oswalt at shrine-rector@gmail.com.

Fr. Bruce Nieli to present 2011 Parish Mission

OKLAHOMA CITY — “Responding to the Spirit: In the Soul, in the Church and in the World” is the topic for the upcoming Parish Mission at St. Eugene’s Catholic Church. Father Bruce Nieli, C.S.P., is the speaker. Join Father Nieli for three nights of spiritual renewal, beginning at 7:30 p.m. March 28-30.

Retreat Offered

OKLAHOMA CITY — God’s Music is Silence. Come away to a women’s Silent Retreat to explore your creativity and to get closer to our Creative God in Whose image we are made. Katie Gordy is offering a retreat from 9 a.m. April 15 to noon April 17. The retreat will be held at Mount St. Mary’s. If you have any questions or would like to register, call Gordy at 627-6954.

Sister Nancy Murray to Perform in El Reno

EL RENO — Sacred Heart School will host Adrian Dominican Sister Nancy Murray, OP, on April 9 as she performs as Saint Catherine of Siena. Sister to the famous actor Bill Murray, Sister Nancy will perform at 6 p.m. in the Sacred Heart gymnasium her one-woman performance depicting the life of Saint Catherine of Siena.

Sister Nancy Murray said her personal mission is to “live out the mission statement of my Adrian Dominican community: Seek truth — Make peace — Revere Life.”

A native of Wilmette, Ill., Sister Nancy is the oldest of nine children born to Edward and Lucille Murray. She has traveled the world performing as Saint Catherine of Siena, a woman she said “had the courage to speak out. She was able to influence so many political and church leaders by her wisdom, love and truth.”

For information about tickets or other information, contact Sacred Heart School at (405) 262-2284.
Calendar

MARCH
6 Byzantine Liturgy will be offered at 5 p.m. at St. Mark’s Church, 3939 W. Tecumseh Road, Norman. Moleben-Intercessions to Christ Emmanuel will be celebrated after Liturgy. For more information, please call Father Phil Seeton at (580) 536-6351.

8 Catholic War Veterans (of any war/conflict) will meet the second Tuesday of each month in the community room of St. Ann Retirement Center at 7 p.m. For more information, contact Father M. Price Oswalt at (405) 567-3404.

9 Ash Wednesday

9 Catholic War Veterans USA. Oklahoma Memorial Post 168 meets every second Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Sunnylane Family Reception Center located at 3900 SE 29th St. in Del City. For more information, contact Ken at (405) 739-0036 or by e-mail at OkPost168@cox.net.

10 Catholic Woman’s Activities Club, a club made up of women from your parish. CWAC is a group that enjoys programs on Gardening, Music, Civics and the Arts. We meet on the second Thursday of each month at noon from September through May in the Patio Room of Epiphany of Our Lord Church (7336 W. Britton Road). All Catholic women are invited to join us. For more information, call June at 525-6904 or Pearl at 524-3641.

10 TAP into FAITH! This month’s topic is Reconciliation: Does God really forgive sins in the confessional?, with Father Long Phan. Bring your friends, single or married, ages 21 to 121. We meet the third Thursday of every month. 8 p.m. talk, 8:45 p.m. Q & A. Stay afterwards for fellowship. Tap into Faith is held at Lottinville’s, located on South Kelley, just south of 15th in Edmond. We have a private room in back. For more information, call Mary Lacher at 401-4105.

12 Oklahoma Fellowship of Catholic Men to host its annual conference, celebrating the 15th anniversary of “In The Father’s Footsteps.” The event will be held at the Embassy Suites Conference Center in Norman.

12 The Benedictine Oblates of Red Plains Spirituality Center will meet from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. on the second Saturday of the month. They join the Community for Vespers, followed by a potluck dinner. For more information, contact Sister Eunice at 373-4565 or osboko@ionet.net.

12 The St. Patrick’s Day 2011 Green Tie Gala is a fundraiser for the Sanctuary Women’s Development Center for the homeless women and children in Oklahoma City. The Gala will be at 6:30 p.m. at the Skirvin Hotel in Oklahoma City. For more information, call Catholic Charities at (405) 526-2319.

13 Rite of Election is for those coming into the Church at Easter. See your RCIA leader for more info.

Save the Date!

