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# ANGELUS

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NEWSPAPER OF THE DIOCESE OF SAN ANGELO

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## Two national reports of sexual abuse part of moving ahead

by Mike Wyse, WTA  
and by Agostino Bono and Jerry Filteau,  
Catholic News Service

SAN ANGELO – On Feb. 27 the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops (USCCB) released two reports regarding the extent of sexual abuse of minors by U.S. Catholic Clergy since 1950. The second of the reports was compiled by the National Review Board (NRB) and represents a qualitative report dealing with the reasons behind the sexual abuse crisis in the Catholic Church in the United States. The first report, referred to as the John Jay Study, is a quantitative study dealing with the scope of the sexual abuse

problem in the Church in the United States for the past 50 years.

The NRB report established the “causes and context of the crisis that has beset the Catholic Church in the United States”. The NRB describes the problem and addresses two questions. “First, why did individuals with a disposition to prey sexually upon minors gain admission to the priesthood? Second, how did they manage to remain in the priesthood even after allegations and evidence of such abuse became known to their bishops and other Church leaders?”

The John Jay Study was compiled by the John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York and

see “REPORTS,” page ten

## Catholic Outreach Services dedicates new facility



Well wishers attend the dedication and opening of the new Catholic Outreach Services building. (Photo by Peter N. Micale, WTA.)

by Miki Clemens

SAN ANGELO – The culmination of five years of prayers, work, and dreams came to fruition Feb. 19, 2004 as Bishop Michael Pfeifer, O.M.I., dedicated and blessed the newly constructed home for Catholic Outreach Services (COS) at the corner of 4th and Chadbourne Streets, as a large crowd looked on.

The 6,000 sq. ft. building was designed by architect Henry Schmidt with a facade resembling the old Santa Fe train depot which occupied the land from 1908 to 1947. Ground was broken Jan. 20, 2003 by Templeton Construction. The \$496,000 project was funded through grants from eight foundations, members of local parishes, and individuals and businesses in the area.

“The people of the Concho Valley and surrounding area have been generous in their

financial support and have shared in our mission to help the poor and to work with them to help themselves,” Bishop Pfeifer said.

Mrs. Eva Comuñez Tucker got the ball rolling for the project with a \$20,000 donation to purchase the lot. The first foundation to help was the San Angelo Health Foundation which awarded COS a challenge grant of \$100,000.

Other foundations which helped fund the building were Meadows, Mabee, Scanlan, Abell-Hanger, Kenedy, Chase Manhattan, and Verizon. COS board members, priests, and local parish representatives helped to raise an excess of \$90,000 for the project.

COS Board Chairman Eugene Berger spearheaded the Building Committee and kept a close watch on the yearlong construction.

see “COS” page ten



National Review Board members (l. to r.) Dr. Paul McHugh, Attorney Robert Bennett, William Burleigh, and Justice Anne Burke discuss results of the board's report with EWTN News director Raymond Arroyo. (Photo by EWTN.)



## Helps and hints for the Lenten journey

By Bishop Michael D. Pfeifer, OMI

With Ash Wednesday, we begin the Lenten Journey of some six weeks that will lead us to the great celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday. I offer here a few helps and hints for the Lenten Journey.

Lent is primarily a time to reflect on how I am loving God and loving my neighbor. Scripture tells us that we cannot truly say that we love God if we hate or reject our neighbor. We especially show our love for our neighbor when we heed the advice of Jesus, "Stop judging, and you will not be judged. Stop condemning and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven." [Luke 6:3742]

Lent is also a time to discover where we might be seeing a small splinter in someone else's eye, without recognizing the wooden beam in our own. The Lenten Journey should be marked by a strong emphasis upon the standards Jesus set for us in Luke's Gospel that calls us to mutual understanding, respect, and acceptance.

For the Lenten Journey, I suggest that we consider giving more time to: Fasting: Yes, from some foods and drinks, but more importantly fasting from judging and condemning others for whatever reason;

**Prayer:** This is a time for more individual prayer, for family prayer, and for joining in the official prayer of the Church, primarily by taking part in the Eucharist, but also by taking part in other Lenten devotions.

**Penance and repentance:** It is a time to recognize the obstacles that block our relationship with Christ, and to repent of our sins and failings by making a good confession, by celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

**Charitable works:** In addition to assisting the poor, the hungry, and the homeless, it is also a time for kind acts toward those who may differ with us in our own families, in our



## Ayudas y sugerencias para la jornada de Cuaresma

Por el Obispo Miguel D. Pfeifer, OMI

Con el Miércoles de Ceniza, comenzamos la Jornada de Cuaresma de seis semanas que nos llevará a la gran celebración de la Resurrección de Jesucristo en el Domingo de Pascua. Les ofrezco aquí unos pocos ayudas y sugerencias para la Jornada de Cuaresma.

Cuaresma es un tiempo principalmente para reflexionar en como estoy amando a Dios y amando a mi prójimo. La Escritura nos dice que nosotros no podemos decir verdaderamente que amamos a Dios si odiamos o rechazamos a nuestro prójimo. Demostramos nuestro amor especialmente cuando tomamos en cuenta el consejo de Jesús, "No juzguen a otros, y Dios no los juzgará a ustedes. No condenen a otros, y Dios no los condenará a ustedes. Perdonen, y Dios los perdonará." [San Lucas 6:3742]

Cuaresma es también un tiempo para descubrir quizás que estemos viendo una pequeña astilla en el ojo de otra persona, sin darnos cuenta de la viga de mandera en nuestro propio ojo. La Jornada de Cuaresma debería ser observada con un énfasis fuerte sobre los valores que Jesús nos presenta en el Evangelio de San Lucas que nos llama a un entendimiento mutuo, respeto, y aceptación.

Para la Jornada de Cuaresma, sugiero que consideremos dar más tiempo a:

**Ayunar:** Si, de algunas comidas y bebidas, pero más importante es ayunar de juzgar y condenar a otros por cualquier razón;

**Oración:** Este es el tiempo para más oración individual, para orar como familia, y para compartir en la oración oficial de la iglesia, principalmente tomando parte en la Eucaristía, pero también tomando parte en las otras devociones de Cuaresma.

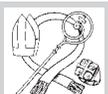
**Penitencia y arrepentimiento:** Es el tiempo para reconocer los obstáculos que bloquean nuestra relación con Cristo, y para arrepentirnos de nuestros pecados y faltas haciendo una buena confesión, celebrando el Sacramento de Reconciliación.

**Obras de caridad:** Además de asistir a los pobres, a los que tienen hambre, y a las

see "LENTEN" page ten

see "CUARESMA" page five

### The Bishop's Schedule



#### MARCH, 2004

March 1: San Angelo, Diocesan Pastoral Center - Liturgy Commission at 10:30 a.m.

March 3: San Angelo, Meet with Diocesan Legal Team - 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

March 4: Odessa, St. Elizabeth Church - Meet with Pastoral and Finance Councils at 7:00 p.m.

March 5: San Angelo, Diocesan Pastoral Center - Mass for Staff at 8:30 a.m. and Staff Meeting at 11:00 a.m.

March 6: Melvin, St. Francis - Mass at 5:00 p.m.

March 7: Menard, Sacred Heart - Mass at 11:15 a.m.

March 9: San Angelo, Diocesan Pastoral Center - Meeting of Presbyteral Council at 11:00 a.m.

March 10: San Angelo, Christ the King Retreat Center - Retreat for Staff 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

March 12: Abilene, St. Francis -

Meet with Pastor and Pastoral and Finance Councils at 7:00 p.m.

March 14-15: San Antonio, Meeting of Bishops of Texas

March 16: Midland, Our Lady of San Juan - Lenten Night of Prayers with Priests, Sisters and Deacons of Midland/Odessa Deanery at 7:00 p.m.

March 17: San Angelo, St. Mary - 12:00 noon Lenten Sermon

March 18-19: Rest and Prayer  
March 21: Brownwood, St. Mary - Mass at 9:30 a.m.

March 22-25: Private Lenten Retreat

March 26: Houston Installation of Bishop Daniel Dinardo as Coadjutor

March 27-28: Roma, Texas  
March 29: Eden, St. Charles - Meet with Pastor and Pastoral and Finance Councils at 7:00 p.m.

March 31: San Angelo, Holy Angels - 7:30 p.m. Talk to CCD Students about Mary

#### APRIL, 2004

April 1: San Angelo, Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart - Chrism

Mass at 11:00 a.m. Presbyteral Council Meeting at 1:30 p.m.

