Alumni Return Home to Teach

By Regina Janak
Catholic Lighthouse

The saying “The influence of a good teacher can never be erased” rings true especially for a special group of educators in the Diocese of Victoria. Teachers across the Diocese have returned to their alma maters to teach in the same classrooms in which they learned. The rich tradition of Catholic education dates back to many small parochial schools where religious sisters taught children of the small communities. Today 13 Catholic schools stand as a testament to this legacy.

The tradition of attending a certain school runs just as deep for some families. Myra Schafer of St. Michael’s in Weimar is a great example. “My daughter and I went to school here, so did my mom and so did her mom. I love the fact that my daughter was able to attend school at the same place my grandmother did!” she said.

Another example was when an alumni started a family after college and returned back to their home town. They wanted their children to have the religious education that they did.

Many have many fond memories of their teachers. For the seasoned teachers of the group, being taught by religious sisters was a formative time in their lives. For some there was a healthy fear, like “the smell of Sister Gabriel Mary’s perfume as she walked the halls carrying her paddle. It was scary,” said Jan Taylor of St. Philip, El Campo. While for others, like Gwen Hall, she went from being taught as a student to working for her former teacher. Gwen was started at Our Lady of Victory (OLV) in Victoria when the doors first opened. The only time she was away from OLV was to finish high school and college. “Sr. Emile hired me but also taught me when I went [to OLV]” she said.

As for their favorite teachers, Our Lady of Victory alumni seem to have a consensus. Rarely do you ask an alumnus of the school from the past 50 years for a list of their favorite teachers without them naming Ms. Hall.

“My least favorite subject was history but, Ms. Hall made it interesting,” said Amy Lara of Our Lady of Victory. Ann Barlow, St. Michael, Weimar, said, “My junior high history teacher was wonderful. She was very kind and understanding, but still was strict. She managed her classroom in a

See Alumni Return Home to Teach, pg. 20
Especially Those Most in Need of Thy Mercy

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

During her July 13, 1917, apparition at Fatima, Mary asked that the following prayer be inserted after each decade of the Rosary: “O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell. Lead all souls to heaven especially those most in need of Thy mercy.”

As I visit our different Churches I often hear this prayer being recited as parishioners pray the Rosary before Mass. The prayer that springs from our heart reflects the desire of Jesus for the salvation of all people, and also reflects our tradition of understanding our own participation in the saving work of Jesus.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches about the relationship of our prayer, fasting, almsgiving and works of penance with the saving work of Jesus in the following way:

• 2008: The merit of man before God in the Christian life arises from the fact that God has freely chosen to associate man with the work of his grace. The fatherly action of God is first on his own initiative, and then follows man’s free acting through his collaboration, so that the merit of good works is to be attributed in the first place to the grace of God, then to the faithful. Man’s merit, moreover, itself is due to God, for his good actions proceed in Christ, from the predispositions and assistance given by the Holy Spirit.

• 2009: Filial adoption, in making us partakers by grace in the divine nature, can bestow true merit on us as a result of God’s gratuitous justice. This is our right by grace, the full right of love, making us “co-heirs” with Christ and worthy of obtaining “the promised inheritance of eternal life.”

The merits of our good works are gifts of the divine goodness. 61 “Grace has gone before us; now we are given what is due. . . . Our merits are God’s gifts.”

• 2010: Since the initiative belongs to God in the order of grace, no one can merit the initial grace of forgiveness and justification, at the beginning of conversion. Moved by the Holy Spirit and by charity, we can then merit for ourselves and for others the graces needed for our sanctification, for the increase of grace and charity, and for the attainment of eternal life. Even temporal goods like health and friendship can be merited in accordance with God’s wisdom. These graces and goods are the object of Christian prayer. Prayer attends to the grace we need for meritorious actions.

• 2011: The charity of Christ is the source in us of all our merits before God. Grace, by uniting us to Christ in active love, ensures the supernatural quality of our acts and consequently their merit before God and before man. The saints have always had a lively awareness that their merits were pure grace.

After earth’s exile, I hope to go and enjoy you in the fatherland, but I do not want to lay up merits for heaven. I want to work for your love alone. . . . In the evening of this life, I see Especially Those Most in Need, pg. 13

Obispo Brendan Cahill
Mensaje del Pastor

“Especialmente los más Necesitados de tu Misericordia”

Queridos Hermanos y Hermanas,

Durante su aparición el 13 de julio de 1917, en Fátima, María pidió que se insertara la siguiente oración después de cada década del Rosario: “Oh Jesús mío, perdóname nuestros pecados, sávalos del fuego del infierno. Lleva a todas las almas al cielo, especialmente a las más necesitadas de Tu misericordia.” Cuando visito nuestras diferentes Iglesias, a menudo escucho esta oración mientras los feligreses rezan el rosario antes de la Misa. La oración que brota de nuestro corazón refleja el deseo de Jesús por el salvamento de todas las personas, y también refleja nuestra tradición de entender nuestra propia participación en la obra salvadora de Jesús.

El Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica enseña sobre la relación de nuestra oración, ayuno, limosna y obras de penitencia con la obra salvadora de Jesús de la siguiente manera:

• 2008: El mérito del hombre ante Dios en la vida cristiana proviene de que Dios ha dispuesto libremente asociar al hombre a la obra de su gracia. La acción paternal de Dios es lo primero, en cuanto que Él impulsa, y el libre obrar del hombre es lo segundo, en cuanto que Él colabora, de suerte que los méritos de las obras buenas deben atribuirse a la gracia de Dios en primer lugar, y al fiel, seguidamente. Por otra parte, el mérito del hombre recae también en Dios, pues sus buenas acciones proceden, en Cristo, de las gracias prevenientes y de los auxilios del Espíritu Santo.

• 2009: La adopción filial, haciéndonos partícipes por la gracia de la naturaleza divina, puede conferirnos, según la justicia gratuita de Dios, un verdadero mérito. Se trata de un derecho por gracia, el pleno derecho del amor, que nos hace “coherederos” de Cristo y dignos de obtener la herencia prometida de la vida eterna (cf Concilio de Trento: DS 1546). Los méritos de nuestras buenas obras son dones de la bondad divina (cf Concilio de Trento: DS 1548). “La gracia ha precedido; ahora se da lo que es debido [...]. Los méritos son dones de Dios” (San Agustín, Sermo 298, 4-5).

• 2010: “Puesto que la iniciativa en el orden de la gracia pertenece a Dios, nadie puede merecer la gracia primera, en el inicio de la conversión, del perdón y de la justificación. Bajo la moción del Espíritu Santo y de la caridad, podemos después merecer en favor nuestro y de los demás gracias útiles para nuestra santificación, para el crecimiento de la gracia y de la caridad, y para la obtención de la vida eterna. Los mismos bienes temporales, como la salud, la amistad, pueden ser merecidos según la sabiduría de Dios. Estas gracias y bienes son objeto de la oración cristiana, la cual provee a nuestra necesidad de la gracia para las acciones meritorias.

• 2011: La caridad de Cristo es en nosotros la fuente de todos nuestros méritos ante Dios. La gracia, uniéndonos a Cristo con un amor activo, asegura el carácter sobrenatural de nuestros actos y, por consiguiente, su mérito tanto ante Dios como ante los hombres. Los santos han tenido siempre una conciencia viva de que sus méritos eran pura gracia.

Tras el destierro en la tierra espero gozar de ti en la Patria, pero no quiero amontonar méritos para el Cielo, quiero trabajar sólo por vuestro amor [...]. En el atardecer de esta vida compareceré ante ti con las manos vacías, Señor, porque no te pido que cuentes mis obras. Todas nuestras justicias tienen manchas a tus ojos. Por eso, quiero revestirme de tu propia Justicia y recibir de tu Amor la posesión eterna de ti mismo.

La cita final de esta sección proviene de un escrito de Santa Teresa de Lisieux. En palabras de San Pablo, estamos llamados a “presentar sus cuerpos como un sacrificio vivó, santo y aceptable para Dios, que es su adoración espiritual” (Romanos 12: 1).

Esta comprensión de nuestra fe, nuestra comunión con Cristo al ofrecer nuestras vidas como un sacrificio espiritual, me da una gran esperanza mientras nuestra diócesis se prepara para un Congreso del Rosario. Desde la noche del 6 de octubre de 2019, hasta la noche del 13 de octubre de 2019, a cada hora se rezará públicamente un rosario en la presencia real del Cuerpo de Cristo para la curación de toda la humanidad, especialmente aquellos que más necesitan misericordia. Que Dios los bendiga a usted y a su familia, que nuestra oración sea beneficiosa para nuestras familias y nuestro crecimiento espiritual personal, y que estemos comprometidos a permanecer en oración por la paz, por la familia y por el mundo entero.