June 6, 2011
8 a.m. or 1 p.m. start time for the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma 10th Annual Golf Classic At Gaillardia Country Club Benefiting Catholic Education in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City

13 Charismatic Healing Mass, 5:30 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 3901 S.W. 29th St., Oklahoma City. For more information, call the Church office at (405) 685-4806.

17 Monthly Novena to The Infant Jesus, 17th through 25th of each month. Nine days of novenas to Infant Jesus of Prague monthly. National Shrine of the Infant Jesus of Prague is located at St. Wenceslaus Church at 304 Jim Thorpe Blvd. in Prague. (405) 567-3080 or www.shrineofinfantjesus.com.

18 Beginning Experience is a ministry to help cope with the traumatic experiences of losing a loved one through separation, divorce or death. The next BE weekend will be at the Catholic Pastoral Center. For more information or to register, contact the Office of Family Life, (405) 721-8944.

19 St. Charles Catholic Singles Dance. To be held at the Warr Acres Community Center located at 4301 N. Ann Arbor. Time is 7:30 to 11 p.m. Call Al for more information, 631-0763.

Jobs Box

Teacher Openings for 2011-2012
Mount St. Mary Catholic High School in Oklahoma City is seeking full-time teachers in Religion and English for the 2011-2012 school year. Please fax resume and certification to Talita De Negri at (405) 631-9209 or e-mail to tdenegri@mountstmary.org

Executive Assistant to the Provost
St. Gregory’s University has an opening for the position of executive assistant to the Provost. This position is responsible for administrative support to the Provost’s office; Prepare correspondence, including drafting simple memos and letters; arrange travel; process requisitions and maintain the Provost’s budget as well as faculty records; take minutes at faculty meetings; maintain Course Catalogs and Faculty/Student Life Handbooks. The position also will provide support to the Dean of Arts and Sciences and Registrar and perform special projects as assigned. Associate degree highly desired or equivalent credentials or experience. Excellent organizational, interpersonal and written and communication skills required. Absolute confidentiality, particularly with personnel and student matters mandatory. Send cover letter, resume and references to St. Gregory’s University, Human Resources Director, 1900 W. MacArthur, Shawnee, Okla. 74804, or e-mail hr@stgregorys.edu. EOE

Immediate Part-Time Position School Cafeteria
Bishop McGuinness High School cafeteria is accepting applications for an immediate part-time position. The hours are 8 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact Marguerite Claybaugh, cafeteria manager, at (405) 842-6656 or e-mail her at mclaybaugh@bmchs.org.

Cafeteria Manager
Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School is accepting applications for cafeteria manager for the 2011-2012 school year. Applicants need to have had school cafeteria experience, knowledge of food safety as well as the Federal School Lunch Program and good computer skills. Contact Marguerite Claybaugh at (405) 842-6656 or by e-mail at mclaybaugh@bmchs.org.

Director of Religious Education
Epiphany of the Lord Parish, Oklahoma City, is accepting applications for the full-time position of Director of Religious Education. The parish is searching for a candidate deeply rooted in the Catholic faith with experience and vision to serve its 1,600 families. The director will coordinate all education programs for children and adults. The director will be responsible for catechist recruitment, formation and certification, and must also collaborate with the parish leaders of youth ministry, music, and the Journey of Faith. Applicants should have a degree in theology, religious education, or related area and a minimum of five years experience working in catechetical ministry (master’s degree preferred). Interested candidates should contact Patricia Koenig in the Archdiocesan Office of Religious Education to initiate the application process, PKoenig@ArchdioceseOKC.org, (405) 721-5651 Ext. 126.
Paul Meyer

continued from Page 16

operational. “The large foyer and atrium provides access to all church facilities and includes church, offices and school. This project is an example of how function and beauty combine to increase participation of the members.”

While some projects are more difficult than others, it’s obvious which was the most inspiring.

“The rebuilding of St. Joseph’s Old Cathedral Parish after the Murrah Building bombing stands out as the perfect working relationship between architect, owner and contractor. I think we all worked to make the facilities better than they were to honor those killed, injured, and their loved ones. The ‘And Jesus Wept’ shrine on the Old Cathedral property across from the Murrah Building continued that charge. It also gave me a chance to work with my sculptor son, David, again. We had previously worked together on the Oklahoma Tribal Flag Plaza on the grounds of the state Capitol,” Meyer said.

