Find moments of silence this Lent, connect three pillars of season

By Anna Capiizi Galvez
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON — How can Catholics approach Lent this year in a fresh way? In interviews with Catholic News Service, two authors provided their insights on how to

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Annual Rose Day celebrates life, adoption

By Eliana Tedrow
The Sooner Catholic

E ach year, the Catholic Church in the United States celebrates religious women during Catholic Sisters Week. This year, Catholic Sisters Week is March 8-14. The week shines a light on the spirituality, mission and community building of women religious. Some of the ways to celebrate women religious in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is to call or write to a religious sister who had an impact, help a ministry run or started by a local religious sister or encourage young women to considering a vocation to religious life.

The archdiocese includes representatives from 12 religious orders for women. Among them is Sisters of Mercy of the Americas.

Sister Diane Koorie, R.S.M., took her religious vows in 1963. Beginning as an educator and health care provider, she now serves on boards (hospital, school and a national ministry association), several committees of these boards and does advocacy work. She is the local sister liaison with the Oklahoma Mercy Associates. A good portion of her time is spent serving on the Sisters of Mercy Institute anti-racism and racial equity committee, and on the board of the National Association for Lay Ministry. She also is a catechist for RCIA.

"Religious life is a gift to the Church. It is one way we live out our Baptism. We all have one vocation, the call to holiness. Each of us must then discern how she is being called to become holy. For some, it is through the sacrament of marriage, for some it is as a single adult, for some it is to live in community with others rather than one's own immediate family," she said.

“Community life is one of mutual support, shared prayer and daily life. We make vows of poverty, to live as simply as possible so that others might simply live; chastity, to strive for right relationship with all persons, with the human dignity and worth of each as God’s people; and obedience, deeply listening to and led by the Holy Spirit to walk the path of Mercy that God has for each of us.”

Koorie attended Catholic school for elementary and high school where she met sisters, came to know them and their works, and in high school was involved in service with the sisters. She said she gradually was being drawn to the life and work the sisters led.

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Our two principal holy days are Christmas and Easter. These are so pivotal that the joy of these celebrations cannot be expressed in a single day’s chorus.

The Church’s liturgical tradition allows us to linger over these key events. It gives us a full octave (eight days) of observance, beginning on Sunday, Oct. 30, and concluding with the first Sunday of November.

There is such a variety of elements to this campus and so many people who have contributed to bringing us to this point that we plan to celebrate throughout the week with events at various sites on the campus. The week will begin with the transfer of the body of Blessed Stanley Rother from the Reconciliation cemetery mausoleum to The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help for an all-night vigil beginning on Sunday, Oct. 30. All are invited to share in this time of prayer.

On Oct. 31, the casket containing the body of Blessed Stanley will depart the cathedral and be transferred to the chapel at the shrine where it will be enshrined. There will be a dedication of the altar in the chapel during a special Mass with all the priests of Oklahoma.

The following day, the Solemnity of All Saints (Nov. 1) will include the blessing of the pilgrim center and museum. Continuing through these days there will be a series of events and opportunities for members of the Rother family, special guests and visiting dignitaries, including pilgrims from around the country.

The solemn dedication of the shrine church and altar on Nov. 4 will be open to the public and live-streamed for all who wish to participate. On Saturday, Nov. 5, we will bless the Pepeyac Hill and the bronze figures of Our Lady of Guadalupe and Saint Juan Diego, which will grace its summit. This will be a public event and include a procession around to the top of Pepeyac.

Many more details will be forthcoming, but it is very exciting that we have come this far in this shared endeavor. We have reached this point only through the prayers and generous sacrifices of thousands of people around Oklahoma and around the world.

I invite you to mark your calendars for this special “octave.” Please continue to pray for the canonization of Blessed Stanley Rother.

Put Out Into the Deep

An “octave” of celebration

Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre aids Catholics in the Holy Land

The Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre is a resource for prayers and financial support for Catholics in the Holy Land. Catholics who live there often cannot find jobs and are being forced to sell their property. They cannot support their schools, hospitals and parishes.

The United States is divided into nine lieutenancies. The Oklahoma diocese is under the direction of Cardinal Daniel DiNardo of Houston and consists of New Mexico, Texas, Arkansas and Oklahoma. This area of the country remains the leading contributor to the Latin Patriarchate of the Holy Land. On a local level, there are 188 members in the archdiocesan section.

