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**NEWSPAPER OF THE DIOCESE OF SAN ANGELO**

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## Made in His image

by Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI

SAN ANGELO – The theme for this year’s annual Respect Life Program, which begins on October 3, 2004, is “Made In His Image.” The annual Respect Life Program is the result of a resolution adopted by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops in 1972. Begun as a week of “prayer and study,” focusing on contemporary threats to human life, the program expanded to a month of prayer and study, and expanded quickly again to a year-round program that begins anew each year on the first Sunday of October.

This year’s theme, “Made In His Image,” is a phrase that we have heard all of our lives and perhaps has become somewhat routine. This is a special moment to reflect on the profound meaning of this inspired phrase that goes back to the first book of the Bible.

Because God created human beings in His own image, each of us has a unique dignity. “Of all visible creatures only man is able to know and love his creator” . . . and he alone is called to share by knowledge and love, in God’s own life. It was for this end that he was created, and this is the fundamental reason for his dignity” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 356).

*What does it mean to be made in the image of God?*

Jesus himself is the answer. It means to be holy and loving, to give oneself for the sake of others even to the point of death, so we might share eternally in God’s life, our souls united again with our risen bodies (*Catechism*, 459,460).

Jesus taught that we must love one another as He loves us. (*Jn. 15:12*). And the

fact that every human is made in God’s image has specific implications depending on one’s situation in life.

Consider briefly what it means for three groups – families, the medical profession, and public officeholders and those who elect them.

For parents, *made in God’s image* means accepting, nurturing and educating children in truth and love, never treating them as property one is free to abort or abandon if inconvenient or burdensome.

For families and caregivers of those who are frail, mentally or physically impaired, addicted or dying, it means respecting the God-given dignity and right to life of those who are dependent and vulnerable, treating them as we would wish to be treated, until the moment God calls them home.

For obstetricians, gynecologists and family practitioners, it means acknowledging that human life begins at conception, and

rejecting drugs and devices that may cause the death of young embryos (such as by inhibiting their implantation in the womb).

For medical personnel involved in abortion it means coming to grips with the fact that those whose lives they destroy are innocent human beings who are also made in the image of God. For the rest of us it means praying for their conversion and their return to the life-affirming mission of medicine.

For researchers seeking cures for diseases, *made in the image of God* means striving to alleviate human suffering in ways that respect life – the lives of human research subjects, from conception onward, no less than the lives of the patients for whom a cure is sought.

For those who hold public office, it means addressing issues of racism, poverty, hunger, employment, education, housing and health care. “But being ‘right’ in such matters can **see “IMAGE” page eleven**

## A imagen de Dios los creó

por Obispo Miguel Pfeifer, OMI

SAN ANGELO – El tema para el Programa Respetemos la Vida anual este año, que empieza el 3 de Octubre de 2004, es “A Imagen de Dios los Creo.” El Programa Respetemos la Vida anual es el resultado de una resolución adoptada por el Congreso Nacional de los Obispos Católicos en 1972. Empezó como una semana de “oración y estudio,” enfocándose en amenazas contemporáneas a la vida humana, el programa se extendió a un mes de oración y estudio, y se extendió rápidamente otra vez a un programa para todo el año que empieza nuevamente cada año en el primer Domingo de Octubre.

El tema de este año, “A Imagen de Dios los Creo,” es una frase que hemos oído toda la vida y quizás pueda volverse rutinaria. Este es un momento especial para reflejar en la significación profunda de esta frase inspirada que se encuentra en el primer libro de la

Biblia.

Porque Dios creó al ser humano a imagen suya, cada persona tiene una dignidad única. “De todas las criaturas visibles sólo el hombre es capaz de conocer y amar a su Creador” . . . sólo él está llamado a participar, por el conocimiento y el amor, en la vida de Dios. Para este fin ha sido creado y ésta es la razón fundamental de su dignidad” (*Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica*, 356).

*¿Qué significa haber sido creado a imagen de Dios?*

Jesús mismo es la respuesta. Significa ser santo y amar, darse a sí mismo hasta la muerte por el bien de los demás, y ser partícipes de la naturaleza divina, nuestra alma unida de nuevo con nuestro cuerpo resucitado (*Catecismo*, 459, 460).

Jesús enseñó a amarnos unos a otros como él nos ama (*Jn 15:12*). Y el hecho de que todo ser humano ha sido creado a imagen de

Dios tiene implicaciones específicas según nuestra condición.

Consideremos brevemente lo que esto significa para tres grupos – la familia, la profesión médica y las autoridades públicas y quienes los eligen.

Para los padres, *creados a imagen de Dios* significa aceptar, nutrir y educar a los hijos en la verdad y en el amor, sin tratarlos nunca como propiedad que podemos abortar o abandonar si es inconveniente o nos molesta.

Para las familias y quienes cuidan a los que sufren debilidad mental o limitaciones físicas, a los adictos o moribundos, significa respetar la dignidad que Dios les ha dado y el derecho a vivir que tienen los más dependientes y vulnerables, tratándolos como quiéramos ser tratados, hasta el momento en que Dios los llame a su hogar final.

Para los obstetras, ginecólogos y médicos generales, significa reconocer que la vida humana comienza en la concepción, y rechazar drogas o dispositivos que puedan

causar la muerte de embriones nuevos (por ejemplo, impidiendo su implante en el útero).

Para el personal médico que participa en abortos significa aceptar el hecho de que las vidas que destruyen son inocentes seres humanos que también han sido creados a imagen de Dios. Para el resto de nosotros significa rezar por su conversión y su regreso a la misión de la profesión médica de proteger la vida.

Para los investigadores que buscan curas para enfermedades, *creados a imagen de Dios* significa luchar para aliviar el sufrimiento humano por medios que respeten la vida – la vida de los humanos objeto de sus investigaciones, desde su concepción, no menos que la vida de los pacientes para quienes se busca la cura.

Para quienes ocupan puestos públicos, significa ocuparse de asuntos como el racismo, la pobreza, el hambre, el desempleo, la **see “IMAGEN” page eleven**



# Pope John Paul II proclaims 2004-2005 as a year dedicated to the Eucharist

by Bishop Michael D. Pfeifer, OMI

SAN ANGELO – On June 10, 2004, the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ, during a Mass at the Rome Basilica of St. John Lateran, Pope John Paul II announced a Eucharistic year which will begin with the International Eucharistic Congress in Guadalajara, Mexico, October 10-17, 2004 and will end with the Synod of Bishops on the Eucharist in Rome on October 28-29, 2005. As he announced this year dedicated to Eucharist, the Pope said

that the Church needs to highlight the importance of the Eucharist for the spiritual life of all and the missionary task of the 21st century.

As we enter into this special year dedicated to the Eucharist, more information will be shared about the Eucharist being the source and summit of the life of the Church. I strongly encourage all the Catholic people of our diocese to make a special effort to come to appreciate the Eucharist, the Mass, in a deeper way through prayer and study as we celebrate this special year. I es-

pecially encourage families to reflect together on the Mass as the center of our Catholic lives.

As we enter into this Eucharist year and to better understand the Eucharist, I am featuring here one of the questions of the US Catholic Bishops' statement, "The Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Sacrament of the Eucharist" that was published in 2001. After this document was published, I featured in the West Texas Angelus the 15 questions that the US Catholic Bishops addressed in this impor-

tant document on the Eucharist.

For your reflection I once again present the first question – *Why does Jesus give himself to us as food and drink?*

### Why does Jesus give himself to us as food and drink?

Jesus gives himself to us in the Eucharist as spiritual nourishment because he loves us. God's whole plan for our salvation is directed to our participation in the life of the Trinity, the communion of Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Our sharing in this life begins with our Baptism,



Bishop Michael D. Pfeifer, OMI

when by the power of the Holy Spirit we are joined to Christ, thus becoming adopted sons and daughters of the Father. It is strengthened and increased in Confirmation. It is nourished and deepened through **see "YEAR" page eleven**

# El Papa Juan Pablo II proclama 2004-2005 año dedicado a la Eucaristía

por el Obispo Miguel D. Pfeifer, OMI

SAN ANGELO – El 10 de Junio de 2004, fiesta solemne del Cuerpo y Sangre de Cristo, durante una Misa en Roma en la Basílica de San Juan Laterano el Papa Juan Pablo anunció un año Eucarístico que comenzará con el Congreso Eucarístico Internacional en Guadalajara, México, Octubre 10-17, 2004 y terminará con el Sínodo de Obispos sobre la Eucaristía en Roma los días Octubre 28-29, 2005.

