Pope Tells Youth To Seek Christ First

Madrid, Spain (CNA/EWTN News) — Pope Benedict XVI told the hundreds of thousands of young pilgrims at World Youth Day in Madrid that they will be happy and at peace if they center their lives on the "solid rock" of Jesus Christ. Build "your lives upon the firm foundation which is Christ," he urged. "Then you will be blessed and happy and your happiness will influence others."

"They will wonder what the secret of your life is and they will discover that the rock which underpins the entire building and upon which rests your whole existence is the very person of Christ, your friend, brother and Lord, the Son of God incarnate, who gives meaning to all the universe."
Holiness, Conversion and the Sacrament of Penance

It has been my particular concern in these recent columns to touch about the extraordinary dignity of the Christian life expressed in the universal call to holiness. We are invited to "put on the heart," to leave behind a superficial faith and religiosity and discover the profound meaning and destiny of our lives. We are called to be saints!

The journey begins with the proclamation of the Gospel and call to conversion. "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the Gospel." (Mk 1:15). As the Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches, "Baptism is the principal place for the first and fundamental conversion. It is by faith in the Gospel and by Baptism that one renounces evil and gains salvation, that is, the forgiveness of sins and the gift of new life." (CCC 1447)

The hardy call to conversion continues to echo in the lives of Christians, even after Baptism, for we continue to sin. Though cleansed and renewed by the saving waters, we hear the wound and disorder of sin deep within us. The ongoing work of conversion, therefore, continues as a task for the whole Church, who, "keepin' sinners to her bosom, (is) at once holy and always in need of purification, sinners to her bosom, (is) at once holy for the whole Church, who, "clasping version, therefore, continues as a task within us. The ongoing work of con-

Our ongoing conversion is sustained by our active participation at Mass, through which we participate in Christ's redemptive sacrifice and are nourished with the Bread of Life in Holy Communion. It is from the Holy Mass that every grace flows as we are fed from a fountain of divine charity.

Christ has entrusted to his Church all of the means necessary to assure us along the way of repentance and holiness. "In order to reach this perfection, the faithful should use the strength which God offers them through Christ's gift." (LG 40). One sadly neglected gift in our time, however, has been the Sacrament of Penance. For too many Catholic approach this sacrament rarely, if ever. Without a renewed sense of our destiny, a turning away from evil, with confession to God with all our heart, an end to God, oneself and others.

The Sacrament of Penance is the ordinary way of obtaining forgiveness and remission of serious sins commit-
ted after Baptism. It heals and strengthens us, reconciling us to God

It is a grace to be sought, and one that we have committed. It is this merciful face of Christ, who reveals the Father's love for us, which we must rediscover through the Sacrament of Penance.

I call upon my brother priests and our catechists to commit ourselves to developing new pastoral strategies and an effective catechesis to renew our understanding and esteem for this sacrament. We need to find practical ways of encouraging its celebration and assure its ready availability in each of our parishes. We are stewards of the mysteries of God. As good stewards, let us exercise creativity and generosity in promoting this sacrament in an effective and compelling manner.

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

Sunday, August 28 — Mass and Dinner with students at St. Thomas Moore, Norman, 5 p.m.

Tuesday, August 30 — ACCW Presidents and Representatives Luncheon, Catholic Pastoral Center

Thursday, September 1 — ACCW Personnel Board, Catholic Pastoral Center, 1 p.m.

Saturday, September 10 — Mass with Diocesan Candidates, Installation of Lecturers, Catholic Pastoral Center, 6 p.m.

Sunday, September 11 — Mass for Feast of Our Lady of LaVang, Our Lady's Cathedral, 11:45 a.m.

Sunday, September 11 — Archbishop's Annual Picnic for Archdiocesan Staff, Catholic Pastoral Center, 5 p.m.

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The newspaper is supported through the Archdiocesan Development Fund.

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The Sacrament of Penance is the ordinary way of obtaining forgiveness and remission of serious sins committed after Baptism. It heals and strengthens us, reconciling us to God and to his Church.

It is through this sacrament of mercy that we encounter the mystery of God's unconditional love which Jesus presents in the parable of the prodigal son. (Lk 15:11–32). It is this merciful face of Christ, who reveals the Father's love for us, which we must rediscover through the Sacrament of Penance.

I call upon my brother priests and our catechists to commit ourselves to developing new pastoral strategies and an effective catechesis to renew our understanding and esteem for this sacrament. We need to find practical ways of encouraging its celebration and assure its ready availability in each of our parishes. We are stewards of the mysteries of God. As good stewards, let us exercise creativity and generosity in promoting this sacrament in an effective and compelling manner.

Most Reverend Paul S. Coakley
Archbishop of Oklahoma City

Published biweekly except for once in July and twice in December by the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

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Oklahoma City — Project Gabriel is a parish-based outreach designed to assist women who find themselves in a crisis pregnancy. Project Gabriel provides assistance in many ways such as a mentor or a volunteer giving auxiliary support such as preparing a meal, helping host a baby shower, gathering items, etc.

