Archdiocese celebrates graduation of nearly 700 seniors

Catholic education prepares graduates for next phase of life

By The Sooner Catholic Staff

Nearly 700 Catholic students graduated from both Catholic and non-Catholic high schools in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City this month – and the religious education they’ve received at home, in classrooms and through parishes will ideally provide a foundation for future growth in the faith, Catholic educators said.

“What we’ve tried to do is to make sure we hold true to what the intent of Catholic education has always been,” said David Morton, principal of Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School, which graduated 158 seniors this year. “That intent is to do the best job we can teaching the core curriculum and arming the kids with the best knowledge they can possibly have, so they can have options no matter what direction they go.”

The integrity of faith lived in service

At both Bishop McGuinness and Mount Saint Mary high schools, educators incorporate faith formation into every aspect of student life. Bishop McGuinness, the archdiocesan high school, offers a rosary and prayer service before school every Monday morning, student-led “Panera and prayer” sessions every Tuesday morning, liturgy of the hours on Thursdays and Mass on Fridays.

Students are required to attend at least six morning services a semester.

At the Mount, students have the opportunity to go to confession at lunch or after school on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Once a month, the Mount students and faculty celebrate Mass together. At those monthly Masses, seniors voluntarily offer testimony, sharing the details of their personal faith journeys with some 400 fellow high school students.

“They’re just so honest and so sincere and so courageous to open up with their peers and share their faith, their weaknesses and their strengths,” said Talita DeNegri, principal of Mount Saint Mary, which graduated more than 80 seniors this spring.

The Mount, which was founded by the Sisters of Mercy in 1961, remains a “Mercy school,” and administrators continue to emphasize that special charism of the school’s founders.

“It relates to compassion,” DeNegri says of the gift of mercy. “It relates to excellence in hospitality. It relates to the courage to innovate and to make mistakes and to learn from your mistakes. It definitely connects to education, specifically to the underprivileged, and to a respect for different religious traditions and beliefs, and to the recognition of the worth and dignity of every person.”

Accordingly, both high schools emphasize the importance of service and servant leadership.

Cris Carter, superintendent of Catholic schools, said service is integrated into the curriculum from elementary school through secondary school.

“Service can be as minimal as trying to negotiate an agreement on the playground to working at the food bank to making a choice about a career,” Carter said. It starts in those little steps in elementary school, and we weave that through the whole way.”

The fruits are evident.

“I’ve been here for 30 years, so I’ve seen a lot of classes come out of our schools, and the exciting part for me is watching them come back,” Morton said. “I see them involved in their parishes, doing great community work, being difference makers in our community here, and I think that’s because of the seeds we’re planting.”

Catholic students who attend non-Catholic high schools but attend religious education classes and youth group activities are similarly encouraged by catechists and youth group leaders to absorb and internalize the teachings of the faith and to express them through service to others.

“That is what we’ve tried to do,” said Bishop McGuinness seniors and their robeds Lexi Brooks, Grace Amundsen, Hayden Terlip, Cole Terlip. Photo by Betsy Felton.

“Through lessons, service, prayer and witness, the parish religious education and youth ministry experience strives to assist the young person in the formation of the faith so that they may know the journey doesn’t end,” said Patricia Keenig, director of religious education for the archdiocese. “They never ‘graduate’ from formation or discipleship. Our hope is that they have been prepared to continue to seek and find ways to learn about their faith, develop their relationship with Jesus and practice discipleship wherever they may go in life.”

It’s not business, it’s personal

The purpose of Catholic catechesis then — whether it occurs at home, in school or at church — is to form the whole person of the student, invite...
Welcoming immigrants is what has made the United States great

For the first time in many years the prospect of a comprehensive overhaul of our immigration system is looming on the horizon. Our federal immigration policy has been inadequate for some time. Inadequate border security combined with an insufficient number of visas available to fill the necessary jobs required by our economy have led to a flood of undocumented persons entering clandestinely into the United States.

Many of these enter the country across our southern border. These individuals and families usually come out of necessity, escaping crushing poverty to seek a better life than had been possible in their native land. So desperate are the conditions of their homelands that they willingly expose themselves to great risk crossing an inhospitable desert and placing their lives in the hands of ruthless traffickers who often abandon them at the first sign of danger. If they reach the United States they are forced to live in the shadows of society where they remain subject to exploitation because of their lack of legal standing. Estimates place the number of these undocumented persons at more than 11 million.

Adequately they are millions of people who can find themselves “out of status” or undocumented, such as when their visas expire.

As a priest and bishop I have seen too many of our family and friends—brothers and sisters excluded from full participation in the life of their country and left behind by a system that demands too much of a human being. Can our worth and welcome in this land be determined merely by how much we produce or consume? This is a dangerous path. What about the elderly and the disabled? Are they any less worthy of our protection? Is human dignity tied to our economic productivity? This is certainly not the teaching of Jesus Christ. “Whatever you did to the least of my brothers or sisters you did to me.” (Mt 25:40)

As a pastor my most pressing concerns are with the moral dimensions of this situation. For many years the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has been advocating for a comprehensive overhaul of the immigration system in the United States. We recognize that we have to leave the question of whether undocumented persons should be granted legal status to the hands of a comprehensive immigration reform. There needs to be a way for undocumented persons of good moral character who are living in the United States to adjust their status to obtain lawful residence and create an eventual path to citizenship. There also needs to be adequate means for migrants to enter, live and work in the United States legally. At present there are far too few visas available to fill many of the jobs that are required on a stable basis. Providing a sufficient number of visas does not take away jobs, but provides legal access to many jobs that otherwise might go unfilled.

The question was whether undocumented immigrants pump more into our economy or take more out of our economy. What was implicitly being debated was the value of a human being. Can our worth and welcome in this land be determined merely by how much we produce or consume? This is a dangerous path. What about the elderly and the disabled? Are they any less worthy of our protection? Is human dignity tied to our economic productivity? This is certainly not the teaching of Jesus Christ. “Whatever you did to the least of my brothers or sisters you did to me.” (Mt 25:40)

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Archbishop Coakley’s Calendar

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

May 19 — Confirmation, 10:30 a.m., Saints Peter and Paul Church, Kingfisher
May 19 — Dedication of Divine Mercy and John Paul II Chapel, 4 p.m., Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, Duncan
May 20 — Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma Board Meeting, 1 p.m., Holy Angels Church, Oklahoma City
May 21 — Mass, 11:30 a.m., Catholic Pastoral Center Chapel
May 21 — Vocations Board Meeting, 2 p.m., Catholic Pastoral Center
May 21 — Loy Revsion Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m., Catholic Pastoral Center
May 22 — Meeting with Catholic Relief Services Representatives, 10 a.m., Catholic Pastoral Center
May 22 — Confirmation, 7 p.m., Saint James the Greater Church, Oklahoma City
May 23 — Catholic Charities Board Meeting, 11:30 a.m., Catholic Charities Offices
May 23 — Golden Jubilee Mass for Fr. Patrick McCool, 11 a.m., Saint Gregory’s Abbey, Shawnee
May 25 — Confirmation, 5:00 p.m., Holy Cross Church, Madill
May 26 — Confirmation, 10:30 a.m., Saint Benedict Church, Shawnee
May 27 — Memorial Day Mass, 8 a.m., Resurrection Cemetery, Oklahoma City
May 27 — Confirmation, 9 a.m., Catholic Pastoral Center Chapel
May 30 — Mass of Installation for Archbishop Michael O’Jackels, Duhuque, Iowa
June 1 — Transitional Diaconate Ordination, 10 a.m., Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Oklahoma City
June 2 — Confirmation, 10 a.m., Holy Name of Jesus Church, Chickasha
June 2 — ADF Archbishop’s Circle Evening Prayer and Reception, 5 p.m., Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Additional coverage of Church and archdiocesan news and events, only on www.soonercatholic.com:

❖ Father Roberto Quanto died May 6. To read Archbishop Paul Coakley’s statement on this great loss, as well as the full eulogy from Sacred Heart principal Joanna Comacho, visit archokc.org.

❖ The Rother Guild will have Mass at 6 p.m. May 22 at Saint Francis Xavier in Enid.

