



Attendees of a Hall of Heroes induction ceremony for Father Emil Kapaun at the Pentagon walk past a photo of Kapaun while entering the auditorium in 2013 in Washington, D.C.

TRAVIS HEYING,
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Remains of Kapaun identified

BY THE REGISTER

On March 4, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced the remains of Father Emil Kapaun had been identified.

Father Kapaun's remains were among the numerous unidentified soldiers buried in the National Cemetery of the Pacific in Hawaii.

It was a significant discovery for the Catholic Church, as Father Kapaun was a documented war hero and is in the canonization process.

In 1993, Father Kapaun was named a Servant of God by the Catholic Church. This is the first step towards possible canonization. His case for sainthood awaits review. In the meantime, the family of Father Kapaun and the people of Kansas readily



BO RADER, TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

A painted cross from Father Kapaun's helmet liner. The helmet was taken from the camp after Kapaun's death and tossed in the dump. Marine Corp Warrant Officer Felix J. McCool retrieved the cross from the broken liner and returned it to the Wichita Diocese.

await the opportunity to return the remains of their fallen hero

to his final resting place.

Born in 1916 and a native of the

small town of Pilsen, in 1943 he was appointed auxiliary chaplain at Army Air Base in Herington, which is in the Salina Diocese. Father Kapaun later that year became pastor of St. John Nepomucene parish in Pilsen.

"When I went on a pilgrimage with our seminarians to the museum of Father Kapaun in Pilsen, we learned a lot about this remarkable, selfless man," said Gerald Vincke, bishop of the Salina Diocese. "Discovering his mortal remains after so many years brought me a lot of joy and is a great blessing to the Diocese of Wichita and our whole state."

Kapaun served as a priest in the Wichita Diocese and as a U.S. Army chaplain in World War II and the Korean War.

KAPAUN, PAGE 8

"... DISCOVERING HIS MORTAL REMAINS AFTER SO MANY YEARS BROUGHT ME A LOT OF JOY AND IS A GREAT BLESSING TO THE DIOCESE OF WICHITA AND OUR WHOLE STATE."

GERALD VINCKE, BISHOP OF THE SALINA DIOCESE

IN HIS WORDS

Seek the King, not our sinful ways of life.

Page 2



HOLY WEEK

How should Catholics properly recognize and celebrate it?

Page 10



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Seek the King, not our sinful ways of life

I remember when I was a freshman in college. It was the Lenten season, and I had decided to go to confession.

Down the hall in my dorm was an older gentleman who had served in the military and went back to school to earn a degree. I invited him to go with me to confession. Afterwards, he thanked me repeatedly. It had been more than 15 years since his last confession. He said he hadn't felt that much peace in a long time.

Something was missing in his life. He had forgotten who he was.

We need God's mercy because we forget who we are. I still remember a time I went to confession to a priest approximately 15 years ago. After I confessed my sins, the priest simply looked at me and said, "Remember who you are."

Jesus knows who he is. He is the beloved Son of the Father. He has a relationship with his Father.

He spends time in prayer with him. He always wants to do the Father's will.

Do we know who we are? Do we forget that God made us male and female? Do we know that when we were baptized, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved son. This is my beloved daughter." Our deepest identity, more than the money we make, our profession in life, what others think of us or even of what we think of ourselves, is the deep abiding fact that we are God's beloved sons and daughters.

One of my favorite movies is *The Lion King*, which happens to have several Christian themes in it. Simba, the main character, is anointed as a baby lion. When he becomes older, he disobeys his father, Mufasa, by going to a place he shouldn't. Later, Mufasa dies, and Simba runs away.

Like what many of us do when we sin, we run away from God (just like Adam and Eve did). Eventually, the confused Simba meets Rafiki, the monkey who anointed him in the beginning of the movie.

Simba doesn't recognize Rafiki and demands to know who he is. Rafiki looks at Simba and says, "The question is: Who are you?" Simba admits he's not for sure who he is, and Rafiki says, "You are Mufasa's boy."

Rafiki takes off running and Simba follows him, wondering how Rafiki knew his father. He tells Rafiki his father is dead, and Rafiki claims Mufasa is still alive.

They arrive at a pool of water, and Rafiki

tells Simba to look down. Simba does, and sees his reflection. Rafiki tells him to look harder, and when he does, Simba sees the image of his father's face.

And Rafiki says, "You see, he lives in you."

All of a sudden, an image of Mufasa can be seen in the clouds above. Mufasa looks at Simba and says, "You have forgotten me." Simba denies it, and Mufasa says, "You have forgotten who you are, and so have forgotten me." Simba asks how he can go back, and Mufasa says, "Remember who you are. You are my son."

When we sin, we literally forget who we are. If we look in the mirror, we may only see ourselves and our faults and failings.

But if we look deeper, we see that we are made in the image and likeness of God, that we are God's beloved children.

St. Therese of Lisieux reminds us of who we are by telling the story of two daughters. Both of them commit the same sin. One runs away from her father, the other runs to her father, jumps on his lap and says, "I am sorry." God loves it when we come back to him.

One could even say Jesus' desire to forgive us is even greater than our desire to be forgiven. St. Jerome had a vision of our Lord. In the vision, Jesus questioned St. Jerome and asked what Jerome could give to him. Of course, Jerome thought of his many accomplishments. He was a well-known Scripture scholar. Jerome offered his accomplishments to Jesus, and Jesus replied, "That's not what I want. What I really want are your sins."

Jesus died on the cross to take away our sins. We all sin. God does not want us to be afraid of him. As Pope Francis said, "God never tires of forgiving us." God is always inviting us to experience his mercy. He is always reminding us of "who we are."

A great time to confess our sins is during Lent. If not during Lent, Divine Mercy Sunday is the Second Sunday of Easter.

Where, if not in the Divine Mercy, can the world find refuge and the light of hope to remind us of who we are?

In Christ's service,

+ Gerald L. Vincke

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

**GERALD
Vincke**
BISHOP, SALINA DIOCESE



BISHOP'S CALENDAR

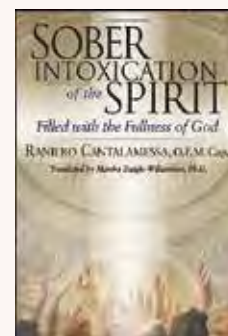
April

1-3	Triduum
4	Easter
10	Confirmation, 5:30 p.m., St. Mary Queen of Angels, Russell
11	Confirmation, 10:30 a.m., Sacred Heart, Atwood
13	Confirmation, 6:30 p.m., Holy Trinity, Timken
14	Confirmation, 7 p.m., St. John the Baptist, Clyde
17	Confirmation, 7 p.m., St. Mary, Ellis
18	Confirmation, 8 a.m., Sacred Heart, Colby
20-22	Diocese of Dodge City Presbyterial Assembly
24	Confirmation, 10 a.m., St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Salina
25	Confirmation, 2 p.m., St. Mary Queen of the Universe, Salina
28	Confirmation, 7 p.m., St. Stanislaus, Ingalls

BISHOP'S BOOK

Bishop Vincke's recommended book for the month of April:

**Sober Intoxication
of the Holy Spirit**
by Father Raniero
Cantalamessa



GOSPEL READINGS

April 4 – Easter. Alleluia! Jesus is risen!

April 11 – Second Sunday of Easter, John 20:19-31

Jesus appeared to the 12 apostles. Thomas did not believe until he had seen Jesus in person.

April 18 – Third Sunday of Easter, Luke 24: 35-48

Jesus reappeared to the disciples he had encountered on the Road to Emmaus.

April 25 – Fourth Sunday of Easter, John 10:11-18

Jesus tells the parable of the Good Shepherd.

APRIL 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
Fundamental rights: We pray for those who risk

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Mailing label update

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Mobile outreach inspires hope

By OLIVIA AYRES

SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

In seasons of great adversity, hope is the catalyst for forging new life. Even through the depths of the deepest darkness, it is God's hope that illuminates.

An integral part of Catholic Charities' mission is to foster hope in the lives of those they serve. The Mobile Outreach Program is one way Catholic Charities extends its reach throughout the 31 counties of the diocese, compassionately delivering services to the afflicted.

It is through this program the staff met LouAnn Conner, a woman from Beloit, who suffers from debilitating physical conditions. Because of this, it has been difficult for her to get to work.

Conner expressed the challenges have deeply affected her mental and emotional health, leading to depression. She said the love of Catholic Charities, in particular Jill Smith-Barker, mobile outreach and special funds coordinator, has been a beacon of hope through the trying times.

"Jill brings services to our community that really help a lot of people that I feel struggle getting to the end of the month on necessities and things," Conner said. "It's really depressing having depression, and to be locked up in your house all the time. So, I just love Jill so much. She's awesome. I look



COURTESY PHOTO

LouAnn Conner has been helped with her disabilities through work from Catholic Charities' Mobile Outreach Program.

forward to seeing her, I think she's the nicest, kindest, sweetest and most loving, caring person."

Because of the aid of Smith-Barker and Catholic Charities Mobile Outreach Program, Conner received transportation assistance to help her get to

weekly therapy appointments, which gives her a renewed sense of hope.

"Thank you so much for helping me. I really appreciate your generosity and kindness," she said.

"Thank you, Jill, for going the extra mile for me. I try not to give

up on my hope."

Conner and other people like her are true demonstrations of faith and resilience. Through her story, we see the infinite light of God's everlasting hope.

Olivia Ayres is the communications coordinator at Catholic Charities.

Knights aim to Leave No Neighbor Behind

By JAMEY ROTH

SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

When I was elected to the office of State Deputy in May, I told the delegates I never imagined we would live in a time in which we are called upon to serve in ways we did not anticipate.

In times of crisis, we must not come to cynicism and mistrust, instead we must maintain faith while embracing reason and truth. Again, we can only attain this through transparency.

Believe me, I know what all of us have been feeling. I know there is confusion and fear. I know some of us do not even feel safe leaving our homes.

President Abraham Lincoln cautioned us that a house divided against itself will fall. We are at a similar crossroads here, today. But President Lincoln did not expect his house would fall, and I do not feel the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Church will fall.

The nearly 38,000 Knights in Kansas made a decision to stand united.

During the June virtual State Deputy training, Past Supreme Knight Carl Anderson explained that, in times of need, the Knights of Columbus will stand up and serve. He challenged the State Deputies to ensure that, regardless of whether a person is Catholic or not, we leave no neighbor behind. He challenged us to ensure the members of our communities are safe and healthy.

Later, Anderson informed us the Supreme Council would waive the per-capita costs to councils and members for July 2020, January 2021 and July 2021. In doing this, his hope was that the council would find ways to assist the state, local and parish communities with the monies.

After visiting with the Catholic Charities offices, I learned immediate basic needs were being met. But as the pandemic would go



COURTESY PHOTO

Jamey Roth, right, presents Bishop Vincke, executive director Megan Robl and board president March Ziegler with a check to continue the mission of Catholic Charities.

on, there would be additional needs. And those needs would be different across the state.

