Key highlights of The Community Anchor Project

*Love Thy Neighbor includes:*

• Community accessibility

• Enhanced play and outdoor activity opportunities, increased campus safety and security and storm water treatment improvements

• A multi-sport grass playing field

• Community gardens for use by students, parishioners and neighbors

• Designated space for reflection and prayer

• The multi-phased project will be funded through diocesan, school, parish and community gifts as well as grants, donations and corporate partnerships.

To help complete the project, which will add enhanced educational and outdoor recreation opportunities for the downtown Kalamazoo community, the Turn 2 Foundation also donated $50,000 to St. Augustine. Yankees shortstop Derek Jeter and Turn 2 Foundation president Sharlee Jeter attended the school. “The time I spent in Kalamazoo and at St. Augustine had a major impact on the person I am today,” said Derek Jeter. “Giving back is something that has always been very important to me and to have had the opportunity to do that here throughout my career — to be able to say thank you to this community that has meant so much to me — is particularly special.”

The multi-phased project which also received a generous $50,000 gift from the St. Augustine’s Legacy fund. Fundraising efforts are underway to secure additional donations. More information may be found at www.dioceseofkalamazoo.org.
**From the Editor**

By Victoria Cesna
Communication Director & Editor of The Good News

Plop! Nobody was more surprised than I was when I saw the pop fly ball landed squarely in my glove. Shocked, I immediately jumped up and down and my teammate rushed over to give me a triumphant hug.

See, there’s a good reason I’m usually safely tucked away in right field during our friendly diocesan softball games. Even though I played as a child I had taken more than a 30-year hiatus from the game and let’s just say my skills were more than a bit rusty.

However, bolstered by our team’s camaraderie, and my own stubbornness to get better at the game, I not only improved my batting this year but managed to catch not one but two fly balls.

This month our Catholic schools welcome back thousands of our students and our parish religious education programs do the same. Our students guided by teachers and catechists will learn more about the Catholic faith and improve their skills, so to speak.

Why let them have all the fun? Why don’t we, too, set our own faith goals for the new school year?

Sure, I could have just shown-up to our softball games and had a great time keeping the status quo but the joy I got from actually setting a personal goal (such as actually catch a ball instead of watching it drop or running out of its way) was immeasurable.

In speaking to millions of young people at World Youth Day, Pope Francis encouraged them to grow in their faith. He said: “It is your life that Jesus wants to enter with His word, with His presence. Please, let Christ and His word enter your life, blossom and grow.”

This fall there are countless opportunities to grow in our faith — allowing it to blossom — from parish-sponsored programs to our own diocesan programs. Throughout this edition we have highlighted just a few.

As the author of James said, “And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.”

I may never bat 1,000 or be moved out of right field but when it comes to growing in my faith I’m still going strive for the All-Star team. Won’t you join me?

**Pope Francis SEPTEMBER Intentions**

Mentally disabled — That the mentally disabled may receive the love and help they need for a dignified life.

Service to the poor — That Christians, inspired by the Word of God, may serve the poor and suffering.

**Sisters of St. Joseph celebrate years of service**

On July 27, 2014, 18 Sisters of St. Joseph celebrated more than 1,000 years in service to God and others with a special Mass celebrated by Bishop Bradley.

Celebrating 75 years of service were Sisters Virginia Jolly, Maureen Lewis, Marcine Mercure, Rosita Starner, Cecile Thibodeau, and Clarise Winter. Sisters Bernadette Barker, Carol Brock, Frances Dutil, Rose Lambertz, Marty McIntee, Lucy Schneider, Georgiana Simon, Katharine Trager, and Suzanne Zieske celebrated 60 years of service.

Fifty year Jubilarians were Sisters Bonita Janiszewski, Betsy Meagher, and Rose Roberts.

The Sisters of St. Joseph who celebrated at Nazareth are among the 53 Jubilarians of the Congregation of St. Joseph formed in 2007.

**Bishop Paul J. Bradley has made the following announcements:**

**Very Rev. Craig Lusk,**
Pastor of St. Mary Parish, Marshall, has been appointed Dean of the Eastern Deanery.

**Rev. Daniel Doctor**
Has begun a temporary medical leave with the full support of the Diocese.

**Reverend Dr. Martin**
Has been appointed as Assistant to the Bishop for Canonical Affairs. Fr. Martin is the pastor of St. Margaret Parish, Osseo, Associate Vocations Director and Promoter of Justice for the diocesan Tribunal.

**Paul Spaude to retire from Borgess Health this month**

Paul Spaude, President and CEO, Borgess Health, who announced his retirement this past June will leave his position this month to spend more time with his family.

Spaude’s community activities include leadership in the creation of the Western Michigan University Homer Stryker MD School of Medicine as well as leadership in the consolidation of the United Way of Battle Creek and Kalamazoo Region. He also serves on the boards of the Family Health Center and Southwest Michigan Foundation.

Spaude is a fellow in the American College of Health Care Executives. He became the 21st President of Borgess Health in June 2005. He was previously Chief Administrative Officer of Aspirus, Inc., a nonprofit health care system located in Wausau, Wisconsin.

**The Good News**

The official newspaper of the Catholic Diocese of Kalamazoo.

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The Good News for the Catholic Diocese of Kalamazoo

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The Most Rev. J. Bradley is the official editor of The Good News.
LA PERSPECTIVA DEL OBISPO

Con Dios, todo es posible

A pesar de que el verano es un tiempo más relajado para muchos, han habido muchos acontecimientos maravillosos que han tenido lugar, sobre los que todos deberíamos estar orgullosos. En julio nuestra Oficina Diocesana para la santidad de la vida humana, a través de la Comisión Diocesana para las Personas con Discapacidad, planeó y celebró el primer paseo de la familia llevado a cabo en el terreno de la parroquia San Juan y San Bernardo en Benton Harbor. Hace apenas unas semanas, nuestra Oficina Diocesana para la Pastoral Hispana celebró con orgullo la graduación de la primera promoción de más de 60 líderes laicos que participaron en el “Instituto San Agustín.” Este fue un programa de capacitación, formación de fe y liderazgo para adultos con una edad promedio de tres años, que se reunió en sábados entre cinco y seis horas en el que se estudiaron tres años. Además, muchas de nuestras parroquias patrocinan regularmente grupos de voluntarios que visitan a nuestras miles de familias migrantes para catequizar, socializar y construir comunidad católica. Y nuestros jóvenes católicos se reunieron regularmente los viernes por la noche para las series de Teología en Tap de enriquecimiento adulto de la fe.

Sin embargo, como nos damos cuenta en los titulares de las noticias diarias, no todo está bien en el mundo. En nuestro propio país, somos conscientes de miles de niños asustados, y muchas madres de estos niños, que han estado fluyendo a nuestro país a través de nuestras fronteras huyendo de la violencia y el peligro en sus propias tierras. Sin embargo, ha habido menos que una cifra bienvenida esperándolas aquí, en nuestro país, que, como sabemos, es un país formado por inmigrantes de generaciones anteriores, incluyendo a muchos de nuestros propios padres y abuelos. Este es un tema complejo, con muchas implicaciones; Sin embargo, nuestra fe nos llama a extender la mano de la hospitalidad de Jesús a todos, como en las últimas semanas, hemos estado muy tristes por el malestar social y racial en Ferguson, Missouri, y en consecuencia, en muchas otras partes del país, debido a la muerte de un joven negro. Lamentablemente, debido a las fuerzas de esta tragedia fue abordada, toda la situación se ha agravado con una erupción de mucha violencia e ira.

