

Stewards of time, talent

BY KATIE GREENWOOD THE REGISTER

Father Eliud Mwenda was an orphan. As a child in Kenya, he grew up on the streets and was exposed to many sufferings.

"In 1995, the bishop chose me to go to high school. He helped me to study," Mwenda said. "And when I completed school, I wanted to become a priest so that I could rescue the other children."

Mwenda was ordained a priest in August 2009. In 2013, he was assigned as pastor of Holy Family Parish in Mukothima. The parish has 5,000 parishioners, 19 outstations, 72 small Christian communities, 10 primary schools, five secondary schools, a health center and two mobile clinics.

"When I was given the opportunity to be in charge of the parish, I started to fulfill my dream," Mwenda said. "My dream is to take care of the orphans."

In 2013, Mwenda created a learning center. He invited the orphans of the surrounding villages to come. Approximately 300 orphans came. The next challenge he faced was figuring out how he was going to feed them.

Mukothima farm is attached to Holy Family Parish, which consists of 150 acres of farmland. However, since the parish has no machinery and parishioners with minimal skills and only basic knowledge of farming, it was hard to produce anything.



Matea Gregg, Communications

From left, Tom Murphy, Father Eliud Mwenda and Father Steve Heina.

"I do not farm for money. I farm for my children," Mwenda said. "And then my bishop told me about Missio Invest."

Established by the national office of the Pontifical Mission Societies in the United States in 2014 and separately incorporated in 2018, Missio Invest is an impact investor that finances entrepreneurial development initiatives managed by the Catholic Church. Specifically, Missio Invest provides loans, technical assistance and business advisory to agribusinesses, education enterprises and healthcare facilities operated by Catholic institutions, initially in

Africa. In Africa, it is common for Catholic entities such as parishes, schools, hospitals, orphanages, etc., to have farmland associated with their entity. The produce from the land is used for food, with any surplus going to market.

When Father Steve Heina learned about the Missio Invest impact investing program in 2018, he wondered if there was a need for an agricultural mentorship component. Missio Invest liked the idea. In 2020, Heina set out to create the first ever pilot program partnership between Kansas farmers (mentor) and African farmers (proj-

WANT TO HELP

Want to support the important work of Missio Invest? Visit https://missioinvest.org/en/ Special thanks to the following:

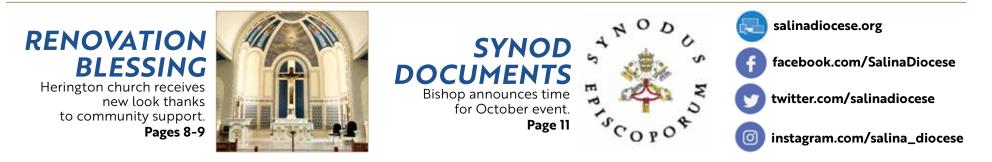
Tom Benoit, mentor; Ted Lewis, mentor; Rodney L. Marcotte, mentor; Tom Murphy, mentor; Alex Vodraska, mentor; Father Steve Heina, Salina Diocesan mentor coordinator; Father Andrew Small, OMI, Missio Invest president and CEO; Keith Polo, Missio Invest managing director/chief lending officer; Joelle Birge, Missio Invest vice president for lending; Albertina Muema, Missio Invest Country Investment Manager for Kenya. Interested in becoming a mentor? Contact Heina at steve.heina@salinadiocese. org; (786) 446 3474 Ext. 2, or Murphy at tmurphy9860@ msn.com; (913) 558 9223.

ect manager).

"Even though I had the mission, theological and spiritual perspective on this missionary outreach program, I was very conscious that we needed agricultural expertise," Heina said. "I made a presentation for the Salina Diocesan Catholic Rural Life Commission and asked if anyone would be interested in helping me. That's where Tom and Jo Murphy graciously offered to be a part of this."

FARM, PAGE 13





BISHOP VINCKE

The power of the Rosary

ho do we turn to in these difficult times in our world? What can we do? I know that I have written about the importance of the Rosary in the past, but I never want to stop talking of this beautiful prayer that is needed more than ever. Perhaps even if one of you reading this column will begin praying the Rosary, it's worth it. The Rosary is one of the best resources we have for peace and God's

protection. October is the month of the Rosary. Oct. 7 is the Feast of the Most Holy Rosary. This came about from the Battle of Lepanto. Many of you know this story. In 1571, the Muslim Turks were trying to

take over Europe. In a sea battle by Cyprus, the Christians were greatly outnumbered. Pope Pius V invited people, including the troops, to pray the Rosary for victory. Miraculously, the weather, which favored the Turks at dawn, changed, and Christian forces were able to overwhelm their opponents. The Holy Father credited the Rosary for the victory.

Perhaps another story of how the Rosary can bring back a soul from despair and hatred is the life of Blessed Bartolo Longo (1841-1926). Bartolo grew up in southern Italy at a time when there was a strong nationalist movement. This led people away from their faith, and like many college students at the time, Bartolo was one of them. Bartolo then became involved with the occult and other Satanic practices. He eventually became a priest of spiritualism. Later on, he even stated he had become a servant of the devil and a priest of Satan.

Of course, none of these Satanic practices made him happy. In fact, it was just the opposite. He became depressed and went through bouts of anxiety. By the grace of God, he sought out a Catholic priest. The priest invited him to turn from the occult

and renounce his involvement with spiritualism. He knew he had led people away from Catholicism and wanted to bring them back. Soon thereafter, he began promoting the Rosary.

He led many people back to the faith through Our Lady. Additionally, he began restoring a church in disrepair and promoted a festival in honor of Our Lady of the Rosary. He obtained a painting of an

image of Our Lady of the Rosary. Now, the church is a basilica in Pompeii in honor of

our Blessed Mother. There are many other similar stories of the power of the Rosary. With God, all things are possible – even a former Satanic worshiper

becoming a devout Catholic. St. Louis Marie de Montfort said, "The Rosary is the most powerful weapon to touch the Heart of Jesus, Our Redeemer, who loves his Mother."

I invite you once again to pray the Rosary for peace in our world, for the respect of the dignity of every human being, for peace in your families and for peace in our hearts – and especially for those that have left the faith. Pope Pius XII, who lived during the turbulent times of World War II, said, "We put great confidence in the Holy Rosary for the healing of evils which afflict our times."

He also added, "There is no surer means of calling down God's blessing upon the family than the daily recitation of the Rosary."

I know many people who have recently begun praying the Rosary, and they tell me how much peace it gives them.

May God bless you and your families. In Christ's service,

+ Gerald I. Vineke

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

BISHOP'S CALENDAR

October

- 3 Confirmation, 10:30 a.m., Immaculate Conception, Leoville
- 4 Patronal Feast Day Mass of St. Francis of Assisi, 7:30 a.m., St. Francis, St. Francis
- Patronal Feast Day Mass of St. Francis of Assisi, 4 noon, St. Francis, Norton
- Patronal Feast Day Mass of St. Francis of Assisi, 5:30 4 p.m., St. Francis, Munjor
- 12-16 Bishops Conference on Evangelizing Dioceses, Portland
- 17 Opening Mass for Diocesan Synod, Sacred Heart Cathedral, Salina
- 24 Confirmation, 10 a.m., St. Frances Cabrini, Hoxie
- 24 Wedding Anniversary Mass, 3 p.m., Immaculate Heart of Mary, Hays

DIOCESE ASSIGNMENTS

Effective Sept. 14 Father John Schmeidler: is appointed pastor of Ss. Philip and James Parish in Phillipsburg and St. John the Evangelist Parish in Logan.

Father Michael Leiker: is

transferred from parish administrator of Ss. Philip and James Parish in Phillipsburg and St. John the Evangelist Parish in Logan to parochial vicar of Seven Dolors of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Manhattan.

Father Ryan McCandless: is

appointed temporary parish administrator of St. Patrick Parish in Ogden in addition to his assignment as pastor of Seven Dolors of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Manhattan.





Schmeidler





McCandless Roberti

Effective Sept. 2 Deacon Mark Roberti: is transferred from diaconal ministry at Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish to Chaplain of the secular organization Salinans for Life.

OCT. PRAYER INTENTION

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

Missionary disciples

We pray that every baptized person may be engaged in evangelization, available to the mission, by being witnesses of a life that has the flavour of the Gospel.



U.S. Postal Service Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation Publication Title: The Register. Publication Number: 397-740. Filing Date: Aug. 27, 2021. Issue Frequency: Monthly.

Manager Editor: Publisher: Most Rev. Gerald L. Vincke, P.O. Box 980, 103 N. Ninth St., Salina, Saline County, KS 67402-0908. Editor: Katie Greenwood P.O. Box 980, 103 N. Ninth St., Salina, Saline County, KS 67402-0908. Managing Editor: Katie Greenwood, P.O. Box 980 103 N. Ninth St., Salina, Saline County, KS 67402-0908. Owner: Diocese of Salina, P.O. Box 980, 103 N. Ninth St., Salina, Saline County, KS 67402-0908. Known Bondholders, Mortgages and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages or Other Securities: None. Tax Status: The purpose, function and nonprofit status of this organization

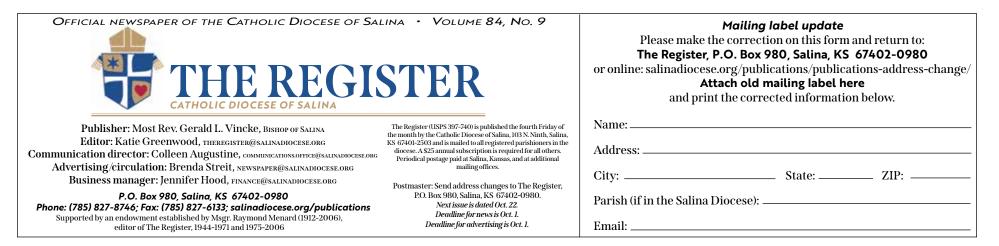
and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes has not changed during the preceding 12 months. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: Aug. 27, 2021 Extent and Nature of Circulation: Number of Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: Total Number of Copies (Net Press Run): 15,914. Mailed Outside County Paid Subscription Stated on PS Form 3541. 231. Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541: 0. Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, County Sales and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS: 0. Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS: 0. Total

Paid Distribution: 231. Free or Nominal Rate Outside County Copies Included on PS Form 3541: 15,683. Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541: 0. Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through



Number of Issues Published Annually: 12. Annual Subscription Price: \$0. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication: P.O. Box 980, 103 N. Ninth St., Salina, Saline County, KS 67402-0908. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher: P.O. Box 980, 103 N. Ninth St., Salina, Saline County, KS 67402-0908. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor and

the USPS: 0. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail: 0. Paid electronic copies: 0. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution: 15,914. Total Distribution: 15,914. Copies Not Distributed: 50. Total: 15,964. Percent Paid: 1%/ printed in the Sept. 24, 2021, issue of this publication. I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. Brenda Streit, circulation manager, Aug. 27, 2021.