Cuando anunció este año dedicado a la Eucaristía, el Papa dijo que la Iglesia necesita iluminar la importancia de la Eucaristía en la vida espiritual de todos y la tarea misionera del siglo XXI.

Al comenzar este año especial dedicado a la Eucaristía, más información será compartida sobre como la Eucaristía es la fuente y la cumbre de la vida de nuestra Iglesia. Yo fuertemente animo a todo el pueblo Católico de nuestra diócesis hacer un esfuerzo especial para lle-

gar a una nueva apreciación de la Eucaristía, la Misa, en una manera más profunda por medio de oración y estudio mientras celebremos este año especial. Yo especialmente animo a las familias a reflexionar juntos sobre la Misa que es el centro de nuestras vidas Católicas.

Ahora que comenzamos este año Eucarístico y para mejor entender la Eucaristía, estoy publicando aquí una de las preguntas de la declaración de los Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos, "La

Presencia Real de Jesucristo en el Sacramento de la Eucaristía" que fue publicada en 2001. Después que esta declaración fue publicada, yo publiqué en el West Texas Angelus las 15 preguntas que los Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos explican en este documento importante sobre la Eucaristía.

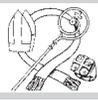
Para su reflexión de nuevo les presento la primera pregunta – *¿Por qué se da Jesús a nosotros como comida y bebida?*

### ¿Por qué se da Jesús a noso-

### tros como comida y bebida?

Jesús se da a nosotros como alimento espiritual en la Eucaristía porque nos ama. Todo el plan de Dios para nuestra salvación está dirigido a hacernos partícipes de la vida de la Trinidad, la comunión del Padre, el Hijo y el Espíritu Santo. Empezamos a participar en esta vida con nuestro Bautismo, cuando, por el poder del Espíritu Santo, nos unimos a Cristo, y nos convertimos así por adopción en hijos e **see "AÑO" page eight**

**The Bishop's Schedule**



**October 2004**

October 1: Big Spring, St. Thomas - Meet with priests of the Midland/Odessa Deanery at 11:00 a.m.

October 2: Odessa, St. Elizabeth

Ann Seton - Confirmation at 5:00 p.m.

October 3: San Angelo, Holy Angels - Mass at 11:00 a.m. and bless new education centers immediately after Mass

October 4: San Angelo, Holy Angels - Mass and Bless Animals at 8:30 a.m. for Students of Angelo Catholic

School

October 5-6: Rest and Prayer

October 7: San Angelo, Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart - Living Rosary at 7:00 p.m.

October 9: San Angelo, San Angelo Convention Center - Jr. High Diocesan Youth Event. Mass at 4:00 p.m.

October 10: Houston - Meeting of the Holy Sepulchre

October 12-15: Guadalajara, Mexico - Eucharistic Congress

October 16: Odessa, St. Mary - Confirmation at 6:00 p.m.

October 17-18: San Antonio - MACC Board Meeting

October 19: San Angelo, Diocesan Pastoral Center - Presbyteral Council meeting at 11:00 a.m. Christ the King Retreat Center - Mass at 5:00 p.m. for the Prison Ministry Conference

October 19-20: San Antonio - Meeting of Texas Bishops

October 21: Abilene, Sacred Heart - Confirmation at 6:30 p.m.

October 22: San Angelo, Christ the King Retreat Center - Seminar for the Leadership of the Diocese given by Kathleen McChesney of the Office for Child and Youth Protection of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

October 23: San Angelo, Holy Angels Church - Liturgy Day

October 24: San Angelo, St. Margaret - Mass at 10:30 a.m.

October 26-28: Rest and Prayer

October 29: San Angelo, Christ the King Retreat Center - Retreat for Diocesan Pastoral Staff from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

October 30: Odessa, St. Mary - Catholic Schools Commission Meeting

October 31: Odessa, St. Joseph - Bless new building at 5:00 p.m.

**November 2004**

November 1: San Angelo, Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart - All Saints Day Mass at 12:00 noon

November 2: San Angelo, Calvary Cemetery - All Souls Day Mass at 11:00 a.m.

November 3: San Angelo, Diocesan Pastoral Center - Staff Mass at 8:30 a.m. Meeting with Tribunal Staff at 11:00 a.m.

November 4: Eden, St. Charles - Confirmation at 6:30 p.m.

November 5-6: Houston - Celebration of Bishop Joseph Fiorenza's 50th Anniversary as a Priest and 25 Years as a Bishop

November 6: San Angelo, St. Mary - Mass to Celebrate the 100th Birthday of Estefana Garza at 6:00 **see "SCHEDULE" page eleven**

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# Vocation Circle

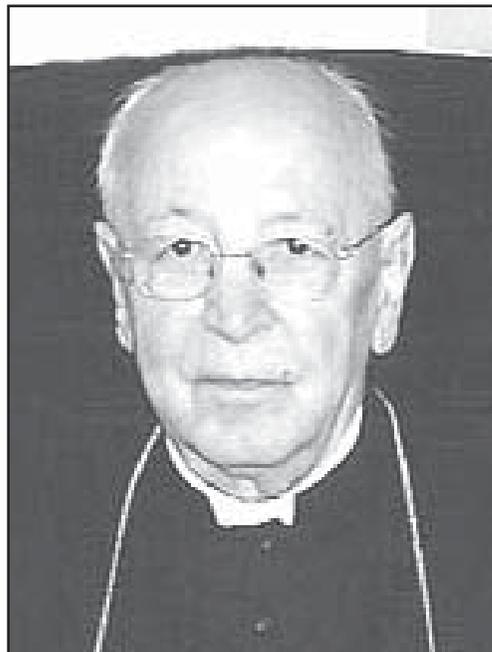
## It isn't work, it's service

by Anonymous

COLEMAN – The week before Father Larry Cyr's 60th anniversary celebration, I pondered how I might best capture the joy of such a glorious occasion. It was not until I stumbled across an article about mentoring that I found the simple, but perfect, approach to commemorating this humble priest's contributions to not only my life, but virtually all those he meets.

If there is some master list of mentors, Father Larry's name should most definitely be near the top. While interviewing several people, the first description I invariably heard was always, "Well, he's

my mentor." Perhaps the person who worded it best is Father Larry's dentist, James "Butch" Anders. He's the son of a Baptist minister, so he clearly has theological differences with our Catholic teachings. Even then, he describes Father Larry as one of his favorite people; as a kind, gentle Christian after whom he models his life. When Butch was ordained a deacon in his Baptist church, Father Larry was there to support him. The dentist's receptionist knows that when Father Larry calls for an appointment, she is to book double time because they spend so much time sharing philosophies.



Fr. Larry Cyr who is celebrating his 60th anniversary as a priest. (Photo courtesy Father Cyr.)

Father Larry has clearly been an inspirational force in the Coleman, Texas community for 25 years now.

Always active in the ministerial alliance, he has often been the head of this organization, bringing unity and community to Coleman. In his eyes, this is not work, but rather service. He is active in community affairs, attending high school graduations, Chamber of Commerce events, and other denomination's celebrations. He was close friends with Coleman's Episcopal minister and her husband, also attending her ordination. Perhaps one of the strongest testimonies I heard was that a couple of weeks ago, when she was dying of cancer, Father Larry was asked to anoint her—she died peacefully two hours later. This dedicated servant of God has

helped bond the different faith traditions to promote the Kingdom of God in his city, the diocese of San Angelo, and the Precious Blood community. We have been richly gifted by his prayerful presence and continue to be blessed by his joyful service as a gentle but formidable leader. This was undeniable in the packed church and reception following his anniversary mass.

As joyous and wonderful as this celebration was, we were saddened to learn the next day of the loss of one of our Community members, Father Sam Homsey, who was traveling to join in the festivities. He had been mentioned during the liturgy, and I had heard during the reception that there had been a car accident, but I never dreamed it was so serious. I guess Father Sam was just headed to a different celebration, that of being called to his new life in Christ. For that, I choose to rejoice.

# Deacon Leroy Beach celebrates 25th anniversary

by Loretta Burgess

MILLERSVIEW – July 3, 2004 was a day of special celebration at Our Lady of Guadalupe church in Millersview, Texas. This time was chosen to commemorate the twenty fifth anniversary of ordination to the Permanent Diaconate for Deacon Leroy Beach. Joining him were Dorrace, his wife of 57 years, nine children and their spouses, twenty-eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Leading the assembly in worship were Fr. Romanus Akamike, Fr. Tom Barley, Deacon Joe Lopez and Deacon Leroy. The following are thoughts shared by daughter Theresa Lemke.

