



Pray for life

I received an anonymous letter the other day. It was a copy of a post that has been circulating the Internet since the Supreme Court opinion on Roe vs. Wade was leaked. It said, "I'm not pro-murdering babies. I'm pro-Susan. I'm pro-Teresa. I'm pro-Becky."

With each name given, a story was shared. Susan was sexually assaulted. Teresa had severe health complications. Becky found out her baby was going to die.

As Catholics, we are pro-life. Which means we are pro-baby, pro-Susan, pro-Teresa and pro-Becky. Many critics against the Church falsely believe the Church holds the life of the baby in higher regard than the life of the mother. That's not true. The Church holds all life sacred and equal. Other critics claim the Church's only focus is abortion and does not aid in pro-life topics of immigration, poor and destitute, etc. That is also not true.

The Church is highly involved in all pro-life matters.

It does seem the Church is the loudest when it comes to abortion, but there is a reason for that. Abortion is one of the greatest evils of our world.

St. Teresa of Calcutta once said, "We must not be surprised when we hear of murders, killings, of wars, or of hatred. ... If a mother can kill her own child, what is left but for us to kill each other?"

If we close the door to abortion, then perhaps we will close the door to other evils that threaten the sanctity of life.

PRAY, PAGE 3



**GERALD
Vincke**

BISHOP, SALINA DIOCESE

Students pray a Rosary for Life during the 2021 high school respect life retreat.

MATEA GREGG, COMMUNICATIONS

MORTAL SIN?

When to receive Holy Communion.

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NEARING COMPLETION

After a longer-than-expected period, Salina church renovations ending.

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VATICAN MEDIA

Let us all find mercy

A few weeks ago, I attended the Missionaries of Mercy Conference in Rome. Pope Francis delegated approximately 1,000 priests from around the world as Missionaries of Mercy for the Year of Mercy in 2016. I was one of those priests. The Holy Father was going to have Missionaries of Mercy simply for one year but decided to continue this important aspect.

On my first full day in Rome, I walked to the church of St. Alphonsos Liguori, which has the original image of the patron saint of our diocese, Our Lady of Perpetual Help. I spent a great deal of time there praying for our diocese, especially for rain for our farmers. I know a lot of people throughout the diocese have been praying for rain.

Besides a few conferences and listening and sharing sessions, we all gathered for adoration and confession. It was a beautiful moment to experience God's mercy and love.

On Divine Mercy Sunday, April 24, I concelebrated Mass with our Holy Father. He has a bad knee, and it was painful to see him walk and see the grimace on his face. There was a lot that he mentioned, especially how Jesus brings peace after we have fallen. However, I especially appreciated when he said Jesus has made the entire Church a community that dispenses mercy, a sign and instrument of reconciliation for all humanity. The Holy Father said "each of us, in baptism, received the gift of the Holy Spirit to be a man or woman of reconciliation. Whenever we experience

the joy of being set free from the burden of our sins and failings; whenever we know at firsthand what it means to be reborn after a situation that appeared hopeless, we feel the need to share with those around us the bread of mercy. Let us feel called to this. And let us ask ourselves: at home, in my family, at work, in my community, do I foster fellowship, am I a weaver of reconciliation? Do I commit myself to defusing conflict, to bringing forgiveness in place of

hatred, and peace in place of resentment? Do I avoid hurting others by not gossiping, which always kills? Jesus wants us to be his witnesses before the world with those words: Peace be with you. I have received peace. I give it to

others."

At the heart of Pope Francis' mission is mercy. As he mentioned at his first public talk, "God never tires of forgiving us." Indeed, the world will be saved by mercy. I feel called to bring mercy and reconciliation to our diocese. Therefore, beginning on Ash Wednesday in 2023 until Divine Mercy Sunday in 2024, we will be having a Year of Mercy in our diocese. There will be forthcoming information, but my hope is to visit and spend the day at each of our parishes in the diocese promoting God's mercy. Please pray for this endeavor.

In Christ's service,

+ Gerald L. Vincke

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

**GERALD
Vincke**
BISHOP, SALINA DIOCESE



BISHOP'S CALENDAR

June

- 1-8** Pilgrimage to Ars, France, with seminarians from Salina and Dodge City Dioceses
- 11-17** USCCB Special Assembly, San Diego
- 18** Confirmation, 6 p.m., Ss. Phillip & James, Phillipsburg
- 19** Confirmation, 2 p.m., Ss. Peter & Paul, Clay Center
- 22** Confirmation, 7 p.m., St. Wenceslaus, Wilson
- 24** "June Moon", St. Isidore's fundraiser, Manhattan
- 25** Confirmation, 10 a.m., St. Patrick's, Lincoln
- 25** Confirmation, 5 p.m., Immaculate Heart of Mary, Hays
- 26** Confirmation, 2 p.m., St. Nicholas of Myra, Hays

SAINTS, FEASTS OF JUNE

"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** Justin, martyr
- 2** Marcellinus and Peter, martyrs
- 3** Charles Lwanga and companions, martyrs
- 5** Boniface, bishop and martyr
- 6** Norbert, bishop
- 9** Ephrem, deacon and doctor

- 11** Barnabas, apostle
- 13** Anthony of Padua, priest and doctor
- 19** Romuald, abbot
- 21** Aloysius Gonzaga, religious
- 22** Paulinus of Nola, bishop
- 22** John Fisher, bishop and martyr
- 22** Thomas More, martyr
- 24** Birth of John the Baptist
- 27** Cyril of Alexandria, bishop and doctor
- 27** Feast day of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, patroness of the Diocese of Salina
- 28** Irenaeus, bishop and martyr
- 29** Peter and Paul, apostles
- 30** First martyrs of the Church of Rome

PRAYER INTENTION

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

Families

We pray for Christian families around the world; may they embody and experience unconditional love and advance in holiness in their daily lives

Bishop Jerry Vincke has announced the diocesan prayer intention for June is for the youth of the diocese

For all the young people of the Diocese of Salina. May they have a safe, fun and faith-filled summer. May they continue to hear and follow the call of the Holy Spirit in their lives.

GOSPEL READINGS

June 5 — Pentecost Sunday

Readings vary

June 12 — The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity Jn 16:12-15

Jesus tells the apostles the Holy Spirit will come.

June 19 — The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ Lk 9:11b-17

Jesus feeds the 5,000.

June 26 — Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Lk 9:51-62

Jesus invites the apostles to follow him as he begins his ministry.

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CONFIRMATIONS



Sacred Heart, Colby — March 20

Front row from left, Austin Gerstberger, Coryl Carman and Makenzi Rhym-er. Middle row from left, Father Brian Lager, Breck Niblock, Eric Schroeder, Talon Wark and Isaac Schroeder. Back row from left, Deacon Tom Schrick, Caleb Cersovsky, Nathan Weber, Cobin Curry, Zach Kistler and Bishop Jerry Vincke.



St. John the Baptist, Beloit — March 28

Front row from left, Erin Schmitt, Peyton Remus, Alison Schroeder and Emma Mick. Second row from left, Aubrey Gengler, Jenna Gengler, Brodie Schroeder, Parker Isbell and Chance Jermark. Third row from left, Jerek Rexroat, Kyler Burks, Kylie Goddard, Braden Blass-Mead, Marley File, John Greenwood and Bishop Jerry Vincke. Fourth row from left, Mason Thompson, Quinn Eilert, Bryce Beisner, Jacob Winkler, Daniel Eilert and Lance Lundine. Back row from left, Father Jarett Konrade and Father Andrew Rockers.



St. Mary Queen of Angels, Russell — March 30

Front row from left, Bradyen Strobel, Emily Cole, Cheyenne Blundon, Macie Banks, Valeria Martinez and Jacob Ney. Back row from left, Father Michael Elanjimattathil, Wyatt Middleton, Caleb Olson, Jordayn Buhrl, Cameron Farmer and Bishop Jerry Vincke.



St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Salina — April 30

Front row from left, Katie Allen, Callee Bradley, Emily Koerperich, Savannah Esqueda, Nicole Richards and Paityn Fritz. Back row from left, Father Keith Weber, Oscar Perez, Keaton Smith, Wyatt Angell, Cason Shaw, Kolton Herbel, Tyler Bramblett, Grady Gebhardt, Jake Schmitz, Eli Jennings, Austin Bramblett and Bishop Jerry Vincke.

