SOONER CATHOLIC

June 10, 2012

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OKLAHOMA CITY — Archbishop Paul S. Coakley will celebrate Mass on June 22 as Catholics across the United States begin the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Fortnight for Freedom. The USCCB asks Catholics and others concerned about threats to religious freedom to become involved in a 14-day period of “prayer, education and action in support of religious freedom.” The Fortnight for Freedom will run from June 21 to July 4.

The opening Mass will be celebrated on the Feast Day of Saint Thomas More and Saint John Fisher, two great martyrs who faced political oppression. The Mass will be celebrated at 6 p.m. at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. The following day, on Saturday, June 23, Oklahoma Catholics will join with others at the Rally for Religious Freedom.

The Rally for Religious Freedom will be from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Cox Center in downtown Oklahoma City. Similar rallies are being held throughout the nation. There will be no admission charged, although a $10 donation at the entrance to the arena will be appreciated to help offset expenses.

In Oklahoma City, Archbishop Coakley will be one of several speakers at the rally. Also scheduled to address the audience are Oklahoma Attorney General Scott Pruitt, Rep. Rebecca Hamilton, D-Oklahoma City, Pastor Frank Cargill, Bill Federer, Christian historian, University of Oklahoma Professor Michael Scaperlanda, Dr. Teresa Collett of the University of Saint Thomas in St. Paul, Minn., and Catholic Apologist Steve Ray as well as others.

To learn more, visit www.Fortnight4Freedom.org.

Pope Could Be Traveling to U.S. for Visit

By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service

MILAN (CNS) — As Pope Benedict XVI closed the World Meeting of Families in Italy’s capital of finance and fashion, he opened the possibility of his heading to the United States when he named the Archdiocese of

continued on Page 3
Called and Sent

Luke 5:4

“Cast the peace of Christ upon the world.”

Peter’s Pence Collection Calls on U.S. Catholics to Help ‘Cast the Peace of Christ Upon the World’

WASHINGTON — Later this month, Catholics in the United States have the opportunity to help Pope Benedict XVI in his assistance to Catholics in all parts of the world including poor dioceses where many people depend on the Church for support, areas where the Church is persecuted and must serve discreetly, and nations that are overwhelmed with refugees or victims of war and natural disasters.

The Peter’s Pence Collection, which will be taken up the weekend of June 23-24 in most U.S. dioceses, provides assistance for all of these populations. The theme of the collection for 2012 is “Cast the peace of Christ upon the world.”

“Cast the peace of Christ upon the world.”

“Our participation in the Peter’s Pence Collection gives us an opportunity to extend a sign of peace to the Body of Christ around the world,” said Bishop Kevin J. Farrell of Dallas, chairman of the Committee on National Collections of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

The purpose of the Peter’s Pence Collection is to provide the Pope with the financial means to respond with emergency assistance to those who are suffering as a result of war, oppression, natural disaster and disease. This collection was started centuries ago to provide financial support for the Pope and has evolved to fund the Vatican’s charitable actions for those in need.

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In Changing Times, Faith Seen as Source of Strength for Fathers

By Daniel Linskey
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The image of the American family is changing and increasingly that means a family doesn’t include a father figure.

For example, in 1960, only 13 percent of children lived apart from their fathers, but that number increased to 27 percent according to a recent Pew study.

Expectations of the American father are changing, too. A Gallup poll found that 80 percent of teens believe making enough time to spend with children is “very difficult” or “somewhat difficult” for fathers. Another Pew study found that the percent of fathers living apart from their children visit less than once a month.

Brian Caulfield, editor of the Knights of Columbus initiative Fathers for Good, believes a man’s obligation to be a good father is a moral obligation.

“Marriage and parenthood is a calling, not something you can choose to create a stable family,” Caulfield said in a telephone interview with Catholic News Service.

The changes seen in fatherhood and the role of fathers in many ways are related to a cultural trend that says men are not needed in a family, he said.

“In vitro fertilization, abortion and divorce take the male actor out of the situation,” he explained. “All of these things sideline a father and make him feel he is not as needed. I believe the solution we are trying to propose through Fathers for Good is that men need to stay involved in the family.”

The Pew study showed that 57 percent of adults believe being a father today is harder than being a father 20 to 30 years ago. Only 9 percent believe it is easier.

Gregory Slayton, a Catholic who is a former U.S. ambassador to Bermuda and author of a new book titled “Be a Better Dad Today,” agrees that dads today face a lot of challenges their own fathers didn’t.

“I think we got to this point through a confluence of negative events. The media has changed, and the traditional bulwarks of society have less influence today,” he told CNS.

However, there is a way to combat such influences, said Slayton, and for him that is faith.

“Faith is an absolutely critical tool in being a good father. Not having a dad myself, I realized I needed to learn from many different fathers,” he said.

Pope Visit
continued from Page 1

Philadelphia the next venue of the world gathering.

“God willing,” he said, would attend in 2015 as he greeted Archbishop Charles J. Chaput of Philadelphia and “the Catholics of that great city,” saying he looked forward to meeting U.S. Catholics and other families from around the world.

The surprise announcement came as the 85-year-old Pope wrapped up the May 30-June 3 world meeting, which gathers every three years to celebrate and help families live out their Christian values.

About 1 million people from 153 countries braved dawn wake-up calls, shoulder-to-shoulder crowds and prolonged lines to spend sleeping kids to descend on Milan’s Bresso Park June 3 to take part in the event’s closing Mass.