Today we honor my father for 25 years of service as a deacon. I was already married, and gone from home when that occurred. When I stopped to ponder that, I saw something more clearly than ever before, and that is what I'd like to share today. I can't talk about the exact year in 1954 that Dad helped with the building of this little mission church that was to be known

as Our Lady of Guadalupe, nor can I talk about all the many years of growth and establishment prior to the 1950's when I was born. However, in talking with my brothers and sisters, we ALL remember Dad leaving at least two hours before church every Sunday, to pick up children for CCD that wouldn't otherwise have gotten there. We all remember him, sometimes alone, and sometimes aided by two other women, teaching year after year. I think that makes about 49 years altogether of teaching CCD! We remember him meeting with countless couples who were struggling in their marriage, or those getting ready for marriage. We remember him teaching scores of people on the teachings of our church, and watched them join our Catholic faith, long before we knew what the acronym "RCIA" meant. We remember him doing every odd job there was to do that might be needed in church. He painted, roofed, mowed, polished candlesticks, built or repaired kneelers, paneled, repaired the swing set, . . .

what he wasn't doing, our mother was; ironing the altar linens, vestments, sewing and dusting. We girls thought it was so exciting when we got to iron our first finger cloths for the altar, or go to dust mop the church for our first time. We didn't think it was so cool when we were still doing it years later as part of our Saturday ritual! We remember Dad unlocking the church every morning and locking it every evening. We elementary students were shuffled into church many mornings as the bus dropped the students off at Millersview school. Dad took that opportunity to start the day in prayer before we had to get to class. We remember him saying on Sundays, that the church would always be open, to not worry if you

see "DEACON" page ten



(Top) Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Millersview, Texas and parishioners.

(Bottom, l to r) Fr. Tom Barley, Dorrace and Deacon Leroy Beach, Fr. Romanus and Deacon Joe Lopez. (Photos courtesy Loretta Burgess.)



# Bush vs. Kerry: The Conscience Issues

*Editorial, National Catholic Register, September 12-18, 2004 issue, used with permission*

Using Church documents, Catholic Answers has written a guide citing "Five Non-Negotiable Issues" for Catholic voters.

"These five current issues concern actions that are intrinsically evil and must never be promoted by the law," says the guide. We used the guide as a starting point to compare each candidate's positions.

ships - and the Supreme Court.

## 2. Euthanasia

"In euthanasia, the ill or elderly are killed, by action or omission, out of a misplaced sense of compassion, but true compassion cannot include intentionally doing something intrinsically evil to another person" (Evangelium Vitae, No. 73).

President Bush's justice department challenged Oregon's assisted suicide law in court.

John Kerry says he is personally opposed to assisted suicide but won't challenge Oregon or any other state's assisted-suicide laws.

## 3. Embryonic Stem-Cell Research

Human embryos are new lives from conception to eight weeks, with their own DNA, sex, life-expectancy - and right to life. "Respect for the dignity of the human being excludes all experimental manipulation or exploitation of the human embryo" (Pontifical Council for the Family, Charter of the Rights of the Family, No. 4). Recent scientific advances show that medical treatments that researchers hope to develop from experimentation on embryonic stem cells backfire in frightening ways. At the same time, effective treatments have been developed by using morally obtained adult stem cells instead.

President Bush's embryonic stem-cell decision in August

2001 was criticized by many pro-life groups and praised by others. First Lady Laura Bush spoke at the GOP convention about the importance of respecting human life in stem-cell research.

John Kerry says he will end Bush's block on funding embryonic stem-cell research. Ron Reagan Jr. spoke at the Democratic convention in favor of embryonic stem-cell research.

## 4. Human Cloning

"Attempts ... for obtaining a human being without any connection with sexuality through 'twin fission,' cloning or parthenogenesis are to be considered contrary to the moral law, since they are in opposition to the dignity both of human procreation and of the conjugal union" (Charter of the Rights of the Family No. 1:6). Human cloning also involves abortion because the "rejected" or "unsuccessful" embryonic clones are destroyed, yet each clone is a human being.

President Bush has called human cloning "morally, wrong" and called for a ban on all human cloning.

John Kerry voted against a ban on human cloning, and in 2004, he sponsored his own bill to make human cloning legal.

## 5. Homosexual "Marriage"

"When legislation in favor of the recognition of homosexual unions is proposed for the first time in a legislative assembly, the Catholic lawmaker has a moral duty to express his opposition clearly and publicly and to vote against it. To vote in favor of a law so harmful to the common good is gravely immoral" (Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, Considerations Regarding Proposals to Give Legal Recognition to Unions between Homosexual Persons, No. 10).

President Bush supports a constitutional amendment defining marriage as between a man and a woman.

Senator Kerry voted against the Defense of Marriage Act in the Senate and wouldn't vote to even allow a debate on the federal marriage amendment.

# Welcome to Catholic Citizenship!

*by Ambassador Raymond Flynn, Chairman*

WASHINGTON - In September, 2003, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops released an important statement, *Faithful Citizenship: A Catholic Call to Political Responsibility*. In response to the Bishops challenge for all American Catholics to actively participate in the political process and maintain an informed conscience on the issues, Catholic Citizenship was born.

Today, with one out of every four Americans (or 65 million) being Catholic, we make up the largest single religious voting bloc in the country. Yet, we have seen an increasingly divided flock in our nation on the fundamental moral issues of our day: abortion, euthanasia, embryonic stem-cell research, human cloning, social and economic justice, and same-sex marriage. Sadly, not only are many Catholics not fully informed on the issues, millions are not even registered to vote.

We at Catholic Citizenship, working closely with our bishops, seek to change this. Our mission is to both educate Catholics on the issues and encourage participation in the political process. By designating a public policy team at each parish, Catholic Citizenship will be able to keep parishioners updated on the activities of their elected officials and thereby create a network of informed and politically active Catholic citizens throughout the nation.

Ideally, we hope to get to the point where all candidates are pro-life, pro-family and promote policies to alleviate the suffering of our poorest citizens. When Catholic citizens become unified and committed to these issues, above any party loyalty or special interests, then all candidates for public office will compete for our vote.

Our goal is not to see the hierarchy become more political, but lay Catholics more informed and involved in the civic life of our community and country. I urge you to join our effort today and look forward to seeing you help make Catholic Citizenship serve as the model of faithful citizens committed to working for the common good of all.

*Raymond L. Flynn served as U.S. Ambassador to the Vatican from 1993-97 and as Mayor of Boston from 1984-93 before becoming Chairman of Catholic Citizenship in 2004.*

# How to prepare for Election Day, November 2, 2004

*by Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI*

SAN ANGELO - One of the greatest privileges and rights we have as American citizens is the right to vote. It is important that we use this right, and encourage other people, to also use this right and privilege. And, as we are faced with a critical election for the highest political office in the country, I encourage all to reflect on how we might help others to prepare for this important election for our country.

- a) Help people to register to vote.
- b) Help those who cannot get to the polls on Election Day to vote early;
- c) Inform voters of the positions of candidates;
- d) Inform Catholics of the teachings of our bishops on political responsibility;
- e) Get bulletin inserts into Church bulletins;
- f) Promote our "Study Guide" of the bishops' document *Living the Gospel of Life*;
- g) Monitor polling places to insure fair elections;
- h) Distribute voter education information from door to door.

**St. Mary's Catholic Church**  
**First Fall Festival**  
**Saturday, October 9, 10 am - 7 pm**  
**1110 Main St., Brownwood, TX**  
**Spaghetti Dinner 11:30 am - 1:30 pm**  
**Silent and Live Auctions! • Live Music**  
**Washer Tournament • Games • Arts & Crafts**  
**Food Booths • Petting Zoo • Clown-Magician**  
**"Hole-in-one wins a new car" Golf**



# Ivan Dragicevic, the Visionary of Medjugorje coming to St. Ann's, Colorado City!

by Rev. George Varakukala, Pastor

COLORADO CITY – In 1981, Our Blessed Mother Mary, first appeared to Ivan Dragicevic and five other young people in their village of Medjugorje. He has received nine

secrets from Mary, and continues to have daily visions of the Blessed Mother during the Rosary. Today, he is an Ambassador of Our Lady, spreading the message of Medjugorje.

We are happy to announce that

he will be visiting St. Ann's Church, Colorado City, TX on November 10, 2004. Want to hear him? Be at St. Ann's Church on Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. on November 10, 2004. For further information call office at 325-728-3252.