Tenemos que preguntarnos, ¿cómo puede haber todavía prejuicio racial en nuestro gran país? Como personas de fe, sabemos que el amor de Dios incluye a todos y sin condiciones para todas las personas, como debe ser el nuestro también.

Además de los desafíos de nuestro propio país, las situaciones en partes lejanas del mundo son precarias. En Ucrania, las tensiones entre Rusia y el resto del mundo están creciendo cada vez más inestables. En Oriente Medio, el conflicto entre Israel y Palestina continúa, mientras que en otras áreas de allí el grupo terrorista conocido como ISIS ha elevado el nivel de la persecución religiosa, yihad / la “guerra santa” a un nivel de horrible barbarie e inhumanidad.

Por un lado, quizá queramos solo mantenernos enfocados en nuestras vidas, en nuestra comunidad e incluso en nuestra Diócesis lo más pacíficos y sin contratiempos que podamos. Tal vez preferiríamos dar la “vista gorda” a todos los males y problemas en el resto del mundo. Sin embargo, como personas de fe, debemos estar aliviados, angustiados, preocupados, y movidos a la acción. ¿Qué podemos hacer? ¿Cuál debería ser nuestra respuesta?

En el comienzo de la Cuaresma cada año, cuando llega el momento para todos nosotros de reconciliarnos con Dios, escuchamos la lectura del profeta Joel: “Proclamad ayuno, convocad a la asamblea; Congregad a los ancianos, a todos los que moran en la tierra, a la casa del Señor, tu Dios, y clamad al Señor!”[Joel 1:14] Y también escuchamos el pasaje del Evangelio en el que Jesús dice que oremos, ayunemos y damos limosna, como la manera perfecta para limpiar nuestros corazones y conformar nuestros corazones con el de Dios. Como ciudadanos preocupados, deberíamos movilizarnos, contactar a nuestros líderes del Congreso, participar en varios movimientos por la paz y la justicia, asegurarnos de que estemos bien informados. Pero además de eso, hemos de abrazar las prácticas espirituales de la oración, ayuno y abnegación. La oración es la fuente última de nuestra fuerza espiritual, ya que el mismo Jesús nos ha dicho: “Para los hombres es imposible; pero para Dios todo es posible.”[Mat. 19:26]

En la memoria de santa Mónica, madre de nuestro Santo Patrono San Agustín, llamé a la diócesis a observar un día especial de oración por la paz. Le pedí a cada parroquia encontrar maneras de permitir tiempos extra de oración, celebración de la Santa Misa, Adoración Eucarística para que la gente pudiera reunirse en oración comunitaria. Celebré la misa del mediodía en nuestra Catedral ese día, y me quedé encantado con la gran concurrencia de personas. Además, ehtoré a cada persona, cada familia, cada hogar para encontrar maneras de pasar tiempos juntos o solos en la oración.

Sin embargo, no podemos tener un Día de Oración y pensar que resuelve el problema. Todos tenemos que fomentar una constancia de oración. San Pablo nos dijo: “Estar siempre alegres; oren sin cesar; Dad gracias en todo; porque esto es la voluntad de Dios para con vosotros en Cristo Jesús.”[1 Tes. 5: 16-18]

Nuestro mundo está en tal confusión que estoy convencido de que la gracia y la intercesión de Dios es la única respuesta. En nuestro propio país tenemos todas las razones para estar preocupados por nuestra libertad religiosa. Este derecho fundamental protegido por la Constitución, dado por Dios está muy claro y directamente bajo ataque, con el objetivo, al parecer, para acabar con ese precioso don. Se está tratando de empujar a los márgenes de la sociedad cualquier cosa que tenga que ver con la fe, la moral y la educación. Eso debería

THE BISHOP’S PERSPECTIVE

With God, all things are possible

Even though summer is a more relaxed time for many, there have been many wonderful events taking place about which we should all be proud. In July our Diocesan Office for the Sanctuary of Human Life, through the Diocesan Commission for Persons with Disabilities, planned the first Family Picnic held at Sts. John and Bernard Parish grounds in Benton Harbor. Just a few weeks ago, our Diocesan Office for Hispanic Ministry proudly held the first graduating class for more than 60 lay leaders who participated in the “San Agustin Institute.” This was a three-year adult faith formation leadership training program that met every Sunday for five to six hours over the course of these past three years. In addition, many of our parishes regularly sponsor groups of volunteers who visit our thousands of migrant families to catechize, socialize and build Catholic community. And our Catholic young people came together regularly on Friday nights for the “Theology on Tap” series of adult faith enrichment.

However, as we realize from the daily news headlines, not all is right with the world. In our own country, we are aware of thousands of frightened children, and many mothers of these children, who have been streaming into our country through our borders fleeing the violence and danger in their own lands. However, there has been less than a warm welcome awaiting them here in our country which, as we know, is a country made up of immigrants from previous generations, including many of our own parents and grandparents. This is a complex issue, with many implications; however, our faith calls us to extend the hand of Jesus’ hospitality always. Also in recent weeks, we have been very saddened by the civil and racial unrest in Ferguson, Mo., and consequently in many other parts of the country, because of the killing of an unarmed young man. Sadly, because of the ways that this tragedy was dealt with, the entire situation has escalated erupting in much violence and anger. We have to ask ourselves, how can there still be racial prejudice in our great country? As people of faith, we know that God’s love is all-inclusive and unconditional for all people, as ours should be as well.

In addition to our own country’s challenges, situations in far away parts of the world are precarious. In the Ukraine, the tensions between Russia and the rest of the world are growing increasingly unstable. In the Middle East, the conflict between Israel and Palestine continues, while in other areas there the terrorist group known as ISIS has raised the level of religious persecution, jihad/”holy war” to a level of horrific barbarism and inhumanity.

On the one hand, we might want to just keep focused on our lives and our community and even our Diocese as smooth-running and peaceful as we can be. Perhaps we’d prefer to turn a “blind eye” to all the evils and problems in the rest of the world. However, as people of faith, we must be alarmed, distressed, concerned, and moved to action. What can we do? What should our response be?

At the beginning of Lent each year, when it is time for all of us to be reconciled with God, we hear the Reading from the Prophet Joel, “Proclaim a fast, call an assembly; Gather the elders, all who dwell in the land, Into the house of the Lord, your God, and cry to the lord!”[Joel 1:14] And we also hear the Gospel passage in which Jesus tells us to pray, fast and give alms as the perfect way to cleanse our hearts and conform our hearts with God’s. As concerned citizens, we should mobilize ourselves, contact our Congressional Leaders, get involved in various peace and justice movements, make sure that we are well informed. But in addition to that, we must embrace the spiritual practices of prayer, fasting and self-denial. Prayer is the ultimate source of our spiritual strength, for as Jesus Himself has told us: “For man it is impossible; but for God all things are possible.”[Matt. 19:26]

On the Memorial of St. Monica, mother of our Diocesan Patron Saint Augustine, I called the diocese to observe a special Day of Prayer for Peace. I asked every parish to find ways to allow for extra times of prayer, celebration of the Holy Mass, Eucharistic Adoration so that people could come together for communal prayer. I celebrated the Noon Mass at our Cathedral that day, and I was delighted with the very large turnout of people. In addition, I urged every person, every family, every household to find ways to spend time together or alone in prayer.

