EDMOND – As women shuffled from Mass and into the crowded hallway, they began to form friendships.

"Where are you from?" said Marsha Greer from Saint Monica in Edmond.

"Our Lady of Sorrows in Chandler," Barbara Smith replied.

The introductions were happening throughout the Edmond Conference Center in the Hilton Garden Inn on March 10 during the 2018 Oklahoma Catholic Women's Conference. About 700 women attended this year's event.

The mission of the conference is to give women, "a more extensive knowledge of their Catholic faith as well as encourage them to receive the many graces available through frequent reception of the Sacraments and the study of sacred Scripture in conjunction with the Catechism of the Catholic Church."

Greer said she attended because she wanted to hear Immaculée Ilibagiza speak.

"I have a real devotion to Our Lady of Sorrows and Immaculée promotes the Seven Sorrows of Our Lady's Rosary," Greer said. "I pray her CD almost every day."

Joining Ilibagiza was Donna Heckler and María Ruiz Scaperlanda.

Journey to forgiveness

Her father knew he was going to die and yet he smiled. He handed her a Rosary and then sent her to a pastor’s home to hide.

"I felt like God was telling me take a last look," Immaculée Ilibagiza said of seeing her father alive for the last time. "To this day I'm glad I looked."

Ilibagiza shared her journey of fear, fury and forgiveness during the conference as she recalled the 91 days she and seven other women hid in a 3-by-4 foot bath-room during the 1994 Rwandan genocide.

On April 6, 1994, the Rwandan and Burundi presidents were assassinated when their plane was shot down. This ignited a three-month massacre of Tutsi tribe members by the Hutu, a majority population.

continued on page 8
The prophetic vision of Blessed Paul VI

This year marks the 50th anniversary of Blessed Paul VI’s prophetic encyclical letter, “Humanae Vitae.”

The publication of “Humanae Vitae” was a reaffirmation of the traditional moral teaching of the Catholic Church. It should be no surprise that the challenge of rioting on campuses and cities all over the country, experimentation and even human cloning. Instead of reviving the attitudes and values of many in 1968 was a year of massive social and political unrest worldwide. In the United States, it was the year of the assassinations of Senator Robert Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. It was the height of American involvement in the war in Vietnam. It was a time of rising on campuses and cities all over the country, as people searched for answers. It was also a time of rising in Chicago. It should be no surprise that the challenge to authority that characterized that age, and ours, affected the attitudes and values of many.

Archbishop Cookley’s Calendar

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

April 10 – Finance Council meeting, 2 p.m., CPC
April 12 – Confirmation, 2 p.m., St. Peter the Apostle, Guymon
April 12 – Resurrection Cemetery Board meeting, 2 p.m., Catholic Pastoral Center
April 15 – Confirmation of college students, 5:15 p.m., St. Thomas More, Norman
April 15 – Mass with diocesan candidates, 11 a.m., Our Lady of Victory
April 15 – Mysterious Mass, 4 p.m., St. Francis de Sales Chapel, CPC

Birth Choice celebrates 45 years of helping moms, babies

It was 1972, and Americans watched as the last troops were pulled out of Vietnam. Hippies in bed-ins appeared in front of church steeples, and the sexual revolution had made its mark. It was one year before the Supreme Court would rule in favor of Roe vs. Wade, officially legalizing abortion in the United States.

One of the consequences of these cultural changes was the rise of an infatuated with contraception as the solution to all marital problems. Both are sacred.

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Blessed Stanley Rother Institute faculty receive mandatum from Archbishop Coakley

Faculty includes: Jason Fugikawa, Alex Schimpf, Jim Beckman, Pedro Moreno and Abner Marshall. Photo Dana Attocknie/Sooner Catholic.

The mission of Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Youth Camp is to nurture preteen Catholic values in young people and to provide campers a community of faith and fun in a safe environment. We promote the personal and spiritual growth of each young person by developing their prayer life, social skills, independence and respect for others. Each session begins on Sunday with registration 5-6 p.m. and ends on Friday with pick-up 4-5 p.m. www.archok.org/youth-and-young-adult-office/youth-camp.

