Love, devotion and cancer survival spark vocation to priesthood

John Paul Lewis to be ordained June 25

By Diane Clay,

A week after watching his father become a deacon, John Paul Lewis was enjoying the first semester of eighth grade and gearing up for Christmas. Then, his family received an unexpected call from the doctor’s office. A routine procedure had revealed an adult disease in his 13-year-old body. He had malignant melanoma. It was a frightening and profound experience that set Lewis on his journey to know Jesus and follow his dream of becoming a priest.

On June 25, Archbishop Coakley will ordain Lewis to the priesthood in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

Lewis’s battle with cancer, his chemotherapy and the eventual eradication of the disease made clear his notion of what he wanted to be and why.

“That was the moment where I knew there was nothing I could do and had to turn to the Lord. Through that experience the Lord showed me and told me he loved me. I couldn’t express it then, but it was like the Lord said ‘Here’s your life; now give your life to me.’”

Lewis knew he was spared for a purpose. It was a purpose he had known and told his parents about starting at age 4. While other kids wanted to be firefighters, ballerinas, famous basketball players or musicians, Lewis wanted to be a priest.

“I remember I would be sitting in Mass or kneeling or serving and in my head I would say it along with the priest. I like to memorize, so I would always try to say the prayer before he would say it. I had a love for the Mass and the prayers of the Mass,” Lewis said.

After entering high school at Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School in Oklahoma City, Lewis participated in Emmaus Days, a retreat for young men who would like to learn more about the call to the priesthood, and made the trip with the archdiocesan vocations office to visit a seminary during an “Encounter with God’s Call” weekend.

He graduated high school and entered Conception Seminary College in Conception, Mo.

“Through my nine years of seminary, there were ups and downs. There were times where I wasn’t as sure as I am now. There was one point where I was discerning a vocation to monastic life and then a point where I almost left thinking I was called to marriage, but the Lord kept calling me. The Lord just gave me the graces that I needed to stay in seminary and to stay on that path he had me on,” Lewis said.

Catholic Charities opens new building in central Oklahoma

Civic, community and religious leaders joined Catholic Charities on May 24 to celebrate the completion of its new main services building at 1232 N. Classen Blvd. in Oklahoma City.

Featured speakers included Archbishop Paul S. Coakley, Gov. Mary Fallin, Capital Campaign Co-Chairs Oklahoma City philanthropist Judy Love and Inasmuch Foundation President Bob Ross, Oklahoma Council of Churches Executive Director William Tabernée and Catholic Charities Executive Director Patrick Raglow.

Congratulations Class of 2016

City philanthropist Judy Love and Inasmuch Foundation President Bob Ross, Oklahoma Council of Churches Executive Director William Tabernée and Catholic Charities Executive Director Patrick Raglow.

continued on Page 6

continued on Page 14
**Put Out Into the Deep**

**Lk 5:4**

Make time for leisure this summer

In Oklahoma, summer means heat. But, for many people summer means also is when we look forward to a much-anticipated vacation. Whether that means spending time leisurely at one of our beautiful Oklahoma lakes, a trip to the mountains, the beach or just at home with family and friends, our vacation time is precious.

My seminary rectory used to send us home for summer vacation with the fatherly admonition, “Gentlemen, there is no vacation from your vocation.” We got the point. Forget about, “What happens in Vegas stays in Vegas”! He was reminding us that our vacation is not somewhere from which we were entitled to escape from time to time. Vacation is something rooted deeply in our identity. It is not something we do, it is who we are. If anything, our vacation time away from the seminary was a time to integrate our vacations more completely into the whole of our lives.

The same holds for all of us.

The Hebrew tradition of the Sabbath and our Christian tradition of the Lord’s Day remind us of the importance of rest and leisure. Jesus said, “The Sabbath was made for man” (Mt 2:27). God commands the Sabbath rest not because he needs it, but because we do. We need it to help us remember who we are and who God is. Whether we take our rest on our weekly holy day (the Lord’s Day) or during an annual vacation or a spiritual retreat, rest is meant to be restorative. Leisure is a good and necessary human experience. There is a sacred element as well, of course. As the psalmist said, “Be still and know that I am God” (Ps 46:10). Vacations help us to refocus. They give us time to step away from our overly scheduled and stress-filled lives.

