



SDNB

Salina Diocesan News Bulletin <http://salinadiocese.org/home/sdnb>

Volume 420

January 2016

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

DAY OF MERCY: As part of the Jubilee Year of Mercy, the Salina Diocese will be observing a *Day of Mercy* on Sunday, October 9, 2016. This observance will be focused around a simultaneous opportunity throughout the Diocese for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, from 2:00-4:00 PM Central Time. The matter will be well-publicized in the **Salina Register** as an extraordinary Confession time in every parish (or cluster of parish and missions). Retired priests are encouraged to assist in parishes as circumstances allow. While any Catholic is welcome to come to Confession during this time, this two-hour period is intended primarily for those who have long absented themselves from the Sacrament.

Additional information and ideas about how to promote opportunity, which is a part of our *Jubilee Year celebrations*, will be provided by the Diocese as time draws nearer. For now, I kindly ask that all priests and parishes clear their calendars for **Sunday, October 9th** in order to provide our people this opportunity of grace. – Bishop Edward J. Weisenburger

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD on Friday, January 1, 2016 is a Holy Day of Obligation. The Chancery will be closed all day on January 1, 2016 and will close at 12 noon on Thursday, December 31st, 2015.

REGION IX BISHOPS' ANNUAL RETREAT: I will be attending with my brother Bishops January 4-11, 2016.

JANUARY 22ND IS THE 44TH ANNIVERSARY OF ROE V WADE, the Supreme Court decision which legalized abortion in our land in 1973. This day is to be observed as a day of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion, and of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life. Please refer to the Ordo for the liturgy of this day. This anniversary challenges us to continue our prayer and efforts to promote a greater respect for human life and legal protection for the most innocent and vulnerable in our midst, unborn children. I plan to attend the March for Life in DC this year along with many others from our Diocese. Special appreciation to Eric and Jaclyn Brown, Diocesan Respect Life Office Coordinators.

JANUARY 25-28, 2016, CLERGY RENEWAL DAYS, SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER, WICHITA
As usual all active diocesan priests are expected to be in attendance. Retired, religious priests and Deacons are welcome, however, please let Fr. Ninemire know your plans so he can plan accordingly.

THE PERSONNEL BOARD WILL MEET during the Clergy Renewal Days during the lunch break on Tuesday, January 26th. Please contact Msgr. Brinkman, Chairman, or Bishop by Monday, January 18, 2016, if you desire to meet in person at the January gathering in Wichita.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK founded in 1974 as a joint project of the National Catholic Education² Association (NCEA) and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops is observed the week of January 31-February 6, 2016. The theme for the National Catholic Schools Week 2016 is *“Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service.”*

Schools typically celebrate Catholic Schools Week with Masses, open houses, and other activities for students, families, parishioners, and the community at large. The theme encompasses several concepts that are at the heart of a Catholic education. First, schools are communities—small families in their own right, but also members of the larger community of home, church, city and nation. Faith, knowledge and service are three measures by which any Catholic school can and should be judged. Catholic Schools Week is a celebration of all the elements of our school that make it such a great place for students, parents, faculty, staff, friends, and the entire parish community. I will be celebrating at seven different locations (involving 10 schools) this year with faculty, students and in some instances grandparents as well.

WORLD DAY OF CONSECRATED LIFE will be celebrated in the Church on **Tuesday, February 2, 2016 (the feast of the Presentation of the Lord—also known as Candlemas Day), and in parishes on the weekend of February 6-7, 2016.** Please pray for all those who have made commitments to consecrated life, and be sure to thank them on their special day. May they continue to be inspired by Jesus Christ and respond generously to God's gift of their vocation. In 1997, Pope Saint John Paul II instituted a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. The celebration of World Day for Consecrated Life is transferred to the following Sunday in order to highlight the gift of consecrated persons for the whole Church.

ASH WEDNESDAY – February 10, 2016 – Lent is a time of grace and renewal for the entire Church, especially for the catechumens and candidates preparing for initiation during the Easter Triduum. The three traditional ascetical practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving are important pillars for a faithful experience of Lent. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting for those 14 through 59) and abstinence (for those 14 and over). The Fridays of Lent remain days of abstinence.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR - RITE OF ELECTION will be as follows:

Sunday, February 14, 2 p.m., Sacred Heart Cathedral, Salina

Sunday, February 21st, 3 p.m., St. Nicholas of Myra Parish, Hays,

I will again be sending letters to the candidates and the catechumens. Please refer to the Office of Liturgy Section for deadlines and more information.

THE CHRISM MASS

Thursday, March 17, 2016, 11:30 a.m., Sacred Heart Cathedral

A luncheon will follow. Please see the Office of Liturgy Section for more information.

