Three seminarians for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City were ordained to the Transitional Diaconate June 2 at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Oklahoma City. God willing, Alexander Kroll, Zachary Boazman and John Herrera will be ordained priests next year.

Two other seminarians, Jerome Krug and William Banowsky, will be ordained to the Transitional Diaconate this fall in Rome with Archbishop Coakley; Fr. Brian Buettner, vocations director; and a group of parishioners from across Oklahoma in attendance. On June 30, Deacon Vic Luong will be ordained to the priesthood at the cathedral. The ordination is open to the public.

During the diaconate ordination, the three men declared their willingness to fulfill various duties of a deacon, committed to celibacy and promised to respect and obey Archbishop Coakley and his successors. The candidates laid prostrate while friends, family, fellow parishioners and hundreds of others in attendance prayed the Litany of Saints and asked for God’s mercy and grace.

During his homily, Archbishop Coakley talked to the new deacons about how their lives must bear witness to the Gospel as they build an intimate friendship with Jesus.

“As an ordained minister of Jesus Christ, who came among his disciples as one who served, do the will of God from the heart: serve the people in love and joy as you would serve the Lord himself. That is your charge,” Archbishop Coakley said.

Saint Joseph: Role model, patron saint of fathers

By Eliana Tedrow
The Sooner Catholic

Fathers’ Day is a time to celebrate fatherhood and honor the irreplaceable role fathers play in their families and within communities.

Serving as an exemplary role model, the Church acknowledges Saint Joseph as the patron saint of fathers. As sons and daughters prepare to celebrate fatherhood on Sunday, June 17, recall the attributes that make Saint Joseph the ideal saint for fathers everywhere.

Saint Joseph was the husband of Mary and the foster father of Jesus. Through his obedience and dedication to the Holy Family, Saint Joseph led by example. He was selfless, a leader and a hard worker. These inspiring traits display the courage and humility Saint Joseph showed by his love and devotion to his family.

Perhaps these traits led Saint Teresa of Avila, as she was speaking of Saint Joseph, to advise, “If a person cannot find anyone to teach him how to pray, let him take this glorious saint for his guide, and he will not lose his way.”

It has been reported that it was Saint John Paul II’s father who inspired him to accept the vocation of the priesthood. He once said of his father, “Day after day, I was able to observe the austere way in which he lived. By profession he was a soldier and, after my mother’s death, his life became one of constant prayer. Sometimes I would wake up during the night and find my father on his knees, just as I would always see him kneeling in the parish church. We never spoke about a vocation to the priesthood, but his example was in a way my first seminary, a kind of domestic seminary.”

Saint John Paul II used the words “domestic seminary” to define the vocation of fatherhood. Saint Joseph is a model father, who chose to accept the vocation of fatherhood...continued on page 6
Put Out Into the Deep

Is State Question 788 a good idea?

On June 26, Oklahomans will go to the polls to vote on candidates and issues that will impact the quality of life for all of us here in the Sooner State. Among the ballot measures that we must address is State Question 788, which, if passed, will legalize medical marijuana for persons over 18 years of age. We are wise to study this carefully.

The Catholic Church has a rich history of concern for the well-being of the whole person and fostering a just society. Catholic institutions historically have advanced things such as education, health care and social services, which contribute to authentic human flourishing, especially as these affect the poor and most vulnerable. The bishops of the United States have long advocated for the expanded use of medical marijuana for persons over 18 years of age. We would support this if it is based on scientific research and is written so broadly as to allow for the treatment of chronic pain, opioid addiction and other medical conditions. We are opposed to the ballot measures that we must address is State Question 788.

Challenges could benefit greatly from access to medical marijuana. Further study is needed to determine its real benefits. But, there are serious problems with the ballot measures that we must address.

The bishops of the United States have long advocated for the expanded use of medical marijuana for persons over 18 years of age. We would support this if it is based on scientific research and is written so broadly as to allow for the treatment of chronic pain, opioid addiction and other medical conditions. We are opposed to the ballot measures that we must address is State Question 788.

In spite of amazing medical and pharmaceutical advances, many people live with chronic pain and serious medical conditions that have no apparent cures or satisfying treatments. It is in response to these real situations that a growing number of proponents have advocated for the expanded use of medical marijuana.

