



SDNB

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

Volume 408

January 2015

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD on Thursday, January 1, 2015 is a Holy Day of Obligation. The Chancery will be closed all day on January 1, 2015.

REGION IX BISHOPS' ANNUAL RETREAT: I will be attending with my brother Bishops January 5-12, 2015.

JANUARY 19-22, 2015 – 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 so plans can be made accordingly.

THE PERSONNEL BOARD WILL MEET during the Clergy Renewal Days during the lunch break on Tuesday, January 14th. Please contact Msgr. Brinkman, Chairman or Bishop prior to January 10th, if you desire to meet in person at the January gathering in Wichita.

JANUARY 22ND IS THE 43rd 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 regret that I will not be able to attend the March for Life in DC this year, but there are many others from our Diocese attending.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK, founded in 1974 as a joint project of the National Catholic Education Association (NCEA) and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, is observed the week of January 25-January 30, 2015. The theme for Catholic Schools Week 2015, Catholic Schools: A Call to Serve, invites all involved in Catholic education to examine what we understand by service and how we live out the call to serve. We are called to self-reflect and remind all members of the school community of the founding values; in other words, education is never simply about transmitting simple facts. This year school communities are offered the opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the contribution that our Catholic schools make. During CSW, Catholic Schools will celebrate their identity as Catholic Schools. Schools typically celebrate Catholic Schools Week with Masses, open houses, and other activities. I will be celebrating at six different locations this year with faculty, students and in some instances grandparents as well.

WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE February 2, 2015 (Celebrated in Parishes February 7-8). In 1997, Pope John Paul II instituted a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. This celebration is attached to the Feast of the Presentation.

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP (CONTINUED)

of the Lord on February 2nd. This Feast is also known as Candlemas Day; the day on which candles are blessed symbolizing Christ who is the light of the world. So too, those in consecrated life are called to reflect light of Jesus Christ to all peoples. 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 18, 2015 – 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 22, 2015 Hays 3 p.m. and Sunday, March 1, 2015 Salina 3 p.m.

I will again be sending letters to the candidates and the catechumens. Refer to the Office of Liturgy for more information. THE CHRISM MASS will be held at Sacred Heart Cathedral, 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 26, 2015. A luncheon will follow. Please see the Office of Liturgy Section for more information.

TRIBUNAL/JUDICIAL VICAR

COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS: *Does an "annulment" wipe away a marriage?* No. You will not find the word "annulment" in the official documents or laws of the Catholic Church. "Annulment" is a slang term that is used to refer to a declaration of marriage nullity. "Annulment" is not used because it is not accurate. The word 'annulment' implies that a person is taking something and wiping it away. This is not what is being done when a declaration of nullity is granted. The Church is really declaring, in hindsight and after a lengthy investigation, that on the day of the wedding specific factors prevented the two individuals from bringing about a valid marriage -- as had been presumed. There are various factors or grounds for marriage nullity including psychic incapacity, exclusion of a commitment to be faithful, erroneous beliefs about the permanency of marriage, fear or force, among factors. The ceremony is not wiped away -- all the guests saw it happen. The relationship of husband and wife is not wiped away -- that remains the relationship between the man and woman while they lived together. The children are not wiped away and they remain legitimate. How then are we to understand marriage "nullity?" Once a wedding has occurred, the presumption in the law is that a valid marriage has been brought about. This presumption remains until contrary facts prove otherwise. The burden of proof rests with the person who is petitioning before the tribunal (referred to as the "Petitioner.") The tribunal can only declare whether or not it has been proven the marriage was invalid from the beginning. The tribunal has no power to make the marriage void; The tribunal is declaring whether the presumption that a true marriage was brought about may be overturned based on the evidence and facts of the particular case. -- Fr. Barry Brinkman JCL

OFFICE OF RESPECT LIFE

Please remember to keep all those who are going to Washington DC to participate in the March for Life this month!

Following is a bulletin "blurb" for the "Rally for Life!" in Topeka, KS. In addition, a bulletin insert is also in this SDNB for your parish use:

The annual Rally for Life! will be held on Thursday, January 22nd, 2015 in Topeka, Kansas. The event begins with registration at 8:30 AM on the first floor of the Capitol Rotunda! The event includes workshops, Mass, a march and a Rally with Kansas Governor Sam Brownback. Lunch is provided. In addition, you may bring baby items to donate to crisis pregnancy center when you register. For more information go to www.kfl.org.

OFFICE OF LITURGY

The Rites of Election are:

Hays, St. Nicholas
Salina, Sacred Heart

February 22, 3:00
March 1, 3:00.

Please send in the names and addresses and specify if they are **candidates** or **catechumens**. Please be sure the spellings are correct. Submit the information to the Liturgy Office or you may email Julie Bilson at julie.bilson@salinadiocese.org.

Please **respond no later** than Tuesday, February 18, for Hays; and Tuesday, February 24, for Salina. Also indicate which location they will attend the Rite of Election.

If a person is a baptized Catholic and is preparing for Confirmation only, they do not go through the Rite of Election.

The bishop will send a personal invitation to each candidate and catechumen. The letter is available in English and Spanish. Please indicate if you want the letter sent in Spanish (or Spanish and English) to any individuals. Thank you for sending the above information which will help the Liturgy Office plan these celebrations.

OFFICE OF FINANCE

INTEREST RATES for Deposits and Loans through the diocese:

During the December 2nd meeting of the Diocesan Finance Council, it was recommended to Bishop Weisenburger to raise the interest rates for regular deposits by parishes to 1.6%. This is an increase from the 1.2% the diocese is currently paying. The endowment funds (ED) will remain the same as this past year. They will make annual distributions in an amount up to 5% of the net fair market value of the last twelve rolling quarters of the fund.

The interest being charged on loans will remain the same as this past year at 2.93%. These rates will become effective on July 1, 2015.

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 57.5 cents per mile. The Diocese will begin following this rate effective January 1, 2015.

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.

DIOCESAN COLLECTIONS: The list of Diocesan collections for 2015 is enclosed.