However, we can’t just have a Day of Prayer and think that solves the problem. We all need to foster a constancy of prayer. St. Paul told us to “Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”[1 Thess. 5:16-18]

Our world is in such turmoil that I am convinced that God’s grace and intercession is the only answer. In our own country we have every reason to be worried about our religious freedom. This foundational constitutionally-protected, God-given right is very clearly and directly under attack, with the goal, it seems, to do away with that precious gift. Attempts are being made to push to the margins of society anything to do with faith, moral standards or religion. That should worry everyone as history has proven than any society that is not founded in faith and/or with basic respect for God is doomed to dissolve or implode.

In the Middle East, we are getting only glimpses into the horror that is taking place there in the name of “religion.” The extremists of the Islam religion have declared a “jihad”/a holy war on anyone who does not profess their religion. We know of only a fraction of the horror endured by Christians (many of them Catholics) who have been mercilessly killed, slaugh-

Continued on page 4
Diocese announces student art contest focused on the family

Bishop Paul J. Bradley is inviting students in grades 4th to 12th, to present their artistic interpretation of the theme: “The Family Fully Alive.” Any student in grades 4th through 12th is invited to take part in “The Family Fully Alive” Student Contest. Following is a brief summary of the contest guidelines:

**Grades 4 – 8:** Submit a poem (up to 30 lines), an essay of 150-500 words, either clearly handwritten or typed (double-spaced, 12 point font, and 1 inch margins). Submit art or music or video (as per the criteria). On the back of the page, print your name, age, school - including city, phone number, as well as the name of your teacher. Submit official Kalamazoo Diocese Student Contest Cover Sheet (one per entry).

**Grades 9 – 12:** Submit a poem (up to 30 lines), an essay of 250-500 words, typed, double-spaced, 12 point font and 1 inch margins. Submit art or music or video (as per the criteria). On the back of the page, print your name, age, school including city, phone number, as well as the name of your teacher. Submit official Kalamazoo Diocese Student Contest Cover Sheet (one per entry).

For complete contest rules visit the website: www.dioceseofkalamazoo.org/domesticchurch or e-mail: domesticchurch@dioceseofkalamazoo.org All entries: arts, poems, essays, music, songs and videos must be postmarked no later than December 15th, 2014, and sent to: “The Family Fully Alive” Student Contest Secretariat for Parish Life & Lay leadership Diocese of Kalamazoo, 215 N. Westnedge Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Student Contest winners will be announced on – Holy Family Radio (91.5 FM and 89.7 FM and 1140 AM) and published in a 2015 issue of The Good News. The winning art, writing, music, song, and video will also be published in The Good News. In addition, Holy Family Radio will feature the winners on a special broadcast.

**Follow MCC on Social Media for Election Information**

Do you or your family members and friends use social media? If so, consider following the Michigan Catholic Conference on Twitter (www.twitter.com/MICatholicConf) and liking the Conference on Facebook (www.facebook.com/MichiganCatholicConference). Updates and information will be provided throughout this election season, and information related to legislative matters is posted each day. Michigan Catholic Conference is the official public policy voice of the Catholic Church in this state and is led by the state’s seven (arch) bishops. Connect with the MCC on Twitter and Facebook today!

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**Student Contest Cover Sheet (one per entry).**

Submit a poem (up to 30 lines), an essay of 250-500 words, typed, double-spaced, 12 point font and 1 inch margins. Submit art or music or video (as per the criteria). On the back of the page, print your name, age, school including city, phone number, as well as the name of your teacher. Submit official Kalamazoo Diocese Student Contest Cover Sheet (one per entry).

**The Bishop’s Perspective**

The Bishop’s Perspective Continued from page 3

tered, tortured and run out of their homes and homelands if they refuse to “convert” to Islam. We were scandalized and horrified at the tragic news of the beheading of journalist Jim Foley, who was also a devout Catholic. He was imprisoned in Libya a few years ago and eventually was freed. He wrote about the comfort that he took during that time in praying the Rosary with a fellow prisoner, and how he felt the power of prayer on his behalf from thousands of miles away. In reflecting on his time in prison he wrote “if prayer were the glue that enabled my freedom, an inner freedom first and later the miracle of being released during a way in which the regime had no real incentive to free us. It didn’t make sense, but faith did.” My dear Family of Faith we are called to a deeper relationship with God and with our universal Church through devoted and constant prayer. Please plan to pray every day for peace; please also sacrifice something every day for peace; please fast and offer alms to charitable groups like Catholic Relief Services who are “on the ground” in the Middle East trying to help those suffering people with food, clothing and shelter.

I would also like to ask for your prayers for me. In just a few days I will have the privilege of joining with 19 other bishops from around the United States as we make a “Pilgrimage for Peace to the Holy Land” from September 10-19. During this Pilgrimage, we will be meeting with leaders of the Church in the Middle East, as well as with civic leaders, discussing and praying together for peaceful solutions to age-old conflicts. Please keep us in your prayers.

May God’s Holy Spirit of Peace shine upon all those seeking the solutions to conflict and violence in all parts of our world. Through our renewed determination to “pray always,” and with St. Monica to persevere in prayer no matter how long it takes to have our prayers answered, may our sisters and brothers in the human family feel the comfort and the strength that comes from our solidarity with them in prayer.

In the words of St. Paul: “May the Lord of peace Himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you.” (2 Thess.3:18)

Faithfully yours in Christ,

+ Bishop Paul J. Bradley

**Bishop encourages participation in ecumenical gathering**

Just Faith founder to speak at “Hearts Wide Open” gathering September 15-17

Four Kalamazoo-area faith communities have come together to host a three-evening ecumenical gathering featuring Just Faith founder, Jack Jezreel. “Hearts Wide Open” is being sponsored by St. Catherine of Siena, Portage, St. Joseph, Kalamazoo and St. Thomas More, Kalamazoo along with First United Methodist Church, Kalamazoo.

Bishop Bradley is encouraging parishioners to consider participation in this dynamic three-evening gathering which will be held each night from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Transformations Spirituality Center in Kalamazoo.

In a promotional video created for the event, Bishop Bradley echoed the words of Pope Francis who has said, “An authentic faith always implies a deep desire to change the world.”

During the evening, the bishop continued, important questions will be raised such as “How do we live our faith? and how can we influence the lives of those around us for goodness and justice.”

Registration is available either online (www.st-tomkszoo.org) or by contacting one of the three sponsoring parishes, St. Catherine of Siena, St. Joseph, Kalamazoo, or St. Thomas More.
Catholic Campaign for Human Development:
Working on the Margins set for September 20 & 21

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD), the domestic poverty arm of the United States Catholic Conference, has come to the aid of communities nationwide for over 40 years in an effort to eradicate poverty. During World Youth Day, July 25, 2013, Pope Francis told us to “never tire of working for a more just world, marked by greater solidarity.”

