On May 28, thousands of Catholics gathered to celebrate Mass and the dedication of the new Saint Andrew Dung-Lac Parish in south Oklahoma City. The church is modeled after a cathedral in Vietnam. Archbishop Paul S. Coakley celebrated Mass and welcomed the more than 1,200 faithful who filled Saint Andrew Dung-Lac for the first time.

Story and more photos on Pages 8 and 9
“Lord, Teach Us to Pray!”

I would like to return to this article to the theme I have been writing about for a number of weeks—the call to holiness. In particular, I want to dedicate my next few articles to the important topic of prayer. Our ability to respond to God’s call to become holy requires a “training in holiness” adapted to the needs of each person. This training or formation, drawing from the riches of the Church’s spiritual tradition, integrates what is common and available to all with the personal needs and vocations of each individual.

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

June 12 — Confirmation, St. Peter Church, Woodward, 1 p.m.

June 13 — Monday, July 4, Pallium Pilgrimage to Rome

June 15 — Catholic Charities Board Meeting, Catholic Charities Offices, 12 p.m.

June 16 — Confirmation, Prince of Peace Church, Altus

June 17 — Friday, June 17, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Meeting, Seattle, Wash.

Seminary Burses

A $250 donation was made to the Father Stanley Rother Seminary Burs by St. Cecilia Parish, Claremore.

A $250 donation was made to the Father Stanley Rother Seminary Burs by Holy Trinity Parish, Okarche.

A $50 donation was made to the Seminary Fund in memory of Father Ed Curtin from Dr. Jeffery Gaiser, Stephenville, Texas.

A $300 donation was made to the Seminary Fund in memory of Father Earl Kerlin from Margaret A. Crimmins, Lawton, $125.

A $250 donation was made to the Seminary Fund in memory of Kevin Boyle from Dr. Jeffery Gaiser, Stephenville, Texas.

Archbishop Coakley’s Calendar

June 12 — Confirmation, St. Peter Church, Woodward, 1 p.m.

June 13 — Saturday, June 17, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Meeting, Seattle, Wash.

June 18 — Confirmation, Prince of Peace Church, Altus

June 20 — Knights of Columbus Religious Appreciation Dinner, Christ the King Church, 6 p.m.

June 21 — Mass at Catholic Pastoral Center, 11 a.m.

June 21 — Archdiocesan Finance Council Meeting, Catholic Pastoral Center, 2 p.m.

June 22 — Catholic Charities Board Meeting, Catholic Charities Offices, 12 p.m.

June 24 — Monday, July 4, Pallium Pilgrimage to Rome

Faith formation efforts ought to lead to an authentic encounter with Christ, who is the way, the truth, and the life.

While education in prayer ought to be a key element in pastoral planning in parishes, our archdiocesan offices and ministries stand ready to assist and collaborate in supporting such initiatives. Growth in prayer and the spiritual life is greatly assisted by prudent mentors, spiritual guides and lay ecclesial movements, such as Cursillo, Commonweal, Interfaith, Renew and Liberation and many others. While not everyone may have access to a spiritual director, we all need the encouragement of wise spiritual friends and companions.

“Put out into the deep and lower your nets for a catch.”

Luke 5:4

The Sooner Catholic is supported through the Archdiocesan Development Fund.
Cuba Sentences Four Dissidents to Prison for Government Protests

Havana, Cuba (CNA) — A provincial court in Havana, Cuba, has sentenced four dissidents to three to five years in prison for distributing pamphlets containing anti-government information. Family members and supporters gathered outside the courthouse where the trial took place, including Yordani Martinez, whose brother was among the four dissidents. “They didn’t consider anything (in the trial). They didn’t commit any crime, they didn’t set off any bombs. They didn’t attack anyone. They simply protested because of their ideals,” Martinez told Reuters.

Relatives of the four men said Luz Enriquez Lohbrunner, 33, David Ploito, 40, and Walfrido Rodriguez, 42, were sentenced to five years in prison, while Yordani Martinez, 25, was sentenced to three. The men were declared guilty of “subversion” and “public disorder.” Government sympathizers stood nearby, shouting that the four men were “counter-revolutionaries” who “attacked a policeman.” The Cuban Commission for Human Rights and National Reconciliation, an organization that is tolerated by the government, reported that the four dissidents were detained in January for distributing pamphlets containing slogans against the Castro regime. The government dubbed them “mercenaries” of the United States. Human rights groups on the island have warned that in recent years the Cuban government has opted to substitute long prison sentences for dissidents with brief detentions.

“Frankly, five years in prison is way too much for something that in any other country is part of daily life,” said Edelberto Sanchez, a mid-2010, the Cuban government released over 100 political prisoners including 52 dissidents rounded up in the Black Spring of 2003 who were given sentences from six to 28 years.

The decision to release them came after an historic agreement between the Catholic Church and the Cuban government, in which Spain participated as a mediator.

