Two New Priests For The Diocese

by Fr. Tom Barley

On Saturday, May 31, Rev. Mr. Rodney White and Rev. Mr. Joey Faylona were ordained to the Priesthood by Bishop Michael D. Pfeifer, OM at the Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart in San Angelo. Fr. White and Fr. Faylona had been studying for the priesthood for the past several years. Fr. White had studied at Holy Trinity College Seminary in Irving and St. Mary Seminary in Houston. His Pastoral Year was at the parishes in Fort Stockton and Sanderson with Fr. David Herrera supervising his ministry. Fr. Faylona had studied at Assumption Seminary and the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio. His Pastoral Year was at Sacred Heart Parish in Abilene with Fr. Bob Bush. After the ordination rite, Fr. White and Fr. Faylona concelebrated their first Mass with Bishop Pfeifer and all of the priests of the Diocese who were in attendance. Bishop Joe Vasquez, auxiliary bishop of Galveston-Houston, also concelebrated. A large honor guard of 4th Degree Knights of Columbus from Councils and Assemblies in San Angelo, Abilene, and Odessa were present for the Mass. The Cathedral was filled with people from all over the Diocese who had come for this great celebration. Music for the ordination was provided by a combination choir from all of the parishes of San Angelo and members from the surrounding area conducted by Frank Diaz. The liturgical music was in English, Spanish, and Latin.

Fr. Rodney White is the son of Ron and Patty White of Odessa. His parents, grandmother, sister, brother and sister-in-law, nephew and niece, and two aunts and an uncle from Odessa attended the ordination Mass. Faculty members from St. Mary Seminary were present. Parishioners from his home parish of St. Mary in Odessa and the parishes in Fort Stockton and Sanderson came to see their friend become a priest.

Fr. Joey Faylona is the son of Romeo and Lourdes Faylona of Metropolitan Manila in the Philippines. His parents, grandmother, and one brother came from the Philippines. An aunt and an uncle and two cousins came from Australia.

Pope Celebrates 83rd Birthday

by John Thavis
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – Surrounded by tens of thousands of well-wishers, Pope John Paul II celebrated his 83rd birthday by proclaiming four new saints during a festive liturgy in St. Peter’s Square.

The pope downplayed his own celebration and focused on the saints, saying they demonstrated how living the Gospel can produce “abundant fruits of justice and holiness” in this world.

But he smiled afterward as the crowd broke into “Happy Birthday” and his Polish compatriots sang “Sto Lat,” wishing the pope 100 years of life.

For the first time, the Vatican published the pope’s e-mail address so people around the world could send him birthday wishes. Thousands wrote to the pontiff at John_Paul_II@vatican.va, which was accessed by a button on the Vatican’s home page, www.vatican.va.

The pope thanked everyone who sent him birthday greetings, in whatever form.

“I ask everyone to keep praying so that God helps me to faithfully carry out the mission he entrusted to me,” he said at the end of the canonization Mass.

Dressed in resplendent gold vestments, the pope’s voice was strong as he pronounced a solemn canonization decree for the new saints and presided over a two-hour liturgy.

He looked better than he did a year ago, when he had difficulty speaking and breathing during public events. But his leg strength has declined; he celebrated the canonization Mass seated on a wheeled chair with a hydraulic lift, which
Human Cloning Threatens the Dignity of Human Procreation
By Bishop Michael D. Pfeifer, OMI

Sadly, there are many elected officials at a federal and state level who are sponsoring legislation that would permit human cloning, especially therapeutic cloning. Both reproductive and therapeutic cloning threaten the sanctity of human life and the dignity of human procreation. Both types of cloning show a deep disrespect for a fundamental Biblical belief in the first book of the Bible, Genesis, that humans are made in the very image and likeness of God. Some wrongly say that therapeutic cloning is permissible as the cells of the produced embryos that are destroyed are used to possibly cure disease. However, this cloning also violates a basic moral principle. A good end does not justify immoral means. Creating a human embryo just so it can be used and then destroyed undermines the very foundation of morality. Both reproductive and therapeutic cloning have been condemned by Pope John Paul II and the U.S. Catholic Bishops.

To help us understand the evil of human cloning, I share with you in this article two brief excerpts that were given in testimony before the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee by Leon R. Kass, MD, Chairman, President’s Council on Bioethics.

“Human cloning constitutes unethical experimentation on the cloned child-to-be. It confounds his genetic and social identity; it would threaten his sense of individuality. It represents a giant step toward turning procreation into manufacture. And it is a despotic attempt of parents to select and control the genetic make-up of their children. . . . Human cloning threatens the dignity of human procreation, giving one generation unprecedented control over the next . . .

Allowing cloned human embryos to be produced for biomedical research and/or stem cell extraction is morally highly problematic. It crosses several important moral boundaries, accelerating our slide down a slippery slope (or, more accurately, jumping us off an ethical cliff) into a dehumanizing world of genetic control of offspring and the routine use of nascent human life as a mere natural resource. . . . In addition to the harm done to embryos, there is amoral harm done to a society that comes to accept as normal the routinized
descumanización de control genético de recién nacidos y del uso rutinario de la vida humana como una mera

terminación de la procreación, da a una generación el control sin precedente sobre la próxima generación.”

“Permitir la clonación de embriones humanos para ser producidos para investigaciones biomédicas y/o la extracción de células embrionarias es moralmente altamente problemático. Cruza varias barreras morales importantes, acelerando nuestro declive a una vertiente resbalosa (o, más claramente, haciéndonos saltar a un abismo ético) en un mundo deshumanizado de control genético de recién nacidos y del uso rutinario de la vida humana como un mero recurso natural. . . . Además del daño hecho a los embriones, existe un

see “CLONING” page eleven

La Clonación Humana Amenaza la Dignidad de la Procreación Humana
Por el Obispo Miguel D. Pfeifer, OMI