PRAY, FROM PAGE 1

I recently read statistics that stated the two primary reasons for women seeking abortion are: 1) The baby would cause a dramatic life change; and 2) The mother couldn't afford the child. Other reasons listed included the mother having relationship problems or being afraid of single motherhood. Finally, a small percentage of mothers indicated they no longer wanted to bear children or had health complications. To prevent abortions, we must look at reasons why they happen. We must inspire love and hope in the midst of anger and fear. But as a Church, we must also show mercy.

Whenever I hear confessions, I try to be very merciful and compassionate to the penitent. Some days are better than others. However, whenever I've heard the confessions of women who had abortions, I recognize the great courage it takes for them to turn to the Lord and seek his healing and forgive-

ness. I always try to be extra compassionate and merciful with them as they give this to the Lord and trust in the Lord's endless mercy.

My heart breaks for them knowing the shame and the guilt they have carried for many, many years, sometimes for decades. Having an abortion leaves a deep wound in their hearts. And, like most wounds, which we all have in one way or another, they determine the way we treat ourselves and others. Often, a woman will take out anger and hatred towards herself for having an abortion onto others. St. Ambrose once said, "We will not heal ourselves by wounding another." Jesus can heal all, and for the women who have had an abortion, Jesus' desire to forgive them is so much greater than their desire to be forgiven.

Ultimately, we must all seek to do God's will. That will determine our eternal destiny. Isn't every child in the womb God's child, even

WHAT YOU CAN DO

If the Supreme Court decides to overturn Roe vs Wade, we still need to press on in our efforts to defend the unborn.

Please join me in promoting the Value Them Both Amendment and vote yes on Aug. 2.

We are a people of life. The Value Them Both coalition released the following statement: "No

the children who are the result of sexual assault, unwanted or disabled? Regardless of how a child came to be or what ailments they might have, every child is created with God's great intention. The words of Jeremiah 1:5 "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you," and Isaiah 43:1, "But now, thus says the Lord, who created you, Jacob, and formed you, Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine," are still true today.

matter what the U.S. Supreme Court decides on abortion, as of now Kansas will remain a destination for painful late-term abortions and clinics with no health and safety standards — among the most extreme states in the nation. If Kansans want to stop this, they must vote yes on Value Them Both."

God speaks these words to every child at the moment of their conception. He knows every child. He created and formed every child. He calls every child by name, for every child is his.

It seems to me people who support abortion want the Church's approval of what they believe to be right. But we can never support abortion out of love for the other. Abortion is a grave sin that separates us from God. Because of our love for others, we can never condone actions that separate a

person from God.

So, what can we do? First, we must always remain steadfast in prayer. Ultimately, the issue of abortion is a heart issue. We must all pray for the conversion of hearts. But also, we must give hope to the expecting mothers. Some feel trapped and are lost. We are called to help pregnant moms who are struggling with how they can support their child.

My final thought is this: I've always thought that at some point, the Church will undergo extreme persecution. I get the sense that if Roe vs. Wade is overturned, that persecution will ramp up considerably. Why? Because evil supports death and not life. But we find hope in the truth that the God of Life will always prevail.

In Christ's service,

+ Gerald L. Vincke

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

Pelosi and Holy Communion

Someone recently told me they are shocked by how many people do not know that a person in the state of mortal sin should not receive Holy Communion.

The fact many people do not know this falls on me. We do not preach this enough.

What is a mortal sin? The word's origin gives us a clue as to what these sins involve. The word comes from the Latin word mortale, which means causing death. It is the purposeful severing or ending of

our relationship with God through sin. All sin hurts our relationship with God, but some sins are so severe that committing them is us actively choosing to turn our back on God and no longer be in a relationship with him.

For a sin to be mortal, it needs to meet these three criteria. First, it has to be of grave nature. Second, we have to know it is wrong, and third, we have to choose to freely

and willing commit the sin. So, we know it is wrong, we know God has said not to do it, and we make a free-will choice to do it

anyway. We damage and end our relationship with God through this action and choose a life without a relationship with God.

God desires us to always be in relationship with Him in this world and continue that relationship for eternity with Him

in heaven. One important note is that the relationship's ending is always on our side, and God is constantly there to forgive and restore the relationship. All we have to do is go to confession, acknowledge our sin, and ask for forgiveness. God is always waiting for us in the confessional and desires to fix that relationship.

Living in a state of mortal sin is a dangerous place for a soul to be. Dying in that state would cause us to spend eternity in hell away from God.

COMMUNION, PAGE 5

GERALD Vincke
BISHOP, SALINA DIOCESE



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Students learn 7 themes of CST

NO. 5 — DIGNITY OF WORK & RIGHTS OF WORKERS

By ALLISON OCHOA
THE REGISTER

In explaining the Catholic Church's social teaching on Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops states, "Work is more than a way to make a living; it is a form of continuing participation in God's creation." This statement is brought to life in the classrooms and halls of St. Joseph Catholic School in Oakley and Thomas More Prep-Marian Junior/Senior High School in Hays.

St. Joseph Catholic School Principal Michelle Selzer said her pre-K through fifth-grade students are reminded of the role and dignity of work daily.

"When our school opened in 1962, Father (James) Grennan said we would 'play hard, work hard, and pray hard,' and now we chant this frequently in our building and our kids see a reminder of it on the bulletin board in our gym," she said. "The Lord calls us to work every day."

The students at St. Joseph Catholic School carry out this work not only through their academics, but through efforts such as collecting food to help others in need.

"God's Food Pantry is our community food pantry, and many churches and community members donate to it," Selzer said. "We bring our (school's) donations and present them at our school Mass and then deliver the items to the pantry."

The school also showcases the dignity of different types of work through STREAM — Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Art and Math — tubs that contain costumes and materials



COURTESY PHOTO

Students at St. Joseph Catholic School in Oakley collect items for their food pantry.

related to different jobs in the community. Selzer said these resources help teachers highlight multiple avenues of work and they encourage the students to start thinking about what they want to be when they grow up. Some of the tubs available for classes to check out focus on religious vocations, work in a hardware store and jobs in a coffee shop, among others.

Recognizing and appreciating the work of others also aid the

students in learning about the dignity of work and workers. Students have made cards and cookies for local law enforcement officers, and the third-grade class wrote notes of appreciation to the school's office staff, custodians, cooks and other teachers.

"It helps the kids learn about giving back," Selzer said. "It helps them see that everyone has different talents and gifts to use."

Those gifts and talents — re-

specting them in people and recognizing their value — is something Rick Binder works to instill in his junior and senior religion students at TMP-Marian.

"Anything I've done in youth ministry has had an underlying theme of dignity," Binder said. "I think the primary poverty in the U.S. is a poverty of dignity or self-worth as a human being. People want to know they have value."

Binder said his efforts to teach the Church's theme on dignity of work and the rights of the worker center on helping the students understand their own dignity as it relates to their personal experience.

"All the kids are at a different place in their journey," he said. "The seniors are working on their capstone projects which are meant to be a visible expression of what their experience at TMP has meant for them. It's their opportunity to work and you can see it in these students — that it's challenging them to think a little bigger than they are, and it becomes important to them. They can say, 'My project has value,' and they can walk away with a greater sense of pride."

Helping the students recognize their personal history and its relationship to their ongoing story is also important to Binder as he relates it to the students' work.

"The ah-ha moments come in the personal stories," he said. "That's my goal; to teach them the history of the Church, to stress the history of them and why that should matter to us, because knowing where we came from adds dignity and value to our purpose."

Dealing with a beautiful mess of a world

Our world is messy right now. Which I would guess is because the world is full of messy people.

These days, I can barely stand to watch the news, and social media has become a tinderbox. There just seems to be so much anger, hate and division in our world, nation, communities and homes. Right now in our nation, the main contention point is the Roe vs. Wade decision.

I've seen so many hateful posts that go against the Catholic Church position on life, and at first, I'm filled with anger. Anger at the ignorance. Anger at the blatant lies. Anger at the ugliness.

But then, I'm moved to pity.

I feel pity for the men and women who desire a culture of death. Pity for the people who seem to not

understand the dignity of the human person, including their own inherent, intrinsic worth.

It feels like we are in the middle of a raging storm, and I think of the story in scripture when Jesus and the apostles found themselves on a boat in the middle of a storm. The winds whipped, thunder boomed, lightning cracked and waves crashed. The apostles feared for their lives, and all the while, Jesus slept.

