



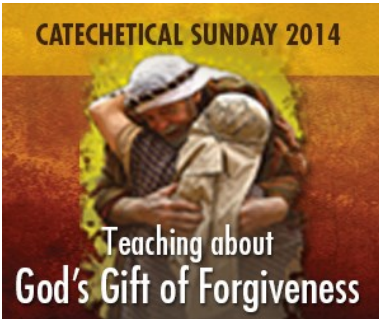
THE DIOCESAN CHRONICLE

NEWS OF THE DIOCESE OF BAKER

September 21, 2014

Volume 5, Number 19

Catechetical Sunday 2014



Today we celebrate Catechetical Sunday and focus on the theme "Teaching About God's Gift of Forgiveness." Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Today we take this opportunity to rededicate ourselves to this mission as a community of faith.

Mother Teresa in Our Midst



Read Bishop Cary's column to find out why these ladies are smiling.

Bishop's Annual Appeal Online Giving



Donations to the Bishop's Annual Appeal *Forward in Faith* can now be made online at the diocesan website : www.dioceseofbaker.org

Just click the Bishop's Annual Appeal icon on the home page to read about the ministries that your Appeal dollars are supporting, review suggested gift plans, and make your donation online. We appreciate your generosity.

Parish News: Blessed Sacrament, Ontario

Blessed Sacrament parish celebrated Father Christie Tissera's Silver Jubilee as a priest after his return from Sri Lanka where he celebrated at his home parish. The event was held on Friday, August 15th, the Feast of the Assumption of Mary, and in attendance were Father Roger Fernando, from Condon, Father Michael Nwokocha from Nyssa, Father Camillus Fernando from Vale, Father Robert Greiner from Baker City, and Father Jose Mudakodiyil of Blessed Sacrament—all concelebrants with Father Christie presiding. A reception and dinner was held after Mass at the Fr. Kirk Center. Along with the community's congratulations and thanks being offered to Father Christie for his service to the church, it was announced that his bishop has granted him another year of service to the Baker Diocese which was welcomed news by everyone present.



— Mike Pratt, parishioner

Parish News: Sacred Heart, Athena

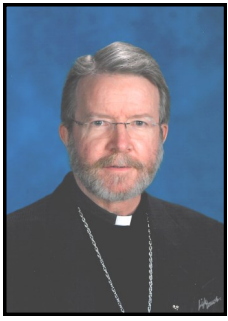
Sacred Heart Church in Athena, Oregon is pleased to congratulate the 2014 class of First Communicants.



Pictured left to right are Dawson Munck, Delana Pickard, Fr. Mike Fitzpatrick SJ, Ainsley Curtiss, and Caiden Dennis.

Bishop Cary's Schedule

- Sept. 21-25 Chicago Mission Bishops' Conference
- Sept. 27 Acolyte Training, Powell Butte
- Sept. 28 10:00 Mass at St. Francis, Bend - Installation of Acolytes
- Oct. 2 Hispanic Confessions, St. Joseph, Prineville
- Oct. 4-5 Masses at St. Augustine, Merrill



Thoughts Along the Way Bishop Liam Cary

“Mother Teresa in Our Midst”

On her Confirmation day in 1986, 16-year-old Theresa Lindsay received a simple white envelope from the hand of her pastor at St. Patrick’s Church in Heppner, Father Brian McGovern. It contained a lock of human hair. A friend of Father McGovern’s, a Missionary of Charity in Pennsylvania, had sent it to him after a visit to her convent by Mother Teresa of Calcutta, who got a haircut during her stay. The Sisters saved the hair, and Father McGovern’s friend mailed him a lock of it.

Theresa’s Confirmation gift meant a great deal to her. Two years earlier, at the first World Youth Day in Rome, she sat with other English-speaking pilgrims and listened as Mother Teresa told them “who Jesus is to me.” This close encounter with so holy a woman made an impression on the young pilgrim from Heppner that stays with her to this day.

In the ensuing years Theresa reverently made use of her Confirmation gift to invoke Mother Teresa’s intercession for those in need. She particularly noted the “profound sense of peace” that descended upon the many deathbeds she visited with the relic in hand.

