

Vocation Circle, p. 3
 True Love Waits program, p. 4
 Share in the Care, p. 5
 Living justice, proclaiming peace, p. 6

Father Castro receives "Good Shepherd" award, p. 7
 Congreso Eucarístico, p. 10
 COURAGE conference, p. 11
 Catholic Campaign for Human Development, p. 12



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Catholic Extension Society helps Diocese

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

SAN ANGELO – The Catholic Church Extension Society is going to celebrate in 2005 its 100th Anniversary of dedicated service supporting missionary work in the United States. Founded in Chicago in 1905, Catholic Extension will have granted a staggering \$400,000,000 in assistance for Chapel Construction, ministry subsidies, seminarian aid, campus ministry support, CCD/religious education ministry, Mass stipends, and other invaluable assistance for missionary activity throughout the United States during this first one hundred year period. (See accompanying stories below.)

Within our own experience, Catholic Extension has been – and continues to be – a

see "SOCIETY" page eight

La Sociedad Extensión de Iglesia Católica ayuda a la Diócesis

por el Obispo Miguel Pfeifer, OMI

SAN ANGELO – La Sociedad Extensión de Iglesia Católica celebrará en 2005, su aniversario de 100 años de servicio dedicado apoyando la obra misionera en los Estados Unidos. Fundado en Chicago en 1905, Extensión Católica ha donado \$400,000,000 para asistencia con la construcción de capillas e iglesias, subsidios para ministerios, asistencia para los seminaristas, apoyo para ministerio a los universitarios, ministerio de educación religiosa/CCD, estipendios de Misas, y otra asistencia inestimable para las actividades misioneras por todo los Estados Unidos durante sus primeros cien años.

Dentro de nuestra experiencia, Extensión Católica ha sido – y continúa siendo – un

see "SOCIEDAD" page eight



Dedication Photo with building Committee and Bishop Pfeifer, hanging on the wall is the dedication plaque honoring the benefactors and the In Memoriam names. Pictured are: Clifton Michalewicz, Al Strube, Fr. Bhaskar Morugudi, Mark Zentner, Bishop Pfeifer, Catholic Extension Rep. - John Connors, Alan Pelzel, Penny Lange and Linda Urbanek. (Not pictured are Building committee members Ray Dierschke and Burnell Glass.) (Photo courtesy of Fr. Bhaskar Morugudi.)



Bishop Pfeifer blessing addition with Fr. Uecker, Fr. Frey and members of the Fourth Degree Knights. (Photo by Ines Corral.)

New religious education classrooms in Rowena

by Fr. Bhaskar Morugudi

ROWENA – St. Joseph Parish in Rowena is pleased to announce the dedication and blessing of their new kitchen addition and CCD rooms to the existing Parish Hall. Saturday, October 23rd, Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI assisted by Father Bhaskar Morugudi, offered Mass at 5:00 p.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church. Following the Mass, Bishop Pfeifer blessed the outdoor stepping stone rosary and the kitchen addition.

see "CLASSROOMS" page nine

New Ministry Center in Odessa

by Fr. Mark Miller, C.P.P.S.

ODESSA – The parishioners of St. Joseph parish of Odessa, Texas are celebrating. Their dream of expanding their CCD facility is now fulfilled. Blessed be God. This new building, constructed by contractor, N.C. Sturgeon, was blessed by Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI of the Catholic Diocese of San Angelo on Sunday, October 31st at 5:00 P.M.

There is an old saying that says, "Rome wasn't built in a day." What this indicates is that some things take time to materialize. This certainly was true of the new ministry center just completed. The plans for this building have been in the works for years and it has gone through several changes in the design as well as several Pastors and pastoral councils. But,

see "CENTER" page nine



The Cursillo Movement: "Come and See" (John 1:39)

by Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI

When describing their sinful past, it is not uncommon to hear a person say, "but then I lived my Cursillo." The rest of their story, then, becomes one of conversion to an authentic Christian life.

Since the "Cursillo Movement" was founded in the 1940's, the Cursillo experience has been the "spiritual hinge" upon which countless lives have turned.

"What is the Cursillo?" This question is difficult to answer, not because it is a secret, but because it is a "lived", personal encounter with God through community, which transcends description. The only way to really know, using our Lord's own words, is to, "Come and See." (J.1:39)

The mission of the Cursillo Movement is: "To make Christian community possible in neighborhoods, parishes, workplaces, and anywhere that people live the greater part of their lives."

After a personal encounter with our Lord Jesus Christ during the 3-Days of the Cursillo, the new "Cursillista" has a great desire to return to his or her environments and evangelize them by living an authentic Christian life. In this way, they fulfill our Lord's command to "go therefore, and make disciples of all nations, ... teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." (Mt. 28:19-20)

There are three major phases of the Cursillo Movement: (1) The Precursillo, (2) The 3-Day Cursillo, and (3) the Postcursillo.

The emphasis of the first phase (Precursillo) is to search for and select the environments that need Christian transformation and persons within those environments.

The second phase (3-Day Cursillo) is a method which makes possible the living out of a Christian's baptismal commitment through presentations on the fundamentals of Christian living and through group sharing, prayer and celebration of the sacraments.

The final phase (Postcursillo) is the most important one of the three. It is designed to increase and continue the conversion process and the living as authentic Christians by providing a support community which helps Cursillistas to persevere in living their daily

see "COME" page eleven

El Movimiento de Cursillos de Cristiandad: "Vengan y Verán" (Juan 1:39)

por el Obispo Miguel Pfeifer, OMI

Al escuchar el testimonio del pasado pecaminoso de una persona, no es raro oírle decir, "pero luego viví mi Cursillo." Lo demás de su historia, entonces, se trata de su conversión a una vida Cristiana auténtica.

Desde la fundación del Movimiento de Cursillos en los 1940's, la experiencia del Cursillo ha sido como una 'bisagra espiritual' donde han cambiado vidas incontables.

"¿Qué es un Cursillo?" Esta pregunta es difícil contestar, no porque es un secreto, sino porque es una "vivencia", un encuentro personal con Dios por medio de la comunidad, que sobrepasa descripción. La única manera de conocerlo, usando las palabras propias de Jesús, es que ... "Vengan y Verán" (Jn 1:39)

La misión del Movimiento de Cursillos es: "De hacer comunidad Cristiana posible en las vecindades, parroquias, lugares de trabajo y dondequiera que la gente viva la mayor parte de sus vidas. "

Después de un encuentro personal con nuestro Señor Jesucristo durante los 3-días del Cursillo, el "Cursillista nuevo", tiene un gran deseo de regresar a sus ambientes a evangelizarlos, viviendo una vida Cristiana auténtica.

Así, ellos cumplen con sus responsabilidades bautismales: "vayan y hagan que todos los pueblos sean mis discípulos... y enséñenles a cumplir todo lo que yo les he encomendado." (Mateo 28:19-20)

El Movimiento de Cursillos consiste de tres fases principales: (1) El Precursillo, (2) El Cursillo de Tres Días, y (3) el Poscursillo.

El énfasis de la primera fase (Precursillo) es el de buscar y seleccionar los ambientes que necesitan transformación Cristiana igual que personas dentro de esos ambientes.

La segunda fase (El Cursillo de Tres Días) es un método que hace posible el vivir las responsabilidades bautismales por medio de presentaciones de lo fundamental para vivir Cristianamente y por medio de compartiendo en grupos, oración y celebración de los sacramentos.

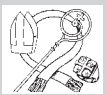
La última fase (Poscursillo) es la más importante de las tres. Esta fase aumenta y continúa el proceso de conversión y el vivir Cristianamente por medio de una comunidad de apoyo que les

see "VENGAN," page eleven



Bishop Michael D. Pfeifer, OMI

The Bishop's Schedule



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 p.m.

November 7: San Angelo, Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart - Mass at 10:00 a.m.

