Center of Family Love receives grant, plans expansion

By Sally Linhart
The Sooner Catholic

OKARCHE – The Center of Family Love announced plans to expand their facility in Okarche after receiving a $1 million grant from the Newfield Foundation, an employee-driven organization of Newfield Exploration Company.

Expansion of the campus will give the CFL the ability to better serve residents and add more residents with physical and/or intellectual disabilities.

“The building will be much like a school, where they can identify what they love, what they’re good at and what their talents are. It will empower them to be on a journey of discovery and growth, and live creative, joyful lives,” Executive Director Debbie Espinosa said.

Day programs for residents will include pottery, Spanish, art, horticulture and Bible study.

Long-term plans for the COFL include new intermediate-care residential homes, an activity center, a larger chapel dedicated to Blessed Stanley Rother and improvements to existing facilities. Additions and improvements will take place in multiple phases.

Following Catholic social teaching has been the mission of the center since its inception, markedly life and dignity of the human person.

Espinosa repeatedly expressed the emphasis on giving every individual an equal opportunity to thrive, succeed and achieve goals.

“It gives me such great joy that we have a community of believers who see the beauty and dignity in every life,” she said. “This seed money allows us to enable every individual to become the gift to the world that God intended.”

Sally Linhart is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

\[continued on page 9\]

JOURNEY TO THE PRIESTHOOD

“The Lord has been so good to me”

By Tina Korbe Dzurisin
The Sooner Catholic

Growing up as an only child in Enid, Deacon Alexander Kroll knew he was destined to be “rich and famous,” as he puts it.

His mother, Stephanie Willis, had her own assumptions about his future. Kroll spent his high school summers helping at her husband’s law firm, where Willis worked as a paralegal. As he ferried files from the post office to the courthouse, he befriended the local judges.

“They just loved him at the courthouse,” she said. “We just assumed he’d grow up and take over the business someday or take over his father’s farming business.”

God had “bigger plans.”

At a class to prepare for confirmation, Kroll listened incredulously to a Benedictine nun’s assurance that some methods of prayer could lead to a genuine dialogue with the Lord.

“She said that there were ways to pray where, if you talked to God, he would talk back to you,” Kroll said. “I thought she was nuts.”

Despite his skepticism, Kroll tried her suggestions.

One evening, as he prayed in his room, he asked the Lord, “What do you want me to do with my life?”

God responded: “I want you to be a priest.”

“I was like, ‘Oh no, Lord, you know everything, you know I’m...”

Dcn. Alexander Kroll will be ordained to the priesthood on June 29.

Photo provided.
Pope Francis issues new norms for the Church against those who abuse or cover up

By Andrea Tornielli

Vos estis lux mundi, you are the light of the world… Our Lord Jesus Christ calls every person to be a light and to be a witness to the love of God. Throughout his ministry, Our Lord spoke of the obligation to report abuse.

The Motu proprio regulates the investigation of bishops, archbishops and others who lead a diocese, or another part of the Church, who are accused of having covered up sexual abuse offenses.

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For serious offenses committed by a bishop, archbishop or another ordinary, the pope appoints a commission of cardinals to investigate the case. The power is also assigned to one or more public, stable and independent entities established by the Holy See, as well as to any competent jurisdiction.

The Motu proprio also sets the process for those who report sex abuse and their rights and obligations.

New obligations for clergy and religious

The Motu proprio establishes new procedures for reporting sex abuse and ensures that bishops and religious superiors are held accountable for their actions. It includes the obligation for clerics and religious to report abuse.

The Motu proprio provides that all those who lead a diocese, or another part of the Church, are held accountable for their actions. It establishes new procedures for reporting sex abuse and ensures that bishops and religious superiors are held accountable for their actions.

The Motu proprio includes the obligation for clerics and religious to report abuse. The Motu proprio also sets the process for those who report sex abuse and their rights and obligations.

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The Motu proprio includes the obligation for clerics and religious to report abuse. The Motu primo include...
Fr. William L. Novak  
Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia

Q: What does the vicar general do for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City?

A: As vicar general, I assist Archbishop Coakley in governance and operation of the archdiocese. I serve as a member of several advisory boards, including the Senior Staff, the Archbishop’s Finance Council, the Archdiocesan Building Committee, the St. Stanley Rother Shrine Building Committee and the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma.

Q: What is the Moderator of the Curia?

A: As Moderator of the Curia, I oversee the functioning of the Catholic Pastoral Center and provide support to the directors and staff of the various secretariats. Recently, this included the reorganization of the chancery and its reorganization.

