

THE REGISTER

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CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SALINA

February 26, 2021

Marching FOR LIFE

By Allison Ochoa
The Register

Changes to the 2021 March for Life event in Washington, D.C., affected thousands of would-be attendees. For a group of students and adults from Hays, the changes meant bringing the focus to a local level rather than the national stage.

On Jan. 15, national March for Life organizers announced their decision via a press release to forego the large annual rally and host a smaller event participants could attend virtually.

"The protection of all of those who participate in the annual March, as well as the many law enforcement personnel and others who work tirelessly each year to ensure a safe and peaceful event, is a top priority of the March for Life," the release said. "In light of the fact that we are in the midst of a pandemic which may be peaking, and in view of the heightened pressures that law enforcement officers and others are currently facing in and around the Capitol, this year's March for Life will look different."

Upon learning of the change in plans, Melissa Pinkney and Melissa Schoepf, teachers at Thomas More Prep-Marian Junior/Senior High School in Hays and coordinators for the school's March for Life participants, said they had mixed emotions.

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Father Ryan McCandless, chaplain at TMP-Marian in Hays, took part in the March for Life event along with local coordinators Melissa Pinkney, middle, and Melissa Schoepf.

130 to be welcomed into Catholic faith

By Katie Greenwood
The Register

Trae McDaniel anxiously awaited the day of the Rite of Election.

"The thing that excited me most about the Rite of Election is that I would be one step closer to being confirmed into the Catholic Church," the 23-year-old from Junction City said.

The Rite of Election celebrates the fact that it is God who is choosing us rather than we who are choosing God. God always initiates the relationship, and we respond with faith.

Every year during the

season of Lent, the rite occurs. The Christian notion of this election has its roots in the Jewish faith. Israel considered itself chosen, elected by God for the eventual conversion of the whole world. This was not their initiative, but God's.

This year, 130 catechumens and candidates participated in the rite. They became the "elect," officially called by the bishop to the Easter Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. For those already baptized in another Christian tradition but are prepared to enter into full com-

munion with the Catholic Church, the bishop called them to continuing conversion.

There are four periods of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). The Rite of Election begins the third period – the Period of Purification and Enlightenment, which normally corresponds with the liturgical season of Lent. This period is characterized by a spiritual journey that concentrates more on the heart of the elect than on their minds. It emphasizes prayer more than study.

An important part of this period is the three Scrutinies, which are celebrated on the third, fourth and fifth Sundays of Lent. These Scrutinies are minor exorcisms, casting out the demons in the lives of the elect. The elect are encouraged to identify the outside influences that have controlled them, from which they are asking the Lord to redeem them so they may worship God fully in the Church.

Typically, the Rite of Election is a large diocesan event -- a time for all the elect to gather under the guidance of the bishop.

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Did you know?
• **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults:** The process designed for adults who have heard the mystery of Christ proclaimed and desire to enter into a closer union with God in the community of the Catholic Church.

Catechumen: Prospective convert to Catholicism who has never been baptized.

Candidate: Prospective convert to Catholicism who has already been baptized in another Christian denomination.

Answering the call

Bishop Vincke takes on added responsibilities.
Page 2



Stations of the Cross

Take time on Fridays during Lent to reflect.
Pages 7-10



Latest issue

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salinadiocese.org



Helping out when called

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I was planning on writing this month's column on the Kansas City Chiefs and how they accomplished their goal of making it to the Super Bowl, back-to-back. I was then going to use that as a springboard to discuss how we work to accomplish our goal of eternal life. I wanted to talk specifically about the Eucharist and the Blessed Mother.

But I decided to write about something else on my heart.

On Feb. 3, after I finished having a wonderful time at St. John the Baptist in Hanover for Catholic Schools Week, there was a message on my phone from Archbishop Christophe Pierre, the Apostolic Nuncio. The Nuncio is the person who communicates the decisions of the Holy Father regarding the bishops of the United States. His message said he would like to have a conversation with me. My first reaction was, "Oh no. Did I do something wrong?" After that, I had a terrible thought that I might be moving to another diocese.

When I returned his call, I received the very sad news that Bishop Brungardt from the Diocese of Dodge City is currently under investigation by the Kansas Bureau of Investigation. An allegation of sexual misconduct with a minor has been made against him. During this time, the Congregation for Bishops, on behalf of Pope Francis, has asked that I become the apostolic administrator of Dodge City. I will also remain the bishop of Salina.

I don't know the details of the investigation, but my heart aches for all those

involved – Bishop Brungardt, the alleged victim, the priests and the good people of Dodge City. All must be confused and hurting in some capacity or another.

I talked to another bishop who was asked to do something similar – ministering to two dioceses at once. He mentioned that despite the added responsibilities, I need to make sure there are non-negotiables in my life – prayer (including a daily holy hour), daily exercise and a day off during the week. He said I wouldn't be selfish by doing those things.

Taking on another diocese seems like a daunting task at times. Please know the clergy and the people of the Diocese of Salina remain my priority, but I hope you will all be merciful and understanding if I am unable to be with you as often as I would like. What brings me hope is we have wonderful priests in our diocese, an outstanding Chancery staff, but most of all, we have Jesus and His Mother.

As I have taken this to prayer, I am greatly comforted knowing Jesus and our Blessed Mother are with us during this troubling time in our world. I believe this is an invitation and an opportunity to continually turn to Jesus and Mary. We place our trust in His Sacred Heart and the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In Christ's service,

+ Gerald L. Vincke

The Most Rev. Gerald L. Vincke •
Bishop of Salina



Bishop Jerry Vincke

Diocese of Salina

DIOCESE STATEMENT

The Diocese of Dodge City announced Feb. 8 that Bishop John Brungardt has been accused of sexual abuse of a minor.

The Kansas Bureau of Investigation is conducting the investigation. Bishop Brungardt denies the allegation.

Bishop Brungardt has willingly asked to be placed on a leave of absence during the investigation. The Congregation for Bishops has appointed Most Reverend Gerald L. Vincke the temporary apostolic administrator of the Diocese of Dodge City,

effective Feb. 8. Bishop Vincke remains as the bishop of the Diocese of Salina in addition to his role as apostolic administrator of the Diocese of Dodge City.

For more information, visit <https://salinadiocese.org/news-and-updates>.

Catholic faith celebrated in area parishes

From page 1

The bishop symbolizes the universal Church to which they are being called. It is a way of experiencing, ritually, that they are not called only to a parish, but to the whole Church.

This year, due to the pandemic, the Rite of Election was celebrated in the local parishes.

"While it was a bit of a bummer that we were unable to travel to the Cathedral in Salina, I was still quite excited about celebrating the rite at my local parish," McDaniel said.

"I was able to share this experience with more of my friends and family."

The diocesan Liturgy Office adapted the Rite of Election so it could be celebrated in the parishes. Catechumens signed the Book of the Elect during the parish rite.

Now, catechumens, candidates and the universal Church eagerly await Easter, when our brothers and sisters in Christ will enter into full communion with the Church.

"I love that Catholicism is the purest form of the faith. It is not watered down or clouded with anything else,"

McDaniel said. "I am doing this to be closer to God in the best way possible, through Communion. I have attended Mass for years now, and I have always felt that there was just something missing. I have watched those around me be able to receive the Body and Blood of Jesus, and that is something I have wanted so badly. I am so excited to be going through the process of RCIA so that I can finally experience what I have been missing this whole time."

Father Frank Coady, director of liturgy, contributed to this article.

BISHOP'S CALENDAR

March 2021

- 5 Friday Lenten Mass, noon, Sacred Heart Cathedral, Salina
- 5 Cursillo Men's Retreat, 4 p.m., Victoria
- 6 First Saturday Mass, 8 a.m., Sacred Heart Cathedral, Salina
- 6 Confirmation, 6 p.m., Seven Dolors, Manhattan
- 7 Confirmation, 5 p.m., St. Thomas More, Manhattan
- 10 Confirmation, 5:30 p.m., St. Francis Xavier, Junction City
- 12 Friday Lenten Mass, noon, Sacred Heart Cathedral, Salina
- 13 Rural Life Seminar, Sacred Heart Cathedral, Salina
- 13 Confirmation, 4 p.m., St. Edward, Belleville
- 14 Confirmation, 10:30 a.m., St. Joseph, Hays
- 19 Friday Lenten Mass, noon, Sacred Heart Cathedral, Salina
- 19 Cursillo Women's Retreat, 4 p.m., Victoria
- 21 Confirmation, 3 p.m., Sacred Heart Cathedral, Salina
- 25 Chrism Mass, 11:30 p.m., Sacred Heart Cathedral, Salina
- 26 Friday Lenten Mass, noon, Sacred Heart Cathedral, Salina

BISHOP'S BOOK

Bishop Vincke's recommended book for the month of March:
The Fulfillment of All Desire
by Ralph Martin

RALPH MARTIN



THE FULFILLMENT OF ALL DESIRE

A Guidebook for the Journey to God
Based on the Wisdom of the Saints

CORRECTIONS

This photo published in the Jan. 22 issue of *The Register* had incorrect information in the header. It should have read Chapman First Communion.

Chandler Hoffman and Kaileigh Ummel were married Oct. 17, 2020, at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays. The Rev. Damian Richards witnessed their vows. Parents of the bridegroom are Kevin and Lisa (Palen) Hoffman. Parents of the bride are the late David Ummel and Allen and Treva (Shaffer) Goodman. Witnesses were Trevor Webb and Morgan Weber.

The above wedding announcement published in the Jan. 22 issue of *The Register* incorrectly acknowledged the parents of the bride.

The Register regrets the errors.



Courtesy photo

Youth at St. Michael Parish in Chapman received First Communion on Aug. 22. Front row (from left) are Heather Gavillan and Khloe Gilliland; middle row, Dylan Barnes, catechist Abby Anderes, Father John Wolesky and Hudson Wasyik.

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Our next issue is dated March 26.

Deadline for news is March 1.

Deadline for advertising is March 1.

Mailing label update

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TMP-Marian students and volunteers who took part in the local March for Life in Hays showcase their signs made for the event.

March a bit different for students this year

From page 1

But local coordinators Pinkney and Schoepf immediately began working on an alternative plan.

