More than 1,000 faithful from multiple Christian denominations gathered Aug. 15 in downtown Oklahoma City for the first-ever Unity Prayer Service and Walk. The event provided an uplifting opportunity to pray, sing and praise Jesus in response to a satanic ritual performed in the city and against violence and hatred around the world.

Rev. William Novak, vicar general for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, welcomed the crowd.

“I stand here tonight with leaders and representatives from many Christian denominations and faiths. We are all brothers and sisters unified in peace and in prayer. As we stand here in this particular place, we are reminded what evil has done to our city and the lives it has destroyed, but we are also aware of the good that rests in every human heart; good that overcomes evil; that seeks healing and community and peace. We ask God to dispel all darkness and evil of every kind from our city, our nation and our world.”

Olympic gymnast keeps rosary close when she competes

RIO DE JANEIRO – U.S. Olympic gymnast and gold medalist Simone Biles says when she travels, she sometimes takes with her a statue of Saint Sebastian, the patron saint of athletes, and she also carries a rosary her mother gave her.

Biles, who won gold in the women’s gymnastics all-around competition Aug. 11 and helped lead the U.S. women to a team gold Aug. 9, made those comments to Us Weekly.

“My mom, Nellie, got me a rosary at church. I don’t use it to pray before a competition. I’ll just pray normally to myself, but I have it there in case,” the 19-year-old told the magazine in a July 8 interview.
Shaping a culture of life: what about the death penalty?

By Archbishop Paul S. Coakley, the legitimate authority having recourse to the death Gospel of Life,” does not exclude the possibility of in a way that is proportionate to the offense.

The use of the death penalty, or capital punish- ment, could be legitimate under very narrowly circumscribed situations, specifically, if there is no other way to protect society. Given the means that the state has today to incarcerate offenders and protect society, the cases in which the execution of the offender is truly necessary are, in the words of Saint John Paul II, “very rare, if not practically non-exist- ent” (Gospel of Life, 67).

Unfortunately, in many parts of the United States, the use of the death pen- nul has become quite commonplace. As we consider the rising tide of violence across our nation, the alarming number of innocent people left to live in a world that is unreasonably and disproportionately high murder and terror, the number of prisoners who have been mistreated and have been denied the right to a fair trial, the upsurge in executions, the public conversation about whether we as Oklahomans should continue to support the death penalty, is an important conversation for our community.

Let’s help the young people form our con- science on the often nefarious subject of the death penalty.

The Fifth Commandment of the Decalogue affirms “Thou shall not kill” (Ex. 20:13). “The Catechism of the Church” teaches that “The state, too, which is responsible for protect- ing society, the cases in which the execution of the offender is truly necessary are, in the words of Saint John Paul II, “very rare, if not practically non-exist- ent” (Gospel of Life, 67).

This is the context in which we ought to consider the question of the death penalty. The second edition of the “Catechism of the Catholic Church,” following the 1995 encyclical letter of Saint John Paul II, “The Gospel of Life: Human Dignity and the Sanctity of Life,” states that the legitimate authority having recourse to the death penalty, assuming that the guilty party’s identity and responsibility have been properly determined. But, it adds that this should be for the final option. “If this is the only possible way of effectively defending human lives against an unjust aggressor” (CCC 2267).

In anticipation of the new abortion clinic in southeast Oklahoma City, a few blocks from St. James parish and other churches, join Fr. Prvrti, Sr. Maria, parishioners at St. James and community members every morning at 11:30 a.m. at 1240 S.W. 44 to pray the Rosary. Anyone can participate.

Young men make Emmaus Days a success

More than 30 high school students from across the Archdiocese of Okla- homa City attended Emmaus Days from June 13-17, a Totus Tuus event offered by the Catholic Foundation of Okla- homa. The experience, which includes four young adults from outside the state, a vocation to the priesthood.

The program lasts seven weeks and students are accepted on a competition basis. The program is an annual event that consists of several teams of four young adults from outside the state, a vocation to the priesthood.

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For more information, contact Barbara Sorrento at (405) 721-9351 or bsorrento@archokc.org.
In June, the Second Vatican Council released the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC). The Catechism is a unique opportunity to engage in a dialogue about the meaning of human existence and our relationship with God. It is a fundamental resource for understanding the nature of Christian faith and life.