April 2: Midland, St. Ann - Install Msgr. Larry Droll as Pastor

April 3: San Antonio - Blessing of Garden at Oblate School of Theology

April 4: San Angelo, Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart - Palm Sunday Mass at 9:45 a.m. Holy Angels - Seder Meal at 5:30 p.m.

April 8: San Angelo, Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart - Holy Thursday Mass at 7:00 p.m.

April 9: San Angelo, St. Margaret - Good Friday, Way of the Cross at 1:00 p.m. St. Joseph - Good Friday Liturgical Service at 7:00 p.m.

April 10: San Angelo, Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart - Easter Vigil at 8:00 p.m.

April 11: San Angelo, St. Margaret - Easter Sunday Mass at 10:30 a.m.

April 12: San Angelo, Bishop's Residence - Easter Dinner with Staff at 6:00 p.m.

April 13: Wall, St. Ambrose - Confirmation at 6:30 p.m.

April 14-15: Rest and Prayer

April 17: Rowena, St. Joseph and Miles - Confirmation at 5:00 p.m.

April 18-19: San Antonio - Board Meeting of MACC

April 20: San Antonio - Oblate Jubilarians Celebration at 7:00 p.m.

April 21: Sonora, St. Ann - Confirmation at 6:30 p.m.

April 22: Ballinger, St. Mary - Confirmation at 6:30 p.m.

April 23: Ozona, O.L. Perpetual Help - Confirmation at 6:30 p.m.

April 24: Odessa, St. Joseph - Confirmation at 7:00 p.m.

April 25: Odessa, St. Anthony - Confirmation at 10:00 a.m.

April 27: Midland, Our Lady of San Juan - Confirmation at 6:30 p.m.

April 28: Midland, St. Stephen - Confirmation at 6:30 p.m.

April 29: Coleman, Sacred Heart - Confirmation at 6:30 p.m.

April 30: Abilene, Holy Family - Confirmation at 6:30 p.m.

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# Vocation Circle

## Seminarians admitted to Candidacy

by Fr. Tom Barley

Director of Vocations and Seminarians

SAN ANGELO – On Sunday, February 8, 2004, three of our seminarians in their third year of theological studies, Emilio Sosa, Ariel Lagunilla, and Ruben Covos, were admitted to Candidacy for the Diaconate and Priesthood for the Diocese of San Angelo. The Mass in which they received Candidacy was celebrated at Assumption Seminary in San Antonio. Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI had given permission for the seminarians to receive Candidacy from Bishop Thomas Flanagan of the Archdiocese of San Antonio who presided at the Mass.

Candidacy for the Diaconate and Priesthood is one of the formal steps a seminarian takes on his way to priesthood. After several years of seriously discerning their vocations, each seminarian makes a formal, public pronouncement of his commitment to study for the diaconate and the priesthood for the Diocese of San Angelo.

After their summer assignments, Emilio, Ariel, and Ruben will be in their pastoral year in parishes in the Diocese. During the pastoral year they will have the opportunity for a wide variety of ministerial experiences. After their pastoral year they can petition for ordination to the diaconate. When they return to the seminary, the seminarians will have a year to reflect on their experiences and what they have learned during their seminary years. Ordination to the priesthood will occur after they complete their theological and seminary formation.

Our one remaining seminarian, Matthew Fenner, will continue in college at Conception College Seminary in Conception, Missouri. Please pray for all of these seminarians and for anyone who wishes to enter the seminary for our Diocese.



Bishop Pfeifer hosted a farewell dinner for Mrs. Margaret Mathieson, his housekeeper of 18 years upon her retirement. (Photo by Peter N. Micale, WTA.)

# The Deacon – Disciple and Servant, the Bishop speaks

by Bishop Michael D. Pfeifer, O.M.I.

SAN ANGELO – One who is a deacon is called to be a disciple and a servant. First and foremost, the deacon is to have a deep, personal relationship with Jesus Christ, and his diaconal ministry must be deep in the roots of discipleship. The deacon's heart is always attuned to the gentle but direct command and invitation of Christ: "Come and see" and "Follow me." Like Christ, the deacon is to be a servant, always willing and ready to "wash the feet" of others. Service is the crux of the deacon's ministry. The word deacon comes from the Greek, meaning "helper" or "servant". The deacon must be grounded in the basic Gospel principle of service given by Christ, "Anyone among you who aspires to greatness must serve the rest, and whoever wants to rank first among you must serve the needs of all. Such is the case of the Son of Man who has come, not to be served by others but to serve." (Mt.20:27-28) Deacons are expected to be good, decent, and reliable men, "holding fast to the mystery of faith with a clear conscience . . . [they] must manage their children and their household well." (1Tim.3:9,13)

In 1967, Pope Paul VI restored the Permanent Diaconate in the universal Church as an outgrowth of the Second Vatican Council. From apostolic times, the diaconate has had a clearly outstanding position among the ministries, and has always been held in great honor by the Church. The deacon is ordained for service, and his ministry is in service of the Word, charity, and liturgy. Pope Paul VI stated "that the deacon is to be a Sacrament of Christ the Servant."

The question often arises as to how the service of the deacon is different from that which other Christians may, or even should perform, in fulfilling our common Christian and ecclesial mission. This question arises precisely from the fact that there is little functional difference between the service min-



Deacon Charlie Evans on a retreat. (Photo by Fr. Tom Kelly.)

istries of the deacon and the charitable apostolates of the laity.

There are only a few liturgical functions which may be exercised because of ordination by deacons but not by lay persons. The real difference between deacons and the laity lies in the sacramental grace for service which deacons receive by their ordination, and their subsequent office or duty to perform a ministry of service under the direction of the local bishop. In practice, the work of deacons frequently overlaps with that of both priests and laity. What does identify deacons is the fact that they are ordained to represent Christ the Servant, and thereby graced to a life of service to God's people in a permanent way.

As regards the sacramental grace of the diaconate, Karl Rahner remarked that it is a "governing principle" that "when the office and the Divine assurance of the grace necessary for fulfilling the office can be given in a sacramental manner . . . they should be given in this

manner." The permanent diaconate is an integral part of the threefold ordained ministry, offering a special grace for diaconal service.

The permanent deacon serves as a bridge between the priest or religious whose life is totally committed to service of the Christian community and the many lay people whose commitment is total but whose family and other obligations prevent them from giving their life totally to the service of the Church. As a bridge between the laity and clergy, the deacon motivates lay people to become increasingly involved in the mission of the Church. The deacon has a foot in two worlds - ordained but not a priest, married but not a layman.

While deacons do have official functions by ordination, the diaconate is an office of service to the people. Deacons are recipients of the Sacrament of Orders, but are said by the Vatican Council to "receive the imposition of hands not unto the Priesthood, but unto

see "DEACON" page eleven

## Retraction

We do not like to make mistakes in the *ANGELUS*, but we are happy to report that the notice of Deacon Jose Esparza's death in the February edition was incorrect. Deacon Esparza is alive and well and living in Imperial. We apologize to the Deacon and to his family members.



# Pastoral lenten message

## A day of fast to ask for God's forgiveness and a day of prayer for healing

### ("Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.")

by Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI

SAN ANGELO – Recently we were given the anguishing results of two long-awaited reports on the clerical sex abuse crisis in the Catholic Church in the United States. The report of the findings of the John Jay College of Criminal Justice focused on the Nature and Scope of abuse from 1950-2002, and the second report, the National Review Board highlighted the causes and context of this crisis. These reports tell a tragic story of the large number of young people and children who were sexually abused by a significant number of priests and deacons during the past 50 years. The picture that has emerged from these reports sadly is a picture of those who broke faith with their people, their priesthood, and their religious vows to use their priesthood, diaconate, and religious vows and their sacred position to prey upon the young and vulnerable instead of safeguarding them with the tender love of Christ Himself.

These reports also bring out faults and failings of some bishops who failed to recognize and effectively act on the gravity of the abuse problem.

This crisis is rooted in trust and faith. It is primarily a spiritual problem. It is only by seeking God's forgiveness and by living out the faith by bishops, priests, deacons, religious, and laity that the Church will be able to regain its lost trust and footing and fulfill its role and experience its rebirth. To aid this spiritual process, I am designating for all the churches in the Diocese of San Angelo a special *Day to ask for God's forgiveness* for all who have failed to live their priestly and religious commitment, and a *Day of Healing* for the thousands who have suffered sexual abuse by the clergy, and those who have suffered any type of other abuse

*The Day of Fast* to ask for God's

forgiveness and pardon for the failure of our clergy and Church leaders will be on Good Friday, the day of the Lord's Passion, April 9, 2004. Good Friday is traditionally a day of fast, so I am asking that we offer our fast on that day for the specific purpose of seeking forgiveness and mercy from our God.