In 2001 Theresa felt moved to entrust Mother Teresa’s hair to a fellow parishioner of Our Lady of Angels in Hermiston. Marianne Farney had just learned that her stage 4 malignant lymphoma had returned to the attack. Since she had already undergone radical cancer treatment, Marianne turned to Mother Teresa for assistance, offering daily morning prayers in the presence of the relic. Before long Marianne felt that she was getting better, and her doctors noted diminishing levels of cancer cells in the tests they performed. When I met her this year, I could not help but notice that she is very much alive!

In 2002, Father Joseph Reinig, then pastor in Hermiston, placed the hair in a reliquary to assure reverent veneration by parishioners who requested a “visit” with the relic. In November 2013 the hair was sent to the Mother Teresa Center in Tijuana, Mexico, for verification. DNA analysis confirmed its authenticity, and in January of this year Theresa and Marianne received from Rome a certificate of authentication in Latin from the official promoter of the cause for Mother Teresa’s canonization. The Missionaries of Charity returned three first-class relics in theca—a glass-covered container about the size of a quarter. The one I am holding contains two pieces of hair in the shape of a tiny cross.



Of the three thecas created from the original lock of hair, Theresa (Lindsay) Pihl will keep one for her family. The other two she has generously bequeathed to Our Lady of Angels in Hermiston and to the Diocese of Baker. It is Theresa’s “great hope” that these reminders of holiness “go out to the streets” as Mother Teresa did, in visits to the sick and the homebound or to religious education classes and youth retreats. In keeping with Mother Teresa’s deep devotion to the Eucharist, Theresa asks that the relics find a home near the Blessed Sacrament for veneration.

“Even the hairs of your head have all been counted,” our Lord assures us. To the abandoned and the dying, to the poorest of the poor, Mother Teresa embodied this promise of infinitely attentive Love. May the hairs of her head inspire us to do the same.

Pensamientos Del Camino Obispo Liam Cary

“La Madre Teresa Entre Nosotros”

El día de su confirmación en 1986, a la edad de 16 años, Theresa Lindsay recibió un sobre blanco simple de la mano de su pastor en la iglesia de St. Patrick en Heppner, Padre Brian McGovern. Contenía un mechón de cabello humano. Una amiga del P. McGovern, una Misionera de la Caridad, en Pennsylvania, se lo había enviado a él después de una visita a su convento de la Madre Teresa de Calcuta, quien se cortó el pelo durante su estancia. Las Hermanas guardaron el pelo, y la amiga del padre McGovern le envió por correo un mechón.

El regalo que Theresa recibió en su confirmación significaba mucho para ella. Dos años antes, en el primer Día Mundial de la Juventud en Roma, se había sentado con otros peregrinos de habla Inglesa y escuchado como la Madre Teresa les dijo “quién es Jesús para mí.” Este encuentro cercano con tan santa mujer hizo una impresión en la joven peregrina de Heppner que guarda con ella hasta el día de hoy.

En los años siguientes Theresa reverentemente hizo uso de su regalo de confirmación para invocar la intercesión de la Madre Teresa para los necesitados. Ella en particular vio la “profunda sensación de paz” que descendió sobre los muchos lechos de muerte que ha.

En 2001 Theresa se sintió movida a encomendar el pelo de la Madre Teresa a una compañera feligrés de Nuestra Señora de los Ángeles en Hermiston. Marianne Farney acababa de enterarse de que su cáncer de linfoma maligno en etapa 4 había vuelto al ataque. Puesto que ella ya se había sometido a un tratamiento radical del cáncer, Marianne pidió a la Madre Teresa su asistencia, ofreciendo oraciones diarias por la mañana en presencia de la reliquia. En poco tiempo Marianne sintió que ella estaba mejorando, y sus médicos observaron disminución de los niveles de células cancerosas en las pruebas que

realizaron. Cuando la conocí este año, no pude dejar de notar que ¡ella está llena de vida!

En 2002, el Padre José Reinig, entonces párroco de Hermiston, colocó el pelo en un relicario para asegurar una veneración reverente de los feligreses que solicitaban una “visita” a la reliquia. En noviembre de 2013, el pelo fue enviado al Centro Madre Teresa en Tijuana, México, para su verificación. El análisis de ADN confirmó su autenticidad, y en enero de este año Theresa y Marianne recibieron de Roma un certificado de autenticidad en Latin del promotor oficial de la causa de canonización de la Madre Teresa. Las Misioneras de la Caridad devolvieron tres reliquias de primera clase en un teca-capsula de vidrio del tamaño de una peseta (quarter). El que yo tengo en la mano contiene dos piezas de pelo en forma de una pequeña cruz.