Members Dean and Cheryl Spence, like Archbishop Coakley, have been active for 11 years. A recent dinner of the local chapter, with a sister in the Holy Land, was held for the Holy Family Hospital in Bethlehem. Our program was a great success for the only hospital in Israel that provides maternity and fetal care,” Dean Spence said.

Between three and eight new members are admitted each year from the archdiocese. One recommendation for membership is that members of the order pay the full amount each year.

The purpose of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre in the United States is to support the Christians in the Holy Land through financial assistance and prayerful support.

To strengthen in its members the practice of Christian life in absolute fidelity to the Supreme Pontiff and according to the teachings of the Church, observing as its foundation the principles of charity of which the order is a fundamental means for assistance to the Holy Land; To sustain and aid the charitable, cultural and social works and institutions of the Catholic Church in the Holy Land, particularly those of and in the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, with which the order maintains traditional ties; To support the preservation and propagation of the faith in those lands; To work in close collaboration with the Catholic Church in the Holy Land and in the United States.

To learn more, visit holysepulchre.net or search the Vatican website. Charles Albert is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.
February 27, 2022

Most Reverend
Paul S. Coakley
Archbishop of Oklahoma City

Diane Clay
Editor

Dana Atkinson
Managing Editor

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E-mail: communications@archokc.org

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Catholic Charities’ Brian Smith honored as Christ the King distinguished graduate

CHRIST THE KING SCHOOL DISTIN-
Guished Graduate. Smith is a 2001 graduate of Christ the King Catholic School and continues to be active in the church community. He serves as the rector of parish engagement for Cath-

olic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, assisting parishes with serving the poor and most vul-

nerable in their communities.

After Smith graduated from Christ the King, he attended Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School and then earned a degree from the University of Kansas in 2010. Smith is an active parishioner at Christ the King Catholic Church, serving in several roles, including as a member of the confirmation team and the ACTS small groups and re-

treat teams, and by providing faith formation opportunities for school faculty. He is also a board member at The Dale Rogers Training Center and volunteers on the Catholic Charities USA National Parish Social Ministry Team.

McGuinness Catholic High School was the first of six Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City to receive the designation of Catholic School of the Year from the National Catholic Educational Association. Smith is one of those people who the craftsmen of the piece will be. You are the players, the full cast, the whole picture before it is done. He has chosen who the craftsmen of the piece will be. You are the players, the full cast, the whole picture before it is done. He has chosen...
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On Jan. 22, Archbishop Coakley celebrated Mass in McLeod at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church with Fr. Deva Undralla and Dcn. Paul Albert. The celebration continued with a catered reception in the McGurk Room in the adjacent administration offices. Also pictured is Fr. Carson Krittenbrink.

Photos provided.

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Photos provided.

Friendship between parishes, priests

Parishioners at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church in Okemah held a fundraiser in November to raise money for a piece of stained-glass art that was auctioned off. The proceeds from two priors were auctioned off and raised a total of $1,850. One of the prizes was the opportunity to commission a piece of stained glass to be made by a parishioner. Parishioners at Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church in El Reno sold many tickets as well. Photos provided.

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One of several Scholarship Granting Organizations, the Tax Credit Scholarship program, generated $1.65 million in gifts in 2021 for scholarships to low-income students. This fall, several hundred students will receive a financial need-based scholarship to attend one of the 16 Catholic schools throughout the archdiocese. Raising the cap will allow for more gifts, particularly from the business community. Those gifts, in turn, will help more children attend Catholic schools. That’s a victory for students, for their families and for our Catholic schools.

How important is TCS? At St. Francis of Assisi Heart Catholic School in El Reno, the principal reported that 26 of its 98 students were scholarship recipients this school year. Without TCS, those children would not be receiving the Christ-centered education the school provides.

"Tax Credit Scholarships help to give parents options to choose schools that fit all of the developmental needs of their child: spiritual, academic, moral, emotional and physical," said Lara Schuler, director of Catholic education for the archdiocese. "All students should have an opportunity to learn that God loves them and that he has a great plan for their life. They learn this in Catholic schools in so many ways."

Learn more about the Tax Credit Scholarship program at taxcreditok.com or by calling (405) 721-4115.

By Peter L. de Keratry

Raising the cap: A great opportunity

A change to an existing state law offers the potential for tremendous growth for a program that helps low-income Oklahoma families afford Catholic school tuition.

