The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City has more than 50 volunteers who continuously visit nine state prisons, three federal prisons and a number of smaller state facilities and county jails. The archdiocesan program is coordinated by Deacon Jim Smith. Deacon Smith’s No. 1 responsibility is to schedule regular priest visits so prisoners can receive the Eucharist and Reconciliation. Priests also are available for baptisms and confirmation.

Some prisons are so remote that visits by priests are limited to once per month. A network of volunteers help with inmate visits with messages of Jesus’ love and concern, and to let them know they are a part of a church community. “The demand for volunteers is always great,” Deacon Smith said. “Some facilities, like the federal prison at Hinton, could have as many as 200 inmates who desire to attend Mass.” For more than 30 years, parishioners from Saint Joseph in Ada have been visiting prisoners at the Joseph Harp Correctional Center, a medium-security facility located near Lexington. Their devoted service has been recognized with a Team Service Award from the Oklahoma Department of Corrections. Elizabeth Witherow and Ann Maxwell helped start the program, with Deacon Dennis Fine continuing their good work. The volunteers from Saint Joseph share their faith and try to strengthen the faith of the prisoners. Their ministry is one of friendship, listening, caring, outreach and a sharing of Christ’s love through action. Their presence helps inmates function more positively within the prison environment, provides a connection to the outside community and, in some ways, prepares the inmates for re-entry into society. At Joseph Harp, they begin visits with prayer and Scripture and follow with discussion.

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Catholic prison ministry brings hope to inmates

By Charles Albert
The Sooner Catholic

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For more information about prison ministry in the archdiocese, contact Dcn. Jim Smith at smithjd9@swbell.net.

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continued on page 16
The sin and scourge of racism

Sin corrupts everything it touches. The terrible effects of sin include a darkening of our intellect and a weakening of our will. Sin blinds us. It weakens us. Faith enlightens us. Honest reflection, however, confronts us with the fact that even though we Christians have been enlightened by the gift of faith and strengthened by the grace of the Holy Spirit, the effects of sin have left us with blind spots and moral weaknesses.

One of the blind spots that the Holy Spirit is calling to our attention today is racism. Racism is nothing new. Racism is not merely a corrosive social ill. It is also a sin against God and the human family. It is a sin that lodges in human hearts and corrupts cultures and societies. It is a sin that blinds us to the fundamental equality of all human beings and the God-given dignity of each person created in the image of God.

Racism is what led to the horrors of the Holocaust. The Jew and others in Nazi Germany. It was embedded in the cultural attitudes that displaced indigenous peoples throughout North America and sought to eradicate their native cultures. It was institutionalized in segregationist Jim Crow laws following the abolition of slavery, our nation’s "original sin.”

Racist attitudes and blind spots continue to create intolerable situations around the world where migration brings together people of different colors, creeds and ethnicities. Racism usually goes unacknowledged as a significant factor in the inability to seriously confront and remedy the immigration crisis that has become so intractable in our nation and in so many other nations.

As recent events in El Paso and elsewhere demonstrate, we are witnessing with alarming frequency racial tensions erupting in violence around the country. Many are shocked to see these outbreaks of racial intolerance and violence. We have naively consigned such things to a less-enlightened racist past.

We live in an era in which it is hard to keep up with the rapid pace of scientific, technological and digital advancements. Our culture has embraced an evolutionary worldview that assumes progress is the inevitable trajectory of human history. But, there is really no parallel to progress in the moral universe. Human nature has not changed or evolved in any fundamental way. Even aided by grace we still struggle with the effects of sin. We are not as wise or as strong as we think we are. We still fall prey to the sin of pride. Human nature, though fundamentally good, is fallen and wounded by sin. We all are still sinners.

As our faith professors, we believe that we have been redeemed by the blood of Christ who died and rose for us all. But, we cannot bank the faith and virtues of past generations and count on these to sustain us into the future. We are just as susceptible to sin, including the sin of racism, as those who went before us. We can learn from history, but we are also capable of repeating its mistakes. Repentance and ongoing conversion are tasks for each person in every generation. As we come to grips with the troubling evidence of racism in our society, we all are called to examine our own consciences, including our own blind spots as these are being revealed to us by the Holy Spirit.