But if you read in the beginning of the story, it says Jesus was the one who commanded them onto the boat. He did so knowing full well a storm was on the horizon. He entered the storm with them, and while the storm raged around them, he slept. It was several hours before he woke up and ordered the winds and

waters to be still.

And when he finally gave the order, and the world calmed, he chastised the disciples for not trusting him.

It very much feels like we are in the middle of a storm. And it's easy to forget that Jesus is right here with us. But he is with us. He is in the boat. And when the storm finally breaks, I pray that instead of chastising me for my lack of faith, Jesus will instead thank me for trusting him.

It will be no easy task. It is easy to be discouraged by the world around us. Regardless of how things play out in the political world, there is still anger in the hearts of many. For change to truly

occur, it is hearts that must change.

The best thing we can do is love God despite all the ugly in the world. By loving him and leading good, holy lives, we might begin to soften those with hardness of hearts. But truthfully, only God can really change hearts.

I hope we all find solace in the truth that God keeps his promises. He will bring good out of the bad, and he will calm the storms around us. Maybe instead of being scared of the storm, we should instead be thankful for the rain.

KATIE Hamel
CREATIVE EDITOR



Katie

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

COMMUNION, FROM PAGE 4

Some may think this sounds cruel, but hell exists because God loves us enough not to force us to be with him for eternity if we don't want to.

We can find in Galatians 5:19-20 a long list of examples of mortal sin. Some of these include: murder, fornication, missing Mass on Sundays or holy days of obligation, heresy, etc. Remember that for a sin to be a mortal sin, the above three conditions must be present. For example, if you miss Mass on Sunday, but it is because you were sick, you did not miss Mass freely or willingly.

The Church teaches that those in mortal sin should repent before receiving Holy Communion. You are still welcome and encouraged to attend Mass, but you should not receive the Eucharist since you haven't restored that relationship with God yet through confession.

Perhaps an analogy would be helpful.

Imagine a woman whose husband goes to strip clubs and repeatedly sleeps with many other women, and she knows about it. The husband comes home and wants to have dinner with his wife, acting as though nothing was wrong. He is indifferent to the many ways he has hurt and wounded her. How would she feel? With all that pain and hurt, could she even fake that they had a relationship at that point?

Let's take this a step further. The cheating husband now wants to be intimate with his wife.



Again, he shows no remorse for the ways he has hurt her.

At the very least, shouldn't the husband first apologize to his wife? Shouldn't he take ownership of what he has failed to do and tell her he is sorry? But more importantly, shouldn't he ask for her forgiveness?

In a similar way, Holy Communion is a sacred banquet in which Jesus becomes intimate with us. He desires to be one with us in Holy Communion, much like a married couple becomes one flesh. Jesus has a heart. He feels rejection and joy like all of us. When we commit mortal sin or "cheat" on God, we must first apologize and beg for his forgiveness. We know he will grant it in the saving sacrament of confession. And then, once our broken relationship has been healed, we can return to the intimate banquet of the Eucharist.

As a Church, we need to do a better job teaching the

faithful about the consequences of mortal sin, and this is a message everyone needs to hear. Often it is the politicians we publicly criticize for receiving communion while in the apparent state of mortal sin, and at times rightfully so. The most recent example of this is when Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone of the Archdiocese of San Francisco stated Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi will no longer be able to receive Holy Communion because of her outspoken stance on abortion rights. Archbishop Cordileone stated he did this for pastoral reasons, saying he cares for the soul of Pelosi. He hopes the outcome of this situation is reconciliation. The Church has an essential role in standing up for truth and guiding others for their good.

As I mentioned earlier, murder is a mortal sin. Abortion is the murder of innocent life. And while Pelosi might not have explicitly committed an

abortion herself, she is one of the greatest advocates for abortion. She supports abortion in the name of women's rights and freedom.

Here's the thing. Our Catholic politicians who support abortion, such as Pelosi and President Joe Biden, are not the only Catholics who support abortion. According to a 2022 Pew Research study: 10% of Catholics believe abortion should be illegal in all cases; 32% of Catholics believe abortion should be mostly illegal, except for certain cases; 43% of Catholics believe abortion should be mostly legal, except for certain cases. And 13% of Catholics believe abortion should be legal in all cases.*

It breaks my heart to see these statistics. Isn't it sad that the mother's womb is one of the most dangerous places for a child? Abortion is a grave evil. There are no questions about that. Abortion is the murder of the innocent. It is an attack

on the family. It is what the devil wants. As Catholics, we cannot support abortion. As Catholics, we cannot support advocates for abortion.

This situation raises a good question that we should all be asking ourselves as we approach the Eucharist. Is our soul in the state of grace? I do not ask us to think about this question out of judgment or malice but out of love. Before we start pointing out the splinters in our brother's eye, let us first remove the beam from our own. Let us truly examine our hearts and discern whether or not we are leading the life God calls us to lead. It is a great time to be a saint, and we must be living the life first before we call others to join us.

A question that may arise is this: "God was inclusive of lepers, prostitutes and all people...why would we deny communion to anybody?"

My response is this: Jesus reached out to all people, but his main goal was to call each of us to repentance and conversion. Jesus came to forgive our sins, not give us permission to sin.

All of us are sinners. I am a sinner. But as long as we always approach the sacrament of confession with a humble and sincere heart, God will always forgive us. And he will be anxiously and happily waiting for us to join him in the heavenly banquet of the Mass.

*www.pewresearch.org/religion/2022/05/06america-abortion-quandary/#religion-breaks



Staff of the Salina Diocese show their support for Child Abuse Prevention Month. From left are Corey Lyon, Tyler Greenman, Corrina Hudsonpillar, Susan Goodman, Heather Hartman, Laurie Trautwein, Brenda Streit, Matea Gregg, Ernie Armstrong, Melanie Melander, Geoff Andrews, Wendy Backes, Father Andy Hammeke, Kim Hoelting and Katie Platten.

Staff celebrates awareness

BY THE REGISTER

The month of April is always a busy time for the Safe Environment Office. This year was no different.

April 7 was “wear blue day” at the Chancery.

“Wearing blue connects us with millions of others across the country who support child abuse prevention efforts, strong families and healthy children,” said Wendy Backes, Safe Environment Program coordinator for the diocese. “While the mission of the Safe Environment Office (promise to protect, pledge to heal) remains a daily focus, during Child Abuse Prevention Month, we shine an extra light upon the continuing efforts to protect children and the most vulnerable from harm.”

Along with the wearing of blue, the staff participated in a special Rosary (created by the USCCB) for the healing and protection of all who have been touched and affected by child abuse. Five different staff members led each of the Luminous Mysteries, each mystery with specific regard to the protection of children. The Rosary helps to lift up these needs in prayer, offering them to God through Mary who offers her loving protection to all her children.

According to Pope John

Paul II, Rosarium Virginis Mariae, “The Rosary has accompanied me in moments of joy and in moments of difficulty. To it I have entrusted any number of concerns; in it I have always found comfort.”

After praying the Rosary, Bishop Jerry Vincke told the story of St. Maria Goretti, patron saint of youth, young women, purity and victims of rape. St. Maria Goretti died tragically July 6, 1902, at age 11. She was stabbed by Alessandro Serenelli after resisting his violent attempt to rape her.

Following the story of her life, Bishop Vincke shared a personal picture and a relic of her. While St. Maria Goretti is universally known as the Patroness of Purity, her greatest virtue was her unyielding forgiveness of her attacker. After the Rosary and story of St. Maria Goretti, each staff member received their own St. Maria Goretti medal and prayer card.

Rick Binder, religion teacher at TMP-Marian in Hays, could not participate in the wearing of blue or Rosary in person, but he prayed with each of his religion classes that day with specific intentions for child abuse awareness and the healing and protection for all.

To end the month’s



COURTESY PHOTO

Wendy Backes, right, and Father David Metz present Janet Eubanks with the Safety Coordinator of the Year Award recently in Concordia.

activities, on April 20 Wendy Backes and Kim Hoelting, director of human resources, traveled to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Concordia. There, Backes presented Janet Eubanks with the Safety Coordinator of the Year Award.

“Even though Janet has been the safety coordinator for just a short time, her attention to detail, expertise in all areas of safety and passion and commit-

ment to protecting children is indisputable. It is not very often that I go to a parish or school and witness child safety so well-defined, but at OLPH it is because that is just how Janet operates. Janet is an invaluable member of my 76-member safety coordinator team, and a true blessing to the pastor, staff, parents, students and parishioners of OLPH in Concordia,” Backes said.