❖ Memorial Day is May 27. Archbishop Coakley will celebrate Mass at 8:00 a.m. at Resurrection Cemetery and Archbishop Emeritus Eusebius Beltran will celebrate Mass there at 11:00 a.m.

❖ Sister Betty Kehoe retires May 31 (see page 3 for story). For full coverage, visit soonercatholic.com.

❖ Four seminars will be ordained to the transitional diaconate June 1. Cath last issue’s preview of the event online, as well as full post-event coverage of the ordination.

❖ Catholic Charities will sponsor a reunion for former residents and staff of Saint Joseph’s Orphanage and Saint Joseph’s Children’s Home. Catch last issue’s preview of the event, as well as full post-event coverage of the reunion.

Plus, don't miss daily updates on Facebook and Twitter!
"Faith-filled" Sister Betty retires from Catholic Charities

By Brianna Osborne
The Sooner Catholic

OKLAHOMA CITY (May 8, 2013) — Catholic Charities of Oklahoma City, Mercy Health Center, Saint Anthony Hospital and Saint Eugene Catholic Church and School sponsored a celebration of Catholic nurses with Mass and a reception May 8 at Saint Eugene Catholic Church.

The event featured a keynote speech from Patrick Raglow, executive director of Catholic Charities, as well as tributes from Archbishop Paul Coakley, Father Paul Zahler, Father Bill Ross and Father Joe Jacobi. Saint Gregory’s University President Greg Main emceed.

At the reception, Barney Semtner of the Catholic Foundation presented the first “Catholic Nurse of the Year” award to Alveria Kopp of Epiphany parish.

Kopp said she was surprised and delighted to receive the award.

“arward was just wonderful,” she said. “I never expected anything like that. You just go about what you do and, then, when you find out people are noticing, you think, ‘Good heavens!’ I’m just terrified of people — and to be chosen from a group. (Catholic nurses) do a lot of work in the nursing area and just to be chosen from a group, to be trusted to share someone’s personal journey,” she said.

Sister Betty finds a particular joy in helping troubled marriages.

“One of my strengths is working with couples. I love the idea of being able to impact a family,” said Sister Betty. “If there is a solid marriage, the family will make it. So I will do whatever I can to help them improve, strengthen, even save their marriage.”

This ministry is a special blessing in a state like Oklahoma, where divorce rates are some of the highest in the nation.

When asked if there are days when she feels frustrated, Sister Betty replied in the negative.

“I don’t feel like I have to do something to make a person better. The most important thing is being there and listening. I have never felt ‘burned out’ after counseling. I felt as if that’s what God wanted me to do and I feel very fortunate and blessed to do work that I love.”

Sister Betty has also provided counseling in tough times, including after the Murrah building bombing, the helicopter crash at Saint Ann’s in February and just two weeks ago at Sacred Heart school after the death of Father Roberto Quant. She responds to these challenges readily, but only with God’s guidance, Sister Betty explained.

“The people do that. They’re just like me. They’re not my answers. It’s the Lord. I just hope that shines through when I’m with people.”

It definitely shines through, for her friends and coworkers saw her work in 26 years of faithful service.

Sister Catherine Powers, CDN, has known Sister Betty since 1969, when they lived in their religious community in Chicago. Sister Kay and Sister Betty have lived together in Oklahoma for 17 years. Sister Kay says that Sister Betty comes home most animated when she has helped a couple get their marriage back on track or after a day helping at the Sanctuary Women’s Development Center, offering her services to homeless women.

“She is faith-filled,” said Sister Kay. In the last decade, however, Sister Betty has wondered about her work. Sister Kay said, “When she turned 65 she asked herself, ‘Who wants to talk to a 65-year-old counselor?’ It was the same thing at 70 — and she had plenty of clients! Now she’s retiring at 75, but I’m sure people would come to her no matter how long she worked.”

Clients have always seen God’s love in Sister Betty, apparent in her joy and optimism.

Monica Palmer, LPC, is associate director of clinical services at Saint Joseph’s, and has worked with Sister Betty for 21 years. Palmer praised Sister Betty’s ability to combine her religious vocation with the care of mental health.

“Sister Betty offers our clients professional clinical feedback and support, with a true understanding of faith. There’s no way to duplicate the experience and wisdom that comes with her vocation,” said Palmer.

Catholic Foundation honors "Catholic Nurse of the Year"

Winner reminisces about decades in the profession

Barney Semtner presents Alveria Kopp with Catholic Nurse of the Year award

"I have always liked to have someone else come in and clean my house. I volunteered at the hospital and I loved it.”

When she and her family moved to Oklahoma City in the 1960s, she attempted to volunteer at a hospital here. The hospital coordinators told her she could deliver flowers or mail. She politely said, “No, thank you,” and promptly set about discovering what she needed to do to be able to actually take care of patients.

She applied to become a licensed practical nurse.

“I went down and applied and I thought, ‘Boy, are they fussy; I didn’t have to go through all this to volunteer in New Jersey,’” Kopp said.

She completed the requirements and became an LPN.

“Licensed practical nurses in Oklahoma)” Kopp said.

She would give you a ward and you would take care of them. That’s what I wanted to do.”

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By Tina Korbe Dzurisin  
The Sooner Catholic

In October 2012, Mary Diane Steltenkamp, director of the Catholic Charities Priests' Nurse Community Nursing Resource Center in Oklahoma City, announced plans to retire in May 2013.

This month, she will — for about three months. In the fall, Steltenkamp will assume the newly created position of Priests' Nurse, a position designed to promote "a culture of wellness" among the priests of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

Father Scott Boeckman, vicar for priests, first imagined such a position after he attended a conference in New Orleans and officially learned what he already suspected from experience: Priests are apt to ignore their own health as they minister to others.

"When people are involved in a faith community, they typically have better health than people who are not — except for the clergy and even clergy's staffs," Steltenkamp said, citing research by Duke University's Harold J. Koenig, M.D.

"The clergy are so giving that they sometimes ignore their own needs and their own health concerns," she said.

Unfortunately, Father Boeckman says, that tendency of the clergy also has ramifications on their ability to effectively meet the needs of the faithful.

"We're called to be good stewards of our gifts and one of the gifts that we have is our own humanity," Father Boeckman said.

"Being a good steward of yourself means not to push yourself so hard that you're not taking care of yourself; that you eventually can't be available for others.

"If you're going to be an effective minister," he continued, "then you also need to be someone who knows how to take care of yourself; other people.

Mary Diane Steltenkamp with Theresa Palmer

"The clergy of this diocese have truly walked with me in many situations of my life and I feel privileged to walk with them in this," Steltenkamp said.

"The archbishop's role is to be a father to the (priests of the archdiocese) and he cares about them, about their whole person," he said.

According to the official job description, the Priests' Nurse "focusses on the whole person to emphasize wellness, disease prevention and health promotion, including healthy spirituality." She serves the functions of "integrator of faith and health," "health educator," "personal health counselor," "health advocate" and "referral agent" to the priests of the archdiocese.

"We need men who are able to do that in order to exhibit that to other people." Father Boeckman envisioned a full-time position at the archdiocesan level for a trained nurse who would remind priests of their responsibilities to themselves and who would help them to navigate the often-confusing world of health care.

Archbishop Paul Coakley was immediately enthusiastic about the concept of a priests' nurse and approved the creation of the position, Father Boeckman said.

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"The clergy of this diocese have truly walked with me in many situations of my life and I feel privileged to walk with them in this," Steltenkamp said.

Mary Diane Steltenkamp leads a group of parish nurses in prayer.

Archdiocese of Oklahoma City in 1988.

"That's what happens when you like school; you can always find some courses around," she says.

"God puts you where he wants you" Meanwhile, throughout it all, Kopp worked as a nurse — in the emergency room, on the floor, in ICU, as director of nursing education, as a nurse supervisor and as a business manager at a clinic.

Looking back, she's amazed at her own gutsiness as an emergency room nurse.

"I remember a motorcycle accident with a boy and a girl; they had bones sticking out of their body," she reflects. "I remember thinking if I could take care of them the way they were, then I could do anything."

"We worked in the ICU when it was a 'young department.'"

"They were just learning how to treat heart patients and that was interesting because they used to have to stay in bed for weeks and we would even feed them because they were not supposed to expend any energy at all," she said.

"How the men would object to that! They would say, 'I can do this myself,' and I'd say, 'No, you can't; I've got orders.' It was like pioneering!"