Imagine a vacation in which we gave ourselves permission even to disconnect from our smart phones, tablets and laptops! (Seem impossible?) “Nothing is impossible with God” (Lk 1:37). Disconnecting from time to time reveals the liberating truth that the world goes on fine without us. How freeing to discover that we don’t need to be in control all of the time. How liberating to know that “God is God and we are not!”

Taking time to step away from our overly scheduled routines and activities helps us see things and appreciate relationships in new ways, including our relationship with God. Understandably, many people reading this column may live with economic constraints that will not allow a traditional vacation. But, a mini-vacation can be as simple as sitting on the patio, going on a picnic, working in the garden or taking a quiet walk in the woods or under the stars in our own neighborhood. Leisure and rest are humanizing experiences that help us become more alive to wonder and more aware of God’s wonderful providence in our lives.

I pray you will make time to experience the restorative power of restful leisure this summer.

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**Find more news on the website**

By Sooner Catholic Staff

Additional coverage of Church and archdiocesan news and events, only on www.sooner catholic.org.

**Celebrate Fortnight for Freedom**

Beginning June 21, receive daily e-mails with prayers and religious news.

Go online to www.flckznate.com/archokc and subscribe to the Fortnight for Freedom 2016 group.

**There’s still time to sign up for Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Summer Camp!**

Camp 1 June 12-17
Camp 2 June 19-24
Camp 3 June 26-July 1
Camp 4 July 8-13
Camp 5 July 10-15
Camp 6 July 17-22
Camp 7 July 24-29

Check availability at www.archokc.org/archokc and subscribe to the Fortnight for Freedom 2016 group.

**Go through, go through the gates, prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones. – Isaiah 62:10**

Call (405) 721-9220.

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**Sacred Heart students embrace art, faith**

By Olivia Baldick

Sacred Heart Catholic School in south Oklahoma City has a new art installation that students, primarily middle schoolers, can see on their way to class — if they look up. More than 100 2x6-foot ceiling tiles have been painted by 6th, 7th and 8th graders during the past two years. The tiles run the length of a hallway in the main building.

Art teacher Cheryl Swanson, who has taught art for 37 years — the past seven at Sacred Heart — led the project after principal Joana Camacho saw painted ceiling tiles in classrooms at a Catholic school she visited in Maryland. Swanson almost immediately began planning the ceiling art and asked every teacher for their favorite scripture passage.

Camacho’s favorite passage is Philippians 4:13, “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” That scripture and many others are incorporated throughout the hallway’s art. The school’s mission statement also is included in English and Spanish. One portion of the mural is dedicated to the late Father Roberto Quant, a beloved pastor at the school for nearly three years, with an image of Jesus and a child. His picture is already in every classroom, and this painting is another way to keep his presence alive.

Swanson mapped out the tile design, but the students were the ones who executed the painting. She’s an “artist outcast,” says Camacho and could have done it by herself, but saw the learning opportunity and got the students involved. Each tile was painted by a team of students. The kids learned to trust Swanson’s vision since the big picture was hard to imagine until every glazed and fired tile came together.

The result is a colorful, bright mural that reflects the Christian message and Hispanic influence in the school’s culture. Beauty created a normally negative space.

“I can’t help but be enthralled with it,” Camacho said. Before this, Swanson led another school art project, an image of Our Lady of Guadalupe made up of solid, small tiles. Students get to paint a tile and know where it went on the grid, so they could paint their singular tile amongst them all. The students often say “hi” or pray to Mary on their way to the playground.

Art projects like these teach kids to love and make art, Swanson said. Swanson’s talent as a teacher has given her students confidence and ownership of their work.

Camacho said, “She is truly a gift to our program.”