Father David Metz also

sang praises for Eubanks. “Janet is so deserving of this award,” he said.

Backes also presented Eubanks with a picture of St. Joseph, protector of Mary, Jesus, the Church and all of us.

Protecting children is everyone’s job.

“We must continue to work diligently to protect children from abuse in any form and in all circumstances, while constantly reviewing protocols and safeguards,” Backes said. “Training our clergy, educators, employees and volunteers is critical to identifying any concerning behavior and immediately reporting it. The more people who are trained to know the warning signs of child abuse, how to report abuse, and how to create safe environments for young people, the safer our children will be.”

The Diocese of Salina has taken great strides in fulfilling its promise to protect children, educate communities and bring healing to those who have suffered abuse. Do you or someone you know want further guidance and instruction on how to protect children? Contact the Safe Environment Office at (785) 827-8746. Or visit our website at salinadiocese.org/office/safe-environment-office.



Sacred Heart, Colby — May 1
Front row from left, Lenox McKee, Carter Ostmeyer, Thaddeus Lager, Isabella Schroeder, Wynter Finley and Liam Herrman. Second row from left, Father Brian Lager, Paxton Ackerman, Libby Bergsten, Kemper Eisenbart, Nathan Hernandez, Kade Ryan, Hadley Surneier and Deacon Tom Schrick. Third row from left, Tyler Cersovsky, Hunter Quintero, Braxton Ludowese, Fredy Sanchez, Jennifer Baker and Berkley Brzon. From back, left, Emerson Sloan, Austin Lange, Sage Mullin, Madisyn Wolf, Baylor McLemore and Kinlee Middleton.



St. Frances Cabrini, Hoxie — April 24



St. Wenceslaus, Wilson — April 24
Father Tony Kulandaijesu and, from left, Chisholm Dlabal, Luke Thielen and Jonathan Soukup.



St. Mary, Queen of Angels, Russell — April 24
Front row from left, Ava Cline, Samantha Mosier, Macy Smith, Haven Becker and Fiona Dreiling. Back row from left, Declan Tomlinson, Maddix Dinkel, Steele Rogge, Grayson Knopp and Father Michael Elanjimattathil.



St. Bernard, Ellsworth — May 1
Front row from left, Teresa Jundt, Sheridan Soukup, Kaiden Mueting and Ambrosius Albert. Back row from left, Father Joshua Werth, Nova Rodriguez, Cord Norris and Jack Kratzer.



St. Francis Xavier, Junction City — May 1
Front row from left, Oliver Alforque, Noah Justin, Benjamin Luke, Natalia Cerna, Grayson Bechard, Sunni Hall and Aurora Benson. Second row from left, Father John Wolesky, Ryan Davis, William Hall, Lilly Winnie, Delancy Galvan Chavarria, Lynn Hodgson, Daniella Hoggatt, Joseph Phillips and Father Gnanasekar Kulandai. Third row from left, Norah Effland, Mary Hausauer, Kinsley Darrow, Matilda Mullinax, John Engstrom, Oliver Folgert and Michelle Onujoyu. Back row from left, Emma Henslee, Samuel Okorie, Hunter Athorp, Yazmin Solis, SarahLynn Alforque and Joy Okorie.



St. Edward, Belleville
Father Henry Baxa and teacher Allison Copple, along with, from left, Dalton Klenda, Isidore Baxa and Ignatius Baxa.



Immaculate Conception, Solomon — May 1
Father John Wolesky and catechist Patty Francis along with, from left, Alli Meagher, Quincy Coup and Colbie Koster.



St. John the Baptist, Hanover

Front row from left, Mabel Hynek, Alivia Bruna and Annie Tegtmeier. Back row from left, Father Joseph Kieffer, Madden Cohorst, Qeasten Stallbaumer, Brett Becker and teacher Robin Adam.



Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin, Minneapolis — May 1

From left, teacher Anna Dawson, Natalie Morrison, Rylan Bacon, Kathryn Labes and teacher Cameron Dawson.



St. John the Baptist, Clyde — April 4

Front row from left, catechist Jennifer Koch, Sawyer Kolman, Kendall Sorell, Waide Simmons and Father Steven Heina. Back row from left, Jensen Juneke and Luke LeClair.



Sacred Heart, Atwood — April 24

Father Norbert Dlabal and Deacon Mark Vrbas, along with, front row from left, Sophia Lopez, Kinley Green, Charlie Hatfield and Aurora Dill. Second row from left, Aiden Maaske, Gustavson Horinek, Grayson Schilde, Reece Dunker and Dana Juenemann.



St. Mary, Clifton — April 24

Front row from left, Emily Schwab, Jalyn Fahey and Agnes Goeckel. Back row from left, Father Steve Heina, Cason Knoettgen, Joelan Jackson and catechist Ashley Schwab.



St. Mary, Ellis — April 24

Front row from left, Theodore Meagher, Camden Honas, Mason Fitzgerald and Emily Broadway. Middle row from left, Coleman Downing, Shayden Boydston, RaeLynn Geyer, John Hickert and Mason Schield. Back row from left, Hattee Deutscher, Gunner Gabel, Ryalin Moeder, Father Dana Clark, Aubree Nilhas and Landon Schield.



St. Michael, Chapman

Father Peter O'Donnell, along with, front row from left, Adalee Zumbrunn, Haidyn Gilliland and Shae Kelly. Back row from left, Cannon Krinhop, Lawson Norton, Archer Anderes and Elias Calovich. Not pictured, teacher Abby Anderes.



Manhattan Catholic Schools, Seven Dolors, Manhattan — April 24

Front row from left, Joshua Fund, Quinn Legleiter, Jacob Peschel, Brooks Bowen, Isabella Galvan, Ava Shepek, Augustine Irvine, Eleanor Thornburg and Fulton Hahn. Middle row from left, Andrew Solari, Natalie Lohman, Aubrey Sloan, Wyatt Golden, Jackson Foster, Felicity Dongoski, Joseph De La Garza, Oliver Burris, Lucie Furasek and Shaun Fuemmeler. Back row from left, catechist Jessica Hampton, Father Mike Leiker, Father Ryan McCandless and catechist Andrea Feldkamp.



Seven Dolors, Manhattan (English) — April 24

Front row from left, Yahir Renteria, Jonah Cassidy and Cove Swiercinsky. Back row from left, McKenzie Williams, Paige Schimke, Father Ryan McCandless, Averi Innes and Katharine Yaussi.



Seven Dolors, Manhattan (Spanish) — April 24

Front row from left, Jorge Chavez, Guillermo Medrano, Luciano Coronado-Robledo, Enzo Coronado-Robledo and Ethan Rodrigo Segundo Romero. Back row from left, Deacon Ed Souza, Jimena Chavez, JoAnna Nuñez-Luna, Father Ryan McCandless, Jayla Cisneros and Ivanna Coronado-Robledo.



St. Joseph, Hays — May 1

Front row from left, Layne Whitmer, Caise Harmon and Riley Dennis. Middle row from left, Veda Augustine, Bridget Lang, Mia Schumacher and Magdalene Bonczynski. Back row from left, Jaxon Gibbs, Greyson Gillespie, Ella Giebler, Father Richard Daise, Nicholas Brown and Preston Hickert.



St. Fidelis Basilica, Victoria — May 1

Father James Moster and teacher Becky Scheck, along with, front row from left, Parker Bucher, Alice Schulte, Emalyann Dreiling, Rebekah Dinkel and Josselyn Wellbrock. Middle row from left, Everett Sander, Devyn Hunter, Chance Schumacher, Gavin Pfeifer and Kasen Truan. Back row from left, Brantley Pfeifer, Hadlie Dreiling, Maverick Scherrer, Brady Schmeidler and Carter Robben.

AROUND THE DIOCESE



COURTESY PHOTO

On April 9, Father Henry Saw Lone officially became a citizen of the United States. Congratulations, Father Henry.



COURTESY PHOTO

The Salina volunteer kickoff event for Value Them Both had 32 people in attendance.

Spend time in adoration to grow in Christ

By PETE BURAK

SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

What we look at has the power to change us. Our eyes are like portals to our imagination. Seeing something has a unique ability to stimulate new thoughts, clarify former ideas and significantly alter our perception.