## Priesthood Sunday 2004 set for Oct 31

by Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI

SAN ANGELO – Along with many other organizations and

groups, I am very happy to proclaim **Sunday, October 31, 2004** as **PRIESTHOOD SUNDAY** for the

Diocese of San Angelo. This is a special day to rally in support of our priests with prayer, celebration, and dialogue.

The purpose of **PRIESTHOOD SUNDAY** is to engage every level of the Church in the United States in a national conversation about priesthood, and to pray for our priests and for more vocations to priesthood and religious life. The key focus of Priesthood Sunday is on the priesthood's place as a central reality in the life of the Church. The emphasis is on celebration of priesthood through liturgy, discussion and recognition.

## All invited to two 40th anniversaries

by Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI

SAN ANGELO – Mark your calendars – All are invited to a Mass of Thanksgiving that will be offered on December 21, 2004 at 6:30 pm at Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart to honor the 40th anniversary of priesthood of Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI, and the 40th anniversary of the dedication of Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart in San Angelo.

Priests who attend are most welcome to concelebrate this Mass of Thanksgiving with Bishop Pfeifer.

## A special day to remember

### Fifth Anniversary of the Signing of the Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification

by Bishop Kevin S. Kanouse, Northern Texas/Northern Louisiana Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Bishop Paul J. Blom, Texas Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Bishop Ray Tiemann, Southwestern Texas Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Bishop Placido Rodriguez, CMF, Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Lubbock,

Bishop John W. Yanta, Bishop the Catholic Diocese of Amarillo, Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI, Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of San Angelo, Bishop Joe S. Vasquez, Aux. Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Galveston/Houston

BELTON – We, the Lutheran and Catholic bishops, who work on ecumenical dialogue, took the occasion of our being together at the recent meeting of the Texas Conference of Churches, to re-affirm the Joint Declaration on the Doctrine

of Justification.

October 31 of this year will mark the Fifth Anniversary of the signing of the Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification by the Lutheran World Federation and the Roman Catholic Church. The signing of the Joint Declaration will rightly be remembered as the day when Lutherans and Catholics were able to state officially that there is a consensus between these two Christian bodies on basic truths related to the Doctrine of Justification.

The Joint Declaration states in paragraph 15, "Together we confess: By grace alone, in faith in Christ's saving work and not because of any merit on our part, we are accepted by God and receive the Holy Spirit, who renews our hearts while equipping us for and calling us to good works." The consensus of the Joint Declaration enabled Lutherans and Catholics to declare that the mutual condemna-

## PROCLAMATION

The Bishop of the Diocese of San Angelo proclaims

**OCTOBER 2004**

as

## CZECH HERITAGE MONTH

in the diocese of San Angelo

*In recognition and appreciation for the significant and lasting cultural, religious and social contributions that the Czech people have made to the state of Texas and the Catholic Church, and in particular to the Catholic*

*Diocese of San Angelo,*

*I, Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI, am very happy to proclaim October as Czech Heritage Month.*

**May God bless all the Czech people.**

**Most Reverend Michael Pfeifer, OMI  
Bishop of San Angelo**

I encourage all the people of our Diocese to reach out in support of all of our priests on this most special day and to organize some special events to show love and support for our priests at a parish level. What can you do in your community to show your appreciation for our priests, and to pray and work

more for vocations to priesthood and religious life?

May Jesus, our great eternal High Priest, bless all of our priests in a new way. I want to take this opportunity to express my deepest gratitude to all the priests of our Diocese for the splendid service that they give to all of our people.

tions of the 16th century no longer apply.

The Fifth Anniversary of the signing of the Joint Declaration calls for celebrations and for renewed studies on how these two religious bodies can come closer together. This anniversary is the occasion to give thanks to God for this step in unity that is so wanted by Christ for His followers. It is also an opportunity to draw on the ecu-

menical resource that the agreement represents and to continue our efforts ecumenically and our common witness to interpret the message of justification. We call on churches and individuals around the world to renew prayers to the Holy Spirit for openness and understanding and to contribute to the ongoing discussion of the issues and challenges still remaining.

## St. Boniface Catholic Church Fall Festival, Olfen, TX Sunday, October 10

**Turkey & Sausage Meal 11 am - 2 pm  
Adults/Plates to Go \$6, Child \$3  
Games 12 noon • Entertainment  
Auction 1 pm • Candy Drop 3 pm**



# 9/11 memorial service

by Peter Micale, WTA

SAN ANGELO – To remember the terrible day of terrorism that struck our country on September 11, 2001, a special ecumenical memorial service was held at the 9/11 Memorial Monument located between the Museum and the Friendship Bridge on the river in San Angelo on Friday, September 10, 2004 at 10:00 am. In anticipation of the actual day – September 11, 2001 – this memorial service was led by Bishop Michael D. Pfeifer, OMI, and several other ministers of the city of San Angelo: Rev. Nathaniel Hankins, First United Methodist Church; Rev. Carolyn Reed, Chaplain of Eden Detention Center; Rev. Ron Sutto, First Presbyterian Church; and Rev. Quirion Cornejo, Pastor of St. Joseph Catholic Church, who gave the Final Benediction.

Prayers and singing were part of this memorial service. The First United Methodist Ensemble under the direction of Linda Baumheckel led the singing of the National Anthem, and then closed the program with

singing My Country Tis of Thee. After Bishop Pfeifer's reflection, the Angelo Catholic School students, under the direction of Mr. Edward Hernandez, sang Amazing Grace. A moment of silence then followed

and it was broken by the playing of a CD of the 9/11 Memorial Hymn, written by Prof. Chris Ellery of Angelo State Univ. and sung by Erin Alisanski, also of Angelo State Univ.

Uniformed members of the San Angelo Firefighters and Police



(Above) The Monument is located on a mound near the San Angelo Museum, overlooking the river and Friendship Bridge. (Photos by Stephen Talley.)



(Above) Bishop Pfeifer addressed everyone with Police Chief Velasquez on the Bishop's left and Mayor Lown on the Bishop's right. (Right) Goodfellow AFB and the city's firetrucks were parked between the San Angelo Museum - in background - and the Monument.

Force were present, as were uniformed members of the USAF Firefighter School House of Goodfellow Air Force Base, who drove a fire truck from the School to the event.

The 9/11 Memorial Monument, which was dedicated on September 8, 2003, is a reminder, in the city of San Angelo, of the lives lost on that tragic day and to also remember the heroic deeds that were performed by many firefighters, police officers, emergency and health care workers.



## 75th Diamond Jubilee



(Above) Mass was celebrated at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Ozona, Texas on Saturday, August 28 for the 75th Diamond Jubilee of the church. (Left) Seated from l to r, Fr. Debuissou, OMI, Fr. Richard, Past Pastor, and Fr. Moellar. Standing between the Knights



of Columbus 4th Degree Honor Guard from Fr. Serran Braun Assembly, San Angelo, are Bishop Pfeifer, Fr. Michael and Pastor Fr. Serafin Avenido. (Photos by Edward V. Fierro.)

## Christ the King Retreat Center October Calendar

- 1-3 Lubbock Deacon's Annual Retreat
- 5 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- 7 International Priests Lunch
- 8-10 Engaged Encounter, St. Ann's Mom's Retreat
- 12 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- 14-17 Women's Walk to Emmaus
- 18-21 Texas Catholic Correctional Ministries (TCCM)
- 19 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- 22 United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Fall Seminar
- 26 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- 29 Day of Reflection, Bishop Pfeifer's Staff and Secretaries of San Angelo Area Parishes



# Pro-life Mass in Midland

by Peter Micale, WTA

MIDLAND – On Saturday, September 11, 2004, at 9:30 am, Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI, of the Catholic Diocese of San Angelo celebrated his annual special Pro-Life Mass at the Prayer Garden in front of Planned Parenthood in Midland, Texas, located at 307 E. Texas Avenue.

This Pro-Life Mass was offered for all the unborn who have been destroyed through abortion and for those waiting to be born, praying that they will be given the opportunity to celebrate their birthday, and for all couples, especially women who are struggling with a difficult pregnancy decision.

All the Catholic parishes of the Midland/Odessa area were asked to send representatives to this Pro-Life Mass. A little over 300 people were there, including about 40 members of the Fourth Degree of the Knights of Columbia in their regalia. The Mass was celebrated in both English and Spanish, and various people from the choirs of the Midland/Odessa area provided the singing and music. Many youth took part in this Pro-Life Mass.

September 11, 2004 was also the third anniversary of the terrible day of terrorism that destroyed the lives of some 3,000 innocent people in our country. They and their families were remembered in this Pro-



Bishop Pfeifer praying at door of Planned Parenthood Abortion Clinic.