“There was an element of sadness, but we also felt a sense of relief because we didn’t want to put families or students at risk,” Schoepf said. “We started looking at what we could do to still recognize the importance of this day.”

The result was a local rally that began with an all-school Mass. The students and some of their adult chaperones who had signed up to travel to Washington, D.C., then walked from the school to the Ellis County Courthouse carrying signs and praying the Rosary.

While at the courthouse, TMP-Marian chaplain Father Ryan McCandless spoke to the group briefly and then led the participants back to TMP so they could watch the rally taking place at the capital.

“We watched a compilation of interviews with all the speakers including Jeanne Mancini, the president of March for Life Education and Defense Fund; Jim Daley from Focus on the Family; and Tim Tebow,” Pinkney said. “We also saw live coverage of the march, but the crowd (of participants there) was very small.”

For TMP sophomore Jenna Schlyer, the disappointment in not returning to Washington, D.C., for this year’s March for Life was tempered by the efforts of Pinkney

and Schoepf.

“I feel like they did the best they could to make it feel normal for us,” she said. “They really made us feel included.”

Sophomore Arin Schibi, who like Schlyer has participated in the march before, agreed.

“We were sad, but we had Mass and they took us (on a march) to the courthouse,” she said. “We had some people drive by and say some not-so-good things to us, but we had a lot of people drive by and give us the thumbs-up. It makes us really want to go next year.”

Rick Binder, coordinator for the Diocese of Salina’s Respect Life office, said he understands the disappointment surrounding the changes to this year’s event; however, he stressed that while getting positive legislation passed by lawmakers is one goal of the pro-life movement and the March for Life, it is secondary to changing people’s minds and hearts.

He believes re-establishing a culture of family and life can help combat the distorted view society has of them.

“We need to be committed to focusing on family and on the respect and dignity of life at all stages, and then the legislation will fall into place,” he said. “Experiencing a pilgrimage like this – the March for Life – changes hearts. I think that changing hearts is the goal; it’s the challenge, and I think people will have more resolve than ever to go next year.”

Chancery staff join in shared faith experience

By Katie Greenwood
The Register

Wednesday mornings at the Chancery are filled with jovial laughter and good cheer as the staff gather for morning prayer. Praying together in a small, intimate setting unites the staff in a shared faith experience.

Praying with the Breviary, the staff sing a hymn and pray with Scripture. After prayer concludes, a short period of time is spent simply being present with one another and sharing the news from the different departments.

But, in the seven weeks leading up to Christmas, morning prayer took on a different atmosphere. Bishop Vincke invited the staff to participate in The Search video series.

The Search is a video series that unapologetically reveals each person was made for God, that there is a home for each person beyond this one and that Jesus is the way.

At the conclusion of each episode, there was a calm hush over the staff. Every person sat still, pondering the message of each video.

Later, in the hallways, coworkers were found sharing their thoughts on the episodes. They shared their favorite moments, the truths that gave them pause and their excitement to watch the next one.

In watching the emotionally engaging series that is steeped with theology, the spirituality of the staff was deepened.

“I loved this series,” said receptionist Brenda Streit. “One thing that stuck out to me was when someone asked God to send a sign proving that he is real, and

God replied, ‘Look around, can you not see the beauty I send you every day?’ It’s so true and is something I have thought about many times before. The imagery and thought-provoking dialogue really make you stop and think about things you might sometimes forget or overlook.”

Katie Platten, CEO of Catholic Foundation for Diocese of Salina, said, “I was so moved by The Search series. Every episode was a celebration of humanity and of how special we are. It was full of evidence that God exists and that he meets us where we are at.”

Bishop Vincke said the series was an opportunity for spiritual growth and reflection for everyone.

“For seven weeks, our staff gathered for 30 minutes to watch The Search,” he said. “One of my favorite comments was when one of the staff said, ‘I wish everyone in our diocese could watch this series.’ I think what our staff gleaned the most from watching the series is that God searches for us. That is the meaning of life -- God comes to us because he passionately is in love with us. All of creation tells us that.”

During this season of Lent, the Diocese of Salina has partnered with Real Life Catholic to promote The Search series. Every parishioner in the diocese has free access to this series through their parish’s subscription to FORMED.

To learn more about how you can participate in The Search with your own small group, please visit <https://salinadiocese.org/news-and-updates/the-search/>.

Call to Share: We witness by faith

By Katie Greenwood
The Register

Pope Francis once said, “Faith is passed on by contact, from one person to another, just as one candle is lighted from another.”

Faith is like the flame of a candle. When the flame is passed on to another candle, it doesn’t diminish, it doesn’t cease to exist. In fact, if you watch the flame as it is passed along to another, for a split second, it grows brighter and reaches higher.

Faith grows stronger and beams more brilliantly when it is shared.

One way faith is shared across our diocese is through our current and future priests. We are so grateful to our clergy and are committed to serving them at all

stages of their priestly vocation.

Today, we are blessed with seven seminarians who we hope will one day become the priests that will minister to future generations of Catholics in our diocese. The Salina Diocese is committed to financially supporting our current and potential seminarians by designating \$275,000 of the appeal goal to seminarian education.

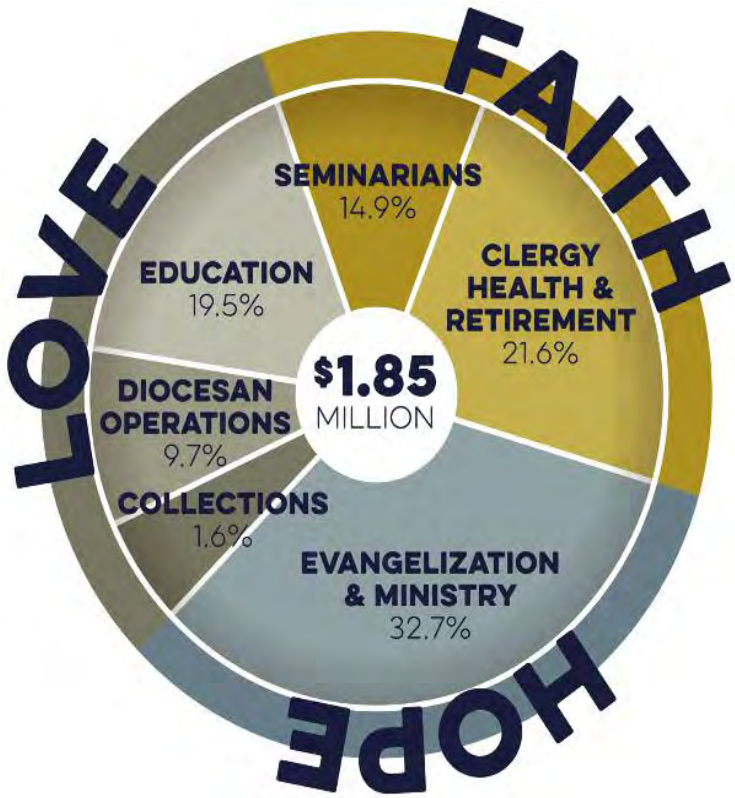
Today, we are blessed with 16 retired priests and 56 active priests within the Salina Diocese. These men have graciously answered God’s call to shepherd the faithful. The Salina Diocese

is committed to financially supporting our clergy by designating \$400,000 of the appeal goal to clergy health-care and retirement.

A gift to the 2021 Bishop’s Annual Appeal – Call to Share is one way the faithful can witness by faith. By your gift, our seminarians may one day become great priests for our diocese. By your gift, our retired clergy are provided for and can live with peace of mind.

To join in the mission of witnessing by faith through a gift to the appeal, visit <https://salinadiocese.org/office/development/bishops-annual-appeal/>

For more information, contact the Development Office at (785) 827-8746 or development@salinadiocese.org.



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



The eighth-grade class of St. John's Catholic School in Hanover attended the annual Kansas Mass, March and Rally for Life in Topeka.

Hanover students attend Topeka Rally for Life

By Corie Lynn

Special to The Register

In January, the eighth-grade class of St. John's Catholic School in Hanover made a trip to Topeka to attend the annual Kansas Mass, March and Rally for Life.

Though it is a tradition for this class of students to attend the rally, a typical year sees the students traveling farther to the Right to Life March in Washington, D.C.

According to St. John's Principal Amanda Cook, they had to make adjustments for this year's trip.

"These students had planned and fundraised to attend the march in Washington, D.C., but the parents decided to cancel the trip in November due to safety concerns," Cook said.

The 12 students instead attended the Topeka event, which included a rally, pro-life speaker Shawn Carney and Mass with Kansas bishops.

The students said they went to show their support for the pro-life movement. Many knew what to expect from the program of events, but several students left with new insight into the topic of life.

Hannah Zarybnicky said the rally was not what she thought it would be and that Carney answered questions she had not realized she had.

"I didn't quite understand the depth and how serious the problem of abortion is in our country," Zarybnicky said. "It filled in most of the blanks I had about the pro-life movement."

Several students also said people attending the rally were there to show love for unborn children.

Kelly Rupprecht, one such student, said she expected to see that support at the rally. But for her, the importance of attending the rally was to become "more informed on what being pro-life means."



Bishop Vincke visits with Hanover students during the event.

Cook agreed that attending the rally was essential to the students, as it served as a way for them to learn about their own beliefs.

"I feel that it is vital to help our youth understand their faith and give them a place to ask questions and help them understand the teachings of our faith," she said.

Though the rally centered on the topic of life, the rally also gave students an opportunity to have an active voice in issues they care about.

The students acknowledged this, with one, Braden Schwartz, pointing out he and his classmates will be voting in four years.

Until then, the students will find other ways to let their voices be heard, such as January's rally.

"No matter your age, you can and should always stand up for what you believe in," Rupprecht said.

Catholic Schools Week



St. John's School Council members Maria Niewald and Sharon Clark serve lunch to Chance Jermark and Andy Prather during Catholic Schools Week in Beloit. School kitchen staff enjoyed a day off while council members prepared lunch for the students and staff.