*The Day of Healing* for the young people who have been abused by clergy, and for all those who have suffered abuse of any kind in our Diocese and throughout the USA, will be on Palm Sunday, April 4, 2004. On that day, I will celebrate Mass at Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart at 9:45 am, and at the end of Mass, I will pray a special prayer of healing with all of our people. A text of the Prayer of Healing follows this article, and I ask that on Palm Sunday, this prayer be prayed in all the parishes of the Diocese at the end of each Mass by our priests and people as we kneel together.

I am also asking that during the entire season of Lent, that these two intentions for forgiveness and healing be included in our Masses and prayers. Lent is a time for penance, conversion, for reconciliation, and for new beginning.

As bishop of the Diocese, I restate and re-affirm my apologies to all victims, to all who have been harmed by those among us who violated trust and promises that were made at their ordination. The heartfelt sorrow that we should all feel for this violation, and the often ineffective ways with which it was dealt with, has strengthened our commitment to do everything possible to see that it does not happen again. There is a Clarion Call from these two reports to make sure that the Church has in place compassionate and effective outreach for all victims.

I also want to state that I am committing our Diocese to do an annual audit to assure with God's

grace that we are doing everything within our power to provide a safe, secure, and sacred environment for all of our people, but especially for our children. At another time, I will spell out more clearly how these audits will be conducted.

More than ever, I ask all of our people to pray for our priests, sisters, deacons, and all who share in ministry with Christ for our people. To our priests, deacons, and religious, I want to say that I, as your bishop, and your people, know that the vast majority of you are faithful, generous, upright people whose lives of dedicated service are very much valued and appreciated.

Together we are called to a greater holiness of life – to renewal. I thank God that many of our parishes are into RENEW, or other programs of renewal. The report from the National Review Board – IV-Findings, A-5, Special Issues Relating to Spiritual Life – states, "The Board believes that the overriding paradigm that characterizes the crisis is one of sinfulness. . . . Somehow, the 'smoke of Satan' was allowed to enter the Church, and as a result, the Church itself has been deeply wounded. . . . The only way to combat sinfulness is with holiness. . . . The Church must be holy; her ministers must be holy; her people must be holy. The foundation of holiness is a strong spiritual life, a life of prayer and simplicity. Priests who were truly holy would not have abused young people; nor would they have allowed others to do so. . . . Pope John Paul II emphasized that 'This whole sad question must be placed in the context which is not exclusively human. . . . Of the many necessary responses to the scandal, the first and most important is prayer: ardent, humble, confident prayer.'"

# Prayer for healing of victims of sexual abuse

*Gracious and loving Creator, you once hovered over the chaos and darkness of the universe and breathed into it your life and beauty. We pray once again that you come and breathe into our chaos, our darkness.*

*Compassionate Father, with your servant, David, we pray, "Be merciful for we have sinned." Purify us through your renewing Spirit that we might truly be called your people.*

*Come, loving God, to your world, your faith community, your shepherds, your people gathered in your name this day.*

*Heal your peoples' wounds, and listen to these cries and lamentations as we pray most especially for the victims of sexual abuse in our society and in our Church. Let their pain and suffering be ever before us as we rededicate ourselves to the protection of young people everywhere and, most especially, in this community of faith. May we always heed your command: "Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy." We pray together in the name of the Lord. Amen.*

(Adapted from *Creating Safe and Sacred Places - Identifying, Preventing and Healing Sexual Abuse*, by Gerard J. McGlone, SJ, PhD, and Mary Shrader, Saint Mary's Press, Christian Bros. Publications, Winona, Minnesota, 2003)

## Ethics and Integrity for Church Personnel



### Diocese of San Angelo

[www.san-angelo-diocese.org](http://www.san-angelo-diocese.org)

Report concerns or questions to Victim Assistance Coordinator:

Confidential: 325-651-7500 FAX: 325-651-6688

[mikedosa@aol.com](mailto:mikedosa@aol.com)

Report abuse of minors to: State of Texas 800-252-5400



# Same sex unions contradict the meaning of marriage

by Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI  
SAN ANGELO – A growing movement today favors making same-sex unions the legal equivalent of marriage. This situation challenges all - all who seek the truth - to think deeply about the meaning of marriage, its purposes, and its values to individuals, families and society. This kind of reflection, using reason and faith, is the proper starting point and framework for the current debate.

Marriage has always been seen as a faithful, exclusive, lifelong union of a man and woman joined in an intimate community of life and love. The call to marriage is woven deeply into the human spirit. Man and woman are different from, yet created for, each other in all aspects

of their being. This complementarity, including sexual difference, draws them together in a mutually loving union that is open to children.

These truths are present in nature and confirmed by divine Revelation in the Bible. Marriage comes from the loving hand of God, who fashioned both male and female in the divine image. Marriage is an intimate union in which a man and a woman give themselves, as equal persons, completely in love to one another. By their mutual gift of self, they cooperate with God in bringing new persons to life and in caring for them. Marriage is both a natural institution and a sacred union because it is rooted in the divine plan for creation. Only a union of male and female can express the

full sexual complementarity willed by God for marriage.

A same-sex union contradicts the nature of marriage. A same-sex union cannot be the uniquely complementary, mutually loving and procreative relationship that God intends marriage to be. Because homosexual persons cannot enter into a true conjugal union with each other, it would be wrong to act as if their relationship were a marriage. A society that tries to redefine marriage so as to make other relationships equivalent to it, change the natural and divine purpose of marriage, and marriage is de-

## Ethics and Integrity Workshop Dates

Deanery	Place	Date	Time
Abilene	Holy Family, Sweetwater	Mar 18, 2004	7:00-10:00pm (Eng)
	Holy Family, Abilene	Mar 27, 2004	9:00am-12:00 pm (Eng/Span)
Midland/Odessa	St. Joseph, Ft. Stockton	Mar 22, 2004	7:00-10:00 pm (Eng)
San Angelo	Sacred Heart, San Angelo	Mar. 8, 2004	6:30-9:30 pm (Eng/Span)

valued.

The union of man and woman in marriage is the foundation of the family. The family, in turn, is the basic unit of society. Marriage is the primary pattern for male/female relationships. The marital union also provides the best conditions for raising children: mainly the stable, loving relationship of a mother and father, present only in a marriage. The state rightly recognizes this relation-

ship as a public institution in its laws, because the relationship makes a unique and essential contribution to the common good.

The marriage of a man and woman expresses, in a way other relations do not, the profound truth that God loves the world and wishes to express God's love in human terms.

# Office of Child and Youth Protection makes national recommendations

by Mike Wyse

SAN ANGELO – During the past year the Office of Child and Youth Protection (OCYP), established by the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops (USCCB), coordinated an audit of each diocese in the United States to monitor compliance with the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. This Charter set forth guidelines to help the Catholic Church in the United States implement measures to deal with the problem of sexual abuse of minors by clergy and church personnel.

The Diocese of San Angelo was audited in September 2003 and was found to be in compliance with the USCCB Charter. As each diocesan audit was completed, many dioceses were given specific recommendations on steps they could take to better implement the guidelines of the Charter. Upon completion of the diocesan audits, the OCYP then developed and issued several national recommendations. These recommendations were sent to all dioceses in the United States to as-

sist them in their efforts to continue implementing the Bishops' Charter.

The Diocese of San Angelo has been working on many of these recommendations in order to insure that not only are we in compliance with the USCCB Charter, but that we might provide the best assistance possible to any victims as well as continue to improve our Safe Environment Program for the protection of children and youth.

One national recommendation that the diocese is working on is developing ways to make it easier for victims to contact the diocese. The diocese is currently developing a display and brochure that will be placed in the back of all our churches. The display will encourage victims to contact the diocese if they believe they have experienced sexual abuse by church personnel. We have also included contact information for the Victim Assistance Coordinator on the diocesan web page ([www.san-angelodiocese.org](http://www.san-angelodiocese.org)). Another recommendation suggests that victims be provided information in writing

pertaining to their right to report instances of abuse to civil authorities. While the diocese has always advised victims of this right, victims will now receive this information in letter form which will include an explanation of the process for addressing their complaints.