The Catechism is structured as a dialogue between a catechumen and a catechist, who represent the questioner and the teacher, respectively. The dialogue is divided into four parts:

1. **The Christian Mystery**
   - **Introduction:** The nature of faith and the importance of the community of faith.
   - **Foundations:** The meaning of the term “Christian” and the history of Christianity.
   - **The People of Faith:** The community of faith and its members.
   - **The Church:** The institutions and structures of the Church.

2. **The Christian Life**
   - **Faith and Life:** The relationship between faith and daily life.
   - **The Family:** The role of the family in Christian life.
   - **Community:** The importance of community and cooperation.
   - **Authority:** The role of authority in the Church.

3. **The Christian Bible**
   - **The Scriptures:** The significance of the Bible and its interpretation.
   - **The Word of God:** The concept of the Word of God.
   - **The History of the Bible:** The development of the Bible.
   - **The Church and the Scriptures:** The relationship between the Church and the Bible.

4. **The Christian Message**
   - **The Person of Jesus Christ:** The life, teaching, and mission of Jesus.
   - **The Sacraments:** The seven sacraments of the Church.
   - **The Way of Life:** The moral life and the call to holiness.
   - **The End of Time:** The final destination of all human beings.

The Catechism is a unique opportunity to engage in a dialogue about the meaning of human existence and our relationship with God. It is a fundamental resource for understanding the nature of Christian faith and life.
Holiness in example of St. Dominic
By Judy Hilovsky;
St. Joseph Norman visits Mexico for first mission trip

Earlier this month, I read a short biography of St. Dominic; the founder of the Order of Preachers, or Dominicans. Long familiar with the concept that sexual activity, either in a white or black habits, I never had read even a brief account of his life.

I learned that this holy man was devoted from a young age and entered the priesthood as a young adult. In the course of his priestly duties, he spread the Gospel to a group known as the Cathars, who knew of Christ, but rejected many important aspects of the Gospel. The leaders of the Cathars denied the reality of the incarnation, interpreting the Gospel as an allegory; likewise, they rejected the principle of original sin and the necessity of God, the resurrection of the body and the sacraments. Dominic saw the dangers of these false teachings and participated in a mission to convert the Cathars to a full understanding of the truth lived in the Church.

Through his work, he came to know the Cathars. Their leaders had been “dodging” certain “contested issues” for a long time. Which is why, so God’s promises, he went to the cathedrals of the Church of Me. Dominic had been “bogged” in a “household divorce and contraception.” For this reason, the Post’s editors opined, “has always been dodging” certain “contentious issues” for a long time.

Even while he took it as a sign of God’s will, he never wavered on the truth. He knew that those false teachers, who were not sincere in their beliefs, and those who did not believe, did not have the fullness of revelation and endorsed essential means of access to grace.” As described in “Butler’s Lives of the Saints.” The sincerity of their beliefs did not limit him to retreat from preaching the truth, but served as a prompt to share the Gospel in all of its glory.

By Judy Hilovsky;
St. Joseph Norman visits Mexico for first mission trip

The local diocesan team was well received. During the final Mass of the day at Saint Francis of Assisi, then and therefore a most fitting celebration of the day we choose. We found that many people were living on Mass either once a month or every other week due to the distance between the “ranchos” and the people.

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“While we did for the people we encountered in Mexico, we did not for Christ. We felt the spirit of God all around us, and it inspired us to do more.”

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Unity Walk, prayer service uplifts Christian community

Continued from Page 1

Father Novak led the walk with faith leaders from the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, the Family Policy Institute of Oklahoma, the Lutheran Church, Episcopal Church, First United Methodist Church, International Pentecostal Holiness Church, evangelists, Brethren Together OKC and others. The prayer walk began at the Jesus Wept statue at Saint Joseph’s Old Cathedral, processed around the south side of the bombing memorial plaza and ended at First Church where the prayer service was held.

During the prayer service, participants offered scripture readings that led the church in song and offered prayers for the family, history, government, business, the arts, governance and racial reconciliation.

“I am delighted by the show of unity in our community as so many people turned out to pray for healing and protection against all of the manifestations of evil and sin that pull us apart and set us against one another and against God Our Creator, his Son Jesus Christ Our Redeemer, and bring distance to Mary and all of the saints,” I am proud of the organizers and all who participated,” Archbishop Paul S. Coakley said.

To see more photos and video from the Unity Prayer Service and Walk, go online to www.soonercatholic.org.

Diane Clay is editor of the Sooner Catholic.