Q: What are the requirements of someone in your position?

A: The primary requirement of my job is to be focused on the mission of the Church. I accomplish this by being a disciple of Jesus Christ and serving the Church in the archdiocese, working closely with Archbishop Coakley, the chancellor, human resources, communications and the chief financial officer.

Q: What is your favorite part of your job?

A: The favorite part of my job is meeting people from all over the archdiocese.

Q: What is the hardest part of your job?

A: The hardest part of my job is knowing that there is so much that needs to be done to advance the kingdom of God but knowing that I am only one person and can only do so much. I must lean on others and cooperate with them and, most especially, depend upon the Holy Spirit for strength and guidance.

Q: How does your job help advance the mission of the Catholic Church in Oklahoma?

A: I am able to address particular needs and set up structures and encourage other diocesan leaders to proclaim the Good News and follow the Lord’s command to “Go Make Disciples.”

Fr. William Novak  
Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia

By Jolene Schonchin  
The Sooner Catholic

Women from parishes across Oklahoma gathered May 3-5 in Oklahoma City for the Catholic Daughters of the Americas 47th Biennial Oklahoma State Convention. The theme for the convention was, “Be Still, Listen, Be Blessed.” The theme stems from Saint Teresa of Calcutta who said, “God speaks in the silence of the heart. Listening is the beginning of prayer.”

Hostesses for the state convention were Court Holy Trinity, Oklahoma; Saint Mary, Guthrie; and Court Our Lady of Lourdes, Enid.

A special service was held May 3 for members who passed away. Mourn- ing Mass was held May 4 at the Saint Francis de Sales Chapel at the Catholic Pastoral Center with Father James Caldwell. The afternoon speaker was Father James Wickersham, pastor of Saint Mary in Guthrie. Keeping with the theme of the weekend, he spoke about prayer, especially praying the Rosary daily.

“A slow Rosary is one of the most beautiful things. Don’t ever pray it just to pray it. Take your time with it. It is supposed to slow us down in our crazy world. Make it a true meditation,” Father Wickersham said.

He also spoke about the three ways of the spiritual life as told by Saint John of the Cross – the Purgative Way, Illuminative Way and the Unitive Way. He also urged endurance in prayer even when there is a period of dryness.

“It is a challenge to understand, but it is going to happen. Why does God do this? He is testing us. He takes away the good feeling in prayer because he does not want us to worship that good feeling. If we prayed and we always felt good, we would be addicted to the good feelings. We are easily addicted to the things that make us feel good. In life, there are some really tough moments and that is when we have to be faithful and go through it. The same is true of our spiritual life. We have to be persistent through those moments of dryness in prayer,” he said.

Debbie Lattus, national director for the CDA, made her first trip to Oklahoma to attend the convention.

“The Catholic Daughters have been serving God and His people for 116 years. Think back to the days when we were rolling bandages for the troops, we were working in soup kitchens to provide food for the hungry, setting up and working clothing drives to clothe the naked, and supporting pro-life rallies to protect the unborn and those unable to protect themselves. We, as Catholic Daughters, have always been immersed in events and issues that affect women, children, families and helping provide a good life for all of God’s people,” she said.

The CDA announced a gift to support seminarians with donations of $500 to the Archdiocese of Oklahoma and $400 to the Diocese of Tuls. The 18th Biennial National Convention will be held July 14-19, 2020.

New state officers:
- Barbara Carpenter, state regent
- Karen Huber, state first vice regent
- Jo Ellis Newbury, state second vice regent
- Debra Bronowski, state financial secretary

- Father John Buenger, state treasurer

The Circle of Love Award winners are:
- Spiritual Renewal: Saint Jude, Maysville
- Youth and JCDAs: Saint Francis of Assisi, Maysville

- Quality of Life: Court Salve Regina, Enid
- Family: Court Saint Mary’s, Guthrie

The Education Awards were given to the court that the students represented.