The OCYP also recommends that parishioners be better educated about the standards of ethics and integrity that are expected of all church personnel, paid or volunteers. In order to implement this recommendation, the diocese will develop a bilingual poster with the Diocesan Code of Ethics to be placed in buildings where religious education classes are conducted. One other recommendation the OCYP presented is an annual compliance audit of each diocese to monitor ongoing compliance with the USCCB Charter. At this time, we do not know if the OCYP will implement this recommendation. However, in the absence of a national annual audit, Bishop Pfeifer is committing our diocese to an annual self-audit as a way of insuring that we continue to meet the

provisions set forth in the USCCB Charter.

As the diocese continues to implement these and other recommendations, it is our sincere hope that we will be able to locate victims, minister to their needs, and strive to insure that all who come to the church to be ministered to will be reassured that we are doing all we can to provide them with a safe and holy environment.

## CUARESMA

from page two

personas sin hogar, es también un tiempo para actos caritativos hacia esas personas que no están de acuerdo con nosotros en nuestras propias familias, en nuestro trabajo, en nuestra iglesia, en cualquier situación.

Nuestra Jornada de Cuaresma debería incluir tiempo para reflexionar sobre el sufrimiento y muerte de Cristo quien dio su vida en la cruz para salvarnos de nuestros pecados y darnos el perdón de Dios. Para celebrar la plenitud de la Resurrección de Cristo en el Domingo de Pascua, necesitamos caminar con Él a Calvario, y unir nuestros sufrimientos al Cristo crucificado.

## EDICTAL SUMMONS

The Tribunal of the Catholic Diocese of San Angelo to Mrs. Lola C. Barrera (Sanchez), whereabouts unknown.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Tribunal of the Catholic Diocese of San Angelo, at 804 Ford Street, San Angelo, Texas 76905, on or before, March 31, 2004, to answer to the Petition of Jose A. Sanchez, Jr., now introduced before the Diocesan Tribunal in an action styled, "Jose A. Sanchez, Jr. vs. Mrs. Lola C. Barrera (Sanchez), Petition for Declaration of Invalidity of Marriage," said Petition being identified as Case: Sanchez - Barrera, Protocol No.: SO 03/29, on the Tribunal Docket of the Diocese of San Angelo.

You may communicate with the Tribunal in person or in writing. Failure to communicate within the prescribed period of time will be considered your consent for the Tribunal to continue its proceedings in the above-named case.

Given at the Tribunal of the Diocese of San Angelo on the 1st day of March 2004.

Rev. William R. DuBuisson,  
O.M.I., M.C.L., J.C.L.  
Judicial Vicar



# Bishop Pfeifer announces Diocesan administrative appointments

by Bishop Michael D. Pfeifer, OMI

SAN ANGELO – The sudden and untimely death of Monsignor Timothy Murphy has necessitated my review of the entire administration of our diocese. Monsignor Murphy served ably in many administrative capacities for the Diocese of San Angelo, including as Vicar General, Judicial Vicar and on numerous boards.

Therefore, effective March 15, 2004, I am announcing the following new diocesan appointments:

Monsignor Larry Droll has been appointed **Vicar General**. He will also become Pastor of Saint Ann's Parish in Midland. Monsignor Droll, who has served for the past twenty-four years as our Chancellor, was ordained a priest for the Diocese of San Angelo on June 15, 1973. He has served as Parochial Vicar at St. Mary's Parish and Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in San Angelo, Pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Ozona, St. Margaret's in San Angelo, Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in San Angelo, and most recently St. Ambrose in Wall. Monsignor is a graduate of St. Mary's University in San Antonio with a BA in Sociology, and of St. John's Seminary in Collegeville, MN and holds both a Masters of Arts in Theology from St John's University in Collegeville and License in Canon Law from the Catholic University of America, Washington DC.

Leslie T. Maiman, Jr. has been appointed as the first lay **Chancellor** of our diocese. Les will continue in his current supervisory role as Diocesan Finance Officer while relinquishing his position as Diocesan Business Manager – a role that he has held for the past thirteen years. Les holds an undergraduate degree in Philosophy from the Jesuits at Saint Louis University, a M.B.A. from the University of Texas at Austin, and a Masters in Theology from the University of

Dallas. He and his wife, Brenda, have two adult children, Katrina and Thomas.

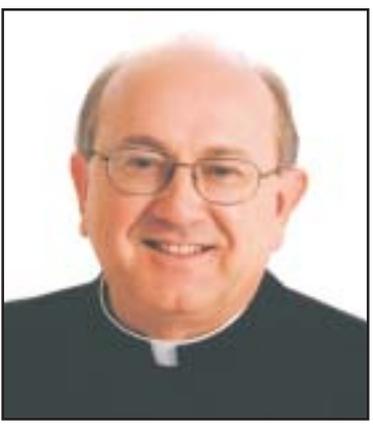
Father Tom Barley will continue as **Director of Seminarians** while simultaneously serving as Pastor of Saint Ambrose Parish in Wall. Father Barley was ordained as a priest for the Diocese of San Angelo on May 26, 1991 having graduated from Assumption Seminary. Father Barley also holds graduate degrees in Business Administration, Social Work, and Canon Law and will continue as a Judge in the Tribunal.

Father Rodney White has been appointed **Vocations Director** while remaining as Parochial Vicar at St. Ann's Parish in Midland. Fa-

ther White is a graduate of St. Mary's Seminary in Houston on May 31, 2003, having been ordained for the Diocese of San Angelo.

Father William DuBuisson, OMI, has been named as **Judicial Vicar**. Father DuBuisson will continue as Pastor of St. Ann's Parish in Sonora and will replace Msgr. Droll on the **Diocesan Review Board**. Father Bill is a graduate of the Oblate School of Theology in 1956, and holds a graduate degree in Canon Law from St. Paul's University in Ottawa, Ontario and a Master of Canon Law from the University of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.

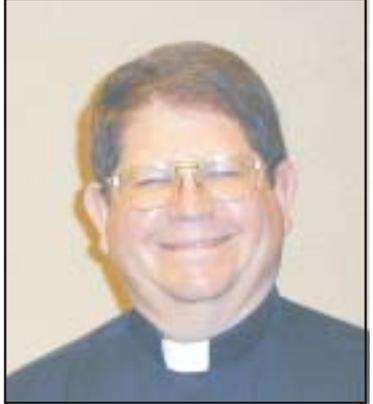
I hope that you will find a reprint of our new diocesan organization chart of assistance to you.



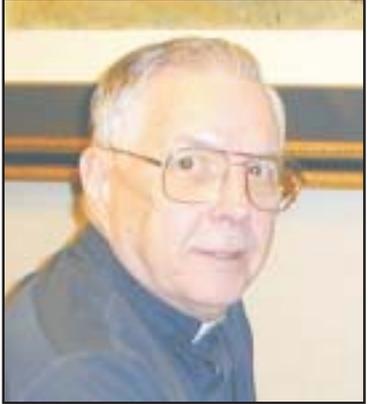
Vicar General Monsignor Larry Droll (Photo by Linda Martin Photography.)