After much prayer, brainstorming, reflecting on what Father McGivney and our faith teach us about caring for others and remembering the words of Past Supreme Knight Carl Anderson, the idea was born to ask every council in Kansas to donate \$3.25 per member to the state council.

Then as a unified group, a check would be given to

each of the four Catholic Charities in Kansas to financially assist in caring for those people most affected by the pandemic.

I ran the idea by the other state officers, and they overwhelmingly agreed to support this worthwhile program. Then, I approached the Knights of Columbus Charities Aid Foundation board to see if they would be willing to assist. After much discussion, they agreed to match dollar for dollar the first

\$30,000 donated by the local councils.

Our goal was to raise \$100,000 by Jan. 31. This would allow us to present each Catholic Charities with a gift of \$25,000.

Due to the overwhelming generosity and kindness of so many, I am humbled to announce the program raised \$106,000. In a small ceremony that took place Feb. 25, we presented a check for \$26,500 to the Salina Catholic Charities.

I remind every one of us to Leave No Neighbor Behind. Reach out to your neighbor, whoever they might be, and make sure they are safe during these unusual times.

Together, we will make this world a better place to live.

Jamey Roth is the State Deputy for the Kansas State Council of the Knights of Columbus. He lives in Victoria with his wife, Angie. They have three children of their own, along with three foster children. They also have one grandchild and two foster grandchildren.

Tipton Cardinals fly to state title

BY TREVIS TONNE
SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

TIPTON — On the cold, snowy, below-zero morning of Feb. 13, the Tipton Catholic High School scholars bowl team embarked on a journey to Chase to compete in the state competition.

The end result of that trip, though, was just a small part of the entire story. To fully understand the journey, a person would have to look back a few years and one global pandemic earlier.

The 2018-19 and 2019-20 seasons of Tipton team had many moments of victory, along with heart-breaking defeat. In 2019 and 2020, the Cardinals were defeated at regionals. In both seasons, the team dominated until the last few rounds, resulting in a three-way tie — where they lost out due to margin of victory points.

All the Cardinals could do was shake hands with the teams they had been defeating all season long, tell them good job and wish them luck at state. All the while wondering, “What if?”

At the end of the 2019-20 season, the world was turned upside down by COVID-19. It was uncertain there would even be a 2020-21 season. Even with the unknowns, the Cardinals forged ahead with tryouts. That resulted in a team of senior Anna Towner, juniors Casey Weisel and Leah Brummer, sophomores Joshua Towner and Emma Jones and freshman Koevin Schroeder.

They had the brain power to succeed, but would there be a season? COVID-19



COURTESY PHOTO

Members of the Tipton state champion scholars bowl team are, from left, coach Trevis Tonne, Joshua Towner, sophomore; Leah Brummer, junior; Casey Weisel, junior; Emma Jones, sophomore; and Koevin Schroeder, freshman. Not pictured is Anna Towner, senior.

outbreaks that occurred among schools resulted in several meets being canceled. But the season trickled along, with mandatory masks and social distancing implemented. Sometimes, the Cardinals were competing with as little as three students on a five-person team.

Competition after competition saw the Cardinals holding their own as they began to defeat much larger schools, including Class 2A and 3A schools. As the team inched closer to regionals, the doubts began to creep in. Could they hold? Could they finish the season strong? They entered regionals with a record of 29-0.

Regionals was hosted by St. John's Catholic School in Beloit. The Cardinals were faced with stiff competition, including their friendly rivals — the St. John's

Blujays who are regular state contenders.

Both the Cardinals and the Blujays plowed through the competition. When the dust settled, they found themselves face-to-face fighting for the regional championship and a trip to state. At the end of the round, the Cardinals were declared victorious. Finally, they were headed to state.

A pep rally was hosted for the team during Tipton Homecoming on Feb. 10. With the confidence and knowledge that the team had the support of their school, parents, community and friends, the Cardinals headed to state.

The Cardinals walked into the state meet with a look of determination and, at the same time, nervousness. This was state. The best of the best. Many of the teams had been competing at state for years and had

intimidating reputations. The questions would be harder, and the buzzers would be faster.

Schedules were passed out, and the Cardinals were pitted against Rolla for the first round. Rolla's reputation preceded them: frequent state contenders with a total of 12 state championships. Working as a team, the Cardinals proved to be faster on the buzzers and came out victorious. Then, one after another, they defeated the other teams: Hartford, Peabody, Linn, Argonia, Cheylin and Pawnee Heights.

The Cardinals were undefeated in pool play. It was time for finals, which were played in the middle of the gymnasium to accommodate a larger audience. With the parents and coaches sitting behind them, the Cardinals walked up to the buzzers.

But, if they wanted the crown, they needed to defeat Pawnee Heights.

The 16 questions were delivered by the moderator, each team determined to win. The Cardinals took an early lead, ahead by the point margin of one question when the final question of the round was read. Pawnee Heights buzzed in with the correct answer, and the score was tied.

The tiebreaker was drawn from the math category. The question was read, and the sound of pencils on paper was all that could be heard. Pawnee Heights buzzed in and gave an incorrect answer.

All eyes were on the Cardinals. Weisel, the team captain, buzzed in and gave his answer. The moderator asked him to repeat it. He did, and a resounding “Correct,” echoed throughout the gymnasium.

The Cardinals had done it. Three years in the making. The endless hours of studying, homework, listening to educators, working together, being patient and sticking with it had finally paid off.

They ended the season undefeated at 47-0. The state trophy was finally coming home to the tiny, little town of Tipton, to the high school with only 14 students total.

This coach, the teachers, the parents and the community could not be prouder of our students. Go Cardinals. Small, but mighty.

Trevis Tonne has taught social studies at Tipton Catholic High School for the last 20 years and has coached the Tipton scholars bowl team for the last 18 years.

PATRIS CORDE

The Chancery offices are decorated with artwork created by the students of Manhattan Catholic Schools. Each classroom created a different art display in honor of St. Joseph.

COURTESY PHOTOS



GREEN EGGS AND HAM



COURTESY PHOTO

The first-grade class of St. Joseph Grade School in Oakley celebrated Dr. Seuss by making green eggs and ham. Clockwise from left: Elsie Helus, Lakota Younkin, Johnnie Ottley, Delana Munk, Faith Kuhlman, Brecken Harrel, Isaac Samuelson, Rudy Smith and Cory Smith.

HEART OF THE PROJECT



COURTESY PHOTO

Wesley Sauber and Holden Bechard, second-graders at St. Mary's Grade School in Salina, make Valentines cards for residents in a nursing home.

FRIENDLY GAME



COURTESY PHOTO

Bishop Vincke and Superintendent Geoff Andrews lead their team to victory during the dodgeball tournament at St. John's in Hanover last month.

Manhattan Catholic Schools win engineering award

By CORIE LYNN
SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

MANHATTAN -- Manhattan Catholic Schools is no stranger to innovation and hands-on learning.

The official name of the science-oriented programs is Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering and Mathematics, or STREAM, and allows students a wide array of opportunities to engage in innovative learning.

"I see each class once a week, and we do STREAM activities," said Patsy Johnson, the STREAM coordinator for MCS.

She facilitates school programs such as the middle school victory garden, the monarch weigh station and the science fair, but it is her students' work through the school robotics club that pushed her to apply for the prestigious Vernier Engineering Award.

The award, given through Vernier Software & Technology, recognizes an educator who utilizes Vernier products to teach students about concepts in engineering.

Johnson applied for the award on behalf of Tyson Vrbas, who has taught science with MCS for 20 years and leads the robotics club.

"He's very humble about what he does," Johnson said.

In late February, the school found out it had won the award. With it comes nearly \$5,000 in cash, products and travel expenses for conferences.

The project Vrbas and the robotics club have been working on, which was originally suggested by Johnson, utilizes Vernier soil moisture sensors in the middle-school victory garden.

"We wanted to create an automatic watering system for the garden that would incorporate a rain barrel and one of our EV3 robotics kits," Vrbas said.

During the course of a week, he and the robotics club designed a system consisting of a soaker hose buried in the garden and easy-open valves with a robotic motor on the rain barrels.

With this advanced system and the students' hard work, Johnson knew the robotics club was capable of winning the Vernier award.

Vrbas hopes the experience of creating



COURTESY PHOTO

Tyson Vrbas and Manhattan Catholic Schools recently won a prestigious Vernier engineering Award.

the system helps his students learn there are multiple ways to find an answer to a problem, a concept he encouraged by letting each student come up with an idea for the watering system.

For him, it is an important aspect of innovative projects.

Since the group won the award, Vrbas would like to continue working with his students through practical experiments.

"(Vernier,) for example, has multiple sensors that allow you to test for air purity," Vrbas said. "It would be interesting to test the air, especially in the spring, to see how the burning of the prairie affects the air quality."

He also thanked Johnson for her help in gathering supplies for the project and applying for the award.

As Vrbas continues to lead his students in robotics experiments and in STREAM education, Johnson hopes each student learns to think on a global scale with their creations.

She explained the program provides students an outlet to do so and practice creative freedom in a place where they experience a lot of direct teaching.

"It's really kind of an amazing thing," Johnson said.



The project used Vernier soil moisture sensors.



We witness by hope

ANNUAL APPEAL STILL ONGOING

BY KATIE GREENWOOD
THE REGISTER

Father J. Michael Sparough, SJ once said, "Ultimate hope is accepting what is beyond our control and believing that God will use the circumstances of our lives to help us grow in holiness."

Hope is more than excited anticipation of what is to come. Hope is a deep, confident expectation in the goodness and faithfulness of a loving God. True hope is the recognition that every occurrence in our lives is an opportunity to grow closer to God.

One way hope is shared across our diocese is through evangelization and ministry efforts. Hope is strengthened by relationships with others rooted in shared faith. Hope is strengthened through evangelization.

Today, the Salina Diocese provides many ministries, such as Rural Life Ministry, Hispanic Ministry, Marriage Tribunal, Communications and Family Life ministry, that equip individuals to evangelize in the practicalities of daily life. The Salina Diocese is committed to financially supporting these evangelization efforts by designating \$605,000 of the appeal goal to evangelization and ministry.

A gift to the 2021 Bishop's Annual Appeal – Call to Share is one way the faithful can witness by hope. By your gift, we bear witness to hope as our faithful can build relationships rooted in a shared desire to be closer to Jesus.

To join in the mission of witnessing by hope through a gift to the appeal, visit join.salinadiocese.org

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

Celebrating the Feast of St. Isidore

BY FATHER RICH DAISE
SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

As the patron saint of farmers, St. Isidore is a natural fit to be the patron of the diocesan Rural Life Commission. Due to his patronage, the RLC observes the Feast of St. Isidore (May 15) every year with Mass, the blessing of field and livestock, touring local agricultural businesses and a meal.

The annual event is rotated around the four deaneries of the diocese. Due to COVID-19, last year's event was modified and was at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Salina. Because of that decision, the RLC has now had an entire year to plan the St. Isidore celebration in the west deanery.