Cristo Rey Founding Freshman

Cristo Rey Oklahoma City Catholic High School has begun announcing its Founding Freshmen. Cristo Rey opens this August and is enrolling students now. Admissions deadline is April 17. Apply online at www.cristoreyokc.org or call (405) 945-9100. Photos provided.

Official appointment

Effective April 16

- Interim administrator Rev. Linh Bui- St. Matthew, Elk City

Saint Mary wins national award for science, engineering program

By Charles Albert
The Sooner Catholic

LAWTON - Saint Mary Catholic School in Lawton has been named one of five elementary and middle schools to be offered a grant to provide the initial funding for its Project Lead The Way program.

With the consistent commitment from the teachers, students and staff members, the school achieved the recognition in just three years.

“Project Lead The Way is a nonprofit organization that provides a transformative learning experience for K-12 students and teachers across the United States,” said Lauren Curtis, Project Lead The Way spokesperson.

For Saint Mary to be recognized as a PLTW Distinguished Middle School Gateway Program, it had to achieve the following goals:

- Offer at least one PLTW Gateway unit at each grade level;
- Have more than 50 percent of the student body participating during the 2016-17 school year; (St. Mary had 100 percent participation);
- Have 25 percent of students in high school participate in two or more units;
- There are only three middle schools in Oklahoma and 110 schools nationwide that have received recognition as a distinguished gateway program,” Principal Nancy Pest said.

The results also have manifested in the recent Oklahoma state tournament when Saint Mary’s robotics team finished first in the skills competition and third overall.

“The program curriculum engages students by using real-world problems to help students develop math, science, technology and writing skills, along with transferable skills, including logical thinking and problem solving,” Principal Pest said.

“Saint Mary’s program began at the kindergarten level by the time students reach middle school, they participate in classes such as ‘The Magic of Electronics’ and ‘Modeling that teaches computer aided design, Automation and Robotics, including computer programming, and App Creators, which allows students to create computer apps for mobile devices.

The award was recognized by the Superintendent of Oklahoma Catholic Schools, Diane Floyd.

“The program curriculum engages students by using real-world problems to help students develop math, science, technology and writing skills, along with transferable skills, including logical thinking and problem solving,” Principal Pest said.

“Saint Mary’s program began at the kindergarten level by the time students reach middle school, they participate in classes such as ‘The Magic of Electronics’ and ‘Modeling that teaches computer aided design, Automation and Robotics, including computer programming, and App Creators, which allows students to create computer apps for mobile devices.

The award was recognized by the Superintendent of Oklahoma Catholic Schools, Diane Floyd.

“Today’s parents expect technology and next-generation learning to be part of any quality education. Saint Mary’s commitment to providing the Project Lead The Way program to their students demonstrates their understanding of this,” Floyd said. “The archdiocese is proud of Saint Mary’s program for its recognition as a distinguished program.”

Charles Albert is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women

Mass and luncheon
March 17
Epiphany of the Lord

Women of Achievement winners

- Dee Frey - St. John Nepomuk
- Lauren Donahue - St. Philip Neri
- Donna Stoner - St. Charles
- Becky VanPelt - St. James Mary Kay Gumerlock
- Elizabeth Keller - Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help
- Carline Edwards - Catholic Woman’s Activity Club
- Cindy Alexander - Epiphany of the Lord
- / Mary Jane DeLuccio – Holy Spirit
- / Mary Kay Gumerlock – The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help
- / Maggie Berchman – St. John the Baptist
- / Margaret Bauer – St. Joseph, Norman
- / Betty Lapsley – St. Joseph, Union City

Encounter with God’s Call

For young men discerning the priesthood
April 14-16
vocations@archokc.org; 405-721-9351
www.okcvocations.com

The Sooner Catholic is supported through the Annual Catholic Appeal.

Most Reverend
Paul S. Coakley
Archbishop of Oklahoma City
Publisher

Diane Clay
Editor

Dana Attocknie
Managing Editor

Sooner Catholic Newspaper
Oklahoma City, OK 73125.

www.soonercatholic.org

Periodical postage paid at
2016 W Winnet

Oklahoma City, OK 73123.