CCHD puts these words into action by funding projects that move beyond providing for basic needs, such as housing, education, and the development of job opportunities. This Collection is the primary source of funding for CCHD’s anti-poverty grants and education programs. Collection funds offer new hope each year to those living in poverty throughout the United States.

Popular Catholicism series priest narrator revamps WordOnFire website

When Father Robert Barron founded Word on Fire Catholic Ministries in 2000 and launched WordOnFire.org, the goal was simple: to share his homilies online. Barron liked the idea of sending many homilies to a wider audience, all over the world. That’s something many great evangelists throughout history would have given their right arms for. But I had no idea how quickly this ministry would grow.

Over the next several years, Father Barron added YouTube commentaries, weekly articles, and daily blog posts. Soon, WordOnFire.org became one of the most popular Catholic websites in the world, drawing over 1.3 million unique visitors per year. “Through attracting millions of visitors, we knew our website was helping people. But we also knew the Internet was evolving. Mobile devices were on the rise and new trends in web design pushed us forward. We discerned it was time to revamp our website and create a stunning, innovative site unlike anything else out there.”

Diocese hosts Into the Wild, an outdoor weekend retreat for Men

Calling all men. Don’t miss your chance to experience Into the Wild, a unique, three-day outdoor retreat weekend designed exclusively for men, focusing on your role as leader, provider and protector. Sponsored by the Diocese of Kalamazoo, Into the Wild will be held Oct. 9-12, 2014, at Rota-Kiwan Scout Reservation near Kalamazoo. It is open to all men and boys age 11 and up, with special rates for fathers and sons, college students, and seminarians. However, space is limited to 100 spots, so register today.

You can register online at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/into-the-wild-rotakiwansr-kalamazoo-registration-11694026147?ref=ebtn. To learn more about Into the Wild, visit www.intothewildweekend.com, or contact Deacon Kurt Lucas at klucas@dioceseofkalamazoo.org.
Try a Five-Point Tune-Up for your marriage

By Sheila Garcia

At the end of each summer, my husband and I receive a letter that urges us to have our heating system checked before the Fall. It’s usually slipped through the mail slot on an oppressive August day, when more warmth is the last thing I’m thinking about. But I realize the wisdom of preventive maintenance now, before a breakdown occurs. Marriages, too, benefit from preventive maintenance. Do you need to discuss a stressful issue before it erupts? Are you looking for an activity or two to rejuvenate your marriage? The end of summer is a good time to plan for marriage maintenance, before the busyness of Fall kicks in. Here’s a five-point list to get started:

Talk Turkey. Thanksgiving (and Christmas) turkey, that is. Where will you be spending the holidays? Do you turn into jugglers, trying to balance the expectations of both sets of in-laws? If the two of you agree on a plan now, you’ll be ready to deal with the situation in a way that’s fair to everyone. An added advantage: If you’re flying for the holidays, you’ll be able to shop early for cheaper air fares and the dates you want.

Fall for each other—again. Fun fall getaways abound, everything from pumpkin patches and apple-picking to colorful football games and tailgate parties. Get out your calendars now and pencil in a few dates. Don’t forget that romantic drive to view the fall foliage.

Show me the money. The last quarter of the year can bring higher household expenses, including costs associated with the holidays. Can your budget handle it? Be prepared by reviewing your financial status and making any needed adjustments to your spending and saving.

Go back to school. And making any needed adjustments to your spending and saving.

Get fit—spiritually. Summer often means a break from routine. Have you let your spiritual practices slide over the past couple months? Rather than become discouraged, make a September resolution to improve. Schedule time for prayer and spiritual reading, even if it’s only a few minutes. Consider setting aside time to pray with your spouse (see “Who Me, Pray?…With Her?”). Bring closure to the marriage by celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Joy-Filled Marriage Training is September 26 and 27

By Kimberly Bolton

This year on Valentine’s Day, Pope Francis had this message for engaged couples who gathered at St. Peter’s Square: “A marriage does not succeed just because it lasts; its quality is also important. To stay together and to know how to love each other forever is the challenge Christian married couples face!”

Beginning this fall, the diocese will begin offering “God’s Plan for a Joy-Filled Marriage,” a new, highly acclaimed marriage preparation program. It was developed by Ascension Press, and chosen for its combination of solid sacramental catechesis and virtues-based life-skills training.

“This particular program takes into consideration a lot of factors affecting and concerning couples in today’s ‘anything goes’ culture,” explained Socorro Truchan, associate director, Domestic Church, for the diocese. “People are living together (before marriage) because it’s practical. Virtue doesn’t enter into it. This program challenges couples to leave the experience vowing to wait until marriage to be together.”

Presented in two parts, over two days, the Joy-Filled Marriage training is for the individuals and couples who do marriage preparation programs in their parishes. One part, entitled God’s Plan for a Joy-Filled Marriage, covers sacramental sexuality, pre-natal planning, and克莱尔 of marriage. The other part, Living a Joy-Filled Marriage, covers life skills such as how to manage time, energy, and money.

According to Truchan, the diocese’s goal is to bring “God’s Plan for a Joy-Filled Marriage” to each deanship or parish that wants it, and complement the centralized Diocesan Marriage Discovery weekends that happen throughout the year.

Truchan, who joined the diocese of Kalamazoo last year, had previous experience with the Joy-Filled Marriage program. She said, “There were good programs in place when I got here, but we wanted to be able to present the same preparation across the diocese. This one is attractive and flexible. It’s also available in Spanish.” Those who complete the training will take what they learn back to their parishes. Truchan said it is challenging for some couples to attend the diocesan preparation events, for timing and distance reasons. This new program will allow them to experience the benefits closer to home. She added that many parishioners have been asking for marriage support groups. “The primary idea is for couples to enrich their own marriages, but also be that witness to couples who are just starting out,” she said.

The Joy Filled Marriage training is co-sponsored by the Secretariat for Parish Life & Lay Leadership and Ascension Press. It will be held from 6 to 9 p.m., on September 26, and 9 to 4:30 p.m., on September 27, 2014, at the Borgess Lawrence Education Center, 1521 Gull Rd., Kalamazoo.

The training will be led by Tom McCabe, who has worked for 18 years at the diocese, parish, and campus ministry levels serving in teaching and pastoral roles. As the Mission Network’s national director of youth development, McCabe works to develop programs that help families make faith a way of life. He has served on numerous bishop-appointed and national committees related to marriage and family life, sexual ethics, and Catholic doctrine.

The cost of register for the Joy Filled Marriage training, including materials and lunch, is $195 for individuals and $225 for couples. Registration is due by September 12, and can be done online at www.dioceseofkalamazoo.org/joyfilledmarriage. There are scholarships available for those interested in joining the diocesan marriage ministry.

For more information, contact Socorro Truchan, at 269-903-0199, or struchan@dioceseofkalamazoo.org.

Parish resources available to begin a Strong Catholic Families/Strong Catholic Youth program

Strong Catholic Families, Strong Catholic Youth (SCF, SCY) is an intentional, on-going process that seeks to unite parents and the parish community in supporting, building-up, and bringing home the faith. The SCF, SCY process is an answer to evangelize the hearts of parents and parishes so that Jesus Christ can be the reason for our coming and going in this life and the places to live a life of holiness in faith, hope, and charity.

What does this process look like?