Lamentablemente, hay muchos oficiales elegidos al nivel federal y estatal quienes están patrocinando legislación que permitiría la clonación humana, especialmente la clonación terapéutica. Ambas, colonación reproductiva y terapéutica, muestran una gran falta de respeto para una fundamental creencia Bíblica en el primer libro de la Biblia, Génesis, que los humanos son hechos en la imagen y semejanza de Dios. Unos dicen equivocadamente que la clonación terapéutica es permisible como las células producidas del embrión que es destruido son usadas posiblemente para curar enfermedades. Sin embargo, esta clonación viola un principio moral y básico. Un buen fin no justifica un medio inmoral. Creando un embrión para que pueda ser usado y luego destruido amenaza la mera fundación de la moralidad. La clonación reproductiva y terapéutica ha sido condenado por el Papa Juan Pablo II y los Obispos Católicos de los

see “CLONACIÓN” page eleven

The Bishop’s Schedule

June 2003
June 1: Sanderson, St. James - Confirmation at 11:00 a.m.
June 2-3: Dallas, Meeting of Bishops of Region X
June 3: San Angelo, St. Joseph at Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart - Confirmation at 7:00 p.m.
June 4: San Angelo, Diocesan Pastoral Center - Staff Meeting at 11:00 a.m. St. Mary - Home Mass at 6:30 p.m.
June 5: Colorado City, St. Ann - Confirmation at 6:30 p.m.
June 6: San Angelo, St. Mary - Confirmation at 6:30 p.m.
June 7: Big Spring, Immaculate Heart - Confirmation at 5:00 p.m.
June 8: San Angelo, Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart - General Confirmation for Adults at 1:30 p.m.
June 9: San Angelo, Diocesan Pastoral Center - Mass for Staff at 8:30 a.m. Bishop’s Residence - Dinner for all Priests and Sisters and Bishop’s Staff at 6:00 p.m.
June 13-14: San Antonio - Priestly Ordination
June 15: San Angelo, Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart - Marriage Jubilee Mass at 2:30 p.m.
June 18: San Angelo, Diocesan Pastoral Center Presbyteral Council at 11:00 a.m.
June 19-21: St. Louis - Meeting of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
June 22: San Angelo, Christ the King Retreat Center - 20th anniversary of Retreat Center, Mass and reception at 6:30 p.m.
June 23: Mertzon (near) on Hwy 915, Mass for Ranchers and Farmers on Case Ranch at 6:30 p.m.
June 24: San Angelo, Diocesan Pastoral Center - Staff Luncheon in honor of Sister Joan Markus, SSND at 11:30 a.m.
June 26: San Angelo, Christ the King Retreat Center - Speak at Women’s Cursillo at 9:30 p.m.
June 27-29: San Angelo, Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart - Youth 2000

July 2003
July 3: San Angelo, Diocesan Pastoral Center - Mass for Staff at 8:30 a.m. Staff meeting at 11:00 a.m.
July 4: San Angelo, Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart - July 4th Mass at 9:00 a.m.
July 6-20: Vacation
July 24: San Angelo, Christ the King Retreat Center - Give talk at Mens’ Cursillo.

A Word to the Wise . . .
Annual Church Festival Information Must Be Sent to WT
Angelus Office at Least Two (2) Months Ahead of Festival
Date to Guarantee Advertisement Insertion!
Don’t Miss Out!
Vocation Circle

Seminary Gathering

by Fr. Tom Barley

On Saturday, May 17, the seminarians of the Diocese and two applicants for college seminary came to the Seminarian Gathering at the Pastoral Center in San Angelo. They met with Fr. Tom Barley, Director of Vocations and Seminarians and members of the Commission for Orders and Ministries. Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI stopped by for a minute to visit with them. A few weeks later, Rev. Mr. Joey Faylona and Rev. Mr. Rodney White were ordained to the priesthood. The two applicants were Matthew Fenner of Holy Family Church in Midland and Gilbert Martinez of Our Lady of San Juan Church in Midland. After the meeting the group went to the Ole Gin Steakhouse in Wall. At this time the three remaining seminarians have gone to their summer assignments. The two applicants are busy with summer activities. Matthew Fenner is at scout camp. Gabriel Martinez is on a trip to Bosnia. Please keep all of them in your prayers.

Seminarian Summer Assignments 2003

by Fr. Tom Barley

The seminarians have the following summer assignments for 2003.

Emilio Sosa – Institute for Priestly Formation (IPF) in Creighton in Omaha, Nebraska.

Ariel Lagunilla – Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) in a hospital in Lubbock.

Ruben Covos – Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) in a hospital near Miami, Florida.

IPF is a program at Creighton University concentrating on the development of the spirituality of diocesan priesthood.

CPE is a hospital-based program where the participants minister as chaplains and go through intensive evaluative processes to help them improve their personal and ministerial skills.

Clergy Assignments

by Msgr. Larry J. Droll

Effective July 1, 2003 (unless otherwise noted) the following are assigned to these parishes with their missions:


Rev. George Varakukala, HGN, pastor of St. Ann, Colorado City.

Rev. David Espitia, pastor of St. Joseph and St. Anthony, Odessa.


Rev. Terrence Brennon, canonical pastor of St. Margaret, San Angelo.

Rev. Joseph Choutapalli, HGN, parochial vicar of St. Mary, San Angelo and Sacramental Minister of St. Margaret, San Angelo (June 1, 2003).

Rev. Joey Faylona, parochial vicar of St. Mary, San Angelo, and Sacramental Minister for St. Therese, Carlsbad; deanery hospital chaplain in San Angelo.


Local Resident Attends Christian Unity Workshop

by Barbara D. King

Along with over 300 other delegates, S. Mary Kay Bailey, O.P., ecumenical officer for the San Angelo Diocese, attended the National Workshop for Christian Unity, which was held May 12-15 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Savannah, Georgia.

“We hold these truths in clay jars” was the theme of the 40th annual national gathering of leaders of Christian communities, which celebrates the successes of and challenges remaining in the ecumenical movement.

Dr. Robert Franklin, Presidential Distinguished Professor of Social Ethics at Emory University in Atlanta, gave a plenary address. The former president of the Interdenominational Theological Center, the nation’s foremost center
Parish Honors Catechists of the Year

by Michael Wyse, DRE, St. Joseph Parish, San Angelo, Texas

With 500 students in its PSR, St. Joseph Parish in San Angelo has over 70 catechists who work with the elementary and high school students as teachers and classroom assistants. Each year, for the past eleven years, the parish honors them with a Catechist Appreciation Dinner, and gives special recognition to those who have done a particularly outstanding job in their ministry by selecting Teachers and Classroom Assistants of the Year at both the elementary and high school levels. Each catechist is evaluated on weekly classroom attendance; punctuality; preparation of lesson plans; periodic classroom evaluations, participation in catechist development sessions, and participation in other ministry development opportunities provided by the parish and diocese.