OFFICE OF STEWARDSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT

CCAA 2015 is quickly approaching. Our theme this year is Lift up your Hearts. All Pastors will be receiving their materials for this year's appeal at the Priests' Renewal Days in January. If you are not going to be present at the January meeting, please contact Syndi Larez at syndi.larez@salinadiocese.org or at 785-827-8746 to make other arrangements.

OFFICE OF CONTINUING EDUCATION

JANUARY RENEWAL DAYS: January 19-22, 2015. These days will be for priests and deacons. Our Monday presenter will be John Zimmer to assist us with Evangelization. John is the Vice President of Training and Formation for FOCUS, the Fellowship of Catholic University Students. John has served in a variety of roles within FOCUS for the last 15 years, including serving as a campus missionary and directing the national campus apostolate. He plans to have a priest accompany him.

Our Wednesday-Thursday speaker on Mariology will be Fr Jorge Rodriguez. He is pastor of Holy Cross in Thornton, CO., and Associate Professor at St. John Vianney Theological Seminary in Denver. Besides a doctorate from Rome, he also received his diploma degree at the Pontifical Faculty Marianum in Rome. He has taught theology at various universities in Rome.

We are expecting all active and diocesan priests to participate in these January Renewal Days. Retired priests and religious priests are most welcome and encouraged to participate. In order to plan for room assignments and meal planning, please contact Fr. Kerry Ninemire no later than Friday, January 9:

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 priest (active or retired) and WILL BE ATTENDING.

All deacons planning to come should let Fr. Kerry Ninemire know by January 9.

Our days will begin with supper on Monday, January 19 and conclude with lunch on Thursday.

ANNUAL RETREAT: June 15-18, 2015

OFFICE OF NEW EVANGELIZATION

Evangelization in and through the Family: Please find attached some simple evangelization activity suggestions (Prayer for an Expectant Mother, Prayer for Expectant Parents, Green Plant Presentation, Prayer for Single Adults) for use by parish Family Life and/or Evangelization Commissions. These activities are especially suited to use during January when much attention is given to the Supreme Court's decision legalizing abortion. These activity suggestions are offered in the hope that they can witness to not only what Catholics oppose but to what we advocate, that is, a consistent respect for life and family. "Family" has many different manifestations, even though some authentic aspects of family life are not often recognized. (Single adults have families, too.)

These suggestions could be used through other times of the year, especially since some time may be needed to adequately prepare and organize the necessary resources.

Witness methods could include: publication in the parish bulletin, posting on the parish website and/or Facebook page/Twitter account, encouraging parishioners to post, link to, or make reference to these activities and materials in personal social networking; distribution of hard copy prayer cards at weekend Masses, to new parishioners, to religious education students and families, encouraging parishioners to offer prayer cards to appropriate friends and co-workers (conveying concern for their need while at the same time demonstrating a foundational Catholic tenant, that all people are created in the image and likeness of God.)

If you have other suggestions about activities or prayers related to Evangelization in and through the Family, please forward them to the New Evangelization office.

LENTEN SMALL GROUPS: Lent begins on Wednesday, February 18, 2015. Parishes are encouraged to form small faith-sharing groups. Once again, the choice of materials is left to the discretion of the parish. The Diocese encourages the use of materials from Disciples on the Journey. Most materials are included in each

OFFICE OF NEW EVANGELIZATION (continued)

participant's booklet, and some optional, additional materials for youth and families are available for free online. For these materials and more information (including some video personal testimonies), go to www.disciplesonthejourney.org. Each parish is responsible for ordering their materials directly from Disciples on the Journey. Fr. Heina is available for support in planning and organizing these small groups; contact him at the Chancery or the parish in Ellsworth.

FAITH SHARING AT PARISH MEETINGS: The enclosed handout The Forgiveness offered in the Sacrament of the Eucharist is offered as a possible tool to facilitate brief faith sharing at the beginning of parish and/or school meetings.

STEWARDS OF HOPE

December 31, 2014 brought to a conclusion the initial implementation stages of Stewards of Hope, our diocesan pastoral plan. If your parish opted to recognize the conclusion of Stewards of Hope at parish weekend Mass(es), a Litany of Thanksgiving was made available to pastors, PLCs, SoH committee chairs and Family Life Commission chairs. It is also posted on the diocesan website, Office of New Evangelization page. Bishop Weisenburger has directed that the work of the plan's implementation will be continued by the Office of New Evangelization.

PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH

If your parish is participating in this year's Missionary Childhood Association (MCA) collection through a display at the parish church nativity scene, please forward the collection to the chancery soon after the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, January 11, 2015.

OFFICE OF FAMILY LIFE

SINGLE PARENT NETWORKER: Please distribute the enclosed Single Parent Networker to your Family Life Coordinator.

AIRPLANE PILGRIMAGE TO PHILADELPHIA: The Wichita Diocese has extended the deadline to February 1, 2015 for the airplane pilgrimage to attend the World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia on September 21-28, 2015. Pope Francis will be saying Mass on Sunday, September 27. For more information and to register contact: catholicdioceseofwichita.org/mfl/events/world-meeting-of-families-2015

2015 DIOCESAN MEN'S CONFERENCE—SAVE THE DATE: In this mailing, please find a "SAVE the DATE" flyer for the 2015 Catholic Men's Conference to be held on Saturday, August 8, 2015 at St. Mary Queen of Angels Parish, Russell. Please use this Save the Date reminder on bulletin boards, parish bulletin inserts, etc. Your help in promoting this year's Men's Conference is greatly appreciated.

ENGAGED ENCOUNTER DATES FOR 2015

Feb. 13-15, 2015-Capuchin Center for Spiritual Life-Victoria
 Mar. 13-15, 2015-Capuchin Center for Spiritual Life-Victoria
 Apr. 17-19, 2015-Capuchin Center for Spiritual Life-Victoria
 June 5-7, 2015-Capuchin Center for Spiritual Life-Victoria

OFFICE OF FAMILY LIFE (continued)

GOD'S PLAN FOR A JOY FILLED MARRIAGE SEMINAR DATES FOR 2014-2015

Jan. 24, 2015-St. Nicholas-Hays

Feb. 28, 2015- Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church-Concordia

Apr. 18, 2015- Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church-Concordia

May 2, 2015-Immaculate Heart of Mary, Hays

ANNUAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

The Seven Dolors and St. Thomas More Annual Women's Spirituality Conference held in Manhattan will be March 7. Enclosed is the brochure. The guest presenter is ValiMar Jansen from OCP. Check out the website at <http://www.womensspiritualconference.org>. You may register online.