How is the Lord calling us to affirm the dignity of every human being from conception to the grave and our God-given dignity of each person created in the image of God? "Racism" is a sin that blinds us to the fundamental equality of all human beings and the God-given dignity of each person created in the image of God. By Sooner Catholic Staff

Archbishop Paul S. Coakley

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

Shrine of Italy pilgrimage - St. Ann Retirement Center is sponsoring a trip to the shrines of Italy. Oct. 26 – Nov. 7. There are a few spots open. Richard Amend and Fr. Boniface Co-uel will be on the trip. Trip includes the Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi, San Giovanni Rotondo, tomb of Padre Pio, Abbey of Santisima Trinita, Maddonna del Rosario, Vatican City, papal audience, St. Peter’s Basilica, Christian Rome tour, St. Paul Outside the Walls, St. Mary Major and St. John in Lateran. The trip is 11 days and includes 15 meals. Cost $3,749 pp. Call Richard Amend at (405) 721-0747.

Archbishop Paul S. Coakley

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

Aug. 25 – Mass and dinner with UCO students, 5:30 p.m., St. John, Edmond
Aug. 26-29 – Travel to Mexico City to meet with Confraternidad de Guadalupe (405) Provincial Superior
Sept. 3 – St. Ann Retirement Center Board meeting, 8 a.m., Catholic Pastoral Center
Sept. 3 – Juhl’s Diner, 6 p.m., CPC
Sept. 5 – Archdiocesan School Advisory Council meeting, 7:30 a.m., CPC
Sept. 5 – Mass, 9:30 a.m., The Center of Family Love
Sept. 6 – Catholic Foundation Board meeting, 1:30 p.m., CPC
Sept. 7 – Lady of LaVang Mass and celebration, 11:45 a.m., The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, OKC

God our Father.

You made each of us to use our gifts in the Body of Christ.

We ask that you inspire young people whom you call to priesthood and consecrated life to courageously follow your will.

Send workers into your great harvest so that the Gospel is preached, the poor are served with love, the suffering are comforted, and your people are strengthened by the sacraments.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The 2019 Quo Vadis Days retreat participants.

By Stephen Jones
For the Sooner Catholic

Earlier this summer, discemers from around Oklahoma met at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Youth Camp to attend a discernment retreat called, “Quo Vadis Days,” hosted by the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

In Latin, Quo Vadimus means, “Where are you going?” It is the question our Lord asked Saint Peter as he was facing persecution in Rome. Upon asking this question, our Lord asked Saint Peter as he was facing persecution in Rome. Upon asking this question, Saint Peter returned to Rome to face his martyrdom. Jesus also asks each of us “where are you going?” especially in regard to our personal vocation.

God has placed in each of our hearts a unique plan, or vocation, that will lead to great happiness and satisfaction, and one day will lead to eternal happiness in heaven. Each person must be open to what vocation the Lord is calling him and her to, no matter what it might be, because it will lead to the greatest fulfillment.

The young men who attended the 2019 Quo Vadis Days retreat ranged from eighth grade students to college graduates. For four days, they learned about the critical importance of hearing and responding to the Lord through prayer. The men also had an introduction into the process of discernment, the process of recognizing what their particular vocation might be. Using the lessons about prayer and discernment, they began to prayerfully ask God where and to what vocation he might be calling them.

Dynamic speakers were asked to share their personal experiences about particular vocations of marriage, religious life and the diocesan priesthood. Intentional quiet time was built into their schedule, specifically for prayer, rest and spiritual direction, so the men could put what they were learning during the retreat to good use.

At the discerners of the archdiocese that they may have the courage to say "yes" to what God is calling them to do.

Stephen Jones is a seminar for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

The 2019 Quo Vadis Days retreat participants.

Photo Fr. Brian Blaschke.

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Ground broken for new St. Kateri Tekakwitha Shrine

By Catholic News Service

GALLUP, N.M. — The rosary walk at a new shrine to be built in the Diocese of Gallup to honor Saint Kateri Tekakwitha will instill the life and example of the American Indian saint, popularly known as the "Lily of the Mohawks," said Most Rev. James S. Wall, Bishop of Gallup.