La Música del Año Litúrgico:

OKLAHOMA CITY — La Conferencia de este año explorará la música que se usa durante los tiempos de Adviento, Navidad, Cuaresma, Domingo de Resurrección y el Tiempo Ordinario. Tómenos Conferenciarios nacionales y un equipo que tiene mucha experiencia en talleres desde la Arquidiócesis de Galveston-Houston. La conferencia ayudará a los músicos a prever el mes que viene y verán muchas otras diócesis y espero que nuestros músicos de Oklahoma se aprovechen de esta oportunidad.

Para más información Mary Fahy (405) 721-5651 ext 158; e-mail: mfahy@archokc.org; ext. 158 or by e-mail at mfahy@archokc.org; ext. 158 or by e-mail at mfahy@archokc.org.

Registrazione temprana, antes del 17 de Junio es $10.

Presentadores

El Padre Heliodoro Lucatero


Dr. Rick Lopez

Dr. Rick Lopez, Director de la Oficina de Culto de la Arquidiócesis de Galveston-Houston, se desempeña como Director Artístico del Coro de la Arquidiócesis, y como el Director de Adquisiciones del Programa de Formación del Ministerio de Música Sacra de la Arquidiócesis de Galveston-Houston. Como Director de RMMF recibió un premio con una beca de Culto de la Congregación de Melodia de la Carlina, Ocato, California por 25 años. Dr. Lopez recibió un Doctorado en Arte Musical de la Claremont School of Theology en 1991. Antes de su traslado a Houston, el Dr. López sirvió a la Iglesia Católica como Director del Ministro de Música en diversas parroquias de la Diócesis de Oklahoma. California por 25 años.

Pedro Rubalcava se convirtió a la edad de 17 años. Durante los últimos 24 años, ha trabajado en el ministerio pastoral y profesional en varias áreas de liturgia y música, evangelización, pastoral de jóvenes y ministerios de música. Presentado por Oregon Catholic Press.

Fiesta Musical

Viernes 8-9:30 p.m. Presentado por OCP y WLP

Pastoral Center to Host Hispanic Music Conference

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Seventh Bi-Annual Southwest Liturgical Conference for Spanish Speakers will explore the music used during the seasons of Christmas, Lent, Easter and Ordinary Time. The conference will be held at the Pastoral Center July 7-9.

Father Stephen Bird, Archdiocesan Director of Worship and Spiritual Life, said the conference shapes up to be a good one.

“We have nationally known speakers and a very experienced workshop team from the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston,” Father Bird said. “The conference should be extremely helpful to the musicians who provide music in Spanish. “Participants will be coming from many other dioceses and I hope our Oklahoma musicians will take advantage of this opportunity.”

For registration information, call Mary Fahy at (405) 721-5651 Ext. 158 or by e-mail at mfahy@archokc.org.

Early registration before June 17 is $105. After this date, registration is $120.

Septima Conferencia Bi-Anual Hispana Para Músicos Pastorales
Oklahoma! He lived such an exemplary life of it would be so amazing to have a saint from first being to help promote his cause. I think been smooth.

Rother’s own words, ‘The shepherd cannot run,’ and excited about it. I started with Father Rother’s family about doing Service and sacrifice that it’s important for people to remember him, to pray to him, and to pray for him. He was a hero on earth and I know he can be our intercessory hero in heaven, too. 

Biller is married and a mother of two. She is currently doing music ministry staffing at local churches and conferences. She can be reached by e-mail at Jamie@jamiebiller.com. Her CDs may be purchased at Sacred Heart Books and Gifts in downtown Edmond or on her webpage at www.jamiebiller.com. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of the CD are being donated to the Father Stanley Rother Foundation.

“I would like to thank everyone who has purchased a copy. So far, we have raised over $1,000 since December for the bursé!” – Jamie Biller.
Catholic students receiving Catholic Foundation Scholarships for the 2011-2012 school year include Gavin Anderson (St. Mary, Elgin - OSU); Nickolas Amaud (St. Joseph, Ada - OSU); Nolan Always (Our Lady of Sorrow, Duncan - OU); Roberte Ayala (St. John Nepomuk, Norman - OU); Gregory Bailey (St. Francis Xavier, Enid - OSU); Keely Baca (Holy Trinity, Okarche - UCO); Custen Bambry (Sacred Heart, El Reno - OU); Cody Lee (St. Gregory the Great, Edmond - SWOSU); Jesus Bautista (Holy Trinity, Okarche - UCO); and Michael Hild (St. Cecilia, Norman - OU). The winners of the Amelia F. Dyer and Elizabeth H. Davis Scholarship are Christina Biskik (St. Francis Xavier, Edmond - OU); Elaine Hufnagel (St. Rose, El Reno - OSU); Kenneth Hufnagel (St. Bartholomew, Chickasha - OSU); and Tyler Severin (St. Gregory the Great, El Reno - SWOSU). The Catholic Foundation Scholarships Top $90,000 for Recipients

For more information on Planned Giving contact:
P.O. Box 32180, Oklahoma City, OK 73123
(405)721-4115
www.cfook.org
bsemtner@catharchdioceseokc.org

The Catholic Foundation
CORNERSTONE
Do you need a power of attorney?
Yes! In case of a sudden accident or pro- longed illness or incapacity, you’ll want someone you trust to have the legal right to make financial decisions you would typically make, until you’re able to make those decisions for yourself again. A power of attorney is a legal document allowing another person or entity you choose (called your agent) to act on your behalf, in terms of financial matters such as handling your finances and paying bills. In the document, you give your agent authority to honor your wishes. If you select an organization such as a bank. Choose someone you trust to honor your wishes. If you select an individual, name a successor in case the person you name is used only while you are living and becomes null and void upon your death. Consult your estate planning attorney for more information on preparing a power of attorney for you.