Students at St. Francis Xavier School in Junction City competed in "Faith Scholars' Bowl." In the last match, the students competed against staff, including Father Gnanasekar Kulandai, HGN, and Bishop Vincke. The students won the tie-breaker. Pictured are Chad Stramel, Logan Gold, Brady Sexton-Snow, Grace Lichtensteiger, Lauryn Peterson, Ben Phillips and Rebecca Peterson.

100-day celebration



Salina St. Mary's Grade School students show off their hats as they celebrate 100 days. From left, Isaac Cranmer, first grade; Callan Novotny, first grade; Marney Sadler, first grade; Reid Andrews, first grade; Emersyn Jacobs, kindergarten; and Layla Herwig, kindergarten.



Bob D'Andrea, second from left, was honored by the Kansas Association of Independent and Religious Schools as its Distinguished Teacher. Pictured with him is Geoff Andrews, left, Nick Compagnone, second from right, and Bishop Vincke.

D'Andrea wins prestigious teaching honor

By Makenna Allen

Special to The Register

The Kansas Association of Independent and Religious Schools (KAIRS) awarded Bob D'Andrea of St. Mary's Grade school its Distinguished Teacher Award.

Each year, the state's largest organization of non-public schools recognizes up to six educators who have impacted their school in an excellent manner.

As a 2020 recipient of the award, D'Andrea was nominated for his outstanding

dedication to the development of a strong technological infrastructure for the students of Sacred Heart Junior/Senior High School and St. Mary's Grade School.

"Mr. D'Andrea has been an unwavering presence in our school system for over 15 years," Bishop Gerald Vincke said. "His knowledge of information technology and its important role in the education of our young people, as well as his foresight into its impact on the future of teaching, have been essential to the

Catholic school system in the Diocese of Salina."

D'Andrea has not always been an educator for Kansas students, however. His career in the classroom began nearly 50 years ago. After graduating from Bethany College in 1971, D'Andrea began a 34-year career in East Rutherford, N.J.

During his time with the East Rutherford School District, D'Andrea taught middle-school social studies and technology classes.

Please see D'ANDREA / Page 5

Perpetuating Dr. King's dream

*Manhattan woman
answering call
to be neighborly*

By Katie Greenwood

The Register

"I believe Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. had a very clear view of how Jesus calls us to provide with equality to all our neighbors," Sharon Davis, recipient of the 2020 Spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Service Award said. "Dr. King truly spoke up and stepped up in a non-violent way. It's inspiration we all need."

There are three criteria to receive the award. The award recipient must 1) Demonstrate service and long-term commitment in uniting the diversity of our community for the greater good; 2) Express a track record of bringing people together in a non-polarizing manner; and 3) Reside in and/or be currently actively participating in the Manhattan community.

A parishioner at Seven Dolores of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Davis has resided in the Manhattan community with her husband, Greg, for numerous years. In that time, she has been a passionate voice for uniting people of different cultures and providing food to those in need.

With a background in education, Davis began to teach a Family and Consumer Science program at Manhattan Catholic Schools. One of the primary goals of the program was to encourage students to become involved with service at the Manhattan Emergency Shelter and various food banks.

Over time, she has been an active and influential volunteer within her community and has participated in many ministries, including Common



Davis



Barbara Bonhatel, left, and Sharon Davis are members of the Social Action Commission at Seven Dolores. Davis is the coordinator of the pilgrim bread baking initiative.

Table, The Flint Hills Breadbasket, Thrive, Food and Farm Council and a few others. Each of these ministries looks to resolve food insecurity for individuals and families who lack basic resources.

One of Sharon's most recent volunteer efforts has its roots in a trip to the Annunciation House, a volunteer organization located in El Paso, Texas, that offers hospitality to immigrants. While in El Paso, Davis had a firsthand experience of witnessing the needs of the immigrant community.

Motivated to action, Davis and other members from the Seven Dolores Social Action Commission coordinated a parish pilgrim bread sale, with proceeds going to the Annunciation House.

Additionally, she started the program Arts on the Green. The program is an annual community-wide event that emphasizes the inherent value and beauty of diversity through sharing art, food and music from a variety of cultures and traditions.

"Food is always a part of my

teaching and service," Davis said while reflecting on her favorite volunteer ministry.

"Starting the Arts on the Green and baking pilgrim bread were truly miraculous. How God gave increase to our little efforts with our music, shared Latin and European foods and baking and selling 100-plus loaves each time we baked. We've been able to give thousands of dollars to provide basic sheltering



From left, Barb Bonhatel, Dale Anderson, Sharon Davis and Rhonda Felderhoff work on mixing ingredients.



Lucille Johnson wraps hundreds of pilgrim bread loaves.

and assistance to migrants and Social Security widows in El Paso, Texas."

The most rewarding part of Davis' ministries are the relationships she makes with her neighbors, the fellow volunteers and the people served.

"My fellow volunteers are friends, sisters and brothers in Christ," she said.

"I am learning from them. We cannot do this alone. The people served are my neighbors. The greatest gift is to meet and know them."

D'Andrea began long career on East Coast, later moved to Kansas

From page 4

D'Andrea also served in roles as a head basketball coach and interim principal.

While in East Rutherford, D'Andrea picked up additional positions at Becton Regional High School. Here, he continued to exhibit his passion for youth athletics as the head softball coach and varsity girls' basketball coach.

Meanwhile, he also led the varsity volleyball and softball teams at Immaculate Conception High School.

Even despite the busy schedule, the teacher and coach found time to work toward and achieve his master's degree in elementary education from William Paterson University. Though D'Andrea had attained these strides in his career by 1976, he also found time for his family. He and his wife of more than four decades, Anne, have four children.

After spending the majority of his career on the East Coast, D'Andrea applied for a superintendent position with Salina Catholic Schools. In 2005, he accepted a position as the

technology coordinator for Sacred Heart and St. Mary's Grade School.

D'Andrea had a large task before him in beginning the position, as technology at the time was in its infancy. Through the years, he worked to create new technological infrastructure for the Salina Diocese. His platforms became essential not only to the students of Sacred Heart and St. Mary's, but also to many individuals across the diocese.

"One of the goals when I came on was to say that if we can do away with computer classes as a discipline and not need computer labs anymore, then I felt I had done my job," D'Andrea said. "Well, we don't have computer labs anymore. We don't have computer classes. Everything is being done to integrate through the disciplines themselves."

While D'Andrea has achieved his goals for students in the technological realm, Vincke suggests the educator's knowledge extends beyond this area as he recognizes how to most effectively connect with children in the school system.

"Mr. D'Andrea has kept current with trends in education to help all

our students in the diocese be successful as we have continued to roll out more technology in our buildings," Vincke said. "Most importantly, he understands how to communicate with children in a way that makes learning meaningful and fun. When he visits with students in classrooms, they are impacted for life because of his excitement and personal interest in their learning."

This stake in the development of students became even more important to D'Andrea last school year. His work held a particular impact during a tumultuous and unprecedented time in education.

While students transitioned to remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic, D'Andrea traveled across the diocese, establishing hot spots and using net sticks to provide free internet access to students.

Even as he works to establish technological connections, D'Andrea has not taught in his own classroom since 2004. That fact contributed to his surprise at being selected for the Distinguished Teacher Award.

"It was very much a surprise, particularly since I hadn't been what I

always consider a teacher in 16 or 17 years. So it was really an honor and really great to finally understand that I did do something that was well-appreciated," D'Andrea said. "I've met so many lovely people through KAIRS and with the Salina Catholic Schools in general and am really honored to where I don't even know what to say."

It is for his excellence in the ability to transform the role of a teacher into one of an educator that D'Andrea is recognized this year.

"His generosity over the 17 years of service extended in consulting with KAIRS and serving on committees with the Kansas Department of Education," said Nick Compagnone, president of KAIRS and former superintendent of Catholic schools in the Salina Diocese. "It is his dedication and service that deserves the KAIRS Award."

A small ceremony to recognize D'Andrea's role as Distinguished Teacher was hosted with Chancery staff in attendance. The proceedings were recorded and will be played at the upcoming virtual KAIRS Banquet.

The Eucharistic Miracle of Lanciano

By The Register

One of the greatest mysteries of the Catholic faith is the Eucharist. However, in 2019, a Pew research study indicated 69% of Catholics do not believe in the True Presence of the Eucharist.

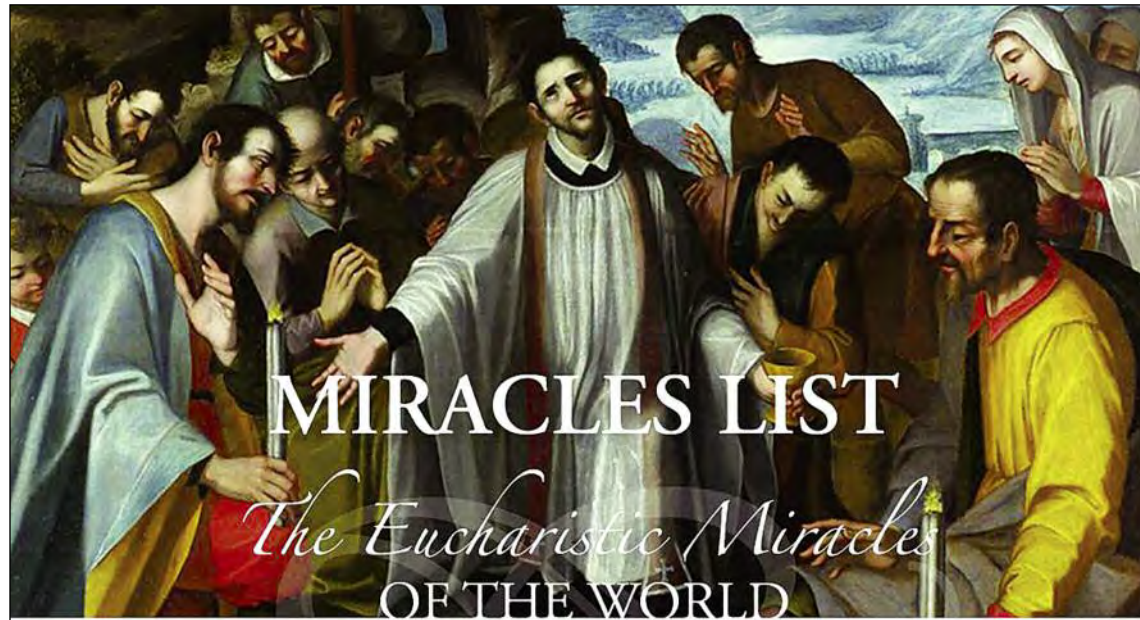
With permission from the Blessed Carlo Acutis Institute, The Register will run a series of authenticated and corroborated Eucharistic miracles that have occurred through the ages. This series was created by Blessed Carlo. Born in 1991, Carlo grew up with a deep faith and devotion to the Eucharist. Additionally, he was an amateur computer programmer. One of his more well-known accomplishments is documenting Eucharistic miracles from around the world and cataloging them onto a website he created before he died of leukemia (<http://www.miracolieucharistici.org/en/Liste/list.html>).