Today, she continues to volunteer as a nurse at her parish of Epiphany and with the retired priests at the Catholic Pastoral Center in Oklahoma City.

"I'm waiting to find out what this retirement is all about because I don't feel retired yet," she said.

"Still, she's confident she's doing what she's supposed to do."

"God puts you where he wants you," she says repeatedly.
Friends, family reflect on Father Roberto’s life

continued from page 1

to the importance of joy and to the fragility of life, the archbishop stressed.

“We find our joy ultimately in saying yes, sub-
marginal and surrendering to the God who loves
us,” he said. “Precisely when we realize we are
not in control of our lives, we realize life is a
gift. We give thanks for the gift Father Roberto
has been to all of us, for his life and his min-
istry. Father Roberto’s life reminds us that the
one, unmistakable, authentic sign of Christian
faith is joy. It is my hope that the witness of
Father Roberto’s life of faith and joyful priestly
service will continue to inspire many, many
young people to say ‘yes’ as Father Roberto did
and to follow him in a life dedicated to joyful
service.”

The archbishop was joined at the altar by
Archbishop Kevin Vann, Apostolic Vicar of
archdiocesan priests, who concelebrat-
ed the Mass. Lectors Joana Comacho, principal
of Sacred Heart school, and Carmen Gomez
delivered the readings, while both a mariachi
band and choir provided music for the bilingual
service.

Cremation followed at Resurrection Cemetery
in Oklahoma City. Earlier in the week, mourners gathered for a
service and all-night vigil before Father Roberto’s body.

“Father Roberto’s unique personality made
him special to those who met him, even in the
briefest encounters,” Comacho said in a eulogy
at the vigil service. “He always made you feel
like you were his favorite, most loved and most
treasured friend, just as his best friend from
Jesus worked to do. As his ordination prayer, Psalm 113,
says, ‘Not to us, Lord, not to us, but to Your
name give the glory.’

“And so what is our plan to honor Father
Roberto’s spirit?” she continued. “It should be
to live how he has shown us. To honor his memory
with our thoughts and deeds. To mentor our
brothers and sisters in their spiritual journey
with Christ. To show to others the same virtues
of kindness, thoughtfulness, hospitality, honesty,
contemplation and love that Father Roberto showed
to everyone every day. To live our lives with
great joy as he did, giving thanks to God for
another day to serve and love Him.”

For more on the life and death of Father
Roberto Quant, including Archbishop Paul
Coakley’s statement and Joana Comacho’s
eulogy, please visit archokc.org.

Obituary

Father Roberto Quant

Born: September 22, 1960
Ordained: June 1, 1991
Died: May 6, 2013

Reverend Roberto Antonio Quant, 52, died sud-
denly Monday afternoon, 6 May 2013. Father
Quant was born 22 September 1960 in Rivas,
Nicaragua, to Maria Alicia Quant and the late
Salvador Quant. He attended elementary school
at Colegio Salesiano Don Bosco in Granada and
high school at Colegio Santa Monica in Managua, Nicaragua, before entering
Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Alva,
where he earned a Bachelor of Science in 1984.
In 1985 Father Quant entered St. Meinrad
School of Theology where he earned a M.Div.
in 1991. On 1 June 1991, he was ordained at the
Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help,
Oklahoma City, by Archbishop Charles A.
Salatka. Following his ordination he earned a
M.A. at St. Meinrad (1995) and his canon law
degree (J.C.L.) at Catholic University of America,

Father Roberto’s first assignment was in 1991
as Associate Pastor at St. Peter Church,
Guymon, and its missions, St. Philip, Reise City
and Sacred Heart, Hooker, followed by his stud-
yes at Catholic University. In 1996, he became
Pastor at Holy Angels Church, Oklahoma City,
where he served until 2004. He was Pastor at
Saint Joseph Church, Hennessey, and its mis-
sion, Saint Joseph Church, Bison (2004-2010).
He became pastor of Sacred Heart Church,
Oklahoma City, in 2010. As pastor of Sacred
Heart, Father Quant served one of the largest
parishes in the archdiocese that included nine
weekend masses. He relished the challenge.
Under his leadership, the school flourished as his
love of the children endeared him to many.
Father Quant served on the Archdiocesan
Tribunal since 1996, first as the Adjunct
Judicial Vicar for the Court of First Instance
under his dear friend and mentor Rev. Charles
Sautter. He was then appointed Judicial Vicar
of the Interdiocesan Tribunal of Second Instance
for the Province where he was serving at the
time of his death. His knowledge and insights as
the intricacies of the law were greatly appreci-
at- ed by those who worked closely with him. He
also was serving on the Board of
Mount Saint Mary High School and had
served on the Board of
McGuinness Catholic High School.
Father Quant was a
member of the
Equestrian Order
of the Holy Sepulchre.

Father Quant is survived by his mother Maria
Alicia Quant of San Pedro Sula, Honduras;
his brothers Angel and wife Ginger, Federal Way,
Washington; Frank de Jesus, Carrolton, Tex.;
Mauricio de Jesus and Luis Rene and wife Rosa,
Honduras; and sister Silvia Carolina, Miami, Fla.

Father Roberto was a man of enormous gen-
erosity, boundless energy, and was beloved for his
infectious laugh and ready wit. He believed fully
in a life of service and he cherished his priest-
hood. Besides his warmth and compassion, he
was a talented man who possessed the gifts of
leadership and vision that enabled him to maxi-
mize the potential of others. As an archdioecesan
employee observed, “No one was more alive than
Father Roberto” which makes his sudden demise
all the more difficult.

On Friday, May 10 at 10 a.m. there the body
was received at Sacred Heart Church, 2706 S.
Shartel Avenue, Oklahoma City, with public visi-
tion throughout the day. A vigil service
was held in Sacred Heart school gymnasium followed by
a vigil in the church throughout the night.
The Mass of Christian Burial was at the
Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 3214 N.
Lake, Oklahoma City, May 11 with the com-
mittal followed at Resurrection Cemetery, 7801
N.W. Expressway, Oklahoma City.

Donations may be made to the Father
Roberto Quant Sacred Heart School Scholarship
Fund in care of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, P.O.
Box 32180, Oklahoma City, OK, 73123.
FORTNIGHT FOR FREEDOM TO HIGHLIGHT ON-GOING CHALLENGES TO RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

The secular threat to religious liber-
ty — and the corresponding need to defend that freedom — continues unabated, U.S. church leaders stressed this month. Accordingly, preparations for the second national Fortnight for Freedom — slated for June 21 to July 4, 2013 — include plans for national and local efforts to educate Americans about the priority and importance of religious liberty.

“The need for prayer, education and action in defense of religious liberty has never been greater,” said Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore, who chairs the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty.

“The Fortnight for Freedom exists to meet that need,” Lori continued.

The Fortnight for Freedom will coincide with relevant decisions from both the Supreme Court and the administration.

In March, the Supreme Court heard oral arguments in two cases that per-
tain to the legal definition of marriage — to determine the constitution-
ality of the federal Defense of Marriage Act and the other to deter-
mine the constitutionality of California state Proposition 8. Both laws define marriage as between one man and one woman.

In deciding these cases, the nine Supreme Court justices will ultimate-
ly decide whether any statute that defines marriage as between one man and one woman is constitutional and at what level (the state level, the fed-
eral level or both). That decision is expected in June.

Also around June, the administra-
tion will unveil the final shape of a rule that jeopardizes religious liberty

for employers. In January 2012, as a part of the implementation of the health care reform law passed in 2010, the Department of Health and Human Services issued an mandate to employ-
ers to provide their employees with health insurance plans that cover contra-
ception and abortifacients — regardless of whether those employers con-
sider contraception and abortion to be morally wrong.

The so-called “contraception man-
date” includes a narrow exception for employers who operate explicitly reli-
gious enterprises (e.g., churches), but offers no relief to religious employers who operate in the secular space (e.g., hospitals, schools, adoption agencies, etc.).

The HHS mandate created such an uproar that the administration subse-
quently issued a narrow “accommoda-
tion” to religious employers.

Under the “accommodation,” insurance companies — not employers — would foot the bill for the objectionable “health care.”