This year, for the first time in the eleven year tradition of the awards, there was a tie at both the elementary and high school levels for Teacher of the Year. Sharing the honor of Elementary Teacher of the Year are Margie Morales (1st grade) and Claudia Ponce (3rd grade). High School Teachers of the Year are Rebecca Gourley (7th grade) and Robert Valencia (10th grade). The Classroom Assistants of the Year are Gloria Perez (1st grade), and Dee Ann Esquivel (9th grade). Dee Ann also is the first person to be selected twice for her award. Also honored was Abel Fernandez for his many years of service as Coordinator of the Rite of Christian Initiation at St. Joseph. Abel is also studying in the diocesan Permanent Diaconate Program. We would like to congratulate these catechists and pray that God will continue to bless them in their ministry.

The Good Guys Win the Big One!

by James J. Graham, Executive Director Texas Right to Life

Austin – On May 20, the Texas State Senate passed (21 -10) the Woman’s Right to Know Act: the greatest legislative victory in the history of the Texas Pro-Life movement! The approval was the culmination of the efforts of grassroots activists, bi-partisan House and Senate support, strong leadership from Governor Perry, Lieutenant Governor Dewhurst, House Speaker Craddick, and YOU. You provided the desperately needed prayer, revenue, and activism for this victory.

We are discovering that the legal protection of all innocent human life can be established in our land by working in and through the existing laws, systems, and organizations. We estimate that this one bill, the Woman’s Right to Know Act, will save the lives of thousands of tiny Texans every year, prevent thousands of women from being emotionally or physically maimed for life by the abortion experience, and empower women to make life affirming and life saving informed choices. New hope and triumph is to be shared by all. There literally are no words to thank you for all you have done for Texas Right to Life. You will be thanked properly one day, and He will reward you eternally for all you have done for His little ones.

On behalf of our Board, affiliated organizations, members, and staff, Thank You!!

Parish Provides Shelter After Tornado

by Fr. Mark Woodruff, Pastor

ODESSA, TX – After a supercell thunderstorm packing gale-force winds left much of Odessa in tatters Tuesday evening, June 3, Odessa’s St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish became the city’s emergency shelter. The parish hall provided for some of 60+ families left homeless for several days.

James Parks, director of emergency services for the American Red Cross, headed the operation. Within a hour after the storm hit, Deacon Alan Neff, parish disaster coordinator, was on hand in the hall, along with parishioners Joe and Vickie Detiveaux, to make coffee and juice and welcome the storm’s victims. Residents of a westside apartment complex seriously damaged in the storm were the first to arrive. The storm passed just south of the church complex, leaving it undamaged. Parishioners were happy to provide a safe haven for those affected by the storm.

Christ the King Retreat Center Celebrates Twenty Years Of Service

by Father John Gonzales Castro, O.M.I.

Encircled by the picturesque Concho River on the southeast side of San Angelo, Christ the King Retreat Center will celebrate 20 years of service to the people of God in West Texas on Sunday, June 22, 2003 with a Eucharistic Concelebration of Thanksgiving at 6:30 P.M. Most Rev. Michael D. Pfeifer, O.M.I. will be the main celebrant and Father John Gonzales Castro, O.M.I., director of the Center, will be the homilist.

Dedicated to Jesus Christ, the King, on June 4, 1983, the facility consists of fifty-one private rooms that can house double occupancy. A permanent staff of five and a part-time team of twenty persons also maintain a chapel, a library, a large conference room that can be divided into two meeting rooms, a dining area and a kitchen.

Adhering to its mission to proclaim Christ to all in an environment that offers hospitality and fosters human growth and authentic spirituality, the Retreat Center underscores retreats for priests, men and women religious, laity, youth and parish organizations. Its service to a multivariate clientele includes both Catholic and non-Catholic groups.

The complex also hosts Engaged Encounter, Marriage Encounter, The Cursillo Movement, The Walk To Emmaus, The Chrysalis Journeys, The Permanent Diaconate Program, The Beginning Experience, Rachel’s Vineyard, and RCIA. Non-profit organizations such as Hospice, hospital auxiliaries, the Texas Commission for the Blind and The United Way also utilize the facility periodically.

Retreatants vary in numbers from one person engaged with the director in sharing a spiritual journey or a privately directed endeavor to 150 persons following an established program, such as the Pre-Diaconate Formation held monthly with all lodging, meals and classes provided on site. A full time chef is available to prepare meals that are served cafeteria or banquet style to the participants.

Christ the King Retreat Center 20th Anniversary Celebration!

June 22, 2003
Everyone Invited

Eucharist - 6:30 pm
Presider: Bishop Michael D. Pfeifer, O.M.I
Homilist: Fr. John Gonzales Castro, O.M.I
Reception - 7:30 pm

Catechists of the Year. (l to r) Robert Valencia, Fr. Quirino Cornejo, Rebecca Gourley, Margie Morales, Gloria Perez, Dee Ann Equivel, Abel Fernandez. (Photo courtesy Michael Wyse.)
Peter’s Pence Collection

by Bishop Michael D. Pfeifer, OMI

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ, “No one has greater love than this” (Jn 15:13). This theme of the 2003 Peter’s Pence Collection for the Works of the Holy Father invites us to join Pope John Paul II in providing emergency assistance to those most in need – those who suffer as a result of war, oppression, and natural disasters.

The media bring to our attention vivid accounts of the victims of floods in Europe, epidemics in Africa, earthquakes in Latin America, and volcanic eruptions in the Philippines. We are all too familiar with other areas of the world ravaged by hatred, war, and violence. Through this Peter’s Pence Collection, we in the United States join the many faithful throughout the world who contribute generously as a testimony of their fraternal solidarity with our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II, in his efforts to help alleviate the tragic consequences of such events for these vulnerable people.

The challenge is daunting. How can we help the poorest of the world, a world in which half the people live on less than $2 per day? In January 2003 Pope John Paul II’s Lenten address made reference to the role played by the media in allowing us to identify with and offer ready help to the suffering and distressed.

“At times it is not the Christian command of love, but rather an innate sense of compassion which motivates our efforts to assist others. Even so, anyone who helps those in need always enjoys God’s favor . . . For those who are ‘far off’, service to the needy can be a providential path leading to an encounter with Christ, since the Lord abundantly repays the good deeds done to one’s neighbor.”

I ask you to give generously to this special collection on June 29, 2003 for the charitable works of our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II. The Holy Father depends on our support. I thank you for your past generosity and please pray for our Holy Father and for our poor and needy brothers and sisters.

Peter’s Pence Collection for The Works Of The Holy Father

by United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

The annual Peter’s Pence Collection for the Works of the Holy Father will be taken up in most parishes throughout the United States on June 29, 2003. This collection is an opportunity for Catholics in the United States to join the Holy Father to help relieve the suffering of the world’s most vulnerable – those who suffer the devastating impact of war, oppression, and natural disasters.