The following students have received Bob Little's Pastoral Ministry's Scholarship for the 2011-2012 school year: Rebeca Garcia (Assumption, Duncan - OU); Nilton Reilly (Our Lady's Cathedral, Oklahoma City - OU); and Stephen Tamperley (St. Benedict, Shawnee - Ohio State University). British Columbia (Our Lady of Guadalupe, Hollis - SWOSU) received the Helen R. Hall Nursing Scholarship, and Matt Weisman (St. John Neumann, Yukon - OU School of Medicine) received the PB Connolly Medical Scholarship.

Receiving the Evelyn and Kathryn H. Hirsch Scholarship are Maria Bara (Holy Trinity, Okarche - SWOSU); Connor Binkley (Sacred Heart, El Reno - OU); Cody Lee (St. Gregory the Great, Edmond - SWOSU); Monica Petry (Holy Trinity, Okarche - UCO); and Michael Hild (St. Cecilia, Norman - OU). The winners of the Amelia F. Dyer and Elizabeth H. Davis Scholarship are Christina Biskik (St. Francis Xavier, Edmond - OU); Elaine Hufnagel (St. Rose, El Reno - OSU); Kenneth Hufnagel (St. Bartholomew, Chickasha - OSU); and Tyler Severin (St. Gregory the Great, El Reno - SWOSU). The Catholic Foundation Scholarships Top $90,000 for Recipients

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Two Catholic Youth Receive Camp Scholarships

Endowment Funds established at the Catholic Foundation have awarded summer camp scholarships to two Catholic youth in the Archdiocese. Receiving the scholarship awards are Dominique Wetherpoon, a student at St. Philip Neri School, and Patrick Wilson, a student at St. James School. Dominique received the Robert A. Streets Family Endowment Fund Scholarship, and Patrick received the Jacob Meier Memorial Endowment Fund.

The Robert A. Streets Family Endowment for Our Lady of Guadalupe Youth Camp was established in 2000 for the benefit of the Catholic Youth Camp. This is the first year that the fund has awarded a scholarship to a camper. Mr. Streets was enthusiastic about helping to make sure all Catholic youth in the Archdiocese had the camping experience.

The Jacob Meier Memorial Endowment Fund was established by family and friends in memory of Jake Meier, a former camper and counselor at the Youth Summer Camp who passed away in 2009.

Jake began attending camp while in junior high school when the Catholic Youth Camp was located at Lake Murray. The next summer when he was 15 years old, he applied for the camp staff and was hired as a kitchen assistant. In his application for a camp counselor position the next summer, Jake stated, “Since my first summer at Lake Murray, I have learned more and more about my faith while having more and more fun each year as well. The more I go to camp, the more my eyes are opened to Christ’s light of the world.” Jake was a counselor-in-training in 1999 and a counselor in the 2000 camp session (the first year of the new camp at Our Lady of Guadalupe).

Although his life ended way too early, the scholarship in Jake Meier’s memory serves as a reminder of a talented, loving and caring young man whose faith guided him in the right direction. His camping experience was a great part of that faith formation. In sharing that experience with more young campers, Jake continues to do God’s work even after he has left this earth.

If you would like to establish a scholarship fund at the Catholic Foundation or contribute to either the Robert A. Streets Family Endowment Fund or the Jacob Meier Memorial Endowment Fund for Camp Scholarships to Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Youth Camp, please send your tax-deductible gift to the Catholic Foundation, P.O. Box 32180, Oklahoma City, OK 73123, or online at www.cfook.org.
Women's Conference to Host EWTN Speakers

OKLAHOMA CITY — The third annual Women of Faith/Women of Action conference will be held on Saturday, Aug. 20, 2011, at Epiphany of the Lord Parish, 7336 W. Britton Road. The theme of this year’s conference is “We Walk by Faith/Not by Sight.” The message our speakers will be delivering is for all women, men, and youth to hear. So please invite your family and friends to attend this conference to hear these outstanding speakers.

Registration to attend is $40 and youth $35 through Aug. 5, and Aug. 6-20, $50. A catered box-lunch will be provided for $10. Conference logo T-shirts are $15. You may register by PayPal at http://okcacc.tripod.com/wca/index.html.