The Equal Opportunity Scholarship Act has been on the books in Oklahoma since 2011. The act allows individuals and qualifying businesses to make gifts to Scholarship Granting Organizations and receive tax credits in return. The maximum annual credit is $1,000 for individual filers, $2,000 for couples filing jointly and $100,000 for qualified business entities.

Through 2021, the law capped total credits at $5 million annually, which has been exceeded the past several years. But, the state Legislature approved a change that — beginning in 2022 — raised the cap to $50 million, with $25 million for private schools and $25 million for public schools.

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Veteran journalist, communications director to retire from Archdiocese of Oklahoma City

OKLAHOMA CITY – After serving eight years as the director of communications and editor of the Soonercatholic newspaper for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, veteran journalist Diane Clay will be leaving the position this spring.

Archbishop Paul Coakley announced the departure on Feb. 21.

"Diane has been an incredible asset to me, our staff and clergy, and to the archdiocese as we navigated some of the most difficult and joyful situations, including the beatification of Blessed Stanley Rother," Archbishop Coakley said.

"We have been fortunate to tap into Diane’s background as a newspaper reporter and utilize her experience with everything from politics to motherhood to make us better. I am hopeful we will find another qualified communications expert who is being called to be a part of our archdiocese."

Clay, who began her journalism career at The Oklahoman in 1994, is leaving the chapelry to help raise her first grandchild, who is due in June. She will continue as a freelance writer for the Soonercatholic and assist with continued planning of multiple projects, including the dedication of the Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine in November.

"Lent affords us some time to reconsider who we are in our faith. It’s a time to see what we need to do toward local food situations? ... What do they see your talents and gifts? Meet with a spiritual director who can help you discern. The next retreats for young women for entrance into the religious life in the archdiocese are scheduled for Aug. 20-22 at Ss. Peter and Paul Convent in the Diocese of Camden, N.J., and Sept. 24-26 at Cartwright Center in San Antonio, Texas."

Lt. Col. Donna Schonchin is a coordinator for vocations in the archdiocese, contact her at d.schonchin@archokc.org.

Sooner Catholic February 27, 2022
Sooner Catholic

Sembradores de la Fe

On Feb. 5, more than 400 people gathered at the Catholic Pastoral Center in Oklahoma City for the annual "Sembradores de la Fe" event. The event began with Mass celebrated in Spanish by Archbishop Coakley, followed by a photo booth. There were vendors, food, drinks and a photo booth.

On Feb. 9, the archdiocese announced that 50,569 in 2020 with an increase seen in Africa (5.6 percent) and most modestly in Europe (0.3 percent). Almost half (48 percent) of the world’s Catholics live in the Americas, with 28 percent living in the Americas, 17 percent in Asia, 12 percent in Africa, and 1 percent in Europe. The number of Catholics worldwide increased from 3,245 in 2019 to 3,314 in 2020. In Europe, there was an average rate of increase in Catholic per priest worldwide rose from 3,245 in 2019 to 3,314 in 2020. In Europe, there was an increase in Catholic per priest worldwide rose from 3,245 in 2019 to 3,314 in 2020.

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During this Catholic Sisters Week, we pray for all who are discerning a call to vowed religious life and those called to be associates and oblates. May God grant them the courage to follow Jesus and be of service to a world in need of hope, peace and joy.

We pray to the Lord, Lord, hear our prayer.

National Catholic Register

Vatican: Number of Catholics worldwide rose by 16 million in 2020

The total stands at 1.36 billion, according to statistics released Friday by the Vatican.

The number of Catholics worldwide increased by an estimated 16 million in 2020 to 1.36 billion, according to statistics released on Friday by the Vatican.

The rise in line with global population growth in the year the coronavirus pandemic swept the planet, reported Vatican News, the online news portal of the Holy See.

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make Lent meaningful in 2022 –
including the beatification of Blessed Stanley Rother, Archdiocese of Oklahoma City's, communications director for the office of Church Statistics.

The figures for 2020 – the most recent year where numbers are available – come from the 2022 edition of the Annaedulphus Penticton (Pension Yearbook) and the 2020 Statisticum Ecclesie (Statistical Yearbook of the Church), compiled by the Vatican’s Central Office of Church Statistics.