Blessed Carlo, pray for us.

The Eucharistic Miracle of Lanciano – Italy, 750 A.D.

An inscription in marble from the 17th century describes this Eucharistic miracle which occurred at Lanciano in 750 at the Church of St. Francis.

“A monastic priest doubt-



ed whether the Body of Our Lord was truly present in the consecrated Host. He celebrated Mass and when he said the words of consecration, he saw the host turn into Flesh and the wine turn into Blood. Everything was visible to those in attendance.” The Flesh is still intact, and the Blood is divided into five unequal parts which together have the exact same weight as each one does separately.

In 1970, the Archbishop of Lanciano and the Provincial Superior of the Conventual Franciscans at Abruzzo, with Rome’s approval, requested Dr. Edward Linoli, director of the hospital in

Arezzo and professor of anatomy, histology, chemistry and clinical microscopy, to perform a thorough scientific examination on the relics of the miracle which had occurred 12 centuries earlier. On March 4, 1971, the professor presented a detailed report of the various studies carried out. Here are the basic results:

- The “miraculous flesh” is authentic flesh consisting of muscular striated tissue of the myocardium.
- The “miraculous Blood” is truly blood. The chromatographic analysis indicated this with absolute and indisputable certainty.
- The immunological

study shows with certitude that the flesh and the blood are human, and the immune – hematological test allows us to affirm with complete objectivity and certitude that both belong to the same blood type AB, the same blood type as that of the man of the Shroud and the type most characteristic of Middle Eastern populations.

- The proteins contained in the Blood have the normal distribution, in the identical percentages as that of the serous-proteic chart for normal, fresh blood.
- No histological dissection has revealed any trace of salt infiltrations or

preservative substances used in antiquity for the purpose of embalming. Professor Linoli also discarded the hypothesis of a hoax carried out in past centuries. This report was published in The Sclavo Notebooks in Diagnostics (Collection #3, 1971) and aroused great interest in the scientific world. Also, in 1973, the chief Advisory Board of the World Health Organization appointed a scientific commission to corroborate Linoli’s findings. Their work lasted 15 months and included 500 tests. It was verified that the fragments taken from Lanciano could, in no way, be likened to embalmed tissue. As to the nature of the fragment of Flesh, the commission declared it to be living tissue because it responded rapidly to all the clinical reactions distinctive of living beings. Their reply fully corroborated Professor Linoli’s conclusions. In the extract summarizing the scientific work of the Medical Commission of the WHO and the UN, published in December 1996 in New York and Geneva, declared that science, aware of its limits, has come to a halt, face to face with the impossibility of giving an explanation.

Vocation profile: Father Norbert Dlabal

I was born Dec. 12, 1935, in my family home on the banks of Hell Creek in southwest Lincoln County, Kansas. It was the middle of the Great Depression, and World War II was quickly approaching. Times were different back then. Dr. Higgins of Sylvan Grove came to my parents’ home to assist with my birth. He slept on the floor that night because my parents had nothing better to offer him at the time. My parents, John and Philomena, always respected him for that.

I attended Mt. Ayer school, a one-room country grade school. In my first year of grade school, I had three classmates. But by the time I graduated eight years later, I was the only one in my class. After grade school, I attended high school in Wilson where suddenly I had 33 classmates. It was a whole new world. I loved it. Besides the academics there were sports, and I took part in all of them. And I loved that, too.

Mass was an essential part of our lives. It would have been unthinkable to miss Mass on a Sunday morning. It just didn’t happen, unless you couldn’t see your hand in front of your face because of a raging blizzard or something like that. It would have been like leaving the house barefoot on a bitterly cold winter morning. You would have quickly noticed something essential was missing.

But all during my schooling, I had no thoughts of becoming a priest. I went to college at Kansas State University and was going to be an engineer. But I still wasn’t sure of what I wanted to do.

PARISHES, PEOPLE SERVED

1972 - Parochial Vicar at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Hays.
1976 - Parochial Vicar at St. Robert Bellarmine Parish - St. Isidore Catholic Student Center in Manhattan.
1981 - Pastor at Seven Dolors Parish in Manhattan.
1983 - Chaplain at St. Robert Bellarmine Parish - St. Isidore Catholic Student Center in Manhattan.
1991 - Pastor at St. Boniface Parish in Tipton and SS. Peter and Paul Parish in Cawker City.
2002 - Sacramental minister at St.

Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Salina.
2002 - Pastor at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Goodland and Holy Ghost Parish in Sharon Springs.
2015 - Pastor at St. Francis of Assisi in St. Francis and St. Joseph in Bird City.
2018 - Retired to Salina with residence in Sacred Heart Cathedral; assist with Hispanic Ministry.
2019 - Residence at Seven Dolors Church, assist with Hispanic Ministry.
2020 - Pastor at Sacred Heart Parish in Atwood and Assumption of Mary Parish in Herndon.

I attended a weekend retreat hosted by a couple of young Jesuit priests. On the second day of that retreat, a thought came into my head. “Norbert, you are thinking about changing your major anyhow, why not change to theology and study for the priesthood?” This was very clear. It had never entered my head before. But my answer was also very clear, “Because I can’t.” The idea of being a priest didn’t “fit” me. So, I put it out of my mind.

But two weeks later, it came back to me in a little different way. “Well, maybe you can’t be a priest, but you could try.” Now I was always willing to try stuff. I even tried to play football one time – can you imagine that? (Until I got my cheek bone broken.)

For the next three years, I attended St. Mary’s College in Kentucky. During my time in seminary, we got a new bishop,

Bishop Frederick W. Freking. He had been a spiritual director at the North American College in Rome, and he decided to send some seminarians there. At that time, I was one of three seminarians. When you are one of three, it is not too difficult to be in the top two thirds of your class. And so, I was sent to study and live at the NAC and attend classes at the Gregorian University in Rome.

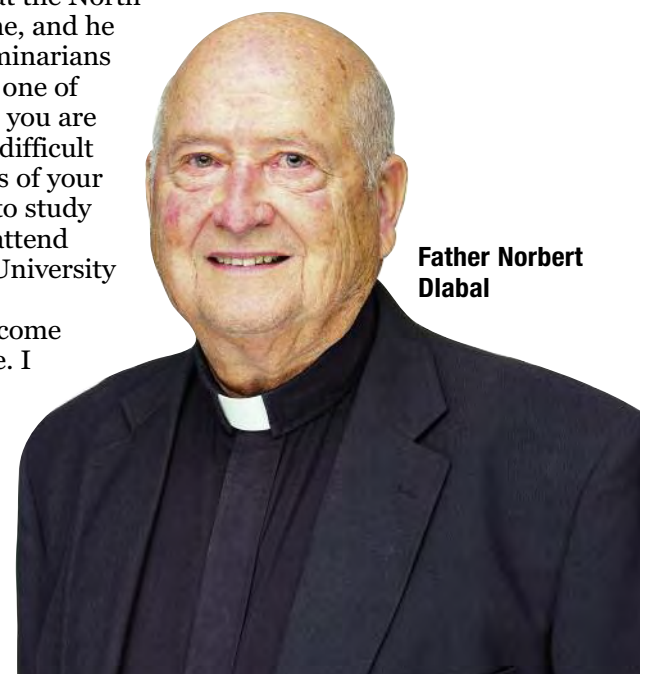
This was like a dream come true. I was going to Rome. I took a ship from New York. Thirteen days later, I was in Italy. The same day I arrived was the very day Pope Pius XII died.

It was an exciting start to an exciting year. The Cardinals entered the

Conclave, and a few weeks later, a new pope was elected -- Pope John XXIII. I was in St. Peter’s Square when the white smoke came out of the chimney, making known to the whole world that a new pope had been elected.

I enjoyed my classes, but everything was in Latin, including the books and lectures. I knew Latin, but I struggled to keep up. In fact, I failed my oral exam at the end of the semester. This was a new experience for me. I had never failed anything before. I just hoped my mom and dad would not find out about it. I was more afraid of them than I was of the bishop.

Please see DLBAL / Page 16



Father Norbert Dlabal

STATIONS

OF THE

Cross

During Lent, many Churches throughout the Salina Diocese, as well as around the world, will pray the Stations of the Cross on Fridays.

The stations pictured on these pages are from churches throughout the diocese. Each reflection is from the Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia.

Please read each meditation, view the photo of a station and take a few minutes to reflect upon it.

I JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DEATH

Jesus, your own people judged and condemned you. What could you have done to garner such malice? Their condemnation guaranteed your execution, but worse, it broke your heart.

As we contemplate this moment in your earthly life, please open our eyes to the ways we've judged and sentenced others: when we've withheld acknowledgment and affirmation, refused to receive another as our brother or sister, or allowed ideological positions to disable sharing between ourselves and others. Help us see how our judgment of others can effect a kind of execution, too. Jesus, teach us mercy.

By Catherine Michaud, CSJ



Holy Ghost Parish, Sharon Springs

II JESUS CARRIES THE CROSS



Dear Jesus, you willingly embraced this walk for love of humanity and all of creation.

This Lent, may I also embrace in heart, prayer and action, this universe that we call home, and all people, especially those who suffer disease and injustice, alienation and loss. Our world needs your healing so desperately. May this Lenten reliving of your Passion increase in us compassion and love for all...may Your compassion flow through us all.