Unfortunately, because many reli-
gious employers are self-insured — and because insurance companies would pass along their increased costs in the form of higher premiums — the

accommodation” still did not provide the relief religious employers seek, which is nothing more nor less than the freedom not to act in violation of their conscience.

Regardless of the final shape of the rule, the mandate is scheduled to take effect August 1, 2013.

The timing of the Fortnight for Freedom, then, is fortuitous.

Archbishop Lori cited yet a third reason why the success of the Fortnight is so crucial.

A second Fortnight, he said, is essential to perpetuating a new move-
ment and to highlighting the full range of ongoing religious freedom issues, including immigration, adoption and disaster relief.

Last year, the first Fortnight for Freedom — which spanned the same two weeks of the summer — garnered the participation of 80 percent of U.S. Catholic dioceses.

Catholics across the country hosted rallies, interfaith prayer services, special Masses, televised town hall meet-
ings, conferences and other public events to promote religious freedom and to highlight specific threats to religious liberty.

In the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, Archbishop Paul Coakley cele-
brated Mass at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help on the first day of the Fortnight - the feast day of Saints Thomas More and John Fisher, two martyrs for the faith and witness-
es to the importance of religious free-
dom.

The Fellowship of Saint Peter — an organization based in Edmonton, Alberta, hosted an ecumenical rally for reli-
gious freedom that drew attendees from across the denominational spec-
trum.

This year, the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City again plans an open-
ing Mass at 7:00 p.m. Friday, June 21, at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

IF YOU GO

Mass to open the Fortnight for Freedom

When: 7:00 p.m., Friday, June 21

Where: Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 3214 N. Lake Ave., Oklahoma City 73118

Why: To pray for a renewed appreciation for life, marriage and reli-
gious liberty

Calendar

MAY

19 Pentecost

19 The Secular Franciscan Order of St. Francis Fraternity meets at 1:15 pm at St. Anthony’s Hospital Chapel. For more information call Jim Dishow at 830-8688.

22 Rother Guild Mass 6 p.m. at St Francis parish, Enid. This Mass is a time to come together and pray for the Cause of Canonization for Fr. Rother. All are welcome you do not have to be a Guild Member to attend.

24-25 Rachel’s Vineyard Retreat. Help for those healing from an abortion. Contact the team at the confidential phone line or email. We are happy to answer questions and to arrange one-on-one visits for those who are seeking a confidential meeting prior to deciding about coming to a retreat. Phone (405) 623-3844, or email rachelsvineyardbke@gmail.com. Additional information about this ministry can be found on the website: rachelsvineyard.org.

25 Catholic Singles Dance. Meet and greet 7-8 p.m. Music will be from 8 - 11 p.m. May 25th at St. Charles Borromeo Church. Snacks will be welcome. For more information call Al Frejo: 631-0763.

27 Memorial Day Mass at 7:00 a.m. at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church. Snacks will be welcome. For more information contact Toni Harrelson, lmcoklahoma@gmail.com. Additional information can be found on the website: rachelsvineyard.org.

28 Memorial Day Mass at 7:00 a.m. at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church. Snacks will be welcome. For more information contact Toni Harrelson, lmcoklahoma@gmail.com. Additional information can be found on the website: rachelsvineyard.org.

June

1 The Lay Missionaries of Charity, the Secular (Lay) Order of Blessed Teresa of Calcutta, at St. John the Baptist Catholic Parish, Edmond, OK on the 1st and 2nd Saturday of each month beginning with Holy Mass at 7:30 am in the Chapel. For more information contact Sr. Harrelson, lmcoklahoma@gmail.com.

2 Corpus Christi Sunday

Job Box

Part-time Spanish teacher Bishop John Carroll has a part-time Spanish teaching position open for the 2013-2014 School Year. Please contact Connie Diotte at 405-525-0956 or cdiotte@bjcs.org. Resume can also be mailed to Bishop John Carroll or cdiotte@bjcs.org. Resume can also be mailed to Bishop John Carroll, 1100 NW 32 OK, OK 73118. Time Phys. Ed. teacher. Please send a full time Pre-K3 Teacher and ½ a time Phys. Ed. teacher. Please send resume to Shannon Statton, 320 S. Evans, El Reno, Oklahoma 73036 or fax to (405)-262-3818.

Teaching Positions St. James the Greater Catholic School is accepting applications for a full time Pre-K Teacher position. Beautiful campus and ded-
icated to the administration to respect religious liberty; ask for the inter-
cession of St. Thomas More, patron of religious liberty.

3. Read the USCCB statement Our First, Most Cherished Liberty, available at usccb.org.

4. Discuss the HHS mandate and impending marriage cases with family and friends.

5. Become a “fan” of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City on Facebook and share Fortnight-themed material.

FIVE WAYS TO OBSERVE THE FORTNIGHT

1. Attend opening Mass on Friday, June 21, at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

2. Pray for the nine Supreme Court justices and the federal administration.

3. Consider contraception and abortion to be morally wrong.

4. For those who are seeking a confidential meeting prior to deciding about coming to a retreat. Phone (405) 623-3844, or email rachelsvineyardbke@gmail.com. Additional information about this ministry can be found on the website: rachelsvineyard.org.

25 Catholic Singles Dance. Meet and greet 7-8 p.m. Music will be from 8 - 11 p.m. May 25th at St. Charles Borromeo Church. Snacks will be welcome. For more information call Al Frejo: 631-0763.

27 Memorial Day Mass at 7:00 a.m. Mass with Archbishop Coakley; 11 a.m. Mass with Archbishop Emeritus Beltran. All are welcome.

28 Memorial Day Mass at 7:00 a.m. at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church. Snacks will be welcome. For more information contact Toni Harrelson, lmcoklahoma@gmail.com. Additional information can be found on the website: rachelsvineyard.org.
Recibiendo a inmigrantes es lo que ha hecho grande a los Estados Unidos

Por primera vez en muchos años, la posibilidad de una reforma integral de nuestro sistema de inmigración está surgiendo en el horizonte. Nuestra política federal de inmigración ha sido lamentablemente inadecuada durante mucho tiempo. La seguridad fronteriza inadecuada combinada con un número insuficiente de visas disponibles para llenar los empleos requeridos por nuestra economía ha dado lugar a una avalancha de personas indocumentadas que entran clandestinamente a los Estados Unidos.

Muchos de ellos ingresan al país a través de nuestra frontera sureña. Estos individuos y familias por lo general se encuentran en situación de necesidad escapando de la pobreza aplastante para buscar una vida mejor que la que había sido posible en su tierra natal. Tan desesperadas son las condiciones de sus países de origen que voluntariamente se exponen a grandes riesgos de cruzar un desierto inhóspito y colocando sus vidas en manos de traficantes sin escrúpulos que a menudo los abandonan a la primera señal de peligro.

La semana pasada en los canales de noticias escuché unos debates sobre el proyecto de investigación que estudiaba el impacto neto de la inmigración de personas indocumentadas, como cuando expiran sus visas. Los mismos preocuros más urgentes son las dimensiones morales de esta situación. Durante muchos años la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos ha estado abogando por una reforma integral de nuestro sistema de inmigración. El tipo de reforma que los obispos católicos están buscando reconoce el derecho soberano de una nación de proteger sus fronteras. Fronderas seguras sirve un propósito necesario, incluyendo la habilidad de mantener afuera a los criminales y todos aquellos que pueden ser un legítimo peligro a la seguridad. Necesitamos una frontera de seguridad aquí. Necesitamos un plan que ayudará a mantener unidas a las familias (madres, padres y niños) y que hará que la unificación de la familia sea uno de los pilares de la reforma migratoria. Tiene que haber una manera para que los indocumentados obtengan un camino hacia la ciudadanía. Es necesario que en los Estados Unidos ajusten su estatus para obtener la residencia legal y crear un camino que eventualmente llegue a la ciudadanía. Es necesario que haya medios adecuados para que los migrantes entren, vivan y trabajen en los Estados Unidos. La movilidad actual no es suficiente, en la actualidad hay muy pocas visas disponibles para ocupar los puestos de trabajo que se requieren para una estabilidad. Proveer un número suficiente de visas no quita trabajos, pero proveer un acceso a muchos trabajos que de otra manera quedarían sin empleados. Esto es particularmente cierto en la agricultura y en industrias de servicios. Esta escasez de trabajadores alimenta la inmigración ilegal. Además de estas medidas inmediatas nuestra nación, una superpotencia económica, debe dirigir el camino hacia el tratar las causas fundamentales de la migración, tales como el subdesarrollo y la pobreza en los países de origen, y ayudar a fomentar soluciones a largo plazo en esos lugares.

