National Catholic Sisters Week 2020 was held in conjunction with National Women’s History Month, specifically to highlight and honor Catholic women who give their lives to serving the Lord and his Church as religious women.

Catholic sisters provide many different services in their communities, including teaching, nursing and social services.

In the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, Sister Lucy Fitzmorris grew up attending Saint John Nepomuk Catholic Church in Yukon where her dad is a deacon and her mom is the director of religious education.

Sister Lucy attended public school in Yukon and graduated from Mount Saint Mary Catholic High School. She said her parents always stressed the practical aspects of living the faith, that it needs to be a part of every aspect of life and that to live one’s faith means to serve others.

Sister Lucy credits her entire parish with providing excellent examples of living out the Catholic faith. Sister Lucy’s godmother and great-aunt, Nancy Housh, worked with youth and young adults for many years with the archdiocese.

Sooner Catholic

March 15, 2020

Go Make Disciples

Temporary safeguards against infections for Mass

Due to the continued increase in the number of cases of flu and because of concerns regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19), Archbishop Coakley has implemented the following temporary precautions for churches in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City:

- Parishioners who are sick or experiencing symptoms, should stay home. Catholics are not bound by the obligation to attend Mass, including on Sunday, if they are ill. Out of charity to others, individuals who are sick with infectious illnesses should not attend Mass or other liturgical events;
- Temporarily discontinue the distribution of the Precious Blood at Mass;
- Discourage the holding of hands during Mass, including shaking hands during the Sign of Peace;
- Where permitted, please strongly consider receiving Communion in the hand rather than on the tongue. Receiving communion on the tongue may expose the hands of priests, deacons or Extraordinary Ministers of Communion to saliva, which can be passed to other parishioners. When Mass is celebrated in the Extraordinary Form, reception of Communion in the hand is not an authorized form of a group to support and assist one another. They even took a road trip they called the “Nun Run” up the east coast to visit nine different orders.

Four national speakers engaged and challenged more than 1,100 participants to become better Catholics and better men during the 24th annual Oklahoma Catholic Men’s Conference on Feb. 29 in Norman. The theme for this year’s conference was “Remain in Me.”

National speakers celebrate faith, devotion for Oklahoma Catholic Men’s Conference

By Steve Gust
The Sooner Catholic

Fr. Leo Patalinghug at the 2020 Oklahoma Catholic Men’s Conference Feb. 29 in Norman.

Photo Cara Koenig/Sooner Catholic.

continued on page 16

“FORMING ME IN MY FAITH”

By Debi Wagner
The Sooner Catholic

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Sister Lucy attended public school in Yukon and graduated from Mount Saint Mary Catholic High School. She said her parents always stressed the practical aspects of living the faith, that it needs to be a part of every aspect of life and that to live one’s faith means to serve others.

Sister Lucy credits her entire parish with providing excellent examples of living out the Catholic faith. Sister Lucy’s godmother and great-aunt, Nancy Housh, worked with youth and young adults for many years with the archdiocese.

“She has had an amazingly mature faith since she was very young, and continues to be an inspiration to many, including myself,” Housh said.

Sister Lucy began to feel called to religious life during high school. After graduation, she went to the University of Oklahoma, where her dad is a professor, and earned bachelor’s degree and master’s degree in computer engineering. While in Norman, she and other women who were discerning their vocations formed a group to support and assist one another. They even took a road trip they called the “Nun Run” up the east coast to visit nine different orders.

Sister Lucy met the Benedictines when she was a sophomore...

continued on page 4
A mortal contagion
During season of Lent listen more deeply to God’s word

A little more than two months ago not many of us had heard of the coronavirus or COVID19. Today, everyone is on alert. As I wrote that column, I reviewed a word that a series of bishops’ meetings I planned to attend in Washington D.C. had been cancelled due to concerns over the spread of the virus. It is impacting our daily lives, our commerce and travel, and even our worship.

Earlier this month, to safeguard against transmission of the virus, I announced temporary measures for Mass such as refraining from handshakes at the sign of peace and encouraging reduced or no huging in the narthex. Along with practical measures such as frequent handwashing and covering our coughs and sneezes, we can minimize the risk of spreading or containing the flu and coronaviruses.