OFFICE OF THE VICAR GENERAL

REMINDER – BULLETIN INSERTS, HUMAN TRAFFICKING. The December 2015 issue of the SDNB had bulletin inserts listed for Dec. 2015, and Jan, Feb & March, 2016. Thank you for the December ones in your December Bulletins. You will find the January 2016 inserts under the Vicar General Section from the December 2015 SDNB and then the upcoming months of February and March. Your continued assistance in promoting an awareness of Human Trafficking during 2016 is greatly appreciated.

New information has been released from the office of Papal Charities about Papal Blessings, thus we have amended our instructions on how to submit requests. The new instructions are included in this SDNB. Please discard any old information you may have. If you have any questions, please contact Brenda Streit at the chancery.

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

Please find attached an update to the Diocesan Bluebook. Please replace the document **Clergy Compensation** (pages 61&62) under the “Priests” section with the new update reflecting the new mileage rates.

OFFICE OF FINANCE

INTEREST RATES for Deposits & Loans through the diocese: During the December 10th meeting of the Diocesan Finance Council, it was recommended to Bishop Weisenburger to raise the interest rates for deposits (SCs and LPs) to 2.0%. This is an increase from the 1.6% that the diocese is currently paying. The endowment funds (ED) will remain the same. Endowed funds make annual distributions of an amount up to 5% of the net fair market value of the last twelve rolling quarters of the fund.

The loan rate will also increase to 3.25% from its current rate of 2.93%. All rate changes will be effective July 1, 2016.

MILEAGE RATE: The IRS has announced a new current mileage rate used to calculate the deductible costs for travel. The recommended standard mileage rate for business is **54 cents per mile**. The Diocese will begin following this rate effective January 1, 2016.

CORPORATE ANNUAL REPORTS: The annual report for each parish corporation required by the Kansas Secretary of State has been filed by the Finance Office. The fee for the report for each parish is \$40.00. Please remit this fee to the Finance Office for each parish at your earliest convenience.

OFFICE OF SAFETY AND SECURITY

I am pleased to announce that the Office of Safety and Security has good news to share with you. Our triennial on-site Safe Environment audit went very well and our diocese has been found compliant with all audited Articles within the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* for the 2014-2015 audit period.

I would like to give a big shout-out to Sister Carolyn Juenemann and Wendy Backes who work so hard to make sure that we are in compliance at all times. Their hard work is greatly appreciated.

This is a good time to remind you that, although we will not have an on-site audit next year, we will still have to submit all of the data for the paper audit. Therefore, please remember to keep up your most excellent efforts in making sure your volunteers, employees, teachers, etc. are Virtus trained and background checks are completed. Please continue sending me bulletin announcements. Thank you for all of your hard work!

PRIESTS HEALTH AND RETIREMENT BOARD

Included in this SDNB is the summary of the survey sent to all priests who are 60 or older but still involved with parish administration.

Thank you to all the priests who sent back their survey.

PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH

Mission Sunday: If your parish has not yet forwarded to the Propagation of the Faith Office the collection for World Mission Sunday (Oct 17-18, 2015), please do so as soon as possible. Please indicate in the check memo “World Mission Sunday.”

Missionary Childhood Association: Some parishes participated in the Missionary Childhood Association (MCA) awareness and fundraising program through donations at the parish church nativity scene. If your parish participated, please forward contributions to the Propagation of the Faith office soon after the conclusion of this year's Christmas season on January 10, 2016.

Mission Cooperative 2016: As we complete the contribution records for Mission Cooperative 2015, parishes are reminded that Mission Cooperative presenters are prohibited by diocesan policy from providing their own contribution envelopes to be distributed in parishes for this collection. Special Diocesan Mission Co-Op envelopes are provided each year to all the parishes. In February parishes will be asked to indicate the number of Mission Co-Op envelopes needed for 2016's appeal.

Operation Rice Bowl: Operation Rice Bowl materials order forms should have recently arrived in your parish. Each parish is responsible for ordering the desired materials from Catholic Relief Services. This collection is taken up at the end of the Lenten season. If you have not received an order form for your parish materials, contact Catholic Relief Services directly at 888-277-7575 (Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Eastern Time) or 877-435-7277 (after hours and weekends.) Or, you may go to www.crs.org and click on "About Us" and then "Contact CRS."

OFFICE OF NEW EVANGELIZATION

The Year of Mercy: Additional information about the Salina Diocese's observance of the Jubilee Year of Mercy will be presented at the January Clergy Days at the Spiritual Life Center in Wichita.

OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

TOTUS TUUS: We plan to have 4 teams for TOTUS TUUS this summer. All weeks have openings except June 6-10 and June 20-24. We would like to fill each week so please contact Karen Taylor as soon as possible to select a week for your parish.

Team Members for Totus Tuus: If you would like to apply to be on one of the teams please go to the diocese website, Religious Education, Documents. Please fill out the Totus Tuus forms and send to my office by March 1, 2016. You need to be college age to serve on a team.