To register by mail or for general information, contact either Chris Thomae at 2151 Parkview Drive, Moore, Okla. 73110, (405) 306-5147, or Barbara Wann, 302 E. Ohio St., Walters Okla. 73572, wannb@sbcglobal.net, or call (405) 580-875-2278.

Our keynote speaker is Sister Rosalind Moss, Daughters of Mary/Mother of Israel’s Hope, who will speak in the morning session on “The Making of a Jewish Nun.”

In the afternoon session, Sister Rosalind will address the attendees with “The Father’s Gifts.” We will close the conference with “From the Heart” — a question and answer session with Sister Rosalind.

Our special guest speaker is Marcus Grodi, the president and founder of the Coming Home Network International and The Journey Home, on EWTN. He will address the assembly with “Walk by Faith/Not by Sight.”

Since this time she has traveled the world speaking and teaching through conferences, parish missions, women’s and family retreats, and all forms of media. From July 1999, to May 2008, Rosalind, now Sister Rosalind, was a full-time staff apologist with Catholic Answers and remains to this day a guest of the semi-monthly radio program, From the Heart on Catholic Answers Live. She is the author of Thoughts for the Journey Home, the new book, “How Firm a Foundation,” and the radio program, both on EWTN. He is the host of The Journey Home, a weekly live television program, and Deep In Scripture, a weekly radio program, both on EWTN. He is the author of Thoughts for the Journey Home, the novel, “How Firm a Foundation,” and the editor/author of Journey Home. He has taught courses in Catechetics, youth ministry, leadership and theology at Franciscan University of Steubenville and the Pontifical College Josephinum. He has written a regular article for The Catholic Answer magazine and other Catholic publications.

Sister Rosalind Moss
Daughters of Mary/Mother of Israel’s Hope

Born and raised in a Jewish home, Rosalind Moss, as a teenager, took her from a 15-year business career as a successful executive with corporations in New York and California to full-time Evangelical ministry, earning a master’s degree in ministry from Talbot Theological Seminary. A series of events in the summer of 1990 set her on a compelling course to find out if the Catholic Church is in fact the Church Christ established 2,000 years ago. After 18 years of Evangelical Protestantism, she entered the Catholic Church at Easter 1998. Since that time she has traveled the world speaking and teaching through conferences, parish missions, women’s and family retreats, and all forms of media. From July 1999, to May 2008, Rosalind, now Sister Rosalind, was a full-time staff apologist with Catholic Answers and remains to this day a guest of the semi-monthly radio program, From the Heart on Catholic Answers Live. She is the author of Thoughts for the Journey Home, the novel, “How Firm a Foundation,” and the radio program, both on EWTN. He is the host of The Journey Home, a weekly live television program, and Deep In Scripture, a weekly radio program, both on EWTN. He is the author of Thoughts for the Journey Home, the novel, “How Firm a Foundation,” and the editor/author of Journey Home. He has taught courses in Catechetics, youth ministry, leadership and theology at Franciscan University of Steubenville and the Pontifical College Josephinum. He has written a regular article for The Catholic Answer magazine and other Catholic publications.

ACCW 2011 Scholarship Recipient Announced

The Oklahoma City Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (ACCW) Scholarship was awarded to Jill Boeckman of Okeene. She is the daughter of Bruce and Suzie Boeckman of Okeene.

While attending Okeene schools, she has been active in band, student council, speech and drama, and fast-pitch softball, as well as being on the Superintendents’ Honor Roll and the National Honor Society. She also is an altar server, a leader in religion class and a member of the St. Anthony Catholic Youth Group.

Jill is planning a career in the health field, possibly in occupational therapy and physical therapy.
Parish Celebrates New Church With Great Joy

By Ray Dyer
The Sooner Catholic

OKLAHOMA CITY — With a pair of scissors and a prayer asking for God’s blessing, Archbishop Paul S. Coakley opened the doors to the beautiful new Saint Andrew Dung-Lac Parish on a sun-drenched May 28 in south Oklahoma City.

With Archbishop Emeritus Eusebius J. Beltran at his side, the recently installed Archbishop Coakley beamed as well over 1,200 people, the official seating capacity of the church, packed into the spacious Saint Andrew Dung-Lac to celebrate Mass for the first time.

“I dare say, there will be few occasions in the history of Saint Andrew Dung-Lac Parish that will be so marked by pure joy and celebration as this day,” Archbishop Coakley said in opening his homily.

The church, designed by Krittenbrink Architects of Norman and built by Landmark Construction, features an octagon formation with massive window openings that allow sunlight to pour into the sanctuary. The church was designed after a cathedral in Vietnam.

Outside, a towering statue of Jesus Christ, with arms opened wide, greets the faithful as they approach Saint Andrew Dung-Lac. The statue, as well as the altar and the ambo were brought to Oklahoma from Vietnam.

Archbishop Coakley and Archbishop Emeritus Beltran were joined in the Eucharistic celebration by Monsignor Edward J. Weisenburger, Vicar General of the Archdiocese; Right Rev. Lawrence Stasyszen, OSB, Abbot of Saint Gregory’s Abbey; Father Dominic Manh Hung Hoang, pastor of Saint Andrew Dung-Lac; and more than a dozen priests from throughout the Archdiocese.