Discovering your own existence in God

y littlest brother, Levi, is almost 3 years old. I think he is destined for priesthood. He's the 12th child and the seventh son to my parents. Twelve and seven are very biblical numbers. Additionally, in the Bible, the Levite tribe was the priestly tribe of Israel. So, Levi has to be a priest.

I might be biased, but Levi is the cutest child I have ever met. He's at that age where "Why?" is his favorite question to ask.

I was home one weekend visiting my family, and Levi came flying out the back door to give me a hello hug.

As I walked towards him, he stopped. He does this thing where he sticks his chest out, tilts his head up and puts his hands on his hips. "Who are vou?" he velled.

I paused for a second and reminded him that I'm his favorite sister, Katie.

He nodded and then asked, "Who made you?"

"Um..." was my response. Then Levi proudly informed me that "God made me."

Apparently, he's been asking every person he sees who they are and who made them. And if the person answers the second question "incorrectly," Levi authoritatively tells them God made them. You can't help but laugh.

But Levi reminded me of a homily I heard once. The priest was a math guy and was talking about the intelligent design of "you." that person. It's kind of an intimidating reality to realize we don't

He told us the odds of a person's existence are essentially ... non-ex-

istent. For you to exist, your parents needed to exist, and their parents needed to exist, and their parents needed to exist. And it continues on. The priest told us the odds of us existing

was billions to one.

So, then he asked us, "Why do you exist?"

The answer, "Because God wills you to. He made you to."

Every person exists because God wills them to. He sustains every moment of existence out of love for that person. It's kind of an intimidating reality to realize we don't exist "just because." We exist because God made us to exist. He wanted us to.

And, as Levi would now ask,

"Why?" Why did God make you? I'm sure there are a lot of answers to that question, but I think it all boils down to, we were made to be loved by God and to love him and others in return.

Pretty simple, really.

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

GOSPEL READINGS

Oct. 3 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mark 10:2-16 Jesus teaches on the role of husband and wife.

> Oct. 10 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mark 10:17-30

Jesus tells the rich man to give up his worldly possession in order to follow him.

Oct. 17 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mark 10:35-45

The sons of Zebedee ask Jesus if they can sit as his side.

Oct. 24 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mark 10:46-52 Jesus gives sight to the blind man.

Oct. 24 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time Mark 12:28-34 Jesus shares the two greatest commandments.

CORRECTION



The long road to priesthood

was born Dec. 24, 1951, in Goodland. Mom always said it was the longest Christmas of her life.

Mom was laying up in the hospital on Christmas day. She counted all the ceiling tiles, then all the holes in the ceiling tiles. And dad and my siblings were all at grandma's playing cards and drinking coffee. Finally, dad and my brother, Gene, came to the hospital. Gene was my godfather. He was home from the Navy. I was baptized Dec. 31, and Gene shipped out to Korea right after.

I am the product of very careful, natural family planning. My parents had four kids, and then they waited 20 years before having me to see what their mistakes were so they wouldn't do them again. Mom used to tell me that if I had been the first, I would have been an only child.

My dad was a farmer. He had grown up on the farm Granddad homesteaded in 1886. My folks were the first Catholic wedding in St. Francis in 1925. My parents lived in a basement about a half mile from my grandparents' home. Their plan was to build a house on the basement. It never happened.

Dad had some health issues. He ended up taking a job in Steamboat Springs, Colo. Mom raised four kids during the 1930s. Eventually, in 1947, they were able to move into the original homestead house my

talking to me about things.

My brother Ted died in a boating accident when I was 6. This was 1958. He was in the Navy, stationed in Florida. They just called my mom on the phone and asked if she was the mother of Ted Daise. She said yes, and they said, "Well, he died." A very poor way to notify the family of the death of a service member.

That was the first time I ever saw my mom cry. We went out to tell my dad. It was amazing to watch them. Dad stood there with his head down and braced himself on the tractor. They were very matter of fact. The funeral was in Florida, and I was unable to go. After a long 40 years, I finally was able

to go visit my brother's grave.

I was really close with my oldest brother, Bob. In 1954,

he was home from the merchant marines. He dug a pipeline and installed water in our house. I would crawl under the sink while he was working and talk to him. My mom said it was pitiful when Bob left to go back to the merchant marines, and I kept crawling under the sink to talk to him.

When I decided to go to seminary, I wrote Gene and Bob a letter. It said, "I think I'll go to seminary."

Gene and I would talk about things, but Bob and I never did. I didn't know if he would approve. But I was home, and I





The Martin family.

The Aug. 27 issue of The Register incorrectly identified members of the Martin family. Below is the corrected story. The Register apologizes for the error.

Original family owner (year acquired): Clint and Mary Martin (1912). Award accepted by (familial history): Kathy Martin (wife of Max Martin. Max Martin

is the son of Roy Sr. and Marguerite Martin, grandson of Clint and Mary Martin).

In 1912, Clint and Mary Martin began farming their Grant Township, Clay County Farm. Roy Sr. was 3 at the time, and his sister, Goldie, was 8. Roy Sr. grew up

helping around the farm. In 1932, he married Marguerite Alexander. They moved into their new home, a wedding present, just 100 yards north of Clint and Mary's home. Early on, the farm was home to cattle, hogs, sheep and turkeys. The farm is now owned and operated by Don, Tim and Luke (son, grandson and great-grandson of Roy Sr.). They raise soybeans, corn and milo, and run cattle in the adjoining pastures. St. Peter and Paul Parish in

St. Peter and Paul Parish in Clay Center has played an instrumental role in the family farm through the years. The family donated a stained-glass window there. grandparents had lived in.

I was closest in age to my sister, and she was 20 years older than me. I don't think she ever thought I grew up. But I remember the transition when my older brothers started stopped into his office to see him, and all the ladies started to congratulate me. And I looked at Bob, and he was just beaming. And I knew he was OK with it.

DAISE, PAGE 12

SAINTS, FEASTS OF OCTOBER

"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

- 1 Theresa of the Child Jesus, virgin
- 2 Guardian angels
- 4 Francis of Assisi
- 6 Bruno, priest
- 7 Our Lady of the Rosary
- 9 Denis, bishop and martyr, and com-

panions, martyrs

RICHARD

Daise

- 9 John Leonardi, priest
- 14 Callistus I, pope and martyr
- **15** Teresa of Avila, virgin and doctor
- **16** Hedwig, religious
- 16 Margaret Mary Alacoque, virgin

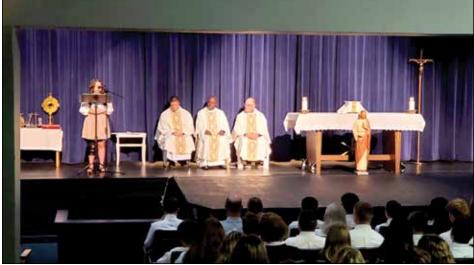
17 Ignatius of Antioch, bishop and martyr

18 Luke, evangelist

19 Isaac Jogues and John de Brebeuf, priests and martyrs, and companions, martyrs

- 23 John of Capistrano, priest
- 24 Anthony Claret, bishop
- 28 Simon and Jude, apostles

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



Thomas More Prep-Marian had its opening Mass with Father Andy Hammeke, Father Damian Richards and Father Chinzara Elias. The school and school year were consecrated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Following was a Eucharistic Procession to the Marian Grotto to ask for her prayers for the school, students and the school year.



Father Gnanasekar Kulandai, HGN and Principal Shawn Augustine walk through the hallways of St. Francis Xavier Catholic School in Junction City and sprinkle Holy Water.



The students of St. Mary's Grade School in Salina hosted their Farmers Market on Aug. 22. The produce was from the school garden, and all proceeds went to the school garden fund.





In the first school Mass of the year, students from Holy Family Elementary in Hays line up to receive Communion.



In the opening Mass of the school year, Father Brian Lager preaches a homily to the students of Sacred Heart Grade School in Colby.



Principal Mike Hubka, Father Mike Leiker and Father Ryan McCandless visit with students on the first day of school at Manhattan Catholic Schools in Manhattan.





The Forerunners at St. John's Catholic Schools in Beloit met in the morning to pray a Rosary outside the high school doors. The group prays for fellow students, faculty, staff, the school and the community. They invite students to drop prayer intentions in the "prayer locker" that they will take before the Blessed Sacrament once per month.

Students from St. Joseph Grade School in Oakley bring up the gifts during Mass to Father Luke Thielen.



Father Charlie Steier with Alyssa Logue and Colton Riedel of Christ the King Parish in WaKeeney. Congratulations to Alyssa Logue, Wyndom Geifer, Colton Riedel, Lili Shubert and Kobi Shubert on their graduation from Trego Community High School in 2021. In addition, Colton Riedel also graduated from NW Tech in Goodland with a degree in welding.

Have information about your school to submit for the next publication? Email it to theregister@salinadiocese.org.

Catholic education options grow

By The Register

Late last spring, the Diocese of Salina received news that will have a huge impact on students. Gov. Laura Kelly expanded criteria for students to qualify for a tax-credit scholarship to private schools.

The diocese already has a scholarship granting organization registered with the State of Kansas; however, it could not award money due to the restrictive criteria that was in place prior.