November 9: San Angelo, Dioc-

esan 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

December 2004

December 1-2: San Juan - Meet-

ing of Texas and Mexico Border Bishops

December 3: San Angelo, Diocesan Pastoral Center - Mass for Staff at 8:30 a.m. Staff Meeting at 11:00 a. m. St. Joseph - Advent Night of Prayer at 7:00 p.m. for Priests, Sisters, Deacons and Wives of the San Angelo Deanery

December 4-5: Washington - Celebration of 150th Anniversary of the Immaculate Conception Proclamation at the National Shrine
December 6: Abilene, Sacred Heart - Advent Night of Prayer for all Priests, Sisters, Deacons and Wives at 7:00 p.m.

December 7: San Angelo, - Staff Christmas Party at Bishop's Residence at 6:00 p.m.

December 8: San Angelo, Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart - Feast of the Immaculate Conception at 9:00 a.m. First United Methodist Church - Advent Prayer and Reflection at 12:00 noon

December 9-10: Dallas

December 10: San Angelo, Santa

Fe Depot - Tell Christmas Stories at 7:00 p.m.

December 12: Eden - Detention Center Mass at 1:00 p.m.

December 13: San Angelo, Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart - Our Lady of Guadalupe Feast Mass at 7:00 p.m.

December 14: San Angelo, Diocesan Pastoral Center - Presbyteral Council meeting at 2:00 p.m. Christ the King Retreat Center Christmas Party for Priests, Sisters, Deacons and Wives at 5:30 p.m.

December 15: San Angelo, Shannon Womens' Clinic - Advent/Christmas Mass at 11:00 a.m.

December 16: San Angelo, San Angelo State School - Advent and Christmas Prayer Service at 1:00 p.m. St. Joseph - Posada at 6:30 p.m.

December 17: San Angelo, Angelo Catholic School Sacred Heart Campus - Christmas Mass for Students and Faculty at 8:30 a.m. San Angelo, St. Mary - Penance Service at 7:00 p.m.

see "SCHEDULE" page eleven

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Vocation Circle

Vocation Homily for Priesthood Sunday 2004

by Fr. Rodney White, Midland

MIDLAND – Wow... there sure are lots of things that we are commemorating this weekend. This weekend the Bishops of the United States have asked us to celebrate Priesthood Sunday. As all the kiddos know, this weekend is also Halloween. Monday and Tuesday we celebrate the dual Feasts of All Saints and All Souls. Like I said, a big weekend.

And yet in the midst of all this stands Zacchaeus. It would be easy to miss him, what with his short stature and all these great events going on around him. Yet, in the Gospel, Jesus notices this little man and invites himself into his home, therefore I think that we should give him a little bit of attention in this busy weekend.

Zacchaeus was a sinner. He was a tax collector and thus stole money from people to feed himself and his family. For example, if the tax rate was 10% he might charge you 15% and pocket the change as his income. And yet, it is to this small, sinful man that Jesus connects himself to. He notices the latent goodness in the man and calls it forth to the point where Zacchaeus promises to make restitution for his criminal and sinful behavior.

Isn't Jesus showing us exactly what priestly ministry is? He calls the sinful man to righteousness and he does it not by being preachy or threatening him with hellfire, but he calls him to dinner. As a priest, I



A Vocation Cross is presented to the Neagle family of St. Ann's Parish in Midland, asking them to pray for vocations to Priesthood for a week. (Photo courtesy of Fr. White.)

try and do the same thing ...to call people to the table of the altar and to reconciliation with God and neighbor. It truly is a full time job and the work grows everyday.

We all know about the shortage of priests in this Diocese. The hours can be long and difficult. The joys are also great and powerful. God continues to call young men to the altar and yet fewer and fewer answer that call. In part, that is why we are celebrating Priesthood Sunday. To celebrate the goodness that is the Priesthood; the call to live as, to use the Latin term, an "alter-Cristus," to be another Christ for God's people. Just as Jesus invited Zacchaeus out of his tree, I would like to take this time to invite our young men in the parish to consider if God is calling them to a priestly vocation. Perhaps, like

see "VOCATIONS" page ten

Diocese loses valued employee

by Peter N. Micale,
WTA

SAN ANGELO – Mrs. Gloria S. Trevino, the Media Center Secretary of the Pastoral Center, died tragically in an auto accident on Saturday, October 30, 2004. She had been the librarian for the Diocese for almost nine years, and anyone and everyone who ever needed a resource book, sound or videotape, or any reference document for any of the many religious education programs of the Diocese came under the influence of her ready smile and her "drop-everything-to-help" attitude.



Mrs. Gloria S. Trevino (Photo courtesy of the Trevino family.)

She enjoyed baking special cakes and treats for all holidays for the Pastoral Center staff, and always had a full bowl of treats for anyone with a sweet tooth who passed her desk.

Gloria was known for her kindness, good deeds and open heart. She was always willing to help others and gave of herself unselfishly. She loved music and loved to sing with the Spanish Choir of the Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart, and she learned to play the guitar in her adult life.

Gloria was born December 27, 1942 to Gerardo Vera and Dominga Marroquin of Kingsville, Texas. Gloria married her devoted husband, Deacon Gerardo (Jerry) Trevino Jr. on July 22, 1962. She is survived by her husband of 42 years, Gerardo (Jerry) and her four loving children: Norma Minkler (Andrew) of Port Isabel, Texas, Terri Bland (Jim) of Charlotte, North Carolina, Bertha Hernandez (Mykal) of Germany and Esteban (Tony) Trevino of San Angelo, Texas. She also has seven grandchildren: Colin Minkler; Ashley, Michael, and Kristin Bland; Aaron, Esai, and Olivia Hernandez.

Rosary Vigil service was held at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday at the Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Wednesday, Nov. 3rd at 10:00 a.m. at the Cathedral with the Most Reverend Michael D. Pfeifer, OMI, Bishop of San Angelo, presiding. Another evening Rosary was held at Salinas/Ramirez Funeral Home in Kingsville, Texas on Thursday at 7:00 p.m. followed by Mass of Christian Burial on Friday, November 5th at 10:00 a.m. at St. Martin's Catholic Church with the Reverend James Foelker, OMI presiding. Gloria was laid to rest in the Chamberlain Catholic cemetery in Kingsville, Texas.

May the angels take her in their hands and guide her into heaven and may they watch over her as she watches over us. She will be greatly missed and mourned by all those who knew her.

November Necrology

Please pray for the following priests and deacons whose anniversaries of death are during the month of November.

November 10 - Rev. James Coleman (2002)

November 19 - Rev. Frank Zimmermann, C.M. (1999)

November 23 - Rev. Colm Mulligan MSC (2003)

November 27 - Rev. Michael Dwyer MSC (1997)



The True Love Waits Program

by Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI

SAN ANGELO – Did you know that there is a Catholic True Love Waits Program? This fine program, which promotes chastity and communicates the Catholic Church’s moral teaching on human sexuality, is put out by the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry (NFCYM). For more information on this vitally important program, I ask you to please contact the Office of Education and Formation of our Diocese.

The NFCYM Program views True Love Waits as more than just a signing of a promise card. This program addresses how parishes need to develop a comprehensive process that promotes chastity, stresses the importance of the sacraments, gives solid Catholic moral teaching on sexuality, and creates a prayerful environment which supports young people in leading chaste lives. This program also calls for the support of parents and families as they model and convey to their children Christian values, and affirms young people in their commitment to be witnesses for Jesus Christ as Christians in the modern world.

True Love Waits is about promoting holy and healthy lifestyles among adolescents specifically the advancement of chastity. The religious education teacher, the catechist, and the youth minister must be aware that young people come to them with varied experiences. Some youth may never have dated and may have a few questions about sexuality. Other youth may presently be genitally sexually active. Other youth could be parents or have terminated a pregnancy with an abortion. With this wide range of experience present, much good pastoral consideration must be given regarding the attitude and language.

True Love Waits may be the opportunity for re-conversion for some youth. For other youth, it may be the beginning of a change of heart and mind in their relationship with God. For other youth, True Love Waits may serve to reinforce and further develop the faith journey already begun.

Parish communities play a significant role in the lives of the faith formation of the young. True Love Waits Program for young people needs the support and prayers of the entire parish. I strongly encourage all the parishes and missions of our Diocese to learn about and use the True Love Waits Program as developed by the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry.