In his homily, the Pope called for church unity, emphasized marriage as between a man and a woman, urged parents to keep the transcendent alive in a world that advances the high-tech over high ideals, and urged kids to respect and love their family.

Because the five-day meeting’s theme was how to balance work demands, family needs and religious celebration, the Pope upbraided economic theories that advocate that the best policies, markets and countries work ethics that push the most product and reap the most profit.

“The one-sided logic of sheer utility and maximum profit are not conducive to harmonious development, to the good of the family or to building of a more just world,” he said.

He told them to study and work hard, obey their parents, help others and be selfless “because egoism is the enemy of joy.”

At an evening vigil marked by testimonies from families all over the world and international music by well-known artists, the Pope shared the joys and struggles of the world’s families.

The Knights initiative, www.fathersforgood.org, provides information, advice, an interactive forum, a Q-and-A section and other resources to help the “seasoned dad,” new dad, dad-to-be or single guy who wants “to know more about fatherhood.”

“Faith and loyalty to that marriage is often the first step in building a strong family, according to Slayton and Caulfield.

The troubling statistics about fatherhood, however, come from fathers separated from their families. According to the National Fatherhood Initiative, the consequences of absent fathers are negative factors in poverty, maternal and infant health, crime, teen pregnancy, child abuse, drug abuse, childhood obesity, education and more.

Slayton has advice for the growing number of estranged fathers. Quoting Winston Churchill’s famous words during World War II, he said, “Never, never, never give up.”

We cannot say these words enough. As we enter a new era of fatherhood, we will face new challenges and obstacles, but we must continue to work towards building strong, loving families.”
Catholic students receiving Catholic Foundation Endowment Scholarships for the 2012-2013 school year include Taylor Allen (St. John the Baptist, Edmond — OSU); Gavin Anderson (St. Mary, Ardmore — Thomas More College); Tessa Brotzke (St. Joseph, Ada — OSU); Cecelia Bannister (St. John Nepomuk, Yukon — OU); Heather Bernet (St. Ann, Elgin — NEOUS); Jeff Biggerstaff (St. Mary, Medford — OSU); Olivia Bownal (St. Benedict, Shawnee — OU Health Sciences Center); Dylan Boyle (St. Theresa of Avila, Harrah — OU); Katelyn Bridges (Our Lady’s Cathedral — OU); Kaitlyn Tran (St. Andrew Dung-Lac — OU); Benjamin Brozowski (St. Theresa of Avila, Harrah — OU); Riley Buckley (St. Gregory the Great, Enid — OU); Michelle Bues (St. Mary, Medford — OSU); Humberta Cervantes (St. Joseph, Hennessey — SWOSU); Lorenzo Chauqueno (St. Joseph, Ada — OU); Pamela Colley (St. Benedict, Shawnee — UCO).

Also, Vince Dao (St. Mary, Ardmore — UCO); Julia Daviddoff (St. Eugene, OKC — St. Gregory’s University); Melissa Dominguez (St. Mary, Ardmore — UCO); Yesenia Estrada (St. Joseph, Buffalo — NWOSU); Francisco Franco (Sts. Peter and Paul, Kingfisher — OU); Matthew Fukula (St. Joseph, Hennessey — Northern Oklahoma College); Elizabeth Grim (Our Lady of Sorrows, Chandler — St. Gregory’s University); Mary Ann Grover (St. Andrew, Moore — undecided); Yesenia Hernandez (St. Mary, Clinton — SWOSU); McKenzie Housh (St. John Nepomuk, Yukon — SWOSU); Jerome Krug (St. Monica, Edmond — Conception Seminary College); Alyson Kuehn (Epiphany, OKC — OU); Justin Larres (St. Ann, Elgin — OU); Lauren Larres (St. Ann, Elgin — OU);UYtran Khai Le (St. Andrew Dung-Lac — SWOSU); Mariol Lopez (Holy Angels, OKC — OU); Tina Luong (St. Andrew Dung-Lac — SWOSU); Tori Marshall (St. Eugene, Weatherford — NEOUS); Adriana Mena (St. Catherine, Pauls Valley — OU); Pierina Melendez (St. Eugene, OKC — Oklahoma City Community College); Myles Melson (Our Lady of Sorrows, Chandler — St. Gregory’s University); Alejandro Morales (Good Shepherd, Boise City — OK Panhandle State University); Angela Nocetti (Sacred Heart, El Reno — OK Panhandle State University); Colin Murray (Christ the King, OKC — OU); Steven Nguyen (St. Francis of Assisi, OKC — OKC Wesleyan University); Steven Nguyen (St. Francis of Assisi, OKC — OU); Kevin Nolan (St. Damien of Molokai, OKC — Ave Maria University); Michael Nolan (St. Damien of Molokai, OKC — Ave Maria University); Gilda Palacios (Sts. Peter and Paul, Kingfisher — UCO); John Pham (St. Andrew Dung-Lac — OU); Andy Phamille (St. Andrew Dung-Lac — UCO); Erica Poe (St. Joseph, Ada — OU).