The United States is first on the list of countries contributing to this Peter’s Pence collection, providing nearly 50% of the total income. Out of 193 United States ecclesiastical circumscriptions – including St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands and the Eastern Rite Dioceses – 102 dioceses showed an increase in contributions compared with the preceding year. Included in this number are 54 dioceses whose offerings totaled over $100,000. In the last ten years, the dioceses of the United States contributed more than $180 million to the charitable works of the Holy Father.

The annual Peter’s Pence Collection for the Works of the Holy Father has as its theme “No one has greater love than this” (Jn 15:13). The theme incarnates the spirit of Vatican II’s preferential option for the poor – to give to others, to empower the weak and voiceless, and to sustain those who suffer. Thus, in extolling the dignity of the human person, the Holy See is able to relieve instances of human suffering with the help of this collection.

The origins of the worldwide Peter’s Pence Collection are found in ninth-century England, when King Alfred the Great collected a “pence” from English landowners as financial support for the Pontiff. Pope Plus IX instituted the modern tradition of this annual collection continues today and the proceeds go to support the charitable works of the Holy Father.

Parishoner Named Paramedic of Year

by Fr. Mark Woodruff

Firefighter-paramedic Steve Schwab, a parishioner of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Odessa, was recently named Odessa Fire Department Paramedic of the Year. Peers of the 49-year-old Schwab selected him in a recent election.

The Illinois native has lived in Odessa permanently since 1978 and has worked for the OFD since that time. In addition, he is a registered nurse and works at Odessa Regional Hospital’s emergency room on his 48 hours off.

He and his wife Karen have three children and two grandchildren. One of his sons is a firefighter in the US Air Force in Anchorage, Alaska.

Charlie Smith, assistant first chief for EMS, says Steve is equally adept as a firefighter and paramedic and also serves as a mentor to younger paramedics. He has even delivered babies on occasion.
Another aunt and a great aunt came from New Orleans. Faculty members and staff came from Assumption Seminary and Oblate School of Theology. Parishioners came from Sacred Heart Parish in Abilene and other parishes where Fr. Faylona had lived.

Bishop Pfeifer’s homily was based on the feast of the day, the Visitation of Mary. He focused on Mary’s words to Elizabeth in Luke 1:46-48: “My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.” He asked Fr. White and Fr. Faylona to keep Mary as a model of how to reach out to others, a model of humble service, caring for others, especially the poor and the needy with their many faces. The way to keep this model alive in their hearts is to live by her spirit of trust and faith. A priest is to be a faithful disciple of the great high priest, Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd. Bishop Pfeifer reminded them to set aside time each day for prayer, meditation, and the Eucharist.

Bishop Pfeifer extolled all of the faithful of the Diocese to work and pray for more vocations for priesthood and religious life. He stated that he wished that we had ordinations each year. These were the first priestly ordinations for the Diocese in nine years when Fr. David Espitia was ordained. Native vocations can only come from our families – a family like yours. As Bishop Pfeifer stated when the Lord selects a person for a mission, the Lord gives that person the power, inspiration, and grace to carry out that mission.

One of our remaining seminarians, Ariel Lagunilla, and one of our candidates for the seminary, Gilbert Martinez, were among the altar servers and lectors for this ordination Mass. Other servers were seminarians from St. Mary Seminary. The other lector was a sister-in-law of Fr. White. Readings were in English, Spanish, and Tagalog (the national language of the Philippines).

After the ordination Mass, everyone was invited to a reception in the Cathedral gym. The newly ordained Sem. Ariel Lagunilla, and one of our
ordained priests blessed everyone who asked for their blessing.

Fr. White has been assigned as Associate Pastor at St. Ann Parish in Midland. Msgr. Timothy Murphy will be his pastor. Fr. Faylona has been assigned as Associate Pastor at St. Therese Parish in Carlsbad and St. Paschal Mission in Sterling City as well as Chaplain to the Hospital Ministry in San Angelo. Fr. Terry Brenon will be his pastor. You are asked to keep Fr. Rodney White and Fr. Joey Faylona in your prayers each day as they continue their formation of priesthood and as they enter priestly ministry in their new assignments. Also, pray for our remaining three seminarians and for the men applying to the Diocese to be accepted as new seminarians for next semester.

We offer a special thanks to the White and Faylona families for their support of Fr. Rodney and Fr. Joey in their choice to become priests for the Diocese of San Angelo. This support is a life-giving gift to the Diocese by the families’ sharing of sons for ministry in the Church. We also offer thanks to the local Knights of Columbus Councils and the San Angelo Catholic Daughters’ Court for a meal on Friday after the rehearsal for the families, seminary friends and faculty, clergy, and religious.

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Norms For Distributing And Receiving Communion Under Both Kinds

[U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops]

by Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI

Now that the new General Instruction of the Roman Missal has been officially approved by the Vatican, I share with you in this article the norms for distributing and receiving Communion under both kinds as approved by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. I ask that all priest, deacons, and eucharistic ministers be very familiar with these norms.

Purpose of these Norms

In response to a provision of the General Instruction of the Roman Missal, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops herein describes “the methods of distributing holy communion to the faithful under both kinds” and approves the following “norms, with the proper recognition of the Apostolic See.” The purpose of these norms is to ensure the reverent and careful distribution of holy communion under both kinds.

In every celebration of the eucharist there should be a sufficient number of ministers for holy communion so that it can be distributed in an orderly and reverent manner. Bishops, priests and deacons distribute holy communion by virtue of their office as ordinary ministers of the body and blood of the Lord.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

When the size of the congregation or the incapacity of the bishop, priest or deacon requires it, the celebrant may be assisted by other bishops, priests ordeacons. If such ordinary ministers of holy communion are not present, “the priest may call upon extraordinary ministers to assist him, i.e., formally instituted acolytes or even some of the faithful who have been commissioned according to the prescribed rite (and approved by the Bishop). In case of necessity the priest may also commission suitable members of the faithful for the occasion.” Extraordinary ministers of holy communion should receive sufficient spiritual, theological and practical preparation to fulfill their role with knowledge and reverence. When recourse is had to extraordinary ministers of holy communion, especially in the distribution of holy communion under both kinds, their number should not be increased beyond what is required for the orderly and reverent distribution of the body and blood of the Lord. In all matters such extraordinary ministers of holy communion should follow the guidance of the diocesan bishop.