Perpetual Adoration and Forty Hours Devotion

by Father Bob Bush

SAN ANGELO – *(In this Year dedicated to the Eucharist, our Holy Father has stressed two goals: Intensify participation in the Mass, the Eucharist; and increase adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. I had asked Fr. Bob Bush, Pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Abilene, where there is located a beautiful chapel of Perpetual Adoration, to feature some reflections on Perpetual Adoration and Forty Hours Devotion.*

– Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI)

The Second Vatican Council decreed in its Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, that the “liturgy is the summit toward which the activity of the Church is directed: at the same time it is the fountain from which all her power flows.” But the “summit” is reached by means of private prayer and devotions. The Council went on to say that “the spiritual life is not confined to participation in the liturgy” (SC 12), and “popular devotions of the Christian people are warmly commended, provided they accord with the laws and norms of the Church.” (SC 13) During the Year of the Eucharist proclaimed by Pope John Paul II, our Bishop has encouraged various activities and celebrations centered on the Blessed Eucharist in order to increase the awareness of the teachings of the Church on this matter, encourage devotion to the Sacred Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, and call the whole Diocese to a greater holiness of life. This article will center on two of these devotions.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church states that “Adoration is the first act of the virtue of religion. To adore God is to acknowledge him as God, as the Creator and Savior, the Lord and Master of everything that exists, as infinite and merciful Love.” (2096) When we adore the Lord, we join the angels and saints in heavenly worship and prepare ourselves for the day when we will be in that number before the throne of God. Since we are born for adoration, it makes sense to practice it here on earth and thus begin to learn the language of love expressed in words and actions before the Lord. True

adoration will bring the presence of the Lord into our whole day. Some may find a burden lifted; some may be imbued with a spirit of joy that helps them to deal with situations in life; others may find healing and strength. It is the Lord who said, “Come to me all you who are weary and are heavily laden and I will give you rest.” (Matthew 11:28) We receive spiritual benefit from making a “visit” to the Blessed Sacrament where the Lord himself is present “Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity.” Our greatest act of worship is the celebration of the Eucharist (the Mass). The enduring presence of the Lord that results from the Mass affords us the opportunity to continue the adoration begun there and grow in the experience of its fruit.

The continual adoration of the Lord present in the Blessed Sacrament, called “Perpetual Adoration,” has until lately been the property of a few religious communities dedicated to this. But, particularly with the call of Pope John Paul II, Perpetual Adoration has been encouraged in parishes as well. Since many of our churches have to be locked at night and even during some parts of the day for reasons of security, as early as 1986, just one year after our present Bishop Michael Pfeifer came to the Diocese of San Angelo, he made his desire known that in each deanery a chapel of Perpetual Adoration of the Eucharist be established so the people can come at any time for adoration. Youth 2000, a week-end program for youth that emphasizes adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, has drawn youth to adoration and given some of them an awareness of the Lord’s presence for the first time. Jesus invites us: “will you not watch one hour with me?” (Matthew 26:40) Experience as one person said “a piece of heaven on earth.”

Some may ask, “If I spend an entire hour before the Lord, what will I do? Testimony from adorers indicates that the hour passes quickly. Bring a spiritual reading book or your Bible, read, meditate, pray, read again, and enjoy being

in the presence of the Lord. Make the Lord your treasure, as he himself says, “Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” (Matthew 6:21) Jesus continually waits for our presence with him so he can bless us.

We move now to consider a second devotion to the Eucharist, that called “40 hours.” Bishop Pfeifer has asked that the parishes of the Diocese of San Angelo have the 40 hours devotion sometime during the Year of the Eucharist as a way to increase devotion to the Holy Sacrament.

The year 1534 has been assigned to the beginnings of a universal Forty Hours Devotion, through St. Antony Maria Zaccaria and others of the Clerks Regular of St. Paul (Barnabites). About 1550 St. Philip Neri brought the devotion to Rome. By this time, when exposition was finished in one church it passed to another and Clement VIII in a constitution of 1592 spoke of it as an “uninterrupted chain of prayer.” The present form of the devotion was regulated by Clement XII in 1731 in what has been called the “Clementine Instruction.” The full time, however, is forty-eight hours, but where the night watch, at which there are only men, in impracticable, the sacrament is replaced in the tabernacle until the following morning. This devotion soon became popular throughout the western Church until the Second Vatican Council when the vernacular languages began to be used in the Liturgy.

The devotion begins with a Mass of exposition and a procession with the Blessed Sacrament. At the end of the procession, the Sacrament is enthroned for exposition. Then on the following day there is a Mass for Peace. The final ceremony is a Mass of deposition with a procession and ending with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Just before the Benediction, the Litany of Saints, Psalm 70 and various versicles, responses, and orations are sung (the order of all this being determined by the ritual itself.) During the exposition, the church or chapel may never be left without at least two persons in prayer before the Sacrament unlike Perpetual Adoration, of which the Holy See requires that at least one person be present for adoration.

Christ the King Retreat Center

November Calendar

1	All Saint’s Holy Day-Office Closed
2	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7	Confirmation Retreat
9	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
11-14	Men’s Walk to Emmaus
16	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
16-17	International Priests’
23	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
25-26	Thanksgiving Holiday-Office Closed
29	Renew Program Meeting
30	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament



Share in the Care of retired religious



(Photo copyright 2004 United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington DC. All rights reserved. Photographer: Jim Judkis.)

by Bishop Michael D. Pfeifer, OMI

SAN ANGELO – My dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

The Annual Collection to support our retired religious will be held on December 12, 2004. As in the past, I ask all to generously contribute to this special collection, **Retirement Fund for Religious**,

which helps to support our religious who have served us so well in the past, and who now have many needs.

As I encourage you to be generous in your financial offering, I also ask you to pray for all of our retired religious, thanking God for the beautiful gift they have been for our Church.

If you know one or other retired religious, I would encourage you at this time of the year to send a letter of appreciation to these very generous ministers of our Church who have served us so well in the past.

Thank you for your cooperation and prayers. God's peace.

by Sr. Marie Malachy Griffin, O.P.,
Vicar for Women Religious,
RFR Diocesan Coordinator

SAN ANGELO – Dear Friends, In every era, religious institutes have faced enormous financial challenges. Intent on a mission of serving the poor, they have had to meet numerous nonministry related financial obligations. And in every era, the Spirit of God has moved the hearts of benefactors who have contributed not only to the mission

but to the utilitarian obligations as well.

Today religious institutes must somehow meet the sky-rocketing costs of health care, therapies, and medicines for their frail, elderly members. The cost of care for more than 12, 000 religious women and men in need of skilled nursing or assisted living exceeds \$400 million a year. Only a small portion of the cost is covered by Social Security or pension plans.

On December 11-12, you will have the opportunity to participate in the Retirement Fund for Religious annual appeal in this Diocese of San Angelo, Texas. Please support this appeal as generously as you have in the past.

On behalf of all the religious men and women whose great needs are being addressed through this collection, I thank you sincerely.

Eucharist . . . we gather, we are nourished, we are sent forth

by S. Adelina Garcia, OSF and S. Hilda Marotta, OSF

SAN ANGELO – The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life. (*Dogmatic Constitution of the Church #11*). During this special year dedicated to the Eucharist, we take time to celebrate the gift of the Eucharist. We gather to give thanks for the gift of life, the gift of Christ in our daily life, the gift of new life.

The word "Eucharist" comes from the Greek word meaning "thanksgiving". After Jesus' death and resurrection, the disciples gathered to break bread and remember all that Jesus had done for them. Over the years, there have been changes in the way we celebrate Eucharist, but the essence has remained the same. The Second Vatican Council taught that Christ is present in the assembly, the presider, the Word and in a special sacramental way in the sacred species.