The Strong Catholic Families, Strong Catholic Youth process should consist of four steps that are progressive and cyclical: Step One, inquiry and assessment between Diocesan representatives and representatives from the parish/school to determine the appropriate ways to engage the culture of said parish/school in supporting, building-up, and bringing home the faith. The SCF, SCY process is an answer to evangelize the hearts of parents and parishes so that Jesus Christ can be the reason for our coming and going in this life and the future. The SCF, SCY process is an answer to evangelize the hearts of parents and parishes so that Jesus Christ can be the reason for our coming and going in this life and the future.

How can my parish or school get started?

1. Pray! Be a model of the SCF, SCY process by intentionally living your life as a witness and disciple of Jesus Christ and practice intentionally growing and living your faith with your family and friends and encouraging them to do the same!

2. Talk to your pastor and principal about your desire for having the people of the parish/school to be living a life of faith.

3. Encourage parish/school leadership and volunteer leaders to come together and form a team that addresses the needs and necessities desired; Step Three, parent/parishioner and team reflections, to address the needs and necessities desired; Step Three, parent/parishioner and team reflections, to address the needs and necessities desired; Step Three, parent/parishioner and team reflections, to address the needs and necessities desired.

4. List, engage, and form relationships so that the desired change may come about.

For questions about Strong Catholic Families, Strong Catholic Youth and about how to bring this process to your parish or school, please contact Tim McNamara at tmcnamara@dioceseofkalamazoo.org.
Superintendent releases update on Catholic schools initiatives

In a letter to Catholic school parents Superintendent Margaret Erich provided details on strategic initiatives for the 2014-2015 school year. The Diocese of Kalamazoo is home to 22 Catholic schools and two parish-based “stand-alone” Catholic preschools. Enrollment is estimated around 3,000 students.

Following are excerpts on updates happening throughout the year:

Curriculum –
• Over the summer, the diocese trained seventeen teachers and administrators as a curriculum team that will work with each school to help build and maintain high quality curriculum, not only in Theology, but in all academic subjects.
• A new and more rigorous elementary and middle school theology curriculum will be introduced this year.
• The three Catholic high schools will adopt a new Philosophy course for all seniors.

Professional Development —
• All diocesan teachers and administrators attended a conference on August 19th to receive training in such areas as using iPads or tablets in their classroom, using data to enhance student learning, improving students’ writing skills, as well as many other topics.
• An updated Catechist Certification Program, based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church, will be launched this year.
• Teachers will also receive additional catechetical hours as they attend the diocesan New Evangelization Conference on October 4th.
• The St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Professional Development Program will take application grants in the winter and winners will be announced in the Spring.

Accreditation —
• All 22 of the Catholic schools in the diocese are accredited by MNSAA (the Michigan Non-public School Accrediting Association). Schools are accredited on a five-year cycle and required to submit an annual report. A mid-cycle, on-site review is conducted at schools every two-three years.
• Last school year, the diocese accredited three Catholic schools using a new accreditation process implemented by MNSAA, and based on the National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools written by Dr. Lorraine Ozar and team from Loyola University. This year, six more schools will be accredited using this document.

We believe you deserve excellent care no matter where you live. That’s why Borgess offers first-class primary care right in your neighborhood. So no matter what life throws at you, you’ll be ready. To find a doctor nearby who will connect you to all the life-saving specialty care Borgess offers, call (269) 226.8135.

Find a doctor near you
PhysicianFinder.Borgess.com

Bishop Bradley’s schedule packed with “Back to School” Masses

Beginning in late August Bishop Bradley began his annual practice of celebrating “Back-to-School” Masses. He began with Mass at Vineyard Academy on Wednesday, August 27th and welcomed students from five schools at Northern Regional Mass at St. Mary Visitation, Byron Center. Following are the remaining Catholic School Masses this fall:

September 29th: St. Mary, Niles, 10 a.m.
October 6: Grandparents Day at St. Monica, Kalamazoo, 8 a.m.
October 21: St. Mary, Paw Paw, 9 a.m.
October 29: 50th Anniversary of St. Mary of the Lake Elementary School, New Buffalo, 9 a.m.
November 4: Feast Day of St. Charles Borromeo, St. Charles, Borromeo, 9 a.m.
Suicide – Reclaiming the Memory of our Loved One

By Ron Rolheiser

Each year I write a column on suicide. Mostly I say the same thing over and over again, simply because it needs to be said. I don’t claim any originality or special insight, I only write about suicide because there is such a desperate need for anyone to address the question. Moreover, in my case, as a Catholic priest and spiritual writer, I feel it important to offer something to try to help dispel the false perception which so many people, not least many inside the church itself, have of the church’s understanding of suicide. Simply put, I’m no expert, not anyone’s savior, there’s just so little out there.

And, each year, that column finds its audience. I am constantly surprised and occasionally overwhelmed by the feedback. For the last ten years, I don’t think a single week has gone by when I did not receive an email, a letter, or phone call from someone who has lost a loved one to suicide.

When talking about suicide, at least to those who are left behind when a loved one succumbs to this, the same themes must be emphasized over and over again. As Margaret Atwood puts it, sometimes something needs to be said and said until it doesn’t need to be said anymore. What needs to be said over and over again about suicide? That, in most cases, suicide is a disease; that it takes people out of life against their will; that it is the emotional equivalent of a stroke, heart attack, or cancer; that people who fall victim to this disease, almost invariably, are very sensitive persons who end up for a myriad of reasons being too bruised to be touched; that those of us left behind should not spend a lot of time second-guessing, wondering whether we failed in some way; and, finally, that given God’s mercy, the particular anatomy of suicide, and the sensitive souls of those who fall prey to it, we should not be unduly anxious about the eternal salvation of those who fall prey to it.

This year, prompted by particularly moving book by Harvard psychiatrist, Nancy Rappaport, I would like to add another thing that needs to be said about suicide, namely, that it is incumbent on those of us who are left behind to work at redeeming the life and memory of a loved one who died by suicide. What’s implied in this is that there is still a huge stigma surrounding suicide. For many reasons, we find it hard to understand suicide and to come to peace with it. Obituaries rarely name it, opting instead for a euphemism of some kind to name the cause of death. Moreover and more troubling, we, the ones left behind, tend to bury not only the one who dies by suicide, but also, his or her memory as well. Pictures come off the walls, scrapbooks and photos are excised, and there is forever a discreet hush around the cause of their deaths. Ultimately neither their deaths nor their persons are genuinely dealt with. There is no healthy closure, only a certain closing of the book, a cold closing, one that leaves a lot of business unfinished. This is unfortunate, a form of denial. We must work at redeeming the life and memory of our loved ones who have died by suicide.

This is what Nancy Rappaport does with the life and memory of her own mother, who died by suicide when Nancy was still a child. (In Her Wake, A Child Psychiatrist Explores the Mystery of Her Mother’s Suicide (Basic Book, N.Y., 2009) After her mother’s suicide, Nancy lived, as do so many of us who have lost a loved one to suicide, with a haunting shadow surrounding her mother’s death. And that shadow then colored everything else about her mother. It ricocheted backwards so as to have the opposite effect on the people who were left behind. Nancy did her best to help her mother understand her own inner pain, and she worked with her to help her come to terms with her own loss and pain. Nancy also worked with her mother’s psychiatrist to help him come to terms with his own loss and with his own role in this suicide. It took Nancy years, but she was able to help her mother understand her own pain, and she was able to work with her mother’s psychiatrist to help him come to terms with his own pain and his own role in this tragedy. Nancy has been able to come to terms with her own pain and to help her mother come to terms with her own pain.