Recibo por eso que los líderes y los ciudadanos de nuestra gran nación aprovechen esta oportunidad para poner remedios a una situación deplorable. No olvidemos que nuestra alma nacional se ha ido forjando a lo largo de la historia por su disposición a ofrecer hospitalidad a los oprimidos y la oportunidad para aquellos que deseen trabajar en apoyo de sus familias y por un futuro más radiante.

Lánzate a lo más Profundo
Luque 5:4

Dentro del tema que hemos venido abordando desde hace ya algunas semanas, sobre el primer mandamiento “Y amarás a tu prójimo como a ti mismo.” Hay un aspecto muy delicado. LA INFALIBILIDAD DEL PAPA. Digo delicado, porque este dogma ha sido mal interpretado y por tal motivo se dicen y se han dicho todo tipo de despropósitos e imprescripciones; de manera particular los hermanos no católicos. Trataré de explicar entonces que significa que el Papa es infalible. Infalible, significa que no comete error; sin falla; que no se equivoca. Ahora bien, dentro de un contexto eclesial, la infalibilidad significa que Cristo guía a la Iglesia a través de cuánto. El Espíritu Santo es el que nos guía en comunión con él, define de forma definitiva un punto doctrinal sobre la fe o la moral, el Espíritu Santo Los lleva al conocimiento de la verdad, para que no se cometa error. La infalibilidad papal no consiste en que el papa cometa pecados o se equivoque. Así pues, que la infalibilidad vista desde una óptica más académica y más formal, consiste en que bajo una condición llamada ex cathedra, el papa no se equivoca sobre doctrina y moral. El Papa no diría algo en contra de la misma enseñanza de Cristo, por eso es infalible. Como vicario de Cristo; como cabeza visible de Cristo aquí en la tierra. Claro ejemplo de la infalibilidad papal la observamos en Hechos 16, 4, es decir el Papa no diría algo falso o inmoral. Esto es así ya que Cristo, fue sentado en el trono de gloria, hay que pedirle a Pedro dándole autoridad de atar y desatar le da también la garantía de que las decisiones que tome sean justas. El dogma de la infalibilidad papal no enseña ni afirma que un papa en particular con o sin concilio sea santificado, amable, prudente, sabio, etc. Sin duda son cualidades excelentes, pero que no son básicas. Lo que sí es importante en la Iglesia es que su enseñanza esté protegida por error. Esto es lo que vale y cuenta. No se confía en el Papa si no en Jesús quien lo nombró de manera encarnal. Finalmente puedo afirmar, que profeamos obediencia al Papa, no porque debamos obedecer a un hombre o necesitamos de un hombre, sino porque al aceptar a Jesucristo, aceptamos también su voluntad, y el quejido que Pedro (el papa) fuera jefe de la Iglesia, como lo enseña claramente la Sagrada Escritura.

Por Padre Raúl Sánchez

Cortes enseñanzas de Apologetica Católica

Arzobispo Pablo S. Coakley

Archivo de la Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma City. El Padre Raúl Sánchez, original de Bogotá, Colombia inacreditado a esta Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma City es Pastor Asociado en la Parroquia San José en Indianápolis. El Padre Raúl Sánchez es abogado en Derecho y Ciencias Políticas en la Universidad de Zulia, Venezuela, y en la Universidad de la Gran Colombia, de su país. Y es Licenciado en Teología del Seminario Mayor de Tegucigalpa, Honduras.
Mantenerse al día sobre el Año de la Fe

¡No es tan fácil cuando hay tanto que está pasando!

Por Pedro A. Moreno, OP, MRE
Director del Ministerio Hispano

Muchas cosas han estado sucediendo durante este Año de la Fe. Tanto es así que un detalle, bastante importante, parece casi olvidado. En enero de este año, el entonces Papa Benedicto hizo un cierto cambio de una importante responsabilidad en el Vaticano.

En concreto, nuestro entonces Sante Padre transfirió la responsabilidad de la Catequesis en la Iglesia Católica de la Congregación para el Clero al Pontificio Consejo para la Promoción de la Nueva Evangelización, que está encabezado por el Arzobispo Rino Fisichella.

Este es un cambio importante en el enfoque y un nuevo énfasis en lo que se espera en la catequesis durante este Año de la Fe y más allá.

Arzobispo Rino Fisichella compartió algunas reflexiones sobre este cambio monumental en el nuevo énfasis en lo que se espera en la catequesis, para que esto suceda, es necesaria una formación que pondría en serio la nueva evangelización. Solo en esta unidad, en efecto, llega la fe y para ofrecerle a todas las dimensiones de la vida cristiana su adecuado espesor cultural.

Creer no equivale a adherir a fábulas o a mitos del pasado, sino a prestar el propio asentimiento a la verdad de la revelación que se actúa y completa en Jesucristo, el Hijo de Dios. Por esto el conocimiento de los contenidos de la fe es básico, necesario, y su redescubrimiento urgente para el proceso de la nueva evangelización.

La catequesis a todos los niveles y edades es un derecho esencial y no negociable de todos los católicos y Arzobispo Rino Fisichella indicó tanto el traslado de la transmisión de la fe y para ofrecerle a todas las dimensiones de la vida cristiana su adecuado espesor cultural. Creer no equivale a adherir a fábulas o a mitos del pasado, sino a prestar el propio asentimiento a la verdad de la revelación que se actúa y completa en Jesucristo, el Hijo de Dios. Por esto el conocimiento de los contenidos de la fe es básico, necesario, y su redescubrimiento urgente para el proceso de la nueva evangelización.

La catequesis a todos los niveles y edades es un derecho esencial y no negociable de todos los católicos y Arzobispo Rino Fisichella indicó tanto al hablar de la transferencia de todas las responsabilidades de la catequesis al Consejo Pontificio para la Promoción de la Nueva Evangelización.

La exigencia de transmitir la fe impulsa a hacer de la catequesis un momento privilegiado de la formación; así se evita incurrir en formas de desconocimiento que pondrían en seria crisis la misma fe. La publicación del Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica, del cual celebramos el vigésimo aniversario, es el signo más evidente de esta conciencia que sigue emergiendo en la vida de la comunidad cristiana. La catequesis no es un momento extraño ni marginal en la pastoral, al contrario, la exigencia de la formación permanente de los creyentes requiere ir más allá de una catequesis limitada únicamente a lo esencia de la recepción de los sacramentos de iniciación cristiana. Ser educado en la fe, en efecto, es un derecho que todo creyente debe redescubrir para construir su propia identidad y llegar a un conocimiento cada vez más profundo del misterio en el que creen. El Año de la Fe celebra muchos aniversarios. Celebramos el Concilio Vaticano II, el Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica y lo hacemos en el contexto de la Nueva Evangelización. Este año de celebración se centra en el Cristo vivo que se encuentra en el corazón del Concilio, del Catecismo y la Nueva Evangelización. Todos estamos llamados a compartir al Cristo vivo y comenzar a compartir respondiendo a nuestro llamado a la santidad. La santidad es la verdadera relevancia cuan- do se trata de compartir a Cristo con otros. Estas son las palabras finales del Presidente del Consejo Pontificio para la Nueva Evangelización, Su Excelencia Reverendísima el Arzobispo Rino Fisichella.

La Nueva Evangelización se enfrenta a escenarios hasta ahora desconocidos. Ella debe dialogar con un destinatario cada vez más inmerso en una cultura científica y tecnológica. Es por esto que la preparación de los cristianos debe ser adecuada. Por tanto, una de las prospectivas a la cual deberá dedi- carse la nueva evangelización será, necesariamente, hacer todos los esfuerzos posibles para que se com- prenda cuán necesaria es la catequesis para una vida de fe coherente. El analfabetismo religioso, que se cuenta entre las causas de la crisis de fe y es padecido por muchos cristianos, puede ser fácil- mente superado. Para que esto suceda, es preciso que la pastoral invierta en lo catequesis y en la instruc- ción cristiana. "Iluminar la mente y el corazón de los creyentes... es condición esencial para hacer de los cristianos testigos fieles y valientes del Resucitado.

