Archbishop Coakley releases new pastoral letter

**Letter provides vision for diocese through 2030**

By Diane Clay

*The Sooner Catholic*

Archbishop Coakley’s new pastoral letter, “Go Make Disciples! Building a Culture of Conversion and Discipleship for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City,” was released on Jan. 25, the Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul. The letter, in English and Spanish, provides an overall guide for the archdiocese for the next 12 years. The pastoral letter will be followed by more specific plans every few years that will help create priorities for parishes, schools, clergy and laypeople.

Archbishop Coakley and chancery staff have organized several listening sessions to provide feedback that will refine the priorities and help implement them. Listening sessions will be in Guymon, Clinton, Enid, Lawton, Ardmore and Oklahoma City.

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**SR. CATHERINE POWERS reflects on LEGACY, RETIREMENT**

By Judy Hilovsky

*The Sooner Catholic*

“I am committed to a life of ministry and that will not stop now”

After 22 years of service at the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, Sister Catherine Powers, C.N.D., retired on Dec. 21.

Sister Kay, as she is known, has spent 57 years of religious life in education. For the archdiocese, she served as Superintendent of Catholic Schools and later as Safe Environment Coordinator. A first-generation Irish Catholic, she grew up in the Bronx, New York, the youngest of four children.

“My parents were born in Ireland and immigrated to the United States in the 1920s. Because they wanted a quality education for their children, it was understood I was to go the Catholic school, which was right across the street. After graduating Saint Jerome’s elementary school, I went to Saint Jean Baptiste High School on 76th Street in Manhattan. And yes, I took the subway to school every day,” she said.

“There, I was fortunate enough to meet the Sisters of the Congregation of Notre Dame who staffed the school. The sisters were great educators, but I was mostly attracted by their sense of commitment to their students. Besides, they were very down to earth and simply fun to be around! Upon graduation, I decided I wanted to be a part of such a dynamic religious community and so, in August 1959, I entered their novitiate in Bourbonnais, Ill.”

After a two-year novitiate, at age 19, she was sent to teach fifth, seventh and eighth grades in Saint Johnsbury, Vt. By 1969, she had taught in Saint Johnsbury, Conn., and New York City.

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**Rose Day unites pro-life advocates**

By Eliana Tedrow

*The Sooner Catholic*

“Every human life has inherent dignity and thus must be treated with the respect due to a human person. This is the foundation for the Church’s social doctrine, including its teachings on war, the use of capital punishment, euthanasia, health care, poverty and immigration.” - U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops

Hundreds of pro-life supporters will gather at the Oklahoma State Capitol on Feb. 6 for the 28th annual Rose Day.

Pearl Sul lens of Saint Francis in Oklahoma City has been attending Rose Day for more than 20 years. A longtime member of the Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women and former coordinator of their annual Rose Day Mass, she said attending Rose Day makes a difference to legislators and to women thinking about abortion.

“God created all of us and those little babies are so innocent. I don’t care what anybody says, there is life at conception.”

Last year, she said a lady was carrying a sign that said her mother could have aborted her but chose to give her a chance at life.

“These are miracles,” Sullens said. “If you attend Rose Day, you are making a difference.”
Archbishop Coakley’s Calendar

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

Jan. 27 – Confirmation, 4 p.m., St. John Neumann, Yukon
Jan. 29 – Celebrating Catholic Education Breakfast, 7 a.m., Downtown Petroleum Club, OKC
Jan. 30 – Mass, 11:30 a.m., St. Francis de Sales Chapel, Catholic Pastoral Center
Jan. 30 – School Mass and classroom visits, 8 a.m., St. Mary, Guthrie
Jan. 31 – School Mass and classroom visits, 8:15 a.m., St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Edmond
Jan. 31 – Senior staff meeting, 2 p.m., CPC
Feb. 1 – One Church Many Disciples Wave 4 parish leadership orientation, 6 p.m., St. Joseph, Norman
Feb. 5 – TET Mass and celebration, 11:45 a.m., The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, OKC
Feb. 8 – Mass, 11:30 a.m., St. Francis de Sales Chapel, Oklahoma City
Feb. 9 – School Mass and classroom visits, 8:30 a.m., St. James the Greater, OKC
Feb. 10 – Assembly of Catholic Professionals lunch, 11 a.m., Downtown Petroleum Club, OKC
Feb. 11 – School Mass and classroom visits, 7:50 a.m., Cristo Rey OKC
Feb. 9 – TET Mass and celebration, 10 a.m., St. Andrew Dung Lai, OKC

Join other Catholic professionals in 2019 for faith, food, networking

By Steve Gust
The Sooner Catholic

A new year of dynamic speakers, faith and fellowship await Catholic professionals at this year’s Assembly of Catholic Professionals.