Olivia Baldick is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.
Making meatless Fridays a year-round observance

A new family tradition to prepare for the celebration of Sunday

The year I married was the year the Department of Health and Human Services issued the mandate that required employers to cover the contraceptive and sterilization sterilization and abortion services in their health insurance.

Exceptions were given to churches, but not other religious organizations, including Catholic Charities, Catholic schools and the Little Sisters of the Poor.

In moments apart from newwold Israel, I was left. I turned arguments to myself pharmacists that alter the body away from a healthy state, fertility, to render it infertile, is not health care, as it is not maintaining health; if the government really cares about the poor and vulnerable, they should allow the same area, the same Church to work freely; the Little Sisters of the Poor are clearly religious, as they must follow their First Amendment right to free exercise of religion.

Despite repeating arguments to myself and, occasionally, of us who have grown up with the practice, I had never known anything pre-Vatican II tradition until I was in college. As a young adult, I inadvertently fell into the practice by participating in Friday night Mass as a friend’s where the Mass was always consciously vegetarian.

Sparred by the bishops’ request and without too much discussion, my husband and I decided to follow in the path of the Church, and we preserve this tradition. It was a simple yet profound decision. I quickly became a way to mark the week, to set Fridays apart. Every Friday, the uniqueness of the day pervades my consciousness as I choose what foods to prepare and eat.

At each turn, I remember the rules for choosing to abstain from meat: Christ’s sacrifice. It also is “a way of acknowledging that there have been holy moments around our lives and our behaviors,” so MethodiAzukvich pointed out in her book, “The Catholic Catalog: A+15 minutes a day with the Word of God is a must for the evangelical Catholic of the 21st century. Biblical preaching that teaches open the text so that we can see the world, and ourselves, ought to be another 21st-Century Catholic imperative.

There are too little biblical laid-back pastoral preaching, with which the Church is first millennium exemplified, teaching Christians to think from their recent homilies in the Liturgy of the Hours, but the kind of expository preaching the Fathers did is rarely heard at either Sunday or weekday Masses. It must be paid, if the Church’s people are to be equipped to convert and lead contemporary culture. For the first step in that leading process is to penetrate the fog, see ourselves and others as we are, and understand our situation. What is it, so,/paying 10 or

If Catholics in the United States are going to participate in the observance of Fortnight for Freedom, a two-week period devoted to preserving and defending the religious liberties protected by the First Amendment. This year marks the fifth annual observance of Fortnight for Freedom, a weekly period devoted to preserving and defending the religious liberties protected by the First Amendment. This year marks the fifth annual observance of Fortnight for Freedom, a two-week period devoted to preserving and defending the religious liberties protected by the First Amendment. This year marks the fifth annual observance of Fortnight for Freedom, a weekly period devoted to preserving and defending the religious liberties protected by the First Amendment.

The observance of meatless Fridays leads to greater celebra- tion of days of rest, with the effort to keep Fridays without keeping Sundays. Sundays are now, more than ever, a day of joy and thanksgiving given in the liturgy of the Eucharist.

The simple practice of meatless Fridays has changed the experi- ence of the week. With the adap- tation of this practice, we stumbled upon what I think is a truly fruitful pastoral statement on self-control. We have Sundays, the weekly day of praise and thank- you to God, a day of joy and comfort. Every week, we prepare for the trials ahead, grounded in the ability to keep Friday as a day of sacrifice and keep in mind our priorities in the face of a world so obsessed with self-satisfaction that the real - the person oriented toward God - stand in ever-greater peril of being lost.

American commentators Bichild For the Sooner Catholic

The beers of being lost.

“We can have another life – the person oriented toward God; indeed we attain what is be- cause we are always open to God’s de-

The Catholic Difference

Biblical teaching and being the culture

The Catholic Difference

Biblical teaching and being the culture

The Catholic Difference

Biblical teaching and being the culture

Fortnight for Freedom begins June 21

“Witness to Freedom: preserving religious liberty

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By Sally Linhart, Each year from June 21 to July 4, Catholics around the world gather in prayer, fasting and a call to action to observe Fortnight for Freedom, a two-week period devoted to preserving and defending the religious liberties protected by the First Amendment. This year marks the fifth annual observance of Fortnight for Freedom, a weekly period devoted to preserving and defending the religious liberties protected by the First Amendment. This year marks the fifth annual observance of Fortnight for Freedom, a weekly period devoted to preserving and defending the religious liberties protected by the First Amendment. This year marks the fifth annual observance of Fortnight for Freedom, a weekly period devoted to preserving and defending the religious liberties protected by the First Amendment.