We all are called to pray for those infected as well as the health workers and others seeking to stop its spread. Reflecting on this alarming contagion that has spread throughout the world as quickly and brought about its wake in four so far and even, cannot help but consider a comparison with another deadly contagion – sin. Sin entered the world through the disobedience of our first parents. With sin came death. The latter fruit and consequences of sin. Unlike the coronavirus, sin has a 100 percent mortality rate. We are all infected. We are all dead.

Yet, while COVID19 has no remedy, God has provided for us the sure remedy for sin and its deadly fruit. Because of his love for us, God sent his son into a world infected by sin to take on himself our sin and its consequences. He entered human history in our sinful nature. Though without sin himself, he became sin for us and took on himself the punishment for sin, death. He died for us. He conquered death by his resurrection from the dead. He opened for us the way to eternal life. It is a way that leads from death to resurrection. The cross becomes the unlikely sign of our victory.

It is faith in Jesus Christ, and in the power of his resurrection, that gives us a share in his victory and his life. Even as we eagerly listen for the breaking news and guidelines coming from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to help us avoid infection with the coronavirus, God has given us Jesus with its teaching and its sacraments to guide and keep us safe from the contagion of sin and to lead us more deeply into the new life he has won for us.

Do we listen as intently or as eagerly to God’s instructions as we do to the instructions of the CDC? The season of Lent is given to us by the Church to help us listen more deeply to God’s word, to turn away from sin and embrace the remedy and new life that God has offered us in Christ and his Holy Spirit through the riches of his Church.

Sooner Catholic
March 15, 2020

New social services director joins Catholic Charities

By Miranda Rentetia
The Sooner Catholic

“Theresa brings insights from decades of service to ensuring people with disabilities have access to employment and to our new role at Catholic Charities. As our new senior director of social services, she’ll build on a legacy of service to our diverse and dynamic communities, providing much-needed insights into the ways we can continue to serve our neighbors.”

Patrick Raglow, executive director at Catholic Charities for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, is enthusiastic in welcoming Flannery as part of the team.

“After an extensive search with more than 50 highly qualified candidates from around the country, I was thrilled to bring Theresa’s considerable talent and heart to serve with us as a member of our leadership team,” he said.

Theresa Flannery

“I sincerely believe God called me to work here,” said Theresa Flannery, who on Jan. 6, became the newest addition to Catholic Charities as the senior director of social services.

Flannery was born in Ventura, Calif., and later lived in Minnesota. When she was in the fifth grade, she moved to Weatherford where she eventually graduated high school and met her husband, Todd. Flannery attended and graduated from Southwest Oklahoma State University. She and her family have attended St. Spyridon Catholic Church in Mustang ever since they moved there.

Before working at Catholic Charities, Flannery, who is mom to two adult children, Samantha and Nickolas, worked at the Dale Rogers Training Center as the community resource and compliance director.

“The oversight responsibilities for six departments that helped people with disabilities connect to employment, she said.

When the opportunity to work at Catholic Charities presented itself, Flannery took it. “The description of the position called to my heart. I love witnessing the transformation in the lives of those who have the greatest need. I love the mission of Catholic Charities and I am looking forward to working with such a talented and dedicated group of people.”
Sisters from six congregations in the archdiocese gathered March 9 for an evening of fun, fruit, games and sisterhood. The sisters gathered to celebrate the beginning of National Catholic Sisters’ Week. March 8 - 14. The group was hosted by the Carmelite Sisters of St. Therese at Saint Ann Retirement Center. Photo provided.

Sr. Lucy Marie Fitzmorris. Photo provided.

 continued from page 1

them but wasn’t ready to answer the call until she was in gradua- tion school. During her discern- ment journey, she said God put the right people in her life, and "Christ was very pa- cent with me." On July 11, the feast of Saint Bene- dict, Lucy was re- ceived into the com- munity as a novice, beginning a year of in- tensive prayer and study. She already is an accom- plished pianist and is taking organ lessons. She is a talented baker and provides the community with delicious bread and treats for special occasions.

To young women who think they may have a calling to reli- gious life, Sister Lucy quotes Saint Benedict, “What, dear sisters, is more delightful than this voice of the Lord calling to us? Delight in Christ’s invitation to you!” she said, “and then act on it; go find a sister and talk to her about her life, or even better go visit a monastery or convent and experience for a little time in religious life firsthand. Bring those experiences to prayer, and God will reveal his plan for you.”