CONTINUING EDUCATION OF PRIESTS

JANUARY RENEWAL DAYS: will be January 25-28, 2016. We will begin with supper at 5:30 on Monday evening with registration beginning at 4:00 p.m. On Tuesday, Fr. Frank Coady will lead us in a discussion of the recent document from the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments called *Homiletic Directory*. We will concentrate primarily on the first part: "The Homily and its Liturgical Setting." Fr. James Telthorst, S.J., will be with us on Wednesday and Thursday to give us direction in offering some spiritual direction to parishioners. Our days together will conclude with the Thursday noon meal.

We are expecting all active and diocesan priests to participate in the Retreat. Retired priests and Religious Order priests are most welcome and encouraged to participate but need to let me know by **Thursday, January 14**. I presume all the international priests are participating unless I am otherwise informed. Permanent Deacons are most welcome to participate on Tuesday (and your cost would be \$50 or \$100 for an overnight). You will need to let Fr. Ninemire know if you plan on coming.

In order to plan for room assignments and meal planning, please contact Fr. Kerry Ninemire no later than

IF you are an active diocesan priest and will **NOT** be attending; or
If you are a retired diocesan priest and **WILL BE ATTENDING**; or
If you are a Religious Order priest (active or retired) and **WILL BE ATTENDING**.

The cost is **\$350**, payable to the Diocese of Salina. Please bring the check with you to the Center.

ANNUAL RETREAT 2016: September 19-22, 2016.

OFFICE OF YOUTH MINISTRY

NCYC: Thanks for all the prayers and support for the youth of our diocese. We have received many positive feedbacks on the Conference. The dates for 2017 are November 16-18 in Indianapolis.

DIOCESAN CYO CONVENTION: Our annual Diocesan Convention will be April 9 and 10, 2016, St. Mary Grade School Gym, Salina. Information packets will be coming. The theme will be “Don’t Conform, Transform.”

JR. CYO CAMP: Our annual camp will be May 28-31, 2016, at Rock Springs Ranch, Junction City. Youth able to attend are 6th, 7th, and 8th graders this current school year. Seniors in high school and college age students may apply to serve as counselors.

PRAYER AND ACTION: The host parishes for Prayer & Action for the summer of 2016 will be in Hays the month of June for 4 weeks. In July for 3 weeks Junction City will be hosting Prayer & Action. We thank these two towns for opening their facilities and hosting Prayer & Action.

Team Members for Prayer & Action: If you would like to apply to be on the Team for Prayer & Action please go to the diocese website, Youth Ministry, Documents. Please fill out the Prayer & Action forms and send to my office by March 1, 2016. You need to be in college to be on the team. If you have questions please call the Youth Ministry Office.

OFFICE OF FAMILY LIFE

SINGLE PARENT NETWORKER is usually relevant for all parents, not just Single Parents. Many of the articles pertain to all parents. Please distribute to your Family Life Coordinator.

2016 DIOCESAN MEN’S CONFERENCE – SAVE THE DATE: In this mailing you will find a “SAVE THE DATE” flyer for the 2016 Catholic Men’s Conference to be held on Saturday August 13, 2016. Curtis Martin is one of the most excellent nationally known speakers so make sure the men of your parish do not miss the opportunity to hear him at this year’s conference. Curtis was one of the lay presenters at this year’s USCCB Spring Conference in St. Louis. He is the Founder and Chief Executive Director of the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS). Let’s make this Men’s Conference the biggest yet!

ENGAGED ENCOUNTER DATES FOR 2015-2016

Feb. 19-21, 2016 - Capuchin Center for Spiritual Life-Victoria
 Mar. 11-13, 2016 - Capuchin Center for Spiritual Life-Victoria
 Apr. 22-24, 2016 - Capuchin Center for Spiritual Life-Victoria
 June 10-12, 2016 - Capuchin Center for Spiritual Life-Victoria

GOD'S PLAN FOR A JOY FILLED MARRIAGE SEMINAR DATES FOR 2015-2016

Feb. 20, 2016 - St. Nicholas Parish-Hays

Feb. 20, 2016 – St. Thomas More-Manhattan

Mar. 5, 2016 - Our Lady of Perpetual Help-Concordia

Apr. 9, 2016 - Our Lady of Perpetual Help-Concordia

June 18, 2016 - Our Lady of Perpetual Help-Concordia

OFFICE OF RESPECT LIFE

Kansans for Life has developed a church bulletin project entitled “In the beginning”. It follows the development of a child named “Chris” in the womb. The bulletin messages begin on March 15th to prepare for Feast of the Annunciation on March 25th and ends near Christmas on December 20th. It mirrors the fetal development of Jesus Christ. This is a great way to spread the pro-life message while honoring the child Jesus. The bulletin announcements can be found at <http://www.kfl.org>

Thank you for promoting the March for Life Trip to Topeka. Unfortunately, we didn't have enough interest, so we have cancelled the trip. Everyone that has signed up will receive their money back.