A training will be held on Sept. 17 at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 N.W. Expressway from 9 a.m. to noon in Room 136. This is for those parishes already participating to send new volunteers for training and parishes that currently do not have Project Gabriel the opportunity to train personnel with the intention of starting this important ministry. For more information and to register, call the Office of Family Life at 721-8944.

Enretamiento de Proyecto Gabriel

Project Gabriel is a ministry parroquial designado para ayudar a mujeres que se encuentren en una crisis de embarazo. Proyecto Gabriel provee asistencia de muchas maneras como un mentor o un voluntario dando apoyo auxiliar tal como preparando un alimento, ayudando a preparar un baby shower, juntar cosas de bebe etc.

Habrá un entrenamiento en inglés el 17 de septiembre, en el Centro Pastoral Catolico, 7501 N.W. Expressway de 9:00 a.m. a 12:00 medio día en el salón 136. Esto es una oportunidad para los parroquianos que ya están participando de enviar nuevos voluntarios al entrenamiento y para parroquianos que actualmente no tienen el Proyecto Gabriel la oportunidad de enterarse personas con la intención de iniciar este ministerio importante. Para registrarse o más información, llame a la Oficina de Vida Familiar al 721-8944.

Many hours planning, coordinating and gathering supplies to ensure a delightful picnic for all. The Center of Family Love is home to developmentally challenged adults with the Knights of Columbus being one of its major sponsors.

Retrouvaille: Hope for Marriage

A lifetime for Married Couples is a three-month program for Married Couples who feel anxious about their marriage relationship. Who feel alienated or distant from their partner. Who feel disillusioned or bored in their marriage. Who don’t know how to communicate. Who are experiencing stress or conflict. Who feel disillusioned or bored in their marriage. Who don’t know how to change their situation. Who are separated or divorced and want to get back together.

A Retrouvaille program begins the weekend of Sept. 25-25, 2011. For confidential inquiries, please call 918-695-7010, or go to www.helpyourmarriage.com.

Choir Invited to Italy

EDMOND — St. Monica Church will host a “Taste of Italy” dinner and silent auction on Friday, Sept. 23. The event will help raise funds to send the St. Monica choir to Italy where it has been invited to perform as part of Masse at St. Mark’s Basilica in Venice, as well as at the main altar of St. Peter’s Cathedral in Rome. The choir’s performances will be part of the Festival of Peace and Brotherhood that takes place in Rome. For more information, call Melissa Runnels at 252-5140 or Marie Consely at 341-4889.

Golf Tourney Set

EL RENO — Sacred Heart Catholic School will host a four-person scramble golf tournament on Sept. 30. The tournament will be played at the PR Dry-designed Crimson Creek Golf Club at El Reno. Entry fee is $60 per person for the 1 p.m. shotgun start.

Entry includes green fee, cart and range balls. Hole sponsorships are available for $100. Cash prizes will be awarded. Flights determined by the number of teams.

For more information, contact Joy Mauldin at (405) 923-9028.
Archdiocesan Seminarian Class of 2011

Brian Buettner
First Year Theology
Pontifical North American College
Home parish: St. Mark, Norman

Christopher Brashears
Second Year Theology
Pontifical North American College
Home parish: St. Joseph, Blackwell

Linh Bui
Second Year Theology
St. Meinrad School of Theology
Home parish: Our Lady's Cathedral

Cristobal Deloera
Second Year Theology
St. Meinrad School of Theology
Home parish: St. Charles, OKC

Daniel Grover
Second Year Theology
St. Meinrad School of Theology
Home parish: St. Andrew, Moore

Timothy Ruckel
Second Year Theology
St. Meinrad School of Theology
Home parish: Epiphany, OKC

Aaron Foshee
First Year Theology
St. Meinrad School of Theology
Home parish: Our Lady's Cathedral

Lance Warren
First Year Theology
St. Meinrad School of Theology
Home parish: Immaculate Conception, Marlow

Andrew Horn
Spirituality Year
St. John Vianney Seminary
Home parish: St. John, Edmond

Carson Krittenbrink
Spirituality Year
St. John Vianney Seminary
Home parish: St. Peter and Paul, Kingfisher

John Lewis
Spirituality Year
St. John Vianney Seminary
Home parish: Our Lady's Cathedral

Matthew Thomason
Spirituality Year
St. John Vianney Seminary
Home parish: St. John, Yukon

Kelly Edwards
Second Year Pre-Theology
St. Meinrad School of Theology
Home parish: St. Monica's, Edmond

Edwin Nalagan
First Year Pre-Theology
St. Meinrad School of Theology
Home parish: St. Eugene, OKC

Joshua Zakrzewicz
Junior
Conception Seminary College
Home parish: St. Peter, Guymon

Joshua Bernsten
Junior
Conception Seminary College
Home parish: St. Ann, Elgin
A Report from Father William Novak, Vocations Director

Quantity and Quality
A question I am frequently asked by priests and laymen and women is, “How many seminarians do we have?” Well, I am happy to say that we currently have 22 seminarians from 16 parishes who attend four different seminaries. This fall we will have eight men at Conception Seminary College in Conception, Mo.; eight at St. Meinrad Seminary in St. Meinrad, Ind.; four at St. John Vianney Seminary in Denver, Colo.; and two at the North American College in Rome, Italy. This is the most seminarians we’ve had in 20 years!