Archbishop Coakley founded the group in November 2016 to more fully engage business and professional leaders in the many activities of the Church. Lisa McKeevery, donor relations coordinator for the archdiocese, said nearly 200 Catholic professionals, including clergy, were ACP members in 2018.

The 2019 quarterly speaker series and luncheon starts with Bishop Steven Lopez of the Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of Peter on Feb. 7. Bishop Lopez will be followed May 9 by the vibrant Sister Rosemary Nyirumbe, a Ugandan nun who has helped thousands of young women suffering abuse in Africa. On Aug. 1, Carolyn Woo, former president and chief executive of Catholic Relief Services, will address the assembly.

The luncheons are held at the Downtown Petroleum Club in the Cortex Beach Town in Oklahoma City. The 2019 speaking series ends Nov. 7 with Archbishop Coakley’s “State of the Archdiocese,” which will be his first since 2016.

Networking begins at 11 a.m. with lunch following. It ends before 1 p.m. Selection of Edmond, a member of ACP, said the event features interesting speakers from around the world and provides opportunities to network and enjoy the fellowship with like-minded professionals.

“I have really enjoyed my membership in the Assembly of Catholic Professionals,” Olay said. “It is an opportunity to meet and network with other Catholics who I otherwise wouldn’t have had the opportunity to meet. The speakers are first-class professionals who have spoken on a wide range of topics that provide something for everyone regardless of his or her profession.”

Stacy Clerk Hurst of the University of Oklahoma, who works with Musseotto Holdings and attends The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, said “I enjoy the ability to network with fellow believers.”

She said when needing a professional for a business or personal need, she’ll seek a recommendation from a Catholic friend. She said she also enjoys listening to the inspirational speakers. “I look forward to the opportunity to take something back with me that strengthens my walk with the Lord,” she explained. “I always do my best to never miss an event to invite someone new. The encouragement I find from the series is very much appreciated.”

Steve Gust is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

Admissions Office
Archdiocese of Oklahoma City
Archdiocese de Oklahoma City

Mary, Virgin and Mother, you who, moved by the Holy Spirit, welcomed the word of life in the depths of your humble faith: As you gave yourself to us in the depths of your humble faith, may your joy be a wellspring of happiness for God’s little ones, pray for us. Amen. Adeste Fideles.

Lenten retreat
The Benedictine OKC Oblates of Mount St. Scholastica Monastery will host a retreat 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. March 23 at Epiphany of the Lord in Bryce Hall, 7350 W. Britton Rd., OKC. The retreat, “Being Truly Alive: A Spiritual Path to Living Fully, Simply and with Meaning,” will be present- ed by Judith Valente. Cost $25, lunch included. Register by March 20. A few scholarships available. Contact Judith Martin at jmartinsoakc@yahoo.com or (405) 435-2166.

Health professionals needed
The St. Charles/McClellan Free Clinic at St. Charles Borromeo is seeking people with medical, nurs- ing and other health related skills to provide care to the growing number of uninsured and underinsured individuals needing care. The clinic is planning to expand and will need more health professionals commit- ted to serving the poor. Contact Margaret Fagan, pastoral associ- ate, at (405) 790-4394, Fr. Tim Lun- chem at (405) 799-0294 or Roberta Billy at (405) 697-0024.

Parishioners at St. Joseph, Union City, participate in the RC Christmas Pro- gram in December. Photo provided.

Bishop St. Joseph Lopez February 7th
Sister Rosemary Nyirumbe August 1st
Archbishop Paul Coakley November 7th

Archbishop Coakley and students from the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City participate in the 2019 March for Life in Washington D.C. Photo provided.

St. Mary receives technology grant, computers

LAWTON – St. Mary Catholic School has been awarded a grant from The Westerman Foundation in the amount of $10,000. The funds, along with a donation of 25 desktop computers from City National Bank of Lawton, will be used for an upgrade of technology and net- working capabilities for the school.

“We recognize the value of technology in the classroom,” said St. Mary Principal Stan Melly. “With these new com- puters and generous grant funds, we can continue to ensure that our students are more engaged and technologically advanced.”