"The state legislators and governor made a big difference for parents who have wanted a Catholic education for their children," said Beth Shearer, executive director of development. "This makes it possible for children to learn in a Catholic environment regardless of ability to pay."

To be eligible to initially receive a tax-credit scholarship from the

Scholarship Granting Fund for the Catholic Diocese of Salina. students must be:

- New to a diocese school.
- In grades K-8.
- Qualify for free/reduced lunch.

Once an individual receives a tax-credit scholarship, it can follow that student through their senior year of high school at Catholic schools in the diocese.

The scholarship can not exceed

\$8,000 per year, and money will be awarded based on the amount the fund has received and the total amount of students who apply.

This school year, the diocese will be awarding more than \$170,000 to schools to provide Catholic education for new students.

For more information, speak to your principal or visit www.salinadiocese.org/office/catholic -schools/a-scholarship-opportunity.

St. Francis of Assisi: Secondary patron of diocese

BY THE REGISTER

St. Francis was born between December 1181 and September 1182 in Assisi. He had six siblings.

His father, Pietro di Bernardone, was a prosperous silk merchant, who also owned farmland around Assisi. His mother, Pica de Bourlemont, came from an aristocrat family from Provence.

One day, he sat praying in front of a crucifix in the forsaken church of San Damiano in Assisi.

Suddenly, he heard the voice of Christ, which said, "Go, Francis, and repair my house, which as you see is falling into ruin."

St. Francis took it literally. He went to his father's shop and bundled up some expensive drapery, which he then sold. His father was terribly angry. He took St. Francis to the bishop and demanded that not only he return the money, but also forego his inheritance.

St. Francis took off his clothes and happily declared he was no longer the son of Pietro di Bernardone, and the only father he recognized was the Father in Heaven. Wearing cast of rags, he went into the woods, leaving everything behind. He began to wander the hills of Assisi, singing hymns and praying. St. Francis returned to Assisi and begged for stones so he could rebuild the church of San Damiano with his own hands. St. Francis did not want to be attached to worldly things. He threw away any world goods he had and opted to wear

only a coarse woolen tunic to cover his body, and he traveled the country proclaiming the Kingdom of God.

Eventually, a small group of men began to follow him around. St. Francis did not know what to do, so he turned to God. In 1209, St. Francis went to Rome with 11 of his disciples and asked permission to set up a new order. It took some time, but on April 16, 1210, the Franciscan Order was officially admitted by Pope Innocent III.

St. Francis and his friars began to preach in Umbria. They attracted many followers, and one of them was Claire of Assisi. His friars began to number in the thousands. Due to the vast size, it was necessary for St. Francis to create rules to provide more structure to the order.

The rules written, St. Francis began to withdraw himself from the external world. On Sept. 24, 1224, he had a vision of a seraph, who gave him the gift of stigmata, the five wounds of Christ. St. Francis lived two more years, suffering from constant pain from the stigmata wounds and blindness. He died singing Psalm 142 on the evening of Oct. 3, 1226. He is the patron saint of animals and ecology. To honor the secondary patron of the Salina Diocese, Bishop Vincke will be celebrating Mass at each St. Francis of Assisi parish on Oct. 4. • Mass – 7:30 a.m., St. Francis.



Jamey C. Roth serves as the state deputy for the Knights of Columbus.

COURTESY PHOTO

Knights leading way

By The Register

Knights of Columbus in Kansas has had a long history of being active and strong in the parishes across the state. Every year, Catholic men (18 and older) are invited to join the fraternal order and become a part of the brotherhood. Together, the men and their families carry out the mission of charity, unity and fraternity to their parishes and local communities.

The fraternal year 2020-21 was a year with many challenges and obstacles, not only for the Order, but the world. In May of 2020, Jamey C. Roth was elected State Deputy during the virtual State Convention. Immediately following the convention, he put together a team of dedicated men led by State Membership Director Ed Miller to not only lead the state, but to assist the local councils as well. While developing the group of men, the words of the late Supreme Knight Virgil C. Dechant reminded Roth of the mission to, "Leave the Order better than you found it." Determined to follow the advice of Dechant. Roth and his team set out to achieve the membership goals established by the Supreme Council. While many would view the pandemic as an obstacle to recruitment, especially when in-person events were almost non-existent, the Knights of Columbus in Kansas stepped up to the challenge of reaching out to the members and asked them to "Leave no neighbor behind" and assure everyone was safe and healthy. While doing this, Catholic men and their families were asked to join the Knights of Columbus as much more of God's work

JOIN THE CLUB

State Deputy Jamey C. Roth and State Membership Director Ed Miller would like to remind all Catholic males 18 and older of the one-year free membership offer. Visit https://kofc.org/secure/en/

join/join-theknights.html or use the QR code to apply. You will then be able to join a local council within your area. This year more than ever, we need



Join the Knights of Columbu

every Catholic male to join us as we work with the bishops of Kansas and the Kansas Catholic Conference to be the boots on the ground to promote the "Value them Both" Amendment.

• Mass – Noon, Norton.

• Mass – 5:30 p.m., Munjor. could be done if the numbers were even greater. With support from the insurance agents, bishops and priests throughout the state, the goals were achieved.

At the end of the fraternal year, it was announced by Supreme Knight Patrick E. Kelly that Kansas achieved the prestigious Circle of Honor award for membership, meaning Kansas achieved at least 100% of membership goals.

But more than that, it was announced that, for the first time in Kansas history, the Kansas Knights of Columbus were recipients of the Pinnacle Award. The Pinnacle Award is given to the state/jurisdiction that achieved more than 110% of the membership goal along with other requirements.

Roth is in his final year as state deputy.

Events planned for Respect Life Month

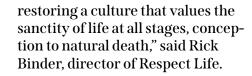
BY THE REGISTER

October is commonly known as **Respect Life Month. During that** time, Catholics are asked to take even greater care to pray for the sacredness of life to be celebrated at every stage, from conception to natural death.

The Diocese of Salina Respect Life Office intends to host two events in the month of October to recognize the sanctity

of life. The Rosary Congress will take place Oct. 2 to 8. The High School Respect Life Conference will occur Oct. 6.

"Prayer and the sacraments are the foundation that will lead to the changes needed in our world in



Rosary Congress

The hope of the Rosary Congress is to have seven parishes commit to



hosting 24 hours of adoration at their parish. Each parish chooses a day to host 24 hours of adoration. Mass is to be celebrat-

ed at 5 p.m., followed by the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. The **Blessed Sacrament is to remain** exposed until the following day, at 5 p.m. when benediction occurs.

The difference with a Rosary Congress is that, for every hour spent in adoration, a Rosary is prayed for the sanctity of life. At the end of the week, at least 168 Rosaries will have been prayed in defense of the dignity of human life.

"I hope parishes and faithful volunteer to host this special event," Binder said. "And it doesn't have to be just one person that signs up for an adoration hour. Maybe it can be your whole family, the Knights of Columbus or the parish youth group. The Rosary is a very powerful prayer. It would be tremendous if our diocese committed to praying it together in defense of human life."

If you are interested in participating in the Rosary Congress, speak with your pastor. Then, feel free to

contact Binder at rick.binder@ salinadiocese.org or (785) 827-8746.

CHANCERY

Youth Conference

On Oct. 6, juniors and seniors in high school are invited to attend a Youth Conference hosted at the old Sacred Heart Grade School in Salina.

The day will begin at 9 a.m. with coffee, juice and donuts. The students will then have the opportunity to hear presentations from the Sisters of Life.

Afterwards, the high school students will attend noon Mass with Bishop Jerry Vincke at Sacred Heart Cathedral.

Lunch and an optional Rosary for Life will follow.

Special Funeral Masses scheduled in November

BY THE REGISTER

Due to the pandemic, many families were unable to properly recognize the death of their loved ones. In many cases, they had a private, closed funeral or postponed the funeral altogether.

"I know of many families throughout the diocese who have lost a family member or friend due to Covid-19. In many

cases, they were not able to visit their loved one in the hospital. Additionally, funeral services were limited in the number of participants who could attend," said Bishop Jerry Vincke.

Oftentimes, the Funeral Mass is a time to bring comfort, solace and hope to the remaining family and loved ones of the deceased. To honor individuals who died during the pandemic (regardless of if their death was Covid-19-related), Bishop Vincke will be holding four Pandemic Memorial Masses throughout the diocese

• Nov. 2 (All Souls Day) – 10 a.m. at St.

Joseph Parish, Damar.

• Nov. 2 (All Souls Day) - 6 p.m. at Sacred Heart Parish, Colby.

• Nov. 6 – 10 a.m. at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Concordia.

• Nov. 13 – 10 a.m. at Ss. Peter and Paul Parish, Clay Center.

"The hope is that people who weren't able to attend the funerals of those who



died will be able to pray and remember them during these Masses," Bishop Vincke said. "Anyone can attend the Mass, even if it is to remember their loved one who has gone before us. We are doing this

in November since it is the month that we remember our loved ones. We commend them to the mercy of God, remembering that we are closest to those who have passed away when we attend Mass."

All are invited, and there is no need to register for the Masses. For more information, contact the Bishop's Office at officeofthebishop@salinadiocese.org or (785) 827-8746.

DEACON CANDIDATES



COURTESY PHOTO

On Aug. 21 at the Dominican Motherhouse in Great Bend, Bishop Jerry Vincke celebrated Mass with the deacon candidates, wherein the Admission of Candidacy rite was conducted. The men had a retreat that weekend. Their academic formation for the next four years began the weekend of Sept. 18. Front row from left, David DiNuzzo, Mark LeValley and Timothy Donohoue. Back row from left, Deacon Steve Frueh, Harry Hardy Jr., Daniel Wahlmeier, William Meagher, Anthony Gabel and Bishop Jerry Vincke.



SUPPORTING SEMINARIANS

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It means a great deal to them to know they have the prayers and support of their diocesan family back home.