+ Brendan
Bishop Cahill’s Schedule

September

1  9:00 a.m. Organ Dedication at Holy Family Church, Victoria
2  Noon Lunch with IWBS Sisters, Incarnate Word Convent
3  10:00 a.m. Presbytery Council at the Chancery, Victoria
4  4:00 p.m. CCD Visit at St. Agnes Church, Edna
5  8:10 a.m. School Mass and Visit at Sts. Cyril & Methodius, Shiner
6  Mass with the Carmelites, Meyersville
7  150th Anniversary Dinner for Annunciation Church, Houston
8  9:30 a.m. Confirmation Mass at Sacred Heart, Flatonia
9  USCCB Pro Life Committee Meeting at St. John Paul II National Shrine, Washington DC
10 6:30 p.m. Vocation Ministry’s benefit dinner, The Bell Tower on 34th, Houston
11 9:00 a.m. Mass at Nazareth Academy for Grandparent’s Day/School Visit, Victoria
12 9:00 a.m. School Mass and Visit with Holy Cross School, Bay City
13 6:00 p.m. Adult Confirmation at Our Lady of Victory, Victoria
14 8:10 a.m. School Mass and Visit at St. Rose of Lima, Schulenburg
15  Noon Mass with the Missionary Catechists, Victoria
16 6:30 a.m. Relevant Radio Morning Air Show
17 2:30 p.m. Finance Board Meeting at the Chancery, Victoria
18-20  Bishops Conference on Evangelizing Dioceses, Steubenville, Ohio
21  Mass with the Carmelites, Meyersville
22 10:00 a.m. Mass at St. John Bosco, Vanderbilt
23-24  Priests Fall Convocation at Lost Pines, Texas
25  Rural Life Convocation of Bishops at Hales Corner Seminary, Milwaukee
26  Mass with the Carmelites, Meyersville
27 10:00 a.m. Apostleship of the Sea Mass at Our Lady of the Gulf, Port Lavaca
28 10th Annual Evening with the Bishops for St. Dominic Center at The Parador, Houston

October

1  8:30 a.m. School Mass and Visit with Holy Cross School, Bay City
2  Day of Prayer for life in Houston
3  8:10 a.m. School Mass and visit at St. Rose of Lima, Schulenburg
4  8:00 a.m. School Mass, Visit, Blessing of the Pets, Our Lady of Victory, Victoria

Official Appointments
Effective August 21, 2019

PRESBYTICAL COUNCIL
Presider: Most Reverend Brendan J. Cahill, Bishop of the Diocese of Victoria
Ex-Officio Members:
Reverend Monsignor John Peters, V.G.
Very Reverend Gary Janak, V.G./Chancellor, Ex Officio

Vicars Forane:
Very Reverend Jasper Liggio, VF Cuero Deanery
Very Reverend Gregory Korenek, VF Edna Deanery
Very Reverend Michael Rother, VF El Campo Deanery
Very Reverend Matthew Huchlefeld, VF Hallettsville Deanery
Very Reverend Timothy Kosler, VF Schulenburg Deanery
Very Reverend Kristopher Fuchs, VF Victoria Deanery

Deanery Representatives:
Reverend Jacob Mendoza, Cuero Deanery
Reverend Tommy Chen, Edna Deanery
Reverend Charles Otsiwa, El Campo Deanery
Reverend Bryan Heyer, Hallettsville Deanery
Reverend Wayne Flagg, Schulenburg Deanery
Reverend Jacob Koether, Victoria Deanery

Bishop Appointees:
Reverend Augustine Asante
Reverend Eliiecer Patiño

DIOCESAN CONSULTORS
Reverend Monsignor John Peters, Vicar General, Ex Officio
Very Reverend Gary Janak, Vicar General/Chancellor, Ex Officio
Very Reverend Jasper Liggio, VF Cuero Deanery
Very Reverend Gregory Korenek, VF Edna Deanery
Very Reverend Michael Rother, VF El Campo Deanery
Very Reverend Matthew Huchlefeld, VF Hallettsville Deanery
Very Reverend Timothy Kosler, VF Schulenburg Deanery
Very Reverend Kristopher Fuchs, VF Victoria Deanery

PERSONNEL BOARD
Most Reverend Brendan J. Cahill, Bishop
Reverend Monsignor John Peters, Vicar General, Ex Officio
Very Reverend Gary Janak, Vicar General/Chancellor, Ex Officio
Very Reverend Jasper Liggio, VF Cuero Deanery
Very Reverend Gregory Korenek, VF Edna Deanery
Very Reverend Michael Rother, VF El Campo Deanery
Very Reverend Matthew Huchlefeld, VF Hallettsville Deanery
Very Reverend Timothy Kosler, VF Schulenburg Deanery
Very Reverend Kristopher Fuchs, VF Victoria Deanery

Please remember in prayer the priests of the Diocese of Victoria, who were ordained during the month of September:

Rev. Donald Hayden, O.Ss.T.  09/19/2009
Rev. Marcus Valenta               09/09/1984
Rev. Msgr. Werner Bockholt  09/08/1992

For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord’s. (Romans 14:8)
**Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry**

Wendy Eggert, Director  
Shannon Thomas, Associate Director  
ym@victoriadiocese.org  
(361) 573-0828  
www.victoriadiocese.org/youth-young-adult-ministry

**Upcoming Events**

Victoria College Campus Ministry Events:  
**September and October**  
Every Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. - Rosary or Divine Mercy Chaplet on the Student Center Patio

Every First Tuesday of the Month - Meeting following the Rosary or Divine Mercy Chaplet

**September 10** - Mass at 12:15 p.m. in the Student Center followed by Meal

**October 10** - Adoration and Talk with Bishop Cahill from 12 noon - 2:00 p.m. in the Faculty Dining Room in Student Center

**October 16** - Mass at 12:15 p.m. in the Student Center followed by Meal

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**Inspirational Speaker Coming to St. Philip**

EL CAMPO—St. Philip the Apostle Parish in El Campo presents Kitty Cleveland on Sunday October 27, from 1:00-4:30 p.m. in the St. Philip Gym.

Kitty is a singer/songwriter and inspirational speaker from New Orleans. She began her professional career as a lawyer and then as a college professor. In the adoration chapel one day in 1998, as she searched for God during a devastating family crisis, she clearly heard the Lord Jesus call her to become a “music missionary.”

She heeded the call and has since released 12 CDs of music and prayer. Her latest CD, *Hail, Holy Queen*, was the first of her CDs to climb the secular billboard chart.

She has appeared on television, the radio, in concert, and as a keynote speaker both at home and abroad. She is currently working on her first book about her father’s unjust imprisonment and dramatic release by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Kitty will share her family’s Divine Mercy miracle story, along with an afternoon of music, reflection and inspiration. Her endearing personality and delightful humor, along with her beautiful singing voice is both uplifting and encouraging.

A free will offering will be accepted, benefiting the Diocese of Victoria Seminarian Fund. For more information, call St. Philip Rectory at (979) 543-3770.

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**Education of Seminarian Fund**

The Education of Seminarian Fund is a fund in which all of the monies donated to this fund, as well as the earnings, are available to cover the cost of educating seminarians. The proceeds of the special collection on Holy Thursday are deposited into the Education of Seminarian Fund. Publication of this fund will appear when new contributions are received.

**Donation categories:**
- **Lector**
- **Acolyte**
- **Transitional Deacon**
- **Priest**

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**Seminary Endowment Fund**

Seminary Endowment Fund (formerly known as Seminary Burses) is a permanent fund used for the education of future priests for the Diocese of Victoria. The goal of each burse is $15,000.

**Donation Categories:**
- **Lector**
- **Acolyte**
- **Transitional Deacon**
- **Priest**

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**Nazareth Academy Catholic School**

**2019 Fall Festival**

**Sunday, October 6**

Victoria Community Center • Doors open at 11:00 AM

**Traditional Turkey & Dressing Dinner**

*With all the trimmings*

$10.00 per plate

Serving inside from 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM or until it’s gone!