This year, the Feast of St. Isidore falls on a Saturday. In order to visit the agricultural businesses, the RLC made the decision to move the observance to the Friday before, May 14.

The day will begin with opening prayer, coffee and donuts at 10 a.m. at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Goodland. Following, the RLC will head to Northwest Kansas Technical College for a tour and briefing of the unique Precision Agriculture course. Afterwards, the group will head to Brewster for a tour and observa-

Patron saint of farmers

THE REGISTER

"A story told about St. Isidore was his practice of often coming late to work after attending Mass. Squire De Vergas, his master, decided to observe Isidore at his work. He hid himself in a clump of bushes near the field where his laborers were working. Isidore arrived later than usual, walking slowly behind his team of oxen and plow. The gentlemen's anger soon turned to astonishment. Two angels, one on either side of Isidore and each with a plow, were helping their companion. St. Maria, his wife, always kept a

pot of stew on the fireplace in their humble rural home. Often Isidore would bring hungry people home to feed them. One day in frustration, Maria told Isidore that there simply was no more stew to give. He insisted that she look one more time, and five more people were fed. The qualities found in the lives of Isidore and Maria – commitment to family, social justice work, love for the land, service to the poor and a deep spirituality – are qualities that exist in rural America."

Rural Life Commission

tion of the AgSun operation.

There will be an opportunity for a brief midday snack before the group heads east to Colby. Along the way, the group will observe the Blessing of the Flocks and Fields. The livestock of Kris Schroeder and the fields of Aaron Horinek will be blessed.

Upon arriving in Colby, Bishop Vincke will celebrate Mass at Sacred Heart Parish at 4 p.m. Additionally, there will be the blessing of soils and seeds. Participants are invited to bring soil samples from their fields or gardens, as well as crop and garden seeds.

Following Mass, the public is invited to join in a meal. By joining in the festivities, participants will not only enjoy the traditional observances of St. Isidore's Day in the Salina Diocese, they will also be treated to a visit to two of the West Deanery's outstanding parishes.

For additional information, contact Father Rich Daise at (785) 462-2179 or email at frich@sacredheartcolby.com.

St. Isidore, pray for us!

Father Rich Daise is the pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Colby. He also serves as the moderator of the Rural Life Commission.



Group seeks slogan ideas for Rural Life Commission

BY THE REGISTER

The Salina Diocese Catholic Rural Life Commission is a group that works to support farmers, ranchers and those involved in rural life living.

RLC understands the

deep need for reliance on God, his gifts and his promises, especially when it comes to caring for the land and animals.

RLC is working to establish a slogan for its ministry as it continues to serve the

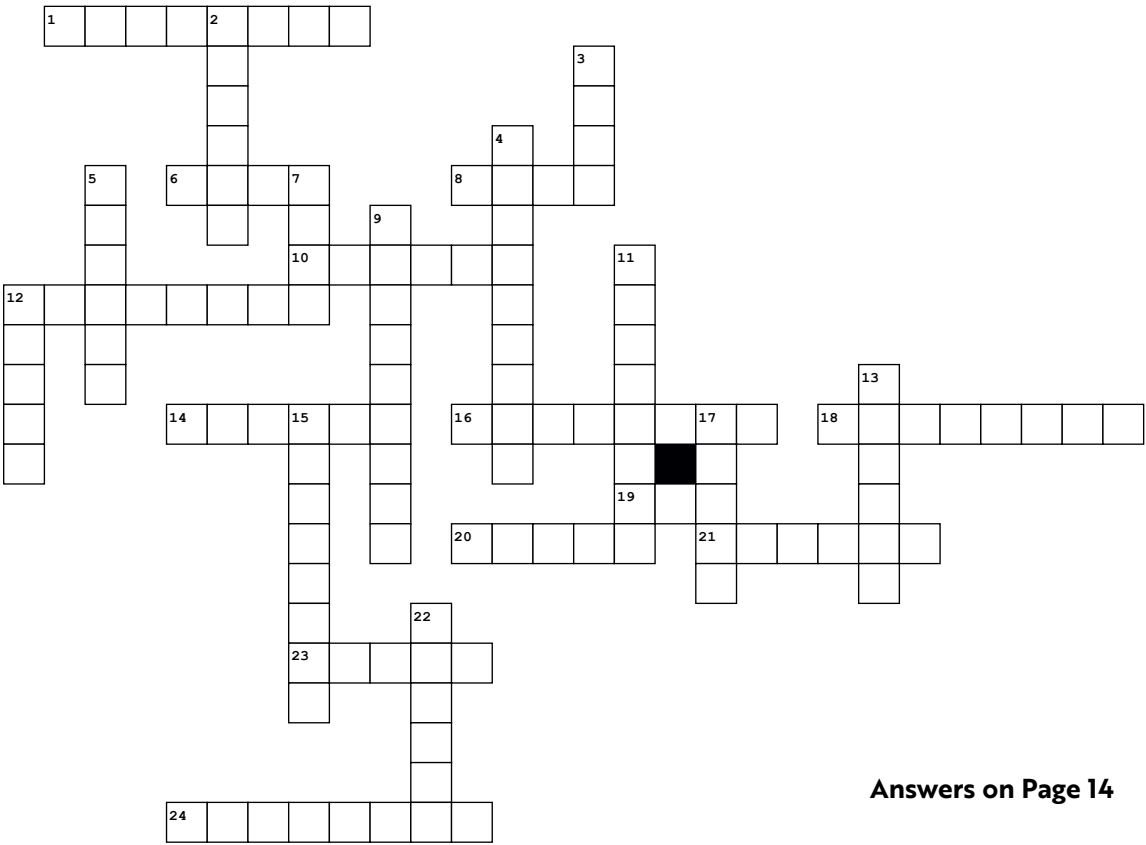
diocese -- and the group wants your help.

Send slogan suggestions to rurallife@salinadiocese.org by April 3. The board will choose from the suggestions, and a \$200 Google Play gift card will be

awarded to the winner.

In the case the slogan selected is submitted more than once, the winner will be the first one submitted. The RLC looks forward to seeing everyone at future events.

Holy Week



- Across**

 - 1. Peter denied Jesus next to a _____ fire
 - 6. On the cross, Jesus drank wine mixed with ____
 - 8. Pilate ordered their _____ to be broken
 - 10. On the cross, Jesus said, "I _____"
 - 12. The crowds wanted to release _____ instead of Jesus
 - 14. color of the cloak Jesus wore
 - 16. place of the skull
 - 18. "My God, my God, why you you _____ me?"
 - 19. body part of soldier that was cut off at Jesus' arrest
 - 20. From Jesus' side flowed blood and _____
 - 21. Mount of Agony
 - 23. Who helped Jesus carry the cross?
 - 24. Hebrew name of the judge's bench in the place called Stone Pavement
- Down**

 - 2. "If you release him, you are no friend of _____"
 - 3. Judas betrayed Jesus with a _____
 - 4. Who said, "Truly, this man was the Son of God."
 - 5. Jesus was betrayed for _____ pieces of silver
 - 7. soldiers cast _____ for the tunic of Jesus
 - 9. brought a mixture of myrrh and aloe to bury Jesus
 - 11. Jesus said, "I have greatly desired to eat this _____ with you."
 - 12. Jesus sweat drops of _____
 - 13. Jesus said to the disciples, "Behold your _____."
 - 15. On the cross, Jesus said, "You will be with me in _____"
 - 17. Former enemies, Pilate and _____ became friends on Good Friday
 - 22. asked Pilate for the body of Jesus

Answers on Page 14

WORLD MARRIAGE DAY



COURTESY PHOTOS

Christ the King Parish in WaKeeney celebrated World Marriage Day February 13 and 14 during Masses celebrated by Father Charles Steier. From left, William and Bonnie Winholz, Ed and Jolene Deges, Rodney Meyers (not pictured Teresa), Chane and Heidi Goff and Trevor and Tammy Halligan.



From left, Mary Jo Clevenger (not pictured Darrell), J. David and Anita Schneider, Alvin and Joleen Schuster and Allyssa Brungardt (not pictured Lincoln).

CONFIRMATION

St. Joseph Parish in Oakley celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation on Feb. 22. Back row, from left: Bryant Wiedeman (Colby), Trayson Ryburn, Tristan Ryburn and Corbin Bockwinkel. Middle row: Katelyn Wilson, Daniel Williams, Craig Kuhlman, Emma Evins and Abby Scheetz. Front row: Sarah Polley, Kaylie Bockwinkel, Riley Chrisler, Katherine Baalman and Kylie Huelsmann. Also pictured: Father Luke Thielen and Bishop Gerald Vincke.

COURTESY PHOTO



SAINTS, FEASTS OF APRIL

"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

- 2 St. Francis of Paolo, hermit
- 4 St. Isidore, bishop and doctor
- 5 St. Vincent Ferrer, priest
- 7 St. John Baptist de la Salle, priest
- 11 St. Stanislaus, bishop and martyr
- 13 St. Martin I, pope and martyr
- 21 St. Anselm, bishop and doctor
- 23 St. George, martyr
- 24 St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, priest and martyr
- 25 St. Mark, evangelist
- 28 St. Peter Chanel, priest and martyr
- 29 St. Catherine of Siena, virgin and doctor
- 30 St. Pius V, pope

Fairness in Women's Sports Act prompts bitter Kansas debate

Should women have to compete against biological males in athletic competition? For many, the question itself is absurd. Common sense dictates that, yes, women should compete against women, and men against men.

Basic fairness in athletic competition — and a wider conversation about the meaning and purpose of human sexuality — is at the heart of a sometimes-bitter debate unfolding at the Kansas Statehouse and around the country.

At issue are growing concerns about biological males who identify as transgender competing against females in athletic competition.

The matter took center stage Feb.

23 at the Kansas State Capitol during a hearing of the Senate Education Committee. Testimony on SB 208, also known as the Fairness in Women's Sports Act, revealed contrasting views about fair-mindedness in athletic competition versus charges of bigotry and discrimination.

The Fairness in Women's Sports Act doesn't "block" anyone from participating in athletics. SB 208 simply ensures women have a fair playing field when it comes to athletics. Without these protections, women's sports as we know them could disappear.

Male athletes identifying as female are claiming women's track champi-

onships (and top spots in other sports) intended for females. The phenomenon is being repeated in college and international events.

Access to higher education through sports-based scholarships, acquisition of leadership skills and lifelong healthy lifestyle habits are all directly linked to female participation in sports in formative years.

The Kansas Catholic Conference testified in favor of SB 208, saying (in part): "...erasing athletics that flow from and manifest uniquely female characteristics destroys the complete human experience of sport and all it represents as a gift to society from Our Creator."

The legislative goal is preservation

of a level playing field for everyone — women and girls especially.

The Kansas bill is part of a national movement. Idaho passed the first law of its kind last year and 19 other states have introduced Fairness in Women's Sports bills this year. U.S. Sen. Roger Marshall, R-Kan., recently co-sponsored the Federal Fairness in Women's Sports bill.