To contact Sister Lucy about discernment, contact her com- munity’s vocations director, Sister Marilyn at stmjmonastery@gmail.com.

In the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, Father Brian Baertner serves as vocations director. He encourages the sug- gestion to seek a sister and spend time seeing how she lives and works. In addi- tion to Sister Lucy at Saint Jo- seph’s monastery in Tulsa, young women in Oklahoma can contact Carmelites Sister Barbara Joseph or Sister Maria of the Trinity at Gospel of Life Disciples. For additional information, visit catholicsistersweek.org or follow them on Facebook.

Dede Wagner is a freelance writ- er for the Sooner Catholic.

DEACON FORMATION PROGRAM

The application period is open for the Deacon Class of 2025

Applications for the next deaconate formation class are available for those who have been discussing the call to the Permanent Diaconate.

How the Application Process Works

1. Meet with the pastor at the parish where you are registered to request an application.
2. If your pastor recommends you for the program, he will request an application be mailed to you.
3. Complete the application and provide the indicated supporting documents. Expect that it will take several weeks to complete this information.
4. Email the completed application in the packet for review and assessment. Qualified applicants will be contacted for interviews and other evaluations.

The application period will be accepted through late May 2020.

For questions to the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, call 405-721-9351 or archdiocese@archokc.org.

Our Lady of Lebanon Catholic Church maroniseok.org (405) 321-3097

9th annual Heritage and Food Festival - April 25

Our Lady of Lebanon welcomes pastor, families

The people here are so wonderful. They are so very nice,” he said. As shepherd of Our Lady of Lebanon, he works with a smaller congregation of some 40 families. The congre- gation first met in 2007 and moved into their building at 500 Alameda in Norman in 2008. “We are very family- oriented here,” he said. “We have a ridiculous amount of din- ers,” she said and laughed. Regarding Father Nabil, she said, “He is so full of energy and very devout.”

The church soon will welcome Archbishop Coakley, who is scheduled to celebrate Mass there on March 22. Archbishop Coakley said some Catholics may not be aware that there are different rites with- in the faith. The Latin Rite is the largest, but there are other rites with their own liturgical and spiritual traditions. The archbishop explained the liturgy of Our Lady of Lebanon, the Maronite Rite, is a bit different from Latin Rite. Yet, they both are Catholic.

“They are in full communion with Rome,” Archbishop Coakley said.

This past year, the parish expressed its solidarity with Christians in Lebanon who are experiencing challenges with violence and con- flicts with some Muslim sects. Father Nabil witnessed some of that violence in the early 1980s during a civil war. He was aghast at the horrors inflicted against innocent people. In 1983, a year before he was ordained, Father Nabil’s doubts came to the surface.

“I couldn’t understand why so many innocent people were being hurt,” he said. He asked God to give him a sign to continue his road to the priest- hood. During this time, he expe- rienced bombings and rocket attacks in his com- munity, and was hit by a car, but was not harmed. While fleeing a bombing with his family, his car was falling off a bridge and somehow “came back up.”

His uncle convinced him those were signs from God and there was no other reason why he was still alive.

That was enough to convince him to be or- dained on Sept. 16, 1984. He studied in France and then came to the United States in 1992. At Our Lady of Lebanon, he is dedicating special services for the safety of Christians still persecuted in Lebanon as well as for the con- creation of the Blessed Mother. This month, he will celebrate a Healing Mass and prayers will be offered for those suffering from the coronavirus.

The motto of Father Nabil best sums up the man.

“When the whole world will smile with you.”

Steve Gouz is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.
God provides examples for us

By Charles Albert
The Sooner Catholic

When Meline Villalobos’s husband and father of her eight children died of a heart attack four years ago, she wondered what God’s plan was for her and her children. There would be much hard work, tragedy, inspi-
ration, perspiration and joy. As Villalobos said, “We have to pray a great deal and trust in Jesus.”

Local family

In March 2020, the Westerman Foundation donated $5,000 to support the Mount Saint Mary’s Performing Arts Department, which—since 1903, when the school was founded—has provided Oklahoma City’s oldest high school with the tools and resources it needs to continue growing as a faith-based, college-preparatory, arts heyday, and support just as much as others do. Lent gives us a special time to explore and look inward at the acts of mercy. It gives us a special opportunity to help the local members of our community who have so much less than we have. We need to look inward and give outward,” Johnson said.