Proponents of SQ 788 argue that many who suffer from chronic pain, opioid addiction and other medical conditions could benefit from access to medical marijuana. Further study is needed to determine its real benefits. But, there are serious problems with the ballot measures that we must address. It is not only a matter of what the question includes, but what it does not include. Thirty states have approved medical marijuana. Every one of them has a list of qualifying ailments for which a prescription for medical marijuana can be written. There are none listed in the Oklahoma measure, which explicitly states, "There are no qualifying conditions." The bar is set unreasonably low as to what medical conditions would qualify someone for a medical marijuana license. There is no bar at all in all that is required is for an "Oklahoma Board Certified physician" to write a recommendation that states a medical condition warrants such a license. While it may not be the intent, this language is so broad that even a veterinarian could write the recommendation. This measure raises a whole host of other questions that must be seriously and thoughtfully addressed.

What about the risks to public safety posed by drivers impaired by marijuana on our roads? What about the impact of licensed marijuana users in the workplace? What about licensed marijuana users smoking in public places? Even though a person must be 18 to obtain a license for medical marijuana the amount that one could legally possess could easily be directed to younger consumers.

The number of unintended harmful consequences to this well-intentioned measure for outweigh the potential benefits. There is need for further study to determine the real benefits of medical marijuana as a means of alleviating pain and improving certain medical conditions. SQ 788 will not advance that body of knowledge. It is a bait and switch proposal. While proposed as a vote on medical marijuana, it is written so broadly as to be little more than a thinly veiled referendum on recreational marijuana.

The social, spiritual and human consequences of such a step would be devastating. I don’t think Oklahomans are ready to go there. Please consider this measure carefully.

Find more news on the website

By Sooner Catholic Staff

To send photos, event information or story ideas e-mail tips@archokc.org.

Disaster recovery

Catholic Charities is working to help families recover from the effects of natural disaster. To be a part of disaster recovery, please consider a gift to Catholic Charities long-term disaster recovery efforts. To make a donation, text the word “Response” to 41444. For additional information on receiving help or how to help, contact Gwen Johnson at (405) 200-8760 or gjohnson@ archokc.org.

Southwest Oklahoma parishes unite to offer weeklong camp

Three parishes in southwest Oklahoma will unite again this year with the help of Totus Tuus of Oklahoma to offer a weeklong summer camp with outdoor games and learning about the Catholic faith.

Saint Ann in Elgin, Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Sterling and Our Lady of Lourdes in Apache will host the summer event in July.

The goal of Totus Tuus is to provide youth with essential information about their Catholic faith, and to get students enthusiastic about learning and living the faith.

The program is very popular and is in its third year. There is no charge for the program as the parishes absorb the costs.

Carmen Santos-Heiten is the director of religious education at Saint Charles Borromeo in Oklahoma City. After a few years without Totus Tuus, the program returned last year.

By Jolene Schonchin

The Sooner Catholic

Totus Tuus summer program brings fun, faith to parishes

The Totus Tuus summer program brings fun, faith to parishes.

This summer is the third year the program has been offered in Oklahoma, and the number of parishes participating has expanded to two.

“Totus Tuus is all that students have been talking about,” said Deacon Tom March, the new coordinator of youth ministry, is anticipating a busy summer.

“The highlight of our summer is the visit from Totus Tuus. We will have about 35-40 high school students and about 65-70 younger students.”

Deacon Tom March is the new coordinator of youth ministry, and he is excited about the Totus Tuus program. “I am apprehensive about how well the students will respond to the program.”

There are 90-100 students enrolled in the program during the week of June 9-16. Also during the week of June 9-16, Totus Tuus will be sending a team to Saint John the Baptist in Edmond where Tom Fernandez, director of youth ministry, is anticipated to have 150 grade school and 75 high school students.

The Totus Tuus program engages the students in core Catholicism teaching, makes the faith fun and exciting, and gets even more excited about their faith,” he said.

Totus Tuus also will be visiting other parishes in the diocese this summer.

Charles Albert is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

Jolene Schonchin is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

Total cost: $5,050

To order, volunteer or learn more about Totus Tuus in southwest Oklahoma, contact Bishop Brian Miller at (509) 512-3302.