Dozens of Saint Andrew Dung-Lac parishioners took active roles in the celebration. Young student musicians performed outside prior to the celebration of Mass, while an all-female choir dressed in traditional and very colorful Vietnamese attire provided beautiful liturgical music during Mass.

Archbishop Coakley paid tribute to the parish leadership that worked long and hard to make the new church a reality.

“You have journeyed far since the founding of this parish some years ago,” Archbishop Coakley said. “Some of you have been here every step of the way. We would not be here today at all to celebrate the dedication of this new church without the outstanding leadership of many people.”

Archbishop Coakley specifically mentioned Father Dominic and the parish building committee “who helped shape the vision and called forth the unique talent and generosity of this parish family.” Archbishop Coakley also singled out the leadership of Archbishop Beltran, who “was instrumental in choosing this site and encouraging the construction of this new house of God. Together all of you have built something beautiful for God.”

At the conclusion of Mass, Bang Van Ngo, construction committee chairman, addressed the congregation. He praised the leadership of Archbishop Coakley and called on the parish to stand in ovation to Archbishop Beltran, who he said greatly encouraged the parish to move forward in faith.

“We do not have a lot of wealth in Saint Andrew Dung-Lac,” Bang Van Ngo said. “We are average working-class people. What we have is a lot of faith in God.”
Bishops to Vote on Physician-Assisted Suicide Document

WASHINGTON — The U.S. bishops will debate and vote on a document on physician-assisted suicide at their Spring General Assembly, June 15-17, in Seattle.

The document, To Live Each Day With Dignity, was the first statement on assisted suicide by the full body of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

"After years of relative inaction following legalization of physician-assisted suicide in Oregon in 1994, the assisted suicide movement has shown a strong resurgence in activity," said Cardinal Daniel DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, chairman of the USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities. "This renewed effort has led to the passage of an Oregon-style law in Washington by popular referendum in November 2008, a state Supreme Court decision essentially declaring that assisted suicide is not against public policy in Montana, and concerted efforts to pass legislation in several New England and Western states. The Catholic Church needs to respond in a timely and visible way to this renewed challenge, which will surely be pursued in a number of states in the years to come."

The draft statement speaks of the hardships and fears of patients assisted in all but four assisted suicides, and he hopes Kevorkian is remembered "for his work, his courage and his willingness" to help the people who came to him.

The doctor’s assisted-suicide advocacy prompted several legislative battles and court cases. He also drew strong opposition from the Catholic Church and other pro-life advocates.

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The Catholic Church needs to respond in a timely and visible way to this renewed challenge, which will surely be pursued in a number of states in the years to come."

The statement argues that "compassion" that is not rooted in such respect also undermines patients’ lives. According to the statement, the practice also undermines patients’ freedom by putting pressure on them, once society has officially declared the suicides of certain people to be good and acceptable while working to prevent the suicides of others.

The statement says that "compassion" is not rooted in such respect and expresses "compassion" for others. Undermining the value of some people’s lives will undermine respect for their freedom as well, the statement says, citing legal systems such as the Netherlands, where voluntary assisted suicide has led to involuntary euthanasia.

The statement says that assisted suicide is not an addition to palliative care, but a poor substitute that can ultimately become an excuse for denying better medical care to seriously ill people, including those who never considered suicide an option. It concludes by advancing what Pope John Paul II called “the way of love and true mercy” and calls on Catholics to work with others to uphold the right of each person to live with dignity.

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Catholics Pray for Dr. Jack Kevorkian, Condemn his 'Deadly Legacy'

DETROIT, Mich. (CNA/EWTN News) — Catholics have responded to the June 3 death of assisted suicide activist Dr. Jack Kevorkian with prayers for him and his victims, affirming the Christian belief in the sanctity of life.

"Left out in much of the commentary on the death of Jack Kevorkian is the sobering and deadly legacy he leaves behind," said Neil McGrath, director of communications at the Archdiocese of Detroit, said in a June 3 statement.

"Kevorkian, a retired pathologist based in Michigan, said he helped about 130 people kill themselves from 1990 to 1998. He became known as "Dr. Death," took hundreds of people off life support, and killed them. He also wrote books and movies about his work."

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Mount St. Mary Class of 2011

Correction

In the last issue of the Sooner Catholic dated May 29, 2011, there was a mistake made in the Mount St. Mary page. One student’s photo was left out and one student’s photo was used twice. We are sorry for the confusion this may have caused. The correct photos and identification are above.

Archbishop Gomez Tells New Priests Their Mission is to Evangelize

LOS ANGELES, Calif. (CNA/EWTN News) — Archbishop Jose Gomez of Los Angeles told a diverse group of new priests during their ordination Mass that they have a responsibility to make God known in a culture that has forgotten him.