As Catholics, we can and should seek both justice in our culture while at the same time respecting the dignity of every person.

To take action, visit <https://salina-diocese.org/news-and-updates/gender-identity-policy/>

Chuck Weber is executive director of the Kansas Catholic Conference.

Life of the Rev. Kapaun

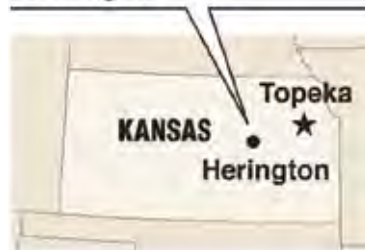
President Barack Obama presented the Medal of Honor to the relatives of Rev. Emil Kapaun; a look at his life:

April 20, 1916 Kapaun is born in Pilsen, Kan.

June 9, 1940 Ordained a priest at what is now Newman University in Wichita, Kan.

June 20 Celebrates his first Mass at St. John Nepomucene in Pilsen

1943 Appointed auxiliary chaplain at Army Air Base in Herington



November Named pastor of St. John Nepomucene parish

August 1944 Enters the Army Chaplain Corps

March 1945-May 1946 Serves in India and Burma

Jan. 3, 1946 Promoted to captain

July Leaves chaplain service

October 1946 Does graduate work at Catholic University in Washington, D.C.

1948 Rejoins Army chaplain service

July 1950 Ordered to Korea from Japan, a month after North Korea invades South Korea



Aug. 2 Earns Bronze Star for heroism in action

November Captured near Unsan, North Korea

May 23, 1951 Dies in a prison camp in Pyoktong, North Korea

Aug. 18 Posthumously awarded Distinguished Service Cross for his actions at Unsan

1993 Named Servant of God by Roman Catholic Church, the first step toward possible canonization

Oct. 1, 2009 Recommended for the Medal of Honor

Source: Kansas.com
Graphic: Chicago Tribune © 2013 MCT

Kapaun was decorated war hero

By JASON TIDD

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

WICHITA — The remains of Father Emil Kapaun, a Kansas native and Catholic priest who died while a prisoner of war, have been identified by military officials.

Sen. Jerry Moran announced March 4 that the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency of the Department of Defense has identified Kapaun's remains.

"This evening I was notified that the remains of Marion County-native Father Emil Kapaun, a priest of the Diocese of Wichita, have been identified," Moran said in a statement. "Father Kapaun served as an Army Chaplain during WWII and the Korean War, and was taken as a Prisoner of War in 1951. He continued to minister to Americans as a POW before passing away on May 23, 1951."



Kapaun

"In 2011, I introduced legislation to bestow Father Kapaun with the Presidential Medal of Honor, which was awarded in 2013. In 1993, Pope John Paul II declared Father Kapaun a Servant of God, the first step toward sainthood. I am glad that his family has finally been granted closure after Father Kapaun's selfless service to our nation."

According to the U.S. Army, Kapaun was a chaplain with the rank of captain in the 8th Cavalry Regiment. During the Battle of Unsan, Kapaun ran from foxhole to foxhole while under fire to provide comfort to soldiers. He helped wounded soldiers to safety, but stayed behind himself in order to care for others. He was then captured by Chinese forces in November 1950.

While in captivity, Kapaun continued to care for his fellow soldiers while resisting his captors, including conducting a sunrise service on Easter morning, 1951. He died alone in a prison camp hospital approximately two months later.

An annual 60-mile pilgrimage honoring Kapaun, organized by the Catholic Diocese of Wichita, is scheduled for June 3 to 6 this year.



Servant of God

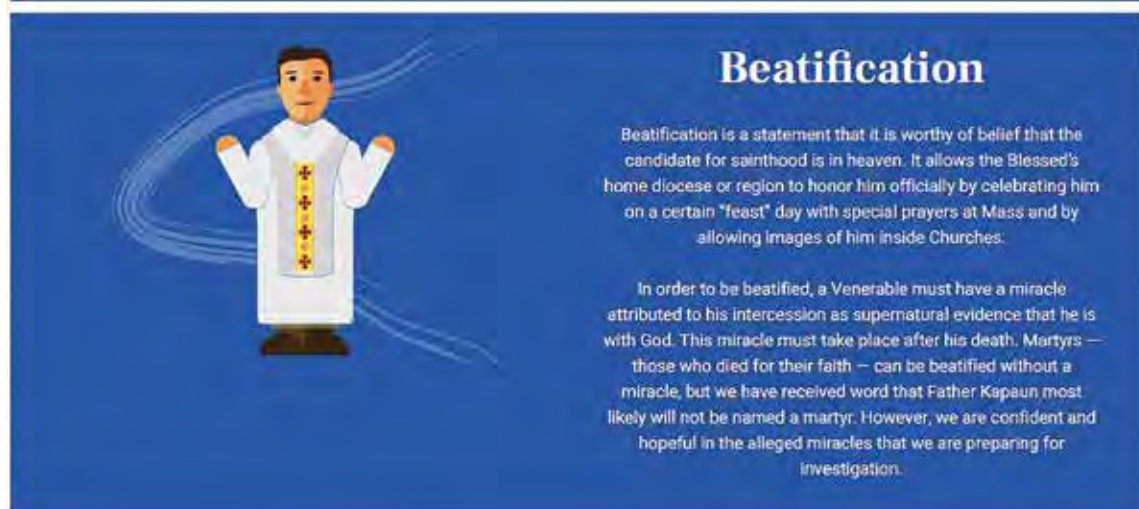
Father Kapaun was named a Servant of God in 1993, signifying his cause for sainthood could begin. This step involves a thorough investigation into the person's life and writings. A "Positio Super Vita, Virtutibus et Fama Sanctitatis" (Statement on the Life, Virtue and Holy Reputation) of the Servant of God is compiled and presented to the Congregation for Saints in Rome.



Venerable

Father Kapaun's Cause is being reviewed

The Congregation for Saints reviews the life of the Servant of God, looking for evidence that he lived the theological, cardinal and related virtues to a heroic degree. The Congregation will then vote on whether or not to present the case to the Holy Father, who makes a final decision. If the Pope approves, the Congregation will issue a decree of Heroic Virtue, giving the candidate the title Venerable.



Beatification

Beatification is a statement that it is worthy of belief that the candidate for sainthood is in heaven. It allows the Blessed's home diocese or region to honor him officially by celebrating him on a certain "feast" day with special prayers at Mass and by allowing images of him inside Churches.

In order to be beatified, a Venerable must have a miracle attributed to his intercession as supernatural evidence that he is with God. This miracle must take place after his death. Martyrs — those who died for their faith — can be beatified without a miracle, but we have received word that Father Kapaun most likely will not be named a martyr. However, we are confident and hopeful in the alleged miracles that we are preparing for investigation.



Canonization

This is the step by which the Church formally declares a person to be in heaven and enrolls him in the "Canon" or list of saints. Another miracle, having occurred after beatification, is needed to show that God indeed approves this step. Canonization means the saint can be celebrated in liturgies and with images throughout the entire Church.

COURTESY OF CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF WICHITA



This tiny gold Ciborium was carried by Father Kapaun for communion hosts.

BO RADER, TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

KAPAUN, FROM PAGE 1

According to the Wichita Eagle, in August 1950, Father Kapaun earned a bronze star for heroism in action while stationed in Korea. Three months later, he was captured near Unsan, North Korea.

On May 23, 1951, Father Kapaun died in a prison camp in Pyoktong, North Korea. Nearly three months after his death, he was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for heroic action at Unsan.

Decades later, in October 2013,

Father Kapaun was awarded the Medal of Honor — the military's most prestigious honor. He was known for helping save fellow soldiers and administering Last Rites to the fallen during battles — all while putting their lives before his own.

"It was a joyful and exciting surprise for the Diocese of Wichita that Father Kapaun's mortal remains were recovered after so many years, and we continue to look forward to his process of canonization in the future,"

said Carl Kemme, bishop of the Wichita Diocese.

Details regarding the transport of his remains and final resting place are being planned by the family.

To learn more about his heroic service and the Medal of Honor presentation, visit <https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/the-press-office/2013/04/11/remarks-president-presentation-medal-honor-chaplain-emil-j-kapaun-us-arm>.

The Eucharistic Miracle of St. Clare of Assisi

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 over 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 (www.miracoliueucharistici.org/en/Liste/list.html) he created before he died of leukemia.

Blessed Carlo, pray for us.

The Eucharistic Miracle of St. Clare of Assisi – Italy, 1240 A.D.

The History of Saint Clare, Virgin, tells of various miracles performed by St. Clare. There are episodes of multiplications of loaves, of bottles of oil that appeared in the convent when there was none before. But Clare performed the most famous of the miracles in 1240, on a Friday in September, in which she turned away an attack by Saracen soldiers who had broken into the convent cloister by showing them the Sacred Host.

This Eucharistic Miracle is cited in “The History of Saint Clare, Virgin,” written by Tommaso da Celano, and describes how St. Clare of Assisi succeeded with the Blessed Sacrament in turning away Saracen troops in the pay



of Emperor Frederick II of Sweden.

The history goes like this: “By imperial order, regiments of Saracen soldiers and bowmen were stationed there, massed like bees, ready to devastate the encampments and seize the cities. Once during an enemy attack against Assisi, city beloved of the Lord, and while the army was approaching the gates, the fierce Saracens invaded San Damiano, entered the confines of the monastery and even the very cloister of the virgins. The women swooned in terror, their voices trembling with fear

as they cried to their Mother, St. Clare.

St. Clare, with a fearless heart, commended them to lead her, sick as she was, to the enemy, proceeded by a silver and ivory case in which the Body of the Saint of saints was kept with great devotion. And prostrating herself before the Lord, she spoke tearfully to her Christ: ‘Behold, my Lord, is it possible you want to deliver into the hands of pagans your defenseless handmaids, whom I have taught out of love for you? I pray you, Lord, protect these your handmaids whom I cannot

now save by myself.’ Suddenly, a voice like a child’s resounded in her ears from the Tabernacle: ‘I will always protect you!’

‘My Lord,’ she added, ‘if it is your wish, protect also this city which is sustained by your love.’ Christ replied, ‘It will have to undergo trials, but it will be defended by my protection.’ Then the virgin, raising a face bathed in tears, comforted the sisters: ‘I guarantee you, daughters, that you will suffer no evil, only have faith in Christ.’

Upon seeing the audacity of the sisters, the Saracens took fright and fled back over the walls they had scaled, unnerved by the strength of she who prayed. And Clare immediately admonished those who heard the voice I spoke of above, telling them severely: ‘Take care not to tell anyone about that voice while I am still alive, dearest daughters.’”

A change in country, but not in my religion

I grew up in a village in India. We lived approximately 10 kilometers from the big city. I was the youngest of five children. It was nice being the baby of the family. My dad was a farmer. We grew rice, vegetables and flowers. We would have to get up early in the mornings and collect everything to take to market.