As in previous years, the Church grew most rapidly in Asia (1.8 percent) and Africa (2.1 percent) and most modestly in Europe (0.3 percent). Almost half (48 percent) of the world's Catholics live in the Americas, with 28 percent living in the Americas, 17 percent in Asia, 12 percent in Africa, and 1 percent in Europe. The number of Catholics worldwide increased from 3,245 in 2019 to 3,314 in 2020. In Europe, there was an increase in Catholic per priest worldwide rose from 3,245 in 2019 to 3,314 in 2020.

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said they attended Rose Day because they wanted to do what they could to make things better.

Looking over the Capitol rotunda, school sponsors pointed in various directions, explaining significant aspects of the building and directing groups of students to their legislators’ offices.

Rose Day committee member Candy Hines presented Barbara Chishko the Rose Day.

Anne Hathcoat, vice principal at Bishop McGuinness, said the Rose Day rally provides an opportunity for students to address the many human dignity issues their leadership class studies throughout a semester.

“We studied an array of right to life issues,” Hathcoat said. “That’s what we’re about as a Catholic high school.”

Standing next to her teacher, Maggie Kirt, one of 15 Bishop McGuinness sophomores in attendance, echoed Hathcoat’s sentiment.

“Our school upholds being pro-life and giving dignity to all human beings, so we’re here to advocate for that,” Kirt said.

Fiona Chongwa and Victoria Ossanyaa, Bishop McGuinness sophomores, said the day was about the protection of rights of all people, even after birth.

“We actually had a really big in-class discussion about the pro-life agenda and how it’s not just issues that paved the way for the final family to call him one of their own.

“I was brought up in the pro-life movement. I believe that God wants us to be pro-life because He wants us to make wise decisions,” said Garrett.

Garrett was given the name of a pregnancy support center who told her she had three options: keep, abort or adopt.

“Had I not chosen to cancel that appointment, he wouldn’t be sitting here right now. I’m so happy that I listened to God. I wish abortion were not an option. As the years have passed, I feel more and more sadness and regret. I hope someone can get anything in the same situation not to choose abortion and choose adoption. For families who can’t have kids, please, let me help.”

Laynie Snider, Grey’s adoptive mother, recalled her and her husband, Beau’s, first meeting with Garrett, who said, “His story is so unique and now she is celebrating the sanctity of life and standing for that. That is just completely God making all things new. I am moved today that she has the courage to share her story. I think that is beautiful.”

The Snider family has maintained an open adoption with Garrett. “It’s also issues like being pro-life and giving dignity to all people, even after birth,” Greer said.

“My testimony can get more and more sadness and regret. I hope hearing my testimony can get anyone else to see the same situation not to choose abortion and choose adoption. For families who can’t have kids, please, let me help.”

“Looking over the Capitol rotunda, school sponsors pointed in various directions, explaining significant aspects of the building and directing groups of students to their legislators’ offices.”

Susan Hogan, Debbie Lynch and Mary Ann Schmidt of St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Oklahoma City.

Children showed the paper roses they made for Rose Day on Feb. 16 at the Oklahoma State Capitol.
**Jobs Box**

**Director of communications - OKC**

The Catholic Secretariat for Communications in OKC is seeking a qualified candidate to serve as the Director of Communications. This role will serve as the primary spokesperson for the archdiocese and will handle all media relations. The person who is successful in this role will have solid experience in media relations, including media training and speaking engagements. The preferred candidate will be able to travel and will work with high school students and college students.

**Catholic Charities**

Catholic Charities in Oklahoma is seeking a person to fill the position of part-time (approximately 20 hours per week) Social Services Coordinator. This position is responsible for coordinating the_ARCHIVE_ of Social Services for Catholic Charities in OKC. The successful candidate will have a strong background in social services, with experience in working with at-risk populations.

**Summer Camp Staff - OKC**

Oklahoma's Bishops is seeking individuals to work as a counselor at Camp St. Mary's. Counselors are responsible for ensuring the safety and well-being of campers as well as organizing activities.

**Human Resources - OKC**

The Human Resources Department at the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a candidate to fill the position of Benefits Coordinator. This role involves developing and maintaining the organization's benefits plan and ensuring compliance with legal requirements.

**Director of youth ministry - Norman**

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking an individual to work with the Director of Youth Ministry to coordinate youth programs for youth in grades 6-12. The successful candidate will be responsible for the coordination of all youth programs for youth in grades 6-12 and will work closely with the Director of Youth Ministry.

**Bilingual counselor - OKC**

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a bilingual counselor to provide counseling services to children and youth. The successful candidate will be fluent in English and Spanish.