Jesse Ochs St. John Vianney Theological Seminary, 1300 S. Steele St., Denver, CO 80210

Brady Hutchison St. John Vianney Theological Seminary, 1300 S. Steele St., Denver, CO 80210

Adam Zarybnicky Kenrick-Glennon Seminary, 5200 Glennon Dr., St. Louis, MO 63119

Kade Megaffin St. John Vianney Theological Seminary, 1300 S. Steele St., Denver, CO 80210

Kaiden Van Schuyver **Conception Seminary** College, 37174 State Highway VV, P.O. Box 502, Conception, MO 64433 **Collin Thielen Conception Seminary** College, 37174 State Highway VV, P.O. Box 502, Conception, MO 64433



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COURTESY PHOTO Evelyn Shepherd was aided recently by Chatholic Charities.

How one goal evoked big change

BY OLIVIA AYRES SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

A driver's license is one of the simplest forms of freedom. It represents having control over your life, deciding where you go and when you leave.

For Evelyn Shepherd, it was the liberation she desperately craved. Shepherd, a single mother of two young children from Salina, came to Catholic Charities with the hope of getting financial assistance to obtain her driver's license, enabling her family to lead a more independent life.

Shepherd struggles with chronic depression and anxiety, making social interactions extremely stress-inducing for her. Because of her mental health struggles, Shepherd expressed that contacting **Catholic Charities for** support in her goal was no easy feat, but it meant her future.

"Coming to Catholic Charities was hard for me

time," Shepherd said. "Even though I do not have a car right now, I still have to depend on other people to get where I need to go."

Shortly after contacting Catholic Charities, Shepard was given the funds she needed to pay for a driving education course and obtained her license. Meeting the goal gave Shepherd a sense of independence and a newfound confidence that she could lead her family in the right direction.

"Just accomplishing that one goal of getting my driver's license has made me feel so much better," she said. "It got me to the point of feeling really great. Little goals that I can set for myself make my life so much better."

Shepherd's next goal is purchasing a car for her family so she can make the most of her achievement.

"A week after I got my driver's license, I actually passed my GED test as well," she said. "Knowing that when I do get a car that I will be able to get pretty much everywhere I need to go is a great feeling." Shepherd said Catholic Charities' love and support of her goals was the helping hand she needed amidst her struggles. "If it were not for Catholic Charities, I would not be where I am today," she said. "If I did not get help with the little things, like getting my driver's license, then I would not be able to get where I needed to be in my life."

20 Island

Answers on Page 14

Groups pledge action against Texas law

BY MATT HADRO

CATHOLIC NEWS AGENCY

Pro-life groups said they were ready to assist women facing unexpected pregnancies, as Texas' "heartbeat" law went into effect.

"Organizations like mine will not rest because we are actively helping women facing unexpected pregnancies," said Chelsey Youman, Texas legislative director for the group Human Coalition Action.

Human Coalition operates a nationwide network of women's care centers, providing both in-person and remote health care.

The "Texas Heartbeat Act," signed into law in May and effective Sept. 1, prohibits abortions after the detection of a fetal

heartbeat, which can occur as early as six weeks into pregnancy. The law only includes exceptions for medical emergencies.

However, the law is enforced through private lawsuits and not by the government.

The Supreme Court did not act on a petition to halt Texas' law from going into effect by Sept. 1. Abortion providers, represented by the Center for Reproductive Rights, had unsuccessfully challenged the law in court. They made an emergency appeal to the Supreme Court to halt the law from going into effect.

The Heartbeat Act went into effect after no action by the Supreme Court.

because I have really bad anxiety," she said. "My anxiety puts me in a place where I do not feel comfortable around people."

Shepherd's social anxiety was impairing her ability to live a self-sufficient life. To mend that issue, Shepherd set a goal for herself to obtain her driver's license. That would allow her to transport herself and her children to activities and appointments, rather than constantly having to rely on friends and family.

"The main reason getting my driver's license was so important was because I do not like having to depend on other people all the

Olivia Ayres is the communications coordinator for Catholic Charities.

PSS1NO



St. John the Evangelist Parish in Herington recently underwent renovations. The project involved many different aspects, including painting, altar furnishings, lighting and safety features in the balcony.

Kenovation

HERINGTON CHURCH PROJECT SHOWCASES WILLING HEARTS OF SMALL COMMUNITY

BY KATIE GREENWOOD

THE REGISTER

On June 27, the parishioners of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Herington witnessed the completion of their parish renovation project that was more than three years in the making. The completion of their project culminated in a special altar dedication Mass celebrated by Bishop Jerry Vincke.

"The altar dedication Mass on June 27 was beautiful," said Father Peter O'Donnell, pastor at the time of the renovation. "It was a blessing to properly mark the end of the renovation project and a new beginning for the parish. My hope is that it provides a spiritual boost, an inspiration for current and future parishioners and visitors to connect with the beauty of God. The church is 113 years old, and the work that we did successfully complements the stainedglass windows and the overall architecture. The church is now repainted, has new altar furnishings, tile flooring and several other improvements to the overall structure and appearance." Beginning in 2017, Father O'Donnell and the pastoral council began the initial conversation of a future parish renovation project. At first, the discussion centered around the need for new altar flooring, but that eventually turned into discussions about new altar furnishings, church flooring, plaster work, a paint renovation, new electrical work and lighting, subfloor reinforcement and a change to the height of the balcony railing to bring it to code. Through internal discussions, along with frequent conversations with fellow parishioners, they were able to turn their visions into a reality. "Our faith community had a vision and a very real need," said Denise Ramos, a member of the art and environment committee and a parish musician/organist. "God gave our parish community willing hearts and, in his time, a faithful, courageous and discerning pastor who helped us get the project off the ground and kept it moving. The beauty of our sanctuary now is a small window into the mystery of our God and Savior's all-encompassing beauty and his



"Our faith community had a vision and a very real need. God gave our parish community willina hearts and, in his time, a faithful, courageous and discerning pastor who helped us get the project off the ground and kept it moving." **Denise Ramos** parishioner

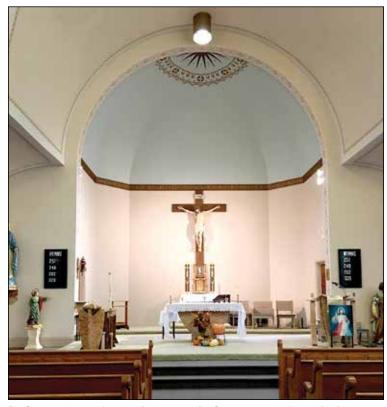
i ne stained-glass wind ws inspired the decorators in their design for the church.

endless love for us that transcends human thought and understanding."

Riehle Decorating from Cresco, Iowa, was selected to oversee the painting and plaster portion of the renovation. St. John the Evangelist Parish is the first entity with the Salina Diocese to work with Riehle Decorating. Beginning in 2019, Riehle Decorating generated a variety of renderings for consideration. In February, it arrived on-site to repair the plaster and lay the base paint. The business studied the church's architecture and stained-glass windows to produce a design that would accentuate the natural beauty of the church.

Ron Riehle designed the stencil that borders the walls and ceiling. He worked with a variety of stenciling and paint samples, frequently seeking input from members of the art and environment committee, pastoral council and members of the parish.

HTK Architects in Topeka was hired to oversee the overall project. It assisted with tile flooring samples for the altar space and sanctuary.



Before renovations, above, and after renovations, below.

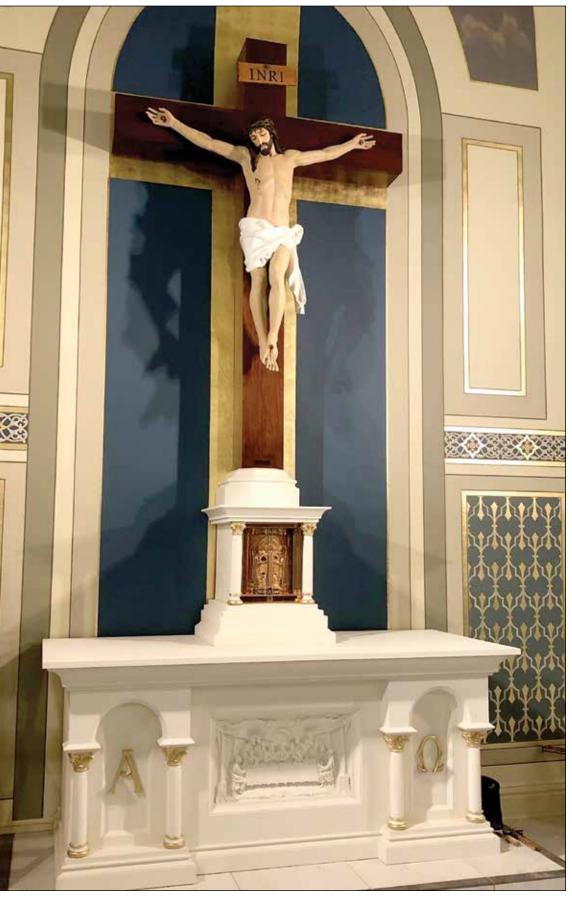


Within the sanctuary, on the east wall of the church, the Holy Spirit is depicted among the clouds. The clouds symbolize the dawn of the resurrection. Four angels are depicted in the ceiling dome.

BHS Construction, a Catholic-owned company from Wamego, oversaw installation of the flooring, improvements to the balcony railing and re-installment of pews.

Bryant Duenas was the onsite superintendent from BHS and is married to a parishioner. Duenas was responsible for scheduling subcontractors, installation of new steel reinforcement in the basement and ensurthe happiness on their faces gave me and my team a wonderful sense of accomplishment. The support of my coworkers and most importantly my family helped make this project finish on time with wonderful results. I was overjoyed to have a hand in making St. John's a beautiful place for members of the Herington and surrounding community to continue their worship and praise."

One of the most significant changes to the parish was that of the altar. The altar is the central focus of Catholic worship, and so, it takes a place of prominence within the sanctuary.



The refurbished crucifix adorns the wall above the tabernacle. Now that it has been redesigned and restored, it has a more three-dimensional appearance, is more realistic, and connects with the tabernacle below and the signs of heaven above.