Each Sunday we gather as a faith

community and are called to recognize the presence of Christ in one another. We welcome the young, the old, the alienated, the stranger the married, the divorced, the widowed, the single, the orphaned. All are welcome. All are one. As St. Paul reminds us in the First Letter to the Corinthians "We though many are one body, for all partake of the one bread" (10:17). Although we gather as a very diverse community, we gather as the Body of Christ and affirm the richness of our diversity. Christ is present in the assembly and the presider.

We gather to listen to the stories of our faith. The stories remind us of God's continued presence throughout history. It is in listening to these stories, the Word of God, that we connect our own story. Christ is present in the Word.

We are nourished in the Eucharist. Christ is present in the bread and wine. We eat the bread. We drink the wine. As we receive communion, we hear the words, "the

Body of Christ" to which we respond "Amen". St. Augustine reminded the community over 1600 years ago that "If you are the Body and members of Christ, then it is your sacrament that is placed on the table of the Lord; it is your sacrament that you receive. To that which you are you respond 'Amen' ('yes, it is true!') and by responding to it you assent to it. Be then a member of the 'Body of Christ' that your Amen' may be true."

We are sent forth with the words, "Go in peace to love and serve the Lord". We have been nourished with Word and Sacrament and are now to go and "be Christ" to others as we return to the ordinary work and events of our daily lives ...to recognize God's presence in our families, at school, at work ... to recognize the hand of God in the events of each day, to recognize God's presence in our created world. We are called to do our part to create a more just and peaceful world as we live our life each day.

Reducing the danger of infection during flu season

by Bishop Michael D. Pfeifer, OMI

SAN ANGELO – It has been recommended to me by reputable medical authority, that because of the highly increased risk of transmitting the flu germ and other similar germs, and taking into account that few flu vaccines are available this year, we suspend the use of the communion cup during Mass. The same authority is recommending that in order to reduce the possibility of infection, that in general we suspend the handshake during the greeting of peace before communion.

So as to be on the safe side, and to not endanger the health of anyone, I am asking that effective November 6, 2004 we suspend the use of the communion cup and also refrain from a handshake at the time of the greeting of peace during Mass until March 5, 2005. It is understood that if families wish to extend a greeting, a handshake or a hug to other family members during the greeting of peace, this is up to each family. In general, in place of the handshake, I recommend that we simply turn to the person next to us and as we make eye contact, make a simple bow toward one another.

Thank you and may God bless you.

A Word to the Wise:

When you send stories and photos for inclusion in the Angelus please include the author's name, the photographer's name and identify everyone in the photos so we can report your story accurately.



Living justice, proclaiming peace!

Jr. High diocesan event

by S. Adelina Garcia, OSF

SAN ANGELO – They came from all over! They came in small groups and large groups. They came with high expectations and excitement. Who you ask? Catholic 7th and 8th graders from 22 parishes and missions gathered at the San Angelo Convention Center on October 9th. Young people came to listen, to sing, to dance, to laugh, to learn what it means to live a life of justice and how to be a peacemaker.

Sister Mary Fagan, our presenter from San Antonio, challenged them to a more committed life of Gospel living. A teacher at Healy Murphy School for troubled teens she has learned to turn any topic into an adventure of song, action and dance. The amazing thing is that the young people responded with enthusiasm. Her creativity and young heart touched everyone present – even the adults.

Youth who participated in the Young Neighbors In Action Program last June-July in St. Louis, Mo. shared their experience as did Josh Briones, a graduate student at ASU who went with the Newman group to Honduras a couple of years ago. Young people from St. Ann (Midland) and Sacred Heart (San Angelo) served as dancers, singers and animators throughout the day.

Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI celebrated Eucharist with youth in the afternoon. After supper Leo Delgado deejayed a dance.



Mary Fagan with youth at bottom of stage. (Photos by Sr. Hilda Marotta, OSF.)



Youth on floor horseing around.



Bishop Pfeifer addressing the youth.

Bishop celebrates All Souls Day Mass at Calvary Cemetery



(Above) Worshipers listen to homily during Mass.



(Above) Bishop Pfeifer blesses newly erected flag pole donated by Dr. Henry Ricci. (Photos by Peter Micale, WTA.)



(Right) Bishop Pfeifer blesses gravesite of Mr. Precillano Gallegos' family members.

Kathleen McChesney speaks on child protection



The Director of the USCCB Office of Child and Youth Protection, Kathleen McChesney (right), visited the Pastoral Center and spoke to delegates from throughout the Diocese on October 22, 2004. (Photos by Peter Micale, WTA.)





Father Castro receives "Good Shepherd" award

by Fr. John Castro

SAN ANGELO – The National Association of Hispanic Priests (ANSH) honored Fr. John Gonzales Castro, O.M.I, director of Christ the King Retreat Center, with its prestigious "Good Shepherd" award at San Fernando Cathedral, San Antonio, Texas, on October 6, 2004. Fr. Castro was one of the founding fathers of ANSH and the second president of the organization from 1991-95.

Fr. Andres Mendoza, president of ANSH, expressed the gratitude of the association in his presentation to Fr. Castro by underscoring on the crystal trophy, "For his untiring work and help to ANSH during these past fifteen years". Eight bishops and over 100 priests repre-

senting several dioceses in the United States attended the four-day annual convention at the Sheraton-Gunter Hotel, San Antonio, Texas.

A Missionary Oblate of Mary Immaculate priest for 41 years, Fr. Castro is also the district superior for his religious congregation in the diocese of San Angelo. He earned a doctorate from Michigan State University in Counseling Psychology in 1975 and engaged in private practice in the state of Kansas for several years. Before becoming director of Christ the King Retreat Center, San Angelo, Texas in 2000, he had served as Episcopal Vicar for Hispanic Concerns in the Diocese of Dodge City, Kansas and had held pastorates in Kansas and Texas. He was also director of His-



Fr. John Castro (second left) receives Good Shepherd Award from Fr. Jesus Trujillo, ANSH secretary (left), Fr. Andres Mendoza, ANSH president (second right) and Fr. Rudolfo Preciado, ANSH treasurer (right). (Photo courtesy *San Antonio Newspaper*, www.sanewspaper.com.)

panic Ministry at Oblate School of Theology, San Antonio, Texas; dean of Hispanic Ministry at Mount Angel Seminary, St. Benedict, Or-

egon and at St. Thomas Theological Seminary, Denver, Colorado; director of the Master's Program at Antioch-Juarez-Lincoln Univer-

sity, Austin, Texas and of the Mexican American Center for Economic Development (MACED), Austin, Texas.

Bishop celebrates St. Francis feastday with blessing of animals



Angelo Catholic School Principal Jesse Martinez holds basin of holy water while Bishop Pfeifer blesses pets with students Jonathan Gomez and Christophor Bierski watching on the right. (Photo by Paula Bierski.)



Tilly Chandler, Fray Rafa (aka Dr. Ralph Chase), Bishop Michael Pfeifer, Katie Johnson, Gus Clemens, and Craig Kinney celebrate the completion of the clay sculpting portion of the Santa Angela Sculpture Project during the meeting of the sculpture committee at the diocese headquarters October 7. The 10-foot tall bronze sculpture by artist John Noelke will represent St. Angela, Angela de la Garza DeWitt, and a West Texas sheep and be sited at the San Angelo Visitors Center. San Angelo was named for Angela de la Garza DeWitt, who was named for St. Angela di Merici, the founder of the Ursuline order of nuns. (Photo by Peter Micale, WTA.)



Ethics and Integrity Workshop Dates

Deanery	Place	Date	Time
Abilene	St. Mary, Brownwood <i>(Date Corrected from original date of Nov. 4)</i>	*Nov 9, 2004	6:30 - 9:30 pm (Eng)
Midland/Odessa	Our Lady of Guadalupe, Midland	Nov. 8, 2004	7:00-10:00 pm (Eng)
	St. Mary School, Odessa	Dec. 6, 2004	7:00-10:00 pm (Eng)
San Angelo	Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart, San Angelo	Nov. 15, 2004	7:00-10:00 pm (Eng)

No additional Ethics Workshops are planned before Christmas. Workshops will be scheduled in each deanery in January for any new volunteers and employees, and then in May and June 2005 in anticipation of Vacation Bible School.

tions which I have outlined above. In addition - and in special recognition of Catholic Extension's 100th Anniversary - I will be distributing copies of Extension's excellent 10 minute video which I ask be shared within each parish and mission. This brief videotaped history of Catholic Extension's history and mission will prove to

be both informative - and help us to better connect with Extension's benefactors who continue to be our close mission partners here in our West Texas diocese.