Also, Aschley Ramjack (Epiphany, OKC — OU); Toby Rives (St. Francis of Assisi, OKC — UCO); J. Michael Robichaux (Sts. Peter and Paul, Hobart — OU); Lorraine Serrano (St. Mary, Clinton — OU); Lillian Seay (St. Paul the Apostle, Del City — UCO); Marta Stangl (Sts. Peter and Paul, Kingfisher — OU); Jacob Stoncipher (St. Peter the Apostle, Guymon — OU); Justin Thrash (Epiphany, OKC — OU); Emmanuel Torres (St. Joseph, Norman — Gilda Palacios Science Center); Tom Tran (St. Andrew Dung-Lac — OU); Xuan-Nhi Tran (St. Andrew Dung-Lac — OU); Yvan Tran (St. Andrew Dung-Lac — OU); Shana Usiukiewicz (St. Eugene, OKC — OU); Monica Valois (St. Benedict, Shawnee — OU Health Sciences Center); Shelby Walker (St. John Nepomuk, Yukon — OU).

The following two students have received the Bob Little Pastoral Musician’s Scholarship for the 2012-2013 school year: Caughlin (St. Joseph, Tonkawa — Westminster Choir College) and Stephen Timperley (St. Benedict, Shawnee — East Central University). Receiving the new C.W. and Frances Anshansley Scholarships for the 2012-2013 school year are Seidy Marquez, (St. Mary, Clinton — SWOSU); Guadalupe Marquez (St. Mary, Clinton — UCO); and Abigail Ruiz (St. Mary, Clinton — OU).

Scholarship recipients for the 2012-2013 school year: Katherine’s House are Conner Brinkley (Sacred Heart, El Reno — OU); Troy Wilcox (St. Peter, Woodward — SWOSU); John and Paul, Kingfisher — OU); Mikaela Malatin (St. Gregory the Great, Enid — Northern Oklahoma College); and Cody Lee (St. Gregory the Great, Enid — SWOSU).

The winners of the Amelia P. Davis and Elizabeth H. Davis Lawrence Scholarship are Christina Hladik (St. Francis Xavier, Enid — OU); Blaine Hufnagel (Sacred Heart, El Reno — OU); Conner Hufnagel (Sacred Heart, El Reno — OU); Whitney Kyser (St. Francis Xavier, Enid — OU); and Patricia Hess (St. Francis Xavier, Enid — Southern Illinois University).

The winners of the Helen R. Hall Nursing Scholarship are Amy Ruiz (St. Mary, Clinton — SWOSU); Ruiz (St. Mary, Clinton — SWOSU); and Abigail Ruiz (St. Mary, Clinton — OU).
shortly after a correspondent sent me the link to this rather intertemporal comment, another interlocutor passed along an interview with the late Walker Percy, one of American Catholicism’s greatest 20th century literary talents. Percy was asked what would have most surprised another major Catholic literary figure, Flannery O’Connor, also a father. Percy said that, unlike O’Connor, she did not live to see: “I think probably the disunity, the near-sundering of the American Church. I think she would be horrified, and probably most of all by the nuns, by what happened to the Georgia nuns, to the Louisiana nuns, and I guess to most of the other religious. They completely fell apart. They were seduced, not by feminism — which the Pope approves of, in the sense of the right of women to be from the different Church — but by radical feminism. Many of the nuns I know were completely seduced by it, to the point of rebelling against any sort of discipline. They began to mix up the magisterium with macho, the Pope was Hemingway, but he thought that would horrify O’Connor more than anything.” There’s not a whole lot of “common ground” to be found between these two readings of the post-conciliar history of women’s religious life in these United States. Either Tom Fox is right in his general view of the situation, or Walker Percy is right in his. Yet while Percy would almost certainly have agreed that there are many holy and devoted women doing great service to Church and society within the LCWR orders, Fox seems unlikely to make any such concession about the bishops who have, over three decades, raised concern about the spiritual life of those orders. If inflexibility and intellectual bullying are at work here, they’re far more prevalent on the starboard side of the Barque of Peter than on the starboard side.

There is also a question of demographics to be considered, in assessing these two views. Ann Carey’s 1997 book, Sisters in Crisis, reported a hard fact, thoroughly supported by the data: Progressive orders of religious women do not generate new vocations. LCWR- affiliated sisters responded that their job was “not to grow but to be.” How one could “be” without new recruits was not explained — a reflection, perhaps, of the same cast of mind that led a recent LCWR annual assembly speaker to praise the “post-Christian” stance of some religious orders. In any case, there can be no denying that the “renewal” of women’s religious life led by the LCWR and its affiliated orders has clearly failed to attract new vocations. The LCWR orders are dying, while several religious orders that disaffiliated from the LCWR orders are thriving.

And this is the question that neither the LCWR nor its defenders, like Tom Fox, ever engage: If what you’ve been doing for about 40 years is so right, why do young women not find it attractive?

Walker Percy and Flannery O’Connor, however, would understand.

George Weigel is a Distinguished Senior Fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C. Weigel’s column is distributed by the Denver Catholic Register, the official newspaper of the Archdiocese of Denver. Phone: 303-715-3215.
Checkmate of the Catholic Church

We Must Resist the Anti-Conscience Mandate

By Robert Smedley

Reprinted from Ethics & Medics, June 2012

I remember when my dad taught me how to play checkers. As soon as I saw an opportunity to jump one of my daddy’s pieces, he would tell me, “Look before you leap.” Sure enough, I had taken the obvious move, my dad would have triple-jumped me. We then moved on to chess, where it is easy to look ahead two or three moves. My dad would sometimes make moves that made no sense to me at the time — only later would I learn that they were critical to his position in the game.