To gaze upon the Grand Canyon, the face of a child or, more problematically, images of war or immoral acts, means we encounter it in a different way than simply hearing about it or reading a description. Our

days are filled with a constant barrage of images, videos and other visual stimulants which threaten to overwhelm us and cause us to think only about the here and now, the immediate and, in many cases, the visually pleasurable.

As an antidote to the visual storm of the world, the Church has always used imagery to tell the story of salvation history. That is the genesis of the beautiful stained-glass windows in so many of our churches, and beautiful art such as the ceiling of the Sistine Chap-

el. Ultimately, though, no art, architecture or image can replace gazing upon the face of Christ in prayer, and Eucharistic adoration offers us a unique opportunity to do just that.

St. Teresa of Calcutta was famous for inviting everyone to encounter Jesus in the “distressing disguise of the poor,” but she was also known for spending significant time, every day, adoring, imploring and loving Jesus in the Eucharist.

“Spend as much time as possible in front of the Blessed Sacrament and he

will fill you with his strength and power,” she said.

It requires God-given faith to believe that what looks like a little piece of unleavened bread contained in the gold monstrance is supremely worthy of our attention, honor, worship and time. In Eucharistic adoration, we direct our vision toward Love himself, encounter a mystery beyond the world’s comprehension and, most importantly, find ourselves in his gaze.

Pope Benedict once said, “Adoration is essentially an

embrace with Jesus in which I say to him: ‘I am yours, and I ask you to stay with me always.’”

In a world full of competing attractions, constant stimulation and disorienting visual noise, time with the Blessed Sacrament can heal our wounds, calm our minds and redirect our gaze toward he who is the source of our joy, hope and ability to live in the world, but not of it. So spend some time adoring Jesus in the Eucharist because he never tires of looking lovingly upon you.

Charities making an impact

Below you'll see how many lives were touched by your loving support of Catholic Charities in 2021.

Keep in mind, every number represents a real person with a real

and beautiful story.

Your support is crucial to the continuation of this work through the 31 counties of northwest Kansas that we serve. To make a tax-deductible gift to Catholic Charities,

you can give securely online at www.ccnks.org/donate

Thank you all for giving from your heart and providing the love and mercy of Jesus to our neighbors in need across the Diocese of Salina

and beyond.
God Bless,



Megan Robl is executive director of Catholic Charities.



Volunteers needed for Value Them Both

By DEBBIE DENEALT
SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

There's still time to help.

We have been hearing much about women's rights and health care, but the truth is, we need everyone to understand what the Value Them Both amendment actually is and why we must vote yes on Aug. 2 to pass this important piece of legislation.

The amendment will bring back the 23 common sense regulations on abortions in the state of Kansas. No, it doesn't stop all abortions, but it does stop painful, late-term abortions from happening in our state as is happening today. The amendment restores our Constitution to the way it was before a 2019 Kansas Supreme Court ruling that cleared the path for nearly unlimited abortion in Kansas. It protects existing common-sense restrictions on the abortion industry.

The amendment safeguards Kansans' ability to have parental notification for minors seeking abortion, clinic inspections, safety and sanitation standards, and our state tax dollars will be kept from funding abortions. This amendment is supported by healthcare professionals

across our state because common sense regulations ensure women will be safer, healthier and more protected.


The bottom line: Since this court ruling, Kansas has seen the largest increase in the number of abortions in more than 25 years, with the majority performed on out-of-state residents.

Kansans, if you don't want our state to become the abortion factory of the Midwest, we need you to vote yes Aug. 2.

Everyone can help. We have bumper stickers (magnetic are available) and yard signs. You can talk to your neighbors, family and friends. We need your prayers most of all. We need feet on the ground to help us knock on doors and volunteers to make calls across our diocese to make sure people know about what is going on in our state. Training is provided. For volunteer opportunities or to find out more about how you can help, contact me, Debbie Deneault, Debd@valuethemboth.com

Another great resource with information is the website, valuethemboth.com

Debbie Deneault is coordinator for VTB for the Salina Diocese and regional director in north-central Kansas for Value Them Both Coalition.



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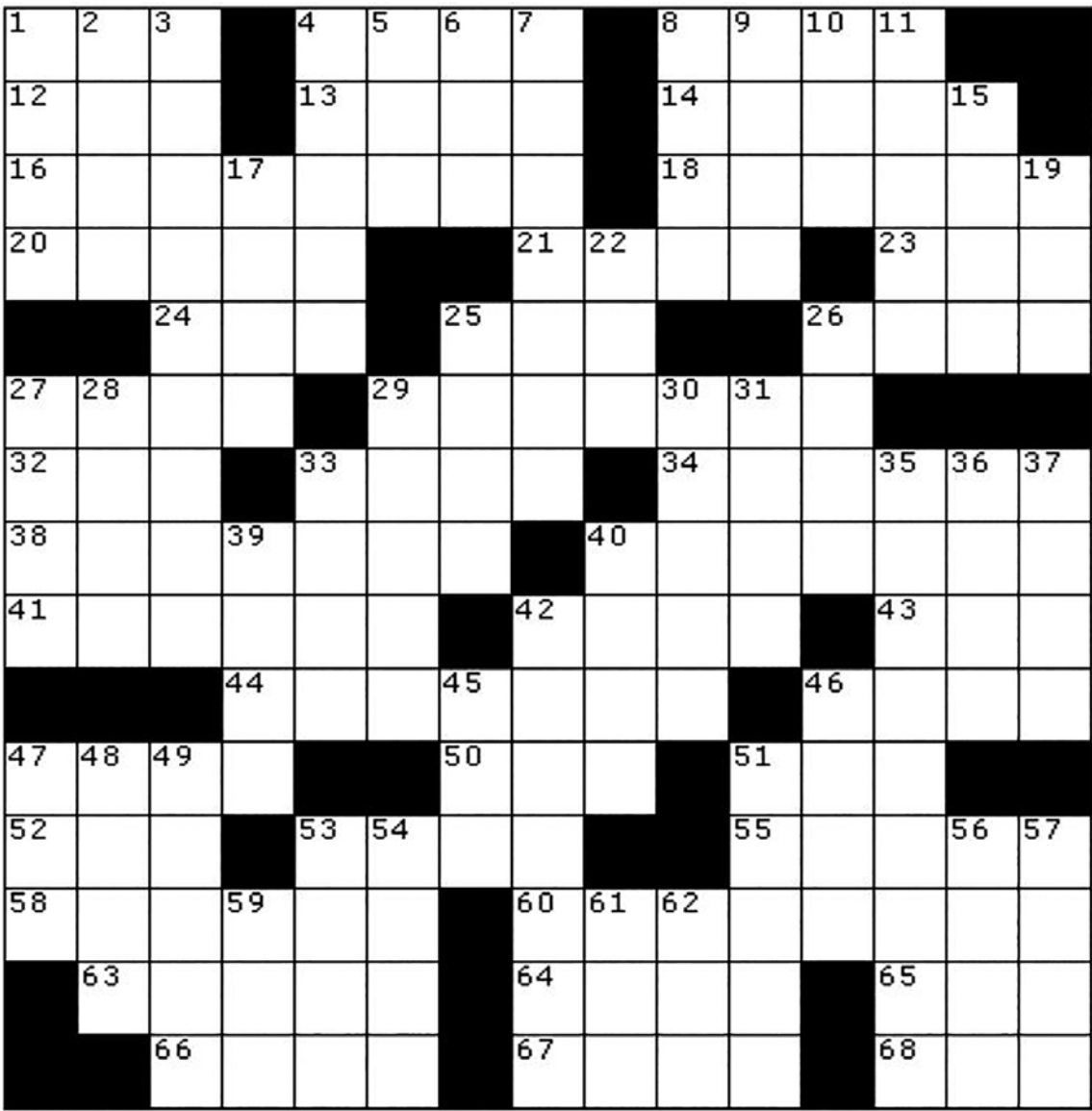
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CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**