Please pray for those traveling to the March for Life in Washington DC and Topeka.

Save the Date! Respect Life Conference will be August 22, 2016 in Russell, KS. The National Committee for a Human Life Amendment will be the keynote speaker. We will also have Michael Schuttloffel, Executive Director of the Kansas Catholic Conference. More information to come!

Bulletin Announcements

The U.S. Bishops' annual novena 9 Days for Life takes place Saturday, January 16 – Sunday, January 24, 2016. Pray for the respect and protection of all human life with new intentions, brief reflections, and more each day. Download the novena online, or participate through Facebook, email, text message or an app. Join at www.9daysforlife.com!

Pro-Life Intercessions for Mass

For children who are unwanted by their parents: that God's grace might send others to love and care for them; We pray to the Lord:

For all unborn children: that our love for them may keep them safe until the joyous day of their birth; We pray to the Lord:

For little children, who await the birth of a brother or sister: that they may learn to cherish the child in her mother's womb; We pray to the Lord:

For children who have been abandoned or abused: that God might teach us how to heal and protect them; We pray to Lord:

For all whose hearts ache from the sin of abortion: that God will soothe and heal us with the balm of his mercy; We pray to the Lord:

For doctors, nurses and other medical personnel, especially those tempted by abortion: that God might change their hearts and give them the conviction of the Gospel of Life; We pray to the Lord:

For those who have grown very old, especially elderly parents and godparents: that the love and respect of their children might sustain them and bring them joy; We pray to the Lord

OFFICE OF RURAL LIFE

St Isidore's Day will be observed on Monday, 16 May, due to the actual Memorial Day (15 May) falling on Sunday next year. We are grateful to Fr Gnanasekar Kulandai and the parishioners of Sacred Heart Parish in Atwood for stepping forward to host the St Isidore observance next spring.

The Rural Life Day will be Sunday, August 10th in the East Vicariate. Letters have gone out to the pastors asking for someone to host the Rural Life Day next summer.

The Rural Life Commission applied for two grants from two different Foundations. We are hopeful these grants will permit us to expand our programs. We are considering another conference and outside speaker on rural life sometime next summer or fall.

SDCCW

Salina Diocesan Council of Catholic Women January Workshop will be January 10th in Beloit from 12:30 to 3:30 and the topic is "Spiritual Bouquets" with Rachel Elsen. What is a Spiritual Bouquet, when is one used and for whom is a bouquet made.

There will be short sessions dealing with the different Commissions – Organization (a suggested name change to Stewardship), Church, Legislative, Family, Community, and International – as to their purpose and recommended format for presentations at meetings.

MISCELLANEOUS

UPDATES FOR THE DIRECTORY:

1. Fr. David Micheal's email – frdavid@sacredheartcolby.com (pg. 32 & 86)
2. Take out Deacon Chad Stramel from directory – (pgs 43 & 88)
3. Take out James Sulanka as a seminarian – (pg. 94)
4. New Seminarian in January – Scott Stramel- smstramel@gmail.com - Saint Meinrad School of Theology (pg. 93)

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|-----------------------------------|--|---|---|---|--|
| | 1 Catholic Schools Week | 2 Feast of the Presentation of the Lord Catholic Schools Week | 3 Catholic Schools Week | 4 Catholic Schools Week | 5 Catholic Schools Week | 6 World Day of Consecrated Life Catholic Schools Week |
| 7 World Day of Consecrated Life Jubilee Year of Mercy Celebration- Basilica of St. Fidelis, Victoria Boy Scout Sunday | 8 Jesus Caritas | 9 Jesus Caritas | 10 Ash Wednesday | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 Rite of Election- 2:00 Sacred Heart Cathedral | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 Engaged Encounter- Victoria | 20 Engaged Encounter- Victoria God's Plan for a Joy Filled Marriage- St. Nicholas, Hays, and St. Thomas More, Manhattan |
| 21 Rite of Election- 3:00 St. Nicholas of Myra Hays Engaged Encounter- Victoria | 22 | 23 Priests Council, Victoria | 24 Seminary Visit, St. Meinrad Seminary | 25 Seminary Visit, St. Meinrad Seminary | 26 Seminary Visit, St. Meinrad Seminary | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | Notes: | | | | |



Information for Applying for Papal Blessing Parchments

Requests for *Papal Blessings on parchment* can be sent to the Diocese of Salina and will then be forwarded to the *Elemosineria Apostolica - Office of Papal Charities* with a letter from the Vicar General.

The request should include:

- The names(s) of the person(s) for whom the blessing is requested
- The reason or occasion prompting the request
- The *date*, the *name of the Church* and the *address* are required when the blessing is requested for the celebration of a sacrament, a religious profession or an anniversary
- The name and address of the person making the request
- The address of where to send the parchment and payment details

The payment should be made *after* you receive the Papal blessing. It is possible to make the payment in one of two ways:

- via a bank transfer (the banking coordinates will be sent to you in the same parcel as the parchment)
- or by online credit card payment via the Vatican website.