Catholic Charities and parishioners at Saint Mary have worked together to provide transportation and financial assistance for the family, and the Ardmore Fire Department donated car seats. Charles Albert is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

The Mount receives grant from Westerman Foundation

Mount Saint Mary Catholic High School in Oklahoma City recently announced that the school received a grant from the Westerman Foundation to support the continued growth of the school’s performing arts department.

The school’s auditorium was built in 1962 and needs technical lighting and audio renovations that include LED stage lighting fixtures and a new intercom system. The intercom system will allow communication between backstage and the sound/light booth on the opposite side of the facility.

“The Westerman Foundation grant has given us the beginnings of a desperately needed upgrade in our theatre. The fact that we have sources that can help us realize a vision in a climate of budget cuts is a blessing!” said Linda Brown, chairwoman of the Arts, Media and Fine Arts Department.

Performing art students compete at state competitions each year and, next month, they will produce a musical production of “The Little Mermaid.”

From the Archives ...

R ewarded Emil Depretere was a member of a remarkable family that would be part of the very core of leadership in the early history of the Church in Oklahoma.

His uncle was Monseigneur Gustave Depretere who served as Diocesan of Oklahoma (later Diocese of Oklahoma City and Tulsa) for 66 years and was vicar general for 56 years. His great-uncle was Theophile Morevaux, the first bishop of Oklahoma. From this auspicious pedigree, Father Emil made a name for himself in his priestly ministry for Oklahoma.

His arrival in Oklahoma coincided with the German invasion of Belgium in 1915, causing him to flee to France. Arriving in the United States, he continued his studies at Kenrick Seminary in Saint Louis. He was ordained at his uncle’s church at Saint Francis Xavier in Enid on May 31, 1918.

As a young pastor of Bristow and Drumright, he was threatened by the Ku Klux Klan (who were enjoying a resurgence after the First World War in Oklahoma) that if he didn’t leave within 30 days he would suffer the consequences. To be deterred, Father Depretere was commissioned a deputy sheriff that allowed him to carry a concealed weapon. Thankfully, he never had to use it.

As the pastor of Pawhuska, he oversaw the Golden Jubilee (1937) of the parish of Immaculate Conception in the heart of Osage country. It promised a great feast of antelope steak. One thousand people attended the celebration, including Cardinal Hayes of New York.

Not afraid of tackling building projects, he built a church at Bristow and the entire current campus of the Mount. Emil Depretere had the gift of seeing the future.

Established by the Sisters of Mercy in 1903, Mount Saint Mary Catholic High School is the oldest high school in Oklahoma. Throughout its history, Mount Saint Mary has provided the assistance of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City an excellent Catholic, college-preparatory education. mountrmary.org

Tenebrae service

A Tenebrae service will be held at 7 p.m. April 3 at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 2314 N. Lake Ave. in Oklahoma City. There will be 14 candles and the Paschal Candle lit in the sanctuary. The 14 candles represent the 14 apostles, the Virgin Mary and Mary of Cleopas and Mary Magdalene, who were present at the crucifixion. The Paschal Candle represents Christ. After each meditation on one of the so-called ‘seven last words of Christ,’ the candles are extinguished in pairs to denote the mourning of the apostles and the women. Following the seventh and last meditation, the Paschal Candle — the only one left burning — will be removed from the cathedral to symbolize the death of Christ and the laying in the tomb.

For everyone involved in Okarche High School ath-
letics, the Center of Family Love resident, David, has become a local legend. David has been riding his bike to all of the high school sporting events for more than 30 years to cheer every team. He is be-
loved by Okarche athletes and fans alike.

Because of his dedication, Okarche students chose to honor David during their charity week, A Week of Love (AWOL).

“The week of fundraising was started quite a few years back, and it has really been a great thing for our students to learn the value of helping others,” said Tasha Ribehmer, Okarche High School Student Council ad-
inistrator. “In recent years, we started picking someone or something in our own community and it really has been amazing to watch our kids help those who spend time with our regular basis. Everyone had such a fun-filled week celebrating David and The Center of Family Love.”

Proceeds from A Week of Love will benefit David and his friends who live with intellectual and physical disabilities and receive lifetime care at The Center of Family Love in Okarche. David said he is proud of the students who supported him throughout the charity week and plans to continue attending sporting events to support his favorite teams.