De las tres tecas creadas del mechón original del cabello, Theresa (Lindsay) Pihl mantendrá una para su familia. Las otras dos que generosamente ha legado a Nuestra Señora de los Ángeles en Hermiston y a la Diócesis de Baker. Es la “gran esperanza” de Theresa que estos recordatorios de la santidad “salgan a la calle” como lo hizo la Madre Teresa, en las visitas a los enfermos a los inválidos o a las clases de educación religiosa y retiros juveniles. De acuerdo a la profunda devoción de la Madre Teresa a la Eucaristía, Theresa pide que las reliquias encuentren un hogar cerca del Santísimo Sacramento para la veneración.

“Nuestro Señor nos asegura que hasta los cabellos de nuestra cabeza están contados”. Para los abandonados, los moribundos, los más pobres de los pobres, la Madre Teresa encarnaba la promesa del amor infinitamente atento. Que los cabellos de su cabeza nos inspiren para hacer lo mismo.

Seeking an Abundant Harvest through the Bishop’s Annual Appeal

After 14 weeks, the 2014 Bishop’s Annual Appeal celebrates a number of new communities who have exceeded their Appeal goal.

◆ St. Francis de Sales Cathedral	121%
◆ St. Therese in Halfway	115%
◆ St. Francis of Assisi in Bend	120%
◆ St. Thomas Aquinas in Crane	179%
◆ Our Lady of Loretto in Drewsey	151%
◆ St. John in Condon	125%
◆ St. Francis in Arlington	103%
◆ St. Catherine in Fossil	111%
◆ St. Mary in Maupin	151%
◆ St. Katherine in Enterprise	129%
◆ St. Patrick in Heppner	110%
◆ Our Lady of Angels in Hermiston	101%
◆ St. Elizabeth in John Day	140%
◆ St. Bernard in Jordan Valley	160%
◆ Holy Family in Arock	204%

◆ St. Pius X in Klamath Falls	153%
◆ Sacred Heart in Union	154%
◆ St. Patrick in Lakeview	181%
◆ St. Richard in Adel	220%
◆ St. John in Paisley	124%
◆ St. Thomas in Plush	235%
◆ Holy Family in Christmas Valley	179%
◆ Holy Trinity in Sun River	161%
◆ St. Kateri Tekakwitha in Warm Springs	103%
◆ St. Helen in Pilot Rock	171%
◆ St. Joseph in Prineville	165%
◆ St. Thomas in Redmond	108%
◆ St. Patrick in Vale	262%
◆ St. Joseph in Unity	144%

There is so much being harvested in Central Oregon right now! Blueberries, blackberries, raspberries, tomatoes, corn and most vegetables are being picked this month; strawberries are finishing or done; peaches are in and early apples have started.

There’s something deep in the human heart which responds with joy and gratitude at the harvest season. Perhaps because our ancestors were tied so intimately to the soil, knowing that for them the success or failure of the harvest impacted their very survival and that of their children. Our hearts gladden as well at the approach of this time of abundant yield.

In the coming weeks our 2014 Bishop’s Annual Appeal will be completed. The many blessings that have been shared by Catholic families all over the Diocese of Baker will be harvested and transformed into works of evangelization, faith formation, youth ministry, care for our priests, and many other programs and ministries to enhance the faith life of our Catholic community.

Nearly 1,500 Catholic households have made this harvest possible, and there are many more who are still prayerfully reflecting on what amount might be appropriate to offer, given their personal circumstances.

The Old Testament reveals to us a people intimately aware of the earth and all it produces. They insisted that the first fruits of the harvest must be given to the Lord. They knew from whence their plenty came: “The earth is the Lord’s and everything in it,” wrote the Psalmist. As stewards of our local Church here in Central Oregon, this harvest season is an ideal time for a deepening reflection on the harvest in our own lives and in how we are sharing the bounty which God has given us.

As our produce ripens and is ready to be harvested, our hearts are filled with a centuries-old cry of “thank you,” and it is appropriate to ask, as we do each harvest time, how can we return the first fruits of our bounty to the Lord? If you have not yet made your gift to the Appeal, there is still time. The Bishop’s Annual Appeal is a wonderful way to share our gifts with our local Church, the Diocese of Baker, to support its ministries and in doing so, reveal the presence of the risen Christ in our midst.