Life Mass, and during the Mass, prayers were offered for an end to terrorism and for peace in our local community, our state, our country, and the world.



(Left) Bishop Pfeifer celebrated Mass under a tent at the Grotto opposite the Planned Parenthood clinic in Midland.



(Above) Women Religious pray during Mass.



(Below) Priest and Deacon procession prior to Mass.

(Below) 4th Degree Honor Guard provided an arch of ceremonial swords for the entrance procession of Altar Servers, Deacons, Priests and the Bishop.



(Above) Over 300 people attended the Mass. (Photos by Tony and Margie Schillo.)



John Angotti came to Midland on the weekend of August 28. John held a day rally for youth in high school. John shared music and the importance of participating in Mass. "if you are not asking questions or talking about at your table what happens at this table (the altar) you are missing the mission." John also provided a concert at St. Ann's Church free of charge for anyone wishing to listen. " I feel that no matter what I want to do with my life on a personal side, I've come to see that my vocation, not my occupation in life, is to help the people of this world come to know God both on a personal and communal level." shared John. Students and parents came from Stanton, Odessa, Big Spring, Crane. John Angotti is the music liturgist at St. Ann's Church in Memphis as well as a recording artist. (Photo by Lucie Valles.)

## 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.

This full-time career opportunity offers:

- Professional level earnings potential
- Non-contributory pension plan
- 401K
- Contributory life and health insurance
- Non-contributory disability plan
- A chance to make a difference in people's lives ...
- And much more

A pretty impressive list, isn't it? Would you like to help provide benefits and services to Brother Knights and their families? Would you like to know more about how you can become an insurance representative?

If you are a practical Catholic and are eligible to join the Knights of Columbus, with or without insurance experience, and would like to know more about joining our ranks, mail, fax, or e-mail your response to: James W. Seideman FIC, CLU, Knights of Columbus, P.O. Box 93824, Lubbock, TX 79493, Phone: (806) 785-1670, Toll Free: 1-877-797-5632, Fax: (806) 797-0755, E-mail: kcinsurance@lubb.net



# Catholic Extension Service supports Diocese

by Peter Micale, WTA

SAN ANGELO – Many people don't realize that there is missionary work going on right here in America - in our own back yards! Catholic Extension is the leading supporter of that missionary work. In fact, Catholic Extension has touched almost every diocese in the United States in some way. Since 1905, nearly \$400 million has been distributed to dioceses to help them staff and operate their small, struggling parishes.

Founded in 1905, the Chicago-based Catholic Extension works to support the Church in poor, remote and rural areas of the United States by providing grants to support church construction; vocations;

subsidies for priests, religious and lay missionaries; religious education and outreach programs; and disaster relief. Catholic Extension is the leading supporter of America's Catholic missions, distributing more than \$14 million last year.

We in the Diocese of San Angelo have received \$5,093,965 since 1905. The following summary shows how the money was distributed throughout the years: Catholic Extension has given the diocese \$1,846,850 for Chapels, \$317,543 for masses, \$449,370 for subsidies, \$692,290 for seminarians, \$576,250 for Newman Centers, \$876,470 for CCD and Religious Education, and \$335,192 in other

support.

Catholic Extension Service has provided \$100,000 in grants to help families in Florida recover from the devastation of recent hurricanes.

On Sept. 25-26, Catholic Extension President Bishop William Houck visited the Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee to tour communities devastated by Hurricane Ivan and present a \$50,000 disaster relief grant to help the diocese in its recovery efforts. Earlier this month, Catholic Extension sent a \$50,000 emergency relief grant to the Diocese of Venice to aid recovery efforts of poor farm workers in the wake of Hurricane Charley, which hit on August 13.

Catholic Extension President Bishop William Houck visits with Deborah Roberts at what remains of her home in Warrington, Fla. Photo by JoAnn Marciszewski.



# Catholic Diocese completes Child Protection Audit

by Mike Wyse

SAN ANGELO – The Catholic Diocese of San Angelo recently completed its second audit for compliance with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. During this intensive 4-day audit, the diocese was examined by auditors from the Gavin Group, an independent firm

engaged by the USCCB Office of Child and Youth Protection. The diocese was found to be in complete compliance with all articles of the Bishops' Charter.

Some of the diocese's activities the auditors commented most favorably on included: diocesan efforts to promote a Safe Environment for Children through its many workshops and seminars throughout the

diocese; the practice of conducting background checks for all church personnel; maintaining accurate records of Ethics and Safe Environment Training; conducting Safe Environment Workshops not only for church personnel but also for parents and children; the work of Bishop Michael Pfeifer in organizing task forces and supporting community efforts toward protecting children in

cities throughout the diocese; and the organization and qualifications of the Diocesan Review Board which would review any allegations of sexual abuse of minors.

Since May 2003, in an effort to prevent Sexual Abuse and promote a Safe Environment for Children, the diocese has conducted over 80 Ethics Workshops in which over 3,500 clergy, religious, employees, and

volunteers have been made aware of recognizing and reporting child sexual abuse. Realizing the scope of this terrible problem in today's society, the diocese has also conducted over 100 workshops for parents and presented a Safe Environment Curriculum to over 12,000 students. The Diocese of San Angelo includes 73 parishes and missions in 29 counties serving over 89,000 Catholics.

## Late Nite Catechism 2 Sometimes we feel guilty because we ARE guilty!

Just when you thought it was safe to go into the classroom... Sister is back and BIGGER and BADDER than ever! Finally a sequel to that theatrical wonder, *Late Nite Catechism*, and it's coming to Midland, Texas on November 13, 2004 and is sponsored by St. Ann's School. *Late Nite Catechism 2* by Vicki Quade and Maripat Donovan is a hilarious, interactive hit comedy in which catechism classes are led by *Sister*. The event will be presented at the Yucca Theatre, 208 N. Colorado, Midland, Texas. Tickets are NOW on sale at St. Ann's School, (432) 684-4563. Ticket prices range from \$20 to \$40 depending on seat selection.

This adult comedy has been all over the U.S. performing for Catholic and non-Catholic audiences alike. *Sister*, the instructor for the evening, will require that her adult students listen attentively to the hard-hitting words while trying their best not to draw attention to themselves. Her authoritative personality will certainly strike up memories from those of you who have survived the ups and downs of going to school with a strict but irresistible instructor. She will be presenting rewards throughout the evening to her "students" for their correct answers. This show is subject for anything to happen, like standup comedy should be.

All proceeds will benefit St. Ann's School. If you would like to advertise in the playbill or if you need additional information call Dolle Porter (432) 682-5868. The evening will prove to be nothing but enjoyable. So, please come and join us!

## AÑO

from page two

hijas del Padre. Esta relación se fortalece y acrecienta en la confirmación, y se nutre y profundiza mediante nuestra participación en la Eucaristía. Comiendo el Cuerpo y bebiendo la Sangre de Cristo en la Eucaristía llegamos a unirnos a la persona de Cristo a través de su humanidad. "El que come mi carne y bebe mi sangre, permanece en mí y yo en él" (Jn 6:56). Al estar unidos a la humanidad de Cristo estamos al mismo tiempo unidos a su divinidad. Nuestra naturaleza mortal y corruptible se transforme al unirse con la fuente de la vida. "Como el Padre, que me ha enviado, posee la vida y yo vivo por él, así también el que me come vivirá por mí" (Jn 6:57).

Al estar unidos a Cristo por el poder del Espíritu Santo que habita en nosotros, nos hacemos parte de la eterna relación de amor entre el padre, el Hijo y el Espíritu Santo. Como

Jesús es por naturaleza el Hijo eterno de Dios, así nosotros nos hacemos hijos e hijas de Dios por adopción mediante el sacramento del Bautismo. Mediante los sacramentos del Bautismo y la Confirmación (Crismación), nos convertimos en templos del Espíritu Santo, que habita en nosotros, y al habitar en nosotros, somos ungidos con el don de la gracia santificante. La promesa última del Evangelio es que participaremos de la vida de la Santísima

Trinidad. A esta participación en la vida divina los padres de la Iglesia la llamaron "divinización" (*theosis*). En esto vemos que Dios no simplemente nos envía buenas cosas desde el cielo; por el contrario, somos introducidos también a la vida interior de Dios, a la comunión entre el Padre, el Hijo y el Espíritu Santo. En la celebración de la Eucaristía (que significa "acción de gracias") damos alabanza y gloria a Dios por este sublime don.