“T im so happy and excited that the students chose me,” David Inge said. “They are all very nice, and I couldn’t believe they were able to raise so much money for me.”

Throughout various fundraisers over the course of the week, the students collected more than $8,900 on David’s behalf for The Center of Family Love. Students, faculty and staff includ-
ed David in every AWOL activity and presented him with a custom Warrior’s jersey.

Okarche High School students honor “biggest fan"

Okarche High School students and faculty peace with their biggest fan, David, a resident at The Center of Family Love. David has been riding his bike to all of the high school’s sporting events for more than 30 years to cheer every team. Photos provided.

Catholic Charities for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City held its annual Green Tie Gala Feb. 22 at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City. This event celebrates and supports the homeless services of Catholic Charities, Sanctuary Women’s Development Centers in Oklahoma City and Norman, and Holy Family Home in Midwest City.

David, a resident at The Center of Family Love.

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You can’t help but be impressed with anyone with that dedication to Christ.”

Gerald Johnson of Catholic Charities for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City said, “We have to pray a great deal and trust in Jesus.”

Charles Albert is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

Okarche High School students honor “biggest fan”
Rite of Election 2020

March 1  The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help  Oklahoma City

St. Benedict, Shawnee
St. Francis Xavier and St. Gregory the Great, Enid; St. Michael, Goltry
St. Francis of Assisi, Oklahoma City
St. Mary, Ardmore
St. Peter, Woodward
St. Francis Xaver, Weatherford
St. Eugene, Weatherford
Our Lady of Sorrows, Chandler
St. Charles Borromeo, Oklahoma City
St. Eugene, Oklahoma City
St. John the Baptist, Edmond
Little Flower, Oklahoma City
St. Mary, Ardmore
St. Eugene, Oklahoma City

Photos: Chris Porter/Sooner Catholic and provided.
A spiritual reflection on the path of discipleship

disciple of Christ is living our deepest identity. It benefits us to often reflect on our call to discipleship.

Share (10 minutes)
Involve the reader to write the names and eagerly discuss their personal struggle in the front of their study guide. Encourage them to pray for each other during this study. Explain that there is a daily reading guide on the next page to lead them through a section of the archbishop's pastoral letter in preparation for the next session. Close with this invitation:

Send (3-2 minutes)
Encourage them to pray for each other during this study. Explain that there is a daily reading guide on the next page to lead them through a section of the archbishop's pastoral letter in preparation for the next session. Close with this invitation:

Share (10 minutes)
Open the group discussion by asking the following questions and prompting the following discussions:

and inviting participants to respond.

What comes to mind when you hear the word “disciple”?

In what ways have you experienced the call to discipleship?

Do you do need right now to further or strengthen your journey of discipleship?

How does your family or parish live out the archbishop’s pastoral letter?

Lenten study guides
archko.org/vision2020

• Five-Session Study Guide
• High School Youth Group Study Guide
• High School Classroom Study Guide
• Children's Classroom Study Guide
• Parents and Children Study Guide
• Adult One-Session Study Guide - Leader's Book
• Adult One-Session Study Guide - Participant's Book
• Men's Groups - Leader's Guide
• Men's Groups - Participant Guide
• Guía de Estudio Extendida para Adultos

On Fat Tuesday, St. Mary in Porcupine City had a pancake and breakfast casserole dinner with a king and queen and a procession from King Chapman’s to St. Brigid’s. The Providence Ranch had two teams, Pt. Carson Knights’ Brink and Fr. Zak Brinkman’s. Photos provided.

Moses’s Passover is a step toward freedom!

Jesus’ Eucharist is our new Passover celebrating a new freedom

Pedro A. Moreno, O.P.

Book Review: The proclamation of the Good News

By John H. Dolezal
The Sooner Catholic

This book is about evangelizing. A book about the author’s spiritual path as it relates to his work as a Catholic priest of the “Krygma,” the proclamation of the Good News that Jesus is our savior.

The book is a “Krygma” in the Shantytown with the Poor, isn’t organized in a way many readers may typically experience, but it is found easy to follow along with the content, even if what has been used has given me confidence for creating my own writing endeavors.

Author Kiko Argüello uses a first-hand experiences with the “Krygma.” According to the vaticanews.va website, “the word Krygma is a Hellenistic word coined in 64 BC in the book of Daniel by a Jewish priest named Daniel.” In 1964 by Kiko, a lay Spanish artist, the Neocatechumenal Way, is dedicated to provide a pre-baptismal formation of Christians, based on the word of God, the Eucharist and the Christian community.