I am also happy to report that it is not just the quantity of seminarians that we celebrate this year but also the quality. These men, ranging in ages from 18 to 45, are serious about discerning God’s call in their lives — they are dedicated, holy and good men.

Add One More
Although not studying to be a diocesan priest, Brother Simeon Spitz, OSB, of St. Gregory Abbey in Shawnee will be attending St. Vincent Seminary in Latrobe, Pa., in the fall to continue his theological studies, which means that there are currently 23 men in the Archdiocese discerning the priesthood.

Summer Assignments
This summer we were fortunate to have 10 of our seminarians working in parishes in the Archdiocese and at Camp OLOG Observing a priest living in a rectory and serving among the people of God in a parish and at summer camp provides an excellent opportunity for our men to learn what it means to be a diocesan priest in Oklahoma. I am grateful to the pastors and the people of these parishes who welcomed and supported these men for a brief but important period of their formation. Two of our men attended the Institute for Priestly Formation at Creighton University in Omaha this summer with 176 other seminarians from around the country. This 10-week intensive spirituality program includes a seven-day silent retreat, classes on spirituality, prayer and service.

Emmaus Days
Each year before our seminarians return to seminary, we gather at the Catholic Pastoral Center for a few days of prayer and fellowship called “Seminarian Days.” This year we added a day and took a trip to Tulsa in order to learn more about the history of the Catholic Church in Oklahoma. We visited the Cathedral, Catholic Charities and Christ the King Parish and heard presentations from Fr. Goffin, Fr. Sheehan and Msgr. Gore. We also had dinner with some of the seminarians from Tulsa. It was a wonderful sight to see such a large number of Oklahoma seminarians together in one place. Also during Seminarian Days we were able to spend time with Archbishop Coakley, as well as priests from the Archdiocese. Another highlight was a trip to Sister BJ’s Pantry for a few hours to assist her and many other volunteers in feeding the homeless in downtown Oklahoma City.

Pray for Vocations
Please continue to pray for our seminarians and for those discerning a vocation to the priesthood. If you or someone you know is interested in receiving more information about religious vocations, please contact me at the Vocations Office at the Catholic Pastoral Center at (405) 721-9351.
Staples converted to Catholicism in 1988 and spent six years in formation for the priesthood. He then studied Catholic Church! That encounter sparked a two-year search for the Catholicism from Catholic and historical sources. His humor unique style has brought him great renown as an engaging speaker. Beginning on Friday, Sept. 9 at 7 p.m., Staples will give a talk titled "Teen Apologetics." He will teach teens the strategies using two basic principles: If teens are going to be common objections intellectually and they must live the faith they profess. Staples concludes this talk with a challenge to chastity. Ages 11 through 25 plus will benefit from this talk.

On Saturday, Sept. 10 at 10 a.m., Staples tells his conversion story titled "Jimmy Swaggerty Me Catholic." At 11 a.m., a talk titled "Why Be Catholic?" tackles the problem with dealing with fellow Christians who do not accept that the Catholic Church was established by Jesus Christ with infallible authority in AD33.

There will be a break for lunch at noon with a deli sandwich, chips, homemade cakes and drinks. The lunch fee will be $8 for adults and $4 for children. For more information, contact Carla Damron at (580) 243-8900 or St. Matthew Catholic Church at (580) 225-0066. St. Matthew is located north of Interstate 40, the first exit east of Elk City.

The Catholic Foundation

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Donating real estate can be a winning situation for the donor. Consider some of the benefits:

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- The donor realizes a quick liquidation of assets.
- Excess deductions can be carried forward up to five years after the donation.
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Donors who contribute long-term capital gain property (real estate they have held for more than one year as an investment) — generally can deduct the property’s fair market value up to 30 percent of the donor’s adjusted gross income. Excess deductions can be carried forward up to five years after the donation.

For more information on Planned Giving, contact:

The Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma, Inc.
P. O. Box 32180, Oklahoma City, OK 73123
(405) 723-4135 ■ www.cfook.org

Please Remember the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City in Your Estate Plans
My Retreat at St. Gregory’s Abbey, Shawnee

By Aaron Foshee
Seminarian

Before leaving to return to my seminary for the fall semester, I decided I would take a personal retreat at the Benedictine Abbey of St. Gregory in Shawnee. When I returned from it, I was filled with even greater love for the local Church in the Sooner State, and so wanted to share with you my experience.

I began my retreat with a bit of trepidation. What should I expect? As I rolled my suitcase into the foyer of the monastery, I was greeted by Father Charles B., one of the senior monks of the abbey, who escorted me to my living quarters. I was immediately taken back by the silence of the place — it was not “dead silence,” but a reverent silence. I walked into the “clausura,” the cloister of the monastery, and my retreat began.