## St. Elizabeth Catholic Church

### 2nd Annual Fall Harvest Festival

### Sunday, October 10

### Odessa, Texas

**12:00 noon - 5:00 pm • Free Admission**

**Great Food • Terrific Booths • Friendly Smiles**

**All profits go toward Parish debt.**

**See you and your family!!**

**FMI call Alan P. Torre (432) 366-2611**



# Codes of conduct, programs highlight conversation with Kathleen McChesney

by Jordan McMorrough, Editor  
Today's Catholic newspaper

SAN ANTONIO – Nearly two dozen safe environment program coordinators from 13 dioceses across Region X, which consists of Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas, came together Sept. 13 at the Oblate Renewal Center to discuss topics of concern, such as policies, clearance and documentation.

Following an opening prayer by Bishop David Fellhauer from the Diocese of Victoria, the meeting began with a presentation from Dr. Kathleen McChesney, executive director of the Office of Child and Youth Protection (OCYP) at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

McChesney said the gathering provided her an opportunity to say "thank you" to the coordinators for what they do. "It's hard to deal with victims and support groups," she said. "You do what you do because you love the church and want to make it better."

The executive director of the OCYP said her office is to provide resources, implement the "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People," which was adopted by the USCCB at their Dallas meeting in June 2002, and to oversee the national audit of diocesan compliance with the charter, which McChesney called "a wonderful document, but a threshold."

The OCYP was formed a year-

and-a-half ago in response to the charter and the first round of audits was conducted shortly thereafter. "It provided a good baseline measurement," said the executive director. "Where we were was actually quite good. In 90 percent of dioceses things are underway."

In the first 40 audits, the OCYP identified that half-a-million children had received safe environment training, along with 4,000 clergy. "That's people who didn't have training two years ago," McChesney said.

Two evaluations were taken following the audits, one immediately afterwards and another this January. Coordinators expressed concerns regarding the consistency of the auditors and a belief that not enough commendations were issued to dioceses.

For the second round of audits, McChesney said her office has worked on an instrument that will guarantee consistency, calling it "auditor proof," and will measure progress by building in a way to identify the good things going on around the country.

She continued, "One diocese mails out a victim response form. It asks people how they can be treated in a better way and what could have been done in terms of policies and procedures. Find some way to measure what you do."

The OCYP executive director emphasized that the charter gets implemented at the parish level, and

that it's important at the parish level to know what is going on.

"In 50 percent of cases the offender had a personal relationship with the victim's families," she said. "Things such as background checks and restrictive service are preventative and can identify some criminal activity."

Concerning background checks, the former FBI agent said there has not been much agitation about the process from employees, but that is not the case with volunteers. The USCCB is currently examining a national "pointer system" which would track volunteers with registered complaints from diocese to diocese.

McChesney's office was also tasked by the National Review Board to oversee a study on the nature of the scope and problem of sexual abuse among clergy. The OCYP hired the John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York City to conduct the research, a move not without some controversy. McChesney said some Catholics were critical of the decision because a Catholic institution, namely Notre Dame or Georgetown, was not selected to undertake the report.

She responded to this criticism in the following way: "In trying to study a significant crime issue, you need the right mix of researchers and perspective and objectivity. If a Catholic institution had been selected, there would always be those

who say, 'Oh, it's just one group of Catholics looking out for another group of Catholics.'"

McChesney again expressed her gratitude to the safe environment program coordinators for their assistance in that project. "I thank all of you for what you did in that. It's an incredible document for the church, one that shows leadership."

Two conclusions arose from the study:

- 1) Poor selection of candidates for the priesthood, primarily men who had psycho-sexual issues.
- 2) Formation in the seminaries was not as it should have been, and a series of recommendations were made.

That report set the framework for the upcoming second study concerning the causes and context of the problem of sexual abuse by clergy. The study will ask, "What is

different between the priests and deacons who offended (4 percent) and those who did not offend (96 percent)?"

When asked by coordinators about monitoring clergy who have offended, the executive director said that particular area is outside of the charter. However, she did say, "Very few dioceses have any kind of monitoring in place. That is something see "CODES" page ten



Kathleen McChesney speaking at a recent seminar. (Photo courtesy Today's Catholic.)

**St. Ambrose Catholic Church**  
**65th Annual Festival, Wall, TX**  
**Sunday, October 17**  
*Theme: Wall Goes Hollywood!!*  
**German Sausage & Turkey Meal**  
**11:00 am to 2:00 pm • Adult \$6 • Child \$3**  
**Bingo 12:00 noon • Auction 1:30 pm**  
**Games • The Market**

**Sacred Heart Catholic Church**  
**Parish Fall Festival, 11 am - 4 pm**  
**Sunday, October 24**  
**201 San Saba St., Coleman, Texas**  
**Mexican Dinner – 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**  
**Silent Auction • Crafts & Plants • Bingo**  
**Games • Horseshoe & Washer Toss**  
**Cake Walk • Train Rides for Kids • Concessions**

Deanery	Place	Date	Time
Abilene	Holy Family, Sweetwater	Oct. 11, 2004	7:00 - 10:00 pm (Eng)
	St. Francis, Abilene	Oct. 14, 2004	6:30 - 9:30 pm (Eng)
	St. Mary, Brownwood	*Nov 9, 2004	6:30 - 9:30 pm (Eng)
	<i>(Date Corrected from original date of Nov. 4)</i>		
Midland/Odessa	St. Anthony, Odessa	Oct. 18, 2004	7:00-10:00 pm (Eng)
	Our Lady of Guadalupe, Midland	Nov. 8, 2004	7:00-10:00 pm (Eng)
San Angelo	St. Margaret, San Angelo	Oct. 12, 2004	7:00-10:00 pm (Eng)
	Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart, San Angelo	Nov. 15, 2004	7:00-10:00 pm (Eng)



# Retribution, Hatred and the Role of the Media In World War IV

by Earl Tilford, Ph.D.

CARLISLE, PA – War is quintessentially a human endeavor. From microbes to grizzly bears, every other creature kills instinctively. Humans are different. Some kill for profit, others to satisfy sexual urges and too many kill out of religious conviction. Killing to achieve political goals is called “war.” The bloodiest wars are about ideology and religion.

The kneeling, bound and blindfolded victim in an orange jump suit fidgets. He appears to be speaking. Is he pleading? Perhaps praying? Or, knowing the horror that the black-clad figures ranting in the background will soon inflict upon him, does he babble incoherently from unfathomable fear and dread? Suddenly a terrorist brandishes his knife, others drop their AK-47s and seize the victim. The knife flashes, the victim’s scream is cut short as the newscaster fills in the details.

“The Islamic group Unification and Jihad, which claims loyalty to Jordanian-born terrorist leader Abu Musab al Zarqawi, claimed responsibility for Eugene Armstrong’s killing.” The rest of the story follows. A

widow weeps. Family members and friends attest to the victim’s humanity. The newscaster relates Unification and Jihad’s promise that additional beheadings will follow . . . and they have. Many horrified viewers wonder if this war is worth such pain.

The murder of Eugene Armstrong, like slaughters before and others sure to come, are coldly calculated acts of political theater. After watching the story on the evening news my wife asked what might stop these atrocities. An angry initial response erupted out of my basest human instincts for revenge. “Take ten prisoners from Abu Ghraib. Shoot them with bullets dipped in pork fat. Wrap their bodies in pig carcasses then bury them in pig blood-soaked graves with their feet pointed toward Mecca. Send the video to al Jazeera. Do that for every person they murder and these animals will get the message.” Frankly, I feel really good imagining this response.

But it’s the wrong response. It’s wrong not because it appalls those kind-hearted and well-meaning folks who protest, “That brings us down to their level!” Perhaps it does, but what makes these people think

that a society which sanctions the killing of unborn children, glorifies violence in its entertainment, defends pornography as a right of free speech, exiles religion from the public square and debates the moral efficacy of same sex marriage, bestiality and euthanasia is on a higher level from one that beheads people dubbed “infidels?” These murderers kill with such alacrity because they believe killing infidels fulfills a divine mandate.

The objective of war is to break the enemy’s will. The purposeful and effective use of legally-sanctioned violence demands we bind our passions. Hatred, always morally wrong, in war is militarily counter-productive. The United States and its allies cannot countenance distractions like those generated by the comparatively mild mistreatments inflicted at Abu Ghraib. (Remember how the My Lai massacre eroded public support for the Vietnam War.) It will take good intelligence coupled with unrelenting, determined hard work to hunt down and kill the terrorists who slaughter innocent people. Passions generated by hatred might hamper that process.