By John Gunner Gooch

For a very sweet 16 years the beloved Father Don has been the pastor of a parish with two churches [St. Mary of the Assumption, St. Agnes, Sawyer] that have thrived under his leadership. Since 1895 there have been 26 pastors in place, and he’s been the longest serving of any of his predecessors, and that speaks volumes to the kind of person he is.

During a special farewell appreciation picnic and celebration of memories event held in his honor on June 29 there was an outpouring of emotions. As usual, Father Don set just the right tone and found the perfect words to say. No surprise coming from a person who exemplifies all the best character traits we should strive for. He was always wise, welcoming, humble, forgiving and funny. Going to a Mass celebrated by Father Don was a joyous occasion, and I never failed to leave church feeling better than when I entered. He often said that one of the longest journeys we can make is from our heads to our hearts. After all, what good is a big brain if we don’t live our lives with heart and soul?

Through his leadership he was able to imbue his parishioners with a real sense of being a faith community, and then he was able to elevate to a higher level when we, as parishioners, came to view one another as extended family. Not an easy thing to accomplish, but he seemed to do it with ease. Through special events such as the annual summer picnic and the Christmas time parish potluck we were encouraged to break bread together and break through barriers.

Through it all Father Don was somehow able to envision us wearing halos, tilted and tarnished as we may be. He had the ability to see beyond who we were and picture us as the best we could be, and, God willing, some time we’d reach that potential. And through it all, Father Don’s halo shone brightest of all.

Pope Francis calls for nine-day novena for the Synod on the family

By Socorro Truchan

Associate Director, Domestic Church

Pope Francis has told us that with the culture in which we live; marriage and family life is under attack. He tells us the most painful human, emotional and spiritual wounds come from the lack of being loved, from broken hearts, and broken families.

Because of this he has called for an “Extraordinary Synod of Bishops on the Family,” in which bishops will meet in Rome from October 7-19, 2014; and they will seek ways to help restore marriages and families in their mission to live in truth.

In preparation for the Synod, Pope Francis has written a “Prayer to the Holy Family”; and Bishop Bradley invites families to pray the prayer each day in their home. Also, in response to this invitation: the Family Life Apostolate is planning a Nine-Day Novena for the Synod.

The Novena will begin October 1st and end as the Synod closes on October 9th, 2014.

To obtain copies of the “Prayer to the Holy Family,” please contact: Family Life Apostolate/St. Monica Parish/534 W. Kilgore Road/Kalamazoo, MI 49008

Sacred Music at the Cathedral 2014-15 Concert Season

26 September 2014, 7pm
Rhonda Edgington Sider, organ
with the Farrell Ballet Theatre
Les Corps Glorieux by Olivier Messiaen

14 November 2014, 7pm
The Ss, Peter and Paul Choral Scholars, Naperville, IL
Matthew Sprinkle, artistic director

13 February 2015, 7pm
Dr. Thomas Fielding, organ
Works of Tournemire, Franck, Willan and more!

29 March 2015, 7pm
Dr. Timothy Tikker, organ
The Seven Last Words of Christ by Charles Tournemire

St. Augustine Cathedral
542 W. Michigan Ave.
Kalamazoo, MI 49007
269.345.5147
All concerts
open to the public
with a suggested donation
of $10.

EDITOR’S NOTE: Rev. Donald Suberlak retired as pastor of St. Mary of the Assumption and St. Agnes, Sawyer this past June. Following is a tribute reprinted with permission from Harbor County columnist John Gunner Gooch.

Pope calls for nine-day novena for the Synod on the family

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Award winning Catholic artist to perform in Marshall
Audrey Assad concert will be held September 13, Marshall High School Auditorium for the Performing Arts

Editor’s Note: Following is an exclusive interview with Audrey Assad

When did you start playing music?

According to my mother I was two years old when I first started picking out melodies at the piano by ear.

What part did music play in your life when you were growing up?

We always listened to music on road trips and in the car — and I grew up in a Christian denomination that didn’t use instruments, so I was always around a cappella singing with lots of harmonies. I suppose I’ve always associated singing with family and church.

What styles of music spoke to you?

Well, my mother was in charge of the CD player so I was definitely exposed to a lot of her favorites — among those, I’d say that Simon and Garfunkel and James Taylor and things of that 60s/70s folk style were real favorites.

How does your Catholic faith influence your music?

I hope in many ways. I see it as an infiltration rather than an influence. No matter what kind of music I write I think there will always be a certain Catholiciosity to it, even if it’s not overtly “Christian” in message.

You had critical and commercial success with your previous record label. What made you decide to produce your last album, Fortunate Fall, on your own?

I’ve always had lots of ideas and I wanted to challenge myself. Fortunate Fall was birthed out of such a hard season in life and I had very specific vision for it — so I decided to trust my gut and go for it!

Your most recent EP, Death Be Not Proud, was released this spring to critical acclaim. Are you cur-

I just finished tracking an EP for my next project, which is a band called LEVY. It’ll be releasing early-to-mid 2015...I’ve been working on it for three years already so I’m really excited to get this going finally.

When you’re not performing or writing music, how do you spend your time?

Cooking, taking care of my four month old, and telling myself to work out.

In the cover image for your Death Be Not Proud EP, you’re obviously pregnant. What message do you want your fans to take from your songs?

From my heart, these songs are to help people pray and to help people encounter themselves and God. I hope they help people carve out a little space where maybe the vast universe doesn’t feel quite so bleak — where perhaps God’s love is a little more perceivable.

Audrey Assad will appear in concert at the Marshall High School Auditorium for the Performing Arts on Saturday, September 13th at 7:30 p.m. with special guests Bellarive. General seating tickets are available online at http://audreyassadtour.ticketleap.com. Assad’s debut album, The House You’re Building was named Christian Album of 2010 on Amazon.com and Christian Breakthrough Album of the Year on iTunes. This concert is made possible by members of St. Mary Parish, Marshall.

Kalamazoo Catholic High School changes its name to better reflect its mission

Hackett Catholic Central will begin the new school year with a new name: Hackett Catholic Prep.

The name change was announced last month by the Catholic Schools of Greater Kalamazoo in conjunction with the school’s 50th anniversary.

In addition to the name change the high school is adopting a new tagline: “More than High School,” to reflect the benefits of a Hackett education.

According to Tim Eastman, principal, the new name reflects three main things: it retains the heritage of Monsignor Hackett, honors the mission of the school as a Catholic institution and succinctly communicates its focus on preparing students for success in their lives after high school.

Eastman stresses that it’s the school’s goal to develop the whole person, academically, spiritually and physically. “Hackett is dedicated to helping students develop a personal relationship with God to help them in every aspect of their lives to come.”

Hispanic Lay Leadership – Continued cover story

all that you have done,” he said. “…the entire Church here in the Diocese of Kalamazoo will be enriched through the ministry of each of you.”

Classes were held once a month (Saturday from 8:30am-5pm) for the months of August-November and February-May, as well as a two-day retreat in June. Some classes were held at the Cathedral and other parishes but the majority of them were held at the Lawrence Education Center of Borgess.