We are now in a game, for lack of a better word — a game between the government and the Catholic Church. The stakes are high, ranking less than our Catholic identity, the definition of religion itself, and the health of those dependent on the health insurance provided by those employers. This is clear on every level.

Many people are just now waking up to the fact that not only is there a battle taking place but that we are already in “check.” Have lost several pieces, and are now trying to decide our next move. The opposition has pieces in key positions and is preparing to put us into checkmate.

Much of the game has already been played at the state level, where strategies have been tested. The anti-conscience mandate imposed on all Americans, not only on the Catholic Church, has been successfully deployed in most states, including California, Massachusetts and New York.

Forcing Our Hand

For years, individual states have been on the offensive, attacking our religious liberties. Now they have the full power and support of the federal government. The contraception mandate, derived by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under the Obama administration, represents the final move of ensuring checkmates.

To recover the board and the current position of the game’s pieces:

The Pawns

State governments, particularly the Departments of Insurance. Many states mandate morally offensive “benefits” on health insurance plans. Twenty-eight states require measures that cover prescription drugs to include coverage of the full range of FDA-approved contraceptives and devices. If those states also require coverage for related outpatient services, Exemptions may be available but are limited to certain employers, and even those employers may not be able to find plans that exclude the offensive coverage. This has been very damaging to these dioceses, religious orders and institutions who were unable to afford the risk of self-funding.

Labor unions that demand morally offensive benefits as part of their work contracts.

Directors of Catholic institutions who opt to provide offensive benefits, though no mandate requires them to do so.

The Knights, Bishops and Bishops (pardon the irony)

The Royal Employment Opportunity Commission. The ROCOO filed a lawsuit against Belmont Abbey, and it was ruled that contraception coverage must be provided as a preventive benefit. The ROCOO has said that self-funding under the Employers Retirement Income Security Act does not protect against this mandate. And even a full repeal of the Affordable Care Act would not stop the ROCOO’s attempt to mandate contraception coverage for all employees.

State Supreme Courts. When Catholic Charities of Stateline lost their case to the American Civil Liberties Union’s “Reproductive Freedom Project” in the California Supreme Court, the court defined “religious employers” as entities for which each of the following is true:

(A) The inculcation of religious values is the purpose of the entity. (B) The entity primarily employs persons who share the religious tenets of the entity. (C) The entity serves primarily persons who share the religious tenets of the entity. (D) The entity is a nonprofit organization pursuant to internal revenue codes.

Almost the exact language being used by HHS today.

The Queen

The Department of Health and Human Services HHS has adopted the four criteria for religious exemptions. Even if the individual mandate of the Affordable Care Act were found unconstitutional, provisions of the law, such as the authority of the Secretary of Health and Human Services to mandate health insurance benefits and the rules that govern them, may still remain.

The King

President Obama has put the U.S. bishops in check and told them they have a year to comply or face the mandate. Of course, once we start to look at the cost of the board, we quickly start to wonder what moves are left.

But have we not been offered an “accommodation” by the president? The so-called compromise benefits plan provides contraception coverage for contraceptives, but it must be offered by an insurance company that will provide it for free. Clearly the insurance companies need to pay for this benefit, so the expense would in fact be passed on to their clients. The Church, in some other way. Whatever the case, the Church ultimately joins the conversation — the contraception coverage — or is perceived as paying for contraception. In addition, those organizations that self-fund are the insurance company. In large religious orders, dioceses, schools, etc., will not be offered any accommodation at all.

So what moves are left? The best defense is a strong, organized and unified offense. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has already responded with a clear “no.” We will not comply. We will not pay. We will not fund that which is contrary to Church teaching.

We have pieces on our own that, until now, we have been hesitant to utilize:

3 Support lawsuits that challenge the HHS mandate, for example, lawsuits filed against the government by the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty.

2 Introduce new lawsuits against the overreaching powers of government.

1 Support the right of conscience of all employers to not provide morally offensive benefits.

We Must Resist the Anti-Conscience Mandate
Catholic Relief Services—Update on the Mali Crisis

Unrest and uncertainty are continuing in the West African state of Mali, as rebel separatists have taken control of the northern desert region. Interim civilian power has been restored in the capital, Bamako, after last month’s military coup, but Mali’s political future is still unclear. Violence in the north continues and many thousands of people are still fleeing their homes to move further south or to cross the borders into neighboring countries. CRS remains committed to serve the people of Mali and to continue its relief and development work there.

Timothy Bishop, CRS country representative in Mali, has stayed at his post in Bamako throughout the crisis. He talked to us about the reopening of one of CRS’ offices and how CRS is leading the way in providing help for those displaced by the violence.

Two weeks ago CRS’ office in Mopti was temporarily closed. Why has it now reopened?

We closed the Mopti office due to a strong threat of rebel attack on the town. We temporarily closed the office — relocating staff, equipment and food to safe locations — one day after rebels took control of Mali’s northern regions. We were clear they could move further south, into Mopti region, at any moment. Since then, the Mali army has reinforced its positions in Mopti, and we feel more confident basting staff and resources there. Closing the office severely hampered our ability to deliver emergency assistance to the people in Mopti, what we call internally displaced people (IDPs), and other needy populations. Reopening the office is a relief to us all, even though the risk of attack is not entirely gone.