Meanwhile, what can be done to put an end to these slaughters? First, the media must stop cooperating with the murderers. Terrorism needs television coverage to succeed. Each televised beheading provides millions of dollars in free advertising to support groups like Unification and Jihad. Televised beheadings both generate funds and aid in recruiting.

Post-modern terrorism is theater. Televised pleas from family members add to the drama by emphasizing the human dimensions of the tragedy. Terrorists get instant affirmation validating their tactics, which encourages additional kidnappings and beheadings. Finally, at the strategic level, terrorism is an asymmetric approach our enemies use to attack our national will and resolve. Media coverage is fundamental to the success of this strategy. Accordingly, the media should limit its reporting to the barest possible facts.

Second, every legitimate effort must be made to exterminate the mad dogs responsible for these atrocities. The search must be relentless and as ruthless as necessary; the result both inevitable and invariable.

Third, we need to attack the terrorists psyche. War is two-thirds to three-fourths mental and one-third to one-fourth physical. While doing so would be beyond the pale of morality and the US should never countenance such

behavior, every terrorist should fear he might, indeed, leave this life wrapped in a pig’s carcass and buried in a pig blood-soaked grave, with his feet pointed toward Mecca. We already know the evil of which these terrorists are capable; let them worry about the worst “the Great Satan” hypothetically might do.

Winning in warfare is a matter of sound strategy supported by will and resolve. The stakes in this war are enormous. If we lose, all our Judeo-Christian traditions of human dignity and freedom of expression also will be lost. The media needs to get behind a war that must be won.

*Dr. Earl H. Tilford* is Professor of History at Grove City College. He enjoyed an extensive military career and after retiring from the U.S. Air Force, served as an associate professor of history at Troy State University in Montgomery and professor of military history at the U.S. Air Force Air Command and Staff College. In 1993 he became director of research at the U.S. Army’s Strategic Studies Institute in Carlisle, Pa., where he worked on a project that looked at possible future terrorist threats. He has authored three books on the Vietnam War and co-edited a book on Operation Desert Storm. He has lectured throughout the U.S. and abroad on the Vietnam War and, more recently, the future of armed conflict. Contact him at [ehiltford@gcc.edu](mailto:ehiltford@gcc.edu).

## DEACON

from page three

were coming in off the tractor and were dirty, but to come anyway. We remember him always leading First Friday services for years. We were so mad at him if we were missing a football game, but he was determined that we be there, and rarely gave us a Friday off.

We remember years of Lenten Stations of the Cross service, rosaries prayed for someone sick, “Prayers for Priests” after Mass, and 24 hour devotions, most of the time led by Dad, sitting next to Mom in church. We remember Dad holding the most wiggly of all my brothers and sisters during Mass, and they never moved at all, much to Mother’s amazement. We remem-

ber years of Dad and Mom, time after time, forgiving us children for the acts of rebellion we were determined to live out. First they would punish us, but always, always, they would forgive us. How hard it must have been, and how they must have grieved, after all the seeds of righteousness they had sown into our lives, to see us make those silly and selfish choices. There were countless priests, nuns and school boards they had to apologize to through the years. They just THOUGHT their sons were going to CCD all year, and what about that daughter who cheated on her Religion final! We remember him becoming “Padrino” to many godchildren through the years. When he would visit them at their home and bring them a gift, he would take us with him. We grew to love those children just as he did, and to this day, our first childhood and school age best friends were Mexicans, close

to our hearts forever. We have many fond memories of playing and eating with them as he visited their parents. Because of Dad, I, along with my sister and brothers had countless “BD” examples to carry as our inheritance as we left home. We had “Before Deacon” sets of examples and models to glean from. They would be examples that would form us as another generation - a people of God who find it easy to serve Him with a passion, believe in relationships above all else, perform countless acts of service for others, and constantly seek to forgive others like God has forgiven us. Yes, today we have much to celebrate as we remember the special times Dad was there in our lives as a deacon: to marry us or our children, to baptize his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren and to formally share God’s grace through these sacraments. But, the best gift of all for most of

us as children . . . the one that is so easy for us to sing about when we praise God for all He has done for us . . . is that because of Dad and Mom, and the life they led BEFORE dad became a deacon, . . . loving God is like breathing. It’s our life.

## CODES

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each diocese will have to consider.”

While gratified by the results from the initial studies, McChesney said it’s very dangerous for the church to say the sexual abuse crisis is over. “It’s never over for the victims and their families.”

She touched on the topic of issue fatigue, saying, “I recognize that it’s easy to get tired of the issue, but do so only in appropriate settings. Different people are tired of the subject, but it will never go away. You will always be needed by somebody.”

**Angelo Catholic School  
and the Knights of Columbus  
Oktober Fiesta 2004  
October 31 • 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Brisket Dinner - To Go Available  
Live Auction 1:00 p.m. • Beer Garden  
Games • Bingo • Talent Stage  
Many Prizes • Casey the Colt**



# El Santo Rosario

por el Obispo Miguel Pfeifer, OMI

SAN ANGELO – El mes de Octubre está dedicado a la Virgen María, y en este mes honramos a la Madre de Cristo y nuestra Madre bajo el título de Nuestra Señora del Rosario, la fiesta que celebramos el 7 de Octubre. Este mes es un momento especial para renovar nuestra devoción a la Virgen María, y una manera especial para honrar a María es rezar el Santo Rosario. El Rosario con los nuevos misterios que fueron añadidos por el Papa Juan Pablo II, es un resumen breve de la vida de Cristo.

Brevemente les presento unas palabras de su Santidad Juan Pablo II sobre la importancia y eficacia del Rosario.

“El Rosario de la Virgen María, en su sencillez y profundidad, sigue siendo una oración de gran significado, destinada a producir frutos de santidad. Concentra en sí, la profundidad de todo el mensaje evangélico. En él resuena la oración de María, su perenne *Magnificat* por la obra de la Encarnación redentora en su seno virginal. Con él, el pueblo cristiano aprende de María a contemplar la belleza del rostro de Cristo y a experimentar la profundidad de su amor. SS. Juan Pablo II”

## YEAR

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our participation in the Eucharist. By eating the Body and drinking the Blood of Christ in the Eucharist we become united to the per-

son of Christ through his humanity. “Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him” (Jn 6:56). In being united to the humanity of Christ we are at the same time united to his divinity. Our mortal and corruptible na-

## Goodfellow Air Force Base Chapel Job Opportunities

### CATHOLIC PROGRAM COORDINATOR

The position of Catholic Program Coordinator is an important part of the Catholic Community at Goodfellow AFB Chapel. The Catholic Program Coordinator supports both the Catholic parish and the Catholic Chaplain by helping to coordinate existing parish programs, develop new programs and recruit, train, and monitor volunteers to successfully implement the overall Catholic program. In the absence of the Catholic Chaplain, the Program Coordinator, in conjunction with the R. E. Coordinator, the Auxiliary Priest, and the Parish Council will administer the parish programs along with making sure there is a Catholic Priest for all Worship and Religious Rites. **FULL-TIME OPPORTUNITY.**

### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The Chapel Administrative Assistant assists the Wing Chaplain in performing administrative duties in the front office. Works well with people. Must be proficient in reading and writing English. Learn organization and functions sufficient to receive visitors, telephone calls, and distribute mail by specific name/functional area. Perform receptionist duties such as greet people who visit the chapel offices, answer the phones in a courteous manner. Must be proficient in the use of Microsoft Word, Excel, Outlook, and PowerPoint. Learn how to use Air Force computer programs. Knowledge of routine operating procedures for copy and fax machines. The names and phone numbers of your last three employers for similar work needs to be submitted with your bid package.

Interested applicants should call following numbers for more information and to send resume and two (2) references.

Gina Potts, Contract Director  
Renhill Staffing Services of Texas, Inc.  
Phone: (210) 828-0508 / Fax: (210) 828-0589

tures are transformed by being joined to the source of life. “Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me” (Jn 6:57).

By being united to Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit dwelling in us, we are drawn up into the eternal relationship of love among the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. As Jesus is the eternal Son of God by nature, so we become sons and daughters of God by adoption through the sacrament of Baptism. Through the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation (Chrismation), we are temple of the Holy Spirit, who dwells in us, and by his indwelling we are made holy by the gift of sanctifying grace. The ultimate promise of the Gospel is that we will share in the life of the Holy Trinity. The Fathers of the Church called this participation in the divine life “divinization” (*theosis*). In this we see that God does not merely send us good things from on high; instead, we are brought up into the inner life of God, the communion among the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. In the celebration of the Eucharist (which means “thanksgiving”) we give praise and glory to God for this sublime gift.