THE REGISTER

Please continue to encourage your parishioners to donate to The Register for 2015. We depend on parishioners' support to allow us to send our twice-monthly diocesan newspaper to every Catholic household. Please use the following bulletin announcement during December:

Read the The Register and learn more about what's happening in parishes of the Diocese of Salina, as well as news about the diocese and the universal Church. Every family registered at a parish in the diocese receives The Register, which is printed on the second and fourth Fridays of each month. Instead of requiring a subscription, we ask for a \$20 donation to cover printing and mailing costs. Your Nov. 14 issue included a donation envelope. If you haven't already, please return it with your donation as soon as possible. If you no longer have your envelope, you may mail your donation check to The Register, P.O. Box 1038, Salina, KS 67402. Thank you for your support!

OFFICE OF YOUTH MINISTRY

DIOCESAN YOUTH COUNCIL: The Diocesan Youth Council will be meeting at IHM in Hays on January 11, 2015.

DIOCESAN CYO CONVENTION: Our annual Diocesan Convention will be March 28-29, 2015 at South High School in Salina. The packet for registration etc will be mailed to the Adult Leaders the first part of January. Our speaker will be Doug Brummel from Colorado.

JUNIOR CYO CAMP: Our annual Camp for the junior high students will be May 23-26, 2015 at Rock Springs Ranch. Since we are getting such a large group of kids coming to this event we have decided that this camp will only be for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. Juniors and seniors and high school as well as college age students are the counselors for this camp.

NCYC (National Catholic Youth Conference): NCYC will be November 19-22, 2015 in Indianapolis, Indiana. In a couple of months the Adult Youth Leaders will be receiving the packet on NCYC. At the present time we have around 970 youth going to NCYC. If there are any parishes that still want to go to NCYC please have them call me in the Office as soon as possible. Thank you for your support in our youth programs.

OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR MEETINGS: We will be having a meeting in each of the 4 vicariates with the Religious Education Coordinators. The dates are:

April 13, 2015-----1:00 p.m.- 3:30 p.m. Colby, Church Basement
 April 14, 2015-----9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Plainville, Meeting Room
 April 15, 2015-----9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Manhattan, Seven Dolors
 April 15, 2015-----7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Salina, Chancery Conference Room
 Please mark your calendars for these meetings.

TOTUS TUUS: It looks like we will have 4 teams for TOTUS TUUS this summer. We need 4 parishes to sign up so we can fill each week for 4 teams. The week of June 14-19 has 1 opening and June 28-July 3 has 3 openings. Please call the Office as soon as possible

"ENGAGING PARENTS–FORMING FAMILY FAITH WORKSHOP" sponsored by the Center for Ministry Development will be held on Saturday, September 12, 2015 at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Activity Center. You will not want to miss this workshop. Are you struggling in getting parents involved with their children regarding their faith? Are your parents praying with their children, attending Mass on Sunday etc.? You will want to come to this workshop. More information will follow regarding the time and price.

PASTORAL MINISTRY FORMATION:

Enclosed is a brochure with the Spring Semester course offerings for Pastoral Ministry Formation via Interactive Television.

Introduction to New Testament on Saturday Mornings 8:30 am to Noon.
 January 17, 24, 31, February 7, 14, 21, 28, March 7, 14
 Fr. Reggie Urban instructor

Eternal Life: A Catholic Understanding of the "Last Things" on Wednesday Evenings from 6 to 9 pm
 Please check with the site you would attend before enrolling in this course. Several of the sites are not available on Wednesday evenings.
 Feb 4, 11, 25, March 4
 Fr. Terrance Klein instructor

MISCELLANEOUS

A message from Fr. Bill Surmeier: I am happy to report that my cardiac surgeries are behind me and that I am returning to my residence in Hays. My doctors inform me that I will be officially authorized for resumption of parochial activities on a limited basis effective the middle of January 2015. Allow me to personally thank you all for your prayerful support during these past weeks. May God reward you for your goodness!

Fr. Alvin Werth will be dropping his landline in the near future. His cell phone number is 785-259-1965.

Fr. David has closed his personal e-mail account, frdavid98@hotmail.com. For future correspondence, please use the church e-mail address: wcccpastor1@yahoo.com.

Fr. Gnanasekar Kulandai changed his cell phone number. The new one is: [785-513-1330](tel:785-513-1330).

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>February 2015</h1>						

1	2 National Cath. Bioethics Workshop	3 National Cath. Bioethics Workshop	4 National Cath. Bioethics Workshop	5 National Cath. Bioethics Workshop	6 KCCSC Convention Manhattan 6-8	7 KCCSC Convention Manhattan 6-8 World Day for Consecrated Life
8 KCCSC Convention Manhattan 6-8 World Day for Consecrated Life	9 New Bishops School Washington, D.C.	10 New Bishops School Washington, D.C.	11 New Bishops School Washington, D.C.	12 New Bishops School Washington, D.C.	13 EE, Victoria	14 EE, Victoria Walk for a Grieving Heart Fundraiser
15 EE, Victoria	16 Teacher's Renewal Day Hays, TMP	17 Continuing Ed. Mtg. 1:30 PM Chancery	18 Ash Wednesday	19	20	21
22 Rite of Election Hays 3:00 PM	23	24 Priests Council	25 Via Christi Meeting, Hays	26 Seminary Visit Kenrick-Glennon	27 Seminary Visit Kenrick-Glennon	28 God's Plan for a Joy Filled Marriage Concordia

42nd Anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*: 60 million U.S. Abortions

Learn, Pray, March

RALLY FOR LIFE!

Topeka, Kansas: Thursday, Jan. 22, 2015



Bring baby items for crisis pregnancy centers and drop them off at Registration!

8:30 AM **REGISTRATION**: 1st Floor of the Capitol Rotunda! Donuts, visit booths.