How would you describe the general situation in Mali now? How are people responding?

People in Mali are both frightened and anxious. Those in the north fear the rebels could continue south. In the event they do not, the Malian army will at some point try to recapture the northern regions, raising the possibility of a large-scale war unfolding in Bamako region, as the military junta transitions back to a civilian government.

How is it affecting the work of CRS? How are the staff?

Following the coup d’état (which destabilized Bamako) and the rebel advance (which destabilized the north), all CRS programs were halted for about 10 days. CRS programs are now back up and running nationwide, they cross international borders) in Niger, Burkina Faso, Mauritania, and central/southern Mali. Total estimates exceed 200,000 people.

What is CRS doing to help IDPs?

As soon as work began, CRS was appointed lead agency for IDP food assistance in Mopti, the largest transit site for IDPs moving from the northern regions further south. CRS is leading an inter-agency IDP assessment team in Mopti and has started food distributions. We are also looking to what non-food assistance is critical both for long-term development programs and for strengthening the Malian military, so it can fight back against the rebels in the north. We all hope for political progress now. It’s also imperative that all donor countries push for humanitarian access in the three northern regions, so aid can circulate freely there. Not only can we not get any significant resources into those areas, we’re unable to evaluate the extent of the humanitarian crisis there.

Divine Liturgy of the Byzantine Catholic Church

NORMAN — On Sunday, July 1 at 5:30 p.m. the Divine Liturgy (the Eucharist or Mass) of the Byzantine Catholic Church will be celebrated at St. Mark Catholic Church, 3839 NW Tecumseh Road (1-35 and Tecumseh Road exit). Everyone is invited to come and experience the diversity and richness of our Catholic Faith. By attending Divine Liturgy you fulfill your Sunday obligation and all Catholics who are properly prepared are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Rev. Phil Seeton of Holy Family. Lawton parish, will preside. People of any faith are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Rev. Phil Seeton of Holy Family, Lawton parish, will preside.

Vacation Bible School

OKLAHOMA CITY — St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, 1901 NW 18th, will host Vacation Bible School for children finishing PK4 to fourth grade. The theme of the school will be High Seas Expedition 2012. The dates for the school will be July 9-13. The school will be from 3:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Monday through Friday VBS will be from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Charismatic Healing Mass

OKLAHOMA CITY — St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, 1901 NW 18th, will host a Charismatic Healing Mass. The theme of the mass will be “Healing, Overcome and Celebrate.” To register, call (405) 752-3600. Registration deadline is June 15. A donation of $10 is suggested, for instance, cooking utensils, tents, blankets, sleeping mats and mosquito nets.

Have you come across any family’s story that stuck out for you?

Not so far amongst the IDPs, but yes, amongst some CRS staff I have. We have three staff whose families hail from both north and south. They have reported in some parts of the country receiving looks of hostility from normally warm, welcoming southerners. Clearly the rebels are both creating and exploiting a racial divide between the north and the south.

What are your hopes for the immediate future for Mali?

If Mali can return to a civilian government, its international assistance will be restored (many donors suspended help after the coup d’état). The assistance is critical both for long-term development programs and for strengthening the Malian military, so it can fight back against the rebels in the north. We all hope for political progress now. It’s also imperative that all donor countries push for humanitarian access in the three northern regions, so aid can circulate freely there. Not only can we not get any significant resources into those areas, we’re unable to evaluate the extent of the humanitarian crisis there.
Putting Puzzles of Hope, Love and Compassion Together Piece by Piece

By Ray Dyer
Sooner Catholic

GUYMON — It’s been almost a year since Julia Gonzales became the officer director for Catholic Charities here. In that time she’s learned that often the ministry requires a creative outlook, almost as if one is helping to put pieces to a puzzle together.

Take for instance the task with which Gonzales was recently presented. A Mexican woman who had recently been abandoned by her husband, leaving her with her two young children to raise, had room in her mobile home. Besides being left on her own with three youngsters, the woman is also pregnant.

Gonzales brought them together and the women agreed to move their families in together and split the rent and utilities. Both have found work and seem to be doing well, said Gonzales.

It’s helping people with the unexpected hurdles life throws at them that gives Gonzales great joy.

“I prayed and asked God to put me where He wanted me,” Gonzales said.

Mount St. Mary Readies for Summer Camps

OKLAHOMA CITY — Mount St. Mary will host several summer camps.

A cheer camp will be held June 13-15 with grades first through fifth meeting from 9 a.m. to noon and grades sixth through eighth meeting from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Camp director will be Jessica Stiles, MSM cheer coach for six years. The Rockets have been to state competition six consecutive years and are the Class 4A state champions. Rory Hamilton will direct a basketball camp for girls. The camp will be held June 18-20 for girls grades second through eighth. It will run from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Hamilton has coached the Rocket girls team for five years. The team this year qualified for the Class 4A state tournament for the first time in school history.

A softball camp will be held July 9-10 from 8 a.m. to noon. The camp will be directed by Daryl Reynolds, coach of the Rockets. The Rockets were crowned Class 3A state champs in 2010.

A volleyball camp will be held June 26-28. MSM volleyball coaches will direct the camp. The camp for grades second through fifth will be from 8 a.m. to noon, while grades sixth through ninth will meet from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

A robotics camp will be held June 12-15. Grades first through fourth will meet from 9 a.m. to noon, with grades fifth through ninth from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Camp director will be Magi Whitaker, who teaches robotics at MSM.