Please join me in expressing our prayerful congratulations to Catholic Extension Society on the occasion of its approaching 100th Anniversary! May our loving God pour out many abundant blessings upon Extension.

SOCIEDAD from page one

compañero día por día dentro de nuestra diócesis misionera. Aunque yo sepa que todos de nosotros somos muy acostumbrados a ver las placas bronceadas de Extensión Católica conmemorando la generosidad de los benefactores de Extensión en construir un salón o iglesia, dudo que ninguno de nosotros podría adivinar la increíble asistencia de Extensión Católica sobre todos en los 29 condados de nuestra diócesis misionera.

Fui profundamente impresionado y agradecido en la reciente reunión con el liderazgo de Extensión Católica en aprender que Extensión ha proveído más de \$5,000,000 en asistencia financiera a la Diócesis de San Angelo directamente para proyectos de construir iglesias, otros edificios y apoyo para ministerios diocesanos. Más sucintamente, Extensión ha proveído la siguiente financiación crítica dentro de nuestra diócesis misionera:

Capillas/Construcción \$1,846,850

CCD/Educación religiosa \$ 876,470
Educación seminaria \$ 692,290
Centro Newman \$ 576,250
Susidios \$ 449,370
Otros \$ 335,192
Misas \$ 317,543

Todos nosotros le debemos a Extensión Católica una gran deuda de gratitud por la gran generosidad de Extensión durante todos estos años.

Obvia y agradecidamente, las muchas maneras que la generosidad de Extensión Católica ha tocado nuestras vidas es extensa. Mucha de nuestra gente adoran cada Domingo dentro de Iglesias construidas con la asistencia de Extensión, dirigidas por sacerdotes educados como seminaristas con la asistencia de Extensión Católica, reciben Formación de Educación Católica de nuestro personal de Educación Religiosa financiado con la asistencia de Extensión, que ellos en cambio llevan a sus respectivas parroquias donde otros feligreses se reúnan semanalmente dentro de muchos salones de Educación/Juvenil construidas por Extensión para el estudio de la Fe Católica.

Claramente, todos nosotros somos bendecidos en tener a Extensión Católica como nuestro compañero con la Diócesis de San Angelo. Esto suplica la pregunta, "¿Cómo nosotros en cambio, podemos ayudar a Extensión?" Inmediatamente tres maneras vienen a la mente. Primeramente, y ante todo, les podemos recordar a nuestras comunidades que recuerden a los benefactores y líderes de Extensión en nuestras oraciones semanales mientras nos juntamos dentro de las Iglesias y Salones que ellos han hecho posible. En segundo lugar, podemos asegurar la promoción de la visibilidad de Extensión Católica por medio del continuo uso y distribución de sus calendarios y revista mensual. En tercer lugar en promover la conciencia del ministerio importante de Extensión a nuestras diócesis misioneras de nuestro país, podemos entonces animar a la gente a -1- responder al las solicitudes para su recolección de fondos y -2- dar consideración reflectiva a recordar Extensión Católica en sus testamentos para que sus buenas obras continúen ayudar a futuras genera-

ciones de Católicos.

Como Obispo mientras visito nuestras parroquias y misiones, yo estaré revisando cada una de estas sugerencias que he resumido arriba. Además - y en reconocimiento especial del aniversario de 100 años de Extensión Católica - yo estaré distribuyendo copias de un excelente video de 10 minutos de Extensión que yo pedí que se compartiera con cada parroquia y misión. Esta breve historia gravada en video de la historia y misión de Extensión Católica probará de ser informativo y nos ayudará a conectar mejor con los benefactores de Extensión que continúan siendo nuestros íntimos compañeros aquí en nuestra diócesis del Oeste de Texas.

Por favor acompáñame en expresar nuestras devotas felicitaciones a la Sociedad de Extensión Católica en la ocasión de su aniversario de 100 años! Que nuestro querido Dios conceda muchas bendiciones sobre Extensión.

Tu servidor en Cristo y María,
Muy Reverendo Miguel Pfeifer,
OMI Obispo de San Angelo

Bishop appoints members to new committee

by Peter Micale
SAN ANGELO - On November 1, Bishop Pfeifer appointed the new membership of the Diocesan Grievance Committee. The appointees are Danny Seidel and Lori Hines of Holy Angels Parish in San Angelo; Michael Schaffner of St. Patrick Parish, Brady; Sr. Regina Decker and Ronnie Kidd of Holy Family, Abilene; Elidia Padilla of Our Lady of San Juan, Midland; and Sondra Eoff of St. Mary, Odessa.

The new Grievance Committee combines the functions of the previous Diocesan Grievance Board and Grievance Committee which were established in April 1988. The reorganization of the Committee reflects the recent revision of the Diocesan Grievance Procedures for employees of the San Angelo Diocese and incorporates the spirit of the Diocesan Policy on Ethics and Integrity in Ministry.

SOCIETY from page one

day-by-day partner within our own missionary Diocese of San Angelo. While I know that we are all very familiar with seeing the Catholic Extension's bronze plates memorializing Extension's benefactors' critical role in building our particular church or hall, I doubt any of us could guess the incredible scale of Catholic Extension's assistance over the entire 29 counties which make up our missionary diocese.

I was simply awed and grateful at a recent meeting with Catholic Extension's leadership to learn that Extension has provided over \$5,000,000 in total financial assistance to the Diocese of San Angelo for direct parish/mission building projects and diocesan ministries support. Extension has provided the following critical funding within our missionary diocese:

Chapels/Construction \$1,846,850
CCD/Religious \$ 876,470
Seminarians Ed \$ 692,290
Newman Center \$ 576,250
Subsidies \$ 449,370
Other \$ 335,192
Masses \$ 317,543

We all owe Catholic Extension a huge debt of gratitude for Extension's great generosity over all of these years.

Obviously and appreciately, the many ways that Catholic Extension's generosity has touched our lives is extensive. Many of our people worship every Sunday within Churches built with

Extension's assistance, lead by priests educated as seminarians with Catholic Extension's assistance, receive Catholic Education Training from our diocesan Religious Education Staff funded with Extension's assistance, which they in turn take back to their respective parishes where other parishioners gather weekly within many Extension constructed Education/Youth Halls to study their Catholic Faith.

Clearly, we have been blessed having Catholic Extension as our missionary partner with the Diocese of San Angelo. This begs the question, however, "How can we, in turn, help Extension?" Three immediate ways come to mind. First, and foremost, we can remind our communities to remember Extension's benefactors and dedicated leaders in our weekly prayers as we gather within the Churches and Halls which they have made possible. Secondly, we can make sure that we promote Catholic Extension's visibility through continued use and distribution of their calendars and monthly magazine. Thirdly, by promoting awareness of Extension's important ministry to our country's missionary dioceses, we can then encourage people to both -1- respond to Catholic Extension's fund-raising appeals and -2- give prayerful consideration to remembering Catholic Extension in their wills so that its good works will continue to impact future generations of Catholics.

As Bishop as I visit our parishes and missions, I will be following up on each of these three sugges-



CENTER

from page one

like another saying, "all good things come to those who wait", this dream is now a reality.

This addition was needed because God has blessed St. Joseph parish with many children seeking to be catechized. In the past, we only had 8 classrooms that did not allow us to teach all of our children. We now have 16 classrooms and this year we have an enrollment of 610 students enrolled from kindergarten through Confirmation. Sr. Regina, OND, is our Director of Religious Education and she has 67 catechists and aides assisting in this ministry of passing on our faith to our children and their parents. Larry and Adel Cortez are our youth directors along with several

other adults working with our youth group. This facility will also be used for our RCIA formation classes as well as marriage and baptismal preparation sessions.