By Marilyn Wall, CSJ

St. John Nepomucene Parish, Beardsley

III JESUS FALLS THE FIRST TIME



St. Mary Parish, Smith Center

Dear Jesus, you have fallen for the first time, weighed down by the weight of the cross you carry. You said YES to carrying the cross because you love us. It is that same love that compels you not to remain fallen. You get up and keep moving - all because of love! May we also have the courage and compassion to carry the weight of our own crosses and that of our dear neighbor, near and far, and keep moving - for love and towards Love. Amen.

By Gilla Dubé, CSJ

STATIONS

IV JESUS MEETS HIS MOTHER

Jesus,
Your passion, your pain and suffering becomes your Mother's suffering and sorrow.

How powerless she feels as your eyes meet – seeing you, her son carrying this cross.

Still, Jesus, her very presence is an overwhelming reminder of her love giving you strength for the path leading to certain death.

Today, many mothers suffer carrying a new cross: How to care for their families during this chaotic time of a pandemic: Food? Housing? Clothing? Healthcare?

Jesus, You lead the way. Be with us on the journey.

By Carmella Thibault, CSJ



Sacred Heart Parish, Atwood

V SIMON HELPS JESUS CARRY THE CROSS



St. Francis Xavier Parish, Junction City

This cross is heavy,
How can I possibly
carry it, Lord, if it is too
heavy for you?

You, who created all
that is, all that ever was.

A wooden cross should
be a simple feat.

And yet...you call me to
walk beside you,

You love me on this
harrowing journey,

You seize my heart into
wholeness.

The cross is heavy...but
if you walk beside me,
I will follow you, Lord...
Even into eternity.

By Dian Hall, CSJ



St. Patrick Parish, Lincoln

VII JESUS FALLS A SECOND TIME

Time and again, Jesus, You fall under the oppression of the cross, but again You rise for the mission of Your Abba. Sometimes, we too, feel like we have been slammed to the ground by Covid-19, depression, division and hatred, but we are called to rise up once more. There is a Japanese adage: "Nana korobi ya oki" - fall down seven times, get up eight. Why? Because the needs of the world call us to stand up and be counted.

Jesus, give us Your courage, Your love, Your desire and determination to meet our neighbors in their needs without counting the cost. Amen.

By Jodi Creten, CSJ

VI VERONICA WIPES THE FACE OF JESUS

Jesus and Veronica. Veronica and Jesus. They met one another in a moment of suffering: she for him and he for her. She offered him compassion, blotting the blood and sweat from his face. He offered her compassion, assuaging her heartbreak. Each to the other, gift for gift. Veronica: her name means "true image." Jesus, we pray that with Veronica we can be as she was, your true image of compassion in the suffering of our world and planet. May we recognize others' suffering; may we offer gift for gift. May your face be imprinted on our very selves as we offer compassion to others.

By Marcia Allen, CSJ



St. Joseph Parish, Damar

OF THE *Cross*



St. Edward Parish, Belleville

VIII JESUS MEETS THE WOMEN

Jesus,
on the way
You encounter
weeping women;
You recall the psalm:
God has collected
all tears in his bottle.*
Your heart is comforted,
so moved in this encounter
you see the women
with divine tenderness,
tears for them,
their children,
and call them
to the same compassion.
In every tearful
encounter
may we remember:
God collects all tears
in a bottle of
everlasting
remembrance.
May we extend
the compassion of Jesus
to those who mourn
and suffer. Amen.

*You keep track of all my sorrows.

You have collected all my tears in your bottle.

You have recorded each one in your book.

Psalm 56:8

By Janet Lander, CSJ

IX JESUS FALLS FOR THE THIRD TIME

Jesus, your journey has been long. You fall again, beneath your cross. You know your journey is coming to an end. You struggle. You get up and keep going.

We fall time and time again. Busy lives, overextending obligations to others at work, home, church; we get bummed out, cranky and tired. And yet, we ask/pray for forgiveness, grace and mercy. We might better learn to be still, quiet and listen for what is placed on our hearts, be thankful for the falls and struggles, the darkness so that we can appreciate the Light of our World. Help me think of the cross you carried. Help me continue to hope that I can make the changes in my life I need to. You didn't give up. I can have the strength to get up again as well.

By Denise A. Schmitz, CSJ



St. Philip Parish, Hope

X JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS GARMENTS



St. George Parish, Munden

"They divided my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots." (John 19:24)

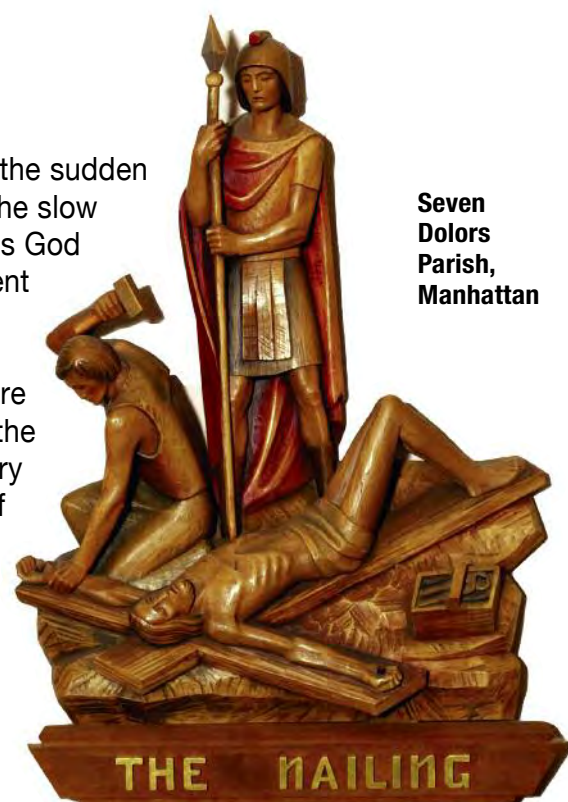
Today as the Covid-19 pandemic rages throughout our world, we witness the deprivation of those dying alone stripped of all that they had held sacred, including the very ability to breathe on their own or to hold the hand or see the face of one they love. Jesus, being one with You, as You were stripped and naked, we draw strength from your strength and claim with renewed hope that by your cross and resurrection you have set us free.

By Anna Marie Broxterman, CSJ

XI JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS

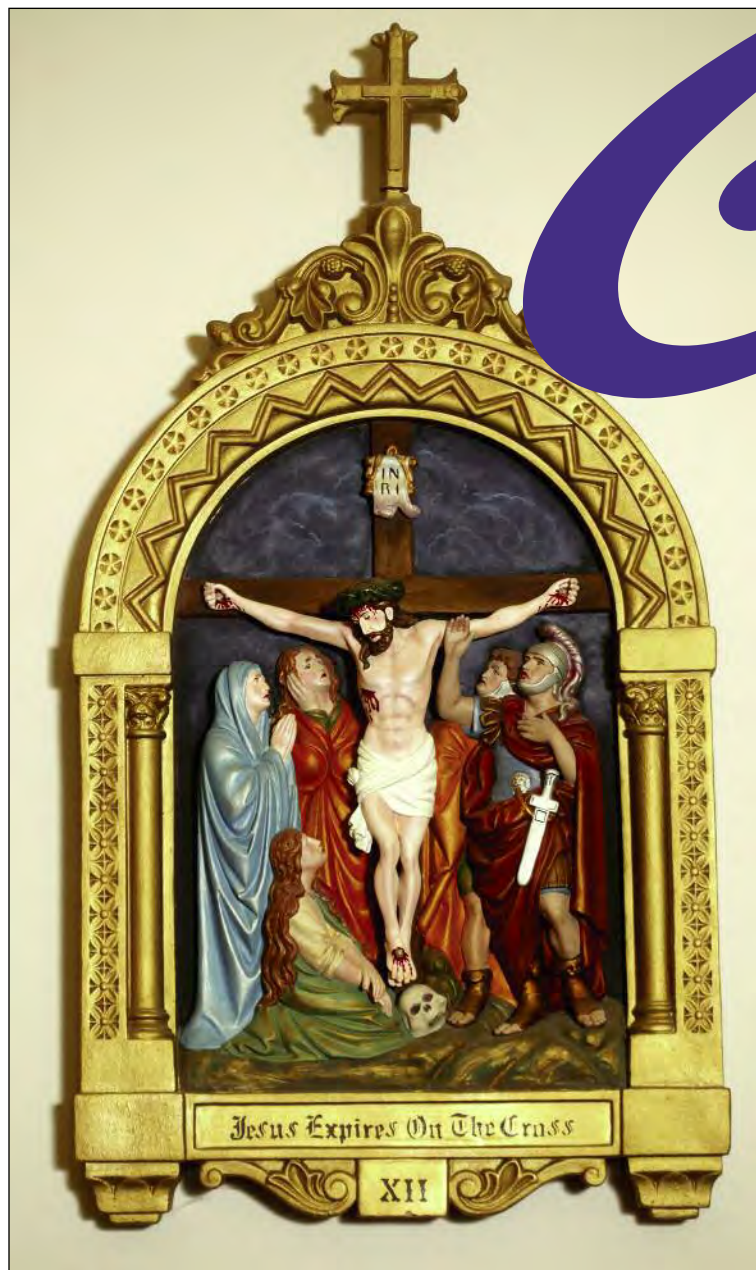
Jesus is publicly murdered. He endures the sudden excruciating pain of nails driven into him, the slow agonizing hanging upon the cross. Where is God when we suffer and feel God's abandonment or lack of intervention? From the cross, Jesus answers: I am with you, right there with you. As followers of this Christ, how are we being called to respond to suffering in the world. It is easy to look the other way. Every time we wear a crucifix or make the sign of the cross, may we marvel at God becoming so intimately one with us. May we ponder how we might respond to realities in the world that are plain horrible to witness.

By Dottie Moss



Seven Dolors Parish, Manhattan

STATIONS OF THE *Crass*



Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish,
Solomon

XII JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

Dear Jesus,
Nailed. You were nailed and there you died of suffocation. We grieve this suffering. And we are grateful for such love. We, too, are nailed - by COVID-19, by isolation from dying loved ones, from friends and the delights of freely living among those we love. We have watched our loved ones die - nailed by the virus. Help us to see the many ways we die for love of others - and save them with this love!