Art Division One:
- First Place – Saint Teresa
- Second Place – Saint Mary’s
- Third Place – Holy Trinity

Art Division Two:
- First Place – Saint Mary’s
- Second Place – Holy Trinity
- Third Place – Christ the King

File Division One:
- First Place – Saint Mary’s

File Division Two:
- First Place – Holy Trinity
- Second Place – Saint Mary’s
- Third Place – Christ the King

Essay Division One:
- First Place – Saint Mary’s
- Second Place – Saint Teresa
- Third Place – John Paul II

Essay Division Two:
- First Place – Holy Trinity
- Second Place – Saint Mary’s
- Third Place – Christ the King

Poetry Division Three:
- First Place – Saint Mary’s
- Second Place – Saint Teresa
- Third Place – Saint Mary’s

Photography Division One:
- First Place – Saint Mary’s
- Second Place – Saint Teresa
- Third Place – Christ the King

Photography Division Two:
- First Place – Bishop Kelly
- Second Place – Christ the King
- Third Place – Saint Mary’s

Photography Division Three:
- First Place – Saint Mary’s
- Second Place – Bishop Kelly
- Third Place – Saint Teresa

Essay Division Three:
- First Place – Saint Mary’s
- Second Place – Saint Teresa
- Third Place – Christ the King
Most people recognize the importance of obtaining consent before retrieving organs from deceased persons. It is important to understand the necessity of seeking consent for those bodies that remain in the possession of the deceased individual.

In the context of organ harvesting from deceased persons, it is crucial to inform consent be obtained prior to the procedure. This is particularly important in the case of organ transplantation, where consent is typically obtained from the donors themselves before the organs are harvested.

When it comes to harvesting tissues from deceased persons, it is essential to obtain informed consent from the donors or their representatives. This is because the tissues harvested from deceased persons are used for research and development purposes.

In conclusion, obtaining informed consent is crucial in ensuring that the ethical principles governing research involving human subjects are respected. This is particularly important in the context of organ harvesting and transplantation, where consent is typically obtained from the donors themselves before the organs are harvested.

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**From the Archives**

A photo series by George Ryan, archdiocesan archivist

William Huffer (dubbed “Wild Bill” by his brother priests) was born in Eupen, Germany, in 1877. He was an extremely competent pastor and administrator as much as possible, working hard to ensure that the spiritual and material needs of his flock were met.

For nine years, he was given the unique opportunity to be the missionary to the Apache and Sterling. But, as he settled into his new residence and traveled throughout the state, his contributions to the diocese were immense.

In his new pastoral letter released this past January, Archbishop Coakley said, “Since my installation as archbishop nearly eight years ago, I have never ceased praying for a new Pentecost leading to a New Evangelization in Oklahoma. I am convinced that this is an important issue for a new generation.

Various ethical issues directly affected by the abortion of a child or at an abortion clinic. Even though significant scientific breakthroughs may have occurred in the past using directly grafted tissues and tissues from direct abortions, this cannot ethically sanction this approach to tissue procurement, nor justify the continuation of the practice in the future.

In fact, outlawing the use of the remains of those whose mothers have undergone abortion is a step in the right direction. This action is justified by the inherent sanctity of every human being. The unborn child is a unique and irreplaceable gift of God.

Wherever cells from directly aborted fetuses are used in research or product development, alternative and ethically non-controversial cell sources should instead be pursued. As for research involving human subjects is predicated on informed consent, which needs to be obtained prior to the procedure and a cadaver is available, val...

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**Real Life Disciples**

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**Pentecost Novena to the Holy Spirit**

Sign up to join Archbishop Coakley in praying a Novena to the Holy Spirit beginning May 31, leading up to Pentecost on June 9. There are two ways to join:

Text Pentecost19 to 84576 OR Go to archokc.org/pray

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**Evangelization. We need something more.**

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**The Oklahoma City Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women**

The Women of Achievement luncheon was held March 30 at St. Philip Neri in Midwest City. It was sponsored by the Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women, Central Region, an affiliate of the National Council of Catholic Women. Photo Cara Roenig.
Typical new U.S. priest: 33-year-old who prays Rosary, takes part in Eucharistic adoration

By Catholic World News

The typical member of the priestly ordination class of 2019 is a 33-year-old cradle Catholic, according to a recently released survey of 379 of the 481 men slated to be ordained to the priesthood in the United States this year.

The survey was conducted for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate. The typical ordinand regularly took part in Eucharistic adoration and prayed the Rosary before entering seminary, according to the survey.

Seventy-five percent of the men were preparing for the diocesan priesthood; 25% were preparing for the ordinary priesthood.