Fun games and activities that the Totus Tuus team play with the students:

“There is a day dedicated to outdoor sports, and the students get to vote which Totus Tuus team member they would like to make a human sundae. The kids put chocolate syrup, caramel and whipped cream on the team member, and top it off with a cherry,” she said.

Total cost: $1,070

To learn more, visit a parish website or visit www.dioceseofhaysouthok.org/totus-tuus.

How to become a Volunteer:

Volunteers that are Safe Envi- ronment Endorsed are welcome. Help with the day or evening camp is needed. For more information, please visit the program website.

Additional coverage of the program can be found on the Sooner Catholic website.
High court rules in favor of baker in landmark religious liberty case

By Carol Zimmermann

WASHINGTON — In a 7-2 decision June 4, the U.S. Supreme Court sided with a Colorado baker in a case that the discrimination laws up against freedom of speech and religious expression.

Justice Anthony M. Kennedy, writing for the majority, said Colorado’s Civil Rights Commission had violated the constitution’s protection of religious freedom in its ruling against baker, who had refused to make a wedding cake for the couple.

Kennedy noted the case had a long timeline, and said that the issue “must await further elaboration.”

Across the country, appeals pending, including another case at the U.S. Supreme Court from a florist who didn’t want to provide flowers for a wedding.

The chairman of the Freedom of Religion Foundation said that people of faith should not be discriminated on account of their deeply held religious beliefs, instead should be respected by government officials.

The ruling in Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Civil Rights Commission stems from the case argued at the Supreme Court last December over a transgender woman’s complaint.

The baker refused to make a cake for a wedding reception. The case has been dismissed.

The project was completed under budget, so the boys are donating the remaining $60 to the camp chapel.

In a thank you letter to Wells, the students, Heath Strahan, Father Phil Seeton, and Gabriel Volpe of Harrah, decided to make a cake for their wedding reception. Phillips, Jack Phillips, to make a cake for their wedding reception.

The project was completed under budget, so the boys are donating the remaining $60 to the camp chapel. The students, Heath Strahan, Father Phil Seeton, and Gabriel Volpe of Harrah, decided to make a cake for their wedding reception.

Meanwhile, the Colorado baker had been ordered to pay the couple $133,000 in damages and lost wages.

The baker contended that his religious beliefs entitled him to refuse to make the cake, and that he was not in violation of the law.

And her colleagues in the state’s legal community also praised the ruling.

The court opinion also noted that artists “deserve to have the ability of people to live out their deeply held religious beliefs.

In 1872, Nellie Taylor was born in Hominy Creek. Her life of service to the Church was exemplary.

For more information, go online to https://www.catholiccharitiesok.org.

The families are connected with English language councils, a Catholic Daughters of the Americas group, Catholic Men’s Conference, and a group’s reaction to the court’s final ruling.

From the Aspheres...

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From the Aspheres...

In 1872, Nellie Taylor was born in Hominy Creek. Her life of service to the Church was exemplary.
Recovering original and most authentic beauty

Christ in the Sacraments of healing

Each and every human being is true beauty from the moment of conception. We are beautiful simply because we are all the image and likeness of our loving and eternal God, and God isn’t ugly. God is the greatest beauty! While our spiritual DNA has left us with some blemishes wrinkles and imperfections, we are all loved back to an almost perfect state at baptism. Ephesians 5:25-27, reminds us that: “Christ loved the Church and handed himself over for her to sanctify her, cleansing her by the bath of water with the word, that he might present to himself the union of a body and soul, this is what we are incarnate love-incarnate beauty. We are all the image of God intended, with the new life of Christ, incarnate love-incarnate beauty. We are all the image and likeness of God, also known as sin. Only sin can muddy or totally destroy our original and most authentic beauty. Only our free and knowledgeable choice to reject God’s love and his laws, only sin, can transform us into the image and likeness of egum, hate and indifference. Only sin can weaken or destroy our intimate and loving relationship with Christ and bring us down a path of living dead weight within the Body of Christ, the Church. Sin is unholy and ugly, mortal sin is death. Sin makes ugly everything it touches. Sin ultimately brings sadness and breaks all relationships. Sin leads to loneliness.