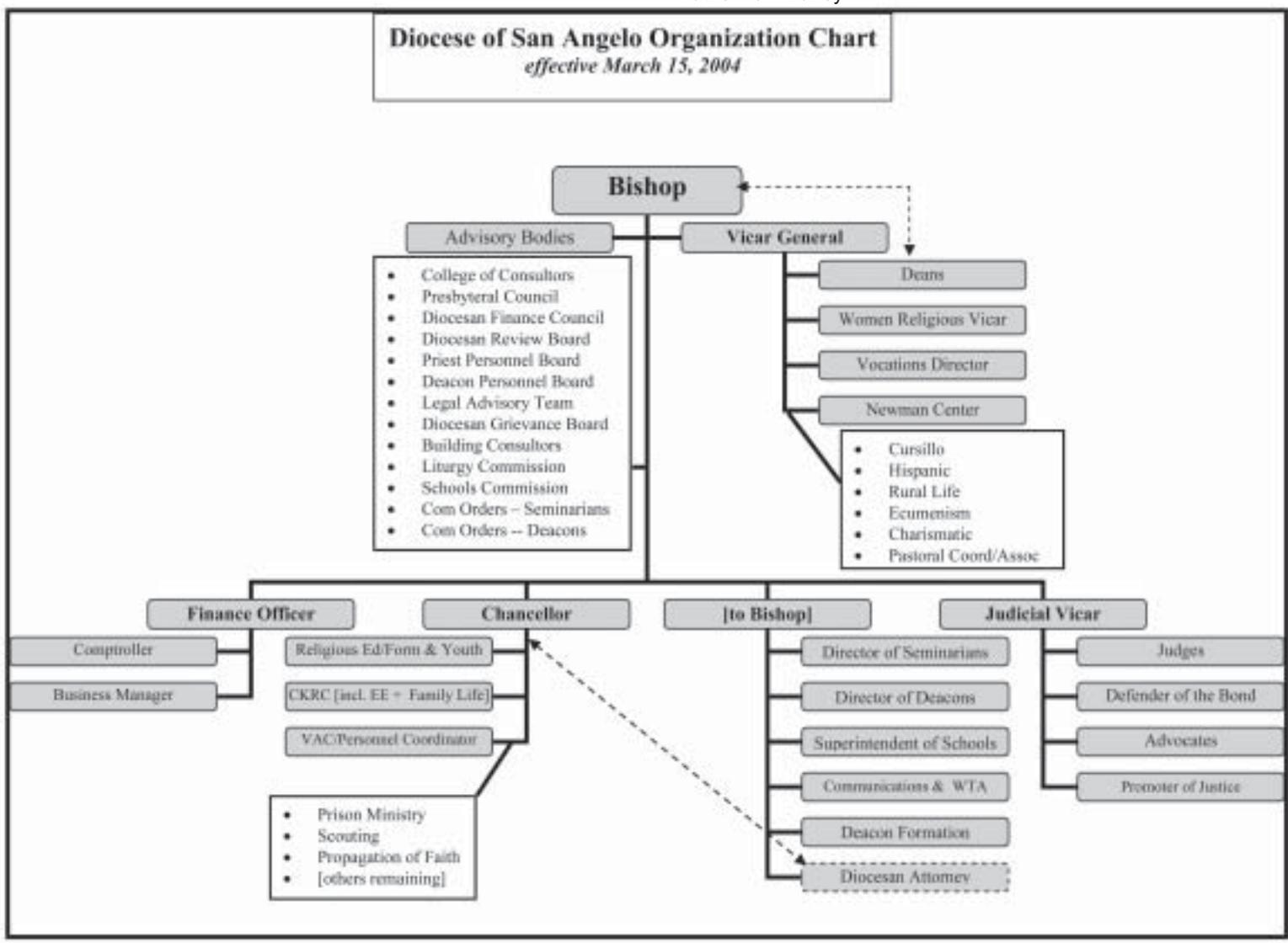
Chancellor Leslie T. Maiman, Jr. (This photo and those below by Peter N. Micale, WTA.)



Director of Seminarians Father Tom Barley



Judicial Vicar Father William DuBuisson, OMI





# Diocesan Conference Day focuses on spirituality of the Beatitudes

by Sr. Hilda Marotta, OSF  
Director of Religious Education

SAN ANGELO – The annual Diocesan Conference Day was held February 21, 2004 at the San Angelo Convention Center. This year the theme focused on the Spirituality of the Beatitudes. Keynote speakers were Bonnie and Maurice Abadie from the Archdiocese of San Antonio. The presentation focused on how the Beatitudes unfold in our life experience. We need only to take time to reflect and recognize God among us.

Participants were from 48 parishes/missions throughout the diocese.



(Above, l to r) Mr. and Mrs. Maurice and Bonnie Abadie stand with Sr. Hilda Marotta, OSF, Director of Religious Education prior to starting the conference. (Photos by Peter N. Micale, WTA.)

(Left) Bishop Michael Pfeifer offered opening remarks for the conference.



(Above, l to r) Sr. Hilda, Sr. Adelina Garcia, OSF, Mrs. Abadie and Deborah Michalewicz provided welcoming remarks and prayer for the more than 300 participants (right).



# RENEW implementation continues

by Sr. Hilda Marotta, OSF  
Director of Religious Education

SAN ANGELO – RENEW continues to be implemented in parishes around the diocese. Parishes have begun Season II.

Mary Reichley and Manuel Hernandez from RENEW International were in the diocese February 9, 10, 11, 2004 to provide training for facilitators of Season II. Training sessions were held in each deanery.

Mary Reichley will return to the diocese in April to provide the training for the Parish Core Community as they begin

preparation for Season III. The training sessions are from 7:00pm - 9:00pm at the following locations:  
April 19, 2004 - Christ the King Retreat Center  
April 20, 2004 - Our Lady of San Juan, Midland  
April 21, 2004 - St. Vincent, Abilene

RENEW is a spiritual renewal process designed to help parishioners develop a closer relationship to Christ, to make an adult commitment to Jesus as central in their lives and to open them to the power of the Holy Spirit so that they become more authentic witnesses.

(Below, l to r) Mary Reichley and Manuel Hernandez from RENEW International.



Midland-Odessa Deanery RENEW meeting. (Photos by Sr. Hilda Marotta, OSF.)





# Bishop Pfeifer invites your participation in the American Bishops' Overseas Appeal

March 2004

My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

The generosity of Catholics for the American Bishops' Overseas Appeal (ABOA) is so critical to the work of the Church in caring for the vulnerable among us - victims of war, persecution, and poverty. I am grateful for your support in the past, and I ask for your continued support and prayers in the coming year as we help our less fortunate brothers and sisters.

The American Bishops' Overseas

Appeal - established 60 years ago as the Bishops' Welfare Emergency Relief Fund supports agencies that build the international social ministry of the Catholic Church. Ministries include relief and resettlement service to the victims of war and natural disasters, development programs to improve the living conditions of the poor, advocacy on behalf of the powerless, and peace and reconciliation work for people suffering from violence.

I invite you to participate in the

work of ABOA in your parish. Thank you for supporting the 2004 American Bishops' Overseas Appeal taken up in our diocese on March 21, 2004. Please pray for the success of this collection and for all our poor and needy sisters and brothers who benefit from our generosity.

Sincerely in Christ and Mary,  
Most Rev. Michael B. Pfeifer,  
OMI  
Bishop of San Angelo

The theme for the 2004 American Bishops' Overseas Appeal (ABOA) is "Jesus in Disguise." The Catholic community in the United States is committed to solidarity with the poor and the vulnerable all over the world. (Photo by CRS.)



## A lenten fast according to the prophet Isaiah

("Is this the manner of fasting I wish?")

by Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI

SAN ANGELO – The Lenten Season is a period of some 40 days that focuses our attention on the suffering, the passion and death of Jesus on Good Friday as we prepare for the greatest event of Christianity, the Resurrection of Christ on Easter Sunday. During Lent we

are encouraged to deepen our spiritual life, our relationship with God, through prayer, through reading of the Scripture and fasting. There are many dimensions to fasting, and the great prophet Isaiah tells us about the fast that is truly pleasing to God, and we can say the fast that God wants most from us during the

Season of Lent. Let us listen to what God spoke to God's people centuries ago through the prophet Isaiah (58: 1-9)-and this message clarifies the fast that God most wants for us during Lent.

"Lo, on your fast day you carry out your own pursuits, and drive out all your laborers. Yes, your fast

ends in quarreling and fighting, striking with wicked claw. Would that today you might fast so as to make your voice heard on high! Is this the manner of fasting I wish, of keeping a day of penance. Do you call this a fast?... This, rather, is the fasting that I wish: releasing those bound unjustly, untying the thongs

of the yoke; setting free the oppressed, breaking every yoke; Sharing your bread with the hungry, sheltering the oppressed and the homeless; Clothing the naked when you see them, and not turning your back on your own. Then your light should break fourth like the dawn and your wound shall quickly be healed; ...Then you shall call and the Lord will answer, you shall cry for help and he will say: Here I am!"

Isaiah provides us with timely Lenten mediations.

## Rural Texas parish receives grant to update music program

by Jim Reddy

Oregon Catholic Press

PORTLAND, Ore. – A small, rural, Texas parish will be able to update its music program thanks to a grant from a Pacific Northwest Catholic publishing company. Oregon Catholic Press, a Catholic Church-owned publisher based in Portland, Ore., recently granted a cash award for \$5,000 to St. Ann Parish in Sonora, Texas, as part of its annual OCP Parish Grants program.

The grants are given out each year to help parishes enhance their music, liturgy and worship experience. More than \$125,000 is awarded to parishes across the country. The program distributed its first grants in 2001.

"Our parish doesn't have any professional musicians," said Oblate Father William DuBuisson, pastor of St. Ann Parish, located 70 miles from San Angelo, Texas, in the diocese of the same name, near the center of the state. "All of our musicians play by ear, so new music books, along with CDs of the music, will help them hear what the music is supposed to sound like."