Evangelist. Finally, the altar of sacrifice has wheat and grapes on either side, representing the bread and wine used for sacrifice, as well as a lamb, representing Christ. The image of the Lamb standing is a sign of Jesus' victory over sin and death, and it connects to the resurrection stained-glass window on the north wall of the church. Additionally, Freund repainted and restored the statues of Mary, St. Joseph and the crucifix. He also designed the compartment which now houses the tabernacle on top of the back altar. "It was truly a pleasure working with Father Peter, Father Frank Coady and the parish community to bring glory to God," Freund said. "The details create harmony in the space for worship while supporting liturgical elements. One such example is the custom sculpt of the eagle (representing St. John)

revealing the Gospel on the front of the ambo. I was privileged to be a part of this important work for the future of Kansas Catholics while preserving and building on its beautiful and proud past."

While the altar of sacrifice

the new altar furnishings and the major renovation updates. The Altar Dedication Mass was so very special for all of those in attendance, and something that will be remembered for years to come. Our hope is that our beautiful church can inspire those who come to visit us, as well as those who are considering parish renovations of their own." **Bishop Jerry Vincke said** the renovation project is something that truly shows the beauty and blessing of the Lord. "The church is beautiful," Bishop Vincke said. "The church has a very warm and welcoming feeling to it, and its beauty draws you in. I am very proud of Father Peter and his leadership in making this happen, along with the art and environment committee. They did a fabulous job. I am grateful to all the people who supported this project. What a gift for all of us."

ing the needs of the church were met with satisfaction.

"The St. John the Evangelist Herington renovation was important to myself and my family in many ways," Duenas said. "My wife grew up attending St. John's, and we are now raising our children through St. John's.

"During the renovation process, I was able to build a greater connection with the church through conversations with Father Peter about the project and hearing stories from parishioners about the history of the church. The sporadic visits from parishioners during the workday always brought a smile to my face. Being able to see firsthand Karl Freund of Cheney was the mastermind behind the altar furnishings. The furnishings are filled with rich symbolism significant to St. John the Evangelist Parish and the Catholic faith.

The back altar depicts the Last Supper, with the alpha and omega Greek letters on either side, reminiscent that God is the beginning and the end. The ambo is adorned with an eagle atop a bible, representing St. John the underwent a redesign, it did retain some of the original altar. Father O'Donnell and Freund transferred the relic from the old altar to the new one. While not an absolute necessity, it was once required that every altar house the relics of a saint. Many altars continue that practice to this day.

"The multi-year process came with its own set of challenges," said Melissa Brunner, pastoral council president. "Knowing where we were and seeing the end result is truly inspiring. Through the grace of God, the Holy Spirit and prayer, we were able to work together as a parish community to glorify God through

Mass to honor anniversaries

Mark your calendars. **Bishop Jerry Vincke and the** Diocese of Salina wish to honor all couples celebrat-

ing their first wedding anniversary and all other wedding anniversaries ending in 0

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or 5 in 2021. Masses will be celebrated:

• Oct. 24 - 3 p.m. at **Immaculate Heart of Mary** Parish in Hays.

• Nov. 7 - 3 p.m. at St. **Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish** in Salina.

To register, visit salinadiocese.org or call the Family Life Office, (785) 827-8746.

A few couples shared their thoughts on the Sacrament of Matrimony.



"Thesacrament of mar-

riage means to us that our promise to each other isn't just words or a piece of paper. It means it's a union

forever. **Sometimes** it's easy, and nare sometimes it's hard. Our faith in God and what he

teaches us through other sacraments and Word are what help us through our journey together. We've found that when we make it through the hard times, our relationship comes out even better and stronger." Larry and Kristi Koch, Clyde



"The Lord revealed to us from the beginning that marriage is a sacrament, not a show. When the pandemic threatened to push back our wedding in 2020, we decided to go

ahead and get married before the shutdown. The elaborate party didn't matter-we knew Christ would be at the center of our marriage, not ourselves and our desires. While it wasn't easy, it was worth it, and God has abundantly blessed our marriage."

> Kacper and Carleigh Orlowski, Salina



"Belief in the sacrament of matrimony has held us together for 47 years. Our faith in God, as well as in each other, and daily prayer have gotten us through many ups and downs while raising a family and struggling to stay on the farm. In times of frustration, all we had to do was look back,

and we knew that a 'powerful force' had gotten us through. God has never let us down."

Richard and Theresa Rippe, Herndon



'Jesus, we trust in You' is a great theme for a marriage. Be sure to pray for and with each other every day and frequent the sacraments. Your marriage is a beautiful channel of grace you must rely upon. Remember, love is a decision not simply a feeling. There will be many days you must decide to love your spouse even when you don't feel like it. Keeping faith and prayer a daily part of family life will be the best gift you can gift your children. Stay grateful, and the joy will follow."

> Tony and Lindy Meyer, Concordia



"Loving each other every day is easy; liking each other every day is harder. At our wedding, Father Ted used the analogy of a braid in his homily. It takes man, woman and God; without one, the braid will unravel. Having Christ at the center of your marriage must become the very essence in everything you do. It's in all the little things every day. Helping each other grow closer to Christ, sometimes taking turns dragging the other. The sacrament of marriage is the hardest, the easiest and the most rewarding thing. As long as God is an equal strand in the braid, the days when you just don't like each other are easier."

> Wade and Amanda Tremblay, Hoxie

Cursillo weekends offer chance for growth, fellowship

BY ALLISON OCHOA

SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

Cursillo, a Spanish word that means "short course" or "little class," is a lay movement within the Catholic Church that is devoted to educating adults about Christianity, helping them build a relationship with Christ, and spreading the Gospel message. Participation in the movement begins with completing a Cursillo weekend and then using what is learned there for the rest of a person's life.

The next Cursillo weekend

"Being a lay movement, Cursillo is about regular people bringing friends closer to Christ," said Claudio Faundez, Cursillo Lay Leader for the Diocese of Salina. "Over the course of the weekend, you'll hear talks about various topics and then have discussion. There is Mass and opportunities for confession throughout the weekend as well."

Faundez said movement is built on three pillars: studying the faith, piety and evangelization.

"There is also an element

that meet weekly," he said.

The small groups that form following a Cursillo weekend are encouraged to meet for an hour a week. The group members support each other by reflecting on their week and discussing how they have been doing with their study of the faith, their growth in piety and their evangelization efforts. Every month a larger group meeting, called an ultreya, is held.

"This is a shared experience," Faundez said. "The intention is to keep going; we learn together, we grow together, and we hold each other accountable." The ongoing small group meetings are pivotal for Cursillistas. Cursillo participants include Jim Schartz, a parishioner at St. Andrew

Parish in Abilene, and Deb Pochop of St. John Nepomucene Parish in Beardsley.

Schartz participated in Cursillo in 2009 and has been a member of the Salina Diocese's Cursillo team nine times in the intervening 12 years.

"I meet on Wednesday mornings with two other guys," he said. "This is a group of Catholics who are my Catholic family. They help me live my faith and share it with others.

Pochop's small group has changed slightly in the 18 years since she completed her Cursillo weekend, but she said the support of the group members is invaluable.

relationship I have with them is deep," she said. "They share the hard times with you, and they hold you up when you can't hold yourself up.

"We ask each other, 'What have you done this week to grow in holiness? What are you studying? Who have you reached out to this week? When were you most aware of Christ's presence this week?' There is encouragement in this group."

Faundez said he encourages anyone who wants to grow in their faith to register

will be for men in the Salina Diocese from Sept. 30 through Oct. 3 at the Capuchin Center Spiritual Life in Victoria.

of fellowship as you create bonds with the other participants and then can go back to your parish and establish learning or sharing groups

"There is accountability with this group and the



for a weekend.

"We're regular, broken sinners, but we come and share our lives with people," he said. "That's how we bring Christ to people."

Separate men's and women's Cursillo weekends take place each year. The weekend begins on a Thursday evening and concludes on Sunday afternoon. The cost to participate is \$200 which includes lodging, all meals and materials. Scholarships are available.

For more information about the upcoming men's Cursillo or future women's Cursillo events, contact Jolene Reeh at reeh.jolene@ gmail.com.

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The Eucharistic Miracle of Faverney

SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

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

With permission from the Blessed Carlo Acutis Institute, The Register will run a series of authenticated and corroborated Eucharistic miracles that have occurred through the ages. This series was created by Blessed Carlo.

Born in 1991, Carlo grew up with a deep faith and devotion to the Eucharist. Additionally, he was an amateur computer programmer. One of his more well-known accomplishments is documenting Eucharistic miracles from around the world and cataloging them onto a website (http://www. miracolieucaristici.org/en/ Liste/list.html) he created before he died of leukemia.



Eucharistic Miracle of Faverney, France – 1608 In the 17th century, Protestantism and Calvinism spread quickly in France by means of the many material benefits conceded by the new religions to the members of the nobility and the clergy coming from the Catholic Church. This placed at risk the faith of many and created many uncertainties, even in the monasteries.

In the city of Faverney, there was a Benedictine Abbey whose monks had departed a great deal from the rule of their founder. They had only in high-esteem the devotion to the Lady of Notre-Dame la Blanche, known in all the area for its many miracles.

Through her intercession, many miracles had in fact been verified, among which was even the returning to life of two infants who were not yet baptized.

In 1608, on the Vigil of the Feast of Pentecost, the monks decided to prepare an altar for the exposition and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. The lunette of the monstrance was large, and because of this, they decided to put in two hosts. When Vespers had finished,
the monks left the mon-
strance exposed on the
provisional altar.Holy Mass. During the
elevation of the host, th
monstrance slowly des
ed upon the new altar.

On the next morning, the sacristan opened the church and found it full of smoke, with the provisional altar completely reduced to ashes. He started to yell, and immediately the religious and other people hastened and proceeded to remove the ashes with the hope of finding some part of the monstrance.

When the smoke began to clear, they were astonished seeing that the monstrance was suspended in the air.

The multitude increased and crowded to see the Eucharistic marvel, in which the hosts had remained unharmed regardless of the fire. The religious were astonished, and unable to make a decision, asked the counsel of the Capuchin friars of Vesoul.