“The objective of the program is to develop in the participants, their leadership abilities and their involvement in the Catholic Church through pastoral/religious formation,” said Dr. Tabares. “This is an intermediate-level program designed to form pastoral leaders within a Hispanic/Latino context.”

Following three years of intensive formation, the participants will be equipped to provide leadership in different areas of ministry. The program’s professors were drawn from leading pastoral experts, the majority of which possess a Doctorate and extensive experience in pastoral work (some from the University of Notre Dame, USCCB’s Office of Cultural Diversity and others).

The program is underwritten in part from the Catholic Extension Society. For more information contact: Dr. Fanny Tabares, (269) 903-0209; fttabares@dioceseofkalamazoo.org.

ANNUAL NEW EVANGELIZATION
CATECHETICAL CONFERENCE 2014

BEING THE NEW EVANGELIZATION
Saturday, October 4, 2014
8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Kalamazoo Expo Center,
2900 Lake St. Kalamazoo
9 a.m. Mass with Bishop Paul J. Bradley

Registration Fee: $45 (includes lunch)
Group Rate: $40 per person – a minimum of five
Registrations received together with one check.
Registration after September 15 will be $50 (lunch not guaranteed)

Registration form is found online at: www.dioceseofkalamazoo\faith
This conference can be used towards Catechist Certification

Keynote Speakers:
Meg Hunter-Kilmer – Being the New Evangelization
Meg Hunter Kilmer is a nationally known blogger, speaker and retreat leader for youth and adults. She is a self-declared Catholic who is “truly in love with the Lord, His Word, His Bride the Church, and especially His Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity in the Eucharist.” After earning both Bachelor’s & Masters degrees from Notre Dame in theology and with five years teaching experience, Meg decided to quit her job to become “a hobo for Christ.” She lives out of her car while traveling the country for speaking engagements. She can find her blog at www.piercedhands.com

For more information or to register contact:
Jamin Herald, Associate Director
call: 269-903-9141 email: jherold@dioceseofkalamazoo.org

DIOCESAN POLICY ON NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Schools of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Kalamazoo, subject to the limitations of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, do not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, national and ethnic origin in the administration of education policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletic and other school administered programs and activities, employment policies or contractual agreements.

Allegan: St. Mary’s Visitation, Byron Center; St. Stanislaus, Dorr; St. Margaret, Orangeville; Trinity, Wayland.
Van Buren: St. Mary, Paw Paw; St. Basil, South Haven.
Programa de Consejería en Español: Programa de Recuperación de Traumas

Ya hemos trabajado con el primer grupo en español; los participantes han expresado que se han beneficiado bastante de este programa y estamos listos para comenzar un nuevo grupo en Octubre. Si usted conoce a alguna persona que en su infancia o de adulto sufrido algún trauma (no tiene que ser sexual), y quiere ayudarle, por favor remítalo a una de las siguientes personas: Lissette Mira-Araya (269) 929-7084 o Fanny Tabares (269) 903-0209.

El Programa de Recuperación de Traumas está basado en el Modelo de Trauma, el programa psico-educacional que ayuda a las personas a aprender cómo integrar sus sentimientos, pensamientos y comportamientos. Las investigaciones actuales indican que los recuerdos en la memoria, en el mejor de los casos, son de poco fiable. Por lo tanto, este modelo permite vivir eficientemente en el presente y en el futuro, sin que se vean reflejados, de la misma manera, en el futuro. La curación no toma lugar en el nivel de los recuerdos. La curación ocurre en el nivel del procesamiento e integración de los sentimientos, pensamientos, percepciones, y comportamientos. El trauma es un suceso o una serie de sucesos combinados con la vulnerabilidad de una persona que crea un obstáculo en la normal desarrollo humano.

La Diócesis de Kalamazoo ha comenzado el Programa de “Trauma Recovery” en inglés desde hace años y ha tenido un gran éxito a nivel nacional e internacional y ahora lo está ofreciendo en español. Aproveche de esta oportunidad de consejería gratuita si usted o alguien que usted conoce lo necesita.
Here & There

SEPTEMBER

Sept. 8-10: St. Peter’s Church in Douglas “How do I Forgive?” A three night parish mission presented by Fr. Ken Schmid, 7 -9 p.m. Pre-registration is required 269-857-7951, parish office, ext. 101. A light dinner will be served prior from 5:30 until 6:30 p.m.

Sept. 10: “CATHOLICISM” by Father Robert E. Barron will be presented at St. Joseph, Battle Creek evenings will last for ten (10) sessions, ending Feb. 19, 2015. To register or for more information contact Deacon Mike Moreno at 269-601-1977


Sept. 12-14: Retreatville of Grand Rapids will hold its next marriage in crisis weekend. The purpose of this weekend is three-fold: to begin putting the pieces back together, reopen the lines of communication and rebuild loving relationships. Divorce is not the only answer. There is hope through Retreatville. For more information or to register call (616)752-7004 or on the web at http://retreatvilleofgrandrapids.org

Sept. 13: Diocesan Quinceañera Retreat (bilingual) Bilingual retreat for the preparation of Quinceañeras, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., St. Joseph, Kalamazoo. Parents must attend the retreat with their daughter(s).

Sept. 13: Concert for Audrey Assad sponsored by St. Mary Parish, Marshall. Location is Marshall High School Auditorium for the Performing Arts on Saturday, September 13th at 7:30 p.m. with special guests Bellarive.

Sept. 14-20: Retreat for Parishes. Follow us on Facebook

Sept. 15: Concert by Amy Grant, 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Center.

Sept. 16: Dave Ramsey’s Financial Peace University (FPU) sponsored by St. Joseph Parish, St. Joseph, Classes run Tuesdays, September 16 – November 11, 7:00 – 8:30 pm at the Rose Center, Benton Harbor, Mich. Contact Gretchen Nye 269-925-2293

Sept. 17: St. Philip Parish, Battle Creek begins its annual Wednesday night “Midweek Faith Lift” apologetics series. Free dinner at 5:15 and an “Apologetics” presentation on various aspects of the Catholic faith begin at 6 p.m. in the Parish Center.

Diocesan Confirmation, Sunday, November 16, 2014 at 3 p.m.

Bishop Bradley will celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation for Catholics (adults or adolescents) who have yet to receive the Sacrament on Sunday, November 16th at 3pm in St. Augustine Cathedral. In order to be eligible candidates must be properly disposed, been given appropriate catechetical preparation through their parish and have the written approval of their pastor.

Information forms and proof of baptism must be sent into the Office of Worship by October 15 at the latest in order for a candidate to participate.

For information about the Liturgy or eligibility contact David Reilly at the Office of Worship at 269-903-0193 or dreilly@dioceseofkalamazoo.org

For catechetical information contact Jamin Herold at 269-903-0141, jherold@dioceseofkalamazoo.org

Making a Report of Sexual Misconduct

A report of sexual misconduct may be initiated at the Diocese of Kalamazoo’s Sexual Misconduct Question and Reporting Line: 877-299-6600. All calls regarding sexual misconduct will be returned, usually within one hour. This toll-free telephone number has been established as a part of the diocese’s effort to protect children, young people and other vulnerable people in our schools, parishes and ministries. This is for reporting suspected sexual misconduct or child abuse within diocesan institutions and ministries only. If you have some other concern about diocesan schools, parishes or ministries, please contact the appropriate diocesan school, parish or office directly. In all cases of sexual abuse you are encouraged to report all cases to the local police or protective service.