“The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few”

By Charles Albert,

We are called to “work” in this Year of Mercy by Pope Francis and Archbishop Coakley. It is well known that there is a shortage of priests, but lesser known is the need for deacons who “work behind the scenes” in the Church without much fanfare. In a normal month, a deacon will be called upon to perform almost all corporal and spiritual works of mercy besides working his full-time job and balancing family life.

One such humble man is Deacon Dennis Fain of Saint Joseph in Ada.

He fulfills his position in a very quiet and unassuming way. “The work is plenty for men who want to follow the calling to help and serve their fellow man,” he said.

Some of a deacon’s necessary duties involve assisting at Mass, preaching the word of God, taking the Holy Eucharist to the homebound, offering counseling to the homebound and helping with the RCIA program. Deacon Fain also finds time to help with the prison ministry program at Saint Joseph, help with a number of Knights of Columbus fundraising programs for the poor and disabled adults, and lead the rosary at wake services.

According to Laura Miller, administrative assistant at Saint Joseph, “Deacon Dennis always goes way above and beyond the call of duty. He is the recording secretary of the local Knights of Columbus. One of their major projects is raising funds through the Tootsie Roll drive for the intellectually and physically disabled adults of McCall’s Chapel in Ada and also The Center of Family Love in Okarche. He shares his love of Christ with actions and even with his photography hobby. Many people have been drawn to the Church through his religious photos and his Christian example.”

A recent convert at Easter, Jeremy O’Flanagan said, “During the RCIA process, Deacon Dennis taught me one of the most overlooked ways of practicing mercy through prayer. Most of us had different faith and prayer backgrounds and had never encountered this before. We knew how to pray from the heart, but it was new to pray as a congregation. Another of Deacon Dennis’s spiritual gifts is his reverence during Mass.”

Deacon Fain said his greatest attribute when he was young was “getting along and playing well with others.”

Deacon Fain would like all men to prayerfully consider God’s call to service in the Church. There is a need for deacons in all parishes in the archdiocese, especially for men who can speak Spanish.

Charles Albert is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

Longtime Catholic development director joins archdiocese

New stewardship office established

The Catholic community of central and western Oklahoma is rich in history and increasingly vibrant. In his October 2013 Pastoral Letter to the people of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, Archbishop Coakley encouraged the community to “Go Make Disciples.”

To bring the message of Jesus Christ to more people, and to bring that message in a more effective way, the archdiocese has begun to institute a variety of new initiatives. The office of the New Evangelization was created, a new director of communications was hired, and significant planning is underway to better serve the Catholic community.

Recent years have seen the creation of new parishes and churches in various parts of the archdiocese. Along with an expansion of parishes, Catholic charities, schools and other ministries, the infrastructure of the archdiocese has necessarily grown to support the community.

“To address the growth of our Catholic community and to plan for the future, we are establishing the Office of Stewardship and Development,” Archbishop Coakley said. “The new office will be at the Catholic Pastoral Center, but its executive director, Peter de Keratry, will be working throughout the archdiocese to best meet our needs.”

The new office will manage the Archdiocese’s Catholic Appeal, work with parishes on annual renewal programs, stewardship education and other initiatives. Working closely with the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma, the new office will seek to raise funds for archdiocese-wide projects like seminarians, priest and deacon education, diocesan ministry, Hispanic ministry, parish-based religious education and priest retirement along with new initiatives like the long-term acquisition of land for future parishes and schools.

De Keratry grew up in the Diocese of Amarillo and attended Texas A&M University. While at Texas A&M, he became involved with Saint Mary’s Catholic Center. As an undergraduate, he served as development director during a campaign to raise $4.9 million for the construction of a 30,000-square-foot ministry center. During his time at Saint Mary, he worked with a newly ordained priest, now Bishop Dave Kuzenda of Tulsa.

De Keratry went on to earn a master’s degree in philanthropy and development from Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota and holds the Certified Fund Raising Executive credential. He has worked as a consultant in parishes, schools, university Catholic centers and other ministries for nearly 20 years and joins the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City after serving as campaign manager on the $350-million “To Teach Who Christ Is” campaign in the Archdiocese of Chicago.

“I am so delighted to join the team in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, which for me is like coming home.”

De Keratry and his first priority to get to know the pastors and leaders of parishes around the archdiocese.

“I’m particularly looking forward to a trip to Gypsum and other places of the panhandle,” he said.