The payment amounts will vary and will reflect the cost of the actual parchment and the postage costs.

The *time required* for receiving the parchment is approximately *one month* from the date when the request is received at the Office of Papal Charities.

The Apostolic Blessing is granted *for the following occasions*:

1. *Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation*
2. *Marriage*
3. *Priestly Ordination*
4. *Religious Profession*
5. *Secular Consecration*
6. *Ordinations of Permanent Deacons*
7. *Marriage Anniversaries (10, 25, 40, 50, 60 years), Priestly Ordination, Religious Profession*
8. *Birthdays (18, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100)*
9. *Catholic individuals or families (with name and surname of the spouses united in a religious marriage).*

A recommendation from the parish priest of the person(s) to receive the blessing, or a priest familiar with the person(s), attesting to his/her/their good standing in the Catholic Church. The request should be on parish letter head and have the parish seal.

Requests for papal blessings for other occasions not listed will not be accepted.

Please send all requested information to:

Brenda Streit
PO Box 980
Salina, KS 67402-0980

Postal Address: Elemosinaria Apostolica
Parchment Office
00120 Vatican City

Telefax: (+39) 06.69883132
(24 hours)

Summary of Survey for Priests over 60 years old but Still Active in Parish Administration.

1) Are you happy in your current assignment? All priests answered “yes”, even though it has taken some time to adjust to a new assignment.

2) Are you a priest today for different reasons than when you were ordained?

All priests answered “no”, even though one priest said that his reasons are different from when he first entered the seminary. Some added that they are now more aware of the needs of the people they were ordained to serve. Two priests said they were more deeply committed to priestly ministry now than when they were ordained.

3) Do you have any interest in being a full time “senior associate” when you reach the age of 70? This would be if such an assignment were available.

--No – 5 priests

--Maybe - 2 priests

--Yes - 5 priests

4) What have you done to prepare spiritually for retirement?

--I meet with a spiritual director on a regular basis and have discussed this with him.

--I read a lot of spiritual books

--I pray for over 2 hours every day (not including Mass and Liturgy of the Hours.)

--I have been too busy to prepare for retirement.

--I wish I had more time to prepare spiritually for retirement. (2 priests)

--While on retreat or on vacation, I spend time reading, reflecting and praying about this.

There may be some issues with the transition, but I feel I am prepared.

--I daily pray the Divine Office, do spiritual reading and visit the sick.

--I trust in God and do not worry much about the future.

--I am trying to simplify my living style and take more time in prayer.

--I am slowly working my way into retirement.

5) What have you done to prepare emotionally for retirement?

--Making sure that my identity is not wrapped up solely with my work. I am expanding outside interests.

--I dream often about retiring and think about what it will be like.

--I am in the Lord’s hands. (3 priests)

--I need to do more preparing

--Not sure how to prepare emotionally for retirement.

--I am reading more about the life of a retired person.

--I am slowing down and taking better care of myself.

--I have enjoyed talking with my brother priests about how they are preparing for the transition or currently handling the transition in their lives.

--I am evaluating various options of what I will do when I retire.

6) What have you done to prepare financially for retirement?

- I have a Roth IRA
- I have saved well. (4 priests)
- I already bought a home to live in, have long term rest home insurance and have invested my savings.
- I have invested well and feel that I am prepared. (3 priests)
- I set up an annuity (2 priests)
- I have learned to get by on very little.
- Between my savings and Social Security and diocesan stipend, this is the least of my worries!

7) What have you done to prepare physically for retirement?

- Annual physical (2 priests).
- Eating healthy and exercising on a regular basis (5 priests)
- I am falling apart and am worried about my health when I get even older
- I keep active with building and maintenance projects around the parish.
- I am trying to get more sleep
- I ride my bike and play racquetball three times a week
- I am working on my weight and diet
- I go to the doctor constantly. My health has deteriorated dramatically these last few years.

8) At what age do you hope to request retirement?

70 – 2 priests

73-75 – 5 priests

82 – 1 priest

85 - 1 priest

No set age – 2 priests

--If I had a permanent deacon I would stay on longer. I would be able to let him handle most of the parish issues, while I could provide the Sacramental ministry that priests provide (i.e. Mass, Confessions, Anointing)

9) Do you plan on retiring in the same town in which you are currently living?

- Not sure – 4 priests
- No – 8 priests

10) Do you plan on living in the diocese once you retire?

- Yes – 11 priests
- No – 1 priest

11) Would you be interested in living in a duplex/triplex at a reasonable rent if there diocese had one specifically built for retired priests?

- Yes – 1 priest
- Maybe – 5 priests
- No – 4 priests

12) After you retire, would you be interested in living in a parish where you could be hired as a full or part time staff member?