They immediately prepared a new altar over the burned one and celebratedHoly Mass. During the elevation of the host, the monstrance slowly descended upon the new altar. When the canonical process finished, on July 10, the Archbishop of Besancon declared the miracle was authentic, and on Sept. 13, the Archbishop of Rodi – who was the nuncio in Brussels – made it known to Pope Paul V who granted a Bull of Indulgence.

The miracle rekindled the faith of many. In 1862, the **Congregation of Rites** authorized the celebration of the miracle. In 1908, the third centenary of the miracle was solemnly commemorated with a National Eucharistic Congress. Even today, it is possible to see and venerate the relic containing one of the two hosts which remained unharmed. The other host, unfortunately, after it was donated to the Church of Dole, was destroved by the revolutionaries in 1794.

Vatican releases synod documents

By COURTNEY MARES

CATHOLIC NEWS AGENCY

The Vatican recently released a preparatory document and handbook for the 2023 synod on synodality to be reviewed by all Catholic dioceses in the world during the next six months.

"It is precisely this path of synodality which God expects of the Church of the third millennium," the new document states, quoting Pope Francis.

"This journey, which follows in the wake of the Church's 'renewal' proposed by the Second Vatican Council, is both a gift and a task."

The Vatican published on Sept. 7 the 22-page preparatory document, "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission," and the 42-page vademecum, or handbook, for the diocesan phase of the synod. The handbook includes prayers, a description of synodality, the objectives of the synodal process, and the main questions to which the local Catholic communities are asked to give feedback. It underlines that dioceses should focus on "maximum inclusion and participation" among baptized Catholics in the diocesan synod process. The preparatory document has been released for a period of "pre-synodal discernment" that will influence a second draft of the text to be published before June 2023. According to the Vatican, the preparatory document is "a tool to facilitate the first phase of listening to and consulting the People of God in the particular Churches" for the

diocesan phase of the synod.

The diocesan phase

During the diocesan phase, each bishop is asked to undertake a consultation process with the local Church from Oct. 17, 2021, to April 2022.

The handbook says dioceses should organize local gatherings for "synodal consultation" and also enable individuals to give their feedback directly to the diocese.

It recommends multiple parishes come together for these "synodal consultation meetings" so that "a range of people from different socio-economic backgrounds, ethnicities, age groups" take part.

The preparatory document,

handbook, and questionnaire are to

SYNOD TIME

The opening synod Mass in the Salina Diocese will be at 3 p.m. Oct. 17 at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Salina.

to take in order to grow in our 'journeying together?'''

In considering this, dioceses will receive and report feedback on multiple questions.

What is synodality?

The preparatory document describes synodality as "the form, the style, and the structure of the Church."

"The Synodal Process is first and foremost a spiritual process. It is not a mechanical data-gathering exercise or a series of meetings and debates. Synodal listening is oriented towards discernment," the handbook says. The handbook describes the synodal journey as an experience of "authentic listening and discernment on the path of becoming the Church that God calls us to be." The synod on synodality will open with a "diocesan phase" in October and conclude with the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops at the Vatican in October 2023. Pope Francis will "inaugurate the synodal path" over the weekend of Oct. 9 to 10 with an opening session and a Mass. All dioceses are invited also to offer an opening Mass on Oct. 17.

tory document, is to examine "how responsibility and power are lived in the Church as well as the structures by which they are managed, bringing to light and trying to convert prejudices and distorted practices that are not rooted in the Gospel."

"The purpose of the first phase of the synodal journey is to foster a broad consultation process in order to gather the wealth of the experiences of lived synodality, in its different articulations and facets, involving the pastors and the faithful of the particular Churches at all the different levels," the preparatory document says.

"We recall that the purpose of the synod, and therefore of this consultation, is not to produce documents, but 'to plant dreams, draw forth prophecies and visions, allow hope to flourish, inspire trust, bind up wounds, weave together relationships, awaken a dawn of hope, learn from one another and create a bright resourcefulness that will enlighten minds, warm hearts, give strength to our hands," it says, quoting from Pope Francis' address at the opening of the youth synod in October 2018. The Vatican had a press conference Sept. 7 to discuss the newly released documents. Cardinal Mario Grech, the secretary general of Synod of Bishops, spoke on a panel, along with undersecretaries Sr. Nathalie Becquart and Bishop Luis Marín de San Martín. Myriam Wijlens and Fr. Dario Vitali, consultors for the synod, also answered questions as part of the panel.

be reviewed by dioceses, as well as superior generals, unions, and federations of consecrated life, international lay movements, and Catholic universities during this phase.

The diocesan synod process should "tap into the richness of the lived experience of the Church in their local context," the handbook says.

Main questions to be considered

Questions are included at the end of handbook, which says the "fundamental question" to be considered by the dioceses and the bishops over this multi-year process is as follows:

"A synodal Church, in announcing the Gospel, 'journeys together.' How is this 'journeying together' happening today in your local Church? What steps does the Spirit invite us

One objective of the synod on synodality, according to the prepara-

Banquest highlight radio's success, plans

BY ALLISON OCHOA

SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

Celebrating success, announcements regarding future expansion and challenges to the faithful were key elements of Divine Mercy Radio's Appreciation Banquets in Hays and Salina on Sept. 11 and 12.

The stations' executive director, Donetta Robben, thanked banquet attendees for their support that resulted in getting two new stations on the air in 2020, bringing Divine Mercy Radio to a total of four stations. The geographical locations of the four stations serve a population of approximately 121,530 people in northwest and north-central Kansas. Robben also announced Divine Mercy Radio has the potential for further expansion in the coming months.

"This year, we have a unique opportunity. The FCC is opening the application process for airwaves, something that hasn't happened since 2010. In November, we will be submitting an application to the FCC for a radio station license in Colby."

Robben said fundraising for the new station is underway as part of the application process is proving financial viability of a new station. It is anticipated the FCC will award the new licenses within the next two years.

The keynote speaker for the banquets was Father Tony Stephens of the Fathers of Mercy. Originally from Angelus, Father Stephens was ordained a priest in 2005 and is the director of field education, the director of pastoral interns and an assistant on the formation faculty at the Athenaeum of Ohio/Mt. St. Mary's Seminary of the West in Cincinnati.

In his presentation titled "Being a Proactive Catholic in a Reactive World," Father Stephens acknowledged the importance of the laity in the Church. He challenged the audiences to take Jesus everywhere.

"All of you can go places where the clergy can't go," he said. "You can go to the offices where you work, the mechanic shop where you get your car fixed, the grain elevator, the doctor's office. You're called to be the light and life in those places, and Jesus wants to be part of your life in every area of your life."

Through a series of stories and examples, Father Stephens outlined steps the faithful can take to become proactive in the world in which they live. Some of those included attending Mass regularly and daily, if possible; preaching the truth in love, but being mindful of how you say it; establishing a daily prayer routine; persevering through trials; and smiling.

"There is such a thing as righteous anger, and anger in and of itself is not wrong, but it can become sinful when it is not guided by meekness," he said. "Jesus got angry with the money-changers in the temple. We, too, should be angered by the things we see in the culture – assaults on marriage and assaults on liberty and faith. But meekness isn't a weakness. It helps demonstrate faith. We need to get out of our heads and take action. Just do the next right thing. You might think it's too small to make a difference, but as St. Teresa of Calcutta said, 'Do small things with great love.'"

One Sunday for the whole world every year

BY THE REGISTER

Missio is the global crowdfunding network, powered by Pope Francis' Pontifical Mission Societies, that collects crucial donations for the success of Pope Francis' missions to the poor and marginalized. They annually host a worldwide collection called World Mission Sunday. This year, the collection occurs Oct. 24.

"God blesses us so that we may bless others," said Brenda Streit, mission coordinator. "This is a perfect opportunity to come together, to take care of one another, in a way God asks of us. As Christians, we must look beyond our small communities, to others around the world, to help those most in need so that they too may grow and share in God's saving love."

Support World Mission Sunday with a gift and join other Catholics across the world who recommit themselves to the vocation, through baptism, to be missionaries. You can do so through a collection envelope provided in your parish packet or by visiting www.missio.org

In honor of World Mission Sunday, The Register would like to thank our missionary priests who are so generous to serve in our diocese. Thank you for your sacrifice and providing the sacraments.

Father Ernest
Amoake-Opare
Father Joseph Asirvatham, HGN
Father George
Chalbhagam, CMI
Father Elias

Chinzara

• Father Michael Elanjimattathil, CMI

• Father Gnanasekar Kulandai, HGN

• Father Lourthu Antony Kulandaijesu, HGN

• Father David Micheal, HGN

• Father Soosaimari Rathinam, HGN

Father Henry Saw
Lone

• Father James Thomas, CMI

• Father Vincent Thu Laing

DAISE, FROM PAGE 3 ____

I went to a one-room schoolhouse for grade school. There were six of us that started first grade together. We were the largest class. I went to high school in Goodland. I participated in football, wrestling and track. My junior year, I was in the school play. I had three roles – two of them were corpses. I was also involved in Future Farmers of America and Academy in Annapolis. I didn't think I could go because I thought you had to be a perfect physical specimen with straight A's. I had glasses and was a solid B student. But after meeting a few guys from Annapolis, I figured out real quick that wasn't the case.

After I gave up on Annapolis, 4-H came out with a veterinary science project. I dove into it. I even had a business card, and I wrote DVM after my name. The vice principal told me I was a little optimistic. I never got the chance to tell him it came true. I went to Kansas State University for vet school. This was during the Vietnam Conflict, and I was No. 2 in the lottery. But I was in ROTC, so I was part of the reserves and was able to finish school and get my veterinarian degree. I owed the Army two years. The plan was to do two years and then get out. But the Army kept offering me good deals. I tell people I was drafted and forgot to get out. I was

in the Army for 28 years.