By Marcia Allen, CSJ

XIII JESUS IS TAKEN DOWN FROM THE CROSS



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Goodland

Mary, it's almost sunset. For a moment you hold his dear body once more in your arms. Mary, we join you in your grief. We remember all of the women who have held their children's bodies dead in their arms. Such grief cannot be assuaged. We can only accompany and hope our presence is some comfort. May we match your faithful love with ours.

By Ann Ashwood

XIV JESUS IS LAID IN THE TOMB

Accompanying your mother and dearest friends, we follow to your tomb. Our lives, indeed, the whole world feels hollow now. The stony vault where you are laid, empty, dark and cold is darker still for entombed with your body is the darkness of every human heart that contributed to your execution. We confess our belief that you went from there into hell before shedding the stifling shroud, rising and returning to walk the world again. You have secured our freedom and life.

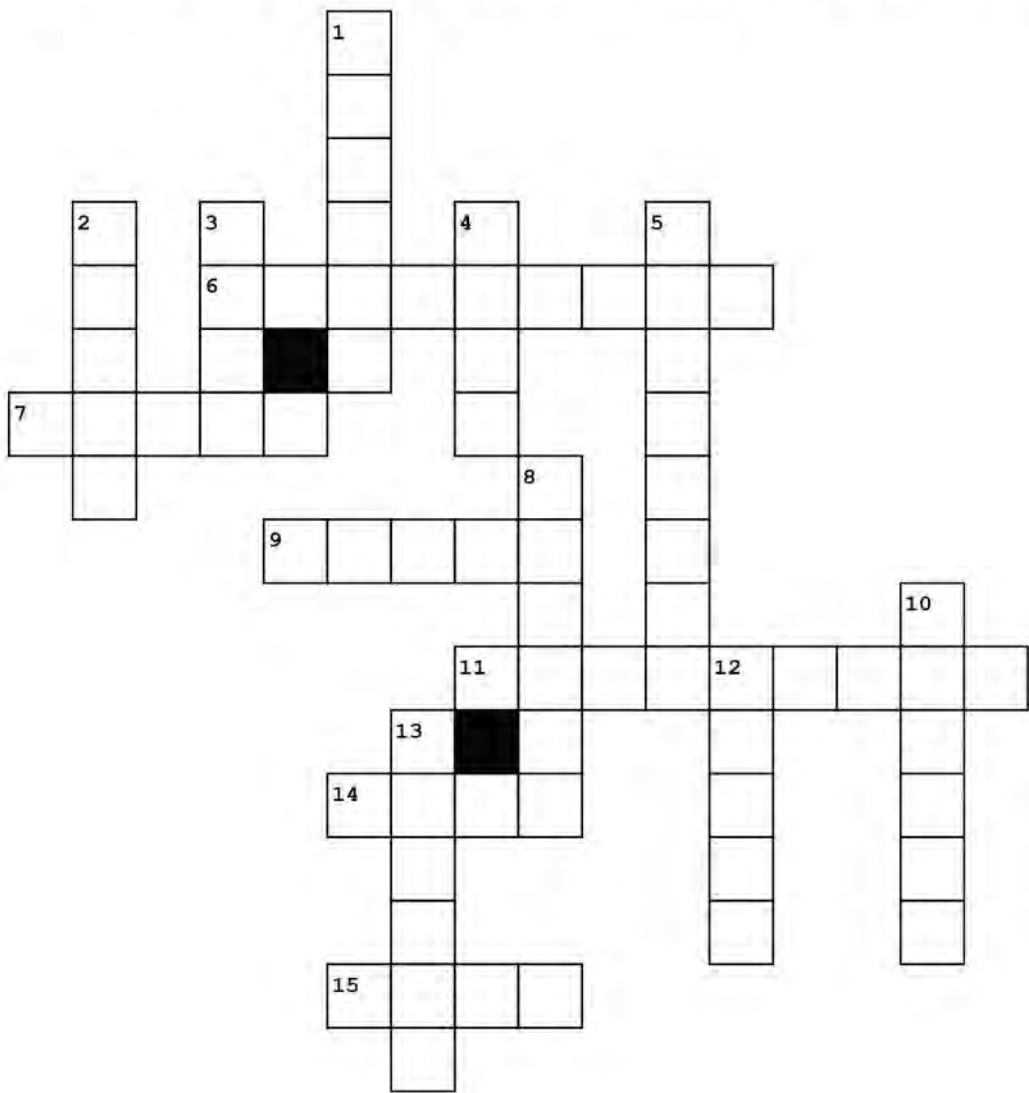
Help us, Jesus our Christ, to embrace death with courage and faith.

By Catherine Michaud, CSJ



St. Mary Queen
of the Universe
Parish, Salina

St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary



Across

- 6. Joseph is the patron of the ____ church
- 7. Finding of Jesus is the ____ Joyful mystery
- 9. Joseph is the patron saint of a happy ____
- 11. name of Herod's successor
- 14. flower that St. Joseph is depicted with
- 15. Number of Joseph's dreams in the Bible

Down

- 1. Pope who made Joseph the patron of the church
- 2. Joseph, son of ____, do not fear.
- 3. Joseph was a ____ man
- 4. Number of words Joseph spoke in the Bible
- 5. Town the Holy family settled in
- 8. number of pieces Jesus was sold for
- 10. virtue associated with St. Joseph's flower
- 12. Country that Joseph left his homeland for
- 13. Told Mary that a "sword will pierce your heart"

Answers on Page 16

WEDDINGS

Derek Linn and Tara Hertel were married Jan. 23, 2021, at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays. Father Damian Richards witnessed their vows. Parents of the bridegroom are John and Laura (Flax) Hertel. Parents of the bride are John and Sonya (Mauler) Linn. Witnesses were Jack Schlegel and Jill Schlegel.

Christopher Hund and Laura Freitas were married Feb. 6, 2020, at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays. Father John Sherlock witnessed their vows. Parents of the bridegroom are Jeffrey and Helen (Bergkamp) Hund. Parents of the bride are Luiz G. F. and Luciana (Pedrosa) Freitas. Witnesses were Eric Swenson and Hilary Grorud.

Valentine's treats



Laura Smith, Aaron Samuelson and Shayden Selzer, fifth-graders at St. Joseph Elementary in Oakley, made valentines for the elderly residents in town.

Seven Dolors candidates



Courtesy photo

Seven Dolors of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Manhattan welcomed three candidates into the church, Trevor Durbin, Michael Brunson and Chad Davidson. They made their Profession of Faith at the 10 a.m. Mass on Jan. 17.

MARCH PRAYER INTENTION

The Holy Father entrusts the Apostleship of Prayer to publicize his prayer intentions for the good of the world and the Church.

Universal Intention

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION.
Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God..

Apostleship of Prayer
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SAINTS, FEASTS OF MARCH

"Let us turn to the example of the saints. They were people like us, flesh and bone, with failings and weaknesses, who managed to conquer and master themselves for the love of God. Let us consider their lives and, like bees who distill precious nectar from each flower, we shall learn from their struggles."
St. Josemaria Escriva

March

- 4 — St. Casimir
- 7 — Ss. Perpetua and Felicity
- 8 — St. John of God
- 9 — St. Frances of Rome
- 17 — St. Patrick
- 18 — St. Cyril of Jerusalem
- 19 — St. Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 23 — St. Turibius de Mongrovejo
- 25 — Annunciation of the Lord

Sunday Gospel readings for March:

Jesus invites us to journey with Him through the stories of the Gospel. Take some time, either alone or with a small group, to reflect on the Gospel readings for the month of March. Sit in silence and prepare your heart to receive His saving Word.

March 7 – Third Sunday of Lent

John 2:13-25 (29)
Jesus drives the moneychangers out of the temple because they did not honor His Father's house.

March 14 – Fourth Sunday of Lent

John 3:14-21 (32)
God the Father sent God the Son to redeem the world.

March 21 – Fifth Sunday of Lent

John 12:20-33 (35)
Jesus warns that His hour of death is near.

March 28 – Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Mark 14:1-39 (47)
The Passion of Our Lord, according to Mark.

Taking on a new challenge: Register editor

Dear readers of *The Register*,

As you know, Karen Bonar resigned from *The Register* in early January. We were sad to see her go, but excited for her as she said “yes” to the new ways God was calling her to grow.

That being said, she did a lot for *The Register*. She wrote stories, organized freelance writers, traveled the diocese, took photos ... and then she laid it all out in newspaper format and Associated Press style.

That’s a lot of talent packaged into one person, and I

am so grateful for the ways she enhanced *The Register*.

When she resigned, our diocese needed a new editor for *The Register*. I’ll admit, I honestly didn’t expect to be asked. I was knee-deep in producing an issue of *faith* and coordinating the Bishop’s Annual Appeal – Call to Share. The newspaper was the last thing on my mind.

But then, Bishop Vincke asked me what it is I love to do. And I love to write. I’ve always loved writing. So, I figure, why not keep doing what I love and just write some

more?

So, now I’m writing for both *The Register* and *faith* magazine, along with my development responsibilities. I’m not doing everything though; we’ve partnered with Nick Schwien, director of Tiger Media Network at Fort Hays State University. He and his journalism students are the ones who lay out the publication and prepare it for press.

I think both publications are important. They each have their place and serve a purpose for the faithful of our diocese. But their mission is the same – to evangelize. Every issue should celebrate our Catholic faith. Our publications should share Jesus’

story. They should invite individuals to mission.

Being Catholic is not something we do just on Sundays. It’s a way of life. And it’s not an easy way of life. Oftentimes, we as Catholics are called to go against the grain, to be “counter-cultural.” And that is hard. But it is a life filled with immense joy and numerous blessings. To lead a life pursuing Jesus, to be pursued by Jesus – there is no greater joy.

The reason we have Catholic publications is to inform and inspire. Our publications are tangible assets you can hold in your hands and read with your eyes. Our publications are literally a

way for readers to physically connect and engage with the beauty of the Catholic faith and the people throughout our diocese in their own homes.

So, I hope you read them. And I hope they inspire you and fill you with love for our faith. We’ll see where this all leads. I ask for your prayers and patience with me as I adjust to my new role. And please, send me your ideas and stories. I’ll take any help I can get.