Father DuBuisson, 74, says parish life in Sonora is most likely the same as in most rural areas. He celebrates one Mass on Saturday, two on Sunday.

"The important thing about parish life here," he says, "is working to keep the church alive."

"We're trying to build a new hall

with classrooms for religious education," said Father DuBuisson. He has taken up a special collection for this intention for several weeks.

The two major industries in Sonora are oil and ranching, with cattle, goats and sheep being the principal animals raised. Hispanics make up a large percentage of the population, and most residents live far apart, spread throughout the area. Many work long hours at ranches or oil facilities far from home. Life at the parish provides an opportunity for stability, "at least in spirituality," says Father DuBuisson.

One of the most urgent needs here, says the priest, is educating the children, most of whom were

born on ranches. Without buses to take the children to school, many have never received a formal education.

"We're trying to make sure some of the children get beyond high school into some form of higher education," said the priest. The religious education programs at the parish are crucial to this goal. On the edge of the Edwards Plateau, the terrain near Sonora is rough, rocky and hilly. The deer population is high, drawing hunters from around the country. Sonora is the only city in Sutton County. According to the 2000 Census, the city had a population of 2,900 and the county had a population of 4,000. Since that time, several local wholesale natural gas producers have consolidated, and the resulting economic circumstances have reduced the population by 5 percent to 8 percent. The exploration and drilling industries, in particular, lost much of their personnel.

At the same time, the Sonora Independent School District lost about 10 percent of its students; the effect on the District is the loss of state funds. In addition, since the property values are based on natural gas reserves, the district must give some of its tax revenues to other districts with a lesser ratio of tax value per student. Hard times have also hit the ranching industry. In the last five years, a severe drought has affected the work force on the ranches. "The hunters help the parish by putting a little money into the collection," said Father DuBuisson. "But otherwise, money is hard to come by around here - this grant is a much appreciated gift."

Founded more than 75 years ago as the Catholic Truth Society in response to Ku Klux Klan activities in the state, Oregon Catholic Press publishes English, Spanish, Vietnamese and Chinese worship

see "GRANT" page eleven



# Morning-after pill may cause abortion

by Dr. William P. Mueller, MD

ABILENE – The potential for a woman to unwittingly abort her baby may soon be as easy as buying a pack of gum from your local pharmacy.

Sometime in the next several months, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) will consider approving over-the-counter availability of the “morning-after pill” as a form of “emergency contraception”. The makers of this drug (Women’s Capital Corporation) have asked the FDA to provide women easier access to the pill in order to avoid an unplanned pregnancy. Since then, both the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) and the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) have endorsed over-the-counter approval. Distressingly, neither the FDA, ACOG, or AAFP seem concerned about the possible abortifacient action of this pill.

According to a widely read and credible periodical for pharmaceutical information entitled “The Medical Letter”:

*Plan B (The Morning After Pill) is a pill pack that contains two tablets of high-dose levonorgestrel, a synthetic form of progesterone. The mechanism of action by which this drug prevents pregnancy is unclear. It can delay or inhibit ovulation (the release of the egg from the ovary). It can also interfere with implantation of a fertilized egg or interfere with transportation of the embryo through the fallopian tube. (The Medical Letter, Volume 42, 24 January 2000.)*

These last two possible mechanisms of action take place after conception has occurred and life has begun for the new baby. Thus, the term “Emergency Contraceptive” as applied to this pill is incorrect – conception may have already occurred. In these cases, the Morning-After Pill is acting as an “Emergency Abortion Pill”. In fact, all forms of hormonal manipulation (Birth Control Pill, Birth Control Patch, Depoprovera shots) have a similar mechanism of action which may result in an unintended abortion.

As a responsible physician, I am

compelled to understand that new life begins at conception – when the sperm and egg join. This new life is initially called an “embryo” but is no different genetically than a baby alive in her mother’s womb. After conception occurs, any man-made action that purposely interferes or stops the embryo from developing must be called abortive. “Pregnancy” as defined by the ACOG is the moment when the embryo is implanted in her mother’s womb; however, this “definition” obscures the fact that the embryo has already been alive for approximately 7 days from the time of conception. The statement that the morning after pill prevents an “ACOG pregnancy” cannot be equated with the statement that it prevents conception.

Women should understand the medical facts associated with hormonal manipulation of their reproductive cycle. Physicians should inform their patients of the possible abortifacient action of hormonal manipulation so that their patients can make a truly informed choice with regard to family planning. Catholic physicians and patients in particular must understand the medical legitimacy of the Church’s teaching regarding both contraception and abortion, and act accordingly. Finally, the Morning-After



SAINTLY MOTHER. Italian mother and pediatrician Gianna Beretta Molla, pictured in 1955 with daughter Mariolina, will be canonized May 16 in St. Peter’s Square. Pope John Paul II made the announcement Feb. 19. Blessed Molla died in 1962 after giving birth to her fourth child. During the pregnancy, in the interest of the child, she had declined medical treatment that might have saved her life. In Italy she is already known as the “pro-life saint.” (CNS photo courtesy Catholic Press Photo)

Pill must be recognized for what it truly is – a pill which can act as either a contraceptive or an abortifacient.

# Diocese holds first Natural Family planning conference

by Dr. William P. Mueller, MD

ABILENE – On the 20th and 21st of February, the San Angelo Diocese held a conference entitled, “The Five W’s (Who, What, When, Where, and Why) of Natural Family Planning”. The conference was hosted by Father Juan Castro, director of the Christ the King Retreat Center. The conference was organized by Mr. Noe Rocha of Sacred Heart Parish in Abilene. Guest speakers included Dr. William Mueller, a general practice physician from Holy Family Parish in Abilene, and Dr. Daniel McDonald, an Obstetrician-Gynecologist from Fort Worth, TX.

The meeting was well attended, with approximately 40 participants

from San Angelo, Midland-Odessa, Abilene, and communities throughout the diocese. Bishop Pfeifer welcomed the enthusiastic turn-out, and demonstrated his strong support for a permanent NFP presence in the diocese. His verbal agreement that the diocese should help sponsor a robust NFP program drew applause from the crowd. (See Bishop’s article on page 10.)

Dr. Mueller started the evening with a description of the anatomy and physiology of NFP methods, with particular emphasis on the medical benefits available through the Creighton Model System. Mr. Rocha and Dr. Mueller discussed issues related to training NFP providers and teaching clients how to

practice NFP. Of particular interest was the fact that the Creighton Model System of NFP provides 99.5% effectiveness for those couples desiring to avoid pregnancy, and 98% effectiveness for those couples desiring to achieve pregnancy. This effectiveness is achieved through confident identification of days of fertility and infertility, and then using fertility focused intercourse to either avoid or achieve pregnancy. Dr. Daniel McDonald then related his inspirational testimony of how he became an NFP-only Obstetrician-Gynecologist who neither prescribes nor refers for contraception or sterilization. The day concluded with Mrs. Teri Mueller giving a refreshingly

honest perspective on how practicing NFP has enriched her marriage and deepened her family’s faith.

As a result of the NFP conference, the diocese will be developing goals to teach Catholic couples and physicians the theological and medical benefits of practicing NFP, and to ensure NFP is available throughout the diocese. These goals will include deciding on a

“gold standard” model of NFP for the diocese, training a core group of providers to begin teaching NFP as early as this fall, and looking for educational opportunities to better educate Catholics in the diocese regarding family planning issues. Those interested in becoming certified in teaching NFP should contact Father Castro at the Christ the King retreat center.

**Holy Angels Catholic Church**  
**Spring Festival 2004**  
**Sunday, May 2**  
**10:30 am to 4:00 pm**  
**2315 A&M, San Angelo, Texas**  
**Sausage and Brisket Dinner**  
**Served from 10:30 am to 1:30 pm**  
**Auction, Games, Arts & Crafts, Cake Wheel.**



COS Board Members stand around Bishop Michael Pfeifer and Mrs. Eva Comuñez Tucker, seated. (Photo by Peter N. Micale, WTA.)

**COS**  
from page one

COS developed out of the former St. Vincent de Paul Society starting in 1996 in a borrowed space at St. Mary's Catholic Church. Eventually the thrift shop and services moved to two different locations on Chadbourne. Its last location was a 2,700 sq. ft. space which the agency soon outgrew.

With encouragement from Bishop Pfeifer, the COS board began searching for another building. Though many buildings were located, each presented

renovation problems. It was resolved to build a new building to avoid those problems and start anew.

The 6,000 square foot building is the central location for COS work helping the needy with social service assistance including utilities, rent, medical and emergency travel, prescriptions, food, clothing, school supplies and household items. The enlarged new facility allows limited space for basic furniture and appliances.