"We will take advantage of the natural beauty that God offers to us, as the rosary walk wind its way through the beautiful landscape that he has already given to us," he added in remarks during the Aug. 11 groundbreaking for the shrine.

"We will rely on the intercession of Our Lady, under the title of Our Lady of Guadalupe, who we know first appeared to an indigenous person, that being Saint Juan Diego. And, so this shrine will be a special place for everyone, but especially to the indigenous people of this land, the Native American peoples of this land."

The shrine is being built through a new partnership of the diocese, the Knights of Columbus and the Southwest Indian Foundation.

The groundbreaking event featured drumming as well as the Butterfly and Eagle dances from members of the Laguna tribe. Besides Bishop Wall, others who spoke were Carl Anderson, Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus, and Father Henry Sands, director of the Black and Indian Mission Office in Washington D.C.

"Today in the United States, as many as one in four Native Americans are Catholic. And yet, in many ways, these brothers and sisters in the faith have been forgotten," Anderson said. "It is our hope that in the years to come, this Saint Kateri shrine will become a place of extraordinary holiness for Native Americans and for all Catholics."

This shrine is an acknowledgment of the role that she plays especially to the indigenous people, said Father Anderson, a previous executive of the Archdiocese of Detroit, who is a member of the Ojibwa, Ottawa and Potawatomi tribes.

Construction on the new shrine began Aug. 12, the tentative date for its completion is August 2021. The shrine will include a chapel, museum, and 30 outdoor rosary stations. Each station will be designed by a Catholic artist from a distinct American Indian tribe.

"The shrine will include a chapel, museum, and 30 outdoor rosary stations. Each station will be designed by a Catholic artist from a distinct American Indian tribe. Saint Kateri Tekakwitha was canonized in 2012 and is the first American Indian saint. She is the patron saint of American Indian, First Nations and indigenous peoples."

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For the Archives ...

A photo series from George Biaggi, archdiocesan architect

Father John Bloms, O.S.B., who left this life in 1974 at the relatively young age of 57, is still remembered fondly by the community of Saint Gregory’s Abbey and the Diocese of Oklahoma City and Tulsa. The mention of his name evokes admiration for his talent and a constantly burning sense of compassion.

Born in Minnesota to a family that included two priest brothers and a sister who became Sister Bernard Clare, he was ordained in 1944 and became the football coach and chemistry instructor at the high school and college at Saint Gregory’s.

A supremely talented man, Father John joined ministry as a builder of extraordinary vision. Under his supervision and partly with his own hands, he was the general contractor for the construction of Saint Gregory’s Abbey as well as the dining area. The monks of the abbey were fellow workers on his project. He was known as a liturgical innovator (which was appealing to some and appalling to others) as he appeared on the front page of the first issue of the National Catholic Reporter with an article about his altar boys and girls. While the news today, in 1964 the fact that girls were serving on the altar was scandalous. Bishop Reed ordered him to cease. Another legend emanating from the parish in Ada was his use of a 50-gallon drum and firecrackers instead of Sanctus bells at the consecration. His sense of liturgy could be amusing, but most were enthralled by his gregarious and warm personality.

At his death, the Sooner Catholic (in its first year of publication) offered this observation: “Father John, a friendly man, was well known as a pastor, teacher, builder, football coach and one having great concern for the genuine, lively worship by his parishioners.”

The Notre Dame Center for STEM Education was established in 2015 to help educators reach young people, especially in underserved communities. Officials want teachers who can deliver a high-quality STEM education to positively shape the children’s future.

“IT was 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day and we had homework,” Lassiter said. “It was very challenging.” Some of that is because education is a complex set of issues with its own unique objectives.

“[W]e’re trying to prepare students for jobs that have not been created.” Lassiter said.

Booster said well-trained scientists can carry out Catholic teaching to help the poor and vulnerable.

“The students can help to provide clean water for everyone around the world. They can solve that problem,” she said. With the wealth of information acquired, the teachers provide professional STEM development for other teachers at Saint Charles and around the archdiocese. Saint Charles’ students have benefitted from laboratory experiments. Even kindergarten students studied ways to make ice melt fastest.