As retreats go, it was a fairly simple one. I had no specific guidelines to the retreat, save for reciting the Office with the monks while reading, reflecting and praying in private. I arrived on Sunday afternoon, and so wanted to spend some time praying in the church. From my own place in the south choir, I was able to reflect on the majestic quality to the simplicity. The use of the palace windows represents an architectural simplicity found in the art deco style of the period. The use of simple black lines used to draw the details of each character adds a majestic quality to the simplicity. I was particularly drawn to the rose window in the south choir of the church, which itself was built in 1942, and its stained glass prayer was the beautiful stained glass of the abbey church. Original to the church, which itself was built in 1942, the windows represent an architectural simplicity found in the art deco style of the period. The use of simple black lines used to draw the details of each character adds a majestic quality to the simplicity.

At 12:05 p.m. we prayed midday prayers, followed by recreation and reading. It was at this time that I had a chance to speak with the monks about their vocation stories as well as read a wonderful book titled “Tenacious Monks,” written by the late Father Joseph Murphy, O.S.B. Published posthumously, it is the story of the Vocation Superiors of Sacred Heart Mission, now St. Gregory’s Abbey. I am unaware if this book is still in print, but if you are ever interested in the establishment of Catholicism in Oklahoma, this is the book to find. At 5 p.m., Mass was celebrated. Following Mass, I had the opportunity to celebrate the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary with the monks. It was such an honor to pray with the monks in this place — it was not “dead silence,” but a reverent silence. I walked into the “clausura,” the cloister of the monastery, and my retreat began.

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The day began with the rising bell, 5:30 a.m. This was followed by vigil at 6 a.m., breakfast at 6:45, and lauds at 7:15. I would follow this with my Holy Hour and spiritual reading. At 12:05 p.m. we prayed midday prayers, followed by recreation and reading. It was at this time that I had a chance to speak with the monks about their vocation stories as well as read a wonderful book titled “Tenacious Monks,” written by the late Father Joseph Murphy, O.S.B. Published posthumously, it is the story of the Vocation Superiors of Sacred Heart Mission, now St. Gregory’s Abbey. I am unaware if this book is still in print, but if you are ever interested in the establishment of Catholicism in Oklahoma, this is the book to find. At 5 p.m., Mass was celebrated. Following Mass, I had the opportunity to celebrate the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary with the monks. It was such an honor to pray with the monks in this place — it was not “dead silence,” but a reverent silence. I walked into the “clausura,” the cloister of the monastery, and my retreat began.

One of the things I utilized in prayer was the beautiful stained glass in the abbey church. Original to the church, which itself was built in 1942, the windows represent an architectural simplicity found in the art deco style of the period. The use of simple black lines used to draw the details of each character adds a majestic quality to the simplicity. I was particularly drawn to the rose window in the south choir of the church. From my own place in the north choir, I was able to reflect on this window at length. In it is depicted God the Father, wearing a three-tiered tiara, hands raised in benediction, and holding in front of Him the heavenly spheres — the sun and the moon and the stars. He is surrounded, in bold red letters, with the Latin inscription, “EGO SUM QUIT SUM” — “I am Who I am.” One of my favorite windows, however, happened to be in one of the small side chapel windows. In this window, no more than a yard tall and 10 inches wide, was depicted a demon, yes, a demon, cowering under the weight of his chains, with a grimacing face pointed toward heaven.

For such a simple pane of glass, this window spoke volumes to me. No matter the temptation, no matter the terror or fear aroused by evil, it has been overcome nonetheless. All it can do is grimace with terror itself at what it has rejected.

And so, with this small excursion into my retreat at St. Gregory’s Abbey, I hope I have given you a reason to learn more about this amazing and historical place. For Catholics of the Sooner State, we owe so much to the legacy of the Benedictines who paved a way through political, religious, and of course, geographic “hard clay.” Oklahoma continues to be mission country, and St. Gregory’s remains a Catholic beacon of education and culture.

Please pray for the growth and well-being of St. Gregory’s Abbey.

Scouts Enjoy Trip

ARDMORE — Boy Scout Troop 112, sponsored by the Men of St. Mary Parish, began their summer expedition to Camp San Isabel near Colorado Springs, Colo., with the blessings and prayers of Father Tom Dowdell. Father Dowdell warmly greeted and talked with the Scouts and their leaders as they arrived to prepare for departure on the 10-hour drive to the mountains. All joined in prayer for a safe trip during their journey to enjoy God’s creation. The Scouts were enthusiastic about the itinerary for the week that held many different terrains, challenges and sights. They started their trip with two days of white water rafting in 40-degree water.

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Women of Faith

By Ray Dyer

The Sooner Catholic

OKLAHOMA CITY —

Sister Rosalind Moss' search for the truth took her on a decade-long incredible journey that began with a tradition-rich Jewish faith and ended with an anchor-like faith in the truth of the Holy Catholic Church.