8:30-NOON **LOBBY YOUR STATE REPRESENTATIVE & SENATOR**

8:45-9:30 AM **WORKSHOPS**: Topics and capitol room numbers to be announced.

9:45-10:30 AM **WORKSHOPS**: Earlier workshops repeated.

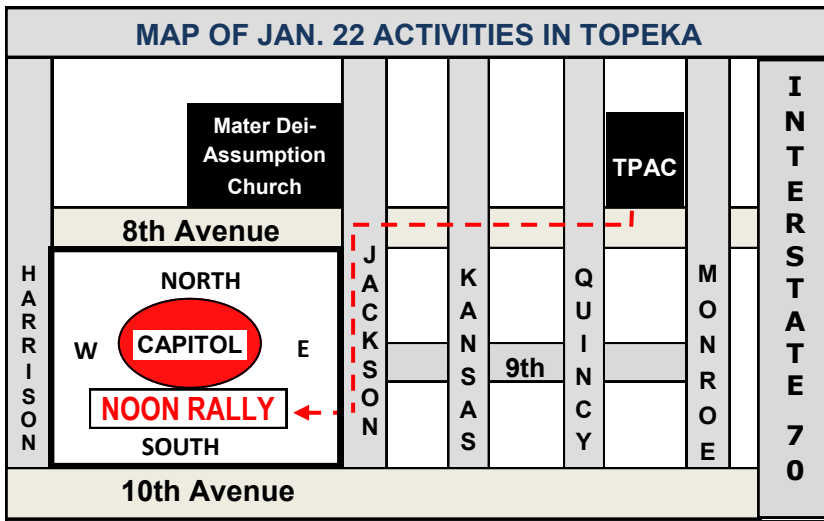
10:00-11:30 AM **MASS & PRAYER SERVICE**: Topeka Performing Arts Center (TPAC)

11:30-NOON **MARCH FOR LIFE** from TPAC to the South Capitol Steps

NOON RALLY FOR LIFE on the south Capitol steps featuring KANSAS GOVERNOR SAM BROWNBACK, pro-life state legislators, and more.

1:00-2:30 PM **LUNCH**: Basement, Mater Dei-Assumption Church, Cost: Free will donation.

2:30-3:30 PM **WORKSHOP**: Topic and location to be announced.



For more or updated information or to volunteer:
www.kfl.org or contact Jeanne Gawdun (785) 234-2998 or kfltopeka@gmail.com

KFL-PAC Prayer Breakfast with Kansas Legislators

Saturday, January 31, 7:00 a.m. at the Topeka Capitol Plaza

Featured Speaker: Father Ben Shockey of St. Patrick Catholic Church in Kingman.
Tickets: \$25 if reserved by January 25; \$35 after Jan. 25; \$40 at the door. 1-800-928-5433.

DIOCESAN COLLECTIONS FOR THE SALINA DIOCESE

DIOCESAN COLLECTION ENVELOPES FOR THE SALINA DIOCESE

Catholic Relief Services - (formerly ACOAF) (fourth Sunday of Lent)	3/15/2015	3/6/2016
Holy Land - (Good Friday)	4/3/2015	3/25/2016
Catholic Home Missions Appeal (last Sunday of April)	4/26/2015	4/24/2016
Peters Pence (first Sunday of July) or (Nearest Sunday to the Feast of Sts. Peter & Paul)	6/28/2015	6/26/2016
Mission Sunday (second last Sunday of October)	10/18/2015	10/16/2016
Seminarian Collection (second weekend in November)	11/8/2015	11/13/2016
Human Development (Sunday before Thanksgiving)	11/22/2015	11/20/2016
Retired Religious (Second Sunday in December)	12/13/2015	12/11/2016

12-30-2014

New Evangelization and Family Life suggested activities

January, 2015

Monthly Theme: Evangelization through the respect for life and family

All people are created in the image and likeness of God. Consistent respect for the gift of life from God (from conception to natural death) is a hallmark of Catholic belief and practice. January 22 marks the anniversary of the 1973 Supreme Court decision *Roe v Wade*, a direct contradiction of the church's teaching.

Prayer for an Expectant Mother

Lord God,
Creator of the human race,
your Son, through the working of the Holy Spirit,
was born of a woman,
so that he might pay the age-old debt of sin
and save us by his redemption.

Receive with kindness the prayer of your servant
as she asks for the birth of a healthy child.
Grant that she may safely deliver a son or a daughter
to be numbered among your family,
to serve you in all things,
and to gain eternal life. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

As found in *The Book of Blessings*, copyright 1987, International Commission on the Liturgy, Inc.

Prayer for Expectant Parents

Gracious Father,
your Word, spoken in love, created the human family
and, in the fullness of time,
your son, conceived in love, restored it to your friendship.
Hear the prayers of N. and N.,
Who await the birth of their child.
Calm their fears when they are anxious.
Watch over and support these parents
and bring their child into this world
safely and in good health,
so that as members of your family
they may praise you and glorify you
through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
now and forever.
R: Amen.

As found in *The Book of Blessings*, copyright 1987, International Commission on the Liturgy, Inc.

Green Plant Presentation (thanks to St. Michael Parish in Chapman)

When a parish leader is told (or finds out) of someone expecting a baby, the leader visits with the expectant mother about a green plant being designated as a symbol of the expected birth. The leader explains that this designation will be announced in the bulletin but only when she (or family) wants it to be announced.

When it is announced, a green plant with a name placard is placed on the Blessed Virgin Mary altar (option: some other suitable place in church). It is kept there until the baby is baptized. At the baptism, the plant is presented to the family.

The announcement is: A Celebration of Life! A new life is coming into the family of _____ . A plant will be (is) placed on the Blessed Virgin Mary altar as a reminder to pray for the expectant mother (or parents) and baby in their journey before birth. The plant is presented to the family at the baby's baptism.

Prayer for Singles

Father, thank you for blessing the Church with committed disciples. It is a joy to serve beside such wonderful people, and you have made it so by calling us all together in a community of faith.

Today I especially entrust to you my brothers or sisters who are single, adult disciples.

I pray for those who would like to find a spouse, but who struggle to do so. Give them strength to press on in patience, even when they feel lonely or that they are not desirable.