- Yes – 3 priests
- Maybe – 3 priests
- No -3 priests
- I would prefer to stay here with the help of a permanent deacon. If that is not possible, then I hope help out in the parish in the town where I retire.

13) Is there anything that you would like to do for the diocese once you retire?

- Help out on weekends – 3 priests
- Serve on Diocesan Committees
- Teach adult education courses
- Pastor ONE SMALL parish not far from Salina
- Pray and Fast
- Visiting the Sick
- Not sure – 2 priests

14) What are you looking forward to the most when you retire?

- Freedom to read – 2 priests
- Freedom to travel – 2 priests
- No meetings! – 4 priests
- Not being tied to a schedule – 2 priests
- Having time for myself – 2 priests
- Visiting family
- Less administrative responsibilities – 2 priests
- Not sure

15) What are your anxieties or concerns about retiring?

- Some concerns about money, but I try to live simply – 2 priests
- None – 4 priests
- That I won't know what to do with my time
- That I may become physically or mentally disabled – 2 priests
- I am worried I might move to a town, set up an arrangement with the pastor to help out in the parish and then have the pastor change and I will be left out in the cold. It would be very hard to move again at that point when I am older and weaker.

16) What advice would you give to a newly ordained priest in our diocese?

- Start saving now – 5 priests
- Start saving, but don't make it an obsession.
- Buy your car with your savings. Do not buy a car if you will need to make payments.
- Pray and Plan – 2 priests
- Develop hobbies that do not become your life
- Try to be a good and holy priest.
- Be generous with your time, talents and treasure. Remember that God cannot be outdone in generosity.
- Be open to change. Change can be a good thing.
- Join priest support groups
- Remember daily prayer is important
- Keep up with changes in the Church. Go to conferences and workshops.
- Listen to people
- Exercise regularly
- Give 100% to God and His holy people
- Basically prepare yourself for the “long haul”.
- Say yes to whatever you are asked to do.
- Enjoy the assignments you have. Don't start thinking that the “grass is greener” in other parishes.
- See the good in everyone.
- Keep learning. Read theologians with different points of view. Don't just read conservative ones or liberal ones.
- Have a good, but not overdone, prayer life
- Priesthood may not be what you thought it would be like when you were in the seminary. Be open to the realities of parish life.
- When you go to a new parish, take a deep breath and don't change anything the first year. Pray about it first.
- Remember, your parish may not be ideal. Look at the parish Jesus had to deal with!
- Do your best to emulate Christ in your ministry.
- Don't get so involved with parish life that you forget to take care of yourself
- Never write and send a letter when you are angry. Once you send it, you can never take it back. This also applies to e-mails, texts and to other forms of written communication.
- Watch. Listen. Do. Make judgements later, if you feel it is necessary.
- The older priests have been in the trenches for a long time. They are not alive and kicking by accident!

Compensations for Clergy

(January 1, 2016)

1. **CLERGY SALARY** as of July 1, 2015:
\$990 per month; \$11,880 annually.
[The compensation for the full amount of this salary is to be equitably divided between/among the various parish(es) and/or institution served, in a manner mutually agreed upon by the priest and the parish(es) and/or institution which he serves.]

2. **AUTO REIMBURSEMENT** as of July 1, 2015:
\$990 per month, \$11,880 annually.
[The compensation for the full amount of auto reimbursement is to be equitably divided between/among the various parish(es) and/or institution served, in a manner mutually agreed upon by the priest and the parish(es) and/or institution which he serves.]

- EXTRA MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT** as of January 1, 2016:
54 cents per mile.
[Extra mileage reimbursement includes extra mileage for the priest for the miles he travels both to and from his mission parishes. This extra mileage is to be paid by the mission parish(es) to which he drives (round trip) from his residence.]

3. **SUPPLY PRIESTS REIMBURSEMENT** as of July 1, 2006:
 - a. For weekend help out - \$50 for each Mass, plus Mass stipend, plus mileage to be calculated according to the EXTRA MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT rate above. (The host parish/pastor is also to make provisions for meals for the visiting priest.) No additional compensation will be paid for regularly scheduled confessions, calls for anointing of the sick, or other regular activities of the parish while the supply priest is covering the parish.
 - b. Assistance with penance services – A minimum of \$30 plus mileage.
 - c. For weekday Masses, \$20 per Mass, plus Mass stipend, plus mileage if applicable.
 - d. Reimbursement for longer-term supply, days of recollection and retreats are to be negotiated between the parties involved.

4. **STIPENDS FOR MASSES AND STOLE FEES** as of May 1, 2014:
(Please see pages 63-64 of Section X for further information)
 - a. The usual offering for Mass stipends is \$10.00.
 - b. There is no established recommended offering for stole fees.

5. **RETREAT ALLOWANCE** as of July 1, 2005:
Up to \$400 annually, to be reimbursed from the parish or institution.