My family members are all devout Catholics. I do not know for how many generations we are Catholic, but we are Catholic for as far back as I can remember. Most of India (80%) is Hindu, only about 2.3% of the country is Christian, in which 1.5% is Catholic. My Catholic faith made me distinct, but it didn’t harm my friendships or relationships with people. My best childhood friend was a Hindu. In our simple home, we didn’t worry about differences in faith. There was unity in the diversity.

My greatest role models were my parents. They cultivated my faith and conscience, but so did the priests and religious sisters at the Catholic school I attended. There was one teacher who made a tremendous impact on me. He was very quiet and never used corporal punishment. Corporal punishment was allowed back in those days. Just his stern look would calm us. It inspired me and taught me we should do our jobs with love.

When I was in grade school, and people asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up. I said a priest. But then when I was older, sometime after the fifth grade, my answer would vary from police officer to engineer to doctor to farmer. I

Advice from Father Gnanasekar

• Do not be afraid to discern God’s call. If you think there is a chance you are being called to the priesthood, talk to the priests and go to seminary. Just because you think about it doesn’t mean you have to do it. God only wants what is best for you.

Books to read

- Man’s search for meaning – Vik-

tor Frankl

- Life of Christ – Fulton Sheen
- I am My Neighbour’s Bible – Aloysious Benny
- The Search – Chris Stefanick and Paul McCusker
- I Heard God Laugh – Matthew Kelly

Podcast

- Bible in a Year – Father Mike Schmitz

had many different desires. There were other parts of the world I wanted to explore. I was always comfortable with those dreams, but I wasn’t fully satisfied. I was aiming for everything, but I felt like I was neglecting the most important call.

One of my sisters is a religious sister for the Sisters of Good News. When I was in 10th grade, she came home for a visit. We talked for approximately 30 minutes, and she expressed to me her vocation and the way God calls. We talked about the mission of priests.

I knew then I was hiding from the priesthood. So, when I was 16, I decided to enter the seminary. It was kind of funny, but my cousin, who I am close with, entered seminary at the same time I did. We went through everything together. It was comforting.

When I told my family about my decision, my mom and siblings were extremely happy. My dad was sad. He wanted me to be close to him. He knew I would not be home often,

and that was hard for him. He died before I was ordained a priest, but I know he was proud of me.

The first four years of seminary were not easy. I was not yet sure the priesthood is where I was being called. I could foresee the challenges, like being far from home. I also knew I would have to give up my desires for a family.

At one point, I was upset with one of my formators. I was so frustrated and wanted to leave. I remember

talking to a friend

and she said, “Sekar, did you enter the seminary for that priest? Or did you enter the seminary for Jesus?” It was a simple thing that motivated me to return.

There were always questions, but less with each year. Around year five, I knew without any doubt God wanted me to be a priest. I came to realize God’s will for me is better than my desires. God wants what is best for me. Something I like to reflect on that one of my formators shared with me is, “The Will of God

will not lead you where the grace of God cannot keep you.”

I was ordained as a priest for the Heralds of Good News on Feb. 3, 2009. The HGNs are a clerical missionary society that seek to train saintly, hardworking, dedicated missionaries and supply them wherever there is a need. I chose them mainly because my sister’s order was founded by the same priest. I did not know much about the mission congregation when I joined, but I knew I would be sent out.

After I was ordained, my first assignment was to teach philosophy at the seminary. I did that for four years. Near the end of my term, Bishop Weisenburger contacted my superiors in need of two priests. My superiors came to me, and all I could say is, “Yes, I will go.”

I strongly believe God speaks through the superiors. God sends us to the right place. So, he sent me and Father Soosai Rathinam, HGN, to Salina. We did not know where Kansas was.

I remember flying into Kansas City, and Father Leo Blasi picked us up at the airport. He was a seminarian at the time. He drove us to Salina. I looked out the car window the whole time and couldn’t believe it. There were no people and no honking. India is the second most densely populated country in the world, so the space here was hard to believe.

We stopped for lunch, and I had no idea what to order. The food is different here.

GNANASEKAR, PAGE 11

GNANASEKAR

Kulandai

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH PASTOR





What is Holy Week?

AND HOW SHOULD CATHOLICS PROPERLY RECOGNIZE IT

BY FATHER MICHAEL A. VAN SLOUN
SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

Holy Week stands at the head of our calendar, the holiest week of the entire liturgical year. Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday and continues until Easter Sunday. It celebrates the Paschal Mystery, the passion and death of our Lord, Jesus Christ, and his victorious resurrection, his triumph over sin and death and his glorification by his Father.

Palm-Passion Sunday is a dual feast, Palm Sunday because palm branches are blessed and carried in procession to commemorate the Lord's entrance into Jerusalem, and Passion Sunday because the Passion Narrative is proclaimed. It is the only Sunday when two separate gospels are read. The Passion is the longest Sunday gospel of the year. The Mass has two jarringly different moods, jubilation at the outset, then lamentation. Jesus' entry to Jerusalem was exuberant as the people joyfully cheered Hosanna to greet him, but moments later all is somber, first with the Suffering Servant who gave his back to those who beat him (Is 50:6), then with Jesus who obediently accepted death on a cross (Phil 2:8), and then with the Passion and his agony, scourging and crucifixion (Mt 26:14-27:66).

Symbols. The primary symbol for Palm Sunday is palms, a sign the people regarded Jesus as their victorious king. There are many symbols for the Passion: a single cross, three crosses, the cup of suffering, 30 pieces of silver, a lantern, swords and clubs, a blade and a severed ear, handcuffs or shackles, a rooster crowing, a scourging pillar, whips, a crown of thorns, a

reed, three nails, hammer and pincers, a rope, the INRI inscription, a sprig of hyssop, three dice, a tunic, a lance, a ladder, an urn for spices, a shroud or burial linens and a skull.

Discipleship Action Items. Take some palms home and use them to venerate a crucifix or decorate a statue, picture or sacred object. Go off by yourself to re-read some or all of the Passion and meditate on it. If there are others at home, discuss what it would have been like to have been part of the Palm Sunday procession or to have been standing along the Way of the Cross as Jesus passed by or at Calvary when Jesus was crucified.

The Easter Triduum. The Triduum is the most solemn moment of the church year. It lasts three days. It begins on Holy Thursday evening with the Mass of the Lord's Supper, continues with the celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday, and reaches its culmination with the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday, and it ends with Evening Prayer late Easter Sunday afternoon.

Discipleship Action Item. These days are the "high holy days" of our Christian faith, and as Jews would stream to Jerusalem to celebrate Passover in the Temple, ideally Catholics would stream to their local churches to celebrate these sacred mysteries with their parish communities. Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil are not holy days of obligation, but if there ever was a time that we should want to go to church, it would be for these three holy days. Triduum is the moment to place other things

on hold while our faith gets top priority.

Fasting, Part Two: The Triduum Fast. With the arrival of Holy Thursday, the 40 days of Lent and its discipline are over. Whatever a person's special program was for Lent, whether it was to give something up, add extra prayers, do good deeds or share alms, the program is done, but one must not relax too quickly. As soon as the 40-day Lenten fast ends, a new three-day fast begins, The Triduum Fast, a period of even more intense self-denial in immediate preparation for the greatest feast of all, Easter. It is customary to extend the Lenten discipline three additional days. Many decide to make one or more keys additions such as a holy hour, a visit to church, an extended period of silence, no TV and three days of fasting from physical food. It also involves a spiritual fast, Good Friday from the Mass, but with the reception of the Eucharist, and Holy Saturday, the deepest fast of all, when not only is there no Mass, it is the only day that the Church foregoes reception of the Eucharist.

Holy Thursday. The Easter Triduum begins with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper. The Mass recounts the establishment of the Jewish feast of Passover; and it commemorates the institution of the Eucharist, the institution of the priesthood and the foot-washing. John's placement of the foot-washing where the other evangelists place the Last Supper conveys his belief that the real presence of Christ is found not only in the Eucharist but in service.

Holy Thursday

What a blessing to celebrate Holy Thursday as the first part of the Easter Triduum in the Church. On this night, the Church recalls Jesus' institution of the Eucharist and the ministerial priesthood at His Last Supper with the Apostles. Our Lord gives us everything: His entire body, blood, soul and divinity in the Eucharist. How blessed are we who are called to the Lamb's Supper in the Mass. How merciful and beautiful a Savior Who held nothing back from His people. That is the measure of His love for us. On Holy Thursday night, Jesus made it possible for us to share intimately in His very being at each Mass. Let us not forget how unfathomably beautiful a gift He has given us on this sacred night. Let us show our gratitude by receiving the Eucharist often, and we shall become more and more like Jesus, Who gave His life for all.

Jesse Ochs, St. John Vianney Theological Seminary

Good Friday

During the last few weeks, I have been intrigued by a line in the Second Eucharistic Prayer where the priest says, "At the time he was betrayed and entered willingly into his Passion." I have been drawn to this prayer because of the word willingly. This single word provides a particularly powerful reflection for Good Friday as we contemplate Jesus' Passion and death. It forces us to ask ourselves whether we believe Our Lord went to the cross on Good Friday reluctantly to save us, or do we truly believe that he willingly entered into his Passion and death because he loves us? Only a God-Man who is radically in love with his beloved would willingly plumb the depths of suffering, humiliation and death to accomplish your redemption and mine. This is the gift of Good Friday. You and I are known, wanted and loved by a God who willingly became man, underwent his Passion and death and who, ultimately, destroyed even death's power over us through his resurrection. Lord Jesus, open our hearts to believe in and receive your unfathomable love for us in a new and powerful way this Good Friday.

Luke Friess, St. John Vianney Theological Seminary

Holy Saturday

While the events of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday are given in detail, the Gospels are silent as to what happened on Holy Saturday. Perhaps that's because there wasn't much going on. Jesus had died and was now lying in the tomb. His disciples were left alone in their confusion and grief. There were no miracles being performed; there were no sermons being preached. There was only silence. Yet, even in this apparent silence, God was still accomplishing his great act of redemption. According to ancient tradition, today is the day in which Jesus descended into the realm of the dead and shattered the gates of death in order to pull Adam, Eve and all of their descendants up from the grave. Today is the day in which hope and victory were delivered to those who lay in the dark sleep of death. Today is, therefore, a day for us to ponder the fact that, even in times of sorrow and grief, when God appears to be silent, he's still active, working all things for our good. Today, we are reminded that sometimes we need simply to sit in hopeful silence and patiently wait for the promised resurrection.

Deacon Brian McCaffrey, St. Meinrad School of Theology

Easter Sunday

"When [Jesus] entered Jerusalem, the whole city was shaken and asked, 'Who is this?' " (Mt 21:10). On Easter, Jesus definitively answers the crowd's question. Jesus' resurrection proves He is truly God as well as truly man. Furthermore, He is our Messiah. Jesus, as God, loves us so much that He's willing to die to save us. Jesus' resurrection also poses questions to us: who are we, and how will we live in light of God's saving work? Jesus' sacrificial work proved God's great love and called us into communion as His sons and daughters. We must only choose to respond and rejoice in the truth of God's love. This truth should shake our lives, much as Jerusalem was shaken. This truth should radiate our lives, so fulfilling God's will is the driving force for all our actions, especially imitating Christ's sacrificial love. We should also long to share the message of Christ's resurrection so others can know His love too. In this way, the whole world will know, "Who is this?" This is Jesus Christ our Lord, the God who saves us.