But, we should not lose hope. Christ has left us with ways to heal our ugliness, sadness and loneliness. Jesus can help us recover our loving relationship with him. Jesus can bring us back to life and joy. Our merciful and loving Christ has gifted his church with the Sacraments of healing.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church, paragraph 1421, reminds us that Christ is the great surgeon who can make us beautiful again! Jesus can heal our ugliness! Jesus can recover our original and most authentic beauty!

“The Lord Jesus Christ, physician of our souls and bodies, who forgave the sins of the paresitic and restored him to health, has willed that his Church continue, in the power of the Holy Spirit, his work of healing and salvation, even among his own members. This is the purpose of the two sacraments of healing: the sacrament of Penance and the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick.”

At our weakest or most ugly moment of existence we can reach out to the great healer that can restore our health. Our best chance, apriective of our physical health, will always be to project onto the world our best and most beautiful image, that of being the image and likeness of a beautiful and loving God. Just like Jesus did, even while agonizing on the cross.

Thank you, Jesus, for these wonderful life-recovering sacraments of healing, paths of joy and community.

Thank you, Lord, for assuring us ways to recover your love and our original and most authentic beauty.

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Pilgrimages

Archdiocesan ordination Italy pilgrimage

Archdiocese of Oklahoma City invites you on a pilgrimage Sept. 21-29 to Italy with Fr. Brian Buettner for the diaconate ordinations of seminarians Jerome Krug and William Banowsky. Archbishop Joseph Naumann will join the pilgrimage for Sept. 21-29 to Italy with Fr. Brian Buettner for the diaconate ordinations of seminarians Jerome Krug and William Banowsky. Archbishop Naumann will join the pilgrimage for Sept. 21-29 to Italy with Fr. Brian Buettner for the diaconate ordinations of seminarians Jerome Krug and William Banowsky.

Philadelphia pilgrimage

Sixteen graduates from the Pastoral Ministry program through the St. Edward Stanley Bollner Institute received their diplomas during a ceremony at the Catholic Pastoral Center in Oklahoma City. For more information on the institute, go online to www.archokc.org/education. St. Joseph as an example of the ideal father in his future writings. In his 1989 apostolic exhortation, “Redemptoris Custos” (Guardian of the Redeemer: On the Person and Mission of Saint Joseph in the Life of Christ and the Church), Saint John Paul II referred to Saint Joseph to explain the Catholic definition of what it means to be a good father.

“Commending ourselves, then, to the protection of Saint Joseph to whose custody God entrusted his Church: husbands, members of the family, the members of the Church, to Saint Joseph as a perfect example of fatherhood.”


Pilgrimage to Italy, Sicily

Fr. Carl Janocha and Fr. Daniel Grever will lead a pilgrimage to Italy and Sicily, Nov. 5-16. Cost: $3,779 pp, including airfare from OKC, four-star hotels, most meals and transportation. Sites include Palermo, Agrigento, Siracusa, Taormina, Sorento, Pompeii and Rome. Traveling north to the Eternal City of Rome, stops at many examples of Ancient Greek and Roman Architecture at the remains of some temples, amphitheaters and villas. Opportunities to visit the famous ruins of Pompeii. $400 deposit is required. Contact Fr. Carl Janocha, (580) 395-2148, cj@carljanocha.com.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land


Continued from page 1

with reverence and humility. Saint John Paul II would eventually use Saint Joseph as an example of the ideal father in his future writings. In his 1989 apostolic exhortation, “Redemptoris Custos” (Guardian of the Redeemer: On the Person and Mission of Saint Joseph in the Life of Christ and the Church), Saint John Paul II referred to Saint Joseph to explain the Catholic definition of what it means to be a good father.

“Commending ourselves, then, to the protection of Saint Joseph to whose custody God entrusted his Church: husbands, members of the family, the members of the Church, to Saint Joseph as a perfect example of fatherhood.”

Prayer to Saint Joseph

Oh Saint Joseph, whose patronation is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God, I place in you all my interests and desires.

Oh Saint Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession and obtain for me from your divine son all spiritual blessings through Jesus Christ, our Lord, so that having engaged him below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of Fathers.