Encuentro Matrimonial Mundial

Los padres que se aman tienen el doble que ofrecer.

Un regalo muy especial que solamente USTEDES les pueden dar...

El Encuentro Matrimonial Mundial

Cada niño merece crecer siendo amado...

¿Es un regalo sin precio?

Que sus hijos valoraran para siempre...

Que les darán un gran beneficio en sus vidas...

Que será un gran valor en los años venideros...

Un regalo muy especial que solamente USTEDES les pueden dar...

El regalo de su Amoroso Matrimonio.

Cada niño merece crecer siendo amado...

próximos fines de semana del 2013

Junio 7,8,9 Octubre 11,12,13

Por más de 40 años, el Encuentro Matrimonial ha estado ayudando a buenos matrimonios a volverse mejores matrimonios. Dése la oportunidad de vivir la experiencia de un Fin de Semana de Encuentro Matrimonial y descubra lo que más de 3 millones de Parejas, sus familias y Sacerdotes han experimentado—comunicación íntima, perdón y entrega.

Mantenerse al día sobre el Año de la Fe

Prediquen el Evangelio con valentía y con humildad

Por Catholic News Service

CIUDAD DEL VATICANO — Los cristianos deben rezar para adquirir gran valentía y gran humildad, al tiempo que responden al llamado de Jesús de compartir el Evangelio con el mundo, dijo el papa Francisco.

La predicación de la Buena Nueva debe hacerse con "humildad, servicio, caridad, humildad", dijo el papa el 25 de abril, durante la homilía de una Misa matutina celebrada en la Domus Sanctae Martae, lugar en donde vive.

Algunas personas respondieron: "Señor, debemos conquistar el mundo". Esa palabra de ‘conquistar’ no funciona correctamente’, dijo el papa. "Los cristianos no deben de ser como aquellos soldados que, tras ganar una batalla, saquen todo lo que está a la vista”.

Y admitiendo que la agresión no es parte del llamado misionero de Jesús, la valentía sí lo es, les dijo el papa a miembros del personal del secretariado del Sínodo de Obispos y quienes "hacían visitas a la Iglesia" que asistieron a la Misa.

"No tiene ningún sentido pensar en un cristiano cobarde", dijo. Parte de la valentía ‘le viene un corazón generoso y un espíritu impetuoso, que ofrece “siempre más” y que avanza “siempre adelante”. Al mismo tiempo, dijo el papa, con el reconocimiento de que uno "predica el Evangelio con ejemplo testimonial más que con palabras", un cristiano también debe tener humildad y debe estimar las cosas pequeñas.

"Cuando avanzamos hacia adelante con esta generosidad y con esta humildad, cuando las grandes empresas no nos intimidan; y cuan- do, por el contrario, aceptamos las pequeñas cosas" con "humildad y caridad cotidiana", dijo, Jesús está presente y confirma su palabra.
Mount Saint Mary class of 2013

Collin David Adney
Kansas City, Kansas
Community College

Gerardo Angeles, Jr.
UCO

Michael Paul Anthony
OU

Emily Jillainne Averyt
Salutatorian
OU

Holden Baker
Undecided

Kellie Elizabeth Burnett
The University of St. Mary, Kansas

Audrey Nicole Campbell
OU

Albert Cantu, III
East Central College

William Joseph Chappell
St. Gregory's University

Brian James Clark
Undecided

Brandon Elijah Columbus
OU

Kayla Nicole Cook
OSU

Daniela Dresden Cooper
OU

Makenzie Dean Corder
UCO

Victoria Rose Cudjo
Regis University

Tayler Paige Duclos
Alaska Pacific University

William Trevor Dumolt
OU

Michael Fang
Fisher College

Jose Dolores Flores, Jr.
OCCC

Joseph Michael Ramirez Garcia
Undecided

Joseph Alan Geffre
OCCC

Rachel Louise Gonshor
OSU

Michelle Elizabeth Griffin
UCO

Audrey Ann Grossen
Valedictorian
University of Southern California

Nicholas Alexander Hardwick-Hall
UCO

Emmanuel Hernandez
UCO

Raúl Herrera, Jr.
Undecided

Heidi Hilts
Maryland Institute of Arts

Mia Hogan-Davis
Notre Dame

Madison Katharine Hughes
UCO
Mount Saint Mary class of 2013

Mark Anthony Jeffrey, II
OU

Katelyn Nicole Jekel
UCO

Austin Daniel Huynh Johnson
OU

Miranda Rénée Johnson
OU

Alex Khouri
OCCC

Clayton Miguel Kinney
UC Berkeley

Michael F. Krug
UCO

Alexander R. Layne
OU

Brian Paul Lively
OU

Juliana Nicole Lopez
Mid Tennessee State

Scott Edward Luis
OU

Erica Ann Luttrell
OU

Jonathan Christopher Mance
Undecided

Logan Ryan Manley
Montana State University

Joseph Terry Marschik
OSU

Anthony E. Martell
Undecided

Jack Andrew Martin
ACM @ University of Central Oklahoma

Ana Karen Mascote
St. Gregory’s University

Nathan Thomas Mayfield
OSU

Ryan Michael McGoffin
St. Gregory’s University

Cheyenne Jordan Mendez
OSU-OKC

Mike Meng
University of Kansas

Jacob Meyer
OU

Jacob Luke Mollman
OU

David Joshua Monlux
Oklahoma Wesleyan

Margaret Anne Mulloy
Catholic University of America

Dylan Laurence Murray
OU

William Brennan Nash
OU

Kathryna Marie Niles
UCO

Bryce Eli Parr-O’Dell
Mid America Nazarene University
Mount Saint Mary class of 2013

Samantha Corinne Ola Rose State College
Hanna Elizabeth Parizek OU
Martin Francis Parizek Conception Seminary
Jose Luis Ramos OSU
Dominic Macario Reyna St. Gregory’s University
Murphy Wells Reynolds Undecided

Zachary Raines Reynolds Undecided
Mary Abagayle Isabella Rice Cameron University
Austin Joel Rodriguez OU
Woo Seok Ryu Undecided
Allison Maria Sarabia OU
Meredith Lee Shadid School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Brenden Craig Sisk US Army
Doug Paul Smith Undecided
Lauren Ashley Smith OU
Courtney Noel Strothers UCO
Michael R. Tasetano Hendrix College
Lance Joseph Thomas OCCC

Jacob Allen Trent OU
John Coleman Williamson Liberty University
Mark E. Wolf, Jr. OCCC
Patrick Allen Wright OU

continued from page 1

them to a relationship with Jesus Christ and teach them what it means to be church, Carter, DaNegri and Morton explained.

They know it works because they’ve each personally experienced its life-changing effects.

Years before DaNegri was the principal of Mount Saint Mary, she was herself a Catholic school student -- first at Sacred Heart in Oklahoma City and then at Mount Saint Mary itself. Because her father was a teacher and custodian at the Mount, she also spent her afternoons at the high school as a little girl.

“The sisters would take care of me while my dad cleaned the school,” DaNegri relates. “I got to help run the elevator with Sister Justina, and Sister Regina would let me help wash the dishes. I’d go into the dining hall and sit with all the sisters and have a meal with them, as well as sit on the organ while Sister Clement was playing the organ in the afternoon.”

While Carter didn’t attend Catholic schools as a child, she noticed a difference in her own son as soon as she sent him to Catholic school.

“My son was in kindergarten at Saint Mary’s (in Guthrie) and he just came home saying the most profound things,” Carter said. “I loved what he was bringing home.”

Morton, who converted to Catholicism as an adult in 1994, was reminded in a very particular way of the meaning of Catholic community.

“I lost my wife in December to breast cancer, and this class (of seniors) and last year’s class will always be near and dear to my heart because they embraced the struggle I was going through,” he said. “They loved my wife. The cards they sent her and the visits they made to her will always be really, really special to me.”

Pride and preparation

The vast majority of Catholic high school seniors in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City are college-bound -- and many have received scholarships to further their education. Their graduation, administrators said, is a source of both pride and encouragement.

“I’m really proud of the people we send out into the world,” Carter said. “I hear so many of the seniors talking about wanting to make a difference in the world, and that gives me hope.”