Reverence

All ministers of holy communion should show the greatest reverence for the most holy eucharist by their demeanor, their attire and the manner in which they handle the consecrated bread or wine. Should there be any mishap – as when, for example, the consecrated wine is spilled from the chalice – then the affected area...should be washed and the water poured into the sacrament.

Planning

When holy communion is to be distributed under both species, careful planning should be undertaken so that:

- Enough bread and wine are made ready for the communication of the faithful at each Mass. As a general rule, holy communion is given from hosts consecrated at the same Mass and not from those reserved in the tabernacle. Precious blood may not be reserved at one Mass for use at another; and
- A suitable number of ministers of holy communion are provided at each Mass. For communion from the chalice, it is desirable that there be generally two ministers of the precious blood for each minister of the body of Christ, lest the liturgical celebration be unduly prolonged.

Even when communion will be ministered in the form of bread alone to the congregation, care should be taken that sufficient amounts of the elements are consecrated so that the precious blood may be distributed to all concelebrating priests.

At the Breaking of the Bread

As the “Agnus Dei,” or “Lamb of God,” is begun, the bishop or priest alone, or with the assistance of the deacon and if necessary of concelebrating priests, breaks the eucharistic bread.

Other empty chalices and ciboria or patens are then brought to the altar if this is necessary. The deacon or priest places the consecrated bread in several ciboria or patens and, if necessary, pours the precious blood into enough additional chalices as are required for the distribution of holy communion. If it is not possible to accomplish this distribution in a reasonable time, the celebrant may call upon the assistance of other deacons or concelebrating priests. This action is usually carried out at the altar, so that the sharing of all from the one cup is signified; in the case of large assemblies it may be done at the side table within the sanctuary (presbytery).

If extraordinary ministers of holy communion are required by pastoral need, they approach the altar as the priest receives communion. After the priest has concluded his own communion, he distributes communion to the extraordinary ministers, assisted by the deacon, and then hands the sacred vessels to them for distribution of holy communion to the people.

Neither deacons nor lay ministers may ever receive holy communion in the manner of a concelebrating priest. The practice of extraordinary ministers of holy communion waiting to receive holy communion until after the distribution of holy communion is not in accord with liturgical law.

After all eucharistic ministers have received communion, the bishop or priest celebrant reverently hands vessels containing the body or the blood of the Lord to the deacons or extraordinary ministers who will assist with the distribution of holy communion. The deacon may assist the priest in handling the vessels containing the body and blood of the Lord to the extraordinary ministers of holy communion.

Distribution of the Body and Blood of the Lord

Holy communion under the form of bread is offered to the communicant with the words “The body of Christ.” The communicant may choose whether to receive the body of Christ in the hand or on the tongue. When receiving in the hand, the communicant should be guided by the words of St. Cyril of Jerusalem: “When you approach, take care not to do so with your hand stretched out and your fingers open or apart, but rather place your left hand as a throne beneath your right, as befits one who is about to receive the king. Then receive him, taking care that nothing is lost.”

Among the ways of ministering the precious blood as prescribed by the General Instruction of the Roman Missal, communion from the chalice is generally the preferred form in the Latin church, provided that it can be carried out properly according to the norms and without any risk of even apparent irreverence toward the body of Christ.

The chalice is offered to the communicant with the words “The blood of Christ,” to which the communicant responds “Amen.”

The chalice may never be left on the altar or another place to be picked up by the communicant for self-administration (except in the case of concelebrating bishops or priests) nor may the chalice be passed from one communicant to another. There shall always be a minister of the chalice.

After each communicant has received the blood of Christ, the minister carefully wipes both sides of the rim of the chalice with a purificator. This action is a matter of both reverence and hygiene. For the same reason, the minister turns the chalice slightly after each communicant has received the precious blood.

It is the choice of the communicant, not the minister, to receive from the chalice.

Children are encouraged to receive communion under both kinds provided that they are properly instructed and that they are old enough to receive from the chalice.

Other Forms of Distribution of the Precious Blood

Distribution of the precious blood by a spoon or through a straw is not customary in the Latin dioceses of the United States of America.

Holy communion may be distributed by intinction in the following manner: “The communicant (or altar server), while holding the paten under the chin, approaches the priest who holds the chalice and at whose side stands the minister holding the vessel with the hosts. The priest takes the host, insticts the particle into the chalice and, showing it, says: ‘The body and blood of Christ.’ The communicant responds, ‘Amen,’ and receives the sacrament on the tongue from the priest. Afterward, the communicant returns to his or her place.”

The communicant, including the extraordinary minister, is never allowed to selfcommunicate, even by means of intinction. Communion under either form, bread or wine, must always be given by an ordinary or extraordinary minister of holy communion.

Purification of Sacred Vessels

After communion the consecrated bread that remains to be reserved in the tabernacle. Care should be taken with any fragments remaining on the corporal or in the sacred vessels. The deacon returns to the altar with the priest and collects and consumes any remaining fragments.

When more of the precious blood remains than was necessary for communion and if not consumed by the bishop or priest celebrant, “the deacon immediately and reverently consumes at the altar all of the blood of Christ which remains; he may be assisted, if needs dictate, by other deacons and priests.” When there are...
En Una Cárceles De Texas
por José Antonio Canales Phbo.

Las historias son interminables, los emigrantes centroamericanos, mexicanos y de otras nacionalidades en su paso por el territorio de México para llegar a los Estados Unidos, e incluso ya en territorio de este último país, viven un cumbre de experiencias que no olvidarán por el resto de sus días.

El bien y el mal aparecen en su camino. Personas e instituciones que quieren hacer menos doloroso el via crucis, están listas para prestar el auxilio espiritual, moral y material a estos hombres y mujeres que han dejado la miseria y la falta de oportunidades en sus países al sur del río Bravo. Lamentablemente también aparecen los que trafican cruelmente con la tragedia de estos hermanos y hermanas, aquellos que por un puñado de dólares violentan los más sagrados y elementales derechos que ha de gozar toda persona humana.

Muchos de estos emigrantes, más por hambre, ignorancia y miedo, llegan a comer delicioso en su travesía. De acuerdo a la gravedad de la falta cometida, la esperanza de conseguir un trabajo, ubicarse en este nuevo mundo y comenzar a enviar algo a sus familiares, se convierte en una pesadilla de meses o años de cárcel, en la mayoría de los casos, sin recibir en todo ese tiempo, la visita de sus más cercanos seres queridos.