However, this ministry center is not just for catechetics. The hope is that it will be available during the week for other kinds of ministry such as: assisting the immigrant, feeding the poor, and possibly an extension of our Catholic Charities ministry to those who live on the south side of Odessa. This new ministry center came to its fulfillment through the generosity of our parishioners and many others. One of our main outside contributors was the Catholic Extension Society. This organization will be celebrating its 100 anniversary next year and have made it possible for many Churches such as St. Joseph to ful-



Fr. Uecker and students pose at dedication.

fill their dreams of building and expanding their ministries. Their contribution of \$50,000.00 has helped tremendously in bringing this project to its completion. The Kennedy Foundation contributed a sizeable contribution as well and we thank them.

Fr. Joseph Uecker, C.P.P.S. and Fr. Mark Miller, C.P.P.S. thank all those who have contributed in any way to the fulfillment of this multi-year planned endeavor. We know that many of our parishioners have made significant financial contributions to bring this dream to reality. A special thank you goes to the members of our building committee who were responsible for overseeing the project and of making adjustments where it was needed.



Bishop Pfeifer (left) blesses the new addition. (Photos courtesy Ines Corral.)



(l to r) Father Joe Uecker, Father Frey and Bishop Pfeifer inspect Catholic Extension plaque.

On October 31, Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI, Bishop of San Angelo diocese, led a special Prayer Service of dedication and blessing. A reception followed in the parish hall.



(l to r) Fr. Mark Miller, Ida Baeza, Jesse Jimenez, Fr. Joe Uecker, Bishop Pfeifer, Lorina Martinez, Larry Cortez and (standing) Ines Corral.

CLASSROOMS

from page one

The new 85 x 52 foot addition to the parish hall was recently constructed to help the parishioners prepare their annual Fall Festival meal, November 14th. It will also be used for religious formation dur-

ing the remainder of the year. Three classrooms were constructed to provide the CCD program adequate space for their growing parish. The religious program currently has 210 children enrolled. These rooms can be used as meeting rooms for the Catholic Daughters, Knights of Columbus, Youth Group,

Columbian Squires and Altar Society.

The kitchen area was expanded to include a large space for numerous steps of preparation. Additional electric stoves, tables, shelves, and sinks were installed to assist with the cooking. The central part of the kitchen consists of six new convection ovens, several stainless steel tables, two triple sinks, insulated storage containers, and six new sausage cookers. The area also provides space for the parishioners to come together before the festival to prepare the traditional German sausage.

A large 12 x 20 vault was also added to the kitchen to secure the safe storage of each food item. Several food committees have been moved into the new kitchen and some committees will set up stations in the existing kitchen. There-

fore, the parish hall will be arranged to seat more visitors at the festival. This will also allow more walking space and eating space, increasing comfort for the guests.

The St. Joseph Parish consists of 240 families which mostly live in the Rowena area; however some parishioners travel from Miles, Harriett, Ballinger, San Angelo, and Norton. The parishioners have deep religious roots, show a strong commitment to their Church, and have come together to support this project and help their parish flourish.

The parish would like to extend special thanks to Catholic Extension for their generous assistance in this building project.

Everyone is invited to visit St. Joseph Parish for their annual Fall Festival on Sunday, November 14th. A wonderful noon meal of

turkey, dressing, and all the trimmings will be served, followed by games for the children and an afternoon auction. A sausage sandwich meal will wrap up the evening.

Workers' Mass

by Peter Micale, WTA

SAN ANGELO – Every Wednesday at high noon, a Mass is celebrated at St. Joseph's Church in San Angelo. It is specifically targeted for people working in and around the city. The celebrant for the Mass offers a short reflection so that the Mass never runs over half an hour in order that attendees can get back to work. There is no better way to split the workweek in half than by attending Mass on Wednesday afternoon with workers from every trade and profession and parishioners from all over the city.

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.



Congreso Eucarístico en Guadalajara, México

por el Obispo Miguel Pfeifer, OMI
 GUADALAJARA, MÉXICO – Tuve la gracia y el gran gusto de participar en el maravilloso Congreso Eucarístico Internacional que se llevó acabo de Octubre 10 a 17, 2004 en Guadalajara, México. Guadalajara y sus habitantes recibieron a miles y miles de feligreses que vinieron de todo el mundo para el 48 Congreso Eucarístico Internacional. El tema del Congreso fue, Cristo, luz y vida para el nuevo milenio. Este evento religioso ha permitido a los habitantes de la zona metropolitana de Guadalajara demostrar la proverbial hospitalidad de los Tapatíos, siendo que 10 miles de hogares Tapatíos ofrecieron sus casas para recibir a participantes del mismo y el entusiasmo ha sido colectivo.

El Congreso Eucarístico dio comienzo al Año dedicado a la Eucaristía que fue proclamado por Su Santidad, Juan Pablo II. En este año de la Eucaristía, el Papa nos proponen dos retos principales: Asistir a la Eucaristía, la Misa, con mucha frecuencia, y participar con nuestros corazones en este acto principal de nuestra religión Católica. Luego, el Papa propone que durante este año renovemos devoción al Santísimo por medio de la adoración. Doy gracias a Dios que en nuestra diócesis varias parroquias tienen la Adoración Perpetua, y animo a nuestros feligreses que se acerquen con mucha frecuencia en familia para pasar una hora, o un tiempo, delante de Nuestro Señor Jesucristo en el Santísimo Sacramento.

Para el Congreso Eucarístico Internacional se reunieron miles de delegados de casi 90 países del mundo. Asistieron al Congreso cardinales, obispos, sacerdotes, religiosos y religiosas, y laicos, hombres y mujeres de muchas distintas culturas, pero todos con la misma fe en la Presencia Real de Cristo en el Santísimo Sacramento. Este Congreso ofreció a todos los participantes muchas enseñanzas inspiradas sobre el gran don de la Eucaristía, la Misa, y la Presencia Real de Cristo que conservamos en todos los tabernáculos de nuestras Iglesias en

todo el mundo. Durante el Congreso, muchos pasaron tiempo en Adoración ante el Santísimo en un lugar especial donde estuvo reservado el Santísimo Sacramento.

La Eucaristía, la Misa, debe inspirarnos para vivir nuestra fe en el hogar y el mercado. En estos tiempos de materialismo desbocado, de trivialización aún de lo más preciado para el hombre como lo es su espiritualidad, se plantea la necesidad de reflexionar con absoluta profundidad en la esencia espiritual del ser humano, que por definición es un ente religioso sea cual sea la forma en que lo exprese. Es por ello que mas allá del significado litúrgico del Congreso que celebró, y que sin duda es de gran transcendencia, el Simposio sobre la fe religiosa en la época actual reviste una singular importancia, pues la Humanidad está ávida de una respuesta clara y trascendente a sus inquietudes religiosas.

El misterio pascual de Cristo que celebramos en la Santa Misa nos da una visión y fuerza para enfrentarnos con los problemas de nuestra sociedad. Antes los acosos avasalladores de la modernidad, de la posmodernidad y de la globalización, que como bien ha dicho Juan Pablo II aún no ha logrado la globalización de la justicia, la equidad y la libertad innata del ser humano ni de la solidaridad con los más necesitados porque muchos pretenden que Dios ya no es necesario. Es por ello que urge una respuesta clara y sencilla a la vez, pero profunda y trascendental de la Iglesia Católica que a pesar de tantos tropiezos que ha tenido su historia, sin duda alguna representa un faro y una guía fundamental para Católicos y no Católicos y sobre todo en su enseñanza sobre la justicia social.

Unos de los momentos principales del Congreso Eucarístico, fue la Misa que se celebró por Cardinales, obispos, sacerdotes, religiosos y miles y miles de feligreses al lado de la Fuente Minerva, que fue presidido por el Cardinal Stephen Fumio Hammao, presidente del Comité Pontificio para los Migrantes e Itinerantes. No les importó el fuerte sol, ni tampoco que no tuvieron lu-

gar para sentarse, porque la fe y amor a Dios en la Santa Eucaristía los había llevado ahí y era lo único que importaba. La Misa duró casi dos horas y como a las siete empezó la gran procesión con el Santísimo desde la Fuente de la Minerva hasta la Catedral. Se calculó que unos 3 millones de feligreses participaron en esta procesión de más de tres millas.