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never excuse a wrong choice regarding direct attacks on innocent human life” (*Living the Gospel of Life*, 23). Those involved in lawmaking have a “grave and clear obligation” to oppose laws that attack human life (*Doctrinal Note* on Catholics in Political Life, 4).

For voters, it means exercising their significant power of citizenship in ways that defend human life, especially those who are waiting to be born, disabled or otherwise defenseless. The bishops urge Catholic voters to choose political leaders based on principle, rather than on party affiliation or self-interest (*Living the Gospel of Life*, 34).

The call to honor the image of God places special duties on each of us, in every walk of life. But at its root this call is the same for all. It is by seeing Christ in others, and acting accordingly, that we will become like Him and share in His eternal destiny.

# Intentions of the Holy Father for October

*General* - That, firm in their faith, Christians may be eager to dialogue with those who belong to another religious tradition.  
*Mission* - That the due presence of Catholics in the national life and the media of the Latin-American continent may increase.

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educación, la vivienda y el cuidado de la salud. ‘Pero estar en lo ‘cierto’ en tales asuntos nunca puede ser una excusa para una mala decisión con respecto a ataques directos a una vida humana inocente” (*Vivir el Evangelio de la Vida*, 23). Los legisladores tienen la “precisa obligación de oponerse” a toda ley que atente contra la vida humana (Nota Doctrinal sobre los católicos en la vida política, 4).

Para los electores, significa ejercer el considerable poder de su ciudadanía de manera que defienda la vida humana, especialmente la de los que esperan nacer, de los minusválidos o indefensos. Los obispos encarecen a los electores católicos que escojan sus dirigentes políticos según sus principios y no su afiliación política o el interés propio (*Vivir el Evangelio de la Vida*, 34).

El llamado a honrar la imagen de Dios impone deberes especiales a todos, sin importar lo que seamos. Mas en el fondo, este llamado es el mismo para todos. Sólo viendo a Cristo en los demás y actuando según esta convicción, seremos semejantes a él y participaremos de su eterno destino.

## SCHEDULE

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- p.m.
- November 7: San Angelo, Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart - Mass at 10:00 a.m.
- November 9: San Angelo, Diocesan Pastoral Center - Staff Meeting at 11:00 a.m. Ballinger, St. Mary - Meet with Pastor, Pastoral and Finance Councils at 7:00 p.m.
- November 11: San Angelo, Diocesan Pastoral Center - Diocesan Liturgy Commission Meeting at 10:00 a.m. Personnel Board Meeting at 12:00 noon
- November 13: San Angelo, St. Joseph - Update Seminar for Pastoral and Finance Councils
- November 14-18: Washington, DC - Meeting of United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
- November 19-21: Oklahoma City - Regional Youth Meeting
- November 23: San Angelo - Southland Baptist Church Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service at 7:00 p.m.
- November 25: San Angelo, Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart - Thanksgiving Day Mass at 9:00 a.m.
- November 26-28: Rest and Prayer
- November 30: San Juan - Meeting of Texas and Mexican Border Bishops

**St. Joseph Catholic Church**  
**82nd Annual Fall Festival**  
**Sunday, November 14**  
**Rowena, Texas**  
*Festival Theme is “Home Sweet Home”*  
**German Sausage, Turkey & Dressing Meal**  
**Served from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm**  
**Auction, Games, Country Store, Fun.**



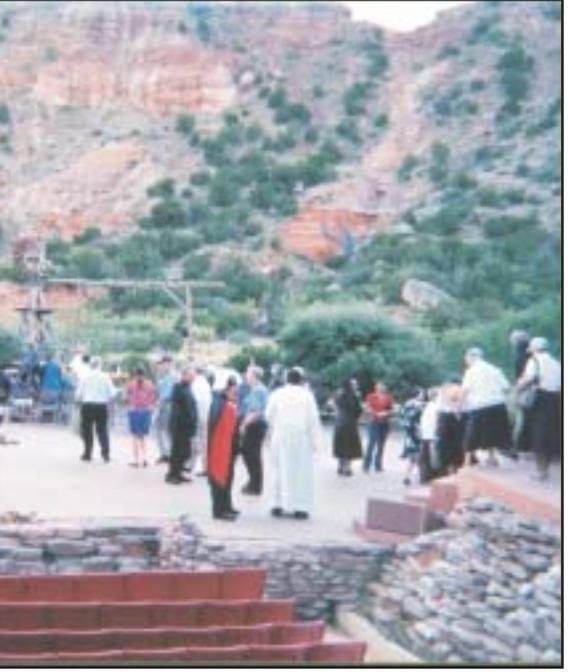
# International Symposium: The Franciscan Presence in the Borderlands of North America - Amarillo, Texas

by S. Adelina Garcia, OSF  
AMARILLO – The Diocese of Amarillo played host to an international symposium on Fray Juan de Padilla and the Franciscan influence in North America. Coordinated by Dr. Felix D. Almaraz, Jr. (UTSA) Sept. 16-18 at the Bishop DeFalco Retreat and Conference Center in Amarillo and hosted by Bishop John Yanta. S. Adelina Garcia, OSF represented the Diocese of San Angelo.

Scholars and Franciscans from around the world are researching the travels of the Spanish explorer Francisco Vasquez de Coronado and his chief of chaplains Fray Juan de Padilla in the present Texas Panhandle and Kansas in their search

for Quivira (the seven fabled cities of gold). On the Feast of the Ascension, May 26, 1541, Father Padilla offered a Mass of Thanksgiving in a canyon near Amarillo - possibly Palo Duro Canyon, Tule Canyon or a branch of one of the canyons. Padilla remained in Quivira to evangelize the native Americans. Later, in approaching another tribe, he was killed in 1542, making him the first martyr of North America.

Efforts are being made by scholars and the Church to get Padilla canonized and recognized as the first martyr of North America. Among the scholars present were Dr. Jeffery Burns from the American Franciscan History Academy, Dr. Robert and Dr. Rose Marie



(Above) Preparing for mass in Palo Duro Canyon.

(Left) Memorial of Fray Padilla's martyrdom in Ellwood Park. (Photos courtesy S. Adelina Garcia, OSF.)

Senkewicz from Santa Clara University in California, Dr. Gilbert Cruz from Arizona State University, and Rev. Robert Wright, OMI from

Oblate School of Theology. Also present were various Franciscan friars from Rome, Mexico and the United States.

Friday afternoon included a trip to Palo Duro Canyon where Mass was celebrated followed a Texas Bar-B-Que supper hosted by the Knights of Columbus.

# Holy Family youth learn about poverty

by Keelan O'Connell  
member of Holy Family Youth

ABILENE – On June 27, a group of 18 youth and adults Howard and Penny Pope and Dennis and Janelle O'Connell departed from Holy Family in Abilene for a week with Young Neighbors in Action in Gallup, New Mexico. The theme of Young Neighbors was Blessed are

You (Luke 6:7-26). This teaching focuses on social injustice in our world. Throughout the week our group was busy weeding and landscaping, and painting a chapel, convent and house. We also had the opportunity to make new friends with those less fortunate than ourselves. Through this experience I learned many things about society.

While we accomplished many projects, the most important thing I learned was that good works can't replace precious time spent with those who are lonely. The most important thing you can do for someone is just to be there to talk and listen. Paint may last a couple of years, but words and love last a lifetime.

Through my mission trip experience I learned much about poverty. This helped me break down a stereotypical wall I had created long ago that I didn't even realize existed. I came to see the poor in a new light. Not everyone who is poor is poor because they are too lazy or uneducated to get a job, or because they spent all their money on worthless things like alcohol or drugs. Many are poor because of unfortunate events that have befallen them in their lives like a serious illness or the responsibility of caring for a sick or needy family member. However poor they were, they were always willing to give the little that they had. Josephine, a wonderful lady our group worked for, made us a delicious home cooked Mexican meal complete



Youth at Texas / New Mexico border. (Photos courtesy of Penny Pope.)

with tortillas, beans, and rice. Spending what little money she had to provide a meal for us was a big sacrifice but she joyfully sacrificed what little she had for us. She was a perfect example of the Beatitude "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God".

Finally, I learned that impoverished individuals are just like us. They love to joke around, laugh,

and have a good time. Throughout their lives they have laughed, cried, succeeded, and failed. They have faced many trials and tribulations, but still look with optimism toward the future. They have faith that God is watching over them. They look forward to their eternal life with our Heavenly Father where "the last shall be first and the first shall be last".



Abilene youth group poses in front of Casa Reina in Gallup, NM.