En el marco de la Asamblea Anual del Hermanamiento de las diócesis de San Ángel y Tyler, Texas, con la diócesis de San Pedro Sula, en Honduras, celebrada del 5 al 9 de mayo en San Ángel, y a petición nuestra, Monseñor Larry Droll, canciller de la diócesis de San Pedro Sula, preparó todo para que uno de los puntos del programa a desarrollar, fuera precisamente, la visita al Edén Detention Center, conocedores de antemano que estas cárcel en Texas, tiene una fuerte población hispana, entre ellos hermanos hondureños y centroamericanos.

A una de la tarde, del jueves 8 de mayo salimos con Monseñor Droll, acompañados del Licenciado Carlos Paz de Cáritas Sampedrana y el Padre Nicolás Delgado miembro del equipo del intercambio por San Pedro Sula. Llegamos a la pequeña comunidad de Edén, y pasamos un poco estábamos ya en el Detention Center.

Nos impresionó la seguridad anti-escapes que tiene el edificio, contrastando con la sencillez de los controles por los que tuvimos que pasar para ingresar en la prisión, “sólo volando” podría alguien escaparse de aquí, comentábamos entre nosotros.

Al llegar al sitio que llaman capilla, un cartel anunciaba que “El padre José Canales de Honduras, estará a las 2:00 p.m. para reunirse con los reclusos centroamericanos.” El capellán, un amable pastor protestante, estuvo atento en todo momento para ayudarnos. Cuando llegamos al sitio ya un buen grupo nos esperaba, para sorpresa nuestra la mayoría eran mexicanos, el resto, un alto porcentaje eran salvadoreños y se reportaron dos hondureños, un progresero y un sampedrano.

Logramos tener un ambiente distendido, a la vez que alegre y participativo. Desde el inicio les dijimos que más que venir a darles discursos queríamos escuchar sus inquietudes, y la forma en que la Iglesia de Texas en unión con la de Honduras podría ayudarles en sus múltiples dificultades personales y de grupo.

El punto central de la visita lo constituyó la celebración de la Pala-

Procession And Coronation
by Joseph Gerald Light

The Queen of Heaven, our Blessed Mother Mary, was crowned after honoring Her Son, Jesus Christ, in a Corpus Christi Procession at Sacred Heart Church in Abilene, Texas on Mother’s Day, May 11, 2003. This fourth annual city-wide event that honored Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, was led by Rev. Robert Bush, Pastor of Sacred Heart Church, Abilene. Parishioners from St. Francis of Assisi Church, Holy Family and Sacred Heart each decorated a different altar at three different locations, where singing devotional hymns, adoration, Scripture reading followed by a short homily and the Benediction took place as the Blessed Sacrament was presented. A specially designed canopy shaded the Blessed Sacrament, which was carried by Rev. Robert Bush and escorted by Father Santiago, Father Obi, Deacons Pete Ballaro and Art Casaras, Altar servers and the Knights of Columbus of Abilene. The combined choirs of the Abilene parishes, singing hymns both in Spanish and English, followed along with the over 400 participants, including the First Communicants, Confirmation candidates, members of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Our Lady of Fatima, the Legion of Mary and the faithfulness from Abilene, Clyde, Merkel, Winters and Coleman.

The procession which began at the Adoration Chapel, traveled through the streets from altar to altar and concluded in the main church, where the First Communicants and the Queen’s Court performed a liturgical dance. Several hundred flowers were laid at Our Lady’s feet by the faithfuls. The Confirmation candidates who were also part of the Queen’s Court, processed in ceremony, presented a colorful robe to Our Blessed Mother and crowned her as “Our Queen” with a golden crown.

After the event, all present gathered for a covered dish dinner in the parish hall. A large picture of the procession appeared on the front page of the Abilene Reporter News on the following day.

POPE
from page one
when raised, allowed him to be visible behind the altar.

On the eve of his birthday, a leading Vatican official acknowledged publicly what many have long assumed: that the pope suffers from Parkinson’s disease.

“If we want to look for the secret weapon that has allowed him to beat the years and Parkinson’s, we must look to prayer,” Cardinal Giovanni Battista Re told the Italian newspaper Corriere della Sera.

“He places himself in the hands of God and feels God and the Madonna by his side on the path of life,” the cardinal said.

The new saints, one man and three women, all founded religious orders:
- St. Jozef Sebastian Pelczar, a Polish bishop, founded the Congregation of the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in the pope’s home Archdiocese of Krakow. Known for his deep piety, academic talents and pastoral zeal, he aided the wounded on the front lines of World War I during a Russian invasion. He died in 1924.
- In his sermon, the pope quoted from the saint’s writings, saying the path to perfection is open to all people regardless of their condition of life or their age.

“God considers not external things but the soul and demands only that which we can give,” the saint wrote.
- St. Urszula Ledochowska, the Polish founder of the Ursuline Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in Agony, who ministered in Russia in the early 20th century until she was expelled by the communists. Her branch of the Ursuline Sisters focused on educational services to the lonely and abandoned, and the pope called her “an apostle of new evangelization” in her own age. She died in Rome in 1939.
- St. Maria de Mattias, the Italian founder of the Adorers of the Blood of Christ, began at a young age to preach Gospel lessons to local women and children in southern Italy in the early 1800s. Her simple message was that social reform begins in the human heart and that the human being is transformed by the encounter with Christ. She died in Rome in 1866.
- St. Virgini Centurione Braccelli, the 17th-century Italian founder of the Sisters of Our Lady of the Refuge on Mount Calvary, took up the religious life at age 20 after the death of her husband, a gambler who led a dissolute life. She shared her family’s wealth with the poor and formed a network of programs aimed at helping the sick, the disadvantaged and the unemployed. She died in 1651.
- The Mass began with a birthday greeting by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, dean of the College of Cardinals. He said that on behalf of people inside and outside the church he wanted to express gratitude for all the pope does and to wish him many more years.

In proclaiming four saints, Cardinal Ratzinger said, the pope gave the world a gift on his birthday. He said the lives of those canonized reflect what could be called the theme of this pontificate: believing and loving.

“Tirelessly, you show us the face of Christ, the face of the merciful God. Tirelessly, you help us overcome the forces of hatred and the prejudices which separate and help us tear down the walls intended to separate us,” Cardinal Ratzinger said.

The cardinal’s words drew applause from the estimated 50,000 people in the square, many of whom brought homemade signs or banners bearing birthday greetings for the pope.

Among the crowd was Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski, whom the pope greeted afterward.

The pontiff also gave warm individual greetings to the five nuns who do the housecleaning, cooking and other work in his apartment at the Vatican. Members of the religious order founded by St. Pelczar, they were celebrating the day in a special way.