Archbishop William Lori will be the keynote speaker at the Fortnight for Freedom Rally on June 27 in the Chastity Center. The activities culminate July 4 in Washington DC as Catholics from all over the country take a pilgrimage to the nation’s capital. The group will participate in a rally at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception and the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception and the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

A week of national prayer for the Fortnight for Freedom 2016 is “Witness to Freedom.” The event will examine the lives of men and women who were persecuted and freed from all over the world, who bear witness to authentic freedom in Christ. Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, Saint Oscar Romero and Saint Maximilian Kolbe are a few of the faithful who will be remembered during Fortnight for Freedom. Additionally, are included St. Thomas More and Saint John Fisher, whose feast days are celebrated at the begin- ning of the observance of Fort- night for Freedom. Both saints were persecuted and ultimately died for their faith.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has launched the campaign in 2012, and have called upon faith- ful Catholics to unite in prayer and sacrifice for the preservation of life, marriage and religious liberty. The purpose of the event is to raise awareness of the religious freedom offended citizens and protected by federal law. The Kolumbia continue to be in danger in the United States and abroad as individuals and the human person are consistently under threat. While the faithful are being persecuted in other parts of the world in a more violent manner, in the United States we are facing a different threat: from what Pope Francis calls “public persecution.”

Confrontation makes, immi- gration restrictions and same-sex marriage laws are a few examples of ways that our religious freedoms are being infringed upon. The USCCB provides more facts and information on their website, and encourages Catholics to become aware of, and educated, current issues that affect and threaten our religious freedom.

The Religious Freedom Restora- tion Act, enacted by President Clinton in 1993, enshrines and protects religious freedoms are protected and enforced. But, the states, including Oklahoma, have passed their own REPA laws, which apply to state and local governments. Individuals and families can participate in Fortnight for Free- dom by fasting, celebrating Mass in honor of Saints Thomas More and Saint John Fisher on their feast day—Wednesday, June 22 and praying the Prayer for the Protection of Religious Liberty every day.

For more information, go online at www.usccb.org/prayer or text FREEDOM to 773777.

Sally Linhart is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.
Catholic Charities opens new building in central Oklahoma
Instrumental upgrade to serve Oklahomans in need

There are few for preachers, books for teenagers, books for seniors, books for just about everyone at any stage of life. That's the boast of author Mark Hart. Hart has found his niche writing for young adults. Sometimes called "The Bible Guy," he is especially focused on leading young Catholics to a study of God's word as a foundation for living. His book, "Blessed Are the Bored in Spirit," invites readers to take a look at the modern spiritual journey.

This book is much more than personal philosophy, Hart says. It is an attempt to observe the other page of or reference to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, or to passages from Scripture. Every reference, from pope to verse in parentheses that follow many of his important ideas. At the same time, his writing is light and enjoyable, with a style designed to appeal specifically to college-age young adults.

Hart begins with a vivid description of a nearly disastrous airplane flight that ended in a crash landing. He opens Ch. 1 telling us that "Passengers freaked. Oxygen masks came down. Lights flickered. Children cried. The cabin lost power. The plane lost altitude. "Every- one was terrified and denominational boundaries ceased to exist. Everyone, it seemed, made the sign of the Cross or variations thereof."

He buried his face in his hands and "prepared to meet Jesus."

The event was life-changing for Hart. That morning was a felt that carried him "beyond conversion." Hart believes that conversion, transformation, is a necessary part of living a faith-filled life, and he invites his readers to "ask yourself what's stopping you from stepping from the world abase to God?"