Plates-To-Go begin at 10:30 AM

Live Auction • Silent Auction • Game • Raffle • Cake Walk • Country Store • and More!
SISTERLY THOUGHTS

By Sister Mildred Truchard, IWBS

Peace Promoters -
Our Response to News of Violence

Jesus’ greeting, “Peace to you” is a message to which we can all relate. Moreover, as we hear the Gospel message, “Blessed are the peacemakers”, I’m sure we all want to be peacemakers in our homes, our neighborhoods, our schools, our workplaces, our nation, and our world. Just imagine what life would be like if God’s peace prevailed and filled all human hearts!

Alas! Unfortunately we’re living in a very broken world and not in heaven yet. Sometimes it seems that we are surrounded by violence; killing sprees, hatred, rantings and violent threats, especially on media sites and other public forums. We might respond and think, “What can I do about it?”

Actually, there is a lot that we can do. We can do some serious praying; we are all by violence; kill

BLESSED ARE THE

peacemakers:
FOR THEY SHALL
BE CALLED THE
children of God.

MATTHEW 5:9

media threats, or stockpiled weapons, etc., I think of a lost life and I wonder what happened in his childhood and youth to give him such disrespect for his fellow human beings. Did he grow up in an environment where he did not experience the love and dignity that is so important in human development? Or was he brought up in a home that was fatherless without anyone to teach him about living a God-centered life with respect for life? Or was he in a situation where people who were “different” were demonized and spoken of as bad and unworthy of the respect and dignity that belongs to all God’s children? Or did the hatred he saw in those he admired remain undetected and thus allowed to fester?

Peacemakers, we have the awesome task of overcoming these and other obstacles to peace. By going the extra mile, our example can help make a difference. If we, as parents, teachers, or neighbors, can help a child feel loved and valued (discipline can be a sign of love, so you don’t have to pamper or spoil a child) we can demonstrate this love.

Dads, your involvement and presence are so necessary for your child’s development. You can encourage them and participate in activities with them. Volunteering and helping others can give a child appreciation and understanding of others and their needs. Show people, particularly those who are “different” that you care about them. If you have a bias against some groups (nationalities, economic status, etc.) be careful about how you speak of these groups and show your child(ren) that you are trying to apply the golden rule (Do unto others as you would have them do unto you).

Therefore, our example can be our response to the violence around us. Blessed are the peacemakers.

The Gabriel Project of the Crossroads Needs Volunteers

In the first six months of 2019, we reached out to 98 mothers in Victoria and the surrounding counties of Calhoun, DeWitt, Goliad, Jackson, Lavaca, Matagorda and Wharton. Many volunteers are needed to accomplish this outreach. Volunteers are needed to visit mothers, answer phones, deliver items, organize and inventory supplies, plan events and raise funds.

If you are interested in volunteering, we will have a training session on Saturday, September 21, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at our office located at 101 W. Convent St., Victoria (near St. Mary’s Church). Lunch and training materials will be provided. Please reserve your spot with Lisa Kainer at lisa_heysquierdo@yahoo.com or call (361) 676-3264.

Many thanks to Bishop Cahill, the priests and religious of the Diocese of Victoria in Texas and all the organizations who continue to support us. Your prayers and donations help us fulfill our mission.

Pregnant? Need Help?

The Emmaus Center provides individual, couple, family, adolescent and children’s counseling as well as specialized support groups from a Catholic perspective. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call (361) 212-0830.
The state of Texas and the Diocese of Victoria curriculum adoption cycle focuses on Language Arts and Reading for the 2019-2020 school year. Thus, Our Lady of the Gulf, Our Lady of Victory, and St. Philip Catholic school teachers attended a professional development day to learn more about the new English Language Arts program, *Into Reading Texas*, purchased by their campuses for the upcoming year.

Teachers learned about the various materials and on-line resources of the program they will utilize to plan and teach engaging and rigorous lessons. The program includes differentiated and targeted instruction with progress monitoring for reading, vocabulary, writing, grammar, and more. The new program published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt includes on-line interactive tools, digital assessments, instructional videos, leveled readers, and colorful textbooks and classroom materials to engage students in all aspects of Language Arts. “Reading is a wonder and there is always room to grow,” stated Leslie Cranek, 3rd grade teacher from St. Philip Catholic School who has taught for 14 years. “Our new reading adoption has been so very exciting to explore. The amount of available resources will target all learners and that inspires me. I can’t wait to implement these lessons.”

Per the Texas Catholic Conference Education Department requirements, Catholic schools spend over 120 minutes a day engaging students directly in the Language Arts curriculum. “Providing teachers and students with the latest curriculum tools is important to providing quality instruction,” reflected Our Lady of the Gulf Principal, Theresa Dent. “But for any program to be successful in the classroom, the teachers need to be qualified and excited to utilize it. We are blessed to have such dedicated teachers willing to invest the time during their summer break to ensure the coming school year is successful for their students.”

SPECIAL PRAYERS—Students at Nazareth Academy, Victoria, have a Prayer Locker. A secure place to leave their prayer requests while a team prays for them! A blessing for all!

**Presidio LaBahia**

Open daily 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Admission is $5 for adults, $4.50 for seniors, $3.50 for military personnel, $2 for children 6-11, and under 6 are free. Group rates available when reservations are made in advance. Guided tours available to large groups and schools, please confirm in advance. The fort is handicapped accessible. For more information, call (361) 645-3752.

**STATE PSIA WINNERS**—St. Michael students traveled to Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas to compete in the PSIA State “AA” Academic Meet. Kelly M. placed 4th in Modern Oratory and Logan K. placed 1st in Maps, Graphs, and Charts. Congratulations to the winners and all the state qualifiers.
The Diocese of Victoria Welcomes New Catholic School Teachers

GOALS OF OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS:
~To integrate Catholic, Christian teachings and values into every aspect of the learning process and experience of school so that young people’s journey into adulthood will also be a journey of faith and a growing internalization of these teachings and values.
~To provide an excellent academic education to help young people reach their God-given potential and be responsible, productive citizens.
~To assist parents, who are their children’s primary educators, in the education and religious formation of their children.

St. Rose of Lima School 130th Back to School

SCHULENBURG—St. Rose of Lima Catholic School, Schulenburg, began its 130th year and is proud to be providing an excellent Catholic education for students since 1889 that combines academic principals and moral values with a commitment to educating the whole child, mind, body and soul. St. Rose School is accredited by the Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops Education Department which is recognized by TEA. The school is one of over 7,000 Catholic schools in the United States and there are over two million students across the country benefiting from a Catholic Education.

The St. Rose School family gathered on Monday, August 12 in the St. Rose Church for the annual Back to School Orientation and Open House. The event began at 5:15 p.m. and included a back to school blessing, introduction of faculty and staff, distribution of family information packets and an opportunity to meet various support organization officers, and visit classrooms.

Students at St. Rose of Lima started back to school on Tuesday, August 13 and went to Mass as a school family, even 3K and 4K, on Thursday, Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Beginning the school year with Mass on this Holy Day is fitting as St. Rose of Lima Catholic School places faith formation as the most important building block of all they do.

Building strong connections and a school family has always been a priority at St. Rose and continues to be a major focus for faculty, staff, students and families. Brain research indicates that for optimal learning a child must feel safe and connected. Morning greetings, monthly school-wide assemblies and consistent rituals and routines are just some of the ways the school is working to build a strong sense of cooperation and community. Consistency in curriculum, vertical alignment, and continued use of the Loving Guidance Conscious Discipline program while modeling Christian Discipleship makes St. Rose of Lima Catholic School a unique choice in education.

The mission of the school is also reflected in the commitment of its teachers. With 345 years of combined teaching experience and 188 of those years at St. Rose School, it is a true testament to the commitment, dedication and belief in the great things that are happening at St. Rose. Four of the teachers on staff are even former graduates of St. Rose School, bringing their passion for Catholic education to a new generation of students.
Catholic Conference:

**EMBRACING GOD’S FAMILY**

Conference Workshops are subject to change.