Tulsa: Sister Rosalind serves as the founder of the Religious Order the Daughters of Mary/Mother of Israel's Hope. The Order is making its home in Tulsa after it was first established in St. Louis by the invitation of Archbishop Raymond Burke, now Cardinal Burke.

On Saturday, Aug. 21, Sister Rosalind served as one of the speakers at the 2011 Annual Women of Faith, Women of Action Conference and she delivered a powerful message of the life-giving, life-changing grace given by an all-loving God. The conference is sponsored by the Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women.

Sister Rosalind said growing up Jewish in New York City, she never contemplated there could be any other faith than the one handed her by her parents. But a brother who began to question the existence of God started her on her own journey in search of the truth.

"We have a faith to die for," Sister Rosalind said. "I call that phenomenon the gates of hell would not prevail against it. For that reason, Satan takes great pleasure in attacking something that can be destroyed — the family."

"I don't want you to be leaders," Sister Rosalind told the audience. "Mary, was she a leader? She submitted herself to Joseph. She lived her life for God. There is no greater example for women than Mary." Sister Rosalind said. "Women is God's design. Go home and love your husband. Go home and love your children with every ounce of your being. You will change the world." Sister Rosalind said.

"Go home and love your family. The greatest gift a father can give his children is to love their mother," Sister Rosalind said. "I want it. I want to come again next year," she said.

Sister Rosalind said she was 32 years old before "I heard there were some Jewish people who believed in Christ as the Messiah." At the time she thought this was impossible, but through her journey that included spending time in an evangelical Protestant frame of mind and trying to save "people like you," she finally found her way home to the Catholic faith.

"It was as if someone opened the curtain and exposed the stage," she said upon realizing that Jesus Christ truly is the Son of God and the Redeemer of the World.

Displaying a quick wit and a keen sense of timing, Sister Rosalind said the audience often roaring with laughter as she explained her life and the road she traveled on her way to the Catholic faith.

Sister Rosalind said her first introduction to Catholicism came after her Jewish-turned-agnostic-turned-baptist brother met some "proselytizing Catholics who really knew their faith."

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FATHER RILENT WIND, pastor at Saint Mary Church in Guthrie, served as moderator for the Women’s Conference.

Member of the St. Monica Church choir had a booth at the Women’s Conference. From left, Melani Roewe, Melissa Brooks, Mark Brooks, Renee Gruntmeir and Luis Gruntmeir.

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The Pope made his remarks on the evening of Aug. 18 at the Plaza de Cibeles. The gathering was his first face-to-face meeting with the massive throng of cheering young people gathered from dozens of countries across the globe.

As the Pope mobile made its way to the plaza through the crowds, Pope Benedict smiled and waved to the thousands of youth waving their national flags and enthusiastically yelling their greetings.

The night’s events included a local group of university students singing for the Pope, an official welcome from Archbishop of Madrid Cardinal Antonio María Rouco Varela, gifts being presented by several young people from the various regions of the world, and a liturgy that included a procession and gospel reading.

“Today Madrid is also the capital of the world’s young people, and the gaze of the whole Church is fixed here,” Pope Benedict said.

“The Pope lamented that many people today create “their own gods” and believe that they need “no roots or foundations” other than themselves.

“They take it upon themselves to decide what is true or not, what is good and evil, what is just and unjust; who should live and who can be sacrificed in the interests of other preferences; leaving each step to chance, with no clear path, letting themselves be led by the whim of each moment.”

He noted that although these temptations are “always living in us,” it is important not to give in, since they lead to a fleeting and illusory half-life which fails to satisfy.

“Youth World Youth Day WYD pilgrims packed into Madrid’s famous Cibeles Square to greet the Pope. Below, Pope Benedict XVI leads a vigil at the Cuatro Vientos Airport. Photos/CNA

Continued from Page 1

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“In his homily, the pontiff drew from the Gospel of Mark reading that contrasts the wise man who built his house on rock and the foolish man who built his house on sand.

“When we do not walk beside Christ our guide, we get lost on other paths, like the path of our blind and selfish impulses, or the path of flattering but self-serving suggestions, deceiving and fickle, which leave emptiness and frustration in their wake,” he said.

“But if “you build on solid rock, not only will your life be solid and stable, but it will also help project the light of Christ, shining upon those of your own age and upon the whole of humanity”?”

The Pope lamented that many people today create “their own gods” and believe that they need “no roots or foundations” other than themselves.

“They take it upon themselves to decide what is true or not, what is good and evil, what is just and unjust; who should live and who can be sacrificed in the interests of other preferences; leaving each step to chance, with no clear path, letting themselves be led by the whim of each moment.”

He noted that although these temptations are “always living in us,” it is important not to give in, since they lead to a fleeting and illusory half-life which fails to satisfy.

“We, on the other hand, know well that we have been created free, in the image of God, precisely so that we might be in the forefront of the search for truth and goodness,” he reminded the youth. “We are responsible for our actions, not mere blind executives, but creative co-workers in the task of cultivating and beautifying the work of creation.”