"St. Charles Principal Todd Gungoll said the teachers’ experience was “enlightening,” for his school. The 2020 deadline to apply for the program is in March. Visit stcharlesedu.net/trustey.

Steve Gust is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.
Christianas has always believed in the Real Presence. And, it has always been shocking. Jesus taught the doctrine most clearly in the sixth chapter of John: “Jesus said to them, ‘After consecration, the host at Mass isn’t bread; it is Jesus Christ himself. You just look like bread. Really?’ Really. Here’s how the Catechism puts it: ‘In the most blessed sacrament of the Eucharist the body and blood, together with the soul and divinity, of our Lord Jesus Christ and, therefore, the whole Christ is truly, really, and substantially contained.’ Christians have always believed in the Real Presence. And, it has always been shocking. Jesus taught the doctrine most clearly in the sixth chapter of John: “Jesus said to them, ‘After consecration, the host at Mass isn’t bread; it is Jesus Christ himself. You just look like bread. Really?’ Really. Here’s how the Catechism puts it: ‘In the most blessed sacrament of the Eucharist the body and blood, together with the soul and divinity, of our Lord Jesus Christ and, therefore, the whole Christ is truly, really, and substantially contained.’

The irrevelable early Christian teaching book, the Didache (79), guards the Eucharist, and calls it a “sacrament.” To set one east or drink of your Eucharist, unless you have been bap- tized.” Ch. 9. “Every Lord’s Day gather you- selves together, and break bread, and give thanksgiving after having confessed your trans- gressions, that your sacrifice may be pure” (Ch. 14: 2). The new Testament rules guarded the Real Presence: “Whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord.”

Justin Martyr, sometime between 147 and 161, wrote in his First Apology (Ch. 66) of “this food we call the Eucharist.” “We do not receive this food as common bread or common drink; but as Jesus Christ our Saviour bring incorruptible by God’s word took flesh and blood for our salvation, so also we have been taught that the food consecrated by the word of prayer which comes from him, from which our flesh and blood are nourished by transformation, is the flesh and blood of that incorruptible Jesus.

The world understood what Christians be- lieved. The Eucharist is the Body and Blood of Jesus. Jesus loves you now.” When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loved you. When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loved you. When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loved you. When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loved you. When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loved you. When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loved you. When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loved you. When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loved you. When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loved you. When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loved you. When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loved you. When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loved you. When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loved you.

To this day, most Christians worldwide believe in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. There are a little more than two billion Chris- tians in the world. Half of those, about one billion, are Catholics (of those, only 7 percent are in the United States). Another 12 percent of the world’s Christians are Orthodox Christians who believe in the Real Presence.

That means more than three of every five Christians believe in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. If Jesus says we are saved by his blood, he doesn’t mean that we are saved by the death of his body. And, when we drink of his Body, we mean his real body gives us eternal life. Where do we find it in the Eucharist? That is the Real Presence. Of course, there are other beliefs about Jesus, but that is the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. The world understands what Christians believe. The Eucharist is the Body and Blood of Jesus. Jesus loves you now.” When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loved you. When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loved you. When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loved you. When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loved you. When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loved you. When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loved you. When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loved you. When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loved you. When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loved you. When you look at the Sacred Host you understand how much Jesus loved you.

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“Unplanned” actress establishes scholarship for pregnant women

By Perry West
Catholic News Agency

COLUMBUS, Ohio - Ashley Bratcher, who played Abby Johnson in the pro-life movie “Unplanned,” has helped establish a scholarship for women pursuing an education during an unexpected pregnancy.

"Women can pursue their careers, live out their dreams, and have richer, more fulfilling lives while balancing motherhood. Sometimes, it just takes a little help," Bratcher said in a recent press release from Heartbeat International.

“I wanted to be a part of empowering mothers to chase their dreams and to provide a means for those who choose life to continue their educations.”

The scholarship, called the Unplanned Movie Scholarship, will give $5,000 annually for a woman facing an unplanned pregnancy. It can go toward educational opportunities, including college and trade school.