The newspaper is not responsible for all who are not members of the
Copyright © 2018 Sooner Catholic
P.O. Box 32180, Oklahoma City, OK 73125.

Subscription rate: $25 per year
Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

Visit us online at
www.soonercatholic.org
Contagious Faith

The last word

As many as you do not own aw, now do, the Lord is redacting my steps into a new path.

In the coming weeks, I will be returning to my roots in the land of the Iron and the... (text continues)

The wrong-headedness of “wrongful birth” lawsuits

At its core, the idea of a “wrongful birth” claim is unreasonable and baseless. People who bring these lawsuits against obstetricians and hospitals claim that the doctor caused their child. They have... (text continues)

The medical profession, however, is not the only party responsible for what occurs during these cases. Obstetricians and hospitals... (text continues)

NURSES

John Reding

Father Ted Pacholczyk

Diocese of Fall River, Mass., and Missionary of Catechesis, Father Tad Pacholczyk earned a master of arts in bioethics at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia.

For instance, a jury in Washington state awarded a $55 million settlement to a couple... (text continues)

Recognizing that some parents will face considerable expenses and hardship in... (text continues)

Similarly, ethicists work with... (text continues)

Dr. Watson, as Holmes and Dr. Watson, would surely have expressed... (text continues)

In the coming weeks, I will be returning to my roots in the land of the Iron and the... (text continues)

When a couple sets out with the intention of aborting an imperfect child, they expect to face challenges. They may... (text continues)

For instance, a jury in Washington state awarded a $55 million settlement to a couple... (text continues)

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Three days before, Ilibagiza was on scholarship at the National University of Singapore doing chemical engineering and mechanical engineering. She wanted to stay at school during the Easter holiday, but her parents insisted she go home.

“I’m in a bathroom ... (and) as I was coming up the stairs, I was surrounded by many, many men,” she said. “They had orders to kill everyone. They heard orders to kill everyone, and she realized ‘Our hope. Praying the rosary pushed me through this. The other voice told me to stay home.”

Her research took her on a voyage from the bathroom and 65 pounds when she came out. "The liberation Easter brings continues from page 1"... Easter 2016. The “first stone” to move aside on the road towards Easter is the awareness of seeing what’s in front of you - beauty, pain, whatever is unfolding in front of us.”

One example was how Blessed Stanley lived with the people in Guatemala. He worked alongside them, ate with them and spoke their language. “It’s brought them to call us ‘our great’.

“For me, Father Stan lived by what Pope Francis calls evangelizing joy.”

The third lesson of ordinary holiness speaks to Blessed Stanley’s story.

“I love that he was like us, just like us,” Scapeland said. “Holiness for you and me will be in that very personal, individual, ordinariness of our lives.”

She said Blessed Stanley is not someone to just read about. He was someone who lived his ordinary life faithfully, and people learn holiness precisely through their individual, personal circumstances.

“Not all of us are called to be missionaries, but we are called to that same ‘yes,’” she said. “For me, Blessed Stanley Rother is a trusted friend who has reminded me over and over why to walk this road of holiness.”

Inspired

Kathy Landolf and Eve Bruin, parishioners of St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Oklahoma City, rode to the conference together and shared moments of the conference that resonated with them. Bruin said an immediate spark inspired her to start praying the Rosary more.

Landolf jokes that she’s not a “very religious kind of person.” “I read Maria’s book and it was very, very good. I love the way she described Father Stan and his efforts. He had skills that he grew up with in Guateame that he could use down there.”

Narmon Hilton of St. Thomas More in Norman attended the event with her mother Maraman. Narman, 30, said that the bishop and his family had a deep love for Guatemalan people. “I believe I’ll be coming back next year,” she said.

Dave Atkinson is managing editor for the Sooner Catholic.

Participants shop at the many vendor booths at the 2018 Oklahoma Catholic Women’s Conference in Edmond.

“Don’t make God give you a time-out. God invites you by-home.”

“God gave me a time-out because I was living away the evil voice and she realized her hope. Praying the rosary pushed me through this. The other voice told me to stay home.”

She said it’s “the awareness of seeing what’s in front of you - beauty, pain, whatever is unfolding in front of us.”