 - 1 Fast plane
 - 4 Exchange
 - 8 U.S. Air Force
 - 12 Paddle
 - 13 Biblical weed
 - 14 Sashay
 - 16 Dance with stamping and clapping
 - 18 NT church leaders
 - 20 Vocalist
 - 21 A Roman emperor
 - 23 Before, poetically
 - 24 Male offspring
 - 25 Taxi
 - 26 __ Major (Big Dipper)
 - 27 Swiss mountains
 - 29 Barge puller
 - 32 Sign of th zodiac
 - 33 Speck of wood, etc. (KJV)
 - 34 Makes a trail
 - 38 Maybe
 - 40 Survivor of fiery furnace
 - 41 Mexican food brand
 - 42 El __
 - 43 Bird call
 - 44 Strange
 - 46 Teen skin ailment
 - 47 Yearn
 - 50 Pan
- 51 Good grief!
 - 52 Water closet
 - 53 Territory held in fee
 - 55 "___ porridge hot..."
 - 58 Caught sight of (KJV)
 - 60 Sees beforehand
 - 63 Instructional method (2 wds.)
 - 64 Dash
 - 65 Ref
 - 66 Carol
 - 67 Rip
 - 68 Transgression

DOWN

 - 1 Downy
 - 2 Discount
 - 3 Convey
 - 4 Unpermissive
 - 5 Pallid
 - 6 Electric spark
 - 7 Bondage
 - 8 Exploiter
 - 9 Farm building
 - 10 Total
 - 11 Sneer
 - 15 Goofs
 - 17 Cow noises
 - 19 Ocean
 - 22 Recede
 - 25 Carves
- 26 Beehive State
 - 27 Dog food brand
 - 28 Look
 - 29 Transparent gem
 - 30 Heavy-set
 - 31 In addition
 - 33 They brought gifts
 - 35 He climbed a tree to see Jesus
 - 36 Economics abrv.
 - 37 Loafer
 - 39 Greek goddess of youth
 - 40 One of the Gospels
 - 42 Offer
 - 45 Respect
 - 46 Gets older
 - 47 Lager
 - 48 Bludgeon
 - 49 Mount (2 wds.)
 - 51 Turn over
 - 53 Lavish party
 - 54 Object of false worship
 - 56 Partial
 - 57 Sports channel
 - 59 __ Jima
 - 61 Bullfight cheer
 - 62 Dashed

Answers on Page 14

FOOD PANTRY

Students at St. Mary's Grade School in Ellis chose to collect hygiene items for the Ellis Food Pantry during Lent. They presented the pantry with 204 items and \$270 in monetary donations. Students collected shampoo, soap, paper towels, toothpaste, toothbrushes, and other personal care items that were in need.

COURTESY PHOTO



The Eucharistic Miracle of Herentals

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 was documenting Eucharistic miracles from around the world and cataloging them onto a website (<http://www.miracolieuucaristici.org/en/Liste/list.html>) he created before he died of leukemia.

Eucharistic Miracle of Herentals, Belgium | 1412

In 1412, a certain Jan van Langerstede went for lodging to a hotel not far from the little city of Herentals. This professional man was stealing sacred objects from churches and selling them all over Europe. The day before his arrival at Herentals, he went to the nearby village of Poederlee. He entered the parish church and, without being noticed, stole the chalice and the ciborium containing five consecrated hosts. As he was returning to Herentals, in the place known as "de hegge" (the fence), he felt as if he was pulled by a mysterious force that was keeping him from continuing his journey. So, he tried to get rid of the hosts by throwing them into the river, but his every attempt was useless.

Jan was on the verge of despair when he saw a field not far away with a big rabbit burrow where he



straightaway hid the hosts. The task took place without any trouble, and the man was able to peacefully return to Herentals. In the meantime, the city judge, Gilbert de Pape, began an investigation to discover the author of the theft in the church of Porderlee. Among the suspects was also Jan. The police searched his luggage and found the chalice and the ciborium.

Jan then confessed everything except the fact that he had thrown away the hosts. He was to be immediately hanged, and Jan had already climbed the scaffold when, encouraged by the priest to cleanse his soul before dying, completely confessed his guilt. The judge then suspended the execution and ordered Jan to indicate the exact place where he had left the hosts. A large crowd followed them. As soon as they arrived at the field, they saw the hosts all radiant, arranged in the form of a cross.

Strangely, the hosts remained intact, notwithstanding the weather, and they were at once brought back in procession, some to Herentals and some to Poederlee, where they remained until the 16th century.

On Jan. 2, 1441, the miracle was declared authentic by the magistrate of Herentals. At the place where the hosts were found, a small chapel was built, which was visited by numerous prelates, such as Jean Malderus, Bishop of Anvers in 1620 and Pope Benedict XIV in 1749.

The daughter of John of Lussemborg, Elizabeth Van Gorlitz, paid for the enlargement of the chapel, which was later transformed into a shrine.

LISTEN UP

BY THE REGISTER

Have you listened to *faith* magazine — "Discovering the beauty of the Eucharist" audio version?

We're excited about this new series on From the Heart podcast.

Every article is being recorded and will be made available. Please be sure to tune in.

Visit fromtheheartssalina.com.

Renovations nearly complete at Salina church

By KATIE HAMEL
THE REGISTER

Typically, the end of an intensive church renovation project is signified by a special Mass where the bishop anoints the altar with sacred Chrism oil.

But for St. Mary Queen of the Universe Church in Salina, this isn't the case. Due to the pandemic and world events, the renovation project lasted 21 months instead of the expected nine months.

Longing to have a sense of normalcy and once more return to a beautiful worship space, Bishop Jerry Vincke, pastor Father Kevin Weber and associate pastor Father Brian McCaffrey opted to anoint the altar while the renovation project was ongoing. This special Mass took place Dec. 19, 2021, and is featured in the Jan. 28 issue of The Register.

But as of the end of May, the renovation project was approximately 97% completed, with only the handicap door operators and a few other minor items left to finalize.

The initial conversations about the renovation project began in the spring of 2018 with a simple need — the panels in the back of the church that served as sound proofing needed to be updated.

"It quickly snowballed from there," Father Weber joked.

As Father Weber and members of the renovation project building committee met, they began to dream

about what the church could be. Co-chairs of the committee were Scott and Kristi Bergkamp and Tom and Carla Dill.

One important need was to expand the gathering space. The gathering space at the time resembled a hallway more than an open space, and the location of the baptismal font in the center of the confined area made traffic flow difficult.

The committee noted the pressing need to expand the gathering space. In doing so, the faithful would be able to visit before and after Mass in the gathering area, thereby preserving silence and reverence in the worship space. Practical purposes were so that the flow of the congregation would be much smoother and so that parishioners could wait out inclement weather as needed.

The gathering space was the driving force behind what soon became a \$3.5 million campaign. The project expanded to include interior design changes, a raised sanctuary, an updated choir area, new lighting and sound, new pews and doors, the baptismal font moved from the gathering space to the worship space, updated cry room and many improvements made to the bridal changing room, bathrooms, ministry and vesting rooms.

The theme of the campaign was "Preserving our past, Brightening our future." This motto is echoed throughout the church in humble nods to the history of the parish.

For instance, the new clad



MATEA GREGG, COMMUNICATIONS

After nearly 21 months, renovations at St. Mary Queen of the Universe Church in Salina are nearing completion.

work around the pillars of the church, the presiders and servers' chairs and trim work around the altar, ambo and tabernacle were constructed out of the wood from the old pews in the church. On the wall between the nave (church interior) and gathering space are colorful murals depicting the symbols of the seven sacraments. These murals were created out of the stained-glass windows that adorned the original gathering space exterior.

But perhaps the most iconic aspect of St. Mary's church was the "wall of crosses" that set the backdrop to the sanctuary. Unique in design, the original wall behind the sanctuary was made up of an intricate series of crosses woven over a dark backdrop.

There are two different stories behind the reason for this wall. The more pragmatic reason is the wall of crosses was meant to imitate the gold crisscross design of the back sanctuary wall in

the Sacred Heart Cathedral in Salina. The more symbolic reason is the crosses on the wall were meant to represent the crosses of life that all people carry. It was meant to depict how the faithful carry their own crosses and help support their brothers and sisters as all people carry their cross in union with the cross of Christ.

As renovation plans commenced, extensive discussions occurred on how to preserve the wall of crosses but update the appearance. It was decided the backdrop would be painted a brighter color, and some, but not all, of the crosses would be removed.

"We removed the crosses that were directly behind the tabernacle and crucifix," Father Weber said. "Our hope was to draw people's eyes to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and on the cross."

There was deep hope and excitement for the project, but the extended deadline caused some difficulties and

frustration. Even with those obstacles, Scott and Kristi share that the wait was worth it.

"Trusting that God's will would be fulfilled, given that while this project was underway the COVID pandemic started, and the supply chain was severely disrupted. Even with those challenges, we have moved back into our church, which is just what we were hoping for — it is still the St. Mary's church we love, now even more beautiful."