**Workshops: Round A**
- **11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**
  - **A-3** The Family: Foundation of Faith by K. Hendricks (Sponsored by William H. Sadlier)
  - **A-4** The Gift of Presence by Sr. M. Garriaga
  - **A-5** Understanding the Catholic Mass by Rev. B. Kyeh
  - **A-6** Approaching Ministry with Humility by G. Bentz
  - **A-7** Mary, the First Evangelizer [Repeated B-23] by L. Negret (Sponsored by Pflaum)
  - **A-8** End of Life Decisions: Ethical and Pastoral Perspectives by J. Fritsch
  - **A-9** Prayer, The Faith Prayed by B. Garcia-Luense
  - **A-10** The HeART of Marriage by Rev. G. Janak
  - **A-11** Embracing God’s Family in Prison by H. Silva
  - **A-12** Nurturing Faith Life in the Family [Repeated C-32] by Sr. R. Haas

**Workshops: Round B**
- **1:30 - 2:45 p.m.**
  - **B-15** Portals to Parents: Understanding, Supporting, and Reaching Out to Today’s Families by K. Hendricks (Sponsored by William H. Sadlier)
  - **B-16** Theology of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion by Rev. K. Fuchs
  - **B-17** We Embrace God’s Family – One Family at a Time! by C. Katra (Sponsored by Loyola Press)
  - **B-18** Aligning our Music to the Ministry we Serve by G. Bentz
  - **B-19** Cremation in the Diocese of Victoria: Answers to Burning Questions by G. Rangnow
  - **B-20** Baptism: Incorporated into the Body of Christ by Rev. B. Kyeh
  - **B-21** RCIA 101: Purpose, Process & Power by L. Krehmeier
  - **B-22** Family: Where Relationship Comes to Life by A. Silvas
  - **B-23** Mary, the First Evangelizer by L. Negret (Sponsored by Pflaum)
  - **B-24** Being a First Responder for Troubled Hearts by G. Janecka

**Workshops: Round C**
- **3:00 - 4:15 p.m.**
  - **C-27** Ask the Bishop by Bishop B. Cahill
  - **C-28** What’s in Your Backpack by C. Katra (Sponsored by Loyola Press)
  - **C-29** Listening to the NEEDS of Parents by Sr. M. Garriaga
  - **C-30** RCIA Rites: What We Need to Know by L. Krehmeier
  - **C-31** Liturgical Catechesis w/Children and Youth by B. Garcia-Luense
  - **C-32** Nurturing Faith Life in the Family [Repeated a-12] by Sr. R. Haas
  - **C-33** Remember to Put on Your Oxygen Mask First by G. Janecka & V. Dubourdieu
  - **C-34** Exploring a Consistent Ethic of Life with Adolescent Strategies & Perspectives by J. Fritsch
  - **C-35** Proclaiming the Word of God: Preparing Well by S. Higgins
  - **C-36** Suicide: Not so Silent Crisis by A. Silvas

Barbecue Turkey and Dressing Dinner
**St. Peter’s Church**
Parish Center • Blessing

**Sunday, October 27**
**Mass at 9:30 a.m.**

$12 Per Plate • 11:00 a.m. Dine-In or Drive-Thru
Barbecue Turkey, Homemade Dressing, Green Beans, Sweet Potatoes, Cranberry Sauce, Dessert & Tea/Coffee

Live Auction at 12:00 Noon
Country Store • Raffle

St. JOHN the BAPTIST CHURCH
Koerth, Texas PARISH PICNIC
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2019

Held in the Air-Conditioned
Sweet Home Community Center
Sweet Home TX

**Picnic Stew, Sausage & Trimmings**
$10 per plate
Dine-in serving at 11 AM - 1 PM
Drive-Thru serving at 10:30 AM - 1 PM
Stew available for sale

**Ice-Cold Refreshments**
Hamburgers for Sale in the Afternoon
Nachos sponsored by Junior KJZT

**AUCTION – 1 pm**
Country Store
Kids Games
Cakewalk
A retreat will be offered Tuesday, September 17, in St. Mary’s Activity Center, Victoria, and is open to all parishes throughout the diocese. The retreat begins at 8:30 a.m. and will conclude with the 12:05 p.m. Mass with lunch following Mass. Those who have not pre-registered may register at 8:00 a.m. before the retreat.

The retreat’s theme is: “Faith That Gives Direction”.

Retreat presenters will be Bishop Brendan Cahill and Terry Robinson, Executive Director of Hospice of South Texas. Both Bishop Cahill and Terry have a wealth of experience and dedication relating to the theme and will bring a depth of personal faith to share with retreatants.

As a ministry to its own parish and to surrounding parishes of the Diocese of Victoria, the St. Mary’s Altar Society has been offering these days of reflections since September 2009. There is no fee for the retreat or the lunch. All are welcomed.

For more information and/or to register, you may contact St. Mary’s Altar Society president, Evelyn Dierlam at (361) 652-4843; Laurie Bautista at (361) 573-9561 or (361) 648-6860, email: laurie.bautista@gmail.com; or St. Mary’s parish secretary during office hours (8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.) at (361) 573-4328.

**Victoria County Czech Heritage Festival**

**Victoria Community Center**
2905 E. North St.

**Sunday, September 22**

**Admission only $8 per person under 15 years old - Always Free!**

**Music Entertainment**
9:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
4 Bands for $8

Pat Veit, Victoria Accordionist
Fritz Hodde and the Fabulous Six
Ennis Czech Boys
Los Kolaches Band
Mark Halata & Texavia

**Kolache Contest**
2:00-6:00 p.m. (in Annex)
KJT Kolache Eating Contest
3:30-4:30 p.m. Prizes Awarded

**Also at the Festival:**
Keg beer • Imported Czech Beer & Wine Exhibits • Face Painting • Country Store • Pastry Wheel • Live & Silent Auction

- Free Accordion Lessons
  Ages 8-100!
  with State/National Accordion Champion
  Bob Bisciglia of Austin
  Bring Your Accordion (Few Available)
  11:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m.
  **Call in to register**

- Old School Kolaches Lessons
  1:00-2:30 p.m.
  with Dawn Orsak, Austin
  **Call in to register**

** Sponsored by:**
Texas Polka News

To Register Call: (361) 571-4777 • ddusek@suddenlink.net
www.victoriaczeehs.org • facebook.com/victoriaczeehsociety
Change is natural if not always smooth as we move from one phase of life to another. The month of September brings us a change of seasons: The warmth of summer gives way to mornings with a touch of chill in the air; the evenings come earlier as the days shorten in the rhythm of the season.

Change means letting go and accepting what will come. At times, allowing the comfortable to be replaced by new urgencies. Without the season of fall, summer’s growth would never become the harvest; it is now time for the planting of seeds to begin the process for the next life cycle.

This blessing may be used at the beginning and end of a family gathering, outdoor event, or a cookout. The reflection will help to draw attention to the signs of change which our natural surroundings provide.

Opening Prayer
Let us pray: O Lord, you mark the journey of life with change. Once again, we witness your creation moving from one season to another. Change is your instrument of growth that brings us to a deeper relationship with you. May your Word be the lantern that guides the roads of change in our lives. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Closing Blessing
O Divine Artist, we give thanks for the wonders of this summer that now draws to a close. This new season causes us to move indoors for school and changes colors from green to red, brown and harvest gold. At times, change makes us feel awkward and anxious. Help us to learn from your creation how life must change. Bless the change that is occurring in the land around us and the transitions that are happening in our lives. When these changes in life cause us pain and anguish, strengthen our drooping hands and our weak knees and make straight the paths for our feet, that what is lame may not be disjointed but healed. That we may let go with courage and allow you to lead us another step closer to your Promised Land. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

MASS CELEBRATED IN HONOR OF MARY—Fifteen members of the Diocese of Victoria Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem (EOHSJ), with three guests, gathered with the Most Rev. Brendon J. Cahill, KC*HS, bishop of the Diocese of Victoria, for Mass on Friday, August 23, 2019, at St. Mary’s Church in Victoria, for the occasion to celebrate the Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Palestine. Concelebrating Mass included Most Rev. David E. Fellhauer, KC*HS, Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of Victoria; Rev. Msgr. John Peters, KCHS; and Rev. Stephen Vacek, KCH. Rev. Kristopher Fuchs, pastor of St. Mary’s, assisted as master of ceremonies and coordinated the Liturgy and music. Sir Richard Evans, KCH served as server. Following the Mass a reception, dinner and meeting was held at the Victoria Country Club. The Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Palestine is one of the four feasts EOHSJ celebrates each year. The annual meeting of the EOHSJ will be held October 25-28, 2019, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The Christmas gathering will be December 3, 2019, at the Victoria Country Club. Pictured above seated are (l-r) Rev. Stephen Vacek, Bishop David Fellhauer, Bishop Brendon Cahill, Msgr. John Peters, and Rev. Kristopher Fuchs; standing are, Robert and Pam Kover, JoAnn and Otto Bleier, JoAnn McCullough, Joyce and Joe Morris, Geraldine Jurica, Karen and Richard Evans, and JoAnn Jalufka.
The Art of Forgiveness

The following sermon was written by Father Kram from the Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A.