**Grant program coordinator - OKC**

The Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma is seeking an individual to coordinate the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City’s grant programs. This role is responsible for developing and implementing the foundation’s grant programs.

**Health history - OKC**

The Catholic Bishops of Oklahoma are seeking an individual to provide health history and nurse services. This role involves working closely with social workers and case managers to ensure the best possible outcomes for patients.

**Media relations - OKC**

The Catholic Bishops of Oklahoma are seeking an individual to work in media relations. This role involves managing media inquiries and providing information to the public.

**Social media - OKC**

The Catholic Bishops of Oklahoma are seeking an individual to manage social media. This role involves creating content and managing social media platforms.

**Communications - OKC**

Oklahoma City is seeking a qualified candidate to work in communications. This role involves managing communications and working with the media.

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**Office coordinator - OKC**

The Catholic Bishops of Oklahoma are seeking an individual to work in the office. This role involves managing administrative tasks and providing support to other staff members.

**Office assistant - OKC**

The Catholic Bishops of Oklahoma are seeking an individual to work in the office. This role involves providing support to other staff members.

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Catholic Charities in Oklahoma is seeking a person to fill the position of part-time (approximately 20 hours per week) Social Services Coordinator. This position is responsible for coordinating the_ARCHIVE_ of Social Services for Catholic Charities in OKC. The successful candidate will have a strong background in social services, with experience in working with at-risk populations.

**Director of youth ministry - Norman**

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking an individual to work with the Director of Youth Ministry to coordinate youth programs for youth in grades 6-12. The successful candidate will be responsible for the coordination of all youth programs for youth in grades 6-12 and will work closely with the Director of Youth Ministry.

**Bilingual counselor - OKC**

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a bilingual counselor to provide counseling services to children and youth. The successful candidate will be fluent in English and Spanish.

**Grant program coordinator - OKC**

The Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma is seeking an individual to coordinate the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City’s grant programs. This role is responsible for developing and implementing the foundation’s grant programs.

**Health history - OKC**

The Catholic Bishops of Oklahoma are seeking an individual to provide health history and nurse services. This role involves working closely with social workers and case managers to ensure the best possible outcomes for patients.

**Media relations - OKC**

The Catholic Bishops of Oklahoma are seeking an individual to work in media relations. This role involves managing media inquiries and providing information to the public.

**Social media - OKC**

The Catholic Bishops of Oklahoma are seeking an individual to manage social media. This role involves creating content and managing social media platforms.

**Communications - OKC**

Oklahoma City is seeking a qualified candidate to work in communications. This role involves managing communications and working with the media.

**Office coordinator - OKC**

The Catholic Bishops of Oklahoma are seeking an individual to work in the office. This role involves managing administrative tasks and providing support to other staff members.

**Office assistant - OKC**

The Catholic Bishops of Oklahoma are seeking an individual to work in the office. This role involves providing support to other staff members.

**Catholic Charities**

Catholic Charities in Oklahoma is seeking a person to fill the position of part-time (approximately 20 hours per week) Social Services Coordinator. This position is responsible for coordinating the_ARCHIVE_ of Social Services for Catholic Charities in OKC. The successful candidate will have a strong background in social services, with experience in working with at-risk populations.
Cardinal Pell's three-volume prison journal is a spiritual classic

By Megan Richard Astall

Angelus News

It is a prisim of a priest's life, a window into a world of theological reflection, spiritual searches, solitary confinement, screaming and tears. It is also a set of tender, loving messages from a friend: a vicarious letter from a neckline in a remote corner of the world, a letter where the cherished prayers and hopes of the people of God are included.

The story of Cardinal George Pell, who was convicted of multiple sexual crimes and spent three years in jail behind an iron curtain is one of many poignant examples of the power of faith and the comfort of the written word.

Cardinal Pell's three-volume prison journal is a spiritual classic. One cannot help but respect the faith and hope of the man who wrote these words, even as one glimpses the pain and suffering that he endured.

Cardinal Pell's entries are filled with reflection and insights, and they offer a unique perspective on the Catholic Church and its leaders. His writing is filled with references to the Scriptures and to the life of Christ, and he does not mince his words when speaking about the challenges he faced.

Cardinal Pell's words are a testament to the power of faith, and they remind us of the importance of maintaining a strong spiritual connection in difficult times.