Oregon KC's Recognize Local Organizations in the Baker Diocese

The Oregon Knights of Columbus State Charity Raffle is held every year throughout Oregon to raise funds to assist various non-profit groups involved in helping others in need. "Charity has been at the heart of the Knights' mission for the past 132 years," said Supreme Knight Carl Anderson. "Whether with funds or service, and whether quietly helping someone overcome a personal tragedy or assisting in the aftermath of a widely known humanitarian disaster, the outpouring of charity by our members produces meaningful results, especially by helping to bring peace of mind to those who find themselves in incredibly difficult situations."

This year in the Baker Diocese three Charities were recognized. Grandma's House in Bend was presented with \$500. Grandma's House is a non-profit, faith-based home and outreach that provides safe shelter to homeless and/or abused pregnant, parenting and adopting girls between the ages of 12 and 19. The Baker City Rachel Center was presented with \$500 to assist with their ministry of assisting young, often un-married mothers during their pregnancy or in caring for their babies. And the Baker Diocese Youth Program was presented with \$1,000.

Many other non-profit groups are recognized throughout the state with this very worthy fundraiser. This year a total of \$11,000 was shared among Oregon's non-profit charity-related ministries.

We invite everyone - Knights of Columbus and all parishioners alike to help increase the net proceeds from this State Charity Fund next year and in turn help with some assistance to these charitable groups throughout the state that are helping those in need.

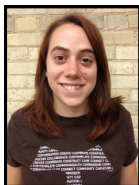
Bend Woman Joins Franciscan Cap Corps

Bend resident, Emily Rood, daughter of Patty and Jerry, has been commissioned as a Cap Corps volunteer. Cap Corps is a Franciscan Capuchin volunteer ministry, geared to college age students and graduates who wish to emulate the example of Saint Francis of Assisi and serve the poor and disenfranchised.

Emily, a Humboldt State University graduate with a degree in Religious Studies with minor in Native American Studies, will be serving at St. Labre Indian School, Montana.

"I had hoped to take some time before grad school to serve a community that was victim to the modern American social system," Emily explains. "The ultimate goal of this endeavor would be to learn from this community and empower others by recognizing their human dignity in spite of their social situation. I believe I have the drive to learn from these communities and to serve in a way that provides them with greater means to achieve their own goals within their own world view. Even further, Cap Corps is a place focused on service through spiritual growth. I look forward to focusing on my spirituality, community, and humility."

Visit Cap Corps online at www.capcorps.org.



ENDOW Women's Evening: Love the learning—Build the friendships—Live the faith



Join us for an introduction to ENDOW by Program Director, Emily Espinola, followed by dessert and fellowship with friends. Please come and enjoy this evening of retreat and reflection just for you! All women are welcome!

ENDOW provides women a way to explore what it means to be a Catholic woman today and to understand what a gift it is to be a feminine person created in God's image.

Lodging is available upon request at the Retreat Center. And for those who have Middle School age daughters, we invite you to a Mother-Daughter getaway (information below). Registration forms can be found on the Diocesan Calendar at www.dioceseofbaker.org. (See October 11, 2014, on the calendar page.)

Girl Genius: Defining Dignity, Exploring the Big Question

All Middle School age girls are invited to join us on Saturday, October 11 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Powell Butte Retreat Center to discover answers to the questions "Where does my dignity come from? Am I loveable? What is my purpose?"



Moms attending the Endow Women's Evening Reflection are encouraged to stay with their daughter Friday night for a little Mother-Daughter getaway. We will provide a movie for the girls Friday evening while you enjoy an inspirational talk, dessert and fellowship with women from across the Diocese.

Registration fee is \$45 which includes all materials, breakfast, lunch, and dinner. An additional fee of \$50 per Mother-Daughter registration includes lodging for two and continental breakfast.

Catholic Home Educators Extend Invitation



Wanting an alternative to Halloween? All children and their families are welcome to come even if you are not Homeschooling. Dress up as your favorite saint and join us to celebrate who as Christians we are all called to become...Saints!

Come join us at the Powell Butte Retreat Center on Friday, October 31st "All Hallows Eve" for a Children's All Saints day Celebration. We will begin with Mass at 5:30 p.m. and a potluck supper afterwards. Please bring a dish to share. Activities throughout the evening will be provided for the children. We will display Saint-o-Lanterns, so bring your Catholic inspired pumpkin carvings. Please RSVP to Aleesa McCarthy at 541-292-6931 or email abansmer@aol.com.