Pope Benedict encouraged the young pilgrims to use the upcoming days to get to know Christ better. “If you are “rooted in him, your enthusiasm and happiness, your desire to go further, to reach the heights, even God himself will always hold a sure future, because the fullness of life has already been placed within you.”

“In his closing remarks, the Pope dedicated “the fruits of this World Youth Day to the most holy Virgin Mary, who said yes to the will of God, and teaches us a unique example of fidelity to her divine son, whom she followed to his death upon the Cross.”

“Let us meditate upon this more deeply in the Stations of the Cross. And let us pray that, like her, our yes to Christ today may also be an unconditional yes to his friendship, both at the end of this day and throughout our entire lives.”
Archbishop Chaput Tells Youth: Intimacy With Christ Not Based Solely on Feelings

Madrid, Spain (CNA/EWTN News) — Archbishop-designate of Philadelphia Charles J. Chaput told thousands of young people gathered in Madrid for World Youth Day that an authentic relationship with Christ isn’t based purely on emotions.

"Ultimately, it will not be how you feel that will determine how genuine and profound your encounter with Jesus is," he told pilgrims. "Instead, it will be determined by how much you are transformed into Him and how much you burn in the desire to bring Him to others, by announcing the Gospel, by serving the poor and the needy, by defending the unborn, by securing a culture that is not hostile to the growth of Christian families," he said.

Archbishop Chaput made his remarks to English-speaking youths at the Madrid Arena — which seats 12,000 people — on Aug. 17 for the "Noche de Alegría" or "Night of Joy." The French lay movement the Emmanuel Community organized the evening’s events, which included prayer, worship, music and Eucharistic Adoration.

"If you want to know how mighty the transforming power of Jesus is, how much He is capable of changing your lives, do not focus too much on how intensely you feel tonight," Archbishop Chaput told the massive crowd. "If He gives you a profound, moving experience, praised be to Him! If you don’t experience that emotion, if you don’t feel shivers running under your spine, praised be to Him too!"

The archbishop pointed to the examples of Saint Teresa of Avila and Blessed Teresa of Calcutta, who both illustrate "how the transformative power of Jesus operates in our lives." "St. Teresa of Avila experienced 30 uninterrupted years of dry, frustrating prayer life," he said. "Nevertheless, her fidelity to Jesus’ calling, and her fervent dedication to reform the Carmelites were always intense and unstoppable."

Blessed Teresa of Calcutta, "as we learned after her death, went through a long, terribly painful period of total lack of spiritual consolations," the archbishop added. "She nevertheless achieved one of the most impressive Catholic congregations dedicated to serve the poorest among the poor."

"Archbishop Chaput said the ‘Noche de Alegría’ must be centered on ‘He who is the reason for this event: the Holy Eucharist, Jesus in his real presence.’ In this way, this ‘Night of Joy’ will truly become an anticipation of what our lives should be." Everything from "the testimonies from around the world, which you have heard, to music and praising — everything must revolve around and prepare us for the Eucharistic Adoration.

"But," he added, "receiving the Eucharist has consequences. Adoring Jesus in the Holy Sacrament, as we are preparing ourselves to do, has consequences and requires action on the part of the faithful."

Archbishop Chaput pointed to the passage from the Gospel of Luke where Christ’s disciples journey with him on the road to Emmaus after his death and resurrection. After Christ shares the Scriptures with the disciples and breaks bread with them — a fore-shadowing of the Mass, Archbishop Chaput explained — their eyes are opened to see who he really is.

"No doubt, the joy and peace experienced by the disciples after recognizing Jesus must have been indescribable," he said. "But as deep, intense and personal as it was," the Archbishop concluded, "it did not paralyze them in individualistic satisfaction. On the contrary, it moved them to run back to their peers to bring the Good News to them. Brightened by the internal light that comes from personally experiencing Jesus, they were immediately moved to share the power of Jesus’ redemption with the rest of the world."

A sea of humanity blanketed the ground at the Madrid airport during World Youth Day. Photos/CNA
When Catherine Powers was a young woman of 17, she knew what she would do with the rest of her life. Raised by an aunt and uncle after her mother died when she was only 5 years old, young Catherine walked into the hospital room where her beloved aunt lay, recuperating from cancer surgery. ‘I told my auntie, that’s what we called her, that I wanted to become a nun. I remember her looking at me from the hospital bed and as a single tear rolled down her cheek she said, ‘If that’s what will make you happy in life, then it’s fine with me.’”

Sister Catherine Powers, CND, never looked back.

On Aug. 21, Sister Kay, as she affectionately is known, celebrated the golden anniversary of her vows as a Religious Sister in the Congregation of Notre Dame. Now entering her fifth year as Superintendent of Catholic Education for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, Sister Kay, along with two archbishops, priests, friends, family, co-workers and plenty of Catholic schools principals took part in a Mass celebrating her love and devotion to Jesus Christ and the faith He established.