The Westerman Foundation, based out of Florida, is a non-profit foundation committed to providing financial support to edu- cational institutions with an emphasis on Catholic education. Christian-based organizations promoting family unity and values and programs providing assistance to the poor and abused.

“We are so thankful to The Westerman Foundation and CNN, said Father Brian Buerbach, pastor of Blessed Sacrament. “These upgrades will allow for even better security and a faster network, which will have a huge impact on facul- ty and students for years to come.”

Saint Mary is the region’s only ful- ly-accredited Catholic school, serving Pre-K – 8th grades. The school strives to develop the whole student – mind, body and spirit – in a safe and supportive environment. As a Project Lead the Way Distinguished School, Saint Mary is one of Oklahoma’s top STEM schools.

For more information about the school, go online to www.stmarys-ok.org or call (580) 355-5288.

Find more news on the website
By Sooner Catholic Staff

Additional coverage of Church and archdiocesan news and events, only on sooner.org. Visit our website – ArchbiskopOKC.org (405) 721-2745 www.archokc.org/ACP

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

A Surviving Divorce class starts March 30 and will meet 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. each Saturday at St. Mimi- ca in Edmond. The 14-week program is for the newly separated and divorced, and people still struggling with issues many years later. It will help them answer their questions, restore hope and begin authentic healing. For more information and to reg- ister visit stmonica-edmond.org/divorce-ministry.

Sooner Catholic.

A Surviving Divorce: Path to Living Fully, Simply and with Meaning, will be presented by Judith Valente. Cost $25, lunch included. Register by March 20. A few scholarships available. Contact Judith Martin at jmartinsoakc@yahoo.com or (405) 435-6566.
Grants provide warm meals to homebound elderly citizens

The Oklahoma City Community Foundation coordinated $52,600 in grants to 51 churches and organizations participating in Mobile Meals of Oklahoma County, including six Catholic churches. The Catholic churches reported that their volunteers provide nutritious meals, wellness checks and conversation-friendly contact to more than 140 homebound senior citizens living in central Oklahoma who are unable to prepare their own meals. Grants were awarded to the following Catholic churches that provide meals through Mobile Meals of Oklahoma County: Epiphany of the Lord; Saint James; Saint Charles Borromeo; Saint Eustace; Saint Francis of Assisi; Saint Paul the Apostle.

St. Eugene veteran initiative offers hope, faith

Saint Eugene Catholic Church in Oklahoma City honored military veterans Jan. 6 and offered each a chance to give back to their community by helping a non-profit group.

By Steve Gust

St. Eugene Catholic Church in Oklahoma City

Born to serve God and country, Father Alexander C. F. McGary was a retired homebuilder who graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a degree in civil engineering. Upon graduation, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and served during World War II and the Korean War.

As a veteran, Father McGary and Tony Hill were part of St. Eugene’s Faith and Allegiance Initiative, which at that time was more than consultative. They realized they were being called to serve United States military veterans.

Tony Hill was a retired homebuilder who graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a degree in civil engineering. He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and served during World War II and the Korean War.

Audience members included active military, veterans, their families and others to Saint Eugene’s Ross Hall to meet representatives from various groups. Among the groups were the American Red Cross, which was represented by Garrett Blomquist, Rebecca McGary and Tony Hill. Each veteran was given a burlap flag.

Don Kanaly, who is retired, is a priest of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. He was a graduate of Saint Labre School in South Dakota in 1947. He was a chaplain where he befriended and baptized more than 1400 homebound elderly citizens.

“Becoming the Man God Created You To Be”

By John Holkey

For the Sooner Catholic

Father Larry Richards en- tered into published writing with his 2009 book, “He’s A Man! Becoming the Man God Created You To Be.” Richards’s message, engaging still, comes to Norman for the 23rd annual “In the Father’s Footsteps” Oklahoma Catholic Men’s Conference.

The event, titled “Building the Bridge Between Repen- tance and Faithfulness,” is set for March 9 from 8:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Embassy Suites Conference Center and Hotel, 2501 Conference Dr. in Norman.

Richards, a noted speaker, preacher, retreat master and author as well as the pas- tor of Saint Joseph/Saint of Life Community in Erie, Pa., is anacycatic four featured speakers, highlighting a day of faith, renewal and evange- lization.

He will be joined by Catholic author and speaker John Evert, Father Roger Landry of Fall River, Mass., and popular Catholic radio host Jon Lentz.