May God bless you in all things,



Katie Greenwood



Katie Greenwood

Register editor

Making sense of bioethics

As the new COVID-19 vaccines are being rolled out, several people have told me, “I don’t want a vaccine with any connection to abortion.”

This is a valid sentiment most would echo. At a minimum, it should serve as an important “call to action” for each of us during the course of this pandemic. Even if we decide to get inoculated with a vaccine that was produced using abortion-derived human cell lines — which for a serious reason and in the absence of alternatives would not be unethical — we still face a real duty to push back and make known our disagreement with the continued use of these cells by researchers in the pharmaceutical industry and academia.

We can do this in several ways. We can write a letter to the editor to heighten public awareness, or contact the pharmaceutical companies that make vaccines, urging them to discontinue their use of abortion-derived cell lines. If they do so, we should also thank them.

We can similarly initiate discussions with friends or relatives who work in research labs about whether their company or university uses cells derived from abortions.

One of the “silver linings” of the COVID-19 pandemic is it affords us the opportunity to raise awareness about these moral concerns and improve the way biomedical research is conducted by scientists.

As one bishop I was speaking with reminded me recently: “We need to teach, educate

and confront this issue more widely. It’s everyone’s duty.”

Such efforts will help build real momentum for change.

I’m often asked whether sample letters are available to help with writing to vaccine manufacturers who use abortion-derived cell lines. An example would be:

“I am writing in regard to your COVID-19 vaccine. It is my understanding that a cell line originally derived from an abortion is being used in the production of your vaccine. I am contacting you to

request that your company stop relying on these cells in the pharmaceutical work that you carry out. Please understand that as one of your potential customers, I am very concerned about these issues. It is my understanding that alternative, non-abortion-derived cell sources

are available or could be made available. It is important for all of us to show our respect for the remains of those children whose lives were taken prematurely, and one way we can do this is by avoiding these cell lines in scientific research and pharmaceutical development. Thank you.”

Archbishop Joseph Naumann, archbishop of Kansas City and chairman of the USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities, has also prepared a more detailed letter (available at: <https://www.usccb.org/resources/Letter-to-FDA-urging-ethical-COVID-vaccines.pdf>) that addresses the need to develop vaccines free of entanglements with abortion.

While such entanglements remain a significant concern, we also need to be aware how daily activities might have a much more direct connection to the abortion industry.

Dr. Melissa Moschella observed how getting a vaccine made with help of an abortion-derived cell has “less connection to the ongoing evil of abortion than other actions we engage in on a regular basis, such as doing business with the many companies that donate money directly or indirectly to Planned Parenthood, including Nike, Heinz, Energizer, Clorox, Facebook, JPMorgan Chase, Bank of America, CVS, Walmart, Liberty Mutual, Aetna and hundreds of others.”

Another way: Each time we purchase Tostitos/Frito Lay products, fill our gas tank with ExxonMobil gas or buy Pepsi products, our contribution to the continuation of abortion is

significantly more direct than when we receive a vaccine manufactured with abortion-derived fetal cell lines. Each of these large consumer-oriented corporations make large financial contributions to Planned Parenthood, which promotes and directly performs the killing of unborn children in the United States and in other countries.

Widespread corporate collusion in the evil of abortion does not, of course, mitigate the ethical concerns about using cell lines taken from fetal cadavers to produce vaccines. But it does represent another important area where letter-writing, boardroom votes, boycotts and other focused efforts by stockholders, employees and customers can make a difference.

As the Vatican emphasized in its recent “Note on the Morality of Using Some Anti-Covid-19 Vaccines,” the reception of an inoculation made from abortion-derived cells “does not in itself constitute a legitimization” of the practice of abortion. Receiving the stick of the needle today does not mean we are somehow cooperating in an abortion that occurred decades ago and for reasons independent of vaccine production.

Each of us has an obligation to witness to the inviolability of life. We need to take time to speak up so future vaccines and medicines will be developed without any reliance on abortion-derived materials.

Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D., earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did post-doctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, Mass.



Tad Pacholczyk

Columnist



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— “ —

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YOU KNOW HOW
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YOUR HELP. I BELIEVE
WE'D BE HOMELESS IF IT
WASN'T FOR YOUR HELP.
THANK YOU SO MUCH.**

” —



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Catholic Charities work continues

As I reflect on my first six months with Catholic Charities, I feel so blessed to be in this position. The work we do at Catholic Charities is truly our Catholic faith in action.

We have an incredible, hardworking staff that compassionately cares for each person who walks through our doors, whether it's a family fighting to keep their home or a pregnant mom with nowhere to turn for support.

This life-changing work is only possible because of generous people like you. The kindness and generosity shown to Catholic Charities during 2020 was immeasurable. Thank you for your gifts.

During a year when many families found themselves asking for help for the first time, you gave them hope. You made it possible for Catholic Charities to continue to serve as the hands and feet of Jesus.

Together, we can continue to answer the prayers of people in need throughout our diocese.



Megan Robl, executive director of Catholic Charities

In 2020 ...

- Together, we distributed 4,238 boxes of food to hungry families.



- Together, we supported 152 pregnant mothers on their journey to delivering healthy babies.

- Together, we provided 1,671 bags of hygiene items to help families stay healthy during the pandemic.

- Together, we helped 120 people with affordable immigration legal services.

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- Together, we lifted 33 people out from under predatory debt.

- Together, we delivered 592 counseling sessions with licensed therapists.

Without you, none of this would be possible.



Courtesy photo

The small town of Angelus is seen in this historic photo.

A century lived as a lifelong Catholic

By Katie Greenwood

The Register

ANGELUS — Born on Feb. 5, 1921, Fred Francis Bixenman has been a parishioner of St. Paul Parish in Angelus for 100 years.

Technically, four years of his life were spent as a soldier during World War II. Aside from his military service, Bixenman has always been a member of the St. Paul parish community.

He was the oldest of five children. Growing up, he attended Pleasant Ridge School. When asked how he got to school each day, Bixenman gestured downward and said, "These feet."

Every student brought their lunch in buckets or gallon syrup cans. The lunches were kept in the cloakroom until it was time to eat. For drinks, everyone drank from the same dipper of water from the communal water bucket.

As the school day ended, students would go out to the woodshed to collect coal for the next day's use in the coal stove. After school, they'd head home.

"When you got home, you

had a bite to eat, then you'd milk the cow," Bixenman said. "There were chickens to take care of, cows to take care of, calves to feed. And all of us had hogs to feed."

All the other families lived the same way.

"I never knew I was working," he said.

Growing up, Bixenman was accustomed to the farm life. But all the farming he did was with horses, which required a lot of harnessing, unharnessing, pitchfork work and making sure the horses didn't run away.

For all those reasons, "It's why I don't like horses," he joked.

Bixenman continued to work on the farm and go to school. When the Great Depression hit, his formal education ended after the eighth grade.

"There are so many memories that I have from the 1930s," he said. "I remember during the depression; the

dirt storms made some days so dark. During these times, people came together, prayed and helped one another get through the tough times."

In 1942, he joined the

Army. During basic training, he contracted scarlet fever. After recovering, he was moved to Decatur, Ill. From there, he was sent to Virginia. Eventually, he was stationed in Europe and spent time in several different countries.

Bixenman was briefly stationed in Norway.

"The Germans had occupied Norway for a while," he said. "We went to relieve the people of the Germans. When we (American soldiers) first got there, people would come up and ask for your name. Then they'd grab you and give you a hug."

"I found out that 'Fred' in Norwegian means 'peace'. When people heard

that, they'd say, 'We've been looking for you for five years.'"

After the war, Bixenman returned to his home in Angelus. He found that tractors had changed a lot but combines were relatively the same. And they still used horses for a lot of the work.

With all the twists and turns of his life, one constant has been his Catholic faith.

"I still remember when I made my First Communion, and we wore knicker pants," he said. "I have happy memories of the Altar Society, Daughters of Isabella and Knights of Columbus groups all working together. Both the times and the dress attire have changed, but I have enjoyed being part of this community throughout the years."

"I have many things to be thankful for in my 100 years. I had my wonderful wife, Ruby, for 69 years. I have been blessed with my family, many grandchildren and great-grandchildren who visit me often. I give thanks each day for Divine Providence and my guardian angel who has helped me countless times. I have been truly blessed."



Motherhouse annual spaghetti dinner is back

By Cathy Doud

Special to The Register

CONCORDIA — Last year, the Sisters of St. Joseph's most popular event, the spaghetti dinner — was canceled due to COVID-19 precautions.

This year, the Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia are bringing back the spaghetti dinner, but with a twist. For the safety of all the sisters and guests, this year's dinner will be a drive-thru pick-up. Serving will begin at 11 a.m. and end at 1 p.m. March 21.

In addition to the drive-thru meal pick-up, there will still be a raffle and an auction. But, in another twist, this year the auction will be an online event hosted by Hansen Auction and Realty.

Here is how it all will work.

The dinner will be available to pick up in the circle drive west of the Motherhouse. Meal tickets are \$8 each and include spaghetti, green beans, a breadstick and ice cream cup. Tickets

must be reserved by March 12. If you purchased tickets for last year and plan to attend this year, contact the Development Office by March 12 so the chef can have an accurate count for food. Call (785) 243-2113, Ext. 1225 for reservations.

In addition to the meal, tickets are available for raffle items. Raffle tickets are \$1 each or six tickets for \$5. They can be purchased at the drive-thru the day of the dinner or by calling in advance.

This year's raffle ticket items are: a Char broil gas grill with side burner, SEAR burner and side shelf donated by Kathleen and Greg Pestinger; a handmade quilt by Sister Jean Ann Walton; a monster web swing donated by Alice Ruder; a \$200 Visa gift card; and one cash prize of \$500, two \$200 prizes and three \$100 prizes.

Normal silent auction will be hosted at www.hansenonlineauction.com. You do not need a ticket to participate. To

bid, go to the auction site, click on Sisters of St. Joseph Spaghetti Dinner Auction and register to bid on more than 60 unique items. All proceeds from the auction benefit the ministries of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia. The auction will open at noon March 15 and close at 7 p.m. March 20.