Congratulations graduates!
Blessings on you and your future endeavors!
Bishop McGuinness class of 2013

Amanda Kay Duvall
University of San Diego

Emily Elizabeth Eisen
OSU

Caitlin Elizabeth Farris
Oklahoma City University

Conner Clark Ferguson
UCO

Erin Avery Fitzpatrick
OU

Casey Brooke Fowler
UCO

Allison Sage Frey
St. Gregory University

Bradley Christensen Fritch
University of Kansas

Kevin Patrick Gaffney
OU

Rochelle Renee Garcia
William Woods University

Wesley Gene Garoutte
OU

Brent Joseph Gawey
University of Georgia

Bradly Ali Ghanabadi
OSU

Charles Parsa Gholami
OU

Anthony Grajeda
OSU-OKC

Jackson Patrick Gray
UCO

Jeffery Austin Green
OU

Matthew James Grover
OU

Riley Alexander Hale
Baylor University

William Gregory Harjo
OU

Audrey Catharine Harris
Oklahoma City University

Meaghan Christine Hatch
UCO

Patrick Joseph Hawkins
University of Alabama

Taylor Paige Hayes
Texas Christian University

Darby M.A. Heard
East Central University

Austin William Hopfer
OSU

Eric Andrew Hughes
OU

Evan Daniel Hymes
UCO

Ross Allen Jacobs
OU

Nicklaus Alan Jeffreys
The Citadel
Bishop McGuinness class of 2013

Rachel Marie Jester
OU

Ryan Patrick Jones
OU

Olivia Drew Karim
OSU

Kathryn Nicole Kearns
Valedictorian
OU

Cara Maureen Kelley
OU

Jeffrey James Frank Kelly
Southwestern Okla. State University

Samantha Patel
Kelly
Washington University in St. Louis

Sina Khosravani
Baylor University

Ian Campbell
Kippen
OSU

Elizabeth Clare Kornfeld
OU

Daniel Paul Krenger
OU

James Wade LaPorte
OU

Matthew Ward Leake
OU

Hayden Jane Lee
OSU

Catherine Elaine Lewis
OSU

Madeline Millonn Lilly
OU

Morgan Anne Liningier
UCO

Kennedy Rae-Marie Livingston
OSU

Luis Eduardo Lopez
Oklahoma Christian University

David Michael Love
OU

Elizabeth Anne Low
OU

Tyler Jackson Lucas
OU

Valarie Lee Lucero
UCO

Kaitlin Paulette Lutz
OU

Roberto Fernando Macias
UCO

Isabel Manzano
OU

Samuel Francis Marino
OU

Mary Elizabeth Mawdsley
OSU

Brianna Lynn McAuley
UCO

Allyson Brooke McFadden
OSU

Rachel Marie Jester
OU

Ryan Patrick Jones
OU

Olivia Drew Karim
OSU

Kathryn Nicole Kearns
Valedictorian
OU

Cara Maureen Kelley
OU

Jeffrey James Frank Kelly
Southwestern Okla. State University

Samantha Patel
Kelly
Washington University in St. Louis

Sina Khosravani
Baylor University

Ian Campbell
Kippen
OSU

Elizabeth Clare Kornfeld
OU

Daniel Paul Krenger
OU

James Wade LaPorte
OU

Matthew Ward Leake
OU

Hayden Jane Lee
OSU

Catherine Elaine Lewis
OSU

Madeline Millonn Lilly
OU

Morgan Anne Liningier
UCO

Kennedy Rae-Marie Livingston
OSU

Luis Eduardo Lopez
Oklahoma Christian University

David Michael Love
OU

Elizabeth Anne Low
OU

Tyler Jackson Lucas
OU

Valarie Lee Lucero
UCO

Kaitlin Paulette Lutz
OU

Roberto Fernando Macias
UCO

Isabel Manzano
OU

Samuel Francis Marino
OU

Mary Elizabeth Mawdsley
OSU

Brianna Lynn McAuley
UCO

Allyson Brooke McFadden
OSU
Bishop McGuinness class of 2013

Stephani Ann McKenna
UCO

Shelby Laine McMillin
OU

Amanda Maria Mendoza
OU

Michael Anthony Mlady
OU

Dylan Scott Mobley
Oklahoma City University

James Randall Moore
OU

Brandon Clarke
Moore-Morrow
Algonquin College

Alexandria Nicole Morgan
University of San Diego

Zayne Allen Mounger
Undecided

Sean Richard Mulchay
OU

Eliza Kristen Naseem
OU

Sydney Beth Newlin
OU

Johnny Pham Nguyen
UCO

Timothy Phi Nguyen
UCO

Jacqueline Amanda Nighbor
OU

Bridget Cathleen Novak
OU

Obi Chuma Nwokolo
OU

Anna Katarina O'Hare
OSU

Michaela Jean Parker
St. Anselm College

Baylee Breann Perkins
Creighton University

Addison Townsley Plank
OSU

Hope Lauren Powers
OU

Jessica Miladys Pozo
OU

Andrew Garrett Privett
Westminster College

Ryan Thomas Quick
UCO

Vijay Matthew Raj
OU

Carlee Reeser
OU

Matthew Dean Reid
Undecided

Kelsey Rose Ritz
OSU

Gregory James Roberts
OU
Bishop McGuinness class of 2013

Anna Lisa Romano
OU

Jacobo Michael Rosillo
OSU

Madison Ann Schick
Wake Forest University

Morgan Olivia Schick
Wake Forest University

Olivia Marie Schick
OU

Mallory Layne Schmidt
OU

Megan Elizabeth Schwarz
OSU

William Joseph Scimeca
St. Louis University

Cameron Thomas Sears
OSU

Olaoluwatoyosi Abayomi Shogbaminu
OCCC

Marc Alexander Skelton
OSU

Abigail Rose Smith
OU

Thomas Ransom Smith
OSU

Jillian Ann Smythe
Georgetown University

Hannah Christine Speziale
OSU

Jorden Taylor Stephens
OU

Hayden Cassidy Terlip
OU

Margaret Nneka Thompson
UCO

Sarah Elizabeth Tonseth
OU

Kelsey Ann Trivitt
OU

Terran Leigh Tryon-Hill
UCO

Katie Elizabeth Tubbs
OU

Delano Phillip Usiukiewicz
OU

Coleman Ford Van Sickle
UCO

Laurabelle Lynn Vaughan
Southern Methodist University

Sarah Elizabeth Vaughan
OU

Kathryn Dale Vaughn
OSU

Vivian Melissa Villar
OSU

Emily Nicole Voss
UCO

Eric Tyler Vullo
U.S. Marines
Archdiocese announces new app for schools

Oklahoma City (May 2013) — The Department of Catholic Education for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City announced the release of a new, archdiocese-wide mobile communications application from School Connect. The free mobile app is available for Apple and Android mobile devices and keeps the entire school community connected to the information they need in one convenient location on users' mobile devices.

The app enables smartphone and tablet users to keep track of important information and receive notices from the archdiocese, faculty and staff, all in real time via push and email messaging. The mobile app enhances student and community engagement by providing users with access to information like school activities, notes from teachers, athletic schedules and scores, lunch menus, and school calendars when and where they choose to view.

“The Catholic Schools of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City’s official mobile app empowers anyone in the community to stay connected with the information they want and need right on their mobile devices,” said Cris Carter, superintendent. “The release of this app for the schools of our archdiocese is an example of our commitment to provide our community members all of our schools’ information conveniently and easily, while making it more accessible than ever. We are excited about how our school’s app will lead to a stronger, more connected school community.”

The School Connect mobile app is a secure and flexible communication platform that allows the Catholic Schools of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City to easily manage, control and deliver content that enhances the school-to-community communications process. Features for the archdiocese’s official mobile app include:

- Push and email messaging from both the archdiocese and school site levels
- GPS mapping and navigation
- School calendars
- Tap screens for email and phone for school staffs
- Multiple language options, including Spanish
- Lunch menus, athletic information and much more.

The communication service was brought to the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City at no cost through a partnership between School Connect and Jostens, a leading provider of products, programs and services that help people tell their stories, celebrate important traditions and recognize achievement. School Connect and Jostens are providing app development and hosting services to the school district for free with no download charges for mobile users. The app is financially supported by school-friendly and approved sponsors.