Some projects fall under the category of just being plain fun. Meyer’s choice for that is the Conference Center at the Pastoral Center. “It’s an example of thinking outside the box,” he said. “We took the room used as a gymnasium when the facility was a seminary and divided it into three large conference rooms with operable partitions that allowed it to be opened up to one large space for banquets and other events. “The entrance would normally be on the south side, the same as the main entrance, but we felt that would be narrow and cramped. By moving the entrance to the north side, we created a large welcoming foyer that provided access to everything — even the existing elevator to the lower level with its existing ‘break-out’ meeting rooms.

“The addition and remodeling of Saint John the Baptist Church in Edmond was challenging in scope, form and function. This project was started in 2000 and continued to 2006 through two pastors. Its original plan had access to the sanctuary down a ramp from a very ordinary entry. Our design doubled the size and seating. Now there isn’t a ‘bad seat in the house.’”

The main entrance was moved off a side street to the main boulevard for greater presence and identity with handicapped accessibility to the sanctuary. All this while maintaining the “feel” of the original design while adding to its function and beauty. As the pastor who served when the first part of the original church was built said, “It doesn’t look like an addition — it looks like it was always this way.”

What’s your next step when you’ve already created so many important structures?

“My favorite project will always be the next one,” Meyer said. Currently that spot is occupied by St. Benedict’s Church in Shawnee.

“We plan to demolish the 1960s modern interior and restoring it to its 1910 Gothic splendor and adding a large gathering space and baptistery. My wife’s parents grew up in this parish and were married at St. Benedict’s in 1934, so it holds a special place for us.

“The greatest thing about my career has been that I’ve been able to spend a great deal of my life building the Catholic Church and in that process build my faith.

“And the fact that I’ve had a chance to work with a gifted architectural staff that, incidentally, includes Marsha Gallant, an architect who attends St. Mark’s in Norman, and Katie Byers, an interior designer who attends St. Thomas More University Parish in Norman, makes it all the more satisfying.

“It is comforting to know that when the day comes when I do retire, the firm will be in the hands of such competent people such as Gary Armbruster, Marcia Gallant, Katie Byers, Heath Tate and the other members of the firm who will continue our quality of design,” Meyer said.

MA+ Architecture Catholic Projects 1978-2011

1978-Church of the Epiphany of the Lord - Master Plan and Phase I
1978-Rectory for the Church of the Epiphany of the Lord
1992-Activity Center Addition The Parish of St. John the Baptist
1993-Remodel of the Bettes Building for Catholic Charities
1993-Parish Hall for St. Monica Catholic Church and Master Plan
1993-Additions to St. John Nepomuk Catholic Church
1993-1995-Additions to Church of the Epiphany of the Lord
1993-Pastoral Center Re-Roof
1994-Christ the King Space Study/Master Plan
1994-Pastoral Center Dining Room
1994-Catholic Archdiocese Chapel Remodel, Residence of Archbishop Beltran
1995-Marian Shrine Pastoral Center Commons Area
1995-Library Addition and Remodeling to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School
1995-St. Joseph Old Cathedral Bomb Repairs
1995-Reconstruction of Parish Facilities Church Upgrade
1995-Reconstruction of Parish Facilities Office Building
1995-Reconstruction of Parish Facilities New Rectory
1995-Blessed Peter George Frassati Chapel
1996-And Jesus Wept Monument for St. Joseph Old Cathedral
1996-Christ the king Remodel and Master Plan Proposal
1996-Corpus Christi Master Plan
1997-Christ the King Rectory
1997-Forgiveness Shrine St. Joseph
1997-Holy Trinity Activity Center, Okarche
1997-Christ the King Parish Remodel and Addition

1997-St. John Edmond Interior Remodel
1997-Corpus Christi Phase IIB Part I - Interior Remodel
1997-Reconstruction of North Parking Lot at St. Eugene Catholic Parish
1997-Christ the King Phase II A and B
1998-Corpus Christi Phase IIB Part III - Gathering
1998-Corpus Christi Phase IIB Part II - Parking Lot
1998-Christ the King Phase III - Two-Story School Addition
2000-Bishop McGuinness Office Remodel
2000-OLOG Chapel Sanctuary Furnishings
2000-Holy Family Baptistry, Etc.
2000-St. John the Baptist Church Expansion Study
2000-St. John the Baptist Parish Parking Lot
2000-Pastoral Center/Conference Center
2003-St. John Nepomuk 2003 Remodeling
2003-Bishop McGuinness High School New Academic Facility
2004-Little Flower Church
2004-Assumption Church
2005-St. John the Baptist Parking
2005-Bishop McGuinness High School McCarthy Gymnasium
2007-Christ the King Church Renovation
2007-Christ the King Phase II - Lighting
2007-Bishop McGuinness High School Football Stadium Remodel
2008-Little Flower Church New Multi-Purpose Facility
2010-St. Benedict Church Remodel, Shawnee