In the world today there is so much anger and unrest. Gang wars, senseless bombings, violence in the home—all these are symptoms of the unwillingness to forgive. We all want our rights. We all want the freedom to do as we please.

Yet unrestricted freedom is impossible. With a little thought it is easy to see that for every right there must be a corresponding duty. Otherwise no one would be safe in the pursuit of anything. Rights and duties fit together like hands and gloves.

Reader’s Digest has a regular section entitled “That’s Outrageous”, which features examples of gross abuse of the rights of others. Just reading about what some people get away with, makes you mad.

If our rights are so important, then how vastly more important God’s rights must be. Let’s make a comparison.

Back in the 1940’s when I was a Scout in Troop 232, we used to go camping every once in a while. On one such camp-out a fellow Scout threw an egg at my little tent and left a yellow smear. This annoyed me greatly because my mother had personally made the tent for me. To make it worse, a mouse later gnawed at the smear and ate a hole into the tent.

What if the same Scout had thrown an egg at the president of the United States instead of at me? That would have been much worse. The reason is that the seriousness of an offense is measured by the dignity of the one offended. I was just a fellow Scout. The president is the head of our nation.

God’s dignity is without measure. It has no limits. Therefore an offense against God is infinite, immeasurable, and if it were not for God’s love and tender mercy, it would be unforgivable. That is why sin is the worst evil in the world and that is why a Just God must punish it severely. That is why there can be a hell.

Now let’s discuss the subject of forgiveness.

When Peter asked whether one should forgive one’s brother up to seven times, he thought he was being very generous because according to the teaching of the Rabbis, based on the Book of Amos, three times was enough.

A lady who used to come to see me with her worries some little problems, once had a question about the meaning of “seventy times seven”. She asked, “Does it mean that after you have forgiven someone 490 times, that’s enough?”

The answer is “no” because in ancient times, numbers had meaning. The number seven meant fullness or completeness. What Jesus meant by “seventy times seven” was that for his followers, there is no calculable limit to the number of times one must forgive.

In Jesus’ parable in the same reading, the official’s merciless behavior toward his fellow servant brought down on him severe punishment. He had been forgiven an immensely greater debt than his fellow servant owed him.

The obvious point of the parable is one that we see over and over again in the New Testament, namely, that if we expect God to forgive us the staggering debt we owe him for our sins, we must forgive others the trifling offenses they commit against us.

An elderly lady once told me that even if she had to burn in hell for it, she would never forgive another lady for some petty remark she made years earlier.

A man on his deathbed asked his son-in-law to get even for him with a man who had made him move his car on a parking lot.

And once, here in the hospital, a patient was dying in intensive care, so someone called his sister to let her know: “I’m not coming,” she said, “He owes me fifty dollars.”

How pathetic we must look to God when we withhold our forgiveness from our fellow man for his microscopic offenses, especially when our own debt to him is so enormous.

Sometimes a person will ask, “How can I be sure I have really forgiven someone who has hurt me?” There is a big difference between forgiving and forgetting. We cannot always forget. The memory of an offense or injury may remain with us for a lifetime, but even so, if we can sincerely ask God to spare and forgive the one who has hurt us, it is a good sign that we have forgiven.

Things that are merely in our memory and in our feelings are not sins. Sin is in the will, and that is where love and forgiveness are as well, for that is where our decisions are.

In a world full of turmoil, opportunities for forgiveness are endless. Every time you hear someone say, “Pardon me,” let it be a precious reminder to forgive lovingly, quickly, completely, just as you would hope to be forgiven.

If there is someone against whom you have hard feelings, start with a prayer, “Forgive our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.” Then tell the Lord the person’s name and ask him to bless him and take care of him. That is a good way to forgive.

Now a parting thought: Jesus paid a debt he did not owe, to free us from a debt we could not pay. There is no greater love than that.

Lord Jesus, thank you for making our debts forgivable. Help us freely to forgive others their offenses, just as we hope to be forgiven ours. Grant that when we have taken our last breath, we may depart from this world reconciled and debt free. Amen.
FAITH

Sunday Readings from September 8 - October 13

September 8 ~ Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Wisdom 9:13-18B
Psalms 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14, 17
Philemon 9-10, 12-17
Luke 14:25-33

September 15 ~ Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14
Psalms 51:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19
1 Timothy 1:12-17
Luke 15:1-32

September 22 ~ Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Amos 8:4-7
Psalms 113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8
1 Timothy 2:1-8

September 29 ~ Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Amos 6:1A, 4-7
Psalms 146:7, 8-9, 9-10
1 Timothy 6:11-16
Luke 16:19-31

October 6 ~ Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4
Psalms 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9
2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14
Luke 17:5-10

October 13 ~ Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
2 Kings 5:14-17
Psalms 98:1, 2-3, 3-4
2 Timothy 2:8-13
Luke 17:11-19

For daily and Sunday readings, as well as a daily reflection video, visit www.usccb.org/bible/readings.

Brought to you by: Catholic Communications Campaign

AMOR MEUS SPIRITUALITY CENTER
DISCOVER God’s Love WITH US

Amor Meus Spirituality Center is a ministry of the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament of Victoria, Texas. Through this ministry the Sisters seek to extend their charism of Incarnational Spirituality, which is a respect for the human dignity of all people, by offering opportunities for people to deepen their love of God and of others.

This Center offers a place for silent retreats, prayer experiences, personal reflection and solitude in an atmosphere of quiet contemplation, nature’s beauty and the peace of a sacred space away from the noise and busyness of a hectic schedule.

Among the prayerful experiences offered are One-Day Guided Retreats with or without Spiritual Direction, Overnight Silent Individual or Private Retreats with or without Spiritual Direction, Taize’ Prayer, and Solemn Vespers during Advent and Lent. Workshops on spiritual topics are also offered.

On September 21, 2019 and January 25, 2020 a One-Day Workshop for Caretakers: “The Gift You Give Yourself”, “Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened and I will give you rest.” Matt 11:28, will be presented by Deacon Leo Sharron and Terry Robinson.

On April 25, 2020, a dream workshop, “Dreams and Your Call to Be Fully Alive” will be presented by Sister Dorothy Betto, CCVI. It will recall how dreams are an inner call to holiness and an invitation to relate to God and to our deepest inner self.

Guided One-Day Retreats (9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.) are silent since God speaks to us in the silence according to John of the Cross. They include two presentations with ample time for reflection and personal prayer. The Liturgy of the Eucharist is at 8:30 a.m. in the large chapel for those who wish to participate.

Retreats for 2019 – 2020 are the following:
- “You are God’s Beloved Child in Whom God Delights” presented by Mary Fraizer, October 5, 2019
- “Contemplative Prayer 101: Come spend the day listening to your Beloved” presented by Jeannette Easley, November 16, 2019
- “What Is So Good About God?” presented by Deacon Eddie Huse, January 18, 2020
- “You Are Invited to be Transformed Into Christ”: “Anyone who lives his life for my sake will find it.” Mt. 10:39 by Sister Marian Sturm, IWBS, March 28, 2020

To reserve a space, call (361) 575-7111.

An Overnight Individual Private Retreat with comfortable accommodations, nutritious meals, a quiet chapel and outdoor prayer spaces are offered to help retreatants hear the “still, small voice of God” speaking within their hearts. A Spiritual Director is available if desired. Please make arrangements a week in advance by calling either Sister Emilie Eilers, IWBS or Sister Digna Vela, IWBS at (361) 575-7111 or email amormeus@yahoo.com.

Taize’ Prayer, a meditative Christian experience of prayer consists of singing, silence, scripture readings, intercessions and veneration of the Cross. This mantra-like prayer allows participants to center on God. It takes place at 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. in Amor Meus Prayer Room on November 19, 2019 and March 24, 2020.