Oh Saint Joseph, I never waver in contemplating you and Jesus asleep in your arms. I do not approach, while he repose near your heart.

Press me in your name and kiss me for love for me, and ask him to return to the place where I draw my dying breath. Saint Joseph, pater of departing souls, pray for us. Amen.”

Eliana Tedrow is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.
“Looking to the future with hope”

By J.E. Helm
The Sooner Catholic

When Barbara Lee retired after what she described as a “rewarding career as a lawyer and a judge,” she found herself asking, “Who am I now?” The result of her search for an answer is a little book titled “God Isn’t Finished with Me Yet: Discerning the Spiritual Graces of Later Life.”

Her book is easy to read and easy to finish. Just 114 pages, it has something to offer the reader who is, like Lee, asking, “Who am I now?”

A highly successful professional in 1963, Lee is one of 16 women in a Harvard Law School class of 488. She never married or had children, so when she retired as a U.S. Magistrate Judge, she was acutely aware of having lost her identity, of becoming “empty.”

Many retirees as well as many empty-nesters and windows and widowers experience the same sort of thing, and Lee’s book can be a kind of road map for the journey to a new sense of self, one rooted in faith and Christian service.

In her early 40s, Lee had begun what became a life-long immersion in Ignatian spirituality; she completed the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius by enrolling in the eight-month long course, Retreat in Daily Life.

With retirement, she became a member of the Ignatian Lay Volunteer Corps and began work teaching “an intermediate-level English class for mostly Chinese immigrants.” After what she describes as “grace-filled years” teaching English and a long period of discernment, at the age of 80 (she) embarked on a new ministry as a spiritual director. As a result of this experience, she believes she has “come to a whole new way of looking at the Christian vocation of older adults.”

She says that her book “is for the aging,” for Catholics and other Christians who want to grow in a God-centered life by exploring the graces specific to the later stages of life.

What she is recommending is much more than exploring employment or volunteer opportunities. The plan she presents is a faith-centered and prayer-filled approach that seeks God’s will in the important later-life decisions.

She makes her book readable and interesting by presenting short sketches of people with whom the reader can identify. There is “Joe, CEO of a successful business,” whose well-planned retirement goes off-track when he discovers he has prostate cancer. There is the “single mother of an adoptive daughter,” a daughter whose career will take her to a job thousands of miles away.

Mathilda sells her large house and moves several states away to share a home with her son only to find that plans have not worked well, and she finds herself completely isolated from the life and friends she had known.

For everyone, in every circumstance, Lee recommends the Ignatian “examen,” an end of the day review. While classical “examen” is “an examination of conscience focused on sin,” Lee suggests what has been called “review prayer” or “examination of consciousness.” This involves gratitude for the day and “looking to the future with hope.”

At the end of each of her five chapters, Lee offers suggested Scripture readings. The end of Ch. 2, for example, explores Christ’s question to the apostles, “Who do you say that I am?” (Luke 18:1-5)

Then, Lee says, “turn the question around; ask Jesus, ‘Who do you say that I am?’”

Lee offers an Ignatian model for decision making seen in a needful discussion of downsizing. One very nice thing about her book is the idea of using “imaging” in praying with Scripture.

The reader is invited to go beyond the words of the scriptural passage at hand to seeing, to visualizing, the “situation as though we ourselves are there.” Lee writes:

“With whom do I identify: the forgiven sinner, the woman at the well, a skeptical smoker in the crown? How do I feel about what I have seen and heard? How do I feel about Jesus? What do I want to say to Jesus?”

In her final chapter, “God Isn’t Finished with Me Yet,” Lee notes that “inevitably, the time comes when we see that the road ahead of us is much shorter than the one we have already traveled.” While looking back is only natural, Lee believes, we should still be looking ahead and at a complete and final surrender to God’s will for our lives.

J.E. Helm is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

Jobs Box

**Teachers - OKC**
St. James Catholic School, OkC, is seeking a kindergarten teacher and a middle school science and religious teacher for the 2018-2019 school year. Applicants should hold at least a bachelor’s degree in education with state certification in desired teaching area. Send resume, cover letter and copy of teaching certificate to Alicia Vancup, principal/RE director, St. James Catholic School, 1224 W. 41, OKC 73109 or avancup@stjacsm.org. Download teacher application packet at bit.ly/archteacherapplication.