“We have a special responsibility for the new evangelization — not only for the new evangelization of Los Angeles and California,” he said, “but also for the new evangelization of our country, our continent and our world.”

Of the six new priests that Archbishop Gomez ordained at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels on June 4, one was born in Mexico, one in Central America, three in Korea and two in the United States to immigrant families.

“We are celebrating this morning a special moment of grace and joy as young men and women from God is growing ever, he said.

“The priesthood is not an office or an occupation. It is a vocation,” he told the new priests like him, my brothers. I hope you will study his life and look to him as an inspiration and an intercessor in your own priesthood.”

Archbishop Gomez then recalled the life of Blessed Junípero Serra, the 18th century and companion along life’s journey. Put your trust in him and he will never disappoint you!” he urged.

“He came to give his life as a ransom for many,” said Archbishop Gomez.

“Let him take you by the hand! Let him become more and more your friend and companion along life’s journey. Put your trust in him and he will never disappoint you!” he urged.

“The archbishop noted that the Archbishop of Los Angeles in particular has been tasked as a "missionary Church.""This is a beautiful day for our great Church of Los Angeles," he said.

“Jesus speaks to you today, through the Gospel and his Holy Spirit. He is your teacher who deceives his disciples: He tells us clearly that walking by his side will never disappoint you!” he urged.

“Jesus and Michael — to the priestliesthood of Jesus Christ.”

June 12, 2011 • Sooner Catholic 11
Teaching Teens to Pray the Rosary Worth the Effort

By Jessica Harris

Catholic Charities News Agency

Contacting a group of teenagers to sit still and pray the same prayers over and over again isn’t an easy task. Youth ministry really can be incredibly fun. Meeting new people, playing games and going on trips can be an important part of any solid youth ministry program. However, leading the teens to form a real relationship with God and teaching them how to live the Catholic faith has to be the central element of any adult, Christ-centered youth ministry program.

Teenagers can play games and hang out with friends anywhere and on their own time, but youth group needs to be different than any other club or group in order to make an impact, and to become a priority in already busy lives. It’s tempting to pack youth group meetings with sports and games to attract kids and keep them happy, and believe me, I’ve been there.

It’s easy to see the instant gratification of laughing teens that leave a fun-filled meeting proclaiming that “youth group rocks!” It’s also tempting to make the potential rejection of laughing teens that leave a boring activity. When we as youth ministers reflect on our mission and examine our priorities, we know that our youth group isn’t to be a place children can refuse to license homosexual couples to other agencies that license foster and adoptive parents, but that amendment failed.

The June 1 letter from Glenn Van Cura, executive director of Catholic Charities in Joliet, notified the state government that the agency is “temporarily suspending the processing of new foster care and adoption applications.”

Illinois Laws Force Catholic Agencies to Halt Foster and Adoption Care

It did not say how or when the application process could resume, the Naperville Sun-Times reports.

The letter did not mention civil union legislation, which went into effect on June 1. However, the law which created legal unions for same-sex couples and opposite-sex couples has already caused Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Rockford to announce that it will stop licensing new foster and adoptive parents. All the Catholic agencies and they will continue working with the children they have already placed in homes.

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Saint Gregory’s Abbey to Host Pair of Summer Retreats

Reservations may be made via e-mail by contacting Father Charles at cnuckey@bgateway.org. They may also be mailed to: Summer Retreat Program, St. Gregory’s Abbey, 1900 W. MacArthur St., Shawnee, Okla. 74804. For more information about the retreats, contact Father Charles at (405) 878-5462 or visit www.stgregorys.org.

St. Gregory’s University is an authentically Roman Catholic university. It provides a liberal arts curriculum and professional programs to students in Shawnee and Tulsa. Founded in 1875, it is Oklahoma’s oldest institution of higher learning.

Further information regarding St. Gregory’s University can be found at www.stgregorys.edu or by calling 1-888-STGREGS.
Elementary School Openings

St. James Catholic School in Oklahoma City is seeking applicants for the 2011-2012 school year for full-time teaching positions in Pre-K and Pre-K Early Childhood Education certification required, full-time Grade 5 (Elementary Education certification required), and one half-time position in Spanish for the 2011-2012 school year. Please send resume to Anne Codding, Principal, St. James Catholic School, 1224 S.W. 41st, Oklahoma City 73109.

School Secretary

St. James Catholic School in Oklahoma City is seeking applicants for a full-time school secretary position. Please send letter of application and resume with three references to Anne Codding, Principal, St. James Catholic School, 1224 S.W. 41st, Oklahoma City 73109.

Pre-K Aide

Christ the King Catholic School in Oklahoma City is seeking a full-time aide for its 4-year-old full day class. Must have experience working with children and be willing to assist the teacher with all aspects of the program. Contact Karen Carter at 943-3199 for more information.