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The average age of a child’s first pornography exposure is 8. Since 1998, 94% of college students have been exposed to pornography. 76% of 15-19 year olds have had really explicit hardcore pornography exposure.
A tour of the Holy Land with Fr. Charles Samson

By J.E. Helm

The best-written books come from the heart, and in “Come and See: A Tour of the Holy Land,” Father Charles Samson, S.C.L., tells us how he felt when he thought he knew, “It was not until I went to visit them in their homeland, that I felt I truly knew them.” Likewise, by getting to know the many places in the Holy Land where Jesus walked and lived, Father Samson “got to better know Christ.”

Father Samson is eminently qualified to write this book. He holds undergraduate and graduate degrees from Pontifical universities in Rome, and he studied language, history and archaeology at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

The book is small enough to be packed in a suitcase for an actual tour of the Holy Land, and it is so enjoyable reading as to make for a great armchair tour of the same. Many beautiful photos give the reader a real sense of what it must have been like to lay the land.

Father Samson’s best for scholarship is evidenced in the many footnotes that accompany the text, yet his writing is so clear and direct does not tax the reader’s interest.

When it comes to Christ, he refers to the original language used in Scripture like when he explains that the place of Jesus’ crucifixion, Golgotha, “is an Aramaic word for ‘the hill.’”

The final letter gives it away, in Aramaic; the definite article comes, attached, at the end of the name, and it consists of a single a.

Again, in the text describing the Church of the Annunciation in Nazareth, he says that “in the phrase ‘in the house of Jacob and dwelt’ literally means ‘pitched his tent.’”

The architect who designed the church, he built, is “in the shape of a tent in reference to the experience of the flight of the Israelites from Egypt.”

Above all, he encourages his readers to immerse themselves in Scripture as they travel through out the Holy Land. Every excerpt of every chapter begins with a verse from the Bible.

Job 38:2, “Where does the block of ice come from? Sea or Ocean? About 11 miles long at its longest and seven miles wide, the walls could hold back the sea and made of a network of light branches. In many cases the stone is real.”

When some facts do not seem to fit the text, Samson says it is important “first to affirm the tradition.” In discussing the Via Crucis (Cross) he presents one of the many excellent maps and illustrations in the book he accredits that the Way of the Cross followed by pilgrims today, goes back only to the days of the Crusaders.

Should pilgrims today “even today, when looking at a crucifix, ask themselves ‘Who is it?’ he asks. “Absolutely!”

“Of all the religious symbols in the world, the Cross is the most ancient and the most enduring. It is a revealing power in the message of Christ to those who would find the meaning of life.”

This is one of many instances where Father Samson ties his many spiritual and liturgical practices. In one of his “Points for Reflection,” which conclude each section, he notes that the words of the Blessed Virgin Mary, “Behold your Son, Behold your Son,” John 19:26-27, “constitute one of the principal forms of a penitent’s Act of Contrition during the Rite of Penance.”

Father Samson says that he is writing especially “for those in formation for the Holy Priesthood,” and each of the “Points for Reflection” is followed by a few words “Especially for Seminarians.”

Samson’s personality comes alive on every page. He stands in awe of the miracles that took place in Jerusalem.

At the Jaffa Gate in Jerusalem, he says it was visit by Dr. Hansvold,” the man who told him that he believed in the Bible, “Where could God use our efforts to help change the hearts of those who hate the Christian people?"

Reading “Come and See,” it is very easy to see that its author is a man who truly loves the Lord, and through the pages of “A Catholic Guide to the Holy Land,” he leads us all to do the same.

By Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON – Fifty years after the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.’s assassination, “we need to ask ourselves if we are doing all we can to build the culture of love, respect and peace to which the Gospel calls us,” the U.S. bishops’ administrative committee said March 28.

In an April 16, 2016, James Earl Ray’s grief over the civil rights leader’s murder, “we need to ask ourselves if we are truly living out the promissory note that the Gospel and our Lord Jesus Christ called us to fulfill,” the Rev. King, a Baptist minister, was 59.

In reflecting on Rev. King’s life and work, “what are we being asked to do for the sake of our brother or sister who still suffer under the weight of racism?” the committee said in its third statement.

“When could God use our efforts to help change the hearts of those who hate the Christian people?” he exclaimed. More recently, altri said, “we are underpaid and exploited African American who lived for peace and justice,” the committee said.

Reading “Come and See,” it is very easy to see that its author is a man who truly loves the Lord, and through the pages of “A Catholic Guide to the Holy Land,” he leads us all to do the same.

By J.E. Helm

The archdiocese is seeking a full-time development, communications director for the parish and St. Mary Catholic School. The position would involve overseeing outreach ministry and volunteer coordinator to oversee the transition of Christ, he presents the reader to Matthew 17: 1-4, the Scriptural account of the same.

Fathers Samson says that he is writing especially “for those in formation for the Holy Priesthood,” and each of the “Points for Reflection” is followed by a few words “Especially for Seminarians.”

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Shelter Blessing

On Oct. 27, Archbishop Coakley was at Sacred Heart in Oklahoma City to bless a tumorated shelter where 86-year-old Mary McCauley lives.

Shelter Blessing
La visión profética del Beato Paolo VI

Este año marca el 50 aniversario de la profética carta encíclica del beato Paolo VI, “Humanae Vitae” (1968), publicada el 25 de julio de 1968. Esta carta, que trató a los católicos y a todas las personas de buena voluntad que algún día serán padres, y de la vida humana no puede separarse de sus amargas marchas sin consecuencias graves para los indígenas, matrimonios, familias y, la sociedad en general. La transmisión de la vida y la dignidad humana no pueden ser sometidas a pactos o convenios internacionales entrelazados. Ambos son sagrados.

Los católicos que se aseguraron el respeto por la dignidad del amor humano están arreglados en el plan de Dios para el matrimonio. El acto conjugal (amor sexual entre cónyuges) tiene un significado que proviene del Créador. Como signo y expresión de la alianza conjunta, cada acto conjugal debe ser tanto un acto de amor mutuo donde se entregan el uno al otro (libremente, sin coacción, para el placer del otro) como un acto de procreación. La sexualidad humana no puede separarse de la procreación.

La profecía de “Humanae Vitae” fue una reafirmación de la enseñanza moral tradicional de la Iglesia Católica. Se encontró con una concreción generalizada y una disyuntiva vocal que era sistemática de la época.

1968 fue un año de distorsiones sociales y políticas masivas en todo el mundo. En los Estados Unidos, fue el año de los asesinatos del senador Robert Kennedy y el Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Era el momento culminante de una controversia generalizada y una disidencia vocal que se hacía eco en todo el mundo. En los años siguientes se produjo un gran descontento en todo el planeta, con manifestaciones universitarias y las ciudades de todo el país, dando lugar a numerosas protestas violentas. Fueron años de disturbios en las universidades y las ciudades de todo el país, dando lugar a numerosas protestas violentas. Fueron años en los que se usaron armas, gases y gas lambre para eliminar a la gente.

Imaginémonos si pudieramos enviar estos personajes de Sir Arthur Conan Doyle al pasado para que investigaran todo lo sucedido aquel día. En una época en la que las ciudades estaban llenas de hombres armados, en una época en la que las mujeres no estaban permitidas en las universidades y las ciudades de todo el país, imaginemos si pudieramos enviar este cuento a la época de 1968. Imaginemos si pudieramos enviar este cuento a la época de los disturbios universitarios y las ciudades de todo el país, dando lugar a numerosas protestas violentas. Fueron años en los que se usaron armas, gases y gas lambre para eliminar a la gente.

A todos nos gustan las historias de misterio. En mi juventud, no podía esperar la llegada de la próxima semana de la Universidad de Múltiples Heridas, pues coincidía con las estaciones de la Universidad de Múltiples Heridas, pues coincidía con las estaciones de la vida. En la televisión, las viñetas blancas en blanco y negro, marcas de una decena de actores británicos Basílico Real como Holmes y Nigel Bruce como el Dr. Watson, serían vistas en mi casa.

¿Seguimos las teorías de los historiadores, o buscamos una explicación que sea más lógica? ¿Seguimos los historiadores, o buscamos una explicación que sea más lógica? ¿Seguimos las teorías de los historiadores, o buscamos una explicación que sea más lógica?

En el Beato Paolo VI, la sangre es hacia abajo. Los hematomas en la cara también son visibles y sus ojos están cerrados.

"La esperanza manifesta múltiples heridas punzantes que coinciden con relatos de testigos de una degradación particularmente salva con los acontecimientos lógicos romanos. El área del pecho frontal tiene una herida de dos pulgadas en el area pectoral derecha consistente con una perforación post-mortem con una lanza. La sangre y una sustancia transparente similar al agua han dejado marcas en el cadáver, y con toda probabilidad, son signos de un derrame pericárdico. Las manos y los pies también tienen heridas claras consistentes con las clavos usados en la tortura y la crucifixión romanos.

Holmes y Watson pueden darme más detalles, pero están limitados a su observación y análisis científicos. Deben recorrer a los detalles observables, proporcionar algún paralelo a una declaración de fe. En el mundo real, hay otras fuentes disponibles para cualquiera que desee investigar un misterio no limitado a este mundo.

Desde nuestra perspectiva de fe, un misterio es una verdad revelada por Dios. La posibilidad de verdad es algo que trasciende nuestra imaginación hasta que Dios mismo lo revele. Incluso después de que Dios revela esta verdad, somos verdaderamente incapaces de comprender estas verdades por completo, porque están más allá de nuestra capacidad de entender. Esas verdades sólo pueden ser explicadas a través de la mente divina.

Y eso es lo que es verdadero o bueno. Esta cosmovisión de la unión de Dios para el matrimonio. La Iglesia no puede cambiar su enseñanza sobre la unión de Dios para el matrimonio. La Iglesia a la sabiduría del mundo. La sal pierde su sabor si se mezcla con el agua. No hay fuerzas de la naturaleza que puedan separar a una pareja, ya que las cuestiones más profundas no pueden ser separadas sin un claro resultado de esta separación.

Recientemente, la reciente redefinición judicial del matrimonio es un claro resultado de esta separación. El matrimonio, como es defi nido en el plan divino para el matrimonio, es un contrato sagrado que se celebra en la Iglesia y se celebra en la vida. El matrimonio no es una opción personal o una decisión de los individuos. El matrimonio es un mandato de un obispo para que los doctores sean bautizados en la Iglesia. El matrimonio es un acto sagrado que se celebra en la Iglesia y se celebra en la vida.

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"La esperanza manifesta múltiples heridas punzantes que coinciden con relatos de testigos de una degradación particularmente salva con los acontecimientos lógicos romanos. El área del pecho frontal tiene una herida de dos pulgadas en el area pectoral derecha consistente con una perforación post-mortem con una lanza. La sangre y una sustancia transparente similar al agua han dejado marcas en el cadáver, y con toda probabilidad, son signos de un derrame pericárdico. Las manos y los pies también tienen heridas claras consistentes con las clavos usados en la tortura y la crucifixión romanos.

Holmes y Watson pueden darme más detalles, pero están limitados a su observación y análisis científicos. Deben recorrer a los detalles observables, proporcionar algún paralelo a una declaración de fe. En el mundo real, hay otras fuentes disponibles para cualquiera que desee investigar un misterio no limitado a este mundo.

Desde nuestra perspectiva de fe, un misterio es una verdad revelada por Dios. La posibilidad de verdad es algo que trasciende nuestra imaginación hasta que Dios mismo lo revele. Incluso después de que Dios revela esta verdad, somos verdaderamente incapaces de comprender estas verdades por completo, porque están más allá de nuestra capacidad de entender. Esas verdades sólo pueden ser explicadas a través de la mente divina.

Y eso es lo que es verdadero o bueno. Esta cosmovisión de la unión de Dios para el matrimonio. La Iglesia no puede cambiar su enseñanza sobre la unión de Dios para el matrimonio. La Iglesia a la sabiduría del mundo. La sal pierde su sabor si se mezcla con el agua. No hay fuerzas de la naturaleza que puedan separar a una pareja, ya que las cuestiones más profundas no pueden ser separadas sin un claro resultado de esta separación.

Recientemente, la reciente redefinición judicial del matrimonio es un claro resultado de esta separación. El matrimonio, como es defi nido en el plan divino para el matrimonio, es un contrato sagrado que se celebra en la Iglesia y se celebra en la vida. El matrimonio no es una opción personal o una decisión de los individuos. El matrimonio es un mandato de un obispo para que los doctores sean bautizados en la Iglesia. El matrimonio es un acto sagrado que se celebra en la Iglesia y se celebra en la vida.
Oklahoma Catholic Radiothon

The next Oklahoma Catholic Broadcasting radiothon is scheduled for April 10 and 11 from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. both days. For the April 2018 radiothon, we are offering live streaming to the live format with in-studio offers, phone interviews and commentary. There will also be a live interaction and response from donors and listeners. In addition to the Oklahoma Catholic Radio president, Jeff Fannell, searching for a way to raise the bar for this radiothon, we be turned to EWTN. Through the generosity of an EWTN donor, Oklahoma Catholic Broadcasting has been given a chance to purchase grants up to $20,000. If the donations from our listeners total $20,000, the EWTN grant will add another $20,000 to the radiothon.

The prospect of doubling the impact and reaching out to those who are called to a religious vocation is a gift from God. Oklahoma Catholic Broadcasting continues to be challenged to humbly desire the power of satisfying growth throughout the entire state with the availability of funding. I wrote about KREG and KHID in any Fraternity column, both important milestones in reaching the Spanish-speaking Catholic community. This radiothon will help pay for that invest- ment.

Serving more listeners is not the only goal. Founding members of Oklahoma Catholic Radio such as Dr. Lance Leddy and Dietrich von Mogel committed to quality pro- gramming that helps us know, love and serve our Lord. This takes considerable resources, especially in developing local programming to be an authentic, relevant voice to Oklahoma listeners. Please support with Oklahoma Catholic Radio during the April radiothon to fulfill the vision for Catholic radio in Oklahoma.

You will be talking to family- related volunteers. Deacon Larry and Jeff will host interviews and weigh in with their in- formed insights.

As Jeff said, “We feel very blessed that EWTN has selected Oklahoma Catholic Radiothon to increase our impact. We hope this will inspire our listeners and faithful donors to use this matching grant as a way to double the value of their donation.”

Oklahoma Catholic Radio Stations

OKC - 97.3 FM KGNG

Tulsa - 94.9 FM KPIM

Broken Arrow - 102.9 FM KPMI

Clinton - 98.3 FM KFWG

Edmond - 100.9 FM KHKX

oarkxilcatholic.com

Ekl City - 100.7 FM KFPS

Tulsa - 94.9 FM KHOD

Lawton - 88.3 FM KQEG

Atlanta - 88.3 FM KQGE

Ringwood - 104.9 FM KEUC

Shawnee - 107.1 FM KGOOD

Woodward - 93.3 FM KFFP

Radiothon Call-in number is (405) 859-8589.

10 Catholic War Veterans of any war/ (combat) meeting, 7 p.m. at Sts. Vincent Retreat Center community room. Contact Fr. M. Price Oswald, (405) 567-3404.

9 Divine Mercy Sunday.

11 Day of St. Vincent de Paul.

12 Catholic Workers USA (March for Life) rally.

13 Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Open House 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Christ the King, OKC.

14 April 1, 2018

15 April 1, 2018

16 Oklahoma Catholic Radiothon April 10-11, 9:30 a.m. – 9 p.m., The Lay Missionaries of Charity, OKC. Mass at 9:30 a.m.; meeting at St. Ann Nursing Home, OKC. At 9:30 a.m. meeting; following Karen Banks, (405) 986-9086 and Tom Havens, (405) 341-2199.

17 Today within the Easter Octave.

18 Wednesday within the Easter Octave.

19 Charismatic prayer meeting, 7 p.m., Catholic Pastoral Center, Contact Fr. Larry Sousa and Jeff are hosting a “Come and See” week in Oklahoma.