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Oct. 9 – 12: Into the Wild is an authentically masculine outdoor experimental retreat weekend for men. It will be held for the first time in the Diocese of Kalamazoo at Rota-Kiwan Scout Reservation near Kalamazoo. Contact Deacon Kurt Lucus at klu cas@dioceseofkalamazoo.org

Oct. 20-25: Trauma Recovery Program for English-speakers, October 20-December 15 (nine consecutive Mondays and Saturday, Dec. 6), evening group meets 7:00 to 9:30 at St. Augustine, evening group meets 7:30 to 9:30 at St. Catherine of Siena. This is a free program for adult Catholics who are survivors of childhood trauma, meeting in small groups facilitated by mental health professionals and a priest, to learn skills to live happier and more effective lives. Contact Sharon Froom (269-381-8917, ext. 222) for information and registration.

Oct 18: Diocesan Pre-Marriage Encounter, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., One day diocesan retreat for the formation of engaged couples and married couples who wish to have a day of reflection. St. Joseph Parish, Kalamazoo. (conducted in Spanish).

Oct 25: Instituto San Agustín Hispanic Pastoral Leadership Formation Program First Year, Year Two, Year Three. Course: Human Psychology and the Immigrant Experience by Counselor Lisette Mira-Amaya, Borgess Lawrence Education Center.

Spazmatics headline Battle Creek’s All Saints Superfest

The 28th anniversary of the All Saints Superfest, which features live entertainment, games and food, kicks off Friday, September 19th through the 21. This year’s entertainment headline is crowd favorite, the Spazmatics, who will perform on Friday, September 19th. The musical group lends its’ geeky charm to performing 80s hits complete with “nerdography” and “spaztic” movements. Festival-favorite, The Rock Show, performs on Saturday, September 20th and performs 80s rock classics.

Taking place on the St. Joseph Church Grounds at 61 North 23rd Street in Battle Creek, the festival is made possible through the collaboration of all three Battle Creek parishes, St. Jerome’s, St. Philip’s and St. Joseph’s. Along with the night time entertainment, Superfest highlights also include carnival games and multiple children activities, fresh outdoor grilled-food specialties, Las Vegas Games and Texas Hold Em, and live and silent auctions, along with the Raffle Drawing with a grand prize of $5,000.

Admission is $1 per person and no more than $5 per family with tickets at the gate on the St. Joseph Church grounds. Ticket information and more info on the performers for the live entertainment performances can be obtained at www.allsaintssuperfest.org or you can call (269) 419-8100.

Follow us on Facebook

You may view the diocese’s Facebook page by accessing the link from the diocesan website or go directly to www.facebook.com/catholicdioceseofkalamazoo. If you are a Facebook user hit the “like” button to keep informed. Once you’re a fan of the page all your privacy settings remain applicable — we are only allowed access to the information you have designated “public”. Join our Facebook community today!

How would you like to find more moments of deep peace, inner strength & joy in your day-to-day life?

Full Spectrum Living: The “More Than” in Daily Life

Friday, September 19, 9am – 4pm

Led by Lynn Underwood, PhD

Our 13th Annual Convention of Caregivers

Our 13th Annual Convention of Caregivers is bringing about spiritual care for the caregiver, and the ability to communicate at a deeper level both personally and professionally.

In this convention we will explore a tool for measuring what was once considered unmeasurable using the Daily Spiritual Experience Scale. Framed as “16 questions that can make a big difference,” this scale invites us to greater awareness, and can help us recognize sources of sustenance in daily life.

The program is designed for professional caregivers including chaplains, clergy, counselors, nurses, pastoral care staff, physicians, psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers, non-profit professionals and all who are committed to caring for others.

5. Social Work & Nurse CEUs are available.

Advisers: Linda Searls, RN, MSN, PMHCNS-BC, and Scott Underwood, MS, LMHC, LPC, NCC, DNP

Contact: lindy@fullspectrumliving.com

“Waiting in Joyful Hope”
Bishop Paul J. Bradley blesses a young child and her mother during the annual Diocesan Fiesta: Day of the Family celebration held on the grounds of Immaculate Conception Parish, Hartford. During the celebration Msgr. Leonel performed an original song he wrote for Bishop Bradley. For more information on Hispanic Ministry contact: Veronica Rodriguez, vrodriguez@dioceseofkalamazoo.org.

Families from across the diocese gathered in July at Ss. John/Bernard for a special Family Mass and Picnic with Bishop Bradley hosted by the diocesan committee for Ministry to Persons with Disabilities. This was the first year the diocese has hosted this event. Shown above are participants with Bishop Bradley.

2014-2015 Diocese of Kalamazoo Seminarians

Bishop Paul J. Bradley recently spent time with the diocesan seminarians at an in-service held at Notre Dame University. Shown above are, back row (L-R): Wally Ferrara, St. Joseph College Seminary, Chicago; Paul Redmond, Sacred Heart Major Seminary, Detroit; Clark Thompson, Mundelein Seminary, Mundelein, Ill.; Rev. Christopher Derda, Director of Vocations, pastor, St. Joseph Parish, Battle Creek; Bishop Paul J. Bradley; Jacob Thomas, Sacred Heart; Jeffrey Hanley, Pontifical North American College, Vatican City, Rome; and Ryan Hoch, Sacred Heart. Front row (L-R): Rev. Ted Martin, Assistant Director of Vocations, pastor, St. Margaret Parish, Otsego; Jose Haro, Bruno Okoli and Andrew Raczkowski all attending Sacred Heart; Roberto Guerrero, St. Vincent DePaul Seminary, Boynton Beach, Fla.; Matthew Montgomery, St. Joseph College Seminary; Maximilian Nightingale, Pontifical North American College; and Rev. Christopher Ankley, Assistant Director of Vocations, pastor, St. Martin of Tours, Vicksburg.

All Saints Superfest 2014

September 19, 20 & 21

All Weekend—Skerbeck Brothers Carnival * Silent Auction * Food Tent * Las Vegas Games * Kids Games Tent * Booth Tent

St. Joseph Church Grounds, 61 North 23rd Street, Battle Creek, MI

Friday, September 19
Open 6 p.m. – Midnight
6 – 10 p.m.
St. Lawrence Grill Team, Food Tent

8 p.m. – Midnight
THE SPAZMATICS

Saturday, September 20
Open Noon – Midnight
1 – 10 p.m.
St. Lawrence Grill Team, Food Tent

8 p.m. – Midnight:
The ROCKSHOW

Sunday, September 21
Open Noon to 4 p.m.
Noon – 2 p.m. – Children’s Talent Show
Noon – 3 p.m. – St. Lawrence Grill Team, Food Tent
1:30 – 2:30 p.m. – Silent Auction Closing
2:30 – 3:30 p.m. – Live Auction
4 p.m. – Raffle Drawing, Grand Prize $5,000

To reserve tickets for SPAZMATICS on Friday night or The ROCKSHOW Band on Saturday night call 269-419-8100 or visit www.allsaintssuperfest.org for additional information.