For more information about any of the summer camps, contact the school at (405) 631-8865.

Bishops’ Committee for Defense of Marriage Disappointed Over May 31 Federal DOMA Ruling

WASHINGTON — A federal appeals court decision May 31 to strike down part of the Defense of Marriage Act is “a matter of ‘grave injustice,’” said Bishop Salvatore Cordileone of Oakland, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Subcommittee for the Promotion and Defense of Marriage.

He voiced his disappointment following the May 31 decision of the federal appeals court in Boston to strike down a portion of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA).

“Marriage, the union of one man and one woman, is the cornerstone of society,” Bishop Cordileone said. “It is also the foundation of a just society, as it protects the most vulnerable segment of the population, children.

“Every child longs for and deserves a mother and a father, and marriage is the only institution that ensures that children grow up knowing and being known by their mother and father. The public good demands that this truth of marriage be respected in law and society, not rejected.”

On May 31, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, in Boston, upheld an earlier U.S. District Court decision claiming Section 3 of DOMA unconstitutional. Section 3 defines marriage for purposes of federal law as the union of one man and one woman.

Bishop Cordileone noted, “The federal appeals court in Boston did a grave injustice yesterday by striking down that part of the Defense of Marriage Act that reasonably recognizes the reality that marriage is the union of one man and one woman.

“DOMA is part of our nation’s long-established body of law rooted in the true meaning of marriage.”

Hopefully, this unjust ruling will be overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court, for the benefit of our nation’s children, and our nation as a whole.”

DOMA was approved by a broad, bi-partisan majority of Congress in 1996, and signed into law by President Bill Clinton. DOMA recognizes for purposes of federal law that marriage is the union of one man and one woman, and it also protects the rights of states to uphold this definition of marriage in the face of laws from other states that might be adverse to marriage.
Eucharistic Adoration Around the Archdiocese

Come to a place of Eucharistic Adoration to begin a relationship like no other you will ever have. Come as you are — this is how He loves you. Just try to be quiet and tune out the noise that is so pervasive in our lives. Don’t be upset if this takes a little time.

Keep your eyes on the Lord and let Him look at you.

Nothing but good will come of this because the Lord has been waiting for you, and you are there. Let Him lead you. Listen to Him and speak to Him in your heart. He is never outdone in generosity.

Following are the locations and intervals of exposition of adoration and the Blessed Sacrament around the Archdiocese. If your parish is not listed, needs updating, or if you have a question, feel free to contact Barbara M. Curcio, (405) 755-9163, or Barbara-Curcio@OUHSC.edu.

Perpetual Adoration, 24 hours a day/year-round
St. Monica Parish - 2001 N. Western, Edmond
St. Joseph Parish - 421 E. Acres Street, Norman
St. Andrew Parish - 800 NW 5th Street, Moore

Sunday 2:30 to 5 p.m.
Wednesday 6:30 to 10 p.m.
Friday 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
St. Francis Xavier Parish - 110 N. Madison Street, Enid

Sunday 6 to 7 p.m.
St. Joseph Parish - 403 Kate Boevers Avenue, Union City

Monday 7 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Christ the King Parish - 8005 Dorset Drive, Oklahoma City

Monday 6 to 7 p.m.
Immaculate Conception Parish - Highway 9 West, Seminole

Monday 12:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Holy Family Parish - 1010 N.W. 82nd Street, Shawnee

Wednesday 9 a.m. to noon
Sacred Heart Parish - 2314 Lake Avenue, Oklahoma City

Monday noon to 10 p.m.
Sacred Heart Parish - 208 S. Evans Avenue, El Reno

Second Monday 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Holy Hour of Adoration for vocations
St. Katherine Retirement Center - El Reno

Wednesday 6:45 to 8:15 p.m.
First Friday 11 a.m. to noon
First Saturday 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.
St. Benedict Parish - 632 N. Kickapoo Avenue, Shawnee

Wednesday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.
St. Charles Borromeo Parish - 5024 N. Grove Avenue, Oklahoma City

Wednesday 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
St. Damien Parish - 8455 NW 234th Street, Edmond

Wednesday 7 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
First Friday 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. Saturday
St. Eugene Parish - 2400 W. Hefner Road, Oklahoma City

Wednesday 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
St. Francis of Assisi Parish - 610 W. 9th Street, Newkirk

Wednesday 5 to 7 p.m.
St. Francis Xavier Parish - 700 E. Oklahoma Avenue, Highway 7, Sulphur

Wednesday 6 p.m.
St. Mary Parish - 125 E. Street, Ardmore

Wednesday 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
St. Mary’s Parish - 797 E. Ponca Avenue, Ponca City

Wednesday 5 to 6 p.m.
Friday 9 to 10 a.m.
St. Rose of Lima Parish - 421 N. 9th Street, Perry

Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Daily M, T, W, F 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.
Epiphany of the Lord Parish - 7336 W. Britton Road, Oklahoma City

Thursday 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Sacred Heart Parish - 627 12th Street, Alva

Thursday 5 to 9:30 p.m.
St. Gregory’s Monastery - 1900 W. MacArthur, Shawnee

Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
St. James the Greater Parish - 4201 S. McKinley, Oklahoma City