The project is backed by Heartbeat International, a pro-life agency providing pregnancy resources to expectant mothers in more than 2,000 locations worldwide.

Joe Gil Childs, president of Heartbeat International, said the scholarship will help expecting mothers embrace education and life.

"Unplanned" follows the life of Abby Johnson, a former clinic director for Planned Parenthood, who had a conversion experience after witnessing the horrors of abortion.

Today, Johnson is a pro-life advocate and the director of And Then There Were None, a ministry that helps other abortion workers leave the industry.

Following the movie’s release, numerous women reached out to Bratcher to share their stories of difficult pregnancy situations. Andrea Trudden, director of communications for Heartbeat International, told CNA that many women shared a common conflict— they needed financial support to finish their education.

Trudden said applicants will be recommended from one of the agency’s pregnancy help centers, where the mothers’ needs will be best addressed.

"Pregnancy centers provide parenting classes and financial classes. We are able to couple what we do through those pregnancy health organizations with the woman who wants to continue her education," she said.

She said the scholarship will begin accepting applicants at the end of this year, after the organization receives enough funds. The scholarship is now accepting donations at www.UnplannedMovieScholarship.com.

“We want to do everything we can to support the mothers during these decisions, to help prepare her for motherhood and provide her with everything she needs to get through her pregnancy in a loving and caring way so she can make positive choices for her life.”

By Perry West
Catholic News Agency

Ashley Bratcher

A portrait created by a St. Philip Neri parishoner, Noel Torrey, was adorned with a Guatemalan scarf and flowers near the ambo for Bl. Stanley Rother’s Feast Day. Photo provided.

A portrait created by a St. Philip Neri parishoner, Noel Torrey, was adorned with a Guatemalan scarf and flowers near the ambo for Bl. Stanley Rother’s Feast Day. Photo provided.

Youth and volunteers from Holy Trinity in Okarche gather before leaving for the Steubenville Youth Conference in July. Photo provided.

A portrait created by a St. Philip Neri parishoner, Noel Torrey, was adorned with a Guatemalan scarf and flowers near the ambo for Bl. Stanley Rother’s Feast Day. Photo provided.

Students, staff and families of St. Mary in Lawton enjoy the first day of school. Photos provided.

Right: Chuck Schroeder presents a painting of Bl. Stanley Rother to Fr. Cory Stanley and Joe Whittrock of Holy Trinity in Okarche.

Bottom: Fr. Don Wolf presented a program on Bl. Stanley Rother’s “Last Trip Home,” recounting Bl. Stanley Rother’s trip to Oklahoma in 1981 to see family and his cousin Don Wolf ordained a priest. The program was at Holy Trinity in Okarche. Photos provided.

Bottom: Fr. Don Wolf presented a program on Bl. Stanley Rother’s “Last Trip Home,” recounting Bl. Stanley Rother’s trip to Oklahoma in 1981 to see family and his cousin Don Wolf ordained a priest. The program was at Holy Trinity in Okarche. Photos provided.
Parents around the country are preparing their children for the newborn year in fun and creative ways, too, roll out their back-to-school ads on everything from backpacks to running shoes, pens, pencils and clothes. It’s a rush of activity, spending and preparation for our children. The usual annual rush to prepare families for the coming school year kicks in as more retailers gear up to capitalise on the excitement that comes from the beginning of a new term. But, looking a little deeper, consider some of the other ways schools can make or break your back-to-school season. How do students grow as they grow in age and wisdom? They can learn how to practice friendship and respect for teachers and for others. They can learn how to accept a new idea. And, they can learn how to be generous, and to do something good in the world. Catholic Extension has partnered with one school after another for many years. This year, students supported Rocky Boy Reservation, a home for men, women and children in the northern Montana Clave D’Agostini, part of the mission in the Diocese of Great Falls-Billings. However, this theology and christology only come to life if we teach kids something about generosity. At Saint Jerome School in Oconomowoc, Wis., fourth graders recently raised $5,885.17 to support Saint Andrew’s Church in Eagle River, Ala. On Nov. 30, the feast day of the Church, a 7.0 magnitude earthquake badly damaged the church, located only 10 miles from the epicenter of this year’s earthquake. Father Tom Brundage, spent 10 years in Japan as a missionary, and was eager to help. Offering the fourth graders the opportunity to use their energy to serve others in need taught them an important lesson about being members of a Church spread across the country and world. Similarly, at Blessed Sacrament School in Maryland, students were preparing for First Communion in April. 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El pecado y el flagelo del racismo