Hart goes on in Ch. 2 to talk about fear and how "fear of change inhibits many Catholics in their spiritual journey." In other chapters, he offers attending Mass as a "Holy Day of Opportunity." He says that the Sacrament of Reconciliation is "like exercise. There will always be an escape route to not go, so you just have to get up and do it."

He explains what's wrong with "recreational sex," arguing that "many people think that the Catholic Church is anti-sex ... nothing could be further from the truth. The Church is pro-commitment and anti-selfish."

Hart is very much in touch with the world of young people today, and he has a great way with words. He says that "campaigns, gams and bars are filled with empty tees and 20- and 30-somethings because too many young adults focus on a kill they don't like, separated like orphans from a God they don't really know." He says that "we push Jesus out of the driver's seat and take the wheel. Sometimes we don't even let him ride side along." He tells us that "God doesn't call the equiped, he equips the called."

"Jesus is calling you – pick up the phone."

Hart can be truly insightful. He writes about video games and why they appeal to so much. They give us a sense of control, he says, and "life is a whole lot easier in the gaming world." Human beings "want to create their own reality, and the temptation to do so was there from the start. Adam and Eve wanted a world in which they were in control, so they disobeyed God."

The book also offers practical advice. He asks readers to turn off the TV and the computer some evening and "reflect" on how responsive they are to God's presence in their lives. Then, he says, "take time to write out how you see God" and then "write out how God sees you."

He has clear cut suggestion for how to get more out of Mass. On date, he asks readers to think about the Mass. This person is leading me closer to or further away from Jesus Christ," he says. On exercise, he says, "Don't just go for a run but offer yourself for a run as a specific intention."

So, who are those "bored in spirit" that Hart addresses in his title? They are all the young people who, like himself at one point, have not had "a personal encounter with God." Rather than being without breathless with anticipation," he writes, "the sacrament left me yawning, anticipating boredom. Hart's book is full of hope and encouragement for young adults.

Hart's book is subtitled "A Young Catholic's Search for Meaning," and published by Prentice Hall, for historical criticism, as well as the Catholic Prayer Bible.
Congratulations Class of 2016

Mount Saint Mary Catholic High School
For information on admissions, applications, shadow visits and financial assistance, contact:
(405) 631-8865 Ext. 205
www.mountstmary.org
Admissions: dwilson@mountstmary.org
Photos: Theresa Dragg/Sooner Catholic

Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School
For information on admissions, tuition, financial aid and placement test and enrollment deadlines contact:
(405) 842-6638
www.bmchs.org
Freshman: lohara@bmchs.org
Sophomore/Junior: rdamron@bmchs.org
801 N.W. 50, OKC 73118
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Canyen Tyler Answorth
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Nicholas R. Bulla
Chantel Anne Marie Boudoin
Adelaide Jane Bell
Milron Ray Blackburn
James Paul Blonchard
Samantha Jean Boren
Zachary Joseph Bowen

Emilee Katherine Box
Sarah Jane Brooks
Henry Russell Burkes
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Katherine Margaret Cassidy
Sidney Ross Clarke
Evan Michelle Clear
Elizabeth Ray Clark
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Morgan Ray Coleman
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Sydney Rachel Dye
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Antonio Roberto Lopez
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Ryan Hung Mai-Du
Nikena T. Maroney
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Jacob Andrew Mullins
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Emily Ross Nghiem

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Celeste Beih
Ashley Bledsoe
Noah Beckman
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Claire Gallagher
Where have all the fathers gone?
Amoris Laetitia on fatherhood

By Pedro A. Monreal, O.P., Director, Office of Hispanic Ministry

In a few weeks we will be celebrating Father’s Day and tie makers, Cologne manufacturers and those companions that give you a choice between boxes or briefs. Although the sad truth is that what is spent on Father’s Day is usually a lot less than what is spent on Mother’s Day.

While Mother’s Day cards are the No. 1 seller for greeting cards, sadly, Father’s Day cards are No. 4 in sales. This is just the beginning. The most impressive number for me is that Mother’s Day out sells Father’s Day by nearly $85 million dollars. In society’s eyes, fatherhood is not what it used to be, it is in steady decline.