Solemn Vespers is the Liturgical Evening Prayer of the Church through which the Church prays for the Church. It consists of praying the psalms, giving thanks for the day and offering praise to God. It is prayed on all Sundays of Advent and Lent from 5:00 – 5:45 p.m.
shall appear before you with empty hands, for I do not ask you, Lord, to count my works. All our justice is blemished in your eyes. I wish, then, to be clothed in your own justice and to receive from your love the eternal possession of yourself. 63

The closing quote of this section comes from a writing of St. Therese of Lisieux. In the words of St. Paul we are called “to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.” (Romans 12:1)

This understanding of our faith – our communion with Christ in offering our lives as a spiritual sacrifice – gives me great hope as our diocese prepares for a Rosary Congress. From the evening of October 6, 2019, through the evening of October 13, 2019, at every hour a Rosary will be publicly prayed in the real presence of the Body of Christ for the healing of all humanity, especially those most in need of mercy. May God bless you and your family, may our prayer be beneficial for our families and our personal spiritual growth, and may we be committed to remain in prayer for peace and for the family and for the whole world.

+Brendan

Especially Those Most in Need of Thy Mercy

Continued from pg. 2

Edward and Merlene Jurek have been married for 75 years as of June 17, 2019. They were married in 1944 in the chapel on Ellington Airforce Base in Houston, Texas. The couple lived and worked in the Houston area until they returned to Edward’s hometown of Flatonia in 2001. They have two children, Carol Barta and Stephen Jurek and have four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.
STATE WINNERS—Two Nazareth Academy, Victoria, students were selected Texas State Catholic Daughters of the Americas winners. In Division I Poetry Ethan R. (right) first with his poem “Here I Am Lord, I Come to Do Your Will.” Pedro S. (left) won first place in Division II Computer Art with the theme being “Doing My Best To Do Good.”

KJZT PRESENTS SCHOLARSHIPS—The KJZT Society #101 presented scholarships and held a breakfast at Our Lady of Victory on August 11 following Mass. Betty Vacek, KJZT State Director (left) presented $200 to each recipient. Pictured are Savanah Mozisek, Matha Grahmann for her niece, Krysten Elkins, Scott Olsvosky, Sarah Bellanger, and Joan Bone for her son Aric Gonzalez.

New Director Named at Emmaus Center

Ashley Silvas, M.Ed. LPC has accepted the position for the Director of Clinical Services at The Emmaus Center effective August 12. She replaces Annie Coffey who left the position during the summer. Ashley has been with The Emmaus Center for nearly three years and recently earned the prestigious Registered Play Therapist (RPT) credential conferred by the Association for Play Therapy (APT).

Feast of the Archangels to be Celebrated with Mass at Raphael’s Refuge

FLATONIA—The Feast of the Archangels will be celebrated on September 29, with a Mass celebrated by Father Christopher Korang in the Chapel at Raphael’s Refuge. The recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy is to begin at 3:00 p.m., followed by the rosary, with Mass to begin at 4:00 p.m. Light refreshments will be served following the Mass. All are welcome.

The Monument to the Innocents is located 2 miles west of Flatonia at 2715 W. US Hwy 90. For directions or other information contact Midge (361) 258-1514 or visit raphaelsr refine.org.

NEW DIRECTOR NAMED AT EMMAUS CENTER

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165th ANNUAL MENTZ PICNIC

St. Roch Catholic Church – Mentz, Texas

Join us for the Sacrifice of the Mass at 10:30 a.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6TH

BBQ BEEF, PORK & SAUSAGE, Serving at 11:00 am

Dine In Only  $10.00  Kids 10 & under $5.00

PLATES TO-GO $12.00  HAMBURGERS AT 3:00 PM

GIFT CARD WALK  COUNTRY STORE  DESSERT WALK

AUCTION 1:00 p.m.

RAFFLE

MUSIC BY: THE LOST CAUSE BAND

SILENT AUCTION 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

BINGO 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

ST. ANTHONY CHURCH - COLUMBUS

SUNDAY MASS AT ST. ANTHONY, 1602 BOWIE ST.

8:00 & 10:00 a.m., 12:00 P.M. (Spanish)

FALL FESTIVAL

SUNDAY, OCT 13, 2019

KC HALL 1-10 W EXIT 693 (at Glidden Exit)

ADULT PLATE $10

BBQ BEEF & SAUSAGE MEAT TO GO AT PIT

DRIVE THRU LINE 11:00AM - 1:00PM

DINE IN SERVING 11:00AM - 1:00PM

KOLACHE BREAKFAST, MEXICAN FOOD, & HAMBURGERS

LIVE MUSIC & ALL DAY FESTIVITIES!

OLD TYME MUSIC BY DONNIE WAVRA & THE HI-LITERS

KID’S GAMES

Fish Pond

Ring Toss

Kid’s Can Draw

Penny Raffle

SUPER PRIZE RAFFLE

$5.00 PER TICKET

TOP PRIZES:

• $2000 AMEX Gift Card

• $2000 AMEX Gift Cards

• Ph Bass Petert Grill

• Pressure Washer, Gift Cards & More

OVER 40 PRIZES!!!

BIG COUNTRY AUCTION

1:00 PM
forgotten by her brothers at school.

“My brothers were often my ride home from school, being from a ranch family, they had many chores. Too many times they FORGOT me … way before cell phones so, I would have to wait until someone noticed that I wasn’t at home! I would stay with the nuns at their house. All my classmates wanted to know what it was like inside and what did they do! I was quite the miss popular with this information,” she recalled.

Lisa Omecinski from OLV said, “I always loved May Crowning, the Crowning of Mary, near the end of the school year. When I was in 8th grade I was in the ‘court’ to help crown Mary. At that time there was a collection of floor length formal-type dresses that we chose from to wear and we all found one that magically fit.”

Many teachers noted changes since they attended school. When Sr. Emiliana first returned to Sacred Heart as principal, she made a big change for the time: she ordered the school’s first computer, a Comodore 64, and taught the first computer class. Fast forward to today, classrooms across the diocese are full of not just computers but, also iPads, smart boards, and other forms of technology. Change can sometimes be hard but, teachers are hopeful that the change will be for good, and not take away from some of the great traditions of their schools.

So, what does it feel like for these teachers to return to their roots? One word came up time and time again: home. Many teachers feel like they are exactly where they need to be at this point in their lives, being committed to their school, its students and their education. The past often shapes the future and the commitment of these teachers to return is a witness to not only the schools they attended but also the educators who shaped them and the future of the world that sits in their classrooms every day. They don’t do it for the fame and fortune but the memories they make with their students are priceless treasures they can cherish for a lifetime. It is with a servant’s heart that these teachers spread Christ’s love to their students daily by helping them grow in academics and faith making them feel at home like their teachers did for them.

Thanks to all the teachers that commit themselves to our Catholic schools. Keeping the traditions is one of the factors that makes alumni come back “home” to teach a new generation of students.

See a related story of school tradition on pg. 7 titled St. Rose of Lima School 130th Back to School.
November 21st Annual CSS Featured International Speaker, Sessions, and Wellness Tips

The 21st Annual Catholic School Seminar (CSS) spotlighted the gifts of a recent NCEA international speaker, Jonathan Doyle. The CSS was held August 9, 2019, at the Cathedral Center, Victoria. The day began with a prayer service led by Bishop Emeritus David Fellhauer and the talented musicianship of Mark Zepeda. Following the prayer service, the keynote speaker was introduced.

Jonathan Doyle, a published author and international speaker from Australia, gave the keynote address and also presented one of the breakout session modules, where he focused on the gifts that each one of us brings to the children that we are privileged to teach. His talks were interspersed with personal and professional anecdotes that both inspired, amused, and entertained. His most recent book, Tools and Fuels, was available for purchase. Jonathan also took time to sign each of the books that attendees purchased.

The lunch time was devoted to a webinar on food prep. It was coordinated by Melissa Salinas, Director of Human Resources for the diocese.

The CSS was arranged a little differently this year. There were opportunities for the almost 300 administrators and teachers to meet in grade levels and subject areas, and later they attended several breakout sessions, which were presented by our very own diocesan colleagues of education. The presenters were as follows: Theresa Dent, principal of OLG (Port Lavaca); John O’Leary, principal of St. Anthony (Columbus); Sean Mooney, principal of St. Joseph Elementary (Yokum); Debi Bludau, teacher, Rick Masek, coach and teacher, Doris Fenner, teacher, all of Sacred Heart (Hallettsville); Marcy King, teacher of OLV (Victoria); and Colin Chude, a guest teacher of The Atonement Academy (San Antonio). Overall, the preliminary evaluations were very positive and complimentary for the Catholic school educators’ gathering. Thanks to all who assisted in any way with the success of this event, especially Janie Carrales, our secretary to the superintendent, and her Chancery volunteers.
BISHOP'S CHARITIES SUPPORTED—The Knights of St. Gregory and guests celebrated an evening at the Bishop's Annual Charity Banquet on July 25, 2019, at the Victoria Country Club. The funds raised are given to Bishop Brendan Cahill to use for charities of his choice. This year a check in the amount of $12,000 was given to him. Pictured (left) are John McQuillen, Knights of St. Gregory Secretary/Treasurer, and Bishop Cahill. The picture on the right is Sister Rosario Resendez, IWBS, who was the guest speaker of the evening. To hear Sister Rosario’s talk go to https://www.facebook.com/rosario.resendez/videos/pcb.10217311980903262/10217311944902362/?type=3&theater.