The conference also will feature Mars Hill Radio’s Senior Musician, Tom Aspinall.

The conference will begin with a powerful exer- cise of the Lord we live our lives through challenges, temptations and obstacles,” said Ray Har- rison, conference director.

“We’ll gain insights and tools throughout the day and move toward a clear vision of how to claim the lives we’re called to live; lives fought by the way and the truth, built upon bedrock forged by the way and the truth, built upon bedrock and com- praise”

Father McGary noted the Red Cross had done a magnificent job for those represented.

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The beauty of a complete, perfect Bible!

Catholic Bibles are bigger because this is the will of God and the Church has reaffirmed this throughout the centuries. Some might ask, “What guided the magisterium toward this conclusion?” What is the background to this decision? In this column, my goal is to share some basic responses to these questions.

First, it is important to acknowledge that ancient Jews, before the Christian era, were a multilingual and multicultural faith community, just like they are today.

Here is a key quote from the Holy Scriptures: Acts 6:1 is an example of two main groups within Judaism: “At that time, as the number of disciples continued to grow, the Hellenists complained against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution.” The footnote to this verse in the NABRE, New American Bible – Revised Edition, is very informative on this verse. Here is part of that footnote, “The Hellenists...the Hebrews...the Hellenists were not necessarily Jews from the diaspora but were probably Palestinian Jews who spoke only Greek. The Hebrews were Palestinian Jews who spoke Hebrew or Aramaic and who may also have spoken Greek. Both groups belong to the Jerusalem Jewish Christian community.”

Some Jews were literate in Hebrew and some were literate in Aramaic. Many were multilingual and spoke combinations of these languages.

The change against Jesus, which was written on a placard and place over the head of Jesus on the cross, was an example of the multilingual/multicultural environment in Jerusalem.

37 books inspired by God

In the Holy Scriptures the idea of completeness has 73 books is by remembering that both the Old Testament and New Testament have 73 books; the Old Testament has 46 books in the Old Testament and 27 books in the New Testament. The Hebrew one had fewer books than the Greek one, but this was not a problem for them. If you went to Hebrew services in the synagogue you used the shorter version and if you went to the more common Greek services, you used the longer version of Holy Scriptures.

Now, the key question is, “What did Jesus and the apostles use?” The simple answer is they used both, although they used one a lot more than the other.

According to “Old Testament Quotations in the New Testament: A Complete Survey,” out of 340 quotations from the Old Testament that are found in the Gospels and the rest of the books of the New Testament, they found that 307 of them are from the Greek Septuagint translation and only 33 quotations that are clear from the Hebrew Masoretic Text. Thank You David Beroc for bringing these statistics to my attention!

So, the rest is simple. Jesus and the Apostles used the larger Greek Old Testament, and this is what was used when they were inspired by God to write the Greek New Testament. The Church recognized this as the will of God for us and has been celebrating since the 4th century 46 books in the Old Testament and 27 books in the New Testament. We celebrate 73 books as inspired by God. These books lead us to God’s greatest revelation, his son and our savior, Jesus Christ.

An easy way to remember that our bible have 73 books is by remembering that both the number seven and the number three represent in the Holy Scriptures the idea of completeness and perfection. Our big Bible is a beautiful gift of God.
Preface

"Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ" (Eph. 1:23)...

I t is with great joy I write you once again, the people of God in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. It has been five years since the publication of my previous pastoral letter, “Go Make Disciples.” Much has happened in the past five years, and there is much to celebrate.

The purpose of this pastoral letter is to reflect on the vision and consider what the Lord has been doing in our archdiocese and where the Holy Spirit is leading us over the course of the next few years. Our fundamental vision to “go make disciples” has not changed. We are called to be disciples, called to pursue holiness and mission, called to become saints. We are still called to evangelize, to be witnesses, and to live authentic lives as missionary disciples.

As I reflect back on our abundant blessings, I am aware of the undeniable signs of God’s grace and favor. We never would have accomplished these things without his divine assistance. God always takes the initiative. He awaits our response. When we cooperate with God’s grace our efforts bear fruit. Disciples – and the things they do in the world – are the “good fruit” coming from “good soil” that we read about in the Parable of the Sower in Matthew Ch. 13.

In this pastoral letter, we have every hope of reaching. We certainly have established a new challenge goal that at the time of this writing was $15,000,000. The campaign has been so successful, that, in August, I was able to announce that we have reached our financial goals and made plans to strengthen multiple ministries that will benefit many generations to come.