Even Pope Francis is speaking about fatherhood in his latest document “Amoris Laetitia.” Specifically paragraphs 176 and 177 express an honest analysis of the current state of fatherhood.

Here is the beginning of paragraph 176 where the Holy Father speaks a lot of the absence of fathers and of some of the problems with the way fatherhood was lived out in the past. “We often hear that in a society without fathers.”

Amoris Laetitia on fatherhood

The Holy Father continues with the changes in fatherhood and the difficulties in the practice of this unique vocation. “Yet, as often happens, one goes from one extreme to the other. In our day, the problem no longer seems to be the overbearing presence of the father so much as his absence, his not being there. Fathers are often so caught up in themselves and their work, and at times in their own self-satisfaction, that they neglect their families. They leave the little ones and the young to themselves.”

By Sally Crowe Nash
June marks the 10th anniver- sary of Oklahoma Catholic Broadcasting, and a good part of celebrating this milestone includes marveling at how God has blessed us with just a few resources — sort of like Jesus feeding 5,000 people with only five loaves and two fish to share among them.

At the outset, OCB was only a few hours a day. Now, listeners can access Catholic radio 24 hours a day. For several years, three volunteers and a technical engineer produced Oklahoma Catholic Broadcasting. There are now more than double that number and the count swells to as many as 20 when you count the Radiothon volun- teers.

Perhaps most wonderful is that OCBN is available to listen to anywhere in the state. Because of the cost, we often get requests to tune in when we are away from the studio. “We often hear that ours is ‘a poor person’s radio’” — but not anymore.

A reminder: Your donation supports Catholic radio 24 hours a day. For several years, three volunteers and a technical engineer produced Oklahoma Catholic Broadcasting. There are now more than double that number and the count swells to as many as 20 when you count the Radiothon volunteers. Perhaps most wonderful is that OCBN is available to listen to anywhere in the state.

CATHOLIC RADIO FUNDRAISING

This growth also has meant monthly recurring expenses of approximately $25,000. To survive and fulfill the Gospel message throughout Oklaho- ma, Catholic radio engages in fundraising. Many parishes graciously have welcomed Jeff Pinnelli, Deacon Larry Suess and Fred Pope to their weekend liturgies for an appeal for support. Two Radiothons a year produce loyal monthly donors.

The presence of the father, and hence his authority, also is impacted by the amount of time given over to the communications and entertainment media. Nowadays authority is often considered suspect and adults are treated with impertinence. They themselves become uncertain and so fail to offer sure and solid guidance to their children. A reversal of the roles of parents and children in solidarity of course it is not good for life and it is not good for development. Parents need it. We all do.

A response to the shortcomings of fatherhood, Pope Francis, in paragraph 177, reminds us of what key ideas should be kept in mind as family can be prop- erly seen from the perspective of our faith.

Key ideas of fatherhood in faith

Amoris Laetitia (No. 177)

God sets the father in the family and each father should be the reflection of God’s truth, love and mercy to the members of his family.

• Fathers are called to share their God given gift of their masculinity — image and discipline of Christ; generosity and servant leadership; man of prayer and worship; wisdom, integrity and character; humility and sanctity. Loving closeness to his wife manifested in many and varied ways.

• Willing and able to share everything with his wife; joy, sorrow, hope and hardships Loving closeness and healthy presence to his children that pro- motes proper development — as they grow; when they play or work; when they are unwell or sad; when they are diligent or when they are not; when they are daring and when they are afraid; when they stay and when they get back on the right path.

• We all do need our loving Father in heaven and it is not good for children to lack a father. Their ab- sence just forces children to grow up before they are truly ready.

Maybe these reminders inspired by Pope Francis might help fathers of today and tomorrow. One thing we all can do is to join together and pray for them and another is to maybe equal what you spent on Mother’s Day. We need to catch up!