The first part of the book is about the author’s background and provides useful context for his story and the Krygma message. Kiko was born to a family of Catholic parents but, “found that the witness of his parents and the environment he lived in had not been enough for him to connect with the faith.”

He adopted universalism, a philosophical approach which emphasizes the existence of the individual person as a free and responsible agent determining their own development through acts of the will and considered himself a “mason.”

He went to a seminary, which, according to the National Cursillo Organization is a movement, and method that attempts to give life the essential Christian truths to the individual and invited them to be invited as a teacher.

His approach to the proclamation of the Good News was to begin his “Krygma” with the “man of God” and “in the name of God”.

It enlightening to read of the very simple ways Kiko reached out to those he interacted with. Just “being present,” acknowledging the truth about life and person, serving as a listener and proponent of the idea of a “light,” leading others toward God and the power of the Good News. As Pope Francis says, “to go, you must be light. To proclaim, it is necessary to renounce.”

Kiko led others to Christ with the courage to serve. He went directly to many desolate places while emphasizing inclusion and a life that attracted others to begin their journey along the Neocatechumenal Way.

Kiko and his example of a “shining light that attracts others to Christ, has provided us a story about the power of the Good News in our own way. Claiming the Good News is not a new way of evanglization from Kiko and his example, but to be recognized as a story seeking encouragement for responding to the call of sharing the Good News in the world.

John H. Dolezal is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.
El arzobispo Coakley implementa medidas temporales para la protección en las misas contra infección

Durante la época de la Cuaresma escuche más profundamente la Palabra de Dios

Hace poco más de dos meses, no habíamos oído hablar del coronavirus (Covid) en Oklahoma, pero en muy poco tiempo, todos estamos en alerta. Mientras escribía esta columna, recibimos la noticia de que las reuniones de obispos a las que planearía asistir en Washington D.C. habían sido canceladas por la Cuaresma. Esta impresionante noticia, junto con el comercio, también es nuestro culto. A principios de este mes, para evitar la propagación de la enfermedad, incluso las medidas temporales por la Misa, tales como el cancelar el saludo con las manos en el signo de la cruz y a la letrina a recibir la comunión en la mano. Junto con medidas prácticas como lavarse las manos con frecuencia y cubrir nuestras bocas y nariz, es necesario minar el propulsor para contrarrestar el germen y el coronovirus. Todos estamos llamados a orar por los infectados, así como por los trabajadores de la salud y aquellos que mantienen el sistema propulsor en marcha. Los invito a arrodillarse ante el sagrario en su casa y a orar por los enfermos, los familiarizados con estas enfermedades.

El arzobispo Coakley implementa medidas temporales para la protección en las misas contra infección.

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El arzobispo Coakley implementa medidas temporales para la protección en las misas contra infección.

Dado que el alelujar comienza en el trayecto hacia la adoración a lo que confiamos en la vida de un ser amado, entonces el arzobispo Pablo Coakley ha implementado medidas temporales para las misas en Oklahoma. Las medidas incluyen que los fieles deben arrodillarse en frente de las puertas. Jesús fue crucificado frente a una multitud en el Calvario y su sangre se derramó por el madero de la cruz que se convirtió en nuestro puente a la vida eterna.

El cordero pascual era un monumento y una cuna para considerar que debería comenzar cada año. Jesús, el cordero de Dios, en su ultima cena de Pascua. Jesús fue crucificado frente a una multitud en el Calvario. "Tomé y comí todos de él, porque esto es mi cuerpo", "Tomé y bebí todos de él, porque esto es el cáliz de mi sangre". Y "Hacecelentía misión más.

La sangre del cordero de la pascua celebra la liberación de la esclavitud. La Eucaristía, donde participamos del cuerpo, sangre, alma y divinidad de Jesucristo, el Cordero de Dios, celebra la liberación de la mayor esclavitud, el pecado.

Dios es el mejor maestro. Comienzas por lo que ya conocemos, lo que nos es familiar, en este caso la Pascua Judía, y luego, poco a poco, a lleva uno a nuevo, nuestra nueva Pascua, la Eucaristía, nuestra Santa Mesa. El viaje desde la comunión renovadora de la Pascua de Moisés hasta la celebración final de la Pascua del Señor, la Ultima Cena, lleva cortes de año, pero vale la pena! La transformación de este viaje a lo nuevo, la pascua de Moisés hasta la celebración final de la Pascua del Señor, nos lleva a un mayor conocimiento y una mayor divinidad.