While the project began based out of necessity, the parish took the opportunity to take their church and further beautify it to give glory to God.

"My hope is that the Lord will use this renovation to draw in new members to our parish family and reinvigorate existing members to fulfill their mission of evangelizing to each other and to the Salina community," Carla said. "Since God is beauty, my hope is the beauty of this space will speak to all who enter, drawing them closer to the Lord."

"Though the project took longer than we expected and had many little bumps along the way, I am so exceedingly grateful to all the people who made it possible," Father Weber said. "Starting with our capital campaign and renovation building committee members, our generous parishioners who contributed financially, who then also patiently waited as we continued to celebrate Mass in temporary settings."

Save the Date for the ANNUAL SEMINARIAN FUNDRAISING DINNERS

Two events in 2022!

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5:15 PM
Salina Country Club
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AUG 11 2022
5:15 PM
The Strand
1102 Main Street
Hays, KS

We sincerely hope you
will attend one or both events!

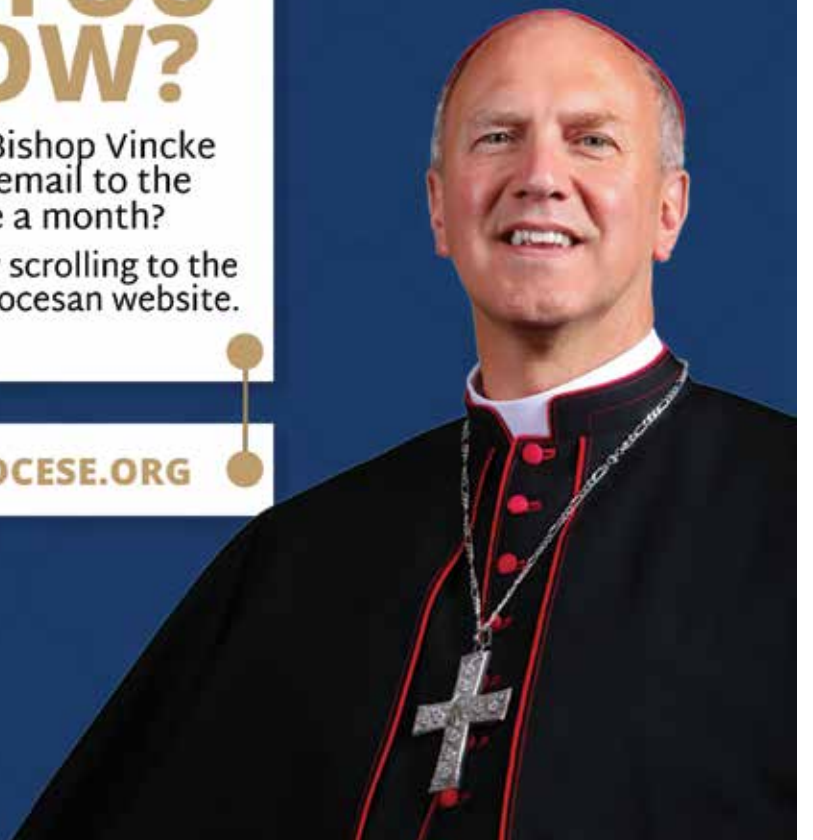
More information to come

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Never giving up what I loved during my journey

I was born in 1950 in Russell. My parents were farmers. I have two sisters and one brother. I was the third. I wasn't spoiled. My brother was, but he resents being told that.

I worked on the farm. We had cattle and sheep. My chores were driving the tractor, field work and feeding cattle in the winter. For a few years, milking. Oh, I hated milking.

My dad was a cradle Catholic. My mom was a convert. She joined before I was born. My parents were very active in the Church. There was nothing that went on that we weren't there for — first Fridays, confessions, Holy Week and

so on.

Our faith was just so normal I didn't think of my parents as role models. They just centered their lives around the faith. I think that's the main reason us kids are still so active in the church, which is fairly rare in our generation. We went to public school because there wasn't a Catholic school. My dad would take us out of school for Mass on Holy Days. He didn't let the teachers tell him "No."

I went to a country school for the first six years. I liked it. I thought I got a good education. It closed after sixth grade, so I went to junior high in Russell. That was a big switch. I liked it OK. I don't remember ever not liking school.

I was academic. It came easy to me, and I enjoyed it.

I enjoyed learning. But I also enjoyed recess just as much as anyone else. We played dare base a lot.

I took piano lessons and tap dancing. My mother was into all that stuff. I was fine with it. Although I did get tired of piano. After two or three years, I dropped out, which I kind of regret now.

I wouldn't say I was musical by nature. But I was always interested in visual art.

Pretty early

on, in seventh grade, I knew I wanted to be a priest. I had gone on a retreat that summer, and it was a profound experience. I went to seminary as a freshman in high school in Victoria. I was a seminarian for 12 years. I did think of other jobs, farming, architecture, teaching and journalism.

I was signed up to be a

FRANK
Coady
PASTOR



Divine Mercy RADIO

Along I-70

KMDG 105.7, Hays
Quinter to Ellsworth

KJDM 101.7 Lindsborg/Salina
Ellsworth to Junction City

Other Stations

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and
KVDM 88.1 Hays (Classics)

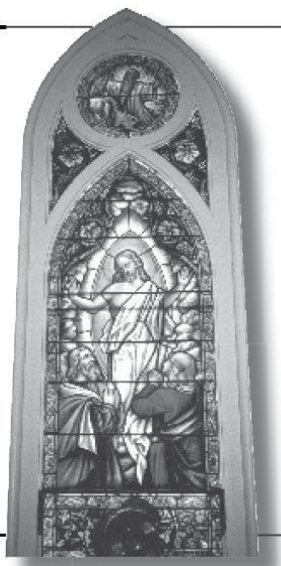
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Capuchin. I was in a strange situation. Russell was a diocesan parish, but the Capuchins helped out. I was exposed to both diocesan and religious priests. The Capuchins were more attractive, and they invited me to the summer retreat. But in the summer of my sophomore year, the bishop found out I was studying for the Capuchins. He talked to me, and I made the switch to diocesan. I didn't really understand the difference, but I have no regrets about switching.

After high school, I went to Denver for my college and theology studies. There is a hall of infamy out there as my old student picture can be found in one of the hallways. The current seminarians see my picture and rib me. I had black hair back then.

I never had serious doubts about the priesthood, but I did think about what I could be missing.

I remember asking a priest, "How do you know you're being called?" And he said, "When the bishop calls you." The call comes through the Church. When

the bishop calls you formally, that's when you know you are meant to be a priest. Before that, it is just an inkling.

I was ordained by Bishop Cyril Vogel in Russell in 1976. I remember at my ordination, feeling that it wasn't about me, but about the people. It was a cathartic moment you might say. It's this whole thing about giving and receiving, like Christ offering himself. I didn't intentionally prepare for that, but it was the emotion that overwhelmed me. It felt good. I wasn't sad. I was overjoyed.

My first assignment was at St. Francis Xavier Church in Junction City. I was there for seven years, which is unusual to have such a long first assignment.

I adapted pretty easily to parish life. By the time I was ordained, I was a little sick of school. By then, I was 26 and had been in school since I was 5. Some things were more difficult than others. I was never very good at detailed bookwork or annulments.

COADY, PAGE 14

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BAPTISMS

José Eduardo Pernía, son of José and Courtney Pernía, was baptized May 1, 2022, by Deacon Wayne Talbot at St. Thomas More Church in Manhattan.

Matthew Lewis Palmero, son of Zachary and Mazee Palmero, was baptized April 24, 2022, by Father Donald Zimmerman at St. Thomas More Church in Manhattan.

Aria Mailin Cano Lopez, daughter of Daniel Cano and Lesly Lopez, was baptized April 23, 2022, by Father Nicholas Parker at Immaculate Heart of Mary in Hays.

Hughes Layne Hentzen, son of Tony and Shanae Hentzen, was baptized

April 6, 2022, by Father Frank Coady at St. Thomas More Church in Manhattan.

Everett Norman Robert Tholstrup, son of Blaine and Katlyn Tholstrup, was baptized March 26, 2022, by Father David Metz at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Concordia.

Charlotte Marie Zohn, daughter of Stephen and Rachel Zohn, was baptized April 2, 2022, by Father David Metz at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Concordia.

Palmer Lynn Bisbing, daughter of Ryan and Kaylee Conwell, was baptized April 2, 2022, by Father David

Metz at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Concordia.