Most of what I did in the Army was preventative medicine. Not only for animals, (dogs and horses) but also for human health for zoonotic diseases. I also did food inspection. I really enjoyed it. I actually got my master's degree in food science and technology. We also did food plant inspections for sanitation, methodology and management

Bishop Fitzsimmons and told him I was interested, but I needed a few years to get things in order. By that time, Bishop Coakley was in Salina. He took me on and sent me to Blessed John XXIII National Seminary outside of Boston.

My favorite classes were church history. I'm a history buff. We had to do a report, and I did mine on Father Emil Kapaun. I used to visit Pilsen, Father Kapuan's home, twice a year. I think he's the one who kicked me in the pants to become a priest. I wonder if I'm one of his miracles because he influenced my faith. I was asked to send my story to Rome as part of his cause for sainthood. I admired him because we had a lot of parallels – Kansas farm boys, Army, Catholic and service in Korea. My least favorite class was philosophy. There were only three in the class who understood it. I felt sorry for the professor. He was trying to explain it, and we just didn't get it. One day he yelled, "It's not rocket

science, guys!" And one of my classmates, who was a retired NASA engineer said, "I wish it was because maybe I'd understand it."

I was ordained May 22, 2010. People from all over the world came. It was a good day. The Mass of Thanksgiving was in Goodland.

The Mass and the sacraments are the best part of the job. I like funerals. You get to know people at funerals. And at funerals, people don't come in with ideas about the funeral that they have planned for years (as weddings sometimes are). At a funeral, they just want you to help them. For those considering the priesthood. I'd say give it a try. The first response is, "I'm not worthy." You're right. None of us are. But the good Lord needs someone to do it. He doesn't call the qualified. He qualifies the called. I'm impressed with the men who are willing to try.

4-H. I really liked 4-H and participated in several projects.

The year I had my first Reconciliation and First Communion, Mom took me on a trip to New Mexico to see my cousins. So, I received my Sacraments on Wednesday before the rest of the class received the following weekend. That day, every one else was in jeans, but I was in a coat and tie. I remember everything about my First Communion.

Until the eighth grade, I was serious about the priesthood. But I didn't think about the priesthood in high school. I did think about going to the Naval practices. I retired from the Army on April 1, 2004. I guess it was effective because no one said April Fools.

After I got out, I had a job with an Army contractor on a team of active and retired military. We did training exercises and seminars. I learned a lot of things I probably should have known while I was on active duty. But eventually, the military split up our team. And that's when it happened.

I had never quit church. A lot of people in my generation did, but I never did. A lot of people asked me if I had ever thought about the priesthood. I talked with

Father Richard Daise is pastor at St. Joseph Parish in Hays and is the vicar for clergy.

FARM, FROM PAGE 1

Together, Heina and Tom Murphy developed the outline for the mentorship program. From the program description, a mentor is described as "a person who is willing to volunteer the sharing of their knowledge of agriculture that is needed in each investment project in Africa.... The primary need is for someone who knows and understands basic agricultural issues and is willing to dialogue via social media with project managers on a regular basis as questions and concerns arise in the African project." The mentor is expected to give of his time and talent to his African partner.

Mwenda and Mukothima farm are a part of the mentorship program. In July 2020, they received a \$60,000 loan from Missio Invest. In 2021, Mwenda visited the Salina Diocese and shared his thoughts regarding ways to further enhance the program. He believed it was essential for the mentor to listen and learn about the cultural and environmental context.

For instance, Mukothima farm has one tractor, which was financed through the Missio Invest loan. It is a simple machine, and individuals from the community are slowly being trained to operate the equipment. Additionally, Mukothima farm is divided into two sections.

One side houses the crops that require full-time attention and are heavily irrigated, such as watermelon, onions, tomatoes, bananas, kale and cabbage.

The other section has corn, beans, sorghum and

Irrigating crops at Mukothima farm is a bit different than irrigation methods in the U.S. opportunity for the mentor

peanuts.

While the equipment, operation size and crops are radically different between Kansas and Africa, the differences do not stop there.

"We also haves pests and dangers," Mwenda said. "Our pests are the locusts, weevils and the monkeys. Sometimes, you will be sitting and eating a banana, and then it is gone ... because a monkey took it.

"Also, our farm is close to a national park, so the buffalo come over. But the most dangerous are the elephants. You can wake up and find yourself in the middle of for the needs of others." an elephant's path as it walks around and eats the bananas and mangoes. It is a big animal that is never satisfied."

Another difference Mwenda pointed out was mentality. In America, there is a mindset of securing the needs of the future. Whereas in Africa, the focus is on today. The difference in mindset provides a unique

and Missio Invest to work with the project manager to find ways to educate investees on items such as business models and investment.

As Mwenda has learned more about farming, it has allowed him to make progress towards his ultimate goal of caring for the orphans.

"Despite the challenges, I am very happy," Mwenda said. "Working with Missio Invest, my mind is opened to a world where I meet people who are so hospitable and accommodating. People go out of their comfort zones

The fruits of the Missio Invest project circle back to Mwenda's dream of caring for the children.

"When I started the center, I started it on my own because I felt like I had something to pay back," he said. "So, in the next 20 years, we will have more people like me who will pay back and make our country great.

"In life, I tell the orphans: 'Always aspire to inspire before you expire.' Every moment is a time to be a source of inspiration and give hope. Yes, you can make

it happen. The journey is long, and the climb is steep, but push on. Always be a source of inspiration. How many people are learning from you?"

But Mwenda and the orphans are not the only ones to benefit from the mentorship program.

"It's a two-way street," Heina said. "We can share our abundance and expertise of agricultural knowledge. But also, we can learn something. Especially in the areas of community, family and spiritual life."

"The mentor program has given us a very close personal and spiritual connection to special people in Africa,"

Father Eliud Mwenda tends to a chicken flock at Mukothima farm.

> Murphy said. "We now have a deep respect and better understanding of their lives there. Farming is hard for them, but in some ways, we envy their simple lifestyle and deep faith. We are blessed to have a prayer partner in Africa."

The program is still in the beginning stages. From talking with Mwenda, Heina and Murphy have learned mentors need agricultural expertise, but also, they need the ability and desire to enter into a relationship with the project managers.

"It sounds elementary, but we're just making this stuff up as we go along," Heina said. "No one has attempted this before, so we make mistakes and need to adjust, try as we might. But we continue to think that this project is true to the mission spirit."





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WEDDINGS

Blake Bergling and Hayley

Pletcher were married Aug. 7, 2021, St. Nicholas of Myra Parish in Hays. Father Damian Richards witnessed their vows. Parents of the bridegroom are Mark and Gail Bergling. Parents of the bride are Darren and Sharon Pletcher. Witnesses were Collin Clark and Hannah Pletcher.

Ryan Gengler and Andrea

Nimz were married July 17, 2021, at St. John the Baptist Parish in Beloit. Father Jarett Konrade witnessed their vows. Parents of the bridegroom are Dean and Amy Gengler. Parents of the bride are Larry and Melinda Nimz. Witnesses were Aaron Gengler and Alexandra Nimz.

Taylor Lambert and Made-

leine Singleton were married Aug. 28, 2021, at St. Mary Parish in Ellis. Father Dana Clark witnessed their vows. Witnesses were Jesse Birney and Amelia Singleton.

Logan Olmstead and Madison

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

Foss were married Aug. 20, 2021, at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Hays. Father Nick Parker witnessed their vows. Parents of the bridegroom are Chad and Leslie Olmstead. Parents of the bride are Kendall and Laura Foss. Witnesses were Garret Roundsly and Mackenzie Bear.

Juan Esteban Ramos and

Marta Antonio Diego were married Aug. 7, 2021, at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Concordia. Father David Metz witnessed their vows. Witnesses were Pascual Frumencio Toledo Mateo and Sister Judy Stephens.

Joel Struckhoff and Heidi

Gottschalk were married Aug. 21, 2021, at St. Nicholas of Myra Parish in Hays. Father Daryl Olmstead witnessed their vows. Parents of the bridegroom are James and Trisha Struckhoff. Parents of the bride are Jude and Lora Gottschalk. Witnesses were **Dillon Coomes and Megan** Brull.

Live-chain events scheduled for Oct. 3

A life-chain event will take place from 2 to 3 p.m. Oct. 3 at Ninth and Crawford in Salina. Parking will be in the Trinity Lutheran Church parking lot.

Participants will gather in the form of a cross in prayerful, peaceful supplication for an end to abortion.

At 2 p.m. Oct. 3 at St. Joseph's Cemetery in Hays, there will be a life-chain event at the Tomb of the Unborn. From 2:15 to 3:15 p.m., there will be a silent prayer vigil from 27th and Vine to 26th and Vine. The event in Hays is sponsored by Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish.

Since the 1973 Roe vs. Wade decision and before. millions of innocent lives have been violently ended before birth. Today, this modern holocaust has been stretched to even include killing the innocent shortly after birth.

Chapman's St. Michael, bazaar on Oct. 3

St. Michael Parish will sponsors its annual bazaar Oct. 3.

Games and booths will be open from 11 a.m. to 12:30

FAITH BRIEFS p.m. A country store and

bake sale will operate at the same time with homecanned, home-baked and homemade items.

A live auction starts at 12:30 p.m. In addition to the live auction, a few card games that allow players to win cash will be played during the live auction. Winners must be present to win. A silent auction runs from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Additionally, there will be a raffle for a queen size, handmade quilt. Tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5.

A smoked beef brisket and pork loin meal will be served from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., both dine-in and carry-out. The cost is \$12.50 for those 13 and older; \$7.50 for ages 6 to 12 and a free meal of hot dog and chips will be served to children 5 and younger.

An old-fashioned road show for life

Value Them Both is the proposed state constitutional amendment that will prevent unlimited and unregulated abortion in Kansas. A vote is set for Aug. 2, 2022.

Father Bernie Gorges, state chaplain for the

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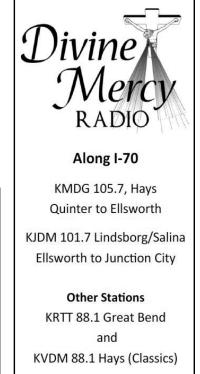
Kansas Knights of Columbus, is visiting parishes in the Diocese of Salina and elsewhere to spread the word about why Value Them Both is important.