As we grow in faith, our changing ministerial needs must be addressed as well. To address these shared archdiocesan needs and parish needs we have launched the first archdiocesan capital campaign, “One Church, Many Disciples.” Parish after parish has exceeded their financial goals and made plans to strengthen multiple ministries that will benefit many generations to come.

The seeds of faith we have sown are producing an abundant harvest that God has brought forth in our archdiocese. It is my prayer that we continue to advance our efforts and go make disciples in a direction that bears abundant fruit in the coming years, even “thirty, sixty and a hundredfold.” I call you to be disciples and go make disciples! This is why we are here! This is our mission.

Download the pastoral letter at archokc.org/2030.
La semana pasada, la Iglesia celebra una de sus fiestas más importantes, el Dia de la Inmaculada Concepción. Esta es una ocasión para reflexionar sobre la pureza y la virginidad de Nuestra Señora. En la imagen, se puede ver a la Virgen María en el centro, rodeada de figuras que representan distintos momentos de su vida. La imagen está llena de color y detalle, haciendo énfasis en la importancia de esta festividad para los católicos.
Se les agradece a jóvenes en la Misa por la Vida, por ser signo de esperanza

El padre Cristóbal de Lares, Sr. María Pilar y, más de dos docenas de jóvenes y sus acompañantes de la Parroquia de la Soledad, se reunieron el 20 de enero para la Jornada Mundial de la Juventud en Panamá. Foto suministrada.

¡La belleza de una Biblia completa y perfecta!

73 libros inspirados por Dios

A leve, la pregunta clásica: “¿Qué versión usaron Jesús y los apóstoles?” La respuesta simple es que usaron ambas versiones, aunque usaron una mucho más que la otra.

Según el texto “Citas del Antiguo Testamento en el Nuevo Testamento: Una Encuesta Completa”, de las 340 citas del Antiguo Testamento que se encuentran en las Escrituras y en el resto de los libros del Nuevo Testamento, encontramos que 307 de ellos son de la traducción Septuaginta griega y solo 33 citas son claramente del texto Masorético Hebreo. (Gracia a David Bercot por traer estas estadísticas a mi atención!)

Entonces, lo demás es sencillo. Jesús y los apóstoles usaron el Antiguo Testamento más escrito en griego, y esto es lo que usaron cuando fueron inspirados por Dios para escribir el Nuevo Testamento en griego. La Iglesia reconoció esto como la voluntad de Dios para nosotros y las escuelas celebrando desde el siglo IV 46 libros en el Antiguo Testamento y 27 libros en el Nuevo Testamento. Celebramos 73 libros como inspirados por Dios. Estos libros nos llevan a la mayor revelación de Dios, a su Hijo, y a nuestro Salvador, Jesucristo.

Una manera fácil de recordar que nuestras biblias tienen 73 libros es recordando que tanto el número tres como el número trece representan en las Sagradas Escrituras la idea de algo completo y perfecto. Nuestra Biblia grande es un hermoso regalo de Dios.

Pero John Zimmerman Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON — Vinieron de cerca y de lejos, e incluso de Australia, y se unieron en oración y unidos para recordar la vida y obras de otros en la reunión anual para jóvenes de la Arquidiócesis de Washington. El 18 de enero en el Arena Capitol One de Washington.

La multitud de unos 18,000 era del área de Washington y de todo el país y se les unieron jóvenes adultos de Sidney, Australia en su camino hacia la Jornada Mundial de la Juventud en Panamá. El celebrante principal de la Misa, el arzobispo Christophore Pierre, el núncio apostólico en los Estados Unidos, entró y salió del edificio sonriendo y saludando con una bendición para el camino hacia la Jornada Mundial de la Juventud de Sydney, Australia en su reunión anual para jóvenes de la Arquidiócesis de Sidney, Australia y se unieron en oración para que sean la luz entre la oscuridad.”

Ella agregó: “Recuerden siempre que Jesús el Nazareno, el rey de los judíos, estaba cerca de la ciudad.”