6. CONTINUING EDUCATION BENEFITS as of July 1, 2005:

Up to \$400 per year reimbursement from the parish and up to \$400 per year reimbursement from the diocese. Total amount of reimbursement each year is to be equitably divided between the parish/institution and the diocese.

7. SOCIAL SECURITY EXPENSES are to be paid personally by the priests.

8. OTHER COMPENSATIONS (room, utilities, food) are provided by the parish(es)/institution served by the priest, in an equitable manner, mutually agreed upon by the priest and parish(es)/institution he serves. The amount spent on food should not exceed \$400 per month beginning July 1, 2009.

9. Priests at age 70 can receive the retirement salary allowance each month in addition to their parish salary and car allowance as of July 1, 2004.

Approved by the Most Reverend Bishop Edward J. Weisenburger on December 21, 2015.

Save the Date

AUGUST 13, 2016

Catholic Men's Conference



Featured Speaker:
Curtis Martin

Single Parent Networker



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Why Kids and Teens Steal

Kids of all ages - from preschoolers to teens can be tempted to steal for different reasons.

Very young children sometimes take things they want without understanding that things cost money and that it's wrong to take something without paying for it.

School-age kids usually know they're not supposed to take something without paying, but they might do so anyway because they lack enough self-control.

Preteens and teens know they're not supposed to steal, but might steal for the thrill of it or because their friends do. Some might believe they can get away with it. As they're given more control over their lives, some teens steal as a way of rebelling.

And other complex reasons can be factors. Kids might be angry or want attention. Their behavior may reflect stress at home, school, or with friends. Some may steal as a cry for help because of emotional or physical abuse they're enduring. In other cases, kids and teens steal because they can't afford to pay for what they need or want - for example, they may steal to get popular name-brand items. In some cases, they may take things to support drug habits.

Whatever the reason for stealing, parents need to get to the root of the behavior and address other underlying problems, like drug abuse, that may surface.

What Should I Do?

When a child has been caught stealing, a parent's reaction should depend on whether it's the first time or there's a pattern of stealing.

With very young children, parents need to help them understand that stealing is wrong - that when you take something without asking or paying for it, it hurts someone else. If a preschooler takes a piece of candy, for instance, parents can help the child return the item. If the child has already eaten the candy, parents can take the child back to the store to apologize and pay for it.

With school-age kids, too, it's important to return the stolen item. By the first and second grades, kids should know stealing is wrong. But they may need a better understanding of the consequences.

Here's an example: if a child comes home with a friend's bracelet and it's clear the child took it without the friend's permission, the parent should talk to the child about how it would feel if a friend took something without asking first. The parent should encourage the child to call the friend to apologize, explain what happened, and promise to return it. If your child has no remorse and doesn't see why it's wrong to steal, seek help from a mental health

professional right away. When teens steal, it's recommended that parents follow through with stricter consequences. For example, when a teen is caught stealing, the parent can take the teen back to the store and meet with the security department to explain and apologize for what happened. The embarrassment of facing up to what he or she did by having to return a stolen item makes for an everlasting lesson on why stealing is wrong. If it's a first-time offense, some stores and businesses may accept an apology and not necessarily press charges. However, some stores press charges the first time around. And there's often little sympathy of repeat offenders.

Further punishment, particularly physical punishment, is never necessary and could make a child or teen angry and more likely to engage in even worse behavior.

Kids of all ages need to know that shoplifting isn't just about taking things from a store - it's taking money from the people who run the businesses. Plus, shoplifting makes prices higher for other customers. They should also know that stealing is a crime and can lead to consequences far worse than being grounded, including juvenile detention centers and even prison.

If stealing money from a parent, the child should be offered

options for paying back the money, like doing extra chores around the house. It's important, however, that a parent not bait the child by leaving out money in the hopes of catching the child in the act. That could damage the sense of trust between parents and kids.

If A Child Keeps Stealing

If your child has stolen more than once, consider getting professional help. Repeat offenses may indicate a bigger problem. One third of juveniles who've been caught shoplifting say it's difficult for them to quit. So it's important to help kids and teens understand why stealing is wrong and that they may face serious consequences if they continue to steal.

Others who may be able to talk to your and/or your child about the problem and help you address it include a:

- Therapist
- Counselor
- Family doctor
- Priest, minister
- School counselor
- Support groups

Most ordinary acts of theft or shoplifting are deliberate, but some people who steal may have kleptomania. With this rare compulsive disorder, which makes up a very small portion of all shoplifting cases, a person feels a sense of tension or anxiety before the theft, then feels relief or gratification when committing the theft. The person may feel guilt afterward and even discard the stolen objects, and might have other compulsive disorders (such as an eating disorder or obsessive compulsive disorder, OCD).