Father Gorges recently spoke to the annual Men's Conference in Hays and also at Sacred Heart Parish in Atwood.

Special presentation planned in Manhattan

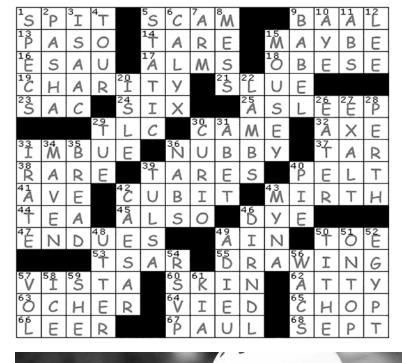
On Oct. 12 at St. Thomas More Parish in Manhattan, join Christopher West and Mike Mangione as they weave together presentations with music, movie clips, YouTube videos and sacred art for an evening of beauty and reflection on the meaning of life, love and human destiny.

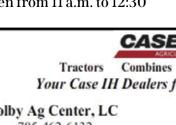
To register for the event, visit https://salinadiocese. org/events/made-for-moreevent-christopher-west.





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DEATHS

Rosita Mae (Herman) Augustine, 79, died May 29, 2021. Funeral Mass was celebrated July 10 at St. Mary's Parish in Ellis. Father Dana Clark officiated. Burial in St. Mary's Cemetery in Ellis.

Daniel Bergstrom, 75, died Aug. 5, 2021. Funeral service was Aug. 9 at St. John Parish in Clyde. Father Steve Heina officiated. Burial in Mount Calvary Cemetery in Clyde.

Henry Emmery Cahoj, 89, of McDonald, died July 28, 2021. Funeral Mass was celebrated Aug. 3 at Sacred

Heart Parish in Atwood. Father Joseph Asirvatham, HGN, Father Norbert Dlabal and Father Carlos Ruiz-Santos presided. Burial was in Mount Calvary in Atwood Cemetery.

Shirley A. Chermak, 84, died Aug. 13, 2021. Funeral Mass was celebrated Aug. 18 at St. George Parish in Munden. Father Henry Baxa officiated. Burial in St. George Cemetery in Mund-

Kari (Kloewer) Cornwell, 45, died Aug. 13, 2021.

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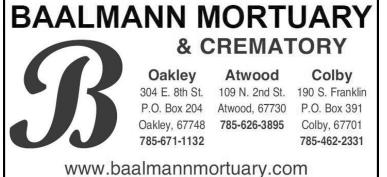
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Funeral Mass was celebrated Aug. 21 at St. Edward Parish in Belleville. Father Henry Baxa officiated. Burial in Belleville Cemetery.

Dustin Michael Cyr, 31, died Aug. 19, 2021. Graveside service was Aug. 26 at Mount Calvary Cemetery in Clyde. Father Steve Heina officiated.

Clara Dowell, 14 months, died Aug. 1, 2021. Funeral Mass was celebrated Aug. 11 at St. Edward Parish in Belleville. Bishop Jerry Vincke and Father Henry Baxa presided. Burial in St. Katherine Cemetery in Cuba.

Kathleen Ekart, 83, died June 30, 2021. Funeral Mass was celebrated Aug. 23 at St. Thomas More Parish in Manhattan. Father Frank

Coady officiated. Inurnment in St. Patrick's Cemetery in Manhattan.

LuVerne Henry Ghumm, 74, of WaKeeney, died June 22, 2021. Funeral Mass was celebrated June 26 at St. Mary's Parish in Ellis. Father Dana Clark officiated. Burial in St. Mary's Cemetery in Ellis.

Phyllis Lorraine (Meyer) Gugler, 90, of Ellis, died July 30, 2021. Funeral Mass was celebrated Aug. 7 at St. Mary Parish in Ellis. Father Dana Clark officiated. Burial died July 5, 2021. Funeral was in Mount Hope Cemetery in Ellis.

Sandra Sue Herman, 83, of Hays, died July 4, 2021. Graveside services were July 9 at St. Mary's Cemetery in Ellis. Father Dana Clark officiated.

Robert Plomondon, 89, died Sept. 26, 2020. Graveside services were July 3, 2021, at St. Mary's Cemetery in Ellis. Father Dana Clark officiated.

Janice "Jan" Koster, 82, died Aug.18, 2021. Funeral Mass was celebrated Aug. 23 at Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Cawker City. Father Jarett Konrade officiated. Burial was in Ss. Peter and Paul Cemetery in Cawker City.

Lillian Locker, 97, of Ellis, service was July 8 at St. Mary's Parish in Ellis. Burial in St. Mary's Cemetery in Ellis. Father Dana Clark officiated.

Earle Stanley McRae, 86, of Buckeye, Ariz., died Sept. 27, 2020. Funeral Mass was celebrated Sept. 18, 2021, at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Concordia. Father David Metz presided. Burial with military honors was in St. Concordia Cemetery in Concordia.

Marcella M. Mignano, 84, died Aug. 23, 2021. Funeral Mass was celebrated Aug. 31 at St. Thomas More Parish in Manhattan. Father Frank Coady presided. Interment in Kansas Veterans Cemetery in Manhattan.

Q

Janice Marie (Miller) Sahlfeld, 77, of Beloit, died April 20, 2020. Memorial Mass was celebrated June 28, 2021, at St. John the Baptist Parish in Beloit. Father Joseph Kieffer and Father Jarett Konrade presided. Burial was April 9, 2020, in St. John's Cemetery in Beloit.



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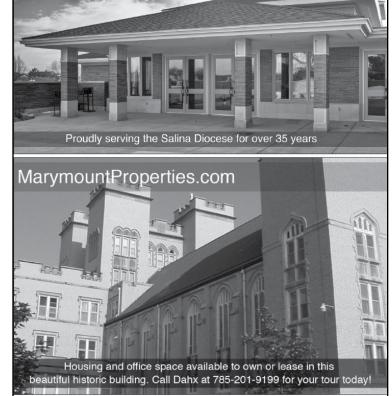
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Avila Therese Berg, daughter of Chase and Julie (Schroeder) Berg, was baptized Aug. 22, 2021, by Father Nick Parker at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Hays.

Micah Anh Bui, son of Thanh Bui and Lan Ly, was baptized Aug. 15, 2021, by Deacon Wayne Talbot at St. Thomas More Parish in Manhattan.

Charlotte Marie Burger,

daughter of Andrew and Sarah Burger, was baptized July 11, 2021, by Deacon Buzz Harris at St. Thomas More Parish in Manhattan.

Emma Joelle Deneke,

daughter of Luke and Amy (Vogrin) Deneke, was baptized June 27, 2021, by Father Jarett Konrade at St. John the Baptist Parish in Beloit.

Edwin Ellis Ferguson, son

of Kyle and Natasha Ferguson, was baptized Aug. 8, 2021, by Deacon Buzz Harris at St. Thomas More Parish in Manhattan.

Beckham Benjamin File,

son of Jonathan and Jessica (Eilert) File, was baptized June 27, 2021, by Father Jarett Konrade at St. John the Baptist Parish in Beloit.

Robert Jay Hesting, son of Joshua and Kelsey (Gengler) Hesting, was baptized July 4, 2021, by Father

Andrew Rockers at St. John Father Dana Clark at St. the Baptist Parish in Beloit. Mary Parish in Ellis.

Joelan Dean Jackson, son of Elijah and Lindsey (Wernecke) Jackson, was baptized Aug. 8, 2021, by Father Steve Heina at St. Mary Parish in Clifton.

Beckett Avery Johnson, son of Garrett and Tabitha Schneider, was baptized July 18, 2021, by Deacon Wayne Talbot at St. Thomas More Parish in Manhattan.

Weston Lee and Brenton Scott Kingsley, sons of Brandon and Kaylee (King) Kingsley, were baptized Aug. 21, 2021, by Father Dana Clark at St. Mary Parish in Ellis.

Graham William Livingston, son of Andrew and Chelsey (Smith) Livingston, was baptized Aug. 28, 2021, by

BAPTISMS

Ava Elizabeth Mattheyer,

daughter of Jordan and Emily (Cox) Mattheyer, was baptized Aug. 15, 2021, by Father Dana Clark at St. Mary Parish in Ellis.

Charlotte Joanne Meagher, daughter of Matthew and Jessica Meagher, was baptized July 24, 2021, by Father Dana Clark at St. Mary Parish in Ellis.

Peter Michael Meagher, son of Taylor and Elizabeth Meagher, was baptized Aug. 1, 2021, by Deacon Wayne Talbot at St. Thomas More Parish in Manhattan.

James Edward Gregory Middleton, son of Bobby and Kylie Middleton, was baptized Aug. 8, 2021, by Deacon Wayne Talbot at St. Thomas More Parish in Manhattan.

Sonia Isabella Pernia,

daughter of Jose and Courney Pernia, was baptized July 11, 2021, by Deacon Wayne Talbot at St. Thomas More Parish in Manhattan.

Kamden Matthew Richecky, son of Alan and Sarah

(Kemmer) Richecky, was baptized June 13, 2021, by Father Henry Baxa at St. Edward Parish in Belleville.

Ignatius Gregory Schuster, son of Gregory and Abigail Schuster, was baptized July 17, 2021, by Deacon Larry Erpelding at St. Thomas More Parish in Manhattan.

Cecilia Catherine Soto, daughter of Oscar and

Marie (Seybert) Soto, was baptized Aug. 7, 2021, by Father Raymond Courtright at St. Edward Parish in Belleville.

Lorelai Kimberly Reese Stephenson, daughter of Christian and Kylie Middleton, was baptized Aug. 8, 2021, by Deacon Wayne Talbot at St. Thomas More

Parish in Manhattan.

Vera Paige Young, daughter of Elliot and Kelsey Young, was baptized July 25, 2021, by Deacon Wayne Talbot at St. Thomas More Parish in Manhattan.

Tate Anthony Zemek, son of Derek and Stephanie Carter Ganitsch, was baptized Aug. 7, 2021, by Father Frank Coady at St. Thomas More Parish in Manhattan.



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