I pray for those who have no desire to marry. They are strong, but have to undergo the many references to marriage and children, knowing all the while they do not have that desire for their own lives. Forgive us when we fail to utilize their gifts in our planning and work.

I pray for those who are "single again." Some are hurting, because the person they thought was that "special someone" is still alive, but has walked out, leaving feelings of loneliness, hurt, and abandonment, adding more pressures in this life than they should have to bear. Help us to shoulder those burdens with them, and to show Christ in our attitude of compassion.

I pray also for those who grieve, because the man or woman they spent years—or even decades—with has passed from this life. They have so much wisdom from experiences, both good and difficult. May we use their wisdom, while giving them the care and compassion they so much deserve. Father, thank you for these amazing men and women, who show faithfulness through grief.

Lord, help the Church to be a place where those who are single always feel important, and where they can use their time, talent, and treasure to help your Kingdom grow.

Teach us, Lord, what to say—and what not to say—so that our single brothers and sisters feel close and comforted by our words as we all seek to serve you together.

Again, Lord, thank you for the family that is the Church, and for every member, no matter their stage in life. And thank you for giving them each a place at your altar of praise.

We pray all this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and brother forever. Amen.

(This is the fourth of nine tools to facilitate brief faith-sharing at a parish meeting in keeping with the theme of the 2014-15 catechetical year, *Teaching about God's Gift of Forgiveness*. These articles are provided by the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, via the New Evangelization Office of the Diocese of Salina.

Suggested use: this handout could be provided to meeting participants in advance, to give them the opportunity to reflect on the Teaching Tool content and the Reflection Question. As a meeting opening, the Teaching Tool content could be read aloud, followed by a few minutes' discussion of the Reflection Question.)

Tool 4: The forgiveness offered in the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

Teaching tool

Most Catholics, when they think about the relationship of the Eucharist to the idea of forgiveness, probably think first about the teaching of the Church that in order worthily to approach the sacramental encounter with the Lord in Holy Communion, one is to be in a state of grace. That is to say, one is not normally to receive communion if one is aware of any mortal sins on one's conscience and, in particular, if one is currently living in an objectively sinful state (e.g., living in a marriage not recognized as valid by the Catholic Church). The only exception to this is if there is a serious reason why one desires to receive communion and there is no opportunity to confess; in this case the person must make an act of perfect contrition in which one expresses, out of love for God, heartfelt sorrow and remorse for the wrongdoing, the intention to avoid it in the future, and the resolution of confessing as soon as possible

While this is certainly true and important, and is not to be overlooked, it sometimes leads people to think of communion as the reward for people who have already been forgiven and neglects the forgiveness made open and possible within the Eucharist itself. In the Eucharistic sacramental sacrifice the faithful, already united to Christ through baptism, join in offering themselves together with Christ's one eternal offering of himself on the cross. This serves as an offering for the sins of the living as well as the faithful departed who have died in Christ. This sacrifice also provides spiritual and temporal benefits from God by drawing them closer to Christ.

As a result, communion with the Body and Blood of Christ not only increases one's union with the Lord and one another (as the name itself indicates!) but also forgives venial sins and preserves one from future grave sin.

The Penitential Act at the beginning of Mass, no matter which of the many forms it takes, is a reminder of the mercy of God who in and through the Sacrament of the Eucharist, offers us his gift of forgiveness.

Reflection Question

How have you experienced the offer of forgiveness through participation in the celebration of the Sacrament of the Eucharist? What difference has it made in your life?

Additional References

Catechism of the Catholic Church nos. 1393-1395; *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults* pp. 224-225

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SAVE
the
DATE

August 8, 2015

**Catholic Men's
Conference
Russell, Ks**

Single Parent Networker



A publication of the Family Life Office of the Archdiocese of Omaha, Nebraska

Volume 24 Issue 1

January 2015



Loneliness & Divorce



I feel so alone." One of the many reasons divorce stinks is the crushing loneliness that so many of us experience when we go through it. It sneaks up on you. You think you're okay. You think you're going to make it. Then you hear a song that was important to the two of you, or you see a couple holding hands, or you hear a dumb joke about divorce on TV. And loneliness descends on you like a cloud of nothingness. You can hardly breathe. You are paralyzed. Then you get angry with yourself.

For Jim, the nights were the worst. "I just lie there, and it's like somebody's piling dirt on my coffin. I can't wait for daytime so I can get up again. I'm exhausted, but at least I'm not alone in the dark."

Ellen felt most alone when she was with other people (which is not at all uncommon, by the way). "I was standing in a group of people at work and I realized everybody there but me had a stable somebody. I felt so alone. I felt like a reject. Why am I not good enough to hold on to a man?"

Show me somebody who's gone through divorce without feeling deep aching loneliness and I'll show you somebody who never felt love. It doesn't matter if you're male or female. If you're the leaver or the left. If you've committed adultery or been pristine in your faithfulness.

You're going to feel loneliness, and it's going to hurt.

So how do you cope? First, you need to acknowledge that you're lonely. You can probably survive loneliness without acknowledging it, but it will take longer and hurt more. So why beat yourself up for no good reason. Go ahead and admit it to yourself: "I'm lonely. I feel alone."

Once you acknowledge that you feel loneliness, I think there are three basic strategies you can use in dealing with it. None of these is any better than the others, and none of them is exclusive -- that is, you may choose to deal with loneliness by using some combination of two of these, or even using all three. Remember, you're in control.

Wait It Out

It may seem impossible now, but time really does heal the wounds of divorce. Plan on somewhere around three years. That doesn't mean you won't start the healing process immediately, and it doesn't mean you'll have forgotten all about your former spouse three years after separation. But in rough terms, most of the healing work for a spouse who's gone through a typical divorce is complete within about three years.

It is a totally legitimate strategy to simply endure the loneliness you feel. It really won't kill you unless you decide to kill yourself. You can just decide to live with it, knowing as you do that it won't last forever.

Benjamin came to see me four years after his separation, because his wife wanted to increase child support. He really didn't mind paying more; his small business was doing better, and he understood that the child support guidelines called for an increase. He was pleasant, businesslike, and task-focused. We figured his child support quickly, and I asked him how he was handling the divorce. "Oh, I'm in good shape now," he said. "It was rough there for a while, but you know it really is true what they say: time does heal all wounds."