Durante la procesión, ¡Viva Cristo Rey!, era el grito de miles y miles de voces que alabaron al Santísimo. “Se ve, se siente, Jesús está presente” también era el estribillo que grandes, chicos y jóvenes, coreaban a lo largo de todo el recorrido. En realidad fue toda una fiesta de fe que se efectuó dentro del marco de XLVIII Congreso Eucarístico Internacional. Bailes, cantos, llantos, saltos, abrazos, felicidad – la gente realmente estaba muy emocionada y lo demostraba de diferentes maneras. Fueron personas en sillas de ruedas, gente de edad avanzada y niños de pocos meses todos allí estaban reunidos y le cantaban y le aplaudían a Jesús Sacramentado.

Llegando la procesión a la Plaza, enfrente de la Catedral, se celebró la bendición del Santísimo Sacramento, que fue realmente espectacular. Gente lloraba, oraba, se abrazaba. Sin duda, el milagro de fe volvió hacerse presente a salir Jesús en la Eucaristía en las calles de Guadalajara.

Durante el Congreso, sobre todo en las Misas, recé mucho por todos los feligreses de la Diócesis de San Angelo. De nuevo, tomo esta oportunidad para pedir a todos que tomen tiempo individualmente, y en familia, para estudiar sobre el gran don de la Eucaristía que Cristo ha dejado a nuestra Iglesia. Lo principal es que renovemos nuestra intención de asistir a la Santa Misa con más frecuencia, y de todo corazón. También pido para todos tomen esta oportunidad para pasar un tiempcito, quizás una hora, delante del Santísimo. Cristo en el Santísimo tiene la respuesta a todos nuestros problemas. El tiempo que gastamos con el, gana una inversión en la vida eterna.

Sr. Denise Duplessis recognized



(Photo courtesy of Sr. Duplessis.)

DONALDSONVILLE, LA – On Sunday, October 10, Sister Denise H. Duplessis was selected as an inductee in the Ascension Catholic High School Alumni Association “Hall of Distinction” for the year 2004. The award was presented to her Sunday afternoon in Donaldsonville, Louisiana. Her Mother 92, and Father, 94, and the rest of Sister’s family were there to celebrate this event.

“The inductee honor is bestowed upon a graduate of at least twenty years and has excelled in her profession resulting in significant accomplishments which reflect the teachings and values received from a Catholic education.”

Sister Denise has been a member of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul for 52 years and has served the Church in Texas for 25 years. She is grateful to God, her family, and friends for their love support and prayers.

Seminarian for Diocese of San Angelo awarded scholarship

SAN ANGELO – Ariel R. Lagunilla, a seminarian studying for the Diocese of San Angelo has been awarded a Catholic Union of Texas (KJT) scholarship for the year 2004-2005 in the amount of \$800.00.

The KJT is a religious fraternal organization founded in 1889 near La Grange, Texas. One of the principles in the KJT Charter is the propagation and support of the Roman Catholic religion. One of the ways in which this is accomplished is through financial scholarships awarded to members studying for the priesthood or religious order for dioceses in the state of Texas. The present amount of the scholarship is \$5,400.00 payable in various amounts as the recipient progresses through his/her studies. A gift is also presented when the member is ordained.

The Catholic Union of Texas has been awarding religious scholarships for over 50 years.”

VOCATIONS

from page three

Zacchaeus, you are interested about priesthood but the press of the crowd is too daunting for you to ask publicly. Then I encourage you to give me a call, or climb up a tree perhaps, so that I or Msgr. Droll can notice you and invite in a personal way to consider your vocation. If there is ever a reason for this parish and diocese to throw the full weight of our prayers to having more vocations, I can mention a single name, Msgr. Timothy Murphy. Each of us is still recovering from the grief that we felt at his sudden

death. When he died, we lost not just a priest and a pastor, but we lost a man who did the work of three or even more men. He was a Pastor; he was a canon lawyer, as well as being the Vicar General of the Diocese. In a larger Diocese each of these jobs would have been a full-time position. How great a gift would it be to his memory if St. Ann’s were able to send three of our young men to the seminary!

My friends, let us offer our prayers in this Mass for those priests who have died, those who continue to serve, and those who are yet to answer God’s call to holiness. Amen.



COURAGE 16th annual conference

by Paul Juarez, Odessa

MUNDELEIN, IL – Take COURAGE as you live or experience same-sex attraction! Courage, an apostolate of the Roman Catholic Church, ministers to those with same-sex attractions (SSA) and EnCourage ministers to the family and friends of those with SSA. One outreach of COURAGE is the annual spiritual conference, recently held at the University of St. Mary of the Lake (USML) in Mundelein, Illinois. Set in the intensely beautiful USML grounds, informative speakers, close peer bonding, celebrating Mass, resource materials, talent show, food, fun and healing for the mind, body, and soul are what attendants experience this year. Supported by Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI, I was able to take part in this recent COURAGE Conference.

The four-day conference began with a Mass celebrated by Francis Cardinal George, OML, Archbishop of Chicago at 5:00 pm. The weekend included speakers: Fr. John Harvey, OSFS, Suzanne Baars, Msgr. Peter

Magee, Mary Beth Bonacci, and Peter Rudegeair (for 'Priests and Seminarists' track). We also had the opportunity to attend workshops and presentations dealing with various aspects of same-sex attraction, Eucharistic adoration, rosary, and more. COURAGE is a Catholic program that enables and supports people of the same-sex attraction to live out their orientation according to the teaching of the Roman Catholic Church.

The best part of the spiritual conference was the close sharing and bonding among participants. During meals, breaks, and workshops, we were able to "be ourselves" and openly talk to each other. Men and women shared their personal stories and struggles with same-sex attraction, family life, spiritual life, and more. It was amazing to see these young people experience so much and come to find God's help and grace in carrying their crosses through COURAGE.

Many participants attend the yearly COURAGE, especially to once again see friends from past con-

ferences. The ages of participants ranged from 19-65+ and included COURAGE members, Encourage members, and priests from the USA, Canada, Britain, Aruba, and more, thus offering a diverse experience. A few participants were new to COURAGE, and the Christ-centered weekend brought them to live chastely and free themselves of the depression, loneliness, frustration, and shame that accompanies feelings of attraction towards the same gender.

I would like to thank Bishop Pfeifer and St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church in Odessa, Texas for financially supporting my trip. I encourage others to attend the conference, whether they have SSA or are the family and friends of one who is living the gay lifestyle. Last, we recommend joining the local COURAGE Chapter, Courage Midessa, for those experiencing same-sex attractions. Meetings occur on the first and third Thursdays of each month (time and location not publicly disclosed). Call us for more information and/or become a member at (432) 366-8629, email us at <courage_midessa@yahoo.com>, or visit the official COURAGE website at www.couragerc.net. Anonymity and confidentiality kept!

Altar Servers honored in Rowena



by Kelly Matschek

(Photo by Kelly Matschek.)

ROWENA – St. Joseph's Church in Rowena, TX recently honored their Altar Servers with a special Mass on August 22 at a 9:30 am. Thirty-nine young men and women attended the Mass, dressed in white shirts and carrying a lit candle. Fr. Bhaskar Morugudi celebrated the Mass with special intentions of the Altar Servers and gave them a blessing at the closing of the service. A reception was held immediately following the Mass.

Scholarships for Catholic laity now available

SAN ANTONIO – Catholics who want to serve the Church in a professional capacity, but who need additional education to do so, have a resource for funds.

The Rev. Msgr. Larry J. Droll Fund, administered by Catholic Life Insurance, is accepting scholarship applications from Catholic laymen and women who want to pursue graduate education in theology and church-related professions.