**RE/director - OKC**
Little Flower, OkC, is hiring a part-time religious education/director. Must be bilingual. Call Angela at (405) 235-2037.

**Fourth grade teacher**
St. Mary Catholic School, Punca City, is accepting applications for a fourth grade teacher for the 2018-2019 school year. A bachelor’s degree in education with state teaching certification in the desired teaching area required. Send resume and cover letter to Fr. Carson Krittenbrink, pastor, at fatherkrittenbrink@gmail.com or mail to St. Mary Catholic School, 408 S. Pemna City 74601. Download teacher application packet at bit.ly/archteacherapplication.

**HS teacher - OKC**
Crato Rey OKC Catholic High School is seeking a theology teacher. Must have at least two years full-time teaching experience. Spanish proficiency preferred. Must be practicing Catholic in good standing with a bachelor’s or master’s degree in theology, background in Catholic social teaching and U.S. Catholic bishop’s framework. Apply at www.cratoreyokc.org/careers.

**Counseling center director**
St. Joseph’s Counseling Center at Catholic Charities is seeking a director. The director is responsible for providing and overseeing counseling and psychotherapy to children, adults, couples and families in the context of Catholic tradition and teachings. The director also will be responsible for aiding with adoptions. Candidate must be licensed as an LMFT, LPC, LCSW or similar in Oklahoma and have at least two years’ experience in providing therapy. English and Spanish preferred. Apply at www.csokc.org/careers.

**CMA or medical tech**: St. Ann Retirement Center is seeking a CMA or medical tech for the night shift 10:30 p.m. – 7 a.m. Must pass background check/drug test. Full-time benefited position. Apply online at https://careers-catalpa.nim.com/jobs/5313/teacher/jobs.

**Director of youth, young adult evangelization**
St. Francis of Assisi is searching for a full-time director of youth and young adult evangelization, including direct leadership of all conversion and discipleship efforts for young people in the parish. Bachelor’s degree in theology or related field from a faithul college or university is a must. Master’s degree preferred. Three to five years of parish-based ministry experience a plus. Submit resume and cover letter to Rev. William L. Novak, V.G., 1901 N.W. 18, OKC 73106 or wnovak@archokc.org.

For more job openings, go online at www.soonercatholic.org.
La Pregunta Estatal 788, ¿Será una buena idea? 

El 26 de junio, los ciudadanos de Oklahoma acudieron a las urnas para votar sobre las candidatos y las consultas que afectarían la calidad de vida de aquellos que viven aquí en el estado. Entre las medidas electorales que debemos abordar se encuentra la Pregunta Estatal 788 (State Question 788 o SQ 788 en inglés). Si aprueba esta ley, se legalizará la marihuana medicinal para personas mayores de 18 años. Es de sabios el estudiar este con cuidado.

La Iglesia Católica tiene una rica historia de la lucha por el derecho a la atención médica para garantizar el acceso a la medicina para garantizar la calidad de vida de aquellos que viven aquí en el estado. Entre las medidas electorales que debemos abordar se encuentra la Pregunta Estatal 788 (State Question 788 o SQ 788 en inglés). Si aprueba esta ley, se legalizará la marihuana medicinal para personas mayores de 18 años. Es de sabios el estudiar este con cuidado.

**Suicide grief support group**
A support group for those who have lost someone to suicide meets at St. Francis in Oklahoma City on the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Mencher House located just north of the church building. Call (405) 528-0485.

**Join 2018 prayer team!**
Join the 2018 Prayer Team, text Pray2018 to 41431 or go to https://app.flocknote.com/arbor28/0485breviary.

**Catholic summer camp**
There are still spaces available for Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Youth Camp! We promote the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Israel

Do you seek God?

We are seeking participating families to join in our ministry. If you are interested in deepening your prayer life, please call Fr. Boniface at Vocations@MonksOK.org.

**Catholic High School**

The Center of Family Love and Support, (405) 263-4472. The Oklahoma City Catholic War Veterans (of any grade through 12th grade). Evening tickets $175. Black tie optional.