Thursday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
St. Philip Neri Parish - 1107 Felix Place, Midwest City

Fourth Thursday 7 to 8 p.m.
Divine Mercy Adoration
St. Joseph’s Old Cathedral - 307 NW 4th Street, Oklahoma City

Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Prince of Peace Parish - 1500 Falcon Road, Altus

Friday 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
St. Peter Parish - 1220 N. Quinn Street, Guymon

Friday 6 to 7 p.m.
Holy Cross Parish - 14 W. Francis, Madill

Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
St. John the Baptist Parish - 900 S. Littler, Edmond

Third Friday 5 p.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday
First Friday 6 to 7 p.m.
St. Joseph Parish - 1300 E. Beverly, Ada

First Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Holy Name of Jesus Parish - 210 S. 7th Street, Chickasha

First Friday 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Holy Angels Parish - 317 N. Blackwelder Avenue, Oklahoma City

First Friday 9 a.m. to noon
St. Mark the Evangelist - 3939 W. Tecumseh Road, Norman

First Friday 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Sts. Peter and Paul Parish - 309 S. Main Street, Kingfisher

First Friday 6 to 7 p.m.
St. Teresa of Avila Parish - 1576 N. Tim Holt Drive, Harrah

First Friday 7:30 p.m.
St. Ann Parish - 8492 State Highway 17, Elgin

First Friday 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.
St. Vincent De Paul Parish - 123 S. 9th Street, McLoud

Saturday 6 a.m. to Sunday 9 p.m.
Sacred Heart Parish - 2706 S. Shartel Avenue, Oklahoma City

Third Sunday of the Month 7 p.m.
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish - 220 N. “A” Street, Sterling

Pope Says Sundays Should Be A Day of Rest and a Time Spent with Families, God

By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The demands of work can’t bully people out of needed time off, Pope Benedict XVI said.

Sunday must be a day of rest for everyone, so people can be free to be with their families and with God, the Pope said.

"By defending Sunday, one defends human freedom," he said during his weekly general audience in St. Peter’s Square June 6.

In his catechesis, the Pope told an estimated 15,000 pilgrims and visitors about his trip June 1-3 to Milan for the seventh World Meeting of Families.

He thanked everyone who made the “unforgettable and wonderful event” possible and praised the willingness he witnessed of people striving to live a “Gospel of the family.”

“Humanity has no future without the family,” he said. Young people need to be born and raised in “that community of life and love that God himself wanted,” that is, a family based on marriage between a man and woman, he said.

He reminded young people that they, too, have a responsibility to contribute to the well-being of the family, such as by saying “yes” to God’s will, working hard in their studies, being generous to others, being active in the community and using their talents to better the world.

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Executive Director

Catholic Charities of OKC is accepting applications for position of Executive Director. Qualifications include a bachelor’s degree in social service or leadership experience or a master’s degree in Social Work or related field. Ideal candidate will also have three to five years of senior management level experience in program oversight, finance, fund development or planning. Must be a practicing Catholic and support Catholic moral and social teachings. Strong interpersonal and communication skills are necessary. Interested individuals must present a resume to info@ccokc.org for confidential screening by a search committee of the board of directors. Resumes should be submitted by June 29, 2012.

Special Education Teacher

Good Shepherd Catholic School at Mercy in Oklahoma City is seeking a full-time teacher to teach children ages 3-9 with autistic spectrum disorders in an 11-month school-year program beginning in August 2012. The teacher must hold a standard Oklahoma Teaching Certificate in special education and either elementary education or early childhood education. Preference for a candidate who has completed training in Applied Behavior Analysis and experience teaching children with autism. Please submit Archdiocesan application along with a resume and copy of teaching certificate to Dr. Donna Kearns, Good Shepherd Catholic School at Mercy, 13404 N. Meridian Avenue, Oklahoma City, Okla. 73120. The application form may be found at archoke.org.

High School Openings

Mount St. Mary Catholic High School has teaching openings for the 2012-13 school year in the following areas: Ninth-grade Religion, 10th-grade Science, 11th-grade History, social studies, with possible coaching opportunities in football, track and cross country. Fax letter of application, résumé and certification to Talita DeNegri at (405) 631-9209 or email tdenegri@mountstmary.org.

Junior High Science Teacher

All Saints Catholic School in Norman is looking for a teacher for the position of junior high science teacher. In addition to classroom instruction, the teacher is also responsible for co-chairing the school science fair and coordinating student paperwork for district, regional and state science fairs. All applicants must hold current Oklahoma teacher certification. Mail or fax resumes to Sheila Whalen-Guthrie, Principal, All Saints Catholic School, 4001 36th Avenue, NW, Norman, Okla. 73072, fax (405) 447-7227.

Certified Elementary Teachers

St. James the Greater Catholic School is seeking a full-time elementary teacher for the 2012-2013 school year as well as two part-time teachers for Art and Music. Faith-filled applicants must be committed to high standards of academic excellence in a strong Catholic environment. Please submit Archdiocesan application along with a copy of teaching certificate to Ann Coddington, 1224 S.W. 41st, Oklahoma City, Okla. 73109.

Full-Time Kindergarten

St. Mary’s Catholic School in Lawton is seeking persons of faith wanting a challenging career in Catholic education. The school will have the following opening for next year: kindergarten/full-time. Degree and certification are preferred for teaching positions. All applicants please submit resume and copy of application, in addition, for teaching positions, submit transcripts to Paolo J. Dulcymara, 611 SW ‘A’ Avenue, Lawton, Okla. 73501. Phone (580) 355-5288 to schedule an interview.