Paul and his wife, Jeanne Meyer, in the commons at Bishop McGuinness High School.
Paul Meyer: A Lifetime of Design Through, For Faith

OKLAHOMA CITY — When Paul Meyer was a 12-year-old altar boy at Geary’s St. Joseph’s Church, he had no idea that one day he would found a company that helped in “building the church” by designing dozens of Catholic sites for worship and education.

Meyer, son of a Geary dentist and homemaker mother, spent his early days in St. Joseph’s doing all the things most Catholic youths do and at the same time developing a love and special view of many things about the church.

“When we would travel as a family each summer, we always visited a local church to attend Mass so I got to experience a wide variety of Catholic churches throughout the western United States. That’s how I fell in love with the beauty of architecture, especially religious architecture,” said Meyer.

That obviously influenced Meyer because years later he found himself graduating from Oklahoma University’s School of Architecture. It didn’t take long for him to marry his now wife of 50 years, Jeanne, and start to build a family and a business.

“It doesn’t surprise me I ended up with a focus on churches. I love history and symbolism, ornaments. It’s not an auditorium but a house of God. It’s far more inspirational than many structures,” Meyer said.

First with the firm of Caudill, Rowlett and Scott, he later started his own firm (now known as MA+ Architecture) in 1968. “Bill Caudill was a fabulous architect, the only Oklahoman to ever win a Gold Award from the American Institute of Architects,” Meyer remembers.

Since then he has designed hundreds of projects, including many education, government and religious buildings. Additionally, while serving as CEO of his own firm, Meyer was the architect/curator of the Oklahoma state Capitol for 25 years, overseeing many historic restoration projects in the Capitol.

Meyer’s work didn’t go unnoticed. Along the way his firm was recognized with dozens of design awards, including the Architectural Award of Excellence from the American Institute of Steel Construction, an Honor Award from the Oklahoma Chapter of the American Institute of Architects for the Legislative Conference Rooms in the Oklahoma Capitol, the Governor Arts Award, the Charles H. Colcord Award for his body of Restoration Work, the Oklahoma Historical Preservation and Landmark Commission Award for the rebuilding of St. Joseph Old Cathedral Parish after the Murrah Federal Building bombing, and a Special Award from the Central Oklahoma Chapter of the American Institute of Architects for his body of work restoring the Oklahoma Capitol.

For two years straight, MA+ Architecture has been named one of Oklahoma’s 50 fastest growing companies by the Journal Record and Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce.

Meyer’s list of commitments to his profession and community is just as long. He is a member of the American Institute of Architects, the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards, the Oklahoma Centennial Commission, Capitol Preservation Commission, Chairman of Friends of the Capitol, Oklahoma City Downtown Rotary Club, former member of the Murrah Federal Building Memorial Archives Committee, 12-year member of the Oklahoma City Board of Appeals for Building Codes and past president of the Oklahoma City Section of the American Institute of Architects.

Paul and Jeanne are members of Christ the King Parish and the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem.

“Paul has a nationwide reputation that shows with the incredibly stunning and respectful results he achieves,” said Gary Armbruster, a principal and architect for MA+ Architecture.

When one looks over a successful career of designing and building religious buildings, one has to ask which was the most challenging.

“The rebuilding of McGuinness High School was one of our most difficult projects because the demolished areas were so extensive (almost 50 percent was demolished), but also because it had to be occupied the entire time. My wife, Jeanne, was an early graduate back when it was Catholic High School, so she had a special interest in the success of the project.

“The chapel was designed first in 1995 and established the new exterior materials pallet. Everyone hated the old yellow brick, so we switched to a more traditional red brick but kept features of the old brick to tie into the existing facilities to remain consistent visually,” Meyer said.

Today, McGuinness is still home to thousands of Catholic students and alumni and stands as a hallmark of cutting edge technology and security innovations.

Likewise, the addition and remodeling at Christ the King Church and School were completed in phases to keep school and church fully continued on Page 15