Pedro A. Moreno, O.P.

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Pedro A. Moreno, O.P.
Lenten organ recital series
St. Francis of Assisi, 1961 N.W. 13, OKC, Lenten organ recitals at 3 p.m. March 15 with Adam Piper; March 22 with Tim Pierce; March 29 with Alver Barkoskie.

Join the Serra Club
Serra Club of Oklahoma City: March 29 at Embassy Suites, 2501 Con- nelly, Oklahoma City. Presenters to include Jennifer Rockow, Allison Engle and Sara Pemberton. Contact (405) 291-2016 to receive information.

An evening with Melissa Ohden: Abortion survivor
Melissa Ohden will speak at 7:30 p.m. March 28 in Bill Beerthoven Chapel, 2200 W. Ithica St. in Broken Arrow, OK. Cost $350; scholarships available. Contact Bisett at (918) 260-7491.

Domestic Church Evangelization Retreat
A Domestic Church Evangelization Retreat will be held March 26-28 at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 Northwest Expressway in OKC. Cost $330; scholarships available. Contact Alex Schimpf at (405) 709-2755, axschimpf@arochoke.org.

Bingo
Bingos at St. James, 4201 S. Lincoln Ave. OKC, at 26-28 all days at noon, doors open, prayer, dinner, games, prizes.

St. Stanisley Rother Shrine executive director
Search for executive director of the St. Stanisley Rother Shrine. Include in response: leadership in operation of the shrine, which is under construction in Oklahoma City; duties include leading the Assemblies of Oklahoma; experience in business and operational aspects of a not-for-profit; leadership for lay employees and contractors; organizational ability; strategic planning for the facility, programs, resources, development; preferred to be in a parish in Oklahoma City.

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Job Books
Responsibilities:
- College campus and community outreach: promote the mission of the Diocese of Oklahoma City among college students and young adults.
- Attend college campus and community events and meet with student leaders.
- Develop and implement a college campus and community ministry plan.
- Maintain a college campus and community ministry calendar.
- Develop and maintain an active college campus and community ministry website.
- Work with other diocesan offices and organizations to coordinate college campus and community ministry activities.
- Submit monthly reports to the director of the diocesan office.

Requirements:
- A minimum of a bachelor’s degree in a related field, preferably in pastoral ministry or a related field.
- Experience in college campus and community ministry.
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to travel and work evenings and weekends.
- A strong commitment to the mission of the Diocese of Oklahoma City.

Please send your resume to the Human Resources Department of the Diocese of Oklahoma City at 1026 NW 2nd St., Oklahoma City, OK 73107, or email to hr@archokc.org.
prayers of the Mass, starting with the sign of the cross. 

“The sign of the cross is the first prayer where we call on God’s name,” he said. “There is great power in the name of Jesus.” 

He urged men to trace the sign of the cross on their children or grandchildren. He asked the attendees to radiate Jesus to others and not to put “bad images in your mind.” 

He discussed the consecration of the host and recalled the Last Supper. 

“At Christ’s Last Supper, there is no lamb,” he said. “The lamb is Jesus.” 

He asked men to turn over their trials and suffering to Jesus. 

“All of us will suffer,” he said. He said suffering, studied properly, can build character. He further reminded the men to forgive and to love. 

He pointed out virtue is the opposite of vice. 

“Vice cuts us off from Christ,” he said. 

He used the allegory of a mountain peak and spiritual men trying to reach the peak of the mountain and leaving behind the sins and dirt of the valley. 

He expanded on the virtues that help a man reach the top. Those include prudence, justice, fortitude, courage and temperance. He used his own life as an example, and noted he was once trapped in lust before making his own personal journey to the top. 

For temperance, he recommended all men adopt moderation in their life and leave behind lust, greed and drunkenness. The speaker said the best way men can build their lives in a positive way was through faith, hope and love. 

Going back to his example of the mountain, he reflected on the crucifixion of Christ. 

“Remember Jesus was crucified on top of a mountain,” he said. “We all will stumble on the way up.” 