Archbishop Paul Coakley was the principal celebrant for the Mass and Archbishop Emeritus Eusebius M.考核, the man who hired Sister Kay in 1996, offered the homily. ‘He established Sister Kay’s philosophy of Catholic education is straight-forward and to the point. ‘If we are not different from public schools, we have no reason to exist,’” she said. ‘We do not have to praise those principals who have devoted themselves to creating an atmosphere that stresses for spiritual and academic growth in the Catholic schools scattered throughout the Archdiocese. ‘We are blessed with some very talented and very dedicated principals,” Sister Kay said. She has sat on every principal search committee since taking over the superintendent’s job in 1996. During that time she has seen an elementary school reopened, Saint Joseph’s in Enid, and a high school, Mount Saint Mary in Oklahoma City, go from near closure to the point it now boasts a waiting list of students wanting to enroll.

Also, Bishop McGuinness High School has been completely rebuilt during Sister Kay’s tenures and there is great “hope” that a school for students who deal with autism will one day be opened. ‘The Good Shepherd School, if it materializes, would be a partnership between the Archdiocese, Mercy Health Care and the University of Central Oklahoma. “We are blessed with some very talented and very dedicated principals,” Sister Kay said. She has sat on every principal search committee since taking over the superintendent’s job in 1996. During that time she has seen an elementary school reopened, Saint Joseph’s in Enid, and a high school, Mount Saint Mary in Oklahoma City, go from near closure to the point it now boasts a waiting list of students wanting to enroll.

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OKLAHOMA CITY — Catechists, youth ministers, Catechetical leaders, pastors and parish volunteers are all called to join fellow Catholics from around the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City for our 2011 Catechetical Congress. The keynote speaker, Dr. Elinor Ford, will be speaking on the theme “Do This in Memory of Me.” This is an excellent opportunity to reflect on living the Mystery of the Eucharist in our daily lives. We will also have the award presentation for the Religious Educator of the Year.

Exhibits and refreshments begin at 7:45 a.m. At 8:30 a.m. there will be a welcome and opening prayer. Mass with Archbishop Paul Coakley will be celebrated at noon.

Registration Continues for Faith Community Nursing Course

OKLAHOMA CITY — Registration continues for Catholic Charities’ upcoming Foundations of Faith Community Nursing Course, which will be held Oct. 17-21 at Our Lady of the Lake Retreat Center in Guthrie. The program, which blends faith and health, is approved for 34 contact hours by the Kansas State Board of Nursing and is open to nurses of all faiths.

“Catholic Charities is proud to be a part of the expanding field of faith community nursing,” said Mary Diane Steltenkamp, Catholic Charities Faith Community Nurse director. “This program is designed to provide nurses with a comprehensive overview of the faith community nursing specialty and its relationship to public health. It is an opportunity to learn more about this important work and to contribute to the development of a discipline that is rapidly growing.”

The course offers registered nurses an educational and spiritual formation to assist them in providing holistic health care to the faith community. It is approved by the Kansas State Board of Nursing for 34 contact hours, which are applicable to licensure renewal.

The course is designed for nurses who are interested in providing health care within a faith community setting. It focuses on the role of faith community nurses and their work in providing holistic care to the faith community. The program is designed to provide nurses with a comprehensive overview of the faith community nursing specialty and its relationship to public health. It is an opportunity to learn more about this important work and to contribute to the development of a discipline that is rapidly growing.

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In the senior religious studies class at Mount St. Mary Catholic High School, students strive to gain a deeper understanding of their own faith, by examining the beliefs of other cultures. At the Mount, the Religion Department believes that through studying and experiencing different religious cultures, students will come to understand their own beliefs better. In this age of global awareness and increasing global tensions, the understanding of others is critical. It is so important for our students to understand and have a respect for the world and people around them," said Brian Beckman, director of the MSM Religion Department. The MSM class covers the origins of religious awareness and religion as a human phenomenon. The class will then look at a variety of religious and how they compare with their own cultural and religious experiences. The religious studies in the class will include Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, Zen, Shinto, Islam and Judaism. In December, the religion class will include Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, Zen, Shinto, Islam and Judaism. In December, the religion class will include Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, Zen, Shinto, Islam and Judaism.

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20 Eucharistic Adoration at Christ the King Church, every
Monday starting with Mass at 8:30 a.m. Adoration from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
with Benediction at 6 p.m. Christ the King is located at 805 Denton Drive,
Oklahoma City. All are welcome.

31 Eucharistic Adoration at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual
Help, NW 52nd and Western, every
Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. to noon. All are welcome.

31 Eucharistic Adoration every Wednesday at St. Charles Borromeo
Church from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.,
closing with Benediction at 8 p.m. St.
Charles is located at 5014 N. Grove
Avenue in Oklahoma City. All are welcome.