"School Connect is excited to be working with the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City to help reach the archdiocese’s goals for effective and accessible communications throughout the entire school community," said Nick Migliorino, founder and president of School Connect and a former educator. "People are busier than ever and rely on their mobile devices to be connected to what matters most. School Connect allows schools and community members to stay connected through a free and robust mobile platform that will continue to evolve based on their needs."

The Catholic Schools of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City’s School Connect app is now available to download and use for free for Apple and Android users.

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The Bishop McGuinness Irish Forensic team sponsored a Speech Festival for 5th to 8th graders from feeder schools throughout the archdiocese. Hosted over two days, students competed in categories such as Standard Oratory, Original Oratory, Monologue, Poetry, Prose and Duet Acting. Fifth and sixth graders competed against each other on Friday, and then seventh and eighth graders competed on Saturday.

At right: Rosary 5th and 6th graders celebrate their Sweeps New victory at the Bishop McGuinness Speech Festival

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Emily Ann Watson
OSU

Sabrina Claire Waugh
Valedictorian
OSU

Jacob Paul Westhusin
OSU

Anna Isabella Williams
UCO

Brent Jeffrey Winters
UCO

Daniel Brady Wolf
OU

Alexandra Paige Wolfe
OU

Alexis Nicole Wolfe
OSU

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**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**

**Opportunity Scholarship Fund**

Help build a brighter future for students in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City by making Catholic schools education affordable. ...and receive an Oklahoma Tax Credit!

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**Donors Get Valuable Tax Credits**

- For every $2 that you donate to the Catholic Schools Opportunity Scholarship Fund, you will get up to a $1 state tax credit.
- You also get to deduct the charitable contribution on your federal and state taxes.
- It’s easy — the more you give, the more tax credit you receive and the more you can save on taxes!

Although contributions in all amounts are appreciated, the contribution limits allowed to received the maximum tax credit are:

- Individual taxpayers will be eligible for a tax credit on a maximum donation of $2,000.
- Married couples filing a joint tax return will be eligible for a tax credit on a maximum donation of $4,000.
- Legal business entities (including limited and general partnerships, corporations and limited liability companies) will be eligible for a tax credit on a maximum donation of $200,000.

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**Qualified Students Get Needed Scholarship Funds**

- Funds contributed to the Catholic Schools Opportunity Scholarship Fund in this calendar year will fund scholarships for students in Catholic schools across the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City during the following school year.
- Scholarships will be awarded solely on the basis of financial need (family household income and size of family) and requirements of the state law.

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**Support your Favorite Catholic School and Support Catholic Education**

- Up to 75% of your gift can be earmarked for scholarships at a specific Catholic school in the Archdiocese or you can split your gift among several schools.
- The remaining 25% of your gift will go into an undesignated fund that schools will share, which will make ALL of the Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese stronger.

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**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

- Established by the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, the Catholic Schools Opportunity Scholarship Fund, Inc. is a separate non-profit corporation under the leadership of Most Reverend Paul S. Coakley, Archbishop of Oklahoma City. The Corporation is a 501(c)(3) organization under the umbrella of the Catholic Church tax exemption. The Fund and its program is administered by the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma, Inc.
- Some parameters of the scholarship program are dictated by the requirements of the Oklahoma Equal Opportunity Education Scholarship Act, 68 Okla. Statutes Section 2357.206. Please refer to the Scholarship Act for specific information.
- The Catholic Schools Opportunity Scholarship Fund will attempt to honor requests from donors to designate funds to specific Catholic schools, but may deviate if necessary to remain true to the primary mission of the organization, which is to provide Catholic school scholarships to students most in need of financial assistance, or to meet certain statutory requirements.
- You should be aware that the Oklahoma legislature allocated a total of $3.5 million dollars in annual tax credits to the Scholarship Act. Therefore, if an abundance of people donate to scholarship granting organizations, the actual tax credit awarded to each individual contributor may decline from the maximum of 50% to some lesser percentage, but all contributors will receive the same percentage of tax credit.
- You should consult your personal financial or tax advisor for specific tax advice.

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**Here’s an example to demonstrate the effect of the tax credit for a married couple in the 35% federal tax bracket filing a joint tax return:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donation to:</th>
<th>Any 501(c)(3) Charity</th>
<th>Catholic Schools Opportunity Scholarship Fund</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Gift Amount:</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Deduction:</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Deduction:</td>
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<td>-220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OK State Income Tax Credit:</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>up to $-2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Net Cost to Donor:</td>
<td>$2,380</td>
<td>$380</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Consult your financial advisor for specific tax advice.

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**Catholic Schools Opportunity Scholarship Fund • PO Box 32180 • Oklahoma City, OK 73123 • (405) 721-4115 • bsemtner@archokc.org**
New areas at National Shrine provide additional space for prayer

By The Sooner Catholic Staff

The National Shrine of the Infant Jesus of Prague recently completed three outdoor areas that encourage visitors to spend time in reflection and prayer. Abbot Lawrence Stasyszen, OSB, St. Gregory’s Abbey and chairman of the Shrine Board, blessed all three areas Sunday, May 12.

The Stations of the Cross Garden on the north side of the church has been completely renovated, with new stations installed. A fountain depicting the 15th station (an empty tomb) is being custom-sculpted in Italy and should arrive in a few weeks.

The Queen Mother’s Memorial Garden houses statues of the Blessed Mother, and has a beautiful new table and fountain.

The Infant Jesus of Prague Playground is modeled on the Infant Jesus of Prague prayer chaplet. The playground is built in a circle with twelve smaller circles representing the beads of the chaplet—each bead for each stage of Christ’s Infancy and Childhood. Children are greeted at the entrance to the playground by a 4’ tall statue of the Infant Jesus of Prague, obtained from an old convent on the east coast that was being closed. The statue is more than 150 years old.

Father M. Price Oswalt, pastor of St. Wenceslaus Parish and shrine rector, and Rhonda Bartos, shrine director, invite everyone to visit the shrine.

“The busy world we live in doesn’t provide much in the way of places to relax, meditate and pray,” said Bartos. The Shrine staff said they hope that the new areas will offer pilgrims a space for these spiritual needs.

The National Shrine of the Infant Jesus of Prague

When: The shrine is open from sunup to sundown every day of the week. Outdoor areas are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The gift shop is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday and from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Sundays. Tours of the church and grounds are offered during gift shop hours.

Where: The shrine is located at 304 Jim Thorpe Boulevard, Prague, Okla., between I-40 and I-44 (Turner Turnpike). From I-40, take exit 200 north seven miles. From I-44, take Stroud exit south 18 miles.

Why: To relax, meditate and pray. More information is available at http://www.shrineofinfantjesus.com/ or by calling (405) 567-3080.

Mustang youth serve Center of Family Love residents

By Justin Karpilo

Youth from Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Mustang, Okla., spent part of their weekend serving and sharing a meal with the residents of the Center of Family Love in Okarche. Twenty members of Holy Spirit Catholic Church’s youth program traveled to Okarche Saturday, May 4, where they cooked and served lunch to 145 residents. When they arrived, the youth received a guided tour of the Center and had the opportunity to meet several of the facility’s residents.

After the tour, the youth grilled hot dogs and hamburgers and prepared a variety of side items and soft drinks. “The youth know that there’s a need to serve and wanted an opportunity to help others who couldn’t help themselves,” Holy Spirit youth coordinator Sam Moss said.

In addition to raising the money to purchase the food that was served, the youth raised an additional $500, which was presented to the Center along with a check for $923 from Mustang’s Knights of Columbus Council #8633 that was raised through their annual Tootsie Roll Drive.

“(It was) humbling to visit people with such love to give; many hugs were given,” one young volunteer said. The youth also said they were deeply touched by the visit and want to return to the Center very soon.

The Holy Spirit youth also visited several Catholic sites in the area, including the historic Holy Trinity Church in Okarche and the gravesite of Father Stanley Rother.

The Center of Family Love in Okarche was opened in 1981 by Joe Pierre, Harold Wittrock and the Oklahoma Knights of Columbus as a home for developmentally challenged adults. The Center is also home to the Loosen Geriatric Center for Adults with Developmental Disabilities.