I didn't need to remind Benjamin of what a basket case he was during his divorce. He remembered.

Or maybe he didn't. Maybe time not only helps us heal from the pain of divorce; maybe it also helps us forget just how miserable we were when we were in the middle of the crud. Maybe we truly don't remember just how bad it was. I don't know. Benjamin was doing so well that I didn't want to ask, so I didn't.

One caution: there are some of us for whom time is NOT the answer. Fallana in Atlanta told me that she was still lonely and unhappy four years after her divorce. Here's some of what she said: If ONE more person tells me that "love will find me when I least expect it" or that "if I were single, I'd be after you in a heartbeat," I'll slug that poor individual. And that punch will be fueled by all the anger and

resentment of the past four years. I honestly feel as if life is just passing me by. I go to work, and I come home. Nobody seems to want my love, and I have nothing but love to give. I get no support whatsoever from anyone. . . . I HAVE been through years of therapy, by the way. It really didn't help. I was STILL alone when I left the session. Is this living? Thank you for reading this. Please realize that things do NOT necessarily get better for everyone after three years. Fortunately, most of us are not Fallana, but some of us are. That's why the next two strategies are so important.

Fight It

You can take loneliness on directly and resolve that it's not going to beat you. My favorite is Priscilla, who told me "I just decided to grab my loneliness, and I stuffed it in a bathtub full'o'water and held it there 'til it croaked." Colorful. May not be my style, but it got my attention. You may choose something a little more subtle. If you're working to fight your loneliness, your main task is to move beyond yourself. Transfer your focus from yourself to others. You're already way ahead of me, aren't you? Get some help. Counseling is always helpful in dealing with loneliness. A therapist can help you analyze what causes you to be lonely, and the more you understand it the less threatening it is. Counseling also works because of the simple truth that shared pain is half the pain, shared joy is twice the joy. Help other people. Volunteer your time at a homeless shelter. They're nearly always hungry for people, and you'll quickly realize that things could be worse. Visit your aunt in the nursing home. She'll be glad to see you, and you'll immediately see what a difference you can make. There are any number of other places where your hands, your feet, and your heart can make a difference.

Global Volunteer Network -

connecting people with developing communities in need

Finally, I cannot overstate the support you can offer -- and receive -- at Helping Each Other -- the DivorceInfo discussion web. I'm proud of the tenderness and compassion that's developed at *Helping Each Other*. You can make a positive difference there too.

Embrace It

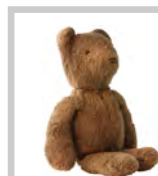
Let me first point out that this whole concept of embracing loneliness has a faith component. If you've spent time on DivorceInfo, you probably already know that my faith is important to me. You probably know as well, however, that I will not impose it on you. If you're prepared to forge ahead, welcome.

Precious little about divorce is good. But the chance to embrace loneliness can be among the sweetest discoveries of this whole cruddy process. That's why I list it as one of the good things about divorce. Divorce is an opportunity to explore and develop new relationships, including the relationship you have with yourself and the relationship you have with God. Sit quietly focus your thoughts on God. Simply ask, "Are you with me, God? Can I be with you, God?" This is not about praying for anything; it's just about being with.

God comes to us when we are desperate for help and at our wit's end. God also comes to us when we are quiet, patient, and attentive.

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"Promise me you'll always remember that you're braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think."

- Christopher Robins to Winnie the Poo



Parenting Pointers

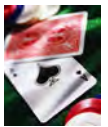
- As our children move out of the home and into young adulthood, our style of parenting changes. Although they will always be our sons and daughters, there comes a time when we are no longer responsible for their relationship with God or morals. All we can do is hold them in prayer, let go, and let God.
- "Dear God, You don't have to worry about me. I always look both ways." (Dean, age 7) Looking both ways is not just a good traffic practice. Help your child see both sides of an argument or a controversial issue. It's a life skill that will help them get along with others who think differently from them.
- Are you a techno-peasant? If your child knows a lot more about the internet than you do, it's time to upgrade your knowledge. Not only is it an opportunity to learn from the younger generation, it's important for you to know enough to protect them from the dangers of the internet.
- Although the best strategy for dealing with the TV is often to turn it off, parents can also use TV to teach. Watch a program with your child and talk back to the TV. "Hmmm, that commercial sure is trying to trick us?" Or, "I can't believe that kid just back-talked to his mom. What do you think the parent should do?"

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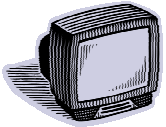


Family Activities for Winter

Go to the library. Explore what the library has to offer other than books. Check out the computer section, look for DVD, CD books on tape, and games that could be checked out.



Get out a deck of playing cards and learn a new card game.



Limit TV viewing time over the course of a week. Ask everyone to list their favorite program. This would also be a good time to talk about alternate activities the family can do together.



Find an easy cookie recipe that everyone can help with. Practice about how to correctly measure different ingredients and the importance of clean hands when baking.



Sit down as a family and decide on some New Year resolutions. Things you can do together that will strengthen the bond with one another. Help each family member to suggest one resolution. Don't forget spiritual resolutions.



Feast of the Epiphany
Tuesday, January 6

The GOLDEN RULE—

Do unto others as you would like them to do unto you

Kids can be cruel but frequently their remarks or actions are unintentional. Help your children be sensitive to other's feelings and needs.

- ◆ Kids are intensely curious when they see anyone who is different from themselves. Seize the opportunity to increase their awareness, acceptance and tolerance. When presented with the situation you may be tempted to tell your children not to stare and not offer an explanation to satisfy their curiosity. Take your children aside and remind them quietly and privately not to stare. If possible, leave the area temporarily so that you can answer their many questions, giving you the opportunity to share your views about treating all with respect. If you can't leave the area, find time when you are alone to answer their questions.
- ◆ Help your children to realize that impulsive, thoughtless actions and words can hurt others. Kindness is rarely, if ever, regretted.
- ◆ Show your children what it feels like to be left out of an event like a best friend's or classmate's party or sleepover. You might ask them to close their eyes and imagine all their friends watching a movie, playing flashlight hide and seek, or telling stories in the dark. Ask them how they would feel if they were not invited.
- ◆ Help your children learn there are things they can do when they know there is someone being tormented or ignored at school or sports activities. Teach them to be accepting and friendly to others who are different and to lead the way for their friends to do the same.
- ◆ Help them to see below the surface of other students behavior. For example, ask them to think about why someone might put someone down and problem solve what they would do if that happened to them or they saw it happening to someone else.