The Ethics of Pig to Human Organ Transplants

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Una “octava” de celebración

Nuestras dos principales fiestas son la Navidad y la Pascua. Estas fiestas son tan importantes que el gran que cima de estas celebraciones no puede observarse en un solo día.

La tradición litúrgica de la Iglesia nos permite aligerar la celebración en algunas de estas eventos. Nosotras todas una octava (ocho días) para celebrar que estas grandes fiestas repiten en algunos de estos eventos. Nos invita a sitio de estos eventos, de la Navidad y la Pascua. Esta dedicación será en la Iglesia Católica más grande de Oklahoma, con una capacidad de 2,000 personas.

Será una iglesia para todos los católicos y para todos los que buscan al Señor, con muchas celebraciones de manera regular, tanto en inglés como en español. Será el lugar donde se lleven a cabo los grandes eventos arquidiocesanos, como las ordenaciones o el Bote de Elección anual.

Las instalaciones honrarán a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe y a San Juan Diego en el cerro del Tepeyac, que estarán a un alto nivel de peregrinación y de devoción. El gran ancho frente a la iglesia será un lugar de reunión y de peregrinación a lo largo del año.

Con el paso del tiempo, las instalaciones serán embellecidas con decoraciones devocionales para la oración. Las instalaciones, que incluyen el inmenso edificio, el espacio y los edificios futuros seguirán siendo desarrollados y embellecidos por muchos años más.

Hemos anunciado recientemente que la dedicación del Santuario del Beato Stanley Rother será el 4 de noviembre de 2022. Entre los miembros del equipo que trabajan diligentemente para construir el santuario se encuentra Randy England, superintendente de The Bold Company. England fue galardonado recientemente como Superintendente del Año por el Capítulo de Oklahoma de la Asociación de Contratistas Generales. England apoya más de 40 años de pasión y experiencia a su papel como superintendente en Bold.

Para obtener más información sobre el santuario o para ver una cámara virtual en vivo, visite brotherhrine.org. Para ayudar a asegurar el futuro del santuario, visite givebrotherhrine.org.
February
27 Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time.
28 Oklahoma Catholic Native Schools Project meeting 10:45 a.m. Mass, Ruter Family Center at St. Mary Catholic Church Ardmore. Contact Don. Roy Callahan at roy.callahan@archokc.org. Open to the public.

March
2 Pray the Rosary for Life, 6:30 p.m., at Our Lady of Lebanon Catholic Church, 500 Ala-
meda St., Norman. Contact Connie Lang, (405) 249-1041, potato.lang@gmail.com.

April
1 Passover. Contact Michael, (405) 750-5260.
3 Easter. Contact Elaine, (405) 314-5345, erp@kofc.org.

May
21 Memorial Day. Contact Mike Maggio, 405-534-0397.
23 Ascension Wednesday. Contact Trey Welker, 918-284-0685.
25 Pentecost. Contact Kevin Pierce, 918-550-0886.
27 Fourth Sunday of Pentecost.

June
5 Memorial of the Immaculate Conception.
7 First Tuesday of the Month. Contact Bob McCarthy, 405-793-4742.
8 Feast of Our Lady of Fatima. Contact Elisa, (405) 314-5345, erp@kofc.org.
10 First Wednesday of the month. Contact Kevin Pierce, kevin.pierce@kofc.org.
12 Triduum. Contact Trey Welker, 918-284-0685.
14 Memorial of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.
16 Memorial of St. John Vianney.
18 Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary.
20 Memorial of St. Peter and St. Paul.
22 Memorial of Our Lady of Mount Carmel.
24 Memorial of Our Lady of Help.
27 Memorial of St. John Vianney.
29 Memorial of St. Martin de Porres.
30 Memorial of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

July
1 First Tuesday of the Month. Contact Bob McCarthy, 405-793-4742.
2 First Wednesday of the month. Contact Kevin Pierce, kevin.pierce@kofc.org.
4 Memorial of St. Peter and St. Paul.
6 Memorial of Our Lady of Help.
7 Memorial of St. John Vianney.
8 Memorial of St. Martin de Porres.
9 Memorial of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.
12 Memorial of Our Lady of Mount Carmel.
16 Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary.
19 First Tuesday of the Month. Contact Bob McCarthy, 405-793-4742.
21 Memorial of St. Peter and St. Paul.
22 Memorial of Our Lady of Help.
23 Memorial of St. John Vianney.
24 Memorial of St. Martin de Porres.
27 Memorial of Our Lady of Help.
28 Memorial of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.
30 Memorial of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