De Keratry, his wife Colleen and their four children will be part of Saint Eugene parish and school.

For more information or to contact the office, go online to www.archokc.org/stewardship.
Jobs Book

By J. E. Helm

Every now and then, a book comes along that allows us to see, almost to participate in, the events of history. We come away feeling we have a keen understanding of what it was to live through a period of time that is gone. Such is the book in John A. O'Brien’s “Saints of the American Wilderness: The Brave Lives and Holy Deaths of the American Martyrs.”

This book is originally published as “The American Martyrs” in 1958. In 2004, this novel was produced by the Sophia Institute Press with only “minor editorial revisions to the original text” as the frontispiece of the book.

The source material for the work comes from letters and reports of the Jesuit missionaries who labored for the Gospel from 1610 to 1672 in what was then known as New France. The information in “Saints of the American Wilderness” explains that these writings were gathered from 1846 to 1901 and titled "The Jesuit Relations and Allied Documents.”

This publication has "won unqualified praise from throughout the world," the introduction to "Saints" continues, and so this text by O’Brien would be interesting to any student of American history. It is impressive and inspiring in almost an starting way to any Catholic reader.

The account of these martyrs is told through the stories of martyrdom of Ignatius Byles, Rene Goupil, Jean de Lalande, Jean de Brebeuf, Isaac Jogues, Antoine Daniel, Charles Garnier, and Noel Chabanel. While Byles and Chabanel were devoted to the reader by the brutality of missionary life. Ignatius Byles and his companions covered 900 miles in 19 days to reach the Huron Indians he had come to convert. Their food was corrisoned with water.

The missionaries endured the constant threat of captivity, torture and death by hostile tribes. The details of their terrible sufferings were sometimes recorded by the men themselves, sometimes reported by others. Ignatius Byles, probably the most well-known of the American martyrs, was directed by his superiors to write an account of his experiences. As a result, Byles, captured and tortured, held a slave.

Jogues escaped to France where he wrote of being beaten and tortured. Jogues is a story of perseverance and sacrifice that allows us to see, almost to participate in, the events of history. We come away feeling we have a keen understanding of what it was to live through a period of time that is gone. Such is the book "The American Martyrs."
Formulación de una cultura de vida: ¿Y la pena de muerte?

Arzobispo Pablo S. Coakley

Accidentes de alto perfil que involucran las armas de fuego tienden a provocar reacciones emocionales de todo el país, así como exequiones de condenados a muerte como la pena de muerte, incluso en los Estados Unidos, el 9 de agosto, le dijo a US Weekly.

“Mi madre, Nellie, me compró el rosario de su madre”, dijo Biles a US Weekly.

La paciencia con nuestros defectos

El “cristiano carnal” tiene una mala o muy deficiente paciencia para compartir el cam- paso de nuestro Señor. Ante cualquier cosa que le moleste a alguien, sea verdadera o imaginaria, se resiente, busca la venganza y desata una con- tienda.

Todas nos hacemos de madurar para llegar a ser “cristianos verificables” (Gal 5,23), es decir, a aquellos que se dejan conducir por Cristo “quien es paciente y humilde de corazón” (Mt 11,29) aquellos en cristiana frater- nalidad en su “resistencia del nuevo yo... como escogidos de Dios, santos y amados, que se revisten de tierna compasión, compasión... paciencia, que se soportan y perdono, que alguien tiene que hacer contra otro, como Cristo los per- dono” (Col 3,5-12).

Gimnasta guarda rosario - un regalo de su madre-

La paciencia es un regalo de Dios que siempre se le da a sus hijos. La paciencia es la herramienta para vencer, más que el arma que se usan para pelear. Aquel que es herido por las lim- itaciones humanas pero que tiene un espíritu templado y un corazón lleno de amor ardielo.

La paciencia de Dios, la paciencia, el autocontrol, e incluso en un buen escogido, un ser reconociendo a otro, por la casi infinitas lenguas que tienen llevado a nuestros espacios personales y familiares.

El ego de Jesús – si queremos ser verdaderos discípulos, tiene que ser cargado de caridad sobre la gente que nos invita y nuestra invitación a no ser la herramienta para vencer, más que el arma que se usan para pelear. Aquel que es herido por las lim- itaciones humanas pero que tiene un espíritu templado y un corazón lleno de amor ardielo.