Mother Teresa Quotes on Life

"Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin."

"Live simple so others may simply live."

"A life not lived for others is not a life."

"When you don't have anything, then you have everything."

"Reach high, for stars lie hidden in our soul. Dream deep, for every dream precedes the goal."

"Pain and suffering have come into your life, but remember pain, sorrow, suffering are but the kiss of Jesus - a sign that you have come so close to Him that He can kiss you."

"Spread love everywhere you go. Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier. Be the living expression of God's kindness in your face, eyes and in your smile."

The New Year's holiday marks the beginning of another year of life together for families. It can easily be lost to football games and parties. This year, gather family together for prayers and promises to strengthen the family bond and deepen family faith. Here are some suggestions.

NEW YEAR'S PROMISES

On this first day of 2015, the _____ family gathers here, with faith in God and in on another to make the following promises:

- To make family time important each day or each week (make a date on the calendar, if necessary)
- To pray daily for one another
- To speak with respect to each other (no name calling, excessive teasing, etc.)
- To compliment each other on strengths, talents and good works
- To play together as often as possible
- To eat one meal or snack together every day (giving thanks for food and family)
- To share family talents and resources with the poor, sick or strangers
- To take part in the larger church in a way that strengthens our faith
- To create or pass on family traditions
- To recognize God's hand in ordinary daily activities
- To forgive each other readily with conflicts arise
- To remind ourselves of these promises frequently during the year



9th Annual Women's
Spirituality Conference

Mothers, Mystics & Models of Faith

Vallimar Jansen

Recording Artist & Performer

March 7, 2015 8:30 a.m.

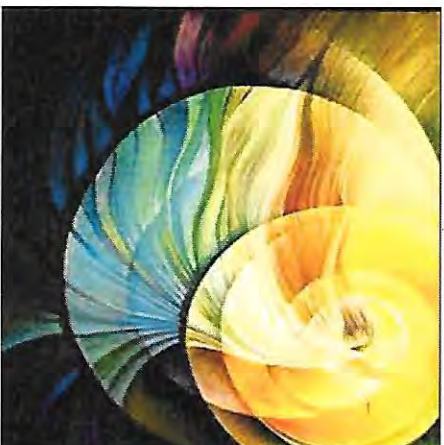


Vallimar Jansen

Blessed with an extraordinary voice—Vallimar seeks to perform as a “living resource” for the Church. It is her goal to inspire a renewed, passionate love of our faith, through song story and movement.

An inspiring woman of faith, Vallimar travels the world sharing her spirit and talent through psalm storytelling and gospel song. She also tours regionally, nationally and internationally as an inspirational speaker, storyteller, and psalmist. Her ministry has touched people across the world— and her voice has brought young and old to their feet to praise God’s name.

Vallimar began singing at the age of five and has a long history with sacred music.



Vallimar Jansen

Information about Manhattan - Women's Spirituality Conference
info@womenspiritualconference.org
<http://www.womenspiritualconference.org>
Sponsor: Seven Dolars Catholic Women
Co-Sponsored: St Thomas More Catholic Women

St. Thomas More Parish Center
2900 Kimball
Manhattan, KS 66502
E-mail: reledsec@stmanhattan.com or stm@stmanhattan.com
Attn.: Alysia Baumann Phone: 785-776-5151



St. Thomas More Parish Center
2900 Kimball
Manhattan, KS 66502

Tel: 785-776-5151

*We welcome you to this
Ecumenical Event*

There is no separation of the sacred & secular
— all are one in God



To gather together as women, united in Christ, deepening our relationship with God and each other.

Experience God's Love and Mercy as Vallimar brings the parables of the Gospel to life through storytelling and song.

Her soulful performance will fill your heart with Divine joy and shed new light on your favorite scripture passages. **Goosebumps guaranteed!**

Continental Breakfast/Gather 8:30 am to 9:00 am
Introduction & Presentation 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
Lunch 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm
Presentation resumes 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm

Directions

Coming from West of Manhattan

- From West of Manhattan-I-70 east bound merge onto KS-18.
- Take K-18 east bound to the KS-113/Seth Child Rd exit toward Canyon Dr.
- Make a sharp left at KS-113/South Seth Child Rd.
- Head northeast, down Seth Child Rd. until you arrive at Kimball.
- Make a right turn proceed 1/2 mile to the east on Kimball.
- Make a left turn into St. Thomas More Parking follow drive to rear parking behind the church.

Coming from East of Manhattan

- Take I-70 West until you arrive to K-177 and exit right proceeding to the North.
- Cross the via duct and stay in the right lane that loops toward Manhattan Town Center Mall.
- At the stop light make a left turn onto Tuttle Creek Boulevard.
- Proceed north approximately 2.2 miles arriving at Kimball Rd.
- Make a left turn proceeding northwest on Kimball. (Passing the KSU football stadium.) You will proceed on Kimball 2.1 miles.
- Make a right turn into St. Thomas More Parking follow drive to rear parking behind the church.

Coming from Nebraska to Manhattan

- US-77 South toward Beatrice. NE entering KS.
- Turn Left at US 36/US-77
- Turn right at N 10th Street/US-77
- Turn Left at South Colorado Street. Continue on US-77. 33.9 mi
- Continue on Tuttle Creek Blvd.
- Turn right at KS-113/N. Seth Child
- Continue south on Seth Child to exit on Wrath then turn left on Kimball Avenue.

All detailed directions acquired on <http://maps.google.com/>

Ninth Annual

Women's Spirituality Conference

March 7, 2015

Sponsor: Seven Deans Catholic Women
Co-Sponsor: St. Thomas More Women

St. Thomas More Parish Center

Continental Breakfast/Gather 8:30 am to 9:00 am
Introduction & Presentation 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
Lunch 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm
Presentation resumes 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm

Registration Fee \$ 30.00

Deadline: February 28, 2015

(Registrations after February 28, 2015 incur \$5.00 handling fee.)