Who Can Apply: The scholarship is open to students who are enrolled in Catholic graduate schools of theology or religious studies and who have already completed a bachelor's degree. The applicant, who does not have to be a Catholic Life member, must be a practicing Roman Catholic and must reside in one of the states in which Catholic Life operates which are Texas, Arizona, Florida, Louisiana, Oklahoma, New Mexico, or Mississippi. The scholarship funds are paid directly to the school where the student is enrolled.

"Students may attend any Catholic graduate school in one of the state in which Catholic Life operates," added Msgr. Droll. "Applicants may also be enrolled in an extension program or in The Catholic University of America School of Canon Law."

How Do You Apply: To obtain an application, please call Catholic Life Insurance at (210) 828-9921 or 1-800-292-2548 or write to Catholic Life Insurance, attn: Communications Department, P.O. Box 659527, San Antonio, TX 78265-9527. You can also download an application from our website at www.cliu.com. The deadline to apply is February 15, 2005.

St. Ann's Cub Scouts will celebrate 50 years

MIDLAND – St. Ann's Cub Scout Pack 84 in Midland, TX will be celebrating its 50th anniversary during their Blue and Gold Banquet on February 26, 2005. The Most Reverend Michael Pfeifer will be celebrating Mass with the scouts at 5:30 pm. If you were a former member of our pack and would like to help celebrate our 50th anniversary, please contact Becky Sotelo at 432-689-9411 or you can email at <Sadors@msn.com>.

COME

from page two

lives with Christ.

The Cursillo Movement forms a part of our Diocesan Pastoral Plan because it is a movement of the Church that helps us to fulfill the goals of our plan. The Cursillo has my strong support, and I encourage women and men of our Diocese to actively participate in the Cursillo Movement.

Catholics have always had a great impact on society and now, more than ever, we are called to bring God's family back to Christian values. I know that we can do this because the faithful of our Diocese reflect universal Church history where things have changed because individuals have gone above and beyond the call

I am very grateful to all the leaders of the Cursillo of our Diocese for the fine leadership they provide for this movement. I invite all Catholic men and women of the Diocese to "Come and See." "De colores!"

VENGAN

from page two

ayuda a los Cursillistas a perseverar en viviendo sus vidas diarias con Cristo.

El Movimiento de Cursillos forma una parte de nuestro Plan Pastoral Diocesano porque es un movimiento de la Iglesia que nos ayuda a realizar las metas de nuestro plan. El Cursillo tiene mi fuerte apoyo y animo a las mujeres y a los hombres de nuestra Diócesis a participar activamente en el movimiento del Cursillo.

Los Católicos, siempre han tenido un gran impacto en la sociedad y ahora, más que nunca, somos llamados a retornar la familia de Dios a los valores Cristianos. Yo se que lo podemos hacer porque los fieles de nuestra Diócesis reflejan la historia de la Iglesia universal donde las cosas han cambiado porque individuos han hecho mucho más de lo que su llamado requiere.

Estoy muy agradecido a todos los líderes del Movimiento de Cursillos de nuestra Diócesis por el buen

liderazgo que proveen para este movimiento. Yo invito a todos los hombres y mujeres Católicos que, "Vengan y Verán." "De Colores."

SCHEDULE

from page two

December 19: Sanderson, St. James - Mass at 11:00 a.m.

December 20: San Angelo, Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart - Penance Service at 7:00 p.m.

December 21: San Angelo, Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart - 40th Priestly Anniversary of Bishop Pfeifer and 40th Anniversary of the Consecration of the Cathedral Mass at 6:30 p.m.

December 22: Brady, St. Patrick - Penance Service at 7:00 p.m.

December 24: San Angelo, Tom Green County Jail - Mass at 9:00 a.m. Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart - Christmas Midnight Mass December 25: San Angelo, Goodfellow Air Force Base Christmas Day Mass at 9:00 a.m.

December 26-29: Rest and Prayer



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 the 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 the Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart in San Angelo. Mass of Thanksgiving with Bishop Pfeifer. Priests who attend are most welcome to concelebrate this

Catholic Campaign for Human Development What is the Catholic Campaign for Human Development?

WASHINGTON – The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) is the national program of the Catholic Church that works to eliminate poverty in the United States. It serves as the largest private funder of anti-poverty programs initiated and led by poor people in the United States. Established in 1969 by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the Campaign helps Catholics to put into action both Scripture and Catholic social teaching. CCHD's mission is twofold: (1) to raise funds to support organized groups of poor and low income people as they work to develop economic strength and political power, and (2) to educate Catholics about the need to implement the Church's social teaching by addressing pov-

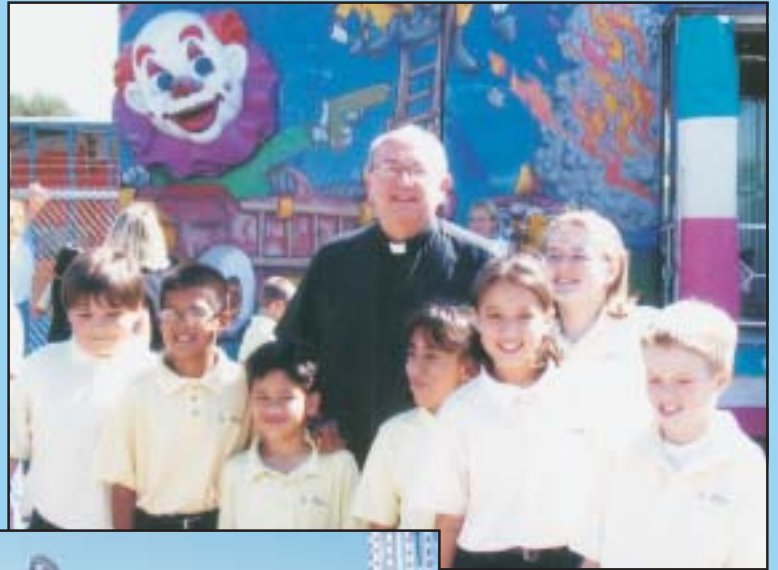
erty in the United States and promoting a greater sense of solidarity with the poor. CCHD is unique because the projects it supports are controlled by the poor and low-income people they serve. The Campaign's goal is to build community empowerment by helping individuals and families to help themselves. The promotion of solidarity among people of different social and economic backgrounds is also a key objective. All funded projects must involve grantees in developing a sense of self-determination that counteracts the attitudes, habits, and structures that perpetuate the cycle of poverty. For more than three decades, the Campaign has served as a significant vehicle for social change in the United States by addressing the root causes of poverty and empowering those it serves. CCHD supports community-controlled organizations that create jobs, businesses, affordable housing, and child care-and that promote many other solutions to poverty. The collection for the CCHD will occur on Nov. 20-21.



Julie and Ray Zapata sold pumpkins on Oct. 4, St. Francis' Day, on the Holy Angels Campus of Angelo Catholic School. This is an annual fundraiser for the school by the Zapatas. (Photo by Paula Baierski.)

St. Ann's Parish Festival

MIDLAND – It's that time of year again, when hundreds of St. Ann's parishioners and school parents have gathered to give of themselves to God and their school community. On September 25, 2004 St. Ann's Parish hosted it's major fund raising event. For fifty-six years now, St. Ann's Catholic Church has sponsored it's annual parish fair to help support their catholic school. *Pride of Texas* provides carnival rides for children of all ages and when you have had enough of fast moving action you can cross the street to a more calmer setting of 15 food and beverage booths, 24 of game booths and 12 activities booth for children and adults. We are grateful and give thanks to all the volunteers that have helped in celebrating this fair.



(Above) Monsignor Droll joins St. Ann students at the carnival rides on Friday.



(Left) 8th Graders contemplate to ride or not to ride. L to R - Tommy, Galie, Andrew and Stewart. (Photos courtesy Msgr. Droll.)

Intentions of the Holy Father for November

General - That Christian men and women, aware of the vocation which is theirs in the Church, may answer generously to God's call to seek holiness in the midst of their lives.
Mission - That all those who work in the missions may never forget that personal holiness and intimate union with Christ are the source of the efficacy of evangelization.