El Obispo Ramos, Secretario de la Conferencia de Obispos de Chile, respecto al número de Aracne (Mar) estableció la frase: “Haga Días en Casaros” dicen: “Estos especialmente, el idioma que se utilizó en ayudar a quienes estaban debili-

El escritorio independiente Bilingüe

El periodista arquidiocesano Sooner Catholic está buscando un escritorio independiente bilingüe que habla y escriba en inglés tanto en inglés como en español. El escritor con experiencia debe tener un enfoque hacia personas con experiencias periodística. Comuníquese con Pedro A. Moreno, O.P. con 73 libros inspirados por Dios

Pedro A. Moreno, O.P.
Secretario de Evangelización y Catequismo

Un joven aplasta mientras se une a una reunión juvenil provida y Misa en el Capital One Arena de Washington el 18 de enero, antes de la Marcha por la vida. Foto CNS/Gregory A. Shemitz.

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**Briefs**

**Free museum tour**
The Heritage Gallery at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7051 North Western Expwy., will host their 33rd annual breakfast on Feb. 28 at The Petroleum Club in the Petroleum Club OKC. The guest speaker is Bishop Douglas R. Silva Dそのまま。The free exhibit is open 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. Special tours arranged by calling (405) 721-3651, Ext. 141.

**Suicide prevention training**
Free suicide prevention training that provides training in recognizing signs and symptoms of suicide in someone who may be feeling hopeless. Professional counseling also is available. Call Jerry at (405) 235-2037. Call Counseling Center at (405) 528-0269.

**Sue Gill support group**
A support group for those who have lost someone to suicide meets at St. Francis in OKC on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Meinheiser House. The gathering is in a caring atmosphere – no member loved one. Call (405) 528-0485.

**CPC daily Mass**
Mass is held weekdays at 11:30 a.m. in the St. Francis de Sales Chapel at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7051 North Western Expwy. No Mass on days CPC is closed.

**St. Kateri Tekakwitha Honor Dance**
Save the Date! A powwow in honor of St. Kateri Tekakwitha will be July 6 in OKC. Details coming soon.

**The shrines of Italy**
Joan Very Roy, Benedictine, G.S.B., and Richard Amend with St. Ann on a pilgrimage to the shrines of Italy Oct. 29 – Nov. 8. A special travel presentation will be at 7 p.m. Jan. 27 at St. Mary, 105 W. Britton Rd. Contact Richard Amend at (405) 721-0747 or mokkisaintmartincenter.com.

**Celebrating Catholic Education Breakfast**
The 2019 Celebrating Catholic Education Breakfast with Arch- bishop Coady will be 7 a.m. – 9 a.m. Jan. 29 at The Petroleum Club in the John Nichols Room. Register at www.archokc.org/breakfast.

**Auction dinner, dance**
Bishop Mcguinness Catholic High School will host their 23rd annual auction dinner and dance, “Clancy in Wonderland,” at 6 p.m. Feb. 1 at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. The Alice in Wonderland themed event features a catered dinner, dance, silent and live auction, strolling dinner stations, a door prize and more. Proceeds benefit the Bishop Mc- guinness Work Grant Scholar- ship program, track scholarship, capital and current needs. Tickets $125 pp; Must be age 21 and have a legal drinking age. Limited seating. Purchase auction tickets online at www.bmchs.org. Contact advancement@bmchs.org.

**Chili Bingo**
The Civil Rights History and Understanding in Norman will host its annual Chili Bingo” at 6 p.m. Feb. 2 at Our Lady of the Lake in Norman. For tickets, contact Cathy Irwin at (405) 321-0990.

**Pasta dinner**
Knights of Columbus Council 14000, 900 W. Britton Rd. in OKC, will be hosting their annual pasta and homemade Italian desserts. Call (405) 321-7000. 5:30 p.m. Feb. 2. All proceeds benefit Franciscan Medical mission in May. Tickets $10 adults, $5 kids ages 5-12. Kids ages 5 and under free. Take-out available. Support Chasuislan at (405) 470-2045.

**Funraise**
Gospel of Life Disciples will have a Funraise fundraiser noon – 5 p.m. Feb. 2 at Our Lady of the Lake in Moore. Indoor games, Asian cuisine, all ages parishioners to participate in. Call (405) 470-2045.

**Rose Day Dance**
The 28th annual pro-life rally will be at 11:30 a.m. Feb. 6 at the Oklahoma State Capitol. Pro-life advocate Jen Bricker will be the speaker. Advocates begin bunching out hands out at 9:30 a.m.

**Rose Day Mass, lunch**
A Mass for high school students will be held at 7:30 a.m. Feb. 6 in the St. Francis chapel, 1001 W. 18 St. OKC. A luncheon will follow before continuing to the capital. After Rose Day, the Catholic Conference of Oklahoma will host a lun- chon/training session on issues for Catholic Day at the Capitol, Catholic Charities, 1232 N. Classen Blvd. Contact Mary Ann Hooper at (405) 650-9674.