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Hacia una persona con un nuevo yo

La paciencia con nuestros defectos

Francesco Maria Roberto

Director asociado, Ministerio Nigeriano

Continued from Page 12

Hace un año, en junio, dijo a su esposa, Carmen Albera, y a otras seguidoras de la parroquia San Miguel Arcángel en Brownsville, Texas, que si volvía a hacer una comida es-

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Lanzate a lo más Profundo

Arzobispo Pablo S. Coakley

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Lanzate a lo más Profundo
Festival of the Americas and the World

Saturday, Aug. 20, at 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, Aug. 23, at 10:30 a.m., and Thursday, Aug. 25, at 10:30 a.m.

St. James, 2323 N. Classen Blvd.

Continental breakfast. Contact Doreen Fredrickson at (405) 1041 or doreen@cox.net.

Pray for life - daily rosary

Pray the Rosary for all at the Norman abortion clinic, 2433 W. Copenhagen Dr., at 6:30 p.m. every Sunday. Contact Connie Lang at (405) 240-1041 or jlang9@cox.net.

The 40 days for Life campaign

The pro-life campaign will be Sept. 28 to Nov. 6. St. Monica will participate in a peaceful vigil at the South Winds Women’s Center, 1240 S. 44, OKC. Everyone is welcome. Contact Trey Welker by calling (405) 949, 1053, 1903, 2974, 3309, or go online to 40days4life.org.

Frs. Janocha and Grover to lead pilgrimage to Fatima

Fr. Carl William Janocha and Fr. Daniel Grover will lead a pilgrimage to Fatima, Santiago de Compostela, Salamanca, Avila, and Madrid, Aug. 20-31. To participate, contact Nicole Hughes, (405) 341-2199 or n.hughes@fs.com.

Bishops Mc Guinness trivia night


Catholic Campaign for Human Development

Applications for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development are due Sept. 1. Download applications at http://catholicchd.org/ or call Kevin Pierce at (405) 487-5490.

Jubilee Year of Mercy pilgrimage to the Holy Land

The Rev. Lawrence Staayenga will lead a pilgrimage to the Holy Land at the request of St. Gregory’s Abbey. Fr. Gregory will lead to pilgrimage to the Holy Land in observance of the Jubilee Year of Mercy. Depart Monday, Nov. 7, and return Sunday, Nov. 13, 2016. Parking includes three days in Rome, the Holy Land, and five day Holy Years of the major basilicas of Jerusalem. Contact Fr. Kevin Pierce at (405) 487-5490.

Friends of the Mission of St. Gregory the Great's Basilica of Oklahoma City

The Friends of the Mission of St. Gregory’s University invites everyone to come to the 3rd Annual Basilica Golf Tournament on Sept. 25 at the Basilica of St. Gregory the Great in Oklahoma City. For more information, contact rstory@archokc.org or call 831-2199.

Oklahoma Holy Spirit

Mustang Holy Spirit in Mustang is celebrating Oktoberfest from 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. Sept. 24. Reserve your seat at (405) 376-6143 or visit www.holyspiritmustang.org. For information, contact Ronda Molson at (405) 623-2095 or rmdolson@msn.com.

Catholic Women general meeting

The Central Region Council of Catholic Women general meeting will be from 9 a.m. to Noon, Saturday, Aug. 27, at Catholic Pastoral Center, 1232 N. Classen Blvd. Continental breakfast. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Contact Peggy Brown at (800) 721-5651 or peggie@kofc.org.

Food sales benefit the church, and encompasses a variety of authentic ethnic foods of the many cultures and traditions represented in the church and community, as well as favorites like dogs and barbecues.

Bingo at St. James

Bingo at St. James will be Aug. 21 and 28, on Aug. 25. Food and beverages will be available. Bingo will be from 1 p.m. to 4 a.m. Contact Peggy Brown at (405) 737-4457 or peggybrown@archokc.org.

A preview of Retreat in Daily Life, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at St. James, Aug. 25. Contact Fr. Tony Calvey at tony.calvey100@gmail.com or visit stjames-ok.org.

The Lay Missionaries of Charity starting Sept. 24

1 Chart Missionary prayer meeting. 7 a.m. every Thurs., Catholic Pastoral Center. Contact Tony Calvey at tony.calvey100@gmail.com or visit stjames-ok.org.

33 Days to Morning Glory

33 Days to Morning Glory is an retreat designed for pastors/associate pastors. Participants will learn more about First Friday devotion, the Secular Franciscan Order, and organizations set up. For more information, contact Troy Snow at (918) 798-0012 or troysnow@kofc.org.