SEPTEMBER

1 Perpetual Adoration at St.
Monica, St. Augustine Chapel.
You can sign up for an hour or just
drop in as time allows. For more
information, contact the Coordinator
for Adoration at St. Monica,
Toni Harrelson, e-mail her at
tonimah@sbcglobal.net or by phone
at (405) 341-2199. St. Monica Parish
is located at 2001 N. Western
Avenue in Oklahoma City. St.
Monica is a Catholic Church, 3901 S.W. 29th St.,
Columbus. For more information, contact
Sister Eunice at 373-4565 or
lmc-oklahoma@sbcglobal.net.

29 Eucharistic Adoration
at St. Monica, St. Augustine Chapel.
Mass at 7:30 a.m. and concludes at 5:30 p.m.
with closing prayer and Benediction. This is open
to all. St. Francis is located at 1910
NW 19th, Oklahoma City

2 Holy Family Home Mass, 11:30 a.m.,
Holy Family Home, 6821 Eddie
Drives, Midwest City. To confirm that
Mass will be held that day and for
directions, contact HFHMH, 741-7419.

3 The Lay Missionaries of
Charity, the Secular (Laity) Order of
Blessed Teresa of Calcutta
meet in the Council Room at St. John
the Baptist Catholic Parish, Edmond,
on the first and third Saturday of
each month beginning with Holy
Mass at 7:30 a.m. in the chapel.
For more information, contact
Toni Harrelson, LMC, at (405) 341-2199 or
lmc-oklahoma@sbcglobal.net.

4 The Secular Franciscan Order of
St. Clare Fraternity meets at
1:15 p.m. the first Sunday of the
month at St. Thomas More Church
in Norman. All are welcome.
For more information, call
Alise at (405) 473-7660.

8 The Catholic Women’s
Activities Club is a club made up of
women from our parish, CWAC is
a group that enjoys programs in
Gardening, Music, Civics and the
Arts. We meet on the second
Thursday of each month at noon
in September through May in the
Patio Room of Epiphany of Our Lord
Church (7336 W. Britton Road). All
Catholic women are invited. For
more information, call June at 525-
6904 or Pearl at 524-3641.

9 Grandparents Day at Bishop
McGuinness Catholic High School,
7:20 a.m. in the McGuinness
Chapel, St. Gregory’s Chapel, St.
Gregory’s University,

11 Charismatic Healing Mass,
5:30 p.m. at Immaculate Conception
Catholic Church, 501 N. SW 29th St.,
Oklahoma City.

Director for the Academic
Success Center
St. Gregory’s University, a
Catholic and Benedictine liberal
arts community (est. 1875), seeks
qualified applicants for a full-time
Director for the Academic Success Center beginning August or
September 2011. This is an exempt
position which asks students
nearing tutoring to appropriate
tutors (or faculty volunteers, or self),
promotes Support Center services,
maintains and evaluates tutoring
sessions, processes payroll. A more
complete job description is posted on the SGU website, http://www.st-
gregorys.edu/. Minimum require-
ments are a master’s degree or
higher, commitment to help students
succeed, teaching experience,
tutoring experience, supervisory
experience in an educational setting,
excellent interpersonal skills. The
candidate should be self-directing,
able to work effectively with
students with physical and learning
disabilities, able to work with a
flexible schedule. The Center
Director will serve as the ADA
representative and may teach one
course per semester in an appro-
priate field. SGU has approximately
750 traditional and adult students.
The candidate should be able to
accommodate change and growth at
the university and should value the
development of diverse populations.
We are committed to excellence in
teaching. Shawnee is a small, multi-
cultural city in the Oklahoma City
metropolitan area. Candidates must be
supportive of the Catholic and Ben-
dictine identity of the university.
Send letter of application, vita,
transcripts, statement of teaching
and tutoring philosophy and three
tests of recommendation to Human
Resources, St. Gregory’s University,
1900 W. MacArthur Drive, Shawnee,
Oklahoma 74804; attention: Dr. Ren
Faulk, Provost. Application
materials may be sent electronically
to DrStGregorys.edu or via mail.
Review of applications will
begin immediately and continue
until the position is filled, which will
be announced on the SGU website.

Field Agent
The Knights of Columbus is seeking
a field agent for a career opportunity
representing our insurance
program in north Oklahoma in the
Enid-Stilwater area. This
professional position offers the
change to make a above average
income, a career path into manage-
ment if desired, paid advanced
education and generous bonus
opportunities. We offer a complete
benefits package with this full-time
position. Works in an assigned and
exclusive marketing area to sell and
service our insurance and retire-
mort products. Performs needs
analysis for assigned members and
recommends appropriate products
to meet those needs. Develops positive
relationships with the local council
to help recruit new members. In
order to qualify, one must be eligible
for membership in the Knights of
Columbus. For more information,
e-mail resume to Kevin Purser, FICF,
General Agent, at Kevin.Purser@
soonerchurch.org, or call (405) 514-7660.
Young men from around the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City took part in the annual Emmaus Days held recently at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Youth Camp. The weekend retreat gave the participants the opportunity to visit with and ask questions of seminarians and priests about the priesthood. Mass was celebrated by Archbishop Paul S. Coakley. The Archbishop told the Emmaus Days participants about his own journey to the priesthood.