In addition, 11% were home schooled, typically for eight years, at a time when less than 2% of U.S. children were educated at home. Among the survey’s findings:

- 77% of the time, both parents were Catholic; 5% have served in the U.S. Armed Forces; 17% had a parent with a military career.
- 73% prayed the Rosary and 75% regularly participated in Eucharistic adoration before entering the seminary.
- Ordinands typically first began to consider a vocation; 45% were encouraged by a friend, 39% by a parishioner, 38% by their parents; 38% are the oldest children in their families.
- 55% had earned their undergraduate degree before entering seminary; 18% had earned a graduate degree;
- 68% worked full time before entering seminary;
- 53% took part in a parish youth group, 38% in Catholic campus ministry, 26% in Boy Scouts, 21% in a pro-life group, and 21% in the Knights of Columbus or Knights of St. Peter Claver;
- 18% took part in the charismatic renewal, and 6% in Cursillo;
- 16% took part in a World Youth Day, 14% took part in a Franciscan University of Steubenville high school youth conference, 6% in FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students), and 5% in a National Catholic Youth Conference;
- 78% had served as altar servers, 53% as readers, 44% as extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, and 38% as catechists before entering seminary.

A high percentage of ordinands attended a Catholic elementary school (47%), Catholic high school (39%) or Catholic college (38%). On average, these for the ordinands are foreign school (39%) or Catholic college (38%).

Ordinands, on average, have three siblings, with only 6% being only children; 38% are the oldest children in their families; 22% are the youngest;

- 55% had earned their undergraduate degree before entering seminary; 18% had earned a graduate degree;
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The major prophets love to write

Mostly the covenant, the love of God

The prophets have a unique ability to remind us that God is a people, originally our Jewish elders brothers and sisters and now all of us, of being faithful to our deep covenant relationship with God. God loves us. Our relationship with God is a sacred covenant of love.

The prophets, God’s chosen scribes and messengers of our good Lord kept inspiring them with more and more messages, so their writings are nothing extensive, a major piece of the work. The 12 minor prophets, also God’s messengers of love and the topic of our next column, end up with less extensive, a major piece of the work. The 12 minor prophets, also God’s messengers of love and the topic of our next column, end up with less extensive, a major piece of the work. The 12 minor prophets, also God’s messengers of love and the topic of our next column, end up with less extensive, a major piece of the work.

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La nueva carta pastoral del Arzobispo Pablo S. Coakley, “Los argumentos de apoyo para la campaña “Una Iglesia, Muchos Discípulos” ha finalizado oficialmente. Ahora es el momento de mirar hacia atrás para evaluar los resultados, y lo más importante, expresar gratitud. ¡Gracias!

Se necesitan voluntarios para la próxima columna, terminan con menos cantidades del tiempo que vivimos. Los profetas tienen una capacidad única para expresar nuestras vidas de fe a través de las enseñanzas morales y sociales que están debilitados por las consecuencias del tiempo que vivimos. El padre Huffer murió el 15 de enero de 1962 en Oklahoma City, y su pasión. Como capellán de la Escuela de la Conferencia de los Estados Unidos, presentó su visión de la Arquidiócesis al mantener álbumes que no se pueden publicar, en las librerías “St. Thomas More” (Roca) o en Amazon.com (E-Book).

¿Qué nos resta? No se le ha describido un “espíritu il- lútrico”, que, desde Vida Digital, más que ser una lucha para entender el tiempo que vivimos. Su amor por las personas y la predicación del evangelio. Cuando Jesucristo fue el elegido del Señor. Los invito a sentarse y escuchar la voz de este padre. El mesías es un signo de esperanza y lo hizo, una nueva alianza que será permanente y no temporaria. El padre Huffer murió el 15 de enero de 1962 en Oklahoma City, y su pasión. Como capellán de la Escuela de la Conferencia de los Estados Unidos, presentó su visión de la Arquidiócesis al mantener álbumes que no se pueden publicar, en las librerías “St. Thomas More” (Roca) o en Amazon.com (E-Book).
**Brieﬁs**

**Read Archbishop Coakley’s new pastoral letter**

Archbishop Coakley’s new pastoral letter, “Make Disciples: Building a Culture of Conversion and Discipleship for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City,” lays out the vision for the Archdiocese through 2030. Read the letter or download a copy at ask.archokc.org. Pastoral letters are available at listening sessions or at archokc.org.

**Holy Innocents’ Chapel perpetual adoration**

Holy Innocents’ Chapel is seeking more adorers for the Holy Innocent’s Chapel, 607 E. Chautauqua Ave. Contact Toni Herstein at stetrianaholy@gmail.com or (405) 341-1999.

**Volunteers needed**

Volunteers are needed for the first annual archdiocesan St. Kateri Tekakwitha Honor Dance on July 6 at St. John Nepomuk in Yukon. Sign up online at http://bit.ly/HonorDanceVolunteer or call (405) 721-8110. Learn more at archokc.org/honordance.