An early Happy Father’s Day to all dads!
John Paul Lewis to be ordained

continued from Page 1

Lewis said young men and women trying to discern their vocation or path in life should look beyond worldly measures of success and focus on God’s call. “The temptation may be to make those kinds of decisions rather than something other than what God wants for me?” He has a specific plan for each of us and how he growth. My dad is one of my greatest learners. He was a big influence in my vic-

Lewis said, “My mum is my own personal Lady of Perpetual Help. She has always been there for me, and anyone have an issue. Gabe, my mom and she will give me advice and lead me where to go for.”

As an employee for the archdiocese, Rosemary Lewis has been approached many times about her son’s voca-

One of the questions was, “What is prayer?”

Like robotics, we were able to re-

As Pope Francis often repeats, a child’s pri-

As with most Christians, I have

prayer as “being of one mind with

hands,” author Henri Nouwen

And close to you bid me; That with your saints,

We are surrounded by noise: ring-

As I reflect more on being one of many and listen with heart with God, I am reminded that later in the “Our Father” prayer we pray, “forgive us our trespasses as

When I was in Catholic elemen-

The job is the key position for both

Christ the King is accepting ap-

Vocations

What is prayer?

Sr. Catherine Powers talks with Calena about finding stillness in an increasingly demanding world.

Sr. Catherine Powers, C.N.D., is coordinator of the Safe Environment Office for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

What is prayer?

Sr. Catherine Powers talks with Calena about finding stillness in an increasingly demanding world.

Catholic community of Stillwater.

The very center of your person,

prayer is a gift of God.”

I was able to recite the answer, but it was not until many years later that I really

reflected on the profound meaning of those words. So often we think of

practice external and

We are surrounded by noise: ring-

as with most Christians, I have

The content of the class con-

like robots, we were able to re-

The content of the class con-

As Pope Francis often repeats, a child’s pri-

The very center of your person,

prayer as “being of one mind with

hands,” author Henri Nouwen

And close to you bid me; That with your saints,

We are surrounded by noise: ring-

As I reflect more on being one of many and listen with heart with God, I am reminded that later in the “Our Father” prayer we pray, “forgive us our trespasses as

When I was in Catholic elemen-

The job is the key position for both

Christ the King is accepting ap-

Vocations

What is prayer?

Sr. Catherine Powers talks with Calena about finding stillness in an increasingly demanding world.

Sr. Catherine Powers, C.N.D., is coordinator of the Safe Environment Office for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

What is prayer?

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Lánzate a lo más Profundo

Tómese tiempo para el ocio este verano

En Oklahoma verano significa calor. Sin embargo, para muchas personas el verano también es cuando anticipamos unas merecidas vacaciones. Si eso significa pasar tiempo de descanso es una de nuestras hermosas lagunas de Oklahoma, un viaje a las montañas, la playa, o simplemente el tiempo en casa con la familia y amigos nuestro tiempo de vacaciones es precioso.

Mi rector del seminario acostumbraba entusiasmar a los seminarios para un viaje de descanso en las vacaciones. Nos decía que en las vacaciones nos descansaríamos de una manera que no veíamos cada día. En las vacaciones necesitamos descansar. Es lo que somos. En todo momento el descanso está programado en el decreto de vida.

El problema de nuestros días no es que los niños carecen de un padre. Su supuesto ausente, desviado, desvanecido. El problema de nuestros días es que los niños necesitan más ayuda para romper la rutina. La rutina puede ser una distracción. Hoy, además, la vida es más exigente: las horas de estudio, las horas de trabajo, los días de fiesta.

Aun así, los adultos son creadores y ante la vida. Hoy, además, la vida es más exigente: las horas de estudio, las horas de trabajo, los días de fiesta. Tomarse el tiempo para alejarse de nuestras rutinas es precioso.

Iglesia necesita mujeres valientes como María, dice el papa durante Misa matutina Por Junno Arocho Esteves

En una peca semanas estuvimos celebrando el Día de los Padres y fabricantes de corbatas, fabricantes de calzado y con- 

PAr los temas, sus recuerdos de la vida del papa Francisco podrían ayudar a los padres de hoy y mañana. A veces, todo lo que se puede hacer es llamar a la atención de la necesidad del apoyo del padre a los hijos. Y tal vez en tal caso podríamos sentir algo de lo que se gasta en el Día de los Padres, ¡y de lo que se gasta en el Día de las Madres! Necesitamos recordar que no necesitamos a nuestro Señor en este tiempo del año, porque incluso en esta época del año nuestro Padre en el cielo no es el que no se lo está, está en constante devoción.