This year marked our 3rd Learn and Lunch with Bishop Cahill. Last year’s event was cancelled, due to an unforeseen emergency that came up for the bishop. We were very happy to welcome 70 third graders from throughout the diocese. It was our largest Learn and Lunch thus far! The 3rd graders were treated to two sessions with Bishop Brendan Cahill, as he shared his memories of being a 3rd grader growing up in Houston.

There were arts and crafts activities and videos about the saints…St. Bartholomew, St. Rose, and St. Brendan the Navigator. Bishop Cahill also shared information about the symbols that identify him as a bishop, namely the crozier, his staff, and his ring. He even told the youngsters about his coat of arms and what was represented by each item on the crest.

Parents and students alike enjoyed the morning lessons with Bishop Cahill and dined on hot dogs, chips, tea, and cookies for lunch, compliments of the KC’s Council 1329. It was a great, fun-filled morning with our 3rd graders and our bishop!

Learn and Lunch with the Bishop

Votive Mass in honor of

Our Lady Star of the Sea

Saturday, September 28
10:00 AM

Bishop Brendan Cahill celebrant

Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church
Port Lavaca, Texas

This Mass, sponsored by the Diocese of Victoria's Apostleship of the Sea ministry, is intended to celebrate the seafood industry which is sustained by the people of the Diocese of Victoria and to ask the Lord's blessings upon all in the Victoria Diocese who make their living from the water: especially fishermen, shrimpers, crabbers, and oystermen. Through the intercession of Our Lady Star of the Sea, we will pray in this Mass that the Lord keep safe all those who make their livelihood from the sea and that He would allow them an abundant harvest during the various seasons.

Reception to follow at St. Jude Hall

The Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory FALL FESTIVAL

Sunday, October 13 • 11:00 a.m.

Victoria Community Center

Barbecue Beef & Sausage Dinner with all the trimmings

Dine-In & Plates-to-Go $10 each

LIVE AUCTION 12 NOON

Games, Raffle, Silent Auction & more…

Family Fun for All!
Misa votiva en honor de Nuestra Señora Estrella del Mar
Sábado 28 de septiembre 10:00 AM
Obispo Brendan Cahill celebrante
Iglesia Católica Nuestra Señora del Golfo
Port Lavaca, Texas

Esta misa, patrocinada por el ministerio del Apostolado del Mar de la Diócesis de Victoria, está destinada a celebrar la industria pesquera que es sostenida por la gente de la Diócesis de Victoria y para pedir las bendiciones del Señor a todos los miembros de la Diócesis de Victoria que se ganan la vida sobre el agua: especialmente pescadores, camarones, pescadores de jaulas y ostioneros. A través de la intercesión de Nuestra Señora Estrella del Mar, rezaremos en esta misa para que el Señor mantenga a salvo a todos aquellos que se ganan la vida del mar y que les permita una cosecha abundante durante las diferentes estaciones.

Recepción al seguir en St. Jude Hall

Usando robot, farmacia del Vaticano busca mejorar servicio

Por Carol Glatz, Catholic News Service

CIUDAD DEL VATICANO (CNS) – La farmacia de 145 años del Vaticano tiene un nuevo empleado: un robot de última generación que trabaja entre bastidores para suplir el almacén, alcanzar medicamentos y llevarlos rápidamente a la tienda.

El Vaticano, que asegura tener la farmacia más ocupada del mundo, adoptó recientemente el sistema de la compañía BD Rowa de Alemania.

El director de la farmacia, el hermano de san Juan de Dios, Binish Thomas Mulackal, dijo que la tecnología automatizada revolucionará la manera de proveer servicio a los aproximadamente 2,000 clientes que pasan por sus puertas cada día.

Ya que el robot de la farmacia tomará las órdenes, confirmará si están en la farmacia, los recogerá con un brazo mecánico y entregará rápidamente por una serie de cintas mecánicas, esto le permitirá a los farmacéuticos a atender a los clientes más y darles instrucciones y mejor consejo, le dijo Mulackal al periódico del Vaticano, L’Osservatore Romano, el 25 de agosto.

El sistema de entrega rápida también significa que el tiempo de espera del cliente en el mostrador se reducirá en un 30 por ciento, añadió.

Reporting Procedures for Suspected or Known Sexual Abuse of a Minor (person under 18 years of age) or Vulnerable Adult by a Member of the Clergy

Contact:

- The Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, within 48 hours, at (800) 252-5400, www.txabusehotline.org, or local police department. If person is in immediate danger call 911.
- Vicki Pyatt, LMSW, Coordinator of Pastoral Care and Outreach, Diocese of Victoria, (361) 827-7186, pastoralcare@victoriadiocese.org.
- Bishop or Chancellor of the Diocese of Victoria, (361) 573-0828. Written allegations can be mailed to Office of the Bishop, P.O. Box 4070, Victoria, TX 77903 marked “Personal and Confidential”.

If sexual abuse by a member of clergy has occurred in another diocese, the Diocese of Victoria will help bring your concerns to church officials. For assistance contact Vicki Pyatt at (361) 827-7186 or pastoralcare@victoriadiocese.org.
Inez–St. Joseph Church, Picnic, Sept. 8, serving fried chicken, brisket, and sausage dinner at $10 each.

Yorktown–Holy Cross Festival, Sept. 8, serving BBQ shoulder and clove and sausage at $10 each.

Port Lavaca–Our Lady of the Gulf Festival, Sept. 15 at the Bauer Community Center.

Moulton–St. Joseph Picnic, Sept. 15, at St. Joseph Social Center (on church grounds). Mass at 10:00 a.m. A fried chicken and stew dinner at $10/p/p served at 10:30 a.m. with dine-in a/c hall and plates-to-go available. Along with music by Charles & the Fabulous 4 and Ken Brothers. Auction at 1:00 p.m. Games, cakewalk, food in the afternoon, and more.

Victoria–Victoria County Czech Heritage Festival, Sept. 22. See ad on pg. 9 for all the information.

Bloomington–St. Patrick’s Fall Festival, Sept. 29, serving turkey and dressing dinner for $10 p/p at the parish hall. For more information, see ad on pg. 12.

El Campo–St. Philip Picnic, Sept. 29 at the Columbus Club serving BBQ beef and sausage dinner at $10 p/p. For more information, see pg. 13.

Koerth–St. John the Baptist Parish Picnic, Sept. 29, serving stew sausage dinner for $10 p/p at the Sweet Home Community Center. For more information see ad on pg. 8.

Meyersville–Sts. Peter & Paul Parish Festival, Sept. 29, (11220 FM 237), serving a BBQ beef dinner with all the trimmings from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. There will be a live auction, silent auction, country store, bingo, cakewalk, kids games, and lots of fun for all.

Bay City–Holy Cross Fall Festival, Sept. 29, serving turkey and dressing dinner at $10 each. See ad on pg. 11.

Victoria–Nazareth Academy Fall Festival, Oct. 6. See ad on pg. 4 for all the information.

Hostyn–Holy Rosary Festival, Oct. 6, serving fried chicken and sausage dinner. For more information, see ad on pg. 16.

Hungerford–St. John Bazaar, Oct. 6, at Hungerford Hall serving BBQ beef, chicken, and sausage dinner. For more information, see ad on pg. 13.

Mentz–St. Roch Picnic, Oct. 6, serving BBQ beef, pork and sausage dinner. See ad on pg. 14 for more information.

Columbus–St. Anthony Fall Festival, Oct. 13, will be held at the KC Hall. See ad on pg. 14 for more information.

Victoria–The Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory Festival, Oct. 13, serving BBQ beef and sausage dinner. See ad on pg. 17 for all the information.

Goliad–Immaculate Conception Festival, Oct. 20 on the parish grounds.

Wharton–Holy Family Fall Festival, Oct. 20 serving turkey and dressing dinner for $10 p/p. For more information see ad on pg. 9.