Adam Zarybnicky, Conception Seminary College

A Clay Center mural of the raising of the American flag in Iwo Jima was completed in December.

LUCAS BOLAND,
COURTESY OF
MANHATTAN
MERCURY



Freedom isn't free

By KATIE GREENWOOD
THE REGISTER

One of the bloodiest fights of World War II occurred on a small island located 750 miles off the coast of Japan – the Battle of Iwo Jima. After five weeks of fierce fighting, the Marines suffered 25,000 casualties, including nearly 7,000 dead.

Days before the battle began, 39-year-old Jesuit chaplain Father Charles Suver was having dinner with a few Marines. The Marines were discussing their hope to place the American flag at the top of Mount Suribachi. Father Suver told them, “You get it up there, and I’ll say Mass under it.”

On Feb. 23, 1945, after five days of fighting, the Marines secured the mountain. True to his word, Father Suver climbed to the top of the mountain and celebrated Mass beneath the Stars and Stripes. Nearly two dozen exhausted Marines joined him.

One of the most recognizable images of American history was captured on Iwo Jima. Associated Press photographer Joe Rosenthal snapped a picture as five Marines and one Navy Corpsman raised the flag at the top of Mount Suribachi. Rosenthal’s photo Flag Raising on Iwo Jima serves as an iconic reminder of the sacrifices of war.

A mural depicting the Iwo Jima flag raising with the tagline “Freedom isn’t free” can now be found on the side of the Edward Jones building on the quiet streets of downtown Clay Center. Brett Hubka, GNBANK president and Clay Center Rotary Club president, began the Mural Movement project that is brightening the streets of Clay Center.

“Hopefully (the murals) give people some encouragement and excitement, especially over the last year with the

hardship so many people have experienced,” Hubka said.

Building owner Dave Bloom is a veteran who came up with the mural idea. Whitney Kerr III and his crew of Chase Hunter and Elliott McAnany were commissioned for the project.

Kerr initially expressed some hesitation for the project due to its political nature, but in an Instagram post he said, “Seeing how the finished mural affected him and other vets felt elating. I could feel how much it meant to them. ... The reality of war is very depressing, but it’s a party of history. It feels good honoring those who came before us and who helped ensure the stability and safety of our country.”

On Feb. 23, 2021, the 76th anniversary of the flag raising at Iwo Jima, a crowd of nearly 400 active military, veterans and community members gathered for a dedication ceremony. Father Don Zimmerman led the benediction. Once again, members of the military stood under the flag, united in prayer.

“I appreciated the opportunity to offer the prayer at the dedication of the Iwo Jima Freedom isn’t free mural,” Father Zimmerman said. “While I did not have the opportunity to serve our country as a soldier, many others in my family were called to duty and served with distinction, as so many others. My godfather, Fabian Zimmerman served in the Korean War. My brothers Darrell and Bill served in Vietnam and my brother Wayne served in Germany. My father Joseph served in World War II, and my grandfather Theodore Zimmerman served in World War I. All served our country through the United States Army. May God bless all those who are serving our country today, one way or the other.”

Never too old to serve

By KATIE GREENWOOD
THE REGISTER

OSBORNE – The Feb. 18 morning Mass at St. Aloysius Gonzaga Parish in Osborne was celebrated by Bishop Vincke. Alfred Reif, an Osborne native, was his server.

At the end of Mass, Reif went up to the bishop and said: “I’ve counted all the priests I’ve served for over the years. You’re the 30th one I have ever been an altar boy for.”

Reif became an altar server when he was in the fourth grade. Since that time, Reif has made a habit of counting the number of priests he has served. The first priest was Father Jerome Diss.

“Everything Father Diss did impressed me,” Reif said. “He always said we needed to take time to be with the Lord.”

Reif said that was the best advice Father Diss ever gave him.

Father Diss was originally from France. Before he left for the United States, he wanted to celebrate Mass at Notre Dame Cathedral.

He was told an altar server would be provided to him. He got there and began preparing for Mass.

When he turned around to greet his altar server, he came face to face with a French general.

Father Diss told Reif, “You are never too old, and you are never too important to serve at Mass.”

Those words tremendously impacted Reif, and he has oriented his actions with an attitude of service -- including a period of time spent in the military.

“I wanted to be a Navy Seabee but couldn’t get in

to see the recruiter,” Reif said. “Then I ran into the recruiter for the Marines. He told me the Marines had the equivalent of a Navy Seabee and then some. So I signed up. I got out five years, 21 days, nine hours and 15 minutes later.”

Reif continued to serve at Mass while enlisted. He vividly remembers serving Father John O’Connor (who later became Cardinal O’Connor) and driving with him in an armored Jeep.

“To me, serving my nation and serving God go hand in hand,” Reif said.

He has made a point to serve God and others in all aspects of his life.

“I’ve had my trials,” he said. “But my faith has always been steady. I go to Mass, and I pray a lot of rosaries. Doing simple things like that help you keep your faith.”

“My dad also impacted me. I remember when things weren’t going right. He’d kneel down and make the sign of the cross. I would ask him if he really thought that would work, and he said, ‘It never hurts to pray.’”

Reif fondly remembers the many quirks of the priests he has served.

“No matter what, every priest is different,” he said. “They have their own way of doing little things – even Bishop Vincke.”

But no matter how remarkable each priest has been, Reif said the atmosphere of being an altar server provides an experience that is unrivaled.

“When you’re serving, you’re right there. I’m so close to the Eucharist,” he said. “You can’t help but be drawn into the Mass.”



Reif

GNANASEKAR, FROM PAGE 9

My first assignment was in Hays. Father Kevin Weber was my mentor. He was great and did not grow tired of me. While I had already been a priest for four years, I had never served at a parish. Serving at Immaculate Heart of Mary in Hays was my first time ministering to the people.

One of the hardest things for me when I got here was cooking. In India, the women do most of the cooking. It’s the way of the culture. So, the only thing I knew how to do was boil water. On my first day in Hays, Father Kevin gave me some

cash and went to his farm for his day off. I went to buy groceries at Dillon’s. I did not know what to buy. I walked up and down the aisles for a long time. Thankfully, a nice woman from the parish saw me and helped me out.

I have loved being in the Salina Diocese. And, I love being a priest – it is a special call. The best part of being a priest is bringing God’s love to people and watching them come alive. Recently, I visited a man who had strayed from the faith for most of his life. After hearing his confes-

sion, seeing the joy in him was priceless. What else is there?

I am happy here, but I do miss my home and my family. It’s strange, but I’ve never been assigned to a place where I could speak and celebrate Mass in my mother tongue, Tamil.

I know God wanted me to be a priest. I remember one time when I was young, I was walking in the field, and I heard my name being called. I looked all around and ran home, wondering who had called me. No one had. Sometimes I wonder if it was God – similar to the way

he called Samuel. I think everything circles back to how God calls. Once I knew I was being called to the priesthood, I never regretted it. God continues to keep me safe, happy and joyful.

I am greatly indebted to the bishop, priests and people of the Salina Diocese for the love, friendship and support I receive, and to Heralds of Good News for the formation and mission I cherish.

Father Gnanasekar Kulandai, HGN, is pastor at St. Francis Xavier Parish in Junction City.

SEEK 2021: Different look, same mission

By ALLISON OCHOA
THE REGISTER

Helping people encounter the heart of the Gospel was the focus of the 2021 SEEK Conference hosted by FOCUS — the Fellowship of Catholic University Students.

The annual event, which took place Feb. 4 to 7, took on a different look this year as participants gathered in smaller groups around the country for a hybrid in-person/live broadcast experience rather than coming together in one location with thousands of other attendees. Three of those small group gatherings were in the Salina Diocese in Beloit, Hays and Manhattan.

“When we received the news that there wouldn’t be a national event, we knew we wanted there to be some sort of impactful event for the K-State students as this is one of the most important things our students experience to kickstart their faith life,” said Father Gale Hammerschmidt, chaplain of St. Isidore’s Catholic Student Center in Manhattan.

The FOCUS Missionaries

serving at Kansas State University and the University of Kansas worked together to create a memorable weekend for students from both schools. In total, 230 students from K-State and 100 students from KU participated at the conference site in Manhattan, a gathering Father Hammerschmidt estimated to be the third largest in the nation.

In addition to the students who participated, the Manhattan site also hosted several priests and members of religious communities; the vocations directors from Salina, Kansas City and Wichita; and Bishop Gerald Vincke, who joined the attendees for two days.

At each location across the diocese, the participants engaged in Mass and Eucharistic Adoration, as well as in viewing the livestream of the various speakers hosted by FOCUS. In many locations, the presentations were followed by small-group discussion.

“The talks were good, but I think the small groups made the conference because it gave the participants the chance to talk



SAMMY KOPECKY, SAMANTHA KOPECKY PHOTOGRAPHY

This year’s SEEK Conference was Feb. 4 to 7 and featured a different look due to COVID-19.

with one another and discuss how to apply what they’d heard,” said Father Brian Lager, pastor of St. Joseph Parish and chaplain of the Comeau Catholic Campus Center in Hays, where approximately 40 students participated in the conference.

In the few weeks since the conference concluded, the effect of the weekend has begun to be felt on the campuses and in the communities of the attendees. There is also hope for additional fruit to come from the experience.

“The impact was two-fold,” Father Hammerschmidt said. “First, they

were able to see other students who take their faith seriously. Some of them may look around and say, ‘If these people can do it, I can as well.’ And second, because we had so many first-time attendees, this may be the first time they experienced some of these national speakers. These speakers are amazing, and they speak about all the ways in which the Catholic Church expresses the love of God to His children.”

Second-year FOCUS Missionary Regan Dimmitt, who is serving at K-State, said she is witnessing the impact the event has had on

students’ personal growth and involvement.

“The big things I’ve seen are the motivation and the increased confidence in students being able to lead their own Bible studies,” she said. “In looking at the community, I’ve also been seeing students who aren’t normally involved at St. Isidore’s come by to study during the week or who have become friends with other students.”

For Father Lager, the fruit of the experience is becoming evident in the way students are approaching their Christian mission, which comes down to personal relationships.

“I think we’re seeing a deeper desire for evangelization, a desire to reach out and to live a life for Jesus Christ in a deeper way,” he said. “Jesus didn’t win souls through Zoom, but through personal encounters and interactions. We always have to remember He was human, so we continue the mission to pass the Gospel on, human to human.”