**Assembly of Catholic Profession- al launces**
An Assembly of Catholic Professional launces in Febr. 7 at the Downtown Petroleum Club in OKC. The guest speaker is Bishop- open Steven Lopez. To register, visit www.archokc.org or contact (405) 709-2745, sce@archokc.org.

**Together in Holiness Marriage Conference**
The Together in Holiness Marriage Conference will be 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. Feb. 9 at St. Benedict in Broken Arrow. Childcare available for $15 per child. Bishop Konderla will speak along with Roland Mil- lers and Patrick Chappell. Register at https://holinessfamily.org/ events/19106.

**Youth evangelization coordina- tor - Mustang**
Holy Spirit, Mustang, is seeking a full-time coordinator of youth (grades 6-12) and young adults. This position will provide efforts to evangelize and catechize youth and young adults. Visit holy spirit-mustang.org or contact Dcn. Paul Lewis at (405) 576-9425.

**Math teacher**
Catholic University is looking for educators to provide part-time contracted instructional services with the educational expertise and high school level mathematics; to diagnose learning skills deficits and deliver prescribed instruction and delivery methods as determined by the company; with class personnel to coordinate efforts in providing services to students; communicate with parents on student progress. Applicants must be in the state of degree and current Oklahoma teaching certification in high school mathemat- ics. Teaching experience preferred. Submit resume to Misty Slone at misty.salone@catapult- learning.com.

**RE director - OKC**
Little Flower, OKC, is seeking a part-time religious education director. Must be familiar with Core Curriculum and have experience as a director of religious education or minimum experience as a catechist for 3-5 years in a Catholic church. Con- tact Angela at (405) 470-2357.

**HS maintenance/custodian - Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School**
High school is seeking a full-time maintenance/custodian to work Tuesday through Friday 8 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. – noon. Duties include cleaning (inside and outside of facilities), some minor maintenance, and supervision of students before and after school on Saturdays. Contact Darcy Dobbs at ddobbs@bmchs.org.

**To see more job openings, go online to www.soonercatholic.org.**

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**Calendar**

**January**

- **27** – National Catholic Schools Week
- **27** – First Friday Sacred Heart Mass at the Catholic Pasto- ral Center. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 5:30 p.m. re-consecration prior to 7 p.m. Mass. Call (405) 721-6944, (405) 528-6252.
- **27** – Feast of St. Thomas Aqui- nas, priest and doctor of the Church
- **28** – The shrines of Italy pilgrim- age meeting 7 p.m. at St. Ann Retirement Center, 7501 W. Britton Rd., OKC.
- **28** – Feast of the Presentation of the Lord
- **28** – The Lay Missionaries of Char- ity, the Secular Franciscan Order of St. Teresa of Calcutta, meet at St. Ann Nursing Home, OKC. Mass 9:30 a.m.; meet- ing following. Contact Toni Harrelson, (405) 341-2199.
- **31** – Knights of Columbus Council #10422 pasta dinner 5:30 p.m. at St. Eugene, 2400 W. Herfurth Rd., OKC. Take out available. Contact St. Eugene Parish (405) 470-2076.
- **31** – St. Thomas More University Parish Chili Bingo 6 p.m. at All Saints Catholic Church. For tickets, contact Cathy Irwin at (405) 321-0990.
- **31** – Gospel of Life Disciples FUN- raiser Noon – 5 p.m. at #413

**February**

- **1** – First Friday Sacred Heart Mass at the Catholic Pasto- ral Center. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 5:30 p.m. re-consecration prior to 7 p.m. Mass. Call (405) 721-6944, (405) 528-6252.
- **3** – Feast of St. Angela.
- **3** – Feast of St. Blaise.
- **3** – St. Francis of Assisi Secu- lar Franciscan Fraternity of Great Oklahoma meeting, 2 p.m. – 4 p.m., at St. Anthony Hospit- al, 1000 N. Lee. Contact (316) 558-0442, bill@livckjwt.com.
- **3** – Meeting of the Third Order (Lay Dominicans), 3 p.m., St. Monica, Edmond (St. Ambrose Building) in Rm. 105, for any Catholic lappe- rson drawn to religious life. Call (316) 331-6611, (405) 494-0407.
- **4** – Marriage Mondays 7 p.m. – 9 p.m. in Marian Hall, St. John Nepomuk, Yukon.
- **6** – Feast of St. Agatha.
- **6** – Feast of St. Paul Miki and companions.
- **6** – Rose Day pro-life rally 11:30 a.m. at the Oklahoma State Capitol. Advance tickets, handing out roses at 9:30 a.m.