Before leaving the square, the pope offered a prayer to Mary, saying that on his birthday he wanted to entrust to her “my existence and the ministry which providence has called me to carry out.”
Diocesan Budget 2003-2004

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ:

I present to you the budget of our Diocese for fiscal year 2003-2004. I have officially approved and accepted this budget which has been prepared by the Diocesan Finance Officer and presented to me after careful review by the Diocesan Finance Council and the Presbyteral Council.

I am extremely happy to be able to report to you that due to your generosity, we have now totally rebuilt the Seminarian Burse, Parish Savings & Loan Pool, and all other designated funds which were lost due to the fraud and theft debacle in 1999. Indeed what was expected to take eleven years to restore has been fully achieved in only four years due to your gracious support and the financial managerial efforts of our diocesan leadership.

Periodically I am asked by the media what effect the recent national scandal has had on the spirit of giving of the people of our diocese. Happily and gratefully, financial reports show that the Catholics of our diocese have increased their giving in the past two years.

I am most grateful for your support of our diocesan-level ministries as reflected in this budget, but also wish to commend and express my most sincere appreciation for your support of your individual parishes and missions. Indeed, despite these troubling economic times, you have generously increased the aggregate Sunday income of your parishes and missions.

May God Bless all of us during this new year of ministry.

Your Servant in Christ and Mary,

Most Rev. Michael D. Pfeifer, OMI,
Bishop of San Angelo.

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** TOTAL **                        | $2,651,516| $300,000| $588,211 | $1,763,305     | 100.0%      

Passing Along The Keys

by S. Joan Markus, SSND

S. Joan Markus, SSND hands over the office keys to S. Hilda Marotta, OSF as Gloria Trevino and Vivian Book look on. (Photo courtesy Diocese Office of Education and Formation.)

The psalmist says: “A thousand years in your eyes are merely a yesterday.” (Ps. 90:4) That’s the feeling I have. After sixteen years in diocesan ministry, eleven years in the Diocese of San Angelo, I will terminate my ministry at the end of the contract year, June 30, 2003.

My years here have been happy ones. My supervisors, Bishop Michael Pfeifer and Msgr. Droll, have been most supportive and affirming. The Advisory Committee to the Office has been helpful with direction-setting. I have had an excellent staff that worked with me in implementing many educational and formational opportunities. I have worked closely with many of you catechetical leaders at the parish level. Some words from the Book of Ecclesiastes that describe these years for me are birthing, planting, building, gathering, seeking, keeping, sewing, speaking, loving and peace. They are and will be memorable years. You are and will remain my blessings. “God has made everything appropriate to its time, and has put the timeless into their hearts, without humans ever discovering, from beginning to end, the work which God has done.” (Eccl 3:11)

Yes, it is the work that God has done.

“There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for every affair under the heavens.” (Eccl 3:1) At this time of my life, I would like to transition into other ministry. Other words from the Book of Ecclesiastes speak to me now. They are uproot, tear down, weep, mourn, scatter, lose, cast away, rend and be silent.

I am looking at retreat/renewal work or pastoral care ministry of some kind in the future. Time will unfold what and where that will be. To prepare for this ministry, I have been granted a sabbatical year by my SSND community. I will participate in the Eighteen Graduate Hour Certificate Pastoral Care Program at Aquinas Institute on St. Louis University Campus in St. Louis, MO. I will live at the Cathedral convent in Belleville, IL.

I now pass the keys of the Office of Education and Formation to Sister Hilda Marotta who has worked with me as the Associate Director for seven years. I have great confidence in her ability to assume the position of Director on July 1, 2003. She will continue implementing the goals that have been set. Vaya con Dios.

Intentions Of The Holy Father

For June

** General ** – Respect of human values. That the faithful in public life may be guided by the Gospel and the Church’s social teaching to promote respect for human values.

** Mission ** – Testimony of full unity in the various Christians traditions of India. That those who belong to various traditions may be drawn together to offer a testimony to full unity and communion in the one Spirit.
St. Ann’s School News

by Audrey Curry, Principal, St. Ann’s School

On behalf of St. Ann’s School, I thank you for providing support to our School through scholarships for students to receive a Catholic education. We appreciate your help and keep you in our prayers. May God bless you richly for your generosity.

St. Ann’s School offers a rich history of quality education combining a strong spiritual foundation and academic excellence in a family atmosphere. The school is enrolling now for fall and has spaces open in all grade levels except 7th grade. Please call Audrey Curry, Principal, at 684-4563, if you have any questions.

The preschool of St. Ann’s School is expanding its program and offering a 5-day a week class for 4-year-old preschool students.

The will begin at 8:15 a.m. and end at 3:00 p.m. Before school care begins at 7:45 a.m. After school care is available until 5:30 p.m. The day includes religion, center time, directed craft activities, small group concept time, King and Queen privileges, outside play and story time. If you are interested in knowing more about the program, please call Audrey Curry, the Principal, at 684-4563.

Carlsbad will twin with the chapel called San Miguel Arcangel in San Miguel Colonia (part of Padre Canales’ larger parish). St. Vincent in Abilene will partner with the parish called Nuestra Señora del Carmen in Cofradia.

Nuestra Señora del Carmen is a typical example of a parish in the Diocese of San Pedro Sula. There is one priest, Padre Francisco Sanchez. The parish center is in Cofradia. A neighboring town (Naco) also has a chapel. There are ten communities which are called “urban.” And there are 32 communities in the mountains, which include the Parque Nacional El Cusucu.

The priest may get to each of these places once a month. In the meantime, leadership comes from the community: trained “delegates of the word” lead prayer services on Sunday and “catechists” do a great deal of teaching. There is a pastoral program for youth and social services.

The social-economic situation of the parish is very complex. Problems include poverty, migration from the country to the city, poor education, and inaccessible roads during the rainy season. Caritas Sampedra is assisting people in many projects of agricultural and community development. Making the water safe to drink is a top priority.

Parish projects include a medical dispensary, food for the elderly, child care, an educational program called “Maestra en Casa,” and help for students.

The parishes of St. Vincent in Abilene and Nuestra Señora del Carmen in Cofradia have shared information about their statistics and programs. Now it is time for a visit. In August of 2003, four parishioners from St. Vincent will travel to Honduras to meet their new partners.

The reverence due to the precious blood of the Lord demands that it be fully consumed after communion is completed and never be poured into the ground or the sacarium.