Holt Aaron Diederich, son of Aaron and Sydney Diederich, was baptized April 3, 2022, by Father Joseph Kieffer at St. John the Baptist Church in Hanover.

Shade Judy Beatriz Aguirre, daughter of Jeffrey and Alva Aguirre, was baptized April 10, 2022, by Father David Metz at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Concordia.

Cooper Cannon Halepeska, son of Nathan and Heather Halepeska, was baptized April 17, 2022, by Father Kerry Ninemire at St. Anthony Church

in Miltonvale.

Collins Elizabeth Hageman, daughter of Ryan and Sarah Hageman, was baptized April 17, 2022, by Father Kerry Ninemire at Ss. Peter and Paul Church in Clay Center.

Natalie Diane Jordan, daughter of Scott and Molly Jordan, was baptized Feb. 20, 2022, by Father Jarrett Konrade at St. John the Baptist Church in Beloit.

Gemma Anne Housh, daughter of Alan and Miranda Housh, was baptized March 5, 2022, by Father Andrew Rockers at St. John the Baptist in Beloit.

COADY, FROM PAGE 13

In my years, I studied in Rome at two different times. Bishop Kucera sent me to Rome to attain a doctorate in theology. I was there for four years and got my masters degree. But then Bishop Fitzsimons came to our diocese and called me back. I was assigned to Marymount College to teach. That was in 1985.

Then, in 1989, Bishop Fitzsimons assigned me to run the offices of liturgy and lay ministry, which I still do today.

I wanted to learn more about liturgy. It took some convincing, but Bishop Fitzsimons allowed me to go back to Rome for two years for my doctorate.

That was in the early 1990s. My dissertation was on revelation in Eucharistic prayers. I loved doing that. I really enjoyed research and writing. I thought maybe I could make a career of it by teaching and writing in seminaries.

I got a couple of offers to teach in seminaries. I thought about it, but I didn't think it was my calling. I had always studied for Salina. It's hard to put my finger on it, but I felt as though I belonged here. I needed to minister to the people here.

The greatest joys of being a priest are preaching and teaching. The greatest challenge is meetings.

For those considering the

priesthood, say "yes." My journey has been wonderful and filled with surprising turns. Every "yes" to my bishops led my priesthood in directions I never could have imagined. I have no regrets. My life and my ministry are richer because I said "yes."

And also, it turns out I didn't have to give up my other longings. As a priest, I still can be a journalist through writing for publications, an architect through designing churches and a teacher through preaching.

Father Frank Coady is pastor

at St. Thomas More Parish in Manhattan.



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WEDDINGS

Donald Joseph Waddington and Lori Marie Adam were married April 30, 2022, at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Concordia. Father David Metz witnessed their vows. Parents of the

groom are Douglas and Joyce Waddington. Parents of the bride are the late Francis and Janet Adam. Witnesses were Brian Waddington and Rebecca Brummer.

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DEATHS

David Michael DeRousseau, 66, died Dec. 27, 2021. Funeral Mass was celebrated May 2, 2022, at St. John the Baptist Church in Clyde. Father Steven Heina officiated. Burial was in Mount Calvary Cemetery in Clyde.

Kimberly Kay Jermark, 68, died March 8, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated March 15 at St. John the Baptist Church in Beloit. Father Jarett Konrade officiated. Burial was in St. John's Cemetery in Beloit.

Mickey Dean Eck, 78, died March 10, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated March 17 at St. John the Baptist Church in Beloit. Father Jarett Konrade officiated. Burial was in St. John's Cemetery in Beloit.

Diane Marie Glauser, 66, died March 14, 2022. Funeral

Mass was celebrated March 19 at St. John the Baptist Church in Beloit. Father Jarett Konrade officiated. Burial was in Athens Cemetery in Glen Elder.

Marilyn Marie (Doebele) Hassler, 80, of Hanover, died March 30, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated April 2 at St. John the Baptist Church in Hanover. Father Joseph Kieffer officiated.

Joseph Francis Klecan, 93, of Hanover, died April 5, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated April 9 at St. John the Baptist Church in Hanover. Father Joseph Kieffer officiated.

Clara Anna Ebeling, 95, of Hanover, died April 10, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated April 13 at St. John the Baptist Church in Hanover. Father

Joseph Kieffer officiated.

Catherine Elizabeth Neal, 94, of Oberlin, died April 17, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated April 22 at Sacred Heart Church in Oberlin. Father Carlos Ruiz-Santos officiated. Burial was in Selden Cemetery.

James Michael Anderson, 56, of Concordia, died March 7, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated April 9 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Concordia. Father David Metz officiated. Burial was in St. Concordia Cemetery in Concordia.

Helen Pauline Nault, 95, of Concordia, died April 12, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated April 18 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Concordia. Father David Metz officiated. Burial was in Mount Calvary Cemetery in Clyde.

Patricia Ann Tremblay, 81, of Kansas City, Mo., died Dec. 18, 2020. Memorial Mass was celebrated April 23 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Concordia. Father David Metz officiated. Burial was in St. Concordia Cemetery in Concordia.

Timothy J. Braun, 54, of Concordia, died April 20, 2022. Funeral service was April 26 at Chaput-Buoy Funeral Home in Concordia. Father David Metz officiated. Burial was in St. Concordia Cemetery in Concordia.

Carol Josephine Nowlin, 78, died Dec. 20, 2019. Funeral Mass was celebrated April 21 at St. Thomas More Church in

Manhattan. Father Frank Coady officiated. Inurnment in St. Thomas More Memorial Walls in Manhattan.

Berno "Bud" Joseph Jacobs, 100, of Gorham, died March 31, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated April 6 at St. Mary Help of Christians Church in Gorham. Father Michael Elanjimattathil officiated. Burial was in St. Mary Cemetery in Gorham.

Carol Ann Schlegel, 72, of Hays, died April 13, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated April 19 at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays. Father Damian Richards officiated. Burial was in St. Francis Cemetery in Munjor.

Abby Renee Bainter, 27, of Norton, died March 31, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated April 9 at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Norton. Father Matthew Cowan officiated. Burial was in Mount Calvary Cemetery in Leoville.

Leroy Albert Lang, 83, of Norton, died March 25, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated March 31 at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Norton. Father Matthew Cowan officiated. Burial was in Norton Cemetery in Norton.

Jerome "Jerry" Winkel died April 27, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated April 30 at Ss. Peter and Paul Church in Cawker City. Father Daryl Olmstead officiated. Burial in Ss. Peter and Paul Cemetery in Cawker City.

Doris Maxine Linden, 95, of Norton, died March 21, 2022.

Funeral Mass was celebrated March 25 at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Norton. Father Matthew Cowan officiated. Burial was in New Almelo Cemetery in New Almelo.

Dorothy "Dot" Mindrup, 91, of Olathe, died April 20, 2022. Graveside services were April 26 at St. Joseph Cemetery in New Almelo. Father Matthew Cowan presided.

Steve Thompson, 81, of Norton, died Jan. 20, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated Jan. 25 at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Norton. Father Matthew Cowan officiated. Burial was in Norton Cemetery in Norton.

Linda Agnes Zierlein, 78, of Norton, died Jan. 19, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated Jan. 24 at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Norton. Father Matthew Cowan officiated. Burial was in Norton Cemetery in Norton.

Michael E. Simons, 66, died May 27, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated April 29 at St. Thomas More Church in Manhattan. Father Frank Coady officiated. Interment in Sunrise Cemetery in Manhattan.

Linda Kay Baker, 74, of Clay Center, died April 26, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated May 2 at Ss. Peter and Paul Church in Clay Center. Father Kerry Ninemire officiated. Burial was in Ss. Peter and Paul Cemetery in Clay Center.

Larry Wayne Thomas, 68, of Clay Center, died April 18, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated April 25 at Ss. Peter and Paul Church in Clay Center. Father Kerry Ninemire officiated. Burial was in Ss. Peter and Paul Cemetery in Clay Center.

Donna Darlene Bartley, 91, of Independence, Mo., died April 23, 2022. Funeral Mass was April 30 at St. John LaLande Church in Blue Springs, Mo. Burial was in Miltonvale Cemetery in Miltonvale.

Charlotte Arlene Vasseur, 83, of Manhattan, died Dec. 27, 2021. Service was April 30 at Neill-Schