Greg and Lisa Popcak will be in Shawnee on April 22 to lead the first-ever archdiocesan Catholic Family Festival. The Popcaks are popular hosts of the national More-2-Life Radio, broadcast weekdays at 9 a.m. on the Oklahoma Catholic Broadcasting Network.

“The Catholic Family Festival is a great opportunity for parents to meet that resolution to put family time first, and set aside a day to ‘Discover God Together,’” said Carole Brown, director of the Office of New Evangelization. The event is designed specifically to give families quality time together, and share what they’ve learned about recognizing God’s place in their lives. Shawn and Jennie Scott, of Saint Thomas More in Norman, will be attending the festival with their four children.

“It’s a big job raising kids, and an even bigger job raising Catholic kids,” Jennie Scott said. “It’s exciting to see that Catholic culture is alive and well in Oklahoma. I look forward to the talks and activities that will help us raise our kids with a sense of their Catholic identity.”

continued on page 8
Embrace unique value, importance of Saint Gregory’s University

The following events are included in Archbishop Coakley’s official calendar:

April 2 – Confirmation, 9:30 a.m., Saint Eugene, OKC
April 2 – Scout Mass, 4 p.m., Saint Francis de Sales Chapel, Catholic Pastoral Center
April 3 – Department directors meeting, 10 a.m., CPC
April 4 – Facilitators Planning Committee meeting, 11 a.m., CPC
April 4 – Confirmation, 7 a.m., CPC
April 6 – Mass, 11:30 a.m., Saint Francis de Sales Chapel, CPC
April 7 – Catholic Pastoral Center open house and outreach fair to get to know the Church
April 9 – Palm Sunday Mass, 10 a.m., The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help
April 10 – Confirmation, 9:30 a.m., The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help
April 10 – Christ Mass, 6 p.m., The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help
April 12 – Beatification Planning Committee meeting, 2 p.m., CPC
April 12 – The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help
April 14 – Good Friday Liturgy, 7 p.m., The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help
April 15 – Easter Vigil, 8:30 p.m., The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Archbishop Coakley’s Calendar

Archbishop Paul S. Coakley
Archdiocese of Oklahoma City
Archdiocese of Denver

April is “Child Abuse Prevention Month”

Each year, both religious and civic groups designate the month of April as “Child Abuse Prevention Month.”

As in past years, the Office of Safe Environment of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City has worked with the State of Oklahoma to help promote the observance of this important initiative, which is designed to raise awareness about the problem of child abuse and neglect.

A major activity sponsored by the State of Oklahoma is the annual Easter Mission April 23-25. The event is “Time to ‘Let Up’” – Concert and ministry of the word at 3 p.m. April 23; Monday and Tuesday April 24-25, 6 p.m. Contact Bob Walldrep, cpowers@archokc.org.

A Tenouse Service will be held Friday, April 7, 7 p.m. at The Cathedral Of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

We pray as well for the students, faculty and staff of Saint Gregory’s Abbey and University who are involved in the ministry of education here at Saint Gregory’s Abbey and University.

We also pray for their families and friends, and for all other students.

Gentle Jesus, shepherd of peace, join in your suffering the pain of all who have been hurt in body, mind and spirit by those who used the trust placed in them.

Hear the cries of our brethren and sisters who have been gravely harmed, and the cries of those who love them. Soothe their restless hearts with hope, comfort them with words of faith. Grant them justice for their cause, ennobled by your truth.

Grant us the courage and tenacity, skill and wisdom to continue the work of those who have already begun.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Archdiocese of Oklahoma City
Archdiocese of Denver

April 13 – Good Friday Liturgy, 7 p.m., The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help

We are called to be holy. We are called to become virtuous and engaged human beings? As persons of faith, our first and foremost duty is to serve the Lord, helping him to heal and redeem the world. To do this, we need to reflect and act on the words of Jesus, who taught us to love, to be kind, to forgive and to serve one another.

We need to reflect on our own lives and to ask ourselves: What role do I play in the church? What do I do to help others? How can I be a better person?

We need to reflect on our own values and to ask ourselves: What is the meaning of life? What is the purpose of existence? What is the ultimate goal of human existence?

We need to reflect on our own beliefs and to ask ourselves: What is the nature of God? What is the nature of the world? What is the nature of the universe?

We need to reflect on our own actions and to ask ourselves: What is the right thing to do? What is the wrong thing to do? What is the best thing to do?

We need to reflect on our own morals and to ask ourselves: What is the right way to live? What is the wrong way to live? What is the best way to live?

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An interview with my little sister

By Anna O’Neil

Alas, I don’t love those things. But, I’m hoping after a lifetime in the school of love that this will grow and develop in me. So, I don’t look at it as being afraid of the marriage of the life, which I’m not used to, or a human level. Aren’t you afraid of getting bored?

Boredom is definitely a cross you have to struggle with, but in the same way that a mother struggles with stress. Contemplative nuns don’t have any stress. They have a lot of boredom.

But, that being said, there’s a very nice rhythm in life with prayer and work, and there’s a lot of good places in the convent I’ve found in my head.

Once you start thinking nuns don’t live like ordinary human beings, you start thinking, “Oh, I could never live like that, because I’m an ordinary human being.”

Nuns don’t always like praying! They have distractions like anybody. They are not in the heights of contemplation all the time. But, you go to the convent to give yourself to God in a totally different way. And that helps dispel all the idols I’ve formed in my head.

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The Millenial Journey in Faith

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gospel. There, the Lord makes...
Adela celebrates 25th “Allen to Ada” Good Friday pilgrimage

By Charles Albert
The Sooner Catholic

Tony Mondjear is an energetic 70-year-old parishioner at Saint Joseph in Ada, who emigrated from the Philippines in 1968. One of the traditions he wanted to bring with him from his homeland was the carrying of a cross during the Holy Thursday.

“People in my hometown carried a large wooden cross to another town about 20 miles away on Holy Thursday, and stayed over, and then returned on Good Friday,” Mondjear said.

Sister Kateri took a relic of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha to Ada the day before Good Friday, and it was on Good Friday that people lined up at Saint Kateri Tekakwitha Spiritual Center to receive the blessing of the relic and the opportunity to carry it to Saint Joseph’s Church in Ada.

Mondjear and his wife Betty, a parishioner, both carry the cross along the route. “The people enjoined saying the Rosary along the way, and people from Protestant faiths find the whole experience very moving and inspiring. People in cars wave in support as they pass,” Mondjear said.

The pilgrimage meets at 7 a.m. in the Ada Saint Joseph parking lot where the pilgrims join in a prayer circle in memory of Christ’s death for their sins on Good Friday. The walk begins at 8 a.m. and finishes in Ada at 3 p.m.

At the end of the pilgrimage, the relic of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha was blessed and carried to Saint Joseph’s Church in Ada.

American Indian Catholic Outreach leads first evangelization retreat

continued from page 1

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continued from page 1

by Greg and Lisa Popcak
They have so much practical wisdom on faith and family to offer married couples in all stages of family life.

Cooper Ray, a national musician, and Matt Bond, minister of “Catholics Live,” a non-profit program for high school catechism, will lead the high school and middle school sessions through music, stories, humor and participation.

For registration information, go online to www.archokc.org/new-evangelization/up-coming-events. Register before April 8 it save $5 per person.

**For Children ages 4-11**

Families will enjoy the arts, crafts, music and plays depicting the events of the mystery. Free child care and activities are available about Oklahoma’s only Catholic University. The feast will culminate with the celebration of Holy Mass with Archbishop Coakley.

**St. John Nepomuk student named new “Kid Governor”**

Kid Governor Audrey Patinn is a 5th grader at Sunbeam Catholic School. The festival will be held on the campus of Saint Gregory’s University for lunch and a tour of the campus. They have so much practical wisdom on faith and family to offer married couples in all stages of family life.

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**Popcaks coming to Oklahoma in April**

continued from page 1

continued from page 1

**Kid sessions will feature: Deacon Lisa Popcak**

**zzo Parmenter**

**Adolescent sessions will feature: Dr. Greg & Lisa Popcak**

**St. Gregory’s University**

**Discovering God Together:**

**5 Habs of Effective, Faithful Families**

Feeding their souls:

**The Care and Feeding of your Kids Faith**

**Family Festival!**

**Saturday, April 22 - 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

**St. Gregory’s University**

Adult sessions will feature: Dr. Greg & Lisa Popcak

**St. Gregory’s University for lunch and a tour of the campus.**

**Teen sessions will feature well-known speaker and youth leader, Cooper Ray.**

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Lo que sigue es la homilía dada por el Arzobispo Cookley para la Misx con motivo de la inauguración de Abdi, el 23 de marzo del 2017.

El Papa Francisco entre las palabras "la luz y el amor" que iluminan nuestro caminó hacia Cristo, nos invita a seguir el camino que nos estamos trazando en este momento. Aquí en el altar, encendido por la luz de la fe, celebramos el misterio de la vida y del amor. La fe nos invita a compartir el amor de Dios con otros.

La fe nos es como un farol que nos ilumina el camino. Nos invita a seguir el camino de Cristo, el camino de la fe. La fe es como un farol que nos guía por el camino de la vida. Nos invita a seguir el camino de Cristo, el camino de la fe.

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The Catholic Foundation

Retirement Account Gifts
A growing number of Catholics are choosing to name the Catholic Church as a full or partial beneficiary of an IRA, 401(k), or other qualified retirement plan.

Supporting the Church with a legacy gift on your retirement fund is easy to arrange and a smart way to donate. It gives you flexibility for the future and helps ensure that your life should you need this asset. Upon your death, as a tax-recognized organization, your church will receive your gift tax free. When left to individual beneficia ries, their estate and gift tax deductions will be diminished by income taxes required to be paid by the beneficiary. You don’t need to will or trust to make this contribution. And your retirement account can change form from your plan administrator. On the beneficiary designation line, write “Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma Inc.” or “Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma Inc. for the benefit of.”

For more information, contact the foundation office at: P.O. Box 32180, Oklahoma City, OK 73123. (405) 527-9515.

The Knights of Columbus & Center of Family Love Present

The community of the Secular Order of the Knights of Columbus of Mt. Carmel and St. Teresa of Jesus – Oklahoma Charitable and Provident Society of St. Therese, meets at Little Flower Church, N. Blvd., OKC - Noon. Call Barbara Basgall (405) 326-3890 or Susan Stroud (405) 473-8364.

The Knights of Columbus & Center of Family Love Present

JUNE 17, 2017

This calendar only covers the two weeks between issue dates and may not reflect all of the calendar items. To see a full calendar, go to www.soonercatholic.org.

Calendar

April
5 Feast of St. Vincent Ferrer.
6 Charismatic Catholic prayer event and “Day at the Races” for the Catholic Pastoral Center. Call Toni Calvey at (405) 630-6539, tonycalvey100@gmail.com, taudiaci@gmail.com or www.latpokc.com. 
9 Palm Sunday.
9 Charismatic Healing Mass, 5:30 p.m.; Immaculate Conception Church, 2901 S.W. 29, OKC. Call (405) 685-4606.
23与Passion Mass at Immaculate Conception Church, 2901 S.W. 29, in May and June. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 5:30 p.m. with the Sacrament of Reconciliation available before Mass. Mass 7 p.m. Call the Office of Family Life, (405) 721-4410, ext. 345, or (405) 528-6252.
8 The Red Plains Benedictine Mothers of Mt. Scholastica meet monthly on the second Saturday of each month at the personal home of Dennis and Marcia Barron, 5254 N. Grove Ave. Contact Judith Martin at (405) 636-5656, jmartin036@yahoo.com.
23 Good Friday, Catholic Pastoral Center closed.
5-7 The Lay Missionaries of Charit y, the Secular (Lay) Order of Blessed Teresa of Calcutta, meet at St. Ann Nursing Home, OKC, on the first and third Saturdays of each month. Mass 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.; meetings follow. Contact Lisa Carrasco (405) 596-9086.
15 The community of the Secular Order of the Knights of Columbus of Mt. Carmel and St. Teresa of Jesus – Oklahoma Charitable and Provident Society of St. Therese, meets at Little Flower Church, N. Blvd., OKC – Noon. Call Barbara Basgall (405) 326-3890 or Susan Stroud (405) 473-8364.
18 Feast of St. John the Baptist De La Salle.
22 “Come and See” weekend for single Catholic women ages 18-35 interested in religious life, April 7-9 at St. Joseph Mary and Joseph 800 S. Lewis Ave., Tulsa. Contact Sr. Marie Therese, (918) 289-9251, stecomrad@gmail.com.
26 with the OKC Dodgers” is at 2:05 p.m.
27 Trivia night at St. Eugene, OKC, with social time at 6 p.m.; trivia: 7 p.m. Cost $20 pp; Contact Branden Seid, (405) 888-1351, esneddelski@bhs.net.
28 with the OKC Dodgers” is at 2:05 p.m.
29 with the OKC Dodgers” is at 2:05 p.m.
30 with the OKC Dodgers” is at 2:05 p.m.

May
2 First Friday Sacred Heart Mass at Immaculate Conception Church, 2901 S.W. 29 (in May and June). Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 5:30 p.m. with the Sacrament of Reconciliation available before Mass. Mass 7 p.m. Call the Office of Family Life, (405) 721-4410, ext. 345, or (405) 528-6252.
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Sooner Catholic April 14, 2017

Sooner Catholic

Calendar

April 22, May 20, June 17, July 22, Aug. 19, Special tours arranged by calling (405) 721-6551, Ext. 141.

Edmond School tour
St. John in Edmond is providing a tour of St. John Edmond Catholic School, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. on April 22 at 9:35 S. Boulevard. Located within Edmond grade PreK-8th. The school offers full-day pre-kindergar- ten, foreign language, music and art at every grade, STEM, gifted program, school counselor, school psychologist, school resource officer, athletics and extracurricular programs. Scholarships and financial aid available. Visit stjohnedmond.org or call (405) 348-3364.

Catholic Family Festival
The Red Plains Benedictine Mothers of Mt. Scholastica meet monthly on the second Saturday of each month at the personal home of Dennis and Marcia Barron, 5254 N. Grove Ave. Contact Judith Martin at (405) 636-5656, jmartin036@yahoo.com.

“Come and See” weekend
For women interested in religious life there is a “Come and See” weekend April 7-9 at St. Joseph Mary and Joseph, 800 S. Lewis Ave., Tulsa, for single Catholic women ages 18-35. Contact Sr. Marie Therese, (918) 289-9251, stecomrad@gmail.com.

The Origin of the Sainthood of Pope Pius X
An ordinary man who accomplished extraordinary things.

Trivia night
Call Toni Calvey at (405) 630-6539, tonycalvey100@gmail.com, taudiaci@gmail.com or www.latpokc.com.

The History of Marriage
“Where the Sheep Shall Inherit Their Own” at 7 p.m., Thursday, April 27, at the Red Plains Benedictine Monastery, 2220 S. Lewis Ave., Tulsa, for single Catholic women ages 18-35. Contact Sr. Marie Therese, (918) 289-9251, stecomrad@gmail.com.

The Catholic Foundation

The Catholic Foundation is a charitable public corporation that supports the mission of the diocese of Oklahoma City. You can make a tax-deductible contribution to the Foundation, and we can help you plan your legacy gift to the Catholic Church in Oklahoma. Your active support of the mission and work of the Catholic Church in Oklahoma is critical to the future growth and success of our diocese and the diocese of Oklahoma City.

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Please remember the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City in your estate plans.
Celebrating Holy Week

By Ted King
The Sooner Catholic

Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday, April 9, also known as Palm Sunday of the Passion of Our Lord, celebrates the triumphal entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem on a donkey with people cutting off branches of palm trees and strewing them in his path, shouting “Ho- sauna to the son of David. Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord” (Matthew 21:9), thereby fulfilling the Old Testament prophecy: “Re- joice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on an ass, on a colt the foal of an ass” (Zechariah 9:9).

New Testament accounts of Christ’s entry into Jerusalem are in Matthew 21:1-11, Mark 11:1-11, Luke 19:28-40 and John 12:12-15. Palms are a symbol of rejoicing in Jewish tradition. In other parts of the world where palms are difficult to obtain, other branch- es are used.

Holy Thursday

Holy Thursday, April 13, is the first day of the three days of the Easter Triduum, followed by Good Friday and Holy Saturday, which includes the Easter Vigil.

Many things take place on Holy Thursday, including especially and emphatically the celebration of the institution of the Holy Eucharist. Holy Thursday also is known as Maundy Thursday. The term Maundy, derived from the Latin “mandatum,” pertains to mandating a new commandment of Jesus to his disciples that they love one another as he loves them (John 13:34-35).

In a sign of humility, Christ washed their feet (John 13:1-17). This is why the Church has the washing of the feet on Holy Thurs- day. “By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another” (John 13:35). The gift of the Eucharist comes from the Last Supper as de- tailed in 1 Corinthians 11:23-26.

Good Friday

On Good Friday, April 14, clergy who celebrate the Extraordinary Form (Latin) wear black vest- ments, and those who celebrate the Novus Ordo (vernacular) wear red to reflect Christ’s Holy Pas- sion. The altar is bare and stat- ues covered. In the Extraordinary Form, the liturgy is celebrated the Mass of the pre-sanctified because the hosts for Communion were consecrated on Holy Thursday. In the Novus Ordo, the liturgy is called the Celebration of the Passion of the Lord and consists of three parts: the reading of the Passion according to John, adoration of the Holy Cross and the Eucharist from hosts consecrated on Holy Thursday.

Easter Vigil

The Easter Vigil Mass takes place Holy Saturday evening, April 15, or before sunrise on Easter Sunday. It is comprised of four parts: the Service of Light, the Service of the Word, the Liturgy of Baptism and the Liturgy of the Eu- charist. The Paschal candle is lit from a fire outside the church. The candle is used to light candles held by the congregation gathered outside. The priest leads the congregation into a darkened church, stopping three times to chant “Light of Christ.” The congregation re- sponds “Thanks be to God.”

This is followed by the Service of the Word, a series of readings from the Old Testament, after which the darkened church is illuminat- ed, and Gloria in Excelsis Deo, meaning Glory to God in the High- est from Luke 2:14, is sung. Catechumens, now called the Elect, are re- ceived into the Church through Baptism, Confirma- tion and Holy Eucharist for the first time.

Easter

Easter, April 16, is the most important day of all days for it is the day that Christ rose from the dead.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church glossary states: “Easter: The greatest and oldest Christian feast, which celebrates Christ’s Resurrection from the dead. Easter is the ‘feasts of feasts,’ the so- lemnity of solemnities, the Great Sunday.”

It is characterized, above all, by the joy of glorified life and the victory over death, expressed most fully in the great resounding cry of the Christian: Alleluia! All faith flows from faith in the res-surrection: “If Christ has not been raised, then empty is our preach- ing; empty, too, is your faith” (1 Corinthians 15:14).

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