August
1 First Tuesday of the Month. Contact Bob McCarthy, 405-793-4742.
2 First Wednesday of the month. Contact Kevin Pierce, kevin.pierce@kofc.org.
3 Feast of the Assumption.
5 Feast of the Gunners. Contact Bob McCarthy, 405-793-4742.
7 Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel.
10 Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows.
12 Feast of Our Lady of Help.
13 Feast of St. Peter and St. Paul.
14 Triduum. Contact Trey Welker, 918-284-0685.
15 First Tuesday of the Month. Contact Bob McCarthy, 405-793-4742.
17 Memorial of Our Lady of Help.
18 Memorial of St. John Vianney.
19 Memorial of St. Martin de Porres.
20 Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary.
22 Memorial of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.
23 Memorial of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.
24 First Tuesday of the Month. Contact Bob McCarthy, 405-793-4742.
25 First Wednesday of the month. Contact Kevin Pierce, kevin.pierce@kofc.org.
26 Feast of the Assumption.
27 Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows.
28 Feast of Our Lady of Help.
29 Feast of St. Peter and St. Paul.

September
1 First Tuesday of the Month. Contact Bob McCarthy, 405-793-4742.
2 First Wednesday of the month. Contact Kevin Pierce, kevin.pierce@kofc.org.
3 Memorial of Our Lady of Help.
4 Memorial of St. John Vianney.
6 Feast of the Assumption.
9 First Tuesday of the Month. Contact Bob McCarthy, 405-793-4742.
11 Memorial of Our Lady of Help.
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14 Memorial of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.
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24 Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary.
25 Memorial of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.
26 First Tuesday of the Month. Contact Bob McCarthy, 405-793-4742.
27 First Wednesday of the month. Contact Kevin Pierce, kevin.pierce@kofc.org.
29 Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows.
30 Feast of the Assumption.

October
1 First Tuesday of the Month. Contact Bob McCarthy, 405-793-4742.
2 First Wednesday of the month. Contact Kevin Pierce, kevin.pierce@kofc.org.
6 Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows.
7 First Tuesday of the Month. Contact Bob McCarthy, 405-793-4742.
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2 First Wednesday of the month. Contact Kevin Pierce, kevin.pierce@kofc.org.
4 Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows.
7 First Tuesday of the Month. Contact Bob McCarthy, 405-793-4742.
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December
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to some other famous works about prison. The cardinal’s writings sent me to Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s “Letters and Papers from Prison,” for instance. Ironically, the “Prison Journal” also reminded me of “De Profundis,” written by Oscar Wilde during his imprisonment for a sexual scandal: although Wilde was guilty and Pell innocent, both convey the experience of a sophisticated intelligence shining a light on an environment and persons far from one’s ordinary life.

The first volume ends with the expectation of the results of the first appeal. The second deals with the Appeals Court confirmation of his six-year sentence. The third volume, entitled “The High Court Frees an Innocent Man,” kept me in a sort of tension of vicarious suffering, especially when the cardinal writes, “Today I complete one year in prison for crimes I did not commit.”

The entire experience gave him a great deal of compassion for his fellow prisoners. One of them wrote the cardinal a letter of support that reminded him of the Good Thief’s defense of Jesus. When the news broke of the overturning of his convictions, the prisoners in neighboring cells congratulated him and shared his happiness. The scene gives “Journal” a poignant touch of grace, especially because the cardinal believes one of those men was falsely framed for a life sentence.

Cardinal Pell was released from prison in April 2020 only to enter the restrictions of the initial COVID-19 lockdown. In a recent interview, the cardinal said his pre-Vatican II seminary prepared him for life in solitary confinement, while his time in prison prepared him for COVID. I mentioned to a friend of mine that I was reading the “Journal.” “So, he was innocent?” he asked me and then said, “That’s good.” As Jonathan Swift said, “Falsehood flies and Truth comes limping after.”

That is why these books are so important. Cardinal Pell, who wrote several books and countless columns in the course of his ministry, said the writing of this “Journal” was the easiest for him in terms of composition.

Thankfully, the “Journal” is an easy read, almost like having a tête-à-tête with a great shepherd of the Church. Ignatius Press should be congratulated on the project of publishing the writings, which will be an enduring witness to the present moment of Church history.