¿A Dónde Han Ido Todos Los Padres? Amoris Laetitia nos habla sobre la paternidad

Amoris Laetitia nos habla sobre la paternidad. Dios pone al padre en la familia y la sociedad, la paternidad no es una «sociedad sin padres». En el párrafo 176 en donde el Santo Padre habla mucho de la ausencia de los padres en las vidas que nos ayudan a crecer y a tener tal vez estos recordatorios de un padre amoroso y misericordioso.

El Papa recibe pelota de fútbol de oficial de la liga

El Papa Francisco recibe un balón de fútbol de parte de Maurizio Airolo, presidente de la liga italiana Serie A, a través de una audiencia privada en el Vaticano el 20 de mayo. (Foto CNS-L’Osservatore Romano vía Reuters)

El PAPA FRANCISCO EN SERIES A

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Fathers’ Day is Sunday June 19. It is a reminder and an opportunity to honoring thy father. Some of the saints were fathers, the most notable of whom was Saint Joseph, the temporal father of Our Lord and chaste spouse of Mary. His dignity is above that of all the saints except Mary. Joseph and Mary are the preeminent, the most outstanding, saints. “Jesus was obedient to them” (Luke 2:51).

Saint Louis IX
Saint Louis IX reigned from 1226 to 1270. He and Queen Margaret of Provence had 11 children. Their son Phillip would succeed him as king after Louis’ death at Tunis (capital of modern day Tunisia) after leading a crusade. Saint Louis, in whose honor Saint Louis, Mo., was named, is considered the model Christian king.

Saint Thomas More
Saint Thomas More was the father of four children. Early in his life he had wanted to be a clergyman, but was unsure of that calling. He chose family life and the law. He was Chancellor of England, the legal authority of the realm as well as adviser to the sovereign during the reign of King Henry VIII.

He refused to approve of the divorce of King Henry from Queen Catherine of Aragon and remarriage to Anne Boleyn. He refused to acknowledge Henry as head of the church in England and to take the Oath of Supremacy Henry required of his subjects, for which he was tried for treason, convicted and beheaded in 1535. Henry would later divorce Anne and have her executed for treason a year later. In what must be considered ironic, both are buried in the Anglican (Catholic until Henry’s apostasy) chapel of Saint Peter ad Vincula at the Tower of London. Thomas More was canonized in 1935. His feast day is June 22. He had his children educated to read and write. Extending education to daughters was unusual for that time. Saint Thomas More is the patron saint of attorneys.

Saint Louis Martin
Saint Louis Martin is the most recently canonized saint who was a father. He was canonized along with his wife, Marie Azelie Guerin, on Oct. 18, 2015. July 12 is their feast day.

Louis Martin wanted to become a monk, but did not know Latin. He became a watchmaker. He met and married Marie Azelie Guerin in 1858. The couple had nine children, only five of whom survived infancy. They were girls, and all went into the convent. One of them was Saint Therese of Lisieux, a Carmelite nun famously known as “The Little Flower.” She died of tuberculosis in 1897 at age 24. In “The Story of a Soul,” her autobiography, she lovingly writes about her father.

“I cannot tell you how much I loved him, and I admired him in everything he did. When he used to expound to me some of his ideas on serious matters, as though I were already grown up, I would tell him in all simplicity: ‘If you talked that way to the great men in the government, they would make you King for certain; then France would be happier than ever before. The trouble is, you would be miserable, because kings always are, and also you would not be my very own King, so I am glad they do not know you’” (Pg. 31, 1997 edition, TAN Books and Publishers Inc.).

Ted King is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

Celebrating fatherly saints, honoring dads on Father’s Day

By Ted King,