El pecado corre todo lo tumbado. Los terribles efectos del pecado incluyen un oceánico brindis de nuestro interior y un debilitamiento de nuestra identidad moral con correlatos en nuestras acciones. Nos delibra. Le fee nos ilumina. Sin embargo, la reflexión honesta nos confrunta con el hecho de que, aunque los cristianos hemos sido iluminados por el don de la fe y por la gracia del Espíritu Santo, los efectos del pecado nos han dejado con puntos ciegos y debilidades mortales.

El Espíritu Santo nos lanza hoy una atención oscura sobre el pecado que nos ha querido atesorar en nuestra corporalización al racismo. El pecado no es nada nuevo. El racismo no puede ser.models. El racismo no puede ser visto como una simple cuestión de actitudes culturales que hemos sido creados a imagen y semejanza de Dios. Es un pecado que no puede ser visto en los corazones humanos y corrumpen las culturas y las sociedades. Es un pecado que nos ciega a la igualdad fundamental entre todos los seres humanos y la dignidad dada por Dios a cada persona pues todos hemos sido creados a imagen y semejanza de Dios.

El racismo fue el comienzo a lo que después fueron los horrores del holocausto de los judíos y otros en la Alemania nazi. Estamos incrustados en las actitudes culturales que desplazaron a los pueblos indígenas en nación a nación conversión. El racismo no es simplemente un mal social corrosivo. El racismo no es nada nuevo. El racismo es un componente fundamental entre todos los seres humanos y la dignidad dada por Dios a cada persona pues todos hemos sido creados a imagen y semejanza de Dios.

El pecado es un pecado que nos ciega a la igualdad fundamental de todos los seres humanos y la dignidad dada por Dios de cada persona creada a imagen de Dios.

El el pecado y el flagelo del racismo. El pecado a lo más Profundo

Inaguración de los terrenos y bendición de los trabajos por comenzar del nuevo santuario dedicado al Beato Stanley Rother será el 3 de noviembre

La Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma, un elemento adicional será un museo y un centro de peregrinación, que será una fuente de inspiración y que la vida, la luz y la filiación del Dios invisible revolucionado por la aceptación de la verdadera filiación de la Palabra preexistente que nos enfrentamos con la evidencia del pecado del racismo, como aquellos que nos precedieron. Podemos aprender de la historia, pero también somos capaces de repetir sus errores.

Arrepentimiento, y nuestra conti

El pecado es un pecado que nos ciega a la igualdad fundamental de todos los seres humanos y la dignidad dada por Dios de cada persona creada a imagen de Dios. (El pecado es un pecado que nos ciega a la igualdad fundamental de todos los seres humanos y la dignidad dada por Dios de cada persona creada a imagen de Dios)
Briefs

Rother shrine groundbreaking
The groundbreaking for the Stanley Rother Shrine will be 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 3, at the site of the future shrine, 8. 89 between Shidell Boulevard and Interstate 35 in Oklahoma City. The groundbreaking is open to the public. No tickets or reservations required. RSVP helps with vendor count: rsvp@archokc.org, archokc.org/shrine.

Want to learn about the future of the archdiocese?
Archbishop Coakley’s new pastoral letter, “Go Make Disciples: Building a Culture of Conversion and Discipleship for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City,” lays out the vision for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City through 2030. Read the letter or download a copy at archokc.org/2030. Print copies available at parishes.

Free Rother museum tour
The Heritage Gallery at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 North Western Expressway, presents “The Shepherd Cannot Run: A Retrospective on the Life of St. Stanley Rother.” The free tour is 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. Special tours available. Contact (405) 721-5651, Ext. 141.

Rother documentary, beatification available on DVD

CK Run
The 43rd annual CK Run is Sept. 14 in Nichols Hills. Register at runsignup.com/churc.