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This calendar only covers the two weeks between issue dates and may not reflect all of the calendar items. To see a full calendar, go to www.soonercatholic.org.
Human rights advocates begin gathering as soon as the Capitol doors open. They meet with and distribute roses to their state senators and representatives. Red roses symbolize the sanctity of the unborn and their basic right to life.

This year’s keynote speaker is Jen Bricker. Born without legs, Bricker’s biological parents left her at the hospital. She said the “hand of destiny” brought her an amazing adoptive family, who gave her one simple rule, “Never say the word ‘can’t.’” As a child, Jen was obsessed with gymnastics, and her idol was gold-medalist, Dominique Moceanu. Moceanu helped inspire Bricker to start competing herself. Seemingly against all odds, Jen went on to become a state champion in power tumbling. As part of her story at http://jenbricker.721-8944 or go online to https://archokc.org/family-life.

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Bricker’s incredible story has been featured on multiple shows, including Good Morning America. She is currently living in Los Angeles and has added a successful speaking career to her list of accomplishments. She hopes to inspire and motivate others to believe that “Everything is Possible,” which is the title of her first book. Children and students are encouraged to attend Rose Day with a parent or school. Kedon Gumerson, a 13-year-old from Edmond and star of YouTube’s “Kid Catholic,” has attended Rose Day, and said it is important for youth to be involved in the pro-life movement.

“We were born into the culture of death, so we need to be the generation to change it,” he said.

“We are kids. Kids are being killed every day. It is important for us to stand up for our peers.”

Mary Ann Schmidt, this year’s ACCW Rose Day Mass and breakfast coordinator, participated in Rose Day and also participated in this year’s “Walk for Life” in Washington D.C.

“As a member of the National Council of Catholic Women, I feel it is imperative to follow our mission statement, ‘Be the voice of Catholic Women,’ and as such, use our collective voice to stand up for the sanctity of life,” she said.

“We must show our legislators that this issue is a priority! I am proud to lend my voice.”

Eliana Tedrow is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

Pro-Life ministries in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City

40 Days for Life
Every spring and fall, this 40-day campaign aims to turn hearts away from abortion and the culture of death through round-the-clock, peaceful prayer vigils outside abortion facilities. To get involved in the Oklahoma City vigil, contact Erika Martinez at 40days4life.okc@gmail.com or (405) 615-7642. For the Norman vigil, contact Connie Lang at (405) 249-1041 or jlang9@cox.net. For more information, visit https://40daysforlife.com.

Birth Choice
Don’t face your pregnancy alone! The dependable, responsible and well-trained volunteers of Birth Choice can help at six locations. Services provided include pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, medical care and many forms of community support, including housing and shelter through Rose Home. Contact (405) 631-4477 or visit www.birthchoice.org.

Project Gabriel
Project Gabriel is a parish-based ministry supported by Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. It is a confidential, compassionate ministry helping women struggling with unplanned pregnancies. Project Gabriel mentors engage and assist women in need of resources, supplies and emotional and spiritual support. There are ministries in Shawnee, Edmond and Oklahoma City. Contact (405) 523-3012 or visit https://projectgabrielok.org.

Holy Innocents Chapel
Located at 6114 N.W. 63 in Warr Acres, the Holy Innocents Chapel offers perpetual adoration of the Eucharist with the special goal of bringing about an end to abortion. To sign up as an adorer or to volunteer, visit the Holy Innocents’ Foundation at www.holyinnocentsokc.org.

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City also offers several ways to become involved in supporting moms, babies and their families. Here are a few:

- Attend the annual Sanctity of Life Mass at the cathedral;
- Attend the annual Rose Day rally at the state capitol;
- Contribute to the annual Mother’s Day collection benefiting Birth Choice;
- Become familiar with adoption and pregnancy services through Catholic Charities;
- Become a court appointed special advocate – no legal experience required;
- Become educated about the moral and theological sides of the issue;
- Support and get involved with the adoption movement;
- Ask about starting a Project Gabriel ministry at your parish.

For more information about family programs, contact the Office of Marriage and Family Life Ministry at (405) 721-8944 or go online to https://archokc.org/family-life.

Compiled by Eliana Tedrow, a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.