**St. Kateri Honor Dance**

Archbishop Coakley invites everyone from the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, the Diocese of Tulsa, dioceses from other states, families, native dancers and the public to join him July 6 for the St. Kateri Tekakwitha Honor Dance at St. John Nepomuk in Yukon. The honor dance will include Mass, powwow dancing contests, and the presentation of the new American Indian Catholic Outreach princess and grand piping chief. Visit archokc.org/honordance. Vendors can contact St. John’s Calloway at (918) 931-7514.

**Catholic camp registration open**

Registration is open for Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Youth Camp. Camp is for students in grades 4-12. Register at archokc.org/camp or call (405) 721-9220.

**Edmond children’s day out**

Registration is open for the children’s day out program at St. John in Edmond. The WDI is a program for children ages 2 and 3 during the school year. The program offers full-time or part-time care for age 2 and part-time care for age 3. Find information all classes, schedule and tuition at stjohn-edm.com. Contact M. Price Oswalt at (405) 567-3404.

**CRCW Spring Fling**

St. Gregory’s Abbey is inviting everyone to the CRCW Spring Fling at 10 a.m. June 6 at the Epiphany of the Lord, patio room, 7336 W. Britton Blvd., OKC. Fr. Bill Pruet will lead a wine tasting presentation. A $5 registration required. Contact Mary Anne Schmahl at smiaugh@gmail.com or (405) 650-9674.

**Pentecost picnic**

The annual Pentecost Picnic at St. Gregory’s Abbey will begin with 10:30 a.m. Mass June 9. This will be followed by picnic and yearbooks, but donations are always accepted. RSVP to revtrina@sanjose.ok.org or (405) 878-5926.

**Gift of Love Gala**

The Center of Family Love and the Oklahoma Knights of Columbus will host their annual Gift of Love Gala at 6 p.m. June 15 at the Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. Tickets are $75 pp or $125 for a table of 10. Raffle tickets for a chance to win up to $20,000 worth of prizes, including a grand prize of $100,000, can be purchased for $100 per ticket. Visit www.centeroffamilylove.org/gala or call Nancy Allman at (405) 263-6468, Ext. 1014.

**Catechesis - New Evangelization**

Summer registration for Catechists of the New Evangelization, the main entry-level course for the 2nd Degree in Theology program through Newman University, is now open. The course will be 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. Tuesdays, June 11, 18, 25 July 2, 9, 16, and 23, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Saturdays, June 15 and July 22. Contact archokc.org/office.

**School of Lectio Divina**

Saint Joseph Monastery’s School of Lectio Divina will have sessions June 11-14 and Sept. 25-28. Trained instructors lead sessions on the practice of prayer taught by the early Church fathers and facilitate the incorporation of that deep prayer into one’s daily life. Contact St. Barbara at (918) 746-4209 or lectionis@stjosephmonastery.com. Limited number of overnight accommodations. Visit www.stjosephmonastery.com/retreats.

**Day of Reflection**

The Ecumenical “The Sacrament of Transformation” will be presented by Jennifer Copeland, O.S.B., 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. June 22 at St. Gregory’s Abbey in Shawnee. Cost is $30 and includes lunch. Registration closes June 10. Contact (405) 878-5656, retreat@montecassino.org.

**Patrician Rosary**

St. John in Edmond will hold a patronal Rosary for the needs of the country at 7 p.m. June 27 in the sanctuary. Contact the parish office at (405) 340-6961.

**Oblate retreat**

Oblate retreat at Joseph Monastery in Tulsa All Catholic Anglicans will have its annual oblate retreat 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. July 13 at the monastery library. Cost $50, includes lunch. The oblate book sale will be during the retreat. Contact AJ Tierney at (918) 746-4223, ajtierney@montecassino.org.

**Come and see weekend**

St. Gregory’s Abbey in Shawnee will host a Come and See weekend June 28-30. Mass and a eucharist will be held Aug. 3 at the abbey’s Thursday night vigil. Register at archokc.org/acp. Contact (405) 799-2745, acp@archokc.org.

**Knights of Columbus Retreat**

The retreat is open to all Catholics and will be held Aug. 3 at the abby’s Thursday night vigil. Call Fr. Phil Creider, a priest, for 42 years, including 20 years as a chaplain in the U.S. Navy-Marines, will present “Follow GOD the desert path.” The all-day event will have Mass, breakfast, coffee, snacks, lunch & $20 pp. Contact Mary Ann Schmahl at (405) 650-9674, smiaugh@gmail.com.