The chalice and other vessels may be taken to a side table where they are cleansed and arranged in the usual way. Other sacred vessels that held the precious blood are purified in the same way as chalices. Provided the remaining consecrated bread has been consumed or reserved and the remaining precious blood has been consumed, “it is permissible to leave the vessels . . . suitably covered and at a side table on a corporal, to be cleansed immediately after Mass following the dismissal of the people.”

“The precious blood may not be reserved, except for giving communion to someone who is sick. Only sick people who are unable to receive communion under the form of bread may receive it under the form of wine alone at the discretion of the priest. If not consecrated at a Mass in the presence of the sick person, the blood of the Lord is kept in a properly covered vessel and is placed in the tabernacle after communion. The precious blood should be carried to the sick in a vessel that is closed in such a way as to eliminate all danger of spilling. If some of the precious blood remains after the sick person has received communion, it should be consumed by the minister, who should also see to it that the vessel is properly purified.

The CLONACIÓN from page two

production and use of early human life as a natural resource for our own benefit: we risk becoming desensitized, indifferent, callous; we lose our awe and respect for the mystery and wonder of emerging new human life.”

TALENTS from page twelve

the other half to help with the expenses of a Grape Creek family whose high school daughter had undergone a liver transplant in San Antonio. An added treat for the youth was when they discovered a delegation from Honduras just happened to be in town, giving them the opportunity to personally present them with the fruits of their labors.

Some of the youth commented that up to now the Parable of the Talents had been an interesting story with a good moral to it. Now, they said, they will never feel the same when they read the story but will always be reminded of what they did and the call to continue using our time, talents, and treasure for the People of God.
**Partnership Teams Meet**

by Msgr. Larry Droll

The partnership teams from the Dioceses of San Pedro Sula in Honduras, and San Angelo and Tyler in Texas, met at Christ the King Retreat Center, May 5-9, 2003, to continue the development of the partnership among the dioceses.

One morning was spent on a presentation and a discussion of *Ecclesia in America*, the document by Pope John Paul II upon which the partnership is based. Pope John Paul II speaks of encountering the Living Christ in conversion, communion, and solidarity, as we encounter one another. The partnership initiative is an effort to make concrete the idea that we are one Church in America – North, Central and South.

One dimension of the partnership is parish to parish twinning. Definitive steps were taken in this regard, as mentioned in the article which accompanies this one. (Editor’s Note: See below right.)

Another effort is school to school twinning. Students and teachers from St. Ann’s Catholic School in Midland presented information about their school and ideas for partnering; they will be paired with La Milagrosa Catholic School in Tela, on the north coast of Honduras. Students and their teachers and Principal of Angelo Catholic School also presented their interest in partnering with an elementary school in Honduras. The partnership team will be looking into the possibility of their twinning with the Instituto Guadalupano in La Lima.

In the Diocese of Tyler, St. Mary’s Parish in Longview is establishing a partnership relationship with Santa Cruz in Yoyoa, Gorman Catholic High School will be partnering with the high school division of the Instituto Guadalupano in La Lima.

From the beginning of this relationship, there has been a concern for immigration and people in prison. Several members of the delegation from Honduras visited the Eden Detention Center to meet with and pray with prisoners from Honduras and Central America. Many other Spanish-speaking inmates also joined in the time of prayer. The inmates expressed their appreciation for the visit and the encouragement that it brought to them.

The partnership teams discussed other topics and met with Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI, and his staff at the Diocesan Pastoral Center. They also visited the Catholic Newman Center at Angelo State University, St. Thomas Parish in Miles, and the Denis Ranch in Vancourt. The partnership teams from the three dioceses plan to meet again in the Diocese of Tyler in May, 2004.

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**Youth Experience Parable of the Talents**

by Michael Wyse, DRE, St. Joseph Parish, San Angelo, Texas.

“A man who was going on a journey called in his servants and entrusted his possessions to them. To one he gave five talents; to another, two; to a third, one – to each according to his ability. Then he went away. Immediately the one who received five talents went and traded with them, and made another five.” Who of us is not familiar with the Parable of the Talents from the Gospel of Matthew? At St. Joseph Parish in San Angelo, the parish DRE decided to give the high school youth a personal opportunity to experience this parable. He entrusted the 9th through 12th grade classes with $15 each, told them the story from the Gospel, and gave them two months to increase the funds for charity. Each class developed its own project, and together the youth raised a profit of $720, holding garage sales, selling brisket plates, creating youth group T-shirts, making jewelry, and selling St. Joseph Youth Booster Certificates.

Once the money was raised the youth then got together to decide how to put the funds to good use. After lengthy discussion the youth decided to give half the proceeds to our sister diocese in San Pedro Sula, Honduras; and the other half to the Josephites in the Diocese of San Angelo. The proceeds were given to St. Joseph Parish in the Diocese of San Pedro Sula, Honduras; and the other half to the Josephites in the Diocese of San Angelo. The proceeds were given to St. Joseph Parish in the Diocese of San Pedro Sula.

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**Hermanamiento Parroquia a Parroquia**

by Msgr. Larry Droll

In the partnership between the Diocese of San Pedro Sula and San Angelo, parishes are urged to twin with one another.

The purpose of partnering is to make concrete the vision of *Ecclesia in America*, that the Catholic Church is one Church in America (North, Central and South). We want to see and get to know one another, to share our experiences and dreams, and to work together to make the world a better place. We encounter the living Christ as we encounter one another in conversion, communion and solidarity.

One of the strategies and action steps of the pastoral plan of the Diocese of San Angelo, “Into God’s Marvelous Light,” is precisely to develop partnerships between parishes of the Dioceses of San Angelo and San Pedro Sula. We begin this year and we’ve set a goal of one new parish in each deanery of the San Angelo Diocese entering into such partnerships this year. Our goal is to have five parishes involved by 2008.

Following presentations in February by Padre Jose Canales of San Pedro Sula and Msgr. Larry Droll of San Angelo, the parishes of St. Joseph and St. Agnes in Fort Stockton, along with St. James in Sanderson, have decided to enter into partnership. St. Therese in Carlsbad desires to twin with one chapel in a larger parish of many chapels, and St. Vincent’s Parish of Abilene will partner with a parish.

On May 7, 2003, during the annual meeting for the Texas-Honduras Partnership, Padre Canales announced that the Fort Stockton cluster would partner with the parish called La Natividad de Nuestro Señor in La Ceiba. St. Therese in the Diocese of St. Thomas in Miles, and St. Michael in the Diocese of San Angelo, both intend to twin with parishes in San Pedro Sula.