LaSalle–St. Theresa Annual Turkey Dinner/Picnic, Oct. 20, at the church hall, serving plates-to-go or dine in beginning 11:00 a.m. at $10 p/p, catered by Robert Werner of Shiner. Live auction at 12:30 p.m., cakewalk, and country store.

Blessing–St. Peter’s Parish Turkey Dinner Oct. 27 for $12 p/p at the Parish Center. See ad on pg. 8 for more information.

Victoria–Holy Family KC Council #9089 fried chicken/stew dinner Oct. 27 for $10 each at the parish from 10:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Catholic Family Services–To find Catholic organizations which focus on family, visit the Catholic Association of Catholic Family Life Ministers at www.naclfml.org.

COURAGE–Ministers to persons with same-sex attractions and their loved ones. The ministry also has an outreach, EnCourage, which ministers to relatives, spouses, and friends of persons with same-sex attractions. It is a Roman Catholic Apostolate endorsed by the Pontifical Council for the Family. For more information, visit www.couragerc.net.

Crisis Pregnancy Center of Victoria–An organization staffed by volunteers that offers help to girls and women who find themselves in a difficult situation due to an unplanned pregnancy. Office located at 1501 E. Red River, is open 1:00-4:00 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. A free pregnancy test is offered and medical referrals are made for prenatal care. They are a sister organization to the Gabriel Project. New volunteers are welcome. For more information see ad (361) 575-6171.

Emmaus Center–Offers individual, couple, family, adolescent and children’s counseling as well as specialized support groups. Spiritual direction is also available on request. Appointments may be made by calling (361) 212-0830. For more information, see pg. 5.

Engaged Encounter–2019 Dates: Sept. 20-22, and Nov. 15-17, registrations are on a first come, first serve basis. Fee must accompany registration form. For more information, call (361) 573-0828 or visit www.victoriadiocese.org.

Gabriel Project–Helps women experiencing a crisis pregnancy- an alternative to abortion. Victoria: Meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at 101 W. Convent. Light supper included. Forangel workshop/training dates, contact Lisa Kainer (361) 676-3264 or lisa_heyquierdo@yahoo.com; Meyersville: Meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. (during the school year) at 11220 FM 237 (77974), the coordinators for DeWitt Chapter are Wayne and Margie Smith (361) 564-3742; Lavaca County: Meets 6:00 p.m. (during the school year), contact Julie Kubena Lavaca County Coordinator at (361) 798-3579 for dates and location. See ad on pg. 5.

Grief Ministry–An on-going Grief Group meets at Holy Family Church, Victoria in the Conference Room, 7:00 p.m., on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month. Adults who have experienced the death of a loved one, may attend (after three months have passed). Please call Sharon at (361) 578-7572 before attending.

id.9:16 Ministry–For adults in their 20s-30s, single or married. Held at Holy Family in Victoria every first Thursday of the month. Starts with the 6:00 p.m. daily Mass, dinner, a talk live streamed from the headquarters in Michigan followed by fellowship. Childcare is available to those who RSVP. It is open to all young adults of the diocese. For more information or to RSVP for events, email id916victoria@gmail.com.

Incarnate Word Prayer Group–Praise and worship on Mondays 7:30-9:00 p.m. in the auditorium at Incarnate Word Convent, 1101 N.E. Water St. For more information, contact Sr. Louise Marie Jones at (361) 575-7111 or amormeus@yahoo.com.

Mothers of Grace–A new mothers’ group at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Victory. For more information contact Jennifer Ruiz at jenniferschoeby.rui@yahoo.com.

Natural Family Planning–NFP is the only church-approved form of family planning. For the CREIGHTON MODEL Fertility Care System (CrMS) featuring NaPro TECHNOLOGY™ contact Susanne Koch in Wharton at (505) 710-0903 or susanmekoch614@gmail.com.

Raphael's Refuge–RR’s mission is to build and maintain a memorial in honor of babies, born and unborn. It is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization located in Flatonia. Peer counseling and spiritual direction are available for those suffering a loss of a baby due to miscarriage, stillbirth, infant death, or abortion. For more information, contact Midge Elam at (361) 865-3021, (361) 258-1514, or visit www.raphaelssrefuge.org.

Retrovaille–Retrovaille, meaning rediscovery, is a marriage-healing ministry offered in the diocese to couples in difficult marriages. Contact John and Jennifer Vincent at jbvjov@sbcglobal.net or (361) 580-2770; call (800) 470-2230; or visit www.helpourmarriage.org or www.retrovaille.org.

Amor Meus

Contact: Sr. Digna Vela or Sr. Emilie Eilers
(361) 575-7111
E-mail: amormeus@yahoo.com
Website: www.amormeusspiritualitycenter.org

IWBS Convent • 1101 NE Water St • Victoria
See pg. 12 for all the upcoming retreats

God’s Embrace

For more information call (979) 561-8883
E-mail: info@godsembrace.org
Website: www.godsembrace.com

Upcoming Events: Weekly Prayer: Mondays, 6:30-8:30 p.m.; Adoration in GEM Chapel, Tuesdays, noon-3:00 p.m.
way that made you want to learn and enjoy it at the same time.”

Many said their teachers are no longer there. But some of the names that the alumni remember include Mrs. Smolik, librarian, Ann Korinek and Sr. Donna Bonorden at OLV, Victoria; Ms. Reck, Mrs. Edwards, Mrs. Melanson, Ms. Roy, Evelyn Kainer, Mrs. Frances Livancic, Mrs. Diann Srubar and Mrs. Cox from St. Philip, El Campo; Mary Sue Ferrell and Mrs. Mildred Thiel, St. Joseph, Yoakum; Sister Annunciata, Sister Callista Marek and Barbara Tankersley, Sacred Heart, Hallettsville; Sister Dominica and Ruby Taylor, St. Michael, Wimberley.

Others remember how their teachers taught with projects and hands-on learning. But more than that, it was the way they made students feel – important and loved and capable of learning.

For Sacred Heart’s Sr. Emiliana Grafe, being taught by religious encouraged her own vocation, “they encouraged me to be a sister, which implied teaching.” She recalled.

For some like St. Philip’s (El Campo) Sharon Borak returning to teach at her former school was always the dream, while others like Gwen Edwards felt the call to the teaching vocation later in their careers. “After being in the retail field, and my children young, I decided to go back to school and become a teacher. So it was just natural for me to want to be with them,” she said.

For some teachers the cycle of student to teacher has come full cycle a few times now. “Five of my former teachers (two of which are alumni themselves) are still here at Our Lady of Victory. I am also teaching children and grandchildren of my former teachers so, that is exciting too,” said Taylor Janak.

Danette Cantu remembers in third grade thinking she had hit the jackpot at St. Anthony’s in 1978 because they got the brand new teacher Ms. Donna Heintschel (now Culton) as their teacher. Now the two enjoy teaching together.

Top goals for teachers in the Catholic schools are probably about the same throughout the diocese. Some of the teachers’ comments were, “I teach with HOPE and with LOVE.” “Every day that I teach, I hope to impact at least one child with words that will encourage him/her to be a better person and to know more than he/she knew before coming into my classroom. For the students to represent the best version of themselves.” Others said they wanted the students “To do their best, be kind and respectful to others.”

Gwen Edwards, principal at St. Philip, El Campo, said, “Spiritually, I want them to learn to really rely on God. Teach them to pray in different ways.”

John O’Leary, principal at St. Anthony, Columbus, said, “Currently as principal I want all students to put Christ in the center of their lives which will help them with difficulty decisions they will be facing throughout their lives.”

As Catholic educators, the most exciting moments of returning to the schools they attended was the opportunity to attend Mass weekly and to pray with the students, having the presents of priests and sisters, and getting to look out at their class and remember what it was like to be a student.

Not every day is easy but, for these teachers there is something more that drives them to the classroom every day.

“For me, it’s about continuing the mission of Catholic education,” shares STJ Yoakum’s Jana Guajardo. And the enthusiasm does not stop when the bell rings at the end of the day. You can catch these teachers taking part in many extracurricular activities around their schools.

“I feel that sense of school family pride when I help scorekeep at the students’ sporting events, get involved in their academic meets, work with students after school hours, or in their extracurricular activities,” said Sacred Heart’s (Hallettsville) Doris Fenner. Alumni have fond memories of attending their Catholic school, one teacher said getting to ride her pony to school for Western Day was a unique experience. One memory that stands out for Julia Hollek was being