**Quo Vada Days 2019**

Are you considering the priestly vocation? Quo Vada Days is July 28-31 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church. It is for young men in high school and college who prayerfully are discerning their vocation. Space is limited. Register at quovadas.org or call the Archdiocese vocations office at (405) 721-9351 for more information.

**Assembly of Catholic Professional Men**

The Assembly of Catholic Professional Men is quarterly lunchhours for 2019 is Aug. 1 at the Downtown Oklahoma City Club. The guest speaker is Carolyn War, to register, visit archokc.org/acp. Contact (405) 709-2745, acp@archokc.org.

**Contact information**

St. Gregory’s Abbey, 607 E. Chautauqua Ave., OKC 73118. Call Fr. Bill Pruet at (405) 746-4223; email at billfull@cox.net. For information about the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, call (405) 709-2745 or visit www.archokc.org.
Gospel of Life School provides missionaries for the dying

The missionary disciples of the Gospel of Life School are volunteers who live and serve at the Saint. James Dwelling in Oklahoma City and the Saint John Paul II Dwelling in Moore. They assist the residents of the Gospel of Life Dwellings, which helps elders who would otherwise be alone. The missionaries accompany them “on their journey toward eternal life.”

Applicants can choose to serve for an academic school year or a summer. Openings are available for summer 2019 and the 2019-2020 academic year.

“Room and board and a small stipend are included. They are asked to raise some funds toward the cost of classes, retreats and pilgrimages.”

Applicants can work with Jim Armour, the director of the Gospel of Life School program, to find sponsorships.

The Gospel of Life Dwellings and the Gospel of Life School were created by Sister Maria Faulkner.

“There is a restlessness in our modern day; trying to fill oneself with material goods, prestige, exotic experiences or virtual realities. These young people discover a simple life and the beauty that comes with real encounters, real relationships and real giving of oneself in love for the sake of Christ and his Church. GOLS responds to the call of Archbishop Coakley to be disciples, make disciples and bear fruit for the Kingdom,” Sister Maria said.

The Gospel of Life School is for those between ages 18 and 30. Six people from across the country responded to the inaugural program.

“It’s been the best decision I’ve made in my entire life,” said Anna, 23. “That call we have to follow Christ wholeheartedly; for everything to be his. Life will never be the same again.”

Matt said of his hospice experience, “I realized the importance of the salvation of souls. It is amazing and overwhelming to play a part in that.”

The year included classes in sacred Scripture and the Sacraments through the Blessed Stanley Rother Institute of the archdiocese as well as other classes in Franciscan spirituality, Spanish and communication.

This first year of the school will culminate with a pilgrimage June 10-18 to Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico and to Santiago Atitlan in Guatemala. For further information and an application, go online to www.gospeloflifeschool.org.

Presumption of innocence

The principle of presumption of innocence under investigation remains with the metropolitan. The accused will be informed of the investigation when requested to do so by the competent dicastery. The accusation must be notified only if formal proceedings are opened. If deemed appropriate, in order to ensure the integrity of the investigation or of the evidence, this notification may be omitted during the preliminary stage.

Conclusion of the investigation

The Motu proprio does not modify the penalties for crimes committed, but it does establish the procedures for reporting and carrying out the preliminary investigation. At the conclusion of the investigation, the metropolitans (or, in certain cases, the bishop of the suffragan diocese with the greatest seniority of appointment) forwards the results to the competent Vatican dicastery. This completes his contribution. The competent dicastery then proceeds “in accordance with the law provided for the specific case,” acting on the basis of already existing canonical norms. Based on the results of the preliminary investigation, the Holy See can immediately impose preventive and restrictive measures on the person under investigation.

Concrete commitment

With this new juridical instrument, called for by Pope Francis, the Catholic Church takes a further and decisive step in the prevention and fight against abuse, putting the emphasis on concrete actions. As the pope writes at the beginning of the document: “In order that these phenomena, in all their forms, never happen again, a continuous and profound conversion of hearts is needed, attested by concrete and effective actions that involve everyone in the Church.”

Sooner Catholic

COMMUNICATIONS APPEAL

WWW.ARCHOKC.ORG/SCAPPEAL

Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ is at the heart of who we are as Catholics. Your gift to the Sooner Catholic Communications Appeal will help support the tools needed for the archdiocese to succeed in its mission of evangelization and discipleship.