Check Total: _____

Will childcare be needed? _____

How many children & age of each child? _____

Make Checks Payable to: St. Thomas More & return check and registration to St. Thomas More
memo: Women's Spiritual Conference

Name _____

Address _____

E-Mail _____

Phone _____

Please print legibly

For information about Manhattan - Women's Spirituality Conference
E-mail: info@womenspiritualconference.org

St. Thomas More Parish Center
2900 Kimball
Manhattan, KS 66502
E-mail: relcase@stmanhattan.com or
stm@stmanhattan.com
Attn.: Aysia Baumann

Tear line—Return with payment this portion only

Register online: www.dcdiocese.org/pastoral-ministry-formation
Or Mail to: Pastoral Ministry Formation
 P.O. Box 137 Dodge City, KS 67801

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please send me enrollment information. I want to enroll for:

- THEO 1013 Introduction to New Testament (3)
- THEO 4881 Eternal Life (1)
- Not enrolling for the spring 2015 semester
- Please keep me on the mailing list.
- Please remove my name from the mailing list.

- I wish to:**
- Earn a degree
 - Complete diocesan diploma
 - Audit for personal enrichment
- Check site you will attend**
- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dodge City | <input type="checkbox"/> Salina |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garden City | <input type="checkbox"/> Colby |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Great Bend | <input type="checkbox"/> Concordia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Liberal | <input type="checkbox"/> Goodland |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pratt | <input type="checkbox"/> Hays |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ness City | <input type="checkbox"/> Manhattan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scott City | <input type="checkbox"/> Norton |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sharon | <input type="checkbox"/> Wakeeney |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ulysses | |



"The Pastoral Ministry Formation Program has helped me grow in both human and spiritual maturity. It continues to give me hope and knowledge that I need to cope with the challenges that are facing our world today."
 Kayla Gleason, Kinsley

"Enrolling in the PMF program has been a true blessing in my life. I feel like it's a birth of my intellectual faith. I would recommend this to anyone who yearns to have a deeper knowledge of our Catholic Faith or who has a calling to serve God." Alex Chavez, Dodge City



"The Pastoral Ministry Formation courses provide participants a deeper knowledge of our Catholic faith, as well as a thorough understanding of discipleship and service to others. It is an ideal program for anyone who desires to serve the church in a fuller way." Diane Wetter, Grainfield



"This program offers me the spiritual dimension that was missing as I sought out programs, such as the MBA, at other universities. I look forward to the casual Saturday morning classes as they provide the opportunity to deepen my faith and go forth to serve others." Lisa Gabel, Hays



Pastoral Ministry Formation

Diocese of Dodge City
 Diocese of Salina
 Newman University



Coleen Stein, Coordinator
 Phone 620-227-1538
 P.O. Box 137
 Dodge City KS 67801
cstein@dcdiocese.org
 Fax 620-227-1545
www.dcdiocese.org

Spring Semester
 2015
 Via Interactive Television



Church in Partnership

THEO 1013
Introduction to New Testament (3)

This course focuses on the literature, theology and history of the New Testament. Students will explore questions of authorship and critical methods of biblical interpretation from within the perspective of faith.

Class Times: Jan. 17, 24, 31, Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28, Mar. 7, 14

Saturday mornings - 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Location: Interactive Television Sites throughout Dodge City and Salina Dioceses

Cost:

3 hr. course for credit - \$150.00*

3 hr. course for personal enrichment - \$75.00*

*price quotes do not include books



Fr. Reggie Urban, Pastor of St. Dominic, Garden City, received a B.S. in philosophy from Conception College, Missouri, and a M.A. in Scripture from St. Thomas School of Theology, Denver. He has been involved with Scripture study groups his

whole priesthood. In 2003, after serving in the Diocese of Grand Island for 25 years, he returned to the Diocese of Dodge City. This will be his second time to teach “Introduction to New Testament” for the Pastoral Ministry Formation Program.

Upcoming
Course Opportunities

Schedule of Core Courses

Introduction to New Testament - Spring 2015

Christian Morality and Social Issues - Fall 2015

Christology - Spring 2016

Sacramental Theology - Fall 2016

Theology of the Church - Spring 2017

The Creeds and Faith - Fall 2017

Introduction to Old Testament - Spring 2018

Theology and Methods of Ministry - Fall 2018

Pastoral Ministry Formation

Tri-focus

Study Theology

Develop Skills for Ministry

Grow Spiritually

For Pastoral Ministry Formation in Spanish visit the Dodge City Diocesan website:
<http://www.dcdiocese.org/hispanic-ministry>

THEO 4881
Eternal Life : A Catholic Understanding
of the “Last Things”

An exploration of what Catholics believe about eternal life, rooting our study of death, judgment, heaven, hell and purgatory in an examination of the credibility and meaning of Christ’s resurrection.

Class Times: Feb. 4, 11, 25, Mar. 4
Wednesday evenings 6:00 to 9:00 pm.

Location: Interactive Television Sites throughout Dodge City and Salina Dioceses

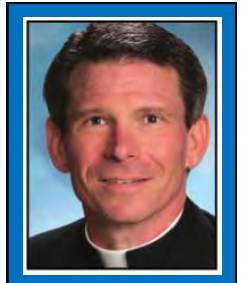
Cost:

1 hr. course for credit - \$50.00*

1 hr. course for personal enrichment - \$25.00*

*price quotes do not include books

Fr. Terrance Klein, is the parochial vicar at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Dodge City. He was ordained in 1984 and holds a doctorate in Fundamental Theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University (1999) and a



Masters in Liturgy from the University of Notre Dame (1991). He is the author of several books, among them *Vanity Faith: Searching for Spirituality among the Stars* (2009). Fr. Klein has taught at the Pontifical College Josephinum, Columbus, OH; St. John University, NY; Fordham University, NY; Sacred Heart University and Fairfield University, Fairfield, CT; and St. Bonaventure University, St. Bonaventure, NY.