Fr. Leo Patalinghug 

Father Leo Patalinghug is the dynamic host of the EWTN program, “Savoring our Faith.” He’s a renowned chef who achieved a measure of fame by defeating chef Bobby Flay on Flay’s Food Network cooking competition program. He is originally from the Philippines and is a master arts instructor. 

The priest regularly used cooking analogies in his talks. Father Leo kept the men’s attention with several jokes. Yet, he had a serious message for all. 

“When we don’t do God’s will we are impotent,” he said. He also asked that the conference goers be “like a pilgrim,” on a search. 

“Try going to a different parish,” he said. “If you can’t do that, try to go to a different Mass or even sit in a different pew.” 

He mentioned a very vital principle for attendees. 

“The Eucharist is the heart of Jesus,” he said. 

He had other tips as well. 

“What are your gifts and how do you share them?” he asked. 

“We don’t have enough Christians sharing their talent.” 

He gave them one last call. 

“God became bread because the devil wants to feed us also,” he said. “God wants us feasting on goodness.” 

Paul George 

The last speaker was Paul George of Louisiana. He is another renowned Catholic author and speaker who has inspired thousands in the past 23 years. George first recognized that he was not the professional basketball player who played this past season for the Oklahoma City Thunder. 

“I doubt the guy at the hotel when I checked in,” he said. 

He had a number of his guiding principles he recommended at the conference was “to show up.” Being there for other people was vital, he said. 

“Twenty-five percent of women worship alone,” he said. “ Ninety percent of young people are more likely to attend church later in life if their father goes to church. Be there and be present.” 

In addition, he asked men to adopt good habits, including the quality of grit. 

He mentioned an experience he had with the Bishop of Honduras. George visited the nation and looked forward to seeing the bishop and helping the poor. When George told the bishop about wanting to help the poor, the bishop surprised him. 

“The bishop told me it was the wealthiest who needed God more,” he said. “The wealthy are more apt to feel they don’t need God. Many suffer from spiritual poverty.” 

He believed that spiritual poverty, or the feeling of not needing God, was hurting Christianity. The best way to find God was to jump in and “experience the life God wants for you.” 

During the day, Conference Director Ray Haeafele asked the men to participate in parish men’s ministries during the year and to get more involved. The next men’s conference is Feb. 20. 

Steve Gust is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

Rapp prayed the rosary with more than 100 other men who gathered in a nearby ballroom. Hallways also included religious vendors. Among the vendors were the Knights of Columbus, who had more than 400 members in attendance. Many Knights also served as organizers and ushers. Another table featured the life and witness of Blessed Stanley Rother. 

Joe Elbow, marketing director for the conference, addressed the crowd multiple times during the day and urged all men to actively practice their faith and “to share your faith with others.” 

Conference Director Ray Haeafele said he was happy with how smoothly the day proceeded in addition to the fellowship shared by hundreds. 

“My thanks to all who attended,” he said. “The Holy Spirit was alive and well in the building today.” 

Steve Gust is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

The Holy Spirit was alive and well 

By Steve Gust 

The Sooner Catholic

The 24th annual Oklahoma Catholic Men’s Conference set an attendance record this year with 1,120 men gathered to hear four nationally acclaimed speakers and to participate in faith enrichment. The conference included an opportunity for reconciliation as well as Mass at the end of the day celebrated by Archbishop Coakley and Bishop David Konderla of the Diocese of Tulsa. 

During lunch, 36 priests were present to hear hundreds of confessions. There was adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and a separate young man’s luncheon was held close to the meeting hallways. Young men, and some of their fathers and grandfathers, listened to a presentation by Alex Sanchez, director of campus ministry for Saint Thomas More University Parish in Norman. 

“It’s very gratifying to see such a good turnout of men here today,” said John Helsley, a parishioner at Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church in Edmond and an organizer of the conference. 

His thoughts were echoed by Bob Rapp of Saint Eugene Catholic Church in Oklahoma City. 

“It’s amazing to be in a group with 1,100 to listen to national speakers speak on how we can be men of faith,” he said. He explained that he was there with 37 other men from Saint Eugene. 

Rapp prayed the rosary with more than 100 other men who gathered in a nearby ballroom. Hallways also included religious vendors. Among the vendors were the Knights of Columbus, who had more than 400 members in attendance. Many Knights also served as organizers and ushers. Another table featured the life and witness of Blessed Stanley Rother. 

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