**View a day in the life of a Retreat in Daily Life**
To learn how to pray in the midst of daily life and to live more mindful of God’s love, care and guidance. Sponsors the Retreat in Daily Life. Call with questions or to register July 1 – Aug 31: Nancy Vargas, (405) 760-4640 or Danna Schweizer, (405) 263-4472. The Retreat in Daily Life is a ministry of the Office of Worship and Spiritual Life of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

**Join the 2018 Prayer Team, text Pray2018 to 41431 or go to**

**The Pierce Agency**
Kevin Perez
877-707-0752
KevinPerez@FEC.com

**Spending the Nine Days, the nine days, the noens prayers will be:**
Monday-Friday following Noon Mass, Saturday following 5 p.m. Mass, and Sunday following 11 a.m. Mass.

**Suicide grief support group, text Pray2018 to**
41431 or go to https://app.flocknote.com/arbor28/0485breviary.

**Assisted living openings**
Saint Ann Retirement Center has Assisted living openings. Call (405) 340-9281.

**Pharmacy benefit plans**
LIFE INSURANCE    DISABILITY INSURANCE    LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE RETIREMENT ANNUITIES

** kost 250,000.**
Kost’s family enjoys the pool and fitness club benefits for $209.95 per month. Call (405) 840-1817 or visit 6300 N. Santa Fe Ave. Visit www.stfrancisok.org.

**Guidelines**

Join the 2018 Prayer Team, text Pray2018 to 41431 or go to https://app.flocknote.com/arbor28/0485breviary.

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On Pentecost Sunday, Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Mustang celebrated the groundbreaking of their long-anticipated new church. Archbishop Coakley along with hundreds of parishioners, clergy and dignitaries from the Mustang community packed the current sanctuary to witness the monumental event.

"Today we give thanks to God for the progress of these past 35 or so years, since the founding of Holy Spirit parish, and we enter today a new chapter of that history as we bless the site and break the ground where a new house of God will rise, a place that will continue to nurture and form this community of faith," Archbishop Coakley said.

"Many parishioners wondered how long it would be for this day to arrive, that after all these efforts and labor, and after all the generous participation of so many people over the years, this day has finally come," he said. Ray Rudnicki, a founding member of Holy Spirit, said he was excited to witness the groundbreaking.

"We have waited 35 years for our church and it will be two more years before it is completed," said Rudnicki, comparing the groundbreaking to the Jews following Moses around the desert looking for the promised land. "We shouldn't complain," he quipped, to which the audience laughed.

Father Joseph Jacobi, pastor of Holy Spirit, introduced honored guests, including Mayor Jess Schweinberg and Bryan Timberlake, president and CEO of Timberlake Construction. Among the clergy present were Father Jim Greiner, former pastor of Holy Spirit for 17 years, Father Corey Stanley, who grew up in the Holy Spirit parish, and Father John Paul Lewis, son of Deacon Paul Lewis. In addition to several other church and community dignitaries, members of the master planning, design, and groundbreaking committees, along with founding members and their families, were present.

After the prayer ceremony there was a procession to the site of the new church building. A tear-eyed Monica Dillard looked into the sea of people and said, "It's like a dream come true."

Dillard's daughter, Isabella, 12, and son, Matthew, 10, were asked to be altar servers during the prayer ceremony. They were also invited to be part of the groundbreaking ceremony, taking a shovel in line next to the archbishop, Father Jacobi and other parish and community dignitaries. Her father, Richard Semtner, is a founding member of the parish and a member of the planning committee.

"I just remember as a little girl thinking, 'It's going to be so exciting to have a little church,' but I never thought it would be my daughter thinking that, and then to watch her and my son be a part of that ceremony, it was surreal." Eliana Tedrow is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

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**Vocations**

Zachary Boazman, 26, from Saint Thomas More in Norman, attends Saint John Vianney Theological Seminary in Denver; John Herrera, 27, from Saint Joseph in Norman, attends Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in Indiana; and Alexander Kroll, 26, from Saint Francis Xavier in Enid, attends Saint John Vianney Theological Seminary.

Diane Clay is editor of the Sooner Catholic.