Elementary School Openings

St. James Catholic School in Norman has the following full-time positions available for the 2011-2012 school year:

1. Pre-K teacher - Must have certification in Early Childhood Education.
2. Grade 5 teacher - Must have elementary education certification, and will team-teach Grade 5 students. The applicant is responsible for teaching language arts (reading, English and spelling) and science. Junior high religion teacher - Responsible for teaching religion in Grades 6, 7 and 8. Applicant must be an active, practicing Catholic.

Resource Room Director - The director tutors students and small groups in various subjects, administers make-up exams, works directly with classroom teachers to coordinate the implementation of SAGE/RESPONSE modifications, assists ESL students, and teaches a study skills class in Oklahoma City. These positions will remain open until filled. Send a cover letter, vita and transcripts to Msgr. Nguyen at 405-634-5673 or e-mail to tammyj@holytrinityokc.org.

Elementary School Teaching Positions

Sacred Heart Catholic School in Oklahoma City is accepting applications for teaching positions for the 2011-2012 school year. SHCS is a PK through eighth-grade school. Please call the school office at (405) 634-5673 for an application or send a resume to Joanna Camacho, SHCS, 2700 S. Shartel Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73109. You may also send it via e-mail to jcamacho@shcsok.org.

Teaching Position Open

Villa Teresa School, OKC, has a teaching position for 2-5 year olds. This position requires at least a degree in Elementary Education or Child Development or Early Childhood. Interested applicants may call Sister Veronica (232-4286) for an interview appointment.

School Elementary School Openings

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 openings for next year:

1. Middle School Social Studies Teacher
2. Music Appreciation Teacher (Middle School)
3. P.E. Teacher
4. Cook Assistant

There are both full and part-time positions available. Teaching positions require degrees and certification. Cafeteria workers need to be able to obtain proper food handlers permits. Full benefits package is paid by the school for full-time employees. All applicants, please submit resume and copy of application, in addition, for teaching positions, submit transcript to Paulo J. Dulcan, Jr., 611 SW A Avenue, Lawton, Okla. 73501. Phone (580) 355-5288 to schedule an interview.

Kindergarten Teacher

Holy Trinity School in Okarche has an opening for a kindergarten teacher. Applicants must be certified in Early Childhood. If you are interested in joining a well-established staff and work with small classes and outstanding parental involvement, please send your resume to Tammy Jacobs, Principal, Holy Trinity Catholic School, P.O. Box 485, Okarche, Okla. 73072. You may also send it via e-mail to tl Jacobs@holytrinityokc.org.

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Teachers Needed

Sacred Heart Catholic School in El Reno is in need of two certified teachers for the 2011-2012 school year. Please send resume and references to Msgr. Anthony S. Evans, Sr., 611 SW A Avenue, El Reno, Okla. 73036, or fax (405) 262-3819. Sacred Heart Catholic School will be hiring a junior pending a background check for the 2011-2012 school year. Please apply in person after 3:30 p.m. or send resume to Sacred Heart School, 210 S. Evans, El Reno, Okla. 73036.

Part-Time Music Teacher

St. Charles Borromeo Catholic School in Oklahoma City is seeking a part-time music teacher for the 2011-2012 school year. Liberal arts music director duties for leading student choir and accompaniment at school Masses to be negotiated. Please fax resume and certification to Sister Gendall at (405) 359-3553 or e-mail to tgsogendall@bcok.org.

Adjuncts

The College for Working Adults at St. Gregory’s University, Shawnee, is seeking applicants for a part-time faculty position in the following areas at the undergraduate and graduate level: Speech, History, Government, Economics, Accounting, Human Resources, Marketing, Business Law, Management Information Systems, Psychology, Philosophy, Counseling, Business, Theology and Diversity A Ph.D. is preferred; a master’s degree is required with preference given to candidates with experience teaching adults. Candidate must be supportive of and willing to contribute to the Catholic and Benedictine identity of the university. These positions will remain open until filled. Send a cover letter, vita and transcripts to buspgregsys.edu or mail to HR Director, 1900 W. MacArthur, Shawnee, Okla. 74804.

Archbishop Coakley to Celebrate Red Mass

OKLAHOMA CITY — Save the date: On Sept. 24, 2011, a Red Mass will be celebrated at the regularly scheduled 5 p.m. Mass at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, OKC. A reception will follow in the Connor Center. The principal celebrants will be the Most Reverend Paul S. Coakley and the Most Reverend Joseph F. Naumann, Archbishops of Kansas City in Kansas City for judges, attorneys, law school professors, law students and government officials is traditionally celebrated in the USA to coincide with the convening of the U.S. Supreme Court on the first Monday in October. The Mass requests guidance from the Holy Spirit for all who seek justice, and offers the opportunity to reflect on what Catholics believe is the responsibility of all in the legal profession. Originating in Europe during the Middle Ages, the Red Mass is so-called from the red vestments traditionally worn in symbolism of the tongues of fire that descended on the Apostles at Pentecost. The Mass will also be of interest to any parishes who enjoy historical liturgies of the Church.
10 Eucharistic Adoration every Thursday from 5 p.m. to midnight at St. Gregory’s Chapel, St. Gregory’s Monastery, Shawnee. The evening will begin with Mass at 5 p.m. with adoration to follow. Included is vespers with the monks.

