

Good afternoon! The Friday e-news is being sent out this afternoon because I will be out of the office tomorrow for Catholic Schools Week events.

Bishop's E-news: 2/1/19

Kansas City: Last Friday, the Archdiocese of Kansas City put out the results of their clergy files after an independent audit was completed. Please go to the [Leaven](#) to see the results of this information. Our independent review of our files has been completed. We hope to release this information as soon as the findings are reviewed by our Lay Review Board.

Attorney General: The Kansas Attorney General's Office released a statement after Kansas City released its report. The Diocese of Salina is mentioned in their statement. You can read the statement [here](#).

Life: As you probably are aware, the state of New York legalized abortion at any time in the womb until birth. This is a tragic decision and simply the wrong choice. Not sure if you know this; but, according to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, there are one to two live dismemberment abortions in Kansas every day. The bishops of Kansas recently met with some elected officials in our state government in Topeka. Needless to say, we have a battle on our hands when it comes to defending life. In Topeka, we met a young man who was adopted. His moving story can be found by watching "*I Lived on Parker Avenue*." Additionally, I highly recommend watching the movie, "*Unplanned*" when it comes out in March. We need to be informed, pray and listen to see where the Lord is leading us to take action.

60 years: Catholic Charities of Northwest Kansas celebrated their 60th anniversary on January 29. Thank you to all of you for your generosity and kindness in supporting this wonderful organization that helps so many people.

Food Bank: Speaking of charity, I recently visited the Salina Emergency Aid/Food Bank. They provide food and other resources for more than 15,000 people in the area each year. I was really impressed with their operation. I was delighted to hear how many grocery stores provide food to the Food Bank. They too rely on volunteers (they could always use more) and the generosity of others.

Schools: I have enjoyed immensely visiting with our Catholic schools and the students during Catholic Schools Week. Once again, thank you to all the parents, students and school staff for their support of our Catholic schools.

Rural Life: On Saturday, March 2, I am leading a short retreat for those living in the rural areas throughout the diocese. It will be held at St. Mary's Parish in Russell. Mass is at 9:30AM, followed by a reflection, and concluding with lunch at noon.

Annual Appeal: In the next few weeks, the Bishop's Annual Appeal (formerly the Catholic Community Annual Appeal) will kick off in parishes across our diocese. The theme of the Bishop's Annual Appeal is *Call to Share*. This is the opportunity for every member of our diocese to share and make a difference. Thank you for your generosity and support in advance. Please read the introductory letter [here](#).

Marriage: National Marriage Week is February 7-14, and there will be a Diocesan event in Salina to celebrate World Marriage Sunday on February 10th with Mass at 4:00PM, followed by a dinner/entertainment at St. Mary's in Salina. You can register by calling the Family Life Office at the diocese (827-8746).

Presentation: February 2 is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. When Joseph and Mary bring Jesus to the Temple, Simeon announces that "he can now go (die) in peace." He has waited his whole life to encounter the Savior. How blessed we are that Jesus is with us. We too can say every time we receive the Eucharist that "we can go in peace" because we have God with us. Traditionally, the Presentation of the Lord has also been tied to Consecrated Life—those who teach us that "one thing is necessary" and that it is Jesus Himself. Thank you for all the Sisters who have generously served in our diocese.

Super Bowl: Don't we all wish the Chiefs were playing!

Be assured of love and prayers. In Christ's service,

Bishop Vincke

Quotes from St. John Bosco, whose feast is January 31.

“Do not put off till tomorrow the good you can do today. You may not have a tomorrow.”

“Let us strive to fare well in this life and in the next.”

“Everything and everyone is won by the sweetness of our words and works.”

“We do not go to Holy Communion because we are good; we go to become good.”

“The power of evil lies in the cowardice of the good.”

“Whatever you do, think of the Glory of God as your main goal.”