Whatever the underlying cause, if stealing is becoming a habit with your child or teen, consider speaking with a doctor or therapist to get to the cause of the behavior. It's also important to routinely monitor your child's behavior, keep him or her away

from situations in which stealing is a temptation, and establish reasonable consequences for stealing if it does happen.

This information was provided by KidsHealth®, one of the largest resources online for medically reviewed health information written for parents, kids, and teens. For more articles like this, visit KidsHealth.org or TeensHealth.org. © 1995- 2009. All rights reserved.



CHILDREN ARE LIKE KITES

You spend years trying to get them off the ground. You run with them until you are both breathless. They crash, they hit the roof, you patch, comfort and assure them that someday they will fly.

Finally, they are airborne. They need more string, and you keep letting it out. They tug, and with each twist of the twine, there is sadness that goes with joy. The kite becomes more distant and you know it won't be long before that beautiful creature will snap the lifeline that binds you together and will soar as meant to soar, free and alone. Only then do you know that you have done your job.

-Author Unknown

Parenting Pointers

657. Jan. 1: New Year's Day: Consider making a "clean break" with the start of the new year. Ask if everyone in the family would be willing to clean one space - a drawer, a shelf, a toy box? Start with taking everything out. Then put back only those items you really want. Give away or throw away the rest. See my January 1 blog, [The Beauty of Empty](#) for ideas.

658. Jan. 8: "You are my beloved child; with you I am well pleased." (Luke 3:22) Such words are music to a child's ears. Find an authentic way to say this to your own child today.

659. Jan. 15: "How, in this materialistic, competitive world, can I raise kind children?" ...Begin by being a kind adult. When your child sees you go the extra mile to help a friend, carry someone's groceries, or invite people in to your life who aren't exactly like you, your child will see loving kindness as the natural way to live." (Mimi Doe)

661. Jan. 29: It's cold outside. Have a memory party inside. Pull out old photographs and enjoy. Maybe even organize those lose photos.

Used with permission by Susan Vogt, www.SusanVogt.com.

You're Never Alone



Sometimes in life we feel overwhelmed with life's challenges.

We show a brave face to family, friends and strangers, but secretly we feel scared.

We provide uplifting messages to others, while deep inside we struggle and bear the weight of the world on our shoulders.

We laugh out loud with people, but inside we feel like crying.

We are told we have accomplished so much, yet we feel we are failing in so many areas of life.

We are told people appreciate us giving "110 percent" of ourselves to our kids, our friends and even our jobs, and yet we feel we owe so much more to them all.

We are told we are very strong yet we feel like a house of cards ready to collapse.

We feel incredibly exhausted, yet sleep evades us no matter how much we try.

We are told by doctors to reduce stress in our lives, but that only stresses us out more.

We hate being alone, and yet we want to hide from the world.

We refuse to ask for help, yet we yearn to be helped.

We want to scream at the world it's not our fault, and yet other times we feel guilty for everything.

We think we are the only ones going through all these challenges and emotions, yet ultimately we are human and more people can relate to and understand us than we can ever imagine. When we go through losses or tough times - - whether it's personal or work-related we wonder when can we ever have hope and feel whole again. We wonder when the pain will end. And anger. And frustration. And hurt. And grieving. And fear. And loneliness. And confusion. And aching heart. And ... and ... and ...

There is no ultimate timeline for recovery. There is no single easy, steady way forward to exit all these mixed emotions.

But have hope, keep the faith, and be assured we are never alone.

God hears our prayers. God loves us no matter the circumstances and truly believes in us, even when we have the most trouble believing in ourselves.

God is always by our side.

By Elaine Shein



Prayer for the New Year

Heavenly Father, pour out upon us the fullness of your mercy.

We thank you for the gift of your Son, Jesus, and for your word spoken in the scriptures.

Show us the richness of our common beliefs and guide us in this new year. With hearts on fire unite our family as one in your love.

We pray that our world be filled with your peace, and may those who believe in Jesus Christ praise you and give you glory forever and ever. Amen.



Feast of the Epiphany

Epiphany means manifestation or revelation and marks the visit of the three Wise Men to Bethlehem. It marks the end of the Christmas season. Celebrate by taking down the decorations together as a family, or invite friends to help you. This is also a good time to decide some "family resolutions" for the New Year. In addition it is a time for your family to bless your home. "Bless this space, O Lord, and those who pass this way. Deliver us from every evil and show us your face."

Taken from Faith & Fest
1996 Archdiocese of Omaha



"Try to be a rainbow in someone's cloud."

- Maya Angelou



Year of Mercy

“The Holy Year of Mercy is meant to be a time for people to rediscover God’s real presence in the world and his tenderness.”

“God does not love rigidity, He is father. He is gentle. He does everything with fatherly tenderness.”

“Loving and forgiving are concrete and visible signs that faith has transformed our hearts, allowing us to love and forgive as God loves and forgives.”

“Forgiveness and mercy are more than just nice words; they must be lived out in daily life.”

- Pope Francis