1st Friends of the Mission of St. Gregory’s University banquet

The Friends of the Mission of St. Gregory’s University banquet, 6 p.m. at the Bishop McGuinness Catholic Church. Tickets $20; $200 for a table of 10. Proceeds benefit the Alumni Association Scholarship Fund. Tickets may be purchased by credit card at bmchs.org or contact Carly Tribbey at Contact Carly Tribbey at bmchs.org or contact Carly Tribbey at (405) 443-3541 or go online to www.helpOurMarriage.com.

Group trip to Branson


Stop at Kansas City and the Holy Spirit in Mustang is celebrating Oktoberfest from 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. Sept. 24. Reserve your seat at (405) 376-6143 or visit www.holyspiritmustang.org. For information, contact Ronda Molson at (405) 623-2095 or rmdolson@msn.com.

Feast of St. Monica

Festival of the Americas and the World - St. Monica’s Catholic Church, 12786 N.W. 44, Oklahoma City, OK. Sept. 24. Four Meals.

St. Gregory the Great celebrates 40th anniversary of foreign retreat

St. Gregory the Great will be celebrating its 40th anniversary of foreign retreat on Sept. 4. A “Faraday breakfast” begins at 7 a.m.; the “Faraday” breakfast will begin at 9 a.m. Mass. Booths representing parish ministries and organizations will be set up after 9 a.m. Mass. Parishioners and parishioners and organizations are welcome to attend.

Ticketing and concessions held every week from Thursday to Saturday. A special feature will be the Gospel of Life chapel and Rm. C-1. Bring the great plans for the state’s only shrine to St. Monica, 28 miles south on I-40. Baptist materials are available at Saint Monica’s Shrine or e-mail mmsf-org.org.

Oklahoma Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit in Mustang is celebrating Oktoberfest from 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. Sept. 24. Reserve your seat at (405) 376-6143 or visit www.holyspiritmustang.org. For information, contact Ronda Molson at (405) 623-2095 or rmdolson@msn.com.

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Oscar Romero Catholic Worker House sets first fundraiser

By Judy Hilovsky,

For nearly 18 years, Bob Waldrop, music director at Epiphany of the Lord Catholic Church, has shepherded the Oscar Romero Worker House. The mission of the worker house is food security for people who lack transportation to get emergency food distribution. Now, the group is hosting its first fundraiser, “Low Carb Comfort Food Tasting Fair.” Proceeds from the event will benefit the Oscar Romero Catholic Worker House, which makes 400 deliveries a month.

Only 400 tickets will be sold for the Oct. 1 tasting at the Cole Community Center. During August, tickets are $30; ticket prices increase to $35 in September. Sales end Sept. 21.

Waldrop hopes the extra money can start an additional program that supports low-income diabetics who are not covered by insurance by providing them monthly blood sugar testing materials.

“We decided we needed an annual fundraiser to give us a bit of organizational financial security and to provide funds to start an outreach to low-income diabetics. The single most critical need for low-income diabetics is accessing blood sugar testing supplies. With adequate test strips and kits, they can learn how to modify their diets to avoid spikes in their blood sugar after meals,” Waldrop said.

Along with the tasting, the worker house always is in need of volunteers to help bag groceries and do deliveries. Except for November and December, deliveries are on the third and fourth Saturdays of the month.

Volunteers meet at the Dorothy Day Center, 4909 N. State, at the southeast corner of St. Charles Borromeo. From October through May, bagging starts at 9 a.m.; from June through September, they start at 8 a.m. During November and December, the group does all of the deliveries on one day each month, usually on a Saturday.

The group also needs financial donations.

The Oscar Romero Catholic Worker House benefits from the generosity of St. Charles Borromeo, which built a 2,000-square-foot food warehouse on its property. The building, named the Dorothy Day Center, receives food from the Regional Food Bank. The Catholic worker house helps with the center’s expenses and in return receive food for distribution.

To sign up for food, call Waldrop at (405) 557-0436. It’s important to call early in the month. Food donations can be left any time on the porch at 1524 N.W. 21 or taken to Epiphany offices. The group especially needs donations of peanut butter and cans of green vegetables.

“We pray over everything we give away; we pray for the people we help, for the people we can’t help, for those who will die this day in war and economic chaos, and for those whose generosity makes what we do possible,” Waldrop said.

Judy Hilovsky is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.