The SEEK ’22 conference is scheduled for Dec. 30 through Jan. 3 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Open palms, open to God

Dear readers of The Register, On Ash Wednesday, I spent some time in the Adoration chapel. I was frustrated as I sat in prayer and still had no idea what I was going to do for Lent. My usual go-to Lenten sacrifices and add-ons didn’t seem right to me. I figured if I went to the chapel and sat in the presence of the Eucharist, I’d be struck with some divine inspiration.

I fidgeted and squirmed in my chair for what felt like hours but was probably only a few minutes. Eventually, I pulled out my phone and googled “Ash Wednesday reflection for Catholic women,” and I clicked on the first one that popped up.

The reflection came from Blessed Is She. It issued an invitation to walk through Lent with “palms open.”

“Palms open” has been my theme for Lent this year. I frequent the adoration chapel often, and I sit with my hands in my lap and reflect on what it means to walk through life with palms open.

I remember when I was little and my dad would come up to me and tell me to close my eyes and hold out my hands. I’d squeeze my eyes shut so tight and eagerly hold out my hands. By the same token, I’d also crane my body back as far away as I could, wary and distrusting in case I was going to wind up with something gross put into my hands.

What an enigmatic image that must have been. A small child standing before her father, excitedly awaiting with open palms

for a gift while, at the same time, pulling away from fear that the gift might end up being bad.

Granted, with regard to my dad, my distrust was warranted. I can’t tell you the number of times a piece of trash or a bug or a frog was placed into my hands.

But, I do the same thing with God. I stand before him, ready to receive his many gifts and blessings and all the while, I’m filled with worry and dread that somehow the gift will hurt. I don’t trust that the gift will be good.

But, every single time, the gift is good. Even when it seems like it’s not, the gift is good.

Scripture tells us this. Romans 8:28 says, “And we know that, in all things, God works for the good of those who love him.”

Now, I haven’t lived for too long, and I’ve still got a lot of growing up left to do, but I think back on the different events of my life. The times of joy and laughter, the times of trial and difficulty, and in every instance, I can see the hand of God at work. I can see the good that came from every event.

As Lent comes to a close, I continue to pray with the theme of “palms open.” And I pray to grow in the virtues of acceptance and trust. I pray that I stand before God, still and quiet, with eyes shut, arms outstretched and palms open — accepting whatever he asks of me and trusting that it is good.



KATIE Greenwood
REGISTER EDITOR

Katie

Katie Greenwood is the creative editor of diocesan publications and the annual appeal coordinator.

OUR APPEAL

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Our diocese is a mission diocese. This means we rely on the generous help of outside organizations, such as Catholic Home Missions, to provide financial support to the missionary activities of our diocese.

The Catholic Home Missions appeal occurs April 24 to 25. Your support of this appeal makes a difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters right here in the United States. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the appeal this year. To learn more about the appeal and those who benefit from it, visit www.usccb.org/home-missions.

Thank you for strengthening the Church at home.

Also, every year on Good Friday, a collection is taken up in all Catholic Churches to support the mission of the Franciscans of the Custody of the Holy Land. The Franciscans play a vital role in preserving the Holy places and shrines, as well as maintaining a Christian identity in a land that is largely filled with Islamic and Jewish populations. I am sincerely grateful to the Franciscans who continue to aid the Christian population while preserving the history of our Christian faith.

Thank you for considering giving to this collection and supporting the Franciscans in their endeavor.

Sincerely yours in Christ.

In Christ’s service,

+ Gerald L. Vincke

Most Reverend Gerald L. Vincke
Bishop of Salina

Overcoming infertility to become a family

By ALLISON OCHOA
SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

Infertility is a complex and sensitive issue. A 2019 article in the journal *Aging* cited studies that estimate 15% of couples worldwide, who are of reproductive age, are affected by infertility.

The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, part of the National Institutes of Health, estimate “about 9% of men and about 11% of women of reproductive age in the United States have experienced fertility problems.”

Couples like Brenda and Dave Basgall of Hays, who have experienced infertility first-hand, know the heartache and challenges behind those statistics.

Shortly after they were married in 1999, Brenda and Dave began trying to get pregnant. The couple tried for a year before Brenda’s doctor referred them to a fertility specialist in Wichita.

“I started out with a low dose of a medicine to help me with ovulation, a medication that was allowed within our (Catholic) faith,” Brenda said. “Unfortunately,

that medicine caused me to develop cysts and one of them grew to the size of a softball. I had to have surgery, a procedure where they went in to remove it and clean everything up.”

Brenda’s doctor diagnosed her with endometriosis and believed this to be the cause of the couple’s struggle to become pregnant. Further treatment with lower doses of the initial medication did not help them to achieve a pregnancy, but the treatment led to the development of additional cysts and two subsequent surgeries to remove them.

It was after the third surgery that the couple felt they needed a break and began to consider adoption.

“I had started going to Adoration during this period, and I remember the moment it dawned on me that Jesus was adopted by St. Joseph,” Brenda said. “After that (realization), we began seriously looking at adoption, so we worked with Catholic Charities and started going through the process.”

During this break and the beginning of their adoption journey – nearly 10 years

into the process of trying to have a baby – the couple found out Brenda was pregnant. Sadly, during her 19-week prenatal appointment, the baby’s heartbeat was unable to be detected. Brenda and Dave’s son had passed away due to a complication with his umbilical cord.

Despite the devastation and their heartache over the loss of their son, Brenda and Dave forged ahead with life and their struggle with infertility. Two years after their loss, they again learned they were expecting; however, the joy was short-lived as the baby passed away only a few weeks into the pregnancy.

“At that point, it wasn’t much of a formal decision, but we just thought, ‘OK, we probably won’t ever have our own children,’” Brenda said.

“It affected our marriage,” Dave said. “I questioned God, like, ‘Why would You do this to someone? She’s devout. She’s faithful.’ It was like she was bearing the whole thing on her shoulders and I wanted to make sure she knew I was there.”

“We were stressed out

because of our professional lives but also in our personal lives, so we learned to give each other some space.”

Relying on emotional and spiritual support from each other, their family and their friends, Dave and Brenda continued to hope. They also experienced the blessing of the presence of children in their lives with their nieces and nephews and through their involvement with programs like Wee Words at Immaculate Heart of Mary parish.

With that support behind them, the couple was prepared for the day their lives changed forever.

“Out of the blue, my doctor called me at work to tell me she had a patient – a young girl who was preparing to graduate from high school – who was pregnant and had decided to put her baby up for adoption, and she wanted to meet us,” Brenda said.

That meeting was the first step toward the couple adopting their son, Sam.

As the couple looks back on their journey, they acknowledge infertility and its accompanying challenges were crosses they had to bear. Fighting through those

challenges led them to know the blessing of their son. They also know others might just be starting on their journey with infertility.

“We could’ve easily said, ‘Fine. We’re done,’ and walked away, but we knew that wasn’t the answer,” Brenda said. “Infertility is a difficult cross, even more so for Catholics because we’re not willing to mess with God’s plan through the harvesting of eggs, using a surrogate, etc. Being Catholic, you’re limited on what is acceptable and sometimes it seems unfair, but we know the Church teaches the Truth and we believe what the Church teaches. Find a doctor you’re comfortable with and who is respectful of your beliefs. Also remember to pray and be supportive of each other.”

“Don’t push blame on the other person,” Dave said. “Always be there for your partner. Also, don’t be afraid to talk with your friends about this. They are going to be concerned because you’re their friend.”

“Don’t give up because things come out of nowhere. It’s all on God’s time.”

God’s will and family size

Even before marriage, my husband and I always felt called to have a large family and always dreamed about it. Little did we know we’d lose three pregnancies, one being tubal with twins. Or that we would then struggle to even conceive at all within just the first few years of marriage.

Having come from a large family myself, I saw the value in having brothers and sisters. I have been crippled with fear that I will never be able to give that to our living son. It can be so hard to understand why a couple who is willing to have children will then suffer through such complications, and I had to try and make sense of it.

I had a friend who has gone through the same experience tell me something I’ll never forget. She always thought being open to God’s will with the size of your family meant you’d have a big one. (Being open to children is beautiful and what God wants, right?) But she began to understand that truly being open to God’s will meant you were even open to the calling of a small family.

This has been a powerful idea for me, and it has caused me to spend the last two years questioning what it really means to say, “God’s will.” My question has been: Did He directly want this to happen to me or was it part of His will in that because of an



Bernadette Becker and her son, John.

imperfect world bad things just happen?

The unknown has been one of the hardest parts for me, but I’ve come to realize we will not have all the answers on Earth. I’ve come to understand God’s will is sometimes that we just simply glorify and seek Him in all circumstances – good or bad. I will never know on this Earth if God directly willed I struggle with infertility and lose children to miscarriage, or if it was just part of His permissive

will. Regardless, I know I am called to holiness and to bring goodness and glory in all that I do, whether that’s in a family of 10 or, like the Holy Family, just a small family of 3. I can still glorify God in this and in my suffering.

This isn’t to say our mourning or suffering just disappears. It’s been almost two years since I was last pregnant, and even though that pregnancy ended all too soon, I still feel sick knowing I haven’t carried a child inside of me for so long. I still cry every month when I find out I am not pregnant. My mother lost her last baby more than six years ago and still cried this last Christmas when we gave her a gift to remember the three children she lost.

I think there is a depth of pain that will never leave women who have struggled with infertility, but my prayer is that when it is hard, we do not fear to mourn and that we still find ways to bring goodness from our suffering.

Bernadette Becker is a wife and mother. She studied education at Benedictine College in Atchison but remains at home today with her son. She enjoys serving her Catholic community in the military by serving on the board for the Catholic Women of the Chapel and teaching religious education at Fort Campbell, Ky. She hopes to become an NFP instructor and help women better understand their fertility health.

RESOURCES

Looking for fertility care?

Saint Paul VI Institute:
<https://popepaulvi.com/>
Diocese of Salina:
<http://salinafertility-care.org/>

Infertility Awareness Week: April 18 to 24

During the week of April 18 to 24, we take time to especially pray for couples who bear the cross of infertility. We offer them our love, support and encouragement.

St. David’s Infertility Prayer

Thank you, Lord, for all the blessings in my life. Help me to remember them as I face the challenges of infertility. I pray that I can surrender myself into your hands. Let me accept the reality of this situation and have the wisdom and courage to take action where I can. Strengthen my body, mind and spirit to endure the trials of infertility. Keep me ever mindful of the needs of others and grant us your peace. Amen.

WEEK, FROM PAGE 10

Jesus gave us his mandate or mandate: "You ought to wash one another's feet. I have given you an example. As I have done, so you should also do." (Jn 13:14,15) Jesus is made present when disciples put aside their prideful aspirations, humble themselves and serve one another, even to the point of doing a menial task joyfully.

Symbols. The symbols of the foot-washing are a basin, water pitcher and towel; the symbols of the Eucharist are a host and a chalice, wheat and grapes, a loaf or basket of bread and a jug of wine, and five loaves and two fish; and the symbols of the priesthood are a stole, a book of the gospels, a host and a chalice and a censer.