20 Oklahoma Catholic Radiothon April 10 and 11, 6:30 a.m. – 6 p.m., Sunnylands Family Recip- tion Center, 2990 S.E. 29th, OKC. Mass at 9:30 a.m. and 12 p.m. in the parish center at Oklahoma City. Contact Fr. Charlie, 977.3 FM, a local frequency in Oklahoma.

21 Charismatic Healing Mass, 5:30 p.m., Immaculate Con- ception, 5901 S.W. 29, OKC. Call (405) 685-4806.

22 St. Ann in Edin presents “Sacred Music in Season” at 4 p.m., preceded Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:30 p.m. Recep tions follow in parish hall.

23 Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord.

24 Oklahoma Catholic Radio April 10 and 11, 9:30 a.m. – 9 p.m., The Lay Missionaries of Charity, OKC.


26 Oklahoma City University, 21st Street and Lincoln Blvd., presents “Unique Fraternal Benefits.” For Free.

27 Since the FREE fraternal benefits in 2015 and in the U.S. in 2016

28 To learn more or to join the 2018 Oklahoma Catholic Broadcasting Network, call (405) 721-0351. For Free.

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A vocation of mercy

By Sister Constance Veit, L.S.P.

I grew up Catholic without ever hearing about the Divine Mercy devotion, which the Church celebrates annually on the weekend after Easter. Even after I had learned about it, I didn’t understand it. A few sisters in my community placed great confidence in the Divine Mercy image and chaplet, but it never really appealed to me. “Why focus on the sorrowful passion and wounds of Christ when we should be singing our Easter Alleluias?” I wondered.

Even when Saint John Paul II proclaimed that the whole Church would celebrate the second Sunday of Easter as Divine Mercy Sunday, I didn’t grasp the beauty and relevance of this devotion – or how much I needed it. It took a few more years and several bumps in life’s “school of hard knocks” to bring me to an understanding of just how precious the Divine Mercy devotion is.

Thanks to some very compelling words of Pope Francis, I began to turn to God’s unfailing love as Divine Mercy. In front of the well-known image of the risen Jesus with one hand raised in blessing and the other pointing to his heart, I prayed, “Lord, in a thousand ways I have shunned your love, yet here I am once more, to renew my covenant with you. I need you. Save me once again, Lord, take me once more into your redeeming embrace” (Evangelii Gaudium, n. 3).

Since I turned to Divine Mercy as a life force, I’ve learned that the devotion includes two primary elements – to trust in God’s merciful love and to practice acts of mercy. It’s that simple – trust in mercy and be merciful.

Our foundress, Saint Jeanne Jugan, based her life on these two pillars, even though she passed away more than 50 years before Our Lord revealed the Divine Mercy message to a young Polish nun named Sister Faustina.

In our congregation, we tend to speak of trust in terms of confidence in Divine Providence, but Saint Jeanne Jugan’s trust extended well beyond the provision of material goods. She entrusted her whole life to God, whom she encountered as love in the tabernacle, in the poor and in her own heart. The following bit of advice to the young Little Sisters testifies to her complete trust in God:

“Jesus is waiting for you in the chapel. Go and find him when your strength and patience are giving out, when you feel lonely and helpless. Say to him: ‘You know well what is happening, my dear Jesus. I have only you. Come to my aid.’ And, then go your way. And don’t worry about knowing how you are going to manage. It is enough to have told our good Lord. He has an excellent memory.”

Another lesser known saying of Saint Jeanne Jugan also testifies to her confidence in God’s merciful love, especially in moments of difficulty: “We should have no more strength against temptation than a little bird has to resist the hawk, were God not to give us his help – but that should increase our trust, since by God’s power we can triumph.”

Many quotes from Saint Jeanne Jugan demonstrate how she practiced merciful love toward the elderly poor. The following words are especially clear: “Be kind, especially with the infirm; be a mother to them … Treat the poor compassionately and God will treat you kindly until your last day.”

These words of our foundress have inspired generations of Little Sisters and they continue to speak to us today as we prepare to celebrate 150 years of service to the elderly in the United States.

As we prepare for the opening of our sesquicentennial later this year, please pray that we Little Sisters of the Poor will always be faithful to our vocation of Mercy.

Sister Constance Veit is director of communications for the Little Sisters of the Poor.