Pat Dishman, COS executive director said, "By networking with other local social service agencies and churches, it is possible to help more people. We try to do as much

as we can to help and then we make referrals to the most appropriate resources. It is not unusual for us to receive up to ten referrals a day from other agencies and/or local churches of various denominations."

COS is totally non-denominational in providing assistance, never asking a person's religious or denominational preference.

Virginia Holder is the thrift shop manager. Debra Calhoun is her assistant. Over 30 men and women volunteer, many of whom donate at least 4 hours a week and often more, to help COS help others.

**REPORTS**  
from page one

was sent out to dioceses and religious orders last spring for completion. Each diocese and religious order was asked to complete a survey with information concerning accused clerics and victims to provide input for this study. This study covers the number, gender, and ages of victims; the number of allegedly abusive priests or deacons; and the years the abuse occurred. The study also sought to uncover how clerics met their victims, the kind of abuse inflicted, how often, and how long the abuse occurred. Other questions in the

survey attempted to reveal patterns of abuse as well as problems abusers may have had with alcohol or drugs.

While the focus of these studies is not on individuals it contains "a portrait in aggregate of the pain and suffering, the crimes and the sins, encompassed in this outrageous misconduct," said Bishop Wilton D. Gregory, president of the USCCB, in the Feb. 19 Wall Street Journal.

The results of both studies are painful, but "the church in the United States needs to shine a light on the past to gather as much information as possible about how this dreadful chapter in our history came about," wrote Bishop Gre-

gory, head of the Diocese of Belleville, Ill. "We cannot change history; but greater and more accurate knowledge will help assure that it is not repeated."

Bishop Gregory said he believes "God can bring new life out of suffering" and feels a confidence born of "facing a situation clearly and fully." He went on to say that "These reports about the past will be part of our path into the future as we walk in the light of more certain knowledge and in complete commitment to the protection of children and young people." He stated that acknowledging the extent of abuse is one step toward moving ahead.

**Certified teachers for NFP**

by Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI

SAN ANGELO – Recently a special conference on Natural Family Planning was held at Christ the King Retreat Center. There is much new interest in involving more people in this important ministry.

I am very happy to announce that the following people are certified teachers of Natural Family Planning in our Diocese: Christina Nevarez (Midland), Fran Brezina, RN (Midland), Dr. Bill Mueller (Abilene), Noe Rocha (Abilene), and Shirley Rocha (Abilene).

If you need to contact one of these teachers, you can do so through your local parish. I thank these certified teachers for offering their assistance to the people of our Diocese, especially to young couples, so that they can understand and practice natural family planning.

**LENTEN**

from page two

work, in our Church, in whatever situation.

Our Lenten Journey should include some time to reflect on the sufferings and death of Christ who

gave his life on the cross to save us from our sins and to bring us God's forgiveness. In order to celebrate the fullness of Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday, we must walk with him to Calvary, and unit our sufferings to the Crucified Christ.

**EDICTAL SUMMONS**

The Tribunal of the Catholic Diocese of San Angelo to Henry B. Abalos, Jr., whereabouts unknown.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Tribunal of the Catholic Diocese of San Angelo, at 804 Ford Street, San Angelo, Texas 76905, on or before, March 31, 2004, to answer to the Petition of Maria Yolanda Baca (O'Connor), now introduced before the Diocesan Tribunal in an action styled, "Maria Yolanda Baca (O'Connor) vs. Henry B. Abalos, Jr., Petition for Declaration of Invalidity of Marriage," said Petition being identified as Case: Baca (O'Connor) - Abalos, Protocol No.: SO 03/60, on the Tribunal Docket of the Diocese of San Angelo.

You may communicate with the Tribunal in person or in writing. Failure to communicate within the prescribed period of time will be considered your consent for the Tribunal to continue its proceedings in the above-named case.

Given at the Tribunal of the Diocese of San Angelo on the 1st day of March 2004.

Rev. William R. DuBuisson, O.M.I., M.C.L., J.C.L. Judicial Vicar

**EDICTAL SUMMONS**

The Tribunal of the Catholic Diocese of San Angelo to Barbara Ann Barker (Smith), whereabouts unknown.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Tribunal of the Catholic Diocese of San Angelo, at 804 Ford Street, San Angelo, Texas 76905, on or before, March 31, 2004, to answer to the Petition of Michael Craig Smith, now introduced before the Diocesan Tribunal in an action styled, "Michael Craig Smith vs. Barbara Ann Barker (Smith), Petition for Declaration of Invalidity of Marriage," said Petition being identified as Case: Smith - Barker, Protocol No.: SO 04/04, on the Tribunal Docket of the Diocese of San Angelo.

You may communicate with the Tribunal in person or in writing. Failure to communicate within the prescribed period of time will be considered your consent for the Tribunal to continue its proceedings in the above-named case.

Given at the Tribunal of the Diocese of San Angelo on the 1st day of March 2004.

Rev. William R. DuBuisson, O.M.I., M.C.L., J.C.L. Judicial Vicar



Bishop Michael Pfeifer spoke to women and priest religious to celebrate the consecrated life at Christ the King Retreat Center on February 9, 2004. The prayer service was followed by a luncheon. (Photo by Peter N. Micale, WTA.)

## GRANT

from page eight

resources, including missals and hymnals, music for liturgy and prayer and Pastoral Press books. OCP publishes *Breaking Bread, Today's Missal* - the most widely used missal program in the United States - and the *Catholic Sentinel*, weekly newspaper of the Archdiocese of Portland and the oldest Catholic newspaper on the west coast. OCP is a self-supporting, not-for-profit publishing company organized exclusively for religious, charitable and educational purposes.

## DEACON

from page three

ministry." The ministry of service has to find itself outside of official functions. The deacon most often "washes the feet" of others in his daily life where he works and lives. A deacon, because he has more contact with society each day, often has many more opportunities of service to build up the Body of Christ than a priest does. The ministry of the permanent diaconate is as varied and unique as each of the men who answer the call do this vocation. Each day deacons have incredible opportunities to bring the Church into their work place and to bring their work place into the Church.

The call to the diaconate comes from Christ through the Church and presupposes that one is apt and capable, willing to be prepared, for diaconal service. To be effective servant/leaders and ministers, deacons need: to be prayerful, rooted in grace; to be well-versed in Sacred Scripture; have sufficient theological, liturgical, and canonical training; be attuned to the needs of people, and thereby be able to fulfill the ministry of their order.

The deacon has many models or faith heroes from whom he can learn how to be a disciple and witness and a man of service. He should reflect on and study the lives of diaconal testimony and service of St. Stephen, St. Lawrence, and St. Francis of Assisi. Like Francis, the deacon in his service, needs to be poor, humble, simple, and proclaim

# Intentions of the Holy Father for March

*General* - That the land, culture and all the rights of the indigenous populations of the world may be respected, so that true harmony between them and those among whom they live may be attained.

*Mission* - That in Africa cooperation between missionary Institutes and local Churches may grow, with respect for the variety of gifts.

the Gospel by his personal witness as a disciple of Christ, and in his charitable manner of service.

Deacons are ordained for the threefold ministry of charity, Word, and sacrament. Depending on the circumstances, one or another of these may receive emphasis in an individual Deacon's work. But it is in the ministry of charity that deacons become a concrete sign of Jesus, who "went about doing good," by serving the poor in love. The ministry of Word and sacrament is far from being separated from the ministry of charity, and is, in fact, a culmination of that service. The former without the latter would be a hollow symbol.

I am deeply grateful to the deacons of our Diocese, who, along with their wives, give faithful witness of what it means to be disciples of Christ and servants for God's people. Deacons' wives are an important part of the diaconate. Some wives are an important part of the diaconate. Some wives assume a support position; others enjoy having projects of their own; still others work alongside their husbands in shared ministries. It pleases me also to have six candidates being trained and formed to become future children for our Diocese. Their wives attend all the classes. Brother deacons and wives, thank you for all you do.

During his 1987 pastoral visit to the Church in our country, Pope John Paul II spoke enthusiastically about our deacons and their wives. He declared that they "represent a great and visible sign of the working of the Holy Spirit in the wake of the Second Vatican Council." He went on to say, "With the whole Church, I give thanks to God for the call you have received and for your gracious response. For the

majority of you who are married this response has been made possible by the love and support and collaboration of your wives ...it is above all, the call to service that I wish to celebrate with you."