Discipleship Action Items. If your parish offers a Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament after Holy Thursday Mass, consider taking advantage of the opportunity. Offer a prayer that your priest might be devoted to the Eucharist and a humble servant.

Good Friday. The celebration of the Lord's Passion is a somber liturgy with three major parts: the proclamation of the Passion, the veneration of the Cross and the reception of Holy Communion. In addition, there is an extended set of General Intercessions with 10 petitions for some of the most important concerns for the Church and the world.

Symbols. The symbol of Good Friday is the crucifix, a cross with a corpus or body of the crucified Jesus. Other artistic forms of the cross are

also commonly used. For the symbols of the Passion, see Passion Sunday above.

Discipleship Action Items. It is worthwhile to set aside some silent time, particularly between the hours of noon and 3 p.m. Be sure at least one crucifix is prominently displayed in the home, because veneration of the cross is not just for Good Friday, but for every day. It is an ideal day to offer Jesus a prayer of thanks for all he suffered.

The Easter Vigil. Weeks of fasting and self-denial are directed toward the highest point of the church year, the Easter Vigil, the feast of the resurrection. It ranks first because our entire faith hinges on it. As Paul said, "If Christ has not been raised, your faith is in vain." (1 Cor 15:17) But the pillar of our faith is "Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep," (1 Cor 15:20) and in this firm conviction

the Church rejoices with all of the energy it can muster: Alleluia! The Easter Vigil begins with the Service of Light, the lighting of the Easter Candle and the singing of the Easter Proclamation, the Exsultet. Then after an extended Liturgy of the Word, the Vigil continues with the Liturgy of Baptism during which the Litany of Saints is sung, the water of the font is blessed, baptismal promises are made, the candidates are baptized, and for the adults, confirmation is received. The Vigil concludes with the Liturgy of the Eucharist and first Holy Communion for the newly initiated members.

Symbols. The primary symbol of the Vigil is the Easter Candle, also known as the Paschal or Christ Candle, as well as the symbols for baptism: water, a seashell, the font, oil, the white baptismal garment, the baptismal candle, a dove and three interlocking fish which

represent the Trinitarian formula.

Easter Sunday. Easter Sunday is the daytime celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord. The congregation is jubilant over the risen Christ and the triumph of his most holy Cross. The church is festively decorated. The vestments are white and gold. The Glory to God and the Alleluia are restored. The Creed is replaced with the renewal of baptismal promises, followed by a sprinkling rite. The church resounds with a joyful sound: Jesus Christ is risen today!

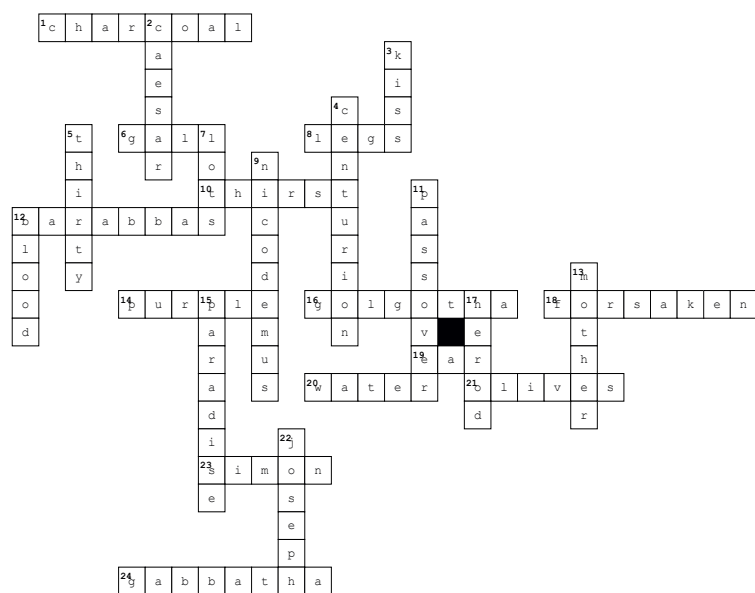
Symbols. Easter symbols include the Easter Cross, a plain cross without a corpus draped in flowing white or

gold fabrics; three empty crosses; lilies; the palm of victory; an empty tomb; an empty sarcophagus; an empty casket; a pile of burial wrapping; the hand of God; the morning sun; a butterfly; a peacock; and the Easter Candle.

Discipleship Action Items. Great news cannot be contained: Share the Good News with someone. Jesus preached love, and he died out of love for us. On Easter Sunday go out of your way to love someone with all your might, because where there is love, there is the risen Christ.

Father Michael Van Sloun is pastor of St. Bartholomew Catholic Church in Wayzata, Minn.

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DEATHS

Harold Becker, 93, of Junction City, died Dec. 27, 2020. Funeral Mass was celebrated Jan. 2 by Father Gnanasekar Kulandai, HGN, at St. Francis Xavier Church in Junction City. Burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery in Junction City.

Verna Marie Fortner, 78, of Junction City, died Feb. 20, 2021. Funeral Mass was celebrated Feb. 27 by Father Gnanasekar Kulandai, HGN,

at St. Francis Xavier Church in Junction City. Burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery in Junction City.

Margaret Lorene (McCor-mick) Williams Gargan, 105, died Feb. 26, 2021. Funeral Mass was celebrated March 4 by Father Brian Lager at St. Joseph Church in Hays. Burial was in St. Patrick's Cemetery in Chapman with Father Fred Gatschet officiating.

Vera L. Girard, 92, of Concordia, died Feb. 13, 2021. Funeral Mass was celebrated Feb. 18 by Father David Metz at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Concordia. Burial was in St. Concordia Cemetery in Concordia.

Ramon C. Gonzalez, 75, of Concordia, died Feb. 11, 2021. A private memorial Mass was celebrated Feb. 19 by Father David Metz at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Concordia. Burial was in St. Concordia Cemetery in Concordia.

Lela Heiman, 92, died Feb. 28, 2021. Funeral Mass was celebrated March 6 by

Bishop Vincke at St. Edward Church in Belleville. Burial was in St. John Cemetery in Beloit.

Raymond Innes, 86, of Olsburg, died Feb. 3, 2021. Funeral Mass was celebrated Feb. 16 by Father Frank Coady at St. Thomas More Church in Manhattan. Inurnment to follow at a later date.

Mary Patricia Kirk, 70, of Wakefield, died Feb. 22, 2021. Funeral Mass was celebrated March 6 by Father Gnanasekar Kulandai, HGN, at St. Francis Xavier Church in Junction City. Burial was in Highland Cemetery

in Wakefield.

Richard Normandin, 77, died Dec. 25, 2020. Funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 31 by Father Ryan McCandless at Immaculate Heart of Mary in Hays. Burial was in St. Joseph Cemetery in Hays.

John Anthony Ricard, 67, of St. George, died Feb. 10, 2021. Funeral Mass was celebrated Feb. 19 by Father Frank Coady at St. Thomas More Church in Manhattan. Inurnment to follow at a later date.

Gail Robinett, 83, of Junction City, died Dec. 11, 2020. Funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 17 by Father Gnanasekar Kulandai, HGN, at St. Francis Xavier Church in Junction City. Burial was in Greenridge Cemetery in Clay Center.

Ralph Gerard Thummel, 62, of Hays, died March 4, 2021. Funeral Mass was celebrated March 8 by Father Damian Richards at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays. Burial was in Sacred Heart Cemetery in Plainville.

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BAPTISMS

Aiden Trip Augustine, son of Theodore "Ted" and Colleen (Reardon) Augustine, was baptized on March 6, 2021, by Father Keith Weber at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Salina. Godparents are Quentin Shaw and Jessica Corkins.

Harold Joseph Cummings, son of Frank Edward and Katrina Rose (Hund) Cummings, was baptized Jan. 23, 2021, by Deacon Larry Erpelding at St. Thomas More in Manhattan. Godparents are Sam Hund and Kellie Sargent.

Kane Bowen Gregory, son of Kyle and Shelby (Fraser) Gregory, was baptized March 6, 2021, by Father David Metz at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Concordia.

Colton Lowell Hertel, son of Patrick Hertel and Angela Pruett, was baptized Feb. 21, 2021, by Father Damian Richards at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays.

Everly Elaine Higbee, daughter of Logan and Ashten

(Kadel) Higbee, was baptized Feb. 14, 2021, by Father David Metz at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Concordia.

Jaxon Wyatt Himelick, son of Timothy Himelick and Monica (Holthaus) Wallace, was baptized Feb. 21, 2021, by Deacon Wayne Talbot at St. Thomas More in Manhattan. Godparents are Lamar Holthaus and Nastassja Holthaus.

Ryan Howard Kee, son of Ross and Lacey (Goebel) Kee, was baptized Feb. 7, 2021, by Father Nick Parker at Immaculate Heart of Mary in Hays.

Kayler Elizabeth Keller, daughter of Krey and Sarah

(Wimpenny) Keller, was baptized Jan. 24, 2021, by Deacon Wayne Talbot at St. Thomas More in Manhattan. Godparents are Kris Stoppenhagen and Karlee Stoppenhagen.

Asher Killian Kroya, son of Kouassi and Nda Eugenia Kroya, was baptized Feb. 14, 2021, by Father Gnansekar Kulandai, HGN, at St. Francis Xavier Church in Junction City. Godparents are Ouei Gura Brice and Evelyn Akefet Bassue.

Joanna Elioze Kroya, daughter of Kouassi and Nda Eugenia Kroya, was baptized Feb. 14, 2021, by Father Gnansekar Kulandai, HGN, at St. Francis Xavier Church in Junction City. Godparents are Ouei Gura Brice and

Evelyn Akefet Bassue.

Treedyn Noelle Miller, daughter of Dawson and Samantha Miller, was baptized Feb. 21, 2021, by Father Don Zimmerman at Saints Peter and Paul Church in Clay Center.

Emmanuel Elijah Vargas Reeh, son of Franklin and Naomi (Reeh) Vargas, was baptized March 3, 2021, by Father Joseph Asirvatham at St. John Nepomucene Parish in Beardsley.

Isabelle Dakota Ruder, daughter of Mason and Tori

(Mai) Ruder, was baptized Feb. 27, 2021, by Father Ryan McCandless at Immaculate Heart of Mary in Hays.

Ryder James Weigel, son of Brady Weigel and Kristina Snow, was baptized Feb. 28, 2021, by Father Damian Richards at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays.

Ivy Helen Werk, daughter of Shane and Ashlie (Winegardener) Werk, was baptized Feb. 7, 2021, by Deacon Wayne Talbot at St. Thomas More in Manhattan. Godparents are Kurtis Klingaman and Robyn Amthauer.

JOBS

St. Francis Xavier Catholic School in Junction City is currently accepting applications for an Early Childhood Teacher for the 2021-2022 school year. Applicants must have a current early childhood license in Kansas. Preferred for applicants to be practicing Catholics. An application is to be submitted through Kansas Teaching Jobs, to include resume and references. Please contact Principal Shawn Augustine at principal@saintxrams.org if you are interested.



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