Middle School Opening

St. Mary Catholic School in Guthrie is accepting applications for teaching positions for the 2012-2013 school year. Applicants must hold a current Oklahoma Teaching Certificate in middle school subject specific certification areas of science and math. Interested individuals should submit a resume by Friday by boarding@guthria.com for confidential screening by a search committee of the board of directors. Resumes should be submitted by July 21, 2012.

Sixth-Grade Teacher

Sacred Heart Catholic School in El Reno has a sixth-grade teaching position open for the 2012-2013 school year. Applicants must hold a current Oklahoma Teaching Certificate. Faith-filled applicants must also be committed to providing academic excellence in a Christian environment. Please send resumes to Principal Shon Stanton at 210 S. Evans, El Reno, Okla. 73036, or fax to (405) 262-3818.
By John Mulderig
Catholic News Service

NEW YORK (CNS) — "Viva Cristo Rey!" "Long live Christ the King!"

Such was the rallying cry of the Cristeros — devout Mexican Catholics driven into open, sometimes violent, opposition to their government during the 1920s by its policy of persecution against the church. This pious exclamation also serves as the stirring refrain of the powerful historical drama recounting those events, "For Greater Glory" (ARC Entertainment).

At the center of director Dean Wright’s sprawling epic stand two remarkable figures: retired but restless military hero Gen. Enrique Gorostiza (Andy Garcia), a religious skeptic who becomes the unlikely commander of those taking up arms in the name of faith, and Jose Luis Sanchez (impressive newcomer Mauricio Kuri), a saintly adolescent volunteer in Gorostiza’s forces who, decades later, was beatified for his role in the struggle.

As early scenes reveal, Jose’s fervent belief was kindled by his interaction with his wise and venerable parish priest, Father Christopher (Peter O’Toole). When this forbearing clergyman falls victim to the anti-clerical campaign unleashed by President Plutarco Calles (Ruben Blades), Jose witnesses his spiritual mentor’s cold-blooded execution and is radicalized.

Out to defy the government by peaceful means is another real-life character, also since beatified, Anacleto Gonzalez Flores (Eduardo Verastegui). A pacifist lawyer, Gonzalez is sometimes referred to as "the Mexican Gandhi."

A few passages of dialogue are devoted to debating whether violent means should ever be employed by Christians, and some viewers of faith may be unsettled by the sight of an early 20th-century crusade. But if the film can be taken as a cautionary tale about where excessively zealous, overwhelming secularism can lead a nation, the warning is a stark one.

The wide-ranging saga requires quite a bit of exposition, so that the proceedings, it must be said, get off to a slow start.

But once the initially varied story lines laid out in Michael Love’s script converge, their outcome packs an emotional wallop. In fact, moviegoers of a more sensitive disposition will be unlikely to escape without tears. It’s no spoiler to say that the phrase "heroic virtue" takes on a new depth of meaning when applied to Jose, who did not gain the honors of the altar by being a coward. The suffering to which Jose is subjected finds their occasional counterpart in the intensity of the battle scenes. But the fact-based, faith-inspired tale the movie tells is sufficiently valuable to justify a younger viewership than would normally be advisable for fare of this kind.

So despite the elements listed below, "For Greater Glory" is probably acceptable for mature adolescents — and may, indeed, do them a world of good.

The film contains considerable action violence with some gore, the torture of a child and at least one mildly vulgar term. The Catholic News Service classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.

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Bicycling Event Raises Funds for SGU’s Benedictine Hall

SHAWNEE — Approximately 150 bicyclists from four states participated in the St. Gregory’s University Memorial Day Road Race and Bicycle Tour on Monday. Proceeds from the USA Cycling-sanctioned event totaled more than $10,000, which will go toward the restoration of SGU’s earthquake-damaged Benedictine Hall.

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation was the event’s presenting sponsor.

The 49-mile road race was split into four categories. Taking top honors in Category 4 was Broken Arrow’s Michael McNeal. Jeff Frizzell from Springfield, Mo., finished first in Category 5, and Edmond’s Brian Smith won the Masters 40+ Category 4/5. Shawnee’s Gina Mackey Kraft finished second behind Oklahoma City’s Lisa Azhar in the Women’s Category 3/4.

The race and tour featured historic ties to SGU’s beginnings. Courses followed scenic roads from the SGU campus to Sacred Heart Mission in Konawa, where the Potawatomis offered Benedictine monks a permanent home in the 1870s. Those monks moved to Shawnee to continue their work of education and pastoral ministry in the early 1900s and established what are now St. Gregory’s Abbey and St. Gregory’s University. They began construction on Benedictine Hall in 1913.

The event was organized and promoted by SGU, Shawnee’s Pedalers Cycling Club and Oklahoma City’s PG-13 Cycling Club. Approximately 50 volunteers were spread throughout Potawatomi County to assist with different aspects of the event.

A group of bicyclists leaves the St. Gregory’s University campus Monday during the SGU Memorial Day Road Race and Bicycle Tour. Approximately 150 bicyclists participated in the event, which raised more than $10,000 for the restoration of earthquake-damaged Benedictine Hall. (Photo by Brother George Hulb, O.S.B.)