*Editor's Note: This article reprinted from the West Texas Angelus, June 1994.*

## EDICTAL SUMMONS

The Tribunal of the Catholic Diocese of San Angelo to Julie Ann Brier (Lindley), whereabouts unknown.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Tribunal of the Catholic Diocese of San Angelo, at 804 Ford Street, San Angelo, Texas 76905, on or before, March 31, 2004, to answer to the Petition of Bruce Alan Alexander, now introduced before the Diocesan Tribunal in an action styled, "Bruce Allen Alexander vs. Julie Ann Brier (Lindley), Petition for Declaration of Invalidity of Marriage," said Petition being identified as Case: Alexander - Brier (Lindley); Protocol No.: SO 03/56, on the Tribunal Docket of the Diocese of San Angelo.

You may communicate with the Tribunal in person or in writing. Failure to communicate within the prescribed period of time will be considered your consent for the Tribunal to continue its proceedings in the above-named case.

Given at the Tribunal of the Diocese of San Angelo on the 1st day of March 2004.

Rev. William R. DuBuisson,  
O.M.I., M.C.L., J.C.L.  
Judicial Vicar

# Wanted: Knights To Help Knights



The Knights of Columbus Insurance program provides needed Insurance coverage to over one million policyholders. We currently have in excess of \$43 billion of life insurance in force.

Because of the growth of the Order's insurance program, we are in need of Knights who can represent the order as agents or, if qualified, even supervisory and/or management positions may be available.

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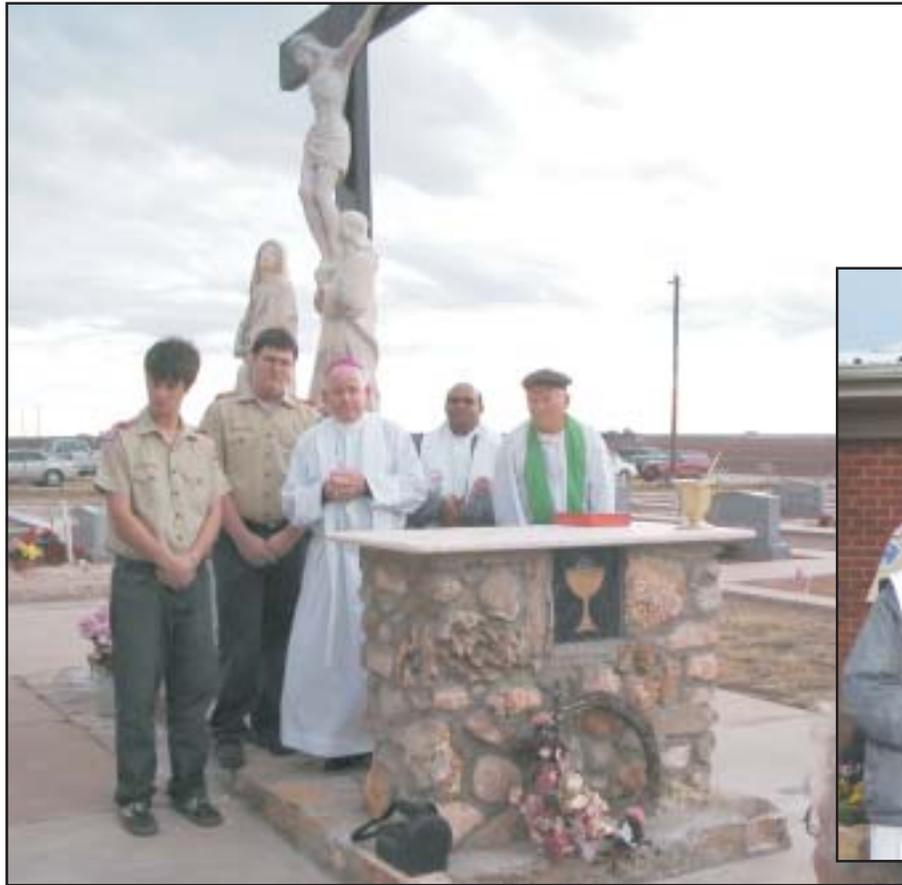




# Saint Boniface Parish Blesses Construction Projects

by Joyce Weishuhn

OLFEN – Olfen, Texas located in the quiet peaceful countryside approximately 9 miles South of Ballinger was buzzing with activity. Many parishioners, friends and Bishop Michael Pfeifer came to Saint Boniface on January 24, 2004 to bless three recently completed projects. The celebration began at the Saint Boniface cemetery where Eagle Scout Matthew Jost presented his Eagle Scout project, *The Calvary Alter & Memorial*. The gathering moved to the Saint Boniface Church where Bishop Pfeifer blessed the *Blessed Virgin Mary Memorial Grotto* project of Eagle Scout Sam Matthiesen. Following celebration of the Eucharist, Bishop Pfeifer blessed the newly remodeled Saint Boniface Parish Hall. The parishioners of the parish served a barbeque dinner to everyone attending the celebration. Significantly enough, Saint Boniface is a small parish consisting of only around 125 members. Small but active, Saint Boniface parishioners seem to have no limit to what they can accomplish.



(Left) Bishop Pfeifer, Father Prasad, and Father Moeller and Eagle Scouts Matthew Jost and Eagle Scout Sam Matthiesen at the Calvary Alter & Memorial. (Photos courtesy Joyce Weishuhn.)

(Below) Bishop Pfeifer, Father Prasad, Father Moeller, and Eagle Scouts, Matthew Jost and Sam Matthiesen at the Blessed Virgin Mary Memorial Grotto.



# Odessa parishes share city-wide hospital ministry

by Rev. Mark Woodruff

ODESSA – With Ector County’s Medical Center Hospital continually expanding, and two other local hospitals matching its growth, members of Odessa’s Catholic community faced a critical challenge. Many lay ministers wanted to visit, bring Holy Communion and pray with patients and their families, but how could so many ministers coming from five parishes and two missions be coordinated?

The Catholic community received many helpful suggestions from Medical Center’s head chaplain, Sister Margaret Ledwith, MSHR. Although a Catholic nun, Sister Margaret serves Medical Center patients of every faith. Still, she was able to challenge Catholic ministers to “get organized.”

The need for organization became even more critical when, following State of Texas guidelines, local hospitals tightened up procedures regarding patient confidentiality. This meant only specifically designated parish personnel received access to patient names. Consequently, an organization that

respected confidentiality was needed.

Eventually, parish coordinators were named and each parish took a specific day for hospital ministry. The days, parishes and current coordinators are:

- Monday, St. Mary’s, Martha Vasquez and Mimi Mooney, coordinators;
- Tuesday, Holy Redeemer, Connie Talavera, coordinator;
- Wednesday, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Joan Flynn, coordinator;
- Thursday, St. Anthony’s, May Salgada, coordinator;
- Friday, St. Joseph’s, Joe Subia, coordinator.



GATHERED IN PRAYER - Wednesday’s hospital ministers gather for prayer at the Medical Center Hospital Chapel before beginning their rounds. Sister Margaret Ledwith, hospital chaplain, leads the prayer. This Wednesday was particularly busy as the ministers also distributed ashes to the approximately forty Catholic patients in the hospital. (Photo by Rev. Mark Woodruff.)

Another step in the process of organizing Odessa’s city-wide hospital ministry was the formation of regular workshops for the hospital ministers. These gatherings grew out of several city-wide meetings Sister Margaret organized for those ministering at the hospital. Ministers

to wear masks when required were discussed at these workshops. It was at these workshops that ministers voiced the need for on-going spiritual formation as well as pastoral and clinical education. In February 2003, under the chairmanship of Joan Flynn, formal bi-

monthly workshops began gathering about 50 of the local hospital ministers together. Among the speakers were Tom Burke, pastoral associate at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Father Francis Frey of St. Mary’s Parish, and Sister Margaret Ledwith.

The initial workshops were so successful that in 2004, five more workshops are planned around topics that surfaced from the group. On Thursday, March 25, for example, the ministers will meet at St. Mary’s Parish at 7:00 p.m. to hear a presentation on “Caring for the Dying.” The speaker, Tom Burke, will call on his training as a hospice professional to give insights of importance. Also in this year the general chairmanship will pass to Martha Vasquez.

Pastors and hospital ministers see these developments as “a work in progress,” but leaders hope their organization will grow stronger as time goes on. Initial hesitations and concerns for parish boundaries have given way. One goal the ministers strive for is the visitation of every Catholic patient in the local hospitals.

Parishioners wishing to become hospital ministers needs to speak to their pastors.