16 TAP INTO FAITH! This month’s topic: Catholic Social Justice with Deacon Gary Peterson. Single or married, ages 21 to 121. 8 p.m. Talk follows a fellowship. Tap into Faith is held at Lottiniello’s located on South Kelley just south of 15th in Edmond. We have a private room in back. For more information, call Mary Luchor at 401-4105 or Alllem Girdano at 639-9787.

17 Monthly Novena to the Infant Jesus. The 17th-25th of each month. National Shrine of the Infant Jesus of Prague, located at Saint Wenceslaus Catholic Church at 304 Jim Thorpe Blvd. in Prague. Registration fee: $60, $15 deposit. Place: Red Plains Community Center at 4300 W. Britton Road, Oklahoma City. Contact Toni Harrelson at (405) 341-2199 or lmc-oklahoma@blogher.net.


20 The Community of the Secular Franciscan Order of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Mt. Carmel and St. Teresa of Jesus - Oklahoma Community and Province of St. Therese meets at St. Joseph Carmelite Monastery in Footman from 1 to 4 p.m. For more information, call Susan Staudt at (405) 252-6624 or Sister Silvia Negote at (405) 232-7926.

20 The Secular Franciscan Order of St. Francis Fraternity meets at 1:30 p.m. at St. Anthony’s Hospital Chapel. For more information, call Jim Dukow at 630-4888.

25 Retreat - Be Still and Know That I Am God with Debra Luther, June 25, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fee: $90, $15 deposit. Place: Red Plains Spirituality Center - Lucy’s Retreat House. Bring a sack lunch, journal, pen, beach towel or yoga mat, comfy clothes and walking shoes.
NEW YORK CITY (CNA) — Down Eden, a popular Catholic author known for her work on chastity in the modern world, is set to release a new book on the central role of the saints in healing wounds from childhood sexual abuse.

“I was struck by the sheer number of saints who experienced childhood sexual abuse — there were more than I had imagined — and how relevant their stories were to people living in the present day,” Eden told CNA in a June 1 interview.


Eden, the author of the 2006 bestseller, “The Thrill of the Chaste,” said the inspiration for her new book came from discussions on chastity with thousands of young people.

“It became apparent to me that a major reason people resent the Church’s teachings on chastity and the culture of life is because they have suffered childhood sexual abuse, or have witnessed sexual inappropriateness,” Eden said.

She said that victims of this kind of abuse often believe that they are impure or have been defiled by what happened to them.

As a result of this, Christ’s holiness is preferable to their own, Eden explained that in the course of her research, she discovered the story of childhood sexual abuse in two ways.

“First, many of them were sexually abused or were subject to other forms of abuse as children,” she said.

“Children feel this invasion much more deeply than do adults, because of their natural dependency.”

Eden cited examples of saints who were sexually victimized as children, such as young Roman martyrs and St. Maria Goretti — a 20th century girl who was fatally stabbed while resisting sexual assault.

In the United States of the 21st century, children may not know what it is like to be at the mercy of a pagan emperor, but many know what it is like to be at the mercy of their mother’s violent, alcoholic live-in lover, as was Blessed Laura Vicuna, Eden noted.

They are not thrown to the lions, but many are thrown into a sexually invasive home environment, she said.

Eden explained that in the nation’s capital of Zagreb, on June 5.

In today’s society, the presence of exemplary Christian families is more necessary and urgent than ever,” he said.

In his homily he entitled both the virtues of Catholic family life and Italy rejected many of the modern attacks upon it. Because of the “difficulties and threats” that Christian families face, Pope Benedict said that they have a “special need of evangelization and support.” He praised them as a decisive resource for education in the faith, for the way families build up the communion of the Church.”

Pope Benedict then turned to those things that destroy family life and happiness — the first being extreme secularism.

“Freedom without commitment to the truth is turned to the gratification of instinctive impulses,” he said.

However, he added, “there is a much larger population whose pain is not being discussed, and should be.”

Eden said that the overwhelming majority of child sex abuse instances are committed not by clergy but by family members — about one-third to one-half of cases — or other acquaintances of the abused.

She noted that according to a 2010 government study nearly one in five women and one in 14 men in America report having been abused as children.

“Such painful memories afflict at least one person on every pew in every parish,” Eden said.

“I want to let those members of the Mystical Body of Christ know that they are not alone, they are not forgotten, and they have more friends in heaven than they realize,” she underscored.

On a deeper level, Eden said she wants to highlight the truth that understanding the fatherhood of God is essential before one can comprehend the idea of marriage.

“We have to understand ourselves as children of God before we can understand ourselves as Husband or Bride of Christ,” she said.

“In the rush to teach the faithful about the connection between espousal love and the love of the Trinity, I believe we have unwittingly left behind many people who do not comprehend espousal because they lack a foundational understanding of God’s fatherly love,” Eden said.

“These are the people we hope to help bring back to the fold.”