BMHC class reunion
Bishop McGarvey’s Catholic High School Class of 1969 is looking for classmates for a 50th reunion Sept. 19-22. Contact Rich Turner (762-3523) or rodjorky@gmail.com, (405) 820-1812.

Day of Reflection
A Day of Reflection “From Mono- theism to Dialogue in Prayer” with Fr. Benocide Copelin, O.S.B., will be 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Sept. 24 at St. Gregory’s Abbey in Shawnee. Early bird discount is $30 or $35 at the door, includes lunch. Contact (405) 878-5565, retreat@franciscans.org.

St. Benedict Carnival
St. Benedict Catholic Church invites everyone to attend their 2019 Carnival Sept. 21 at 632 N. Kickapoo in Shawnee. The Grumney’s ATV garage sale and pancake breakfast begins at 8 a.m. The game booths, vendor booths, inflatables, bake sale, food booths and the wine raffle end by 6 p.m. Contact St. Benedict Church at (405) 275-0003.

Financial Peace University class
A Financial Peace University class will be at 4 p.m. on Sunday afternoons in Marian Hall at St. John Nepomuk in Yukon, starting on Sept. 22. Childcare provided. Register at daveramsey.com.

40 Days for Life kick-off rally
The Norman chapter of 40 Days for Life will have a kick-off rally at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 22 at All Saints Catholic School gymnasium, 4001 S. Ave. N.W., Norman, Contact Connie Lang at (405) 249-1041, jlang9@cox.net.

School of Lectio Divina
St. Joseph’s Monastery of the School of Lectio Divina will have sessions Sept. 25-28. Trained instructors lead a session on the practice of prayer taught by the early Church fathers. Contact St. Barbara at lectio@stjosephmonastery.org or (918) 746-4209. Visit www.stj osophemonastery.org/retreats.

Padre Pio relics
Several relics of St. Pio of Pietrelcina will be available for ven- eration 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Sept. 27 at Christ the King, 8055 Dorset Dr. in Oklahoma City.

Oklahoma Catholic Radio
2019 CATECHETICAL CONGRESS
September 22-26
Oklahoma City Convention Center
600 N California Ave
877-707-0752
Pope Francis is coming to the USA -- August 28-31, 2025
Your Parish can be a part of the 'Jubilee' Experience!
Contact us today to learn more:
kevin.pierce@kofc.org
Contact me today
Get connected
TO THE LARGEST CATHOLIC BROTHERHOOD
KOF.C.ORG/JOIN US online today
How will you be remembered?
Saturday, September 28, 2019 8 am - 1 pm
Archbishop’s Office, Oklahoma City Civic Center
Free Catholic Seminarians and Postulant Open House
Our tickets are going fast! Sign up now.
Archdiocese of Oklahoma City
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August 25, 2019 14 15
Save the Date
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The $40 million shrine is the signature element of the first-ever capital campaign for the archdiocese, “One Church, Many Disciples.” The site will include the 2,000-seat church, a chapel where Blessed Stanley will be buried, an education building, an event space and several areas designated for shrines and devotion. The site will be developed over time.

Along with the Spanish colonial-style church – which will be the largest Catholic Church in Oklahoma – an additional element will be a museum and pilgrim center, which will be an additional $5 million. The center will welcome thousands of visitors each year to an experience that leads them through the life, witness and martyrdom of Blessed Stanley. The church will host many large diocesan events and will help accommodate the growing Hispanic population whose parishes are significantly overcrowded.

The design architect for the project is Franck & Lohsen Architects in Washington D.C. They are supported by local architectural firm ADG. The general contractor is The Boldt Company in Oklahoma City with Cooper Project Advisors serving as the owner’s representative. To RSVP for the groundbreaking, e-mail rsvp@archokc.org. The RSVP will help with an accurate count of participants. No tickets are required.

To sign up for updates on the shrine, view a video tour or to give a gift to the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma’s Blessed Stanley Rother Endowment Fund, go online to archokc.org/shrine or call (405) 709-2745. For media credentials, go online to archokc.org/mediacredentials. For further questions, contact Diane Clay at dclay@archokc.org.