All items purchased must be picked up at the Nazareth Motherhouse in Concordia the following week.

"The spaghetti dinner is the fundraiser that the sisters most look forward to, and they enjoy interacting with all the guests," said Ambria Gilliland, assistant director of development. "We've missed you all since COVID-19 began, but we're eager to see you in March -- if only for a few minutes in the drive-thru."

The Motherhouse is located at 1300 Washington, Concordia. The drive thru is on the west side of the building. Call (785) 243-2113 Ext. 1225 for any questions or reservations.

DEATHS

Margaret Brack, 76, died Dec. 26, 2020. Funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 31 by Father Dana Clark at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Ellis. Inurnment was at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Ellis.

Lt. Col. Kerry Lynn Cailteux, 67, formerly of Clyde, died Nov. 23, 2020. Funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 11, 2020, by Father Steven Heina at Mt. Calvary Catholic Cemetery in Clyde.

Adolph R. Charbonneau, 87, of rural Concordia, died Dec. 16, 2020. Funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 21, 2020, by Father David Metz at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Concordia. Burial with military honors was in St. Concordia Cemetery in Concordia.

Jane M. Christensen, 73, of Concordia, died Feb. 6, 2021. Funeral Mass was celebrated Feb. 12 by Father David Metz at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Concordia. Burial was in St. Concordia Cemetery, Concordia.

Thomas D. Cyre, 65, of Concordia, died Dec. 27, 2020. Funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 31, 2020, by Father Don Zimmerman at St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Clay Center. Inurnment was in St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery in St. Joseph.

Pamela Ferron, 70, died Jan. 22, 2021. Funeral service was at Mt. Calvary Cemetery in Clyde. Father Henry Baxa officiated.

Leota Fessenden, 99, died Jan. 3, 2021. Funeral service was held on Jan. 13 by Father Steven Heina at Vining Cemetery.

Martha A. Herrmann, 90, died Jan. 17, 2021. Funeral Mass was celebrated Jan. 22 by Father Soosai Rathinam, HGN, at St. Theresa of the Infant Child Jesus in Mankato. Burial

was in St. Peter and Paul Cemetery in Cawker City.

Verona Marie Howley, 86, died Nov. 26, 2020. Funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 4. She was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Clyde.

Mary Ann Kepka, 81, of Ellis, died Dec. 2, 2020. Funeral Mass will be celebrated by Father Dana Clark. Inurnment will be in St. Mary's Cemetery in Ellis.

Terrance Kohl, 80, died Jan. 13, 2021. Funeral Mass was celebrated Jan. 20 by Father Dana Clark at St. Mary Catholic Church in Ellis. Burial with military honors was in St. Mary's Cemetery in Ellis.

Lois Jean Martin, 89, died Jan. 16, 2021. Funeral Mass was celebrated Jan. 23 by Father Donald Zimmerman at Ss. Peter and Paul Church in Clay Center. Burial was in Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic Cemetery in Clay Center.

Charles F. Novak, 84, of Grinnell, died Dec. 19, 2020. Funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 22, 2020, by Father James M. Thomas at Immaculate Conception Church in Grinnell. Burial was in Immaculate Conception Cemetery in Grinnell.

Rita Ouellette, 92, died Jan. 5, 2021. Funeral Mass was celebrated Jan. 8 by Father Steven Heina at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Clyde. Burial was in Mt. Calvary Cemetery in Clyde.

A.V. "Bud" Palen, 76, of Salina, died Dec. 16, 2020. Funeral Mass was celebrated by Father Daryl Olmstead at St. Boniface Parish in Tipton. Burial was in St. Boniface Cemetery in Tipton.

Curt F. Pfannenstiel, 55, died Jan. 4, 2021. Funeral Mass was celebrated Jan. 9 by Father Damian Richards at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Munjor. Concelebrants were Rev. Earl Meyer, OFM Capuchin, and Rev. William

Surmeier. Burial was in St. Francis of Assisi in Munjor.

Irene Sander, 92, formerly of Gorham, died Dec. 9, 2020. Funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 12, 2020, by Father Michael Elan at St. Mary Help of Christians Church in Gorham. Burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Elaine Patricia (Long) Stoner, 91, died Dec. 7, 2020. Funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 10, 2020, in St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery near Clifton.

Alvin Veesart, 90, died Jan. 13, 2021. Funeral Mass was celebrated Jan. 20 at St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery in Clifton. Rev. Steven Heina officiated.

Anna Rita Weber, 88, Ellis, died Nov. 30, 2020. Funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 4, 2020, by

Father Dana Clark at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Ellis. Burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Mary "Mick" Weimer, 66, formerly of Ellis, died Dec. 10, 2020. Funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 16, 2020, Father Dana Clark at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Ellis. Burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Martina Werth, 92, died Jan. 31, 2021. Funeral Mass was celebrated Feb. 5 by Father Damian Richards at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays. Burial was in St. Anthony Cemetery in Schoenchen.

Brenda Lea Wolf, 59, died Jan. 23, 2021. Funeral Mass was celebrated Jan. 29 by Father James Thomas, CMI, at Immaculate Conception Church in Grinnell. Burial was in the Immaculate Conception Cemetery in Grinnell.

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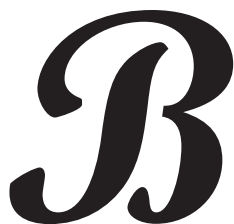
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BAPTISMS

Ambrose Michael Baxa, son of Jonathan and Sarah (Carter) Baxa, was baptized Dec. 28, 2020, by Father Henry Baxa at St. Edward Church in Belleville.

Josephine Cait Dreitz, daughter of Nick and Caitlyn Dreitz, was baptized Jan. 23, 2021, by Father Damian Richards at St. Nicholas of Myra

Church in Hays.

Paige Renee Gustin, daughter of Keith and Sara Gustin, was baptized on Feb. 3, 2021, by Father Damian Richards at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays.

Henrick Ralph Hood, son of Luke and Kayla (Ramsey) Hood,

was baptized Dec. 19, 2020, by Father David Metz at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Concordia.

Jack Ray Meier, son of Nathan and Emma (Dreiling) Meier, was baptized Dec. 26, 2020, by Father Nick Parker at Immaculate Heart of Mary in Hays.

Ainsely Breille Nilhas, daughter of Tyrell and Breanne

(Marrs) Nilhas, was baptized on Jan. 2, 2021, by Father Dana Clark at St. Mary's Church in Ellis.

William Miles Oberle, son of Joseph and Alexandra Oberle, was baptized Dec. 13, 2020, by Father Jarett Konrade at St. John the Baptist Church in Beloit.

Isabella Sofia Olivas, daughter of Angel and Yadira Olivas, was baptized Dec. 27,

2020, by Father Nick Parker at Immaculate Heart of Mary in Hays.

Landrie Denise Pfannenstiel, daughter of C.J. and Nicole (Ritter) Pfannenstiel, was baptized Nov. 15, 2020, by Father Dana Clark at St. Mary's Church in Ellis.

Isabell Ruth Rose, daughter of Nathan and Amanda (Depenbusch) Rose, was baptized Dec. 19, 2020, by Deacon Wayne Talbot at St. Thomas More in Manhattan.

Willow May Windholz, daughter of Tyler & Melanie (Flax) Windholz, was baptized on Jan. 28, 2021, by Father Dana Clark at St. Mary's Church in Ellis.

Aubrey Rose Zimmerman, daughter of Nathan and Jessa (Stramel) Zimmerman, was baptized Jan. 23, 2021, by Father Nick Parker at Immaculate Heart of Mary in Hays.

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RETREAT DIRECTOR: MARCIA ALLEN, CSJ, is a Sister of St. Joseph of Concordia, Kansas. She has served in elected leadership in her Community and the Leadership Conference of Women Religious. She holds a Doctor of Ministry degree in Spirituality.

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Diabal now at parishes in Atwood, Herndon

From page 6

Time passed, and it was only three more years until my priestly ordination. People would expect me to know things I wouldn't even know. To make a long story short, I left the seminary. I hadn't given up on the idea of being a priest, I just needed more time.

Once I was no longer in the seminary, I was subject to the draft. In June 1960, I was drafted into the U.S. Army. I was deployed to Korea and served as a chaplain's assistant in the Infantry. While I was not

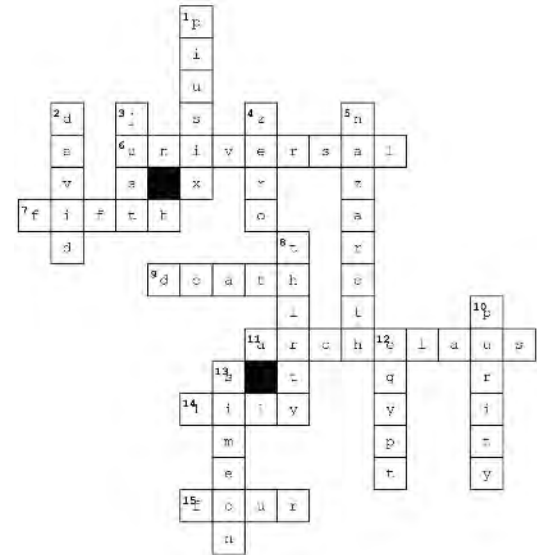
exactly committed to the priesthood yet, I was committed to a virtuous, Christian life. So, my learning, growing and preparing continued in a different setting and on a different continent. I was discharged from active duty in 1962. Eventually, I re-entered the seminary at Kenrick Seminary in St. Louis, Mo.

I was ordained to the priesthood on June 10, 1972, at St. Wenceslaus Parish in Wilson. The bishop said, "Let he who is to be ordained come forward." I answered, "I am ready and willing," and I meant it with

all my heart. There was no shadow of any doubt left in me about such a decision.

I have loved my vocation as a priest. I've now been a priest for nearly 49 years. I retired in 2018. But in 2020, I came out of retirement to take on an assignment as pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Atwood and Assumption of Mary Parish in Herndon. I am enjoying it once again. It takes me a little longer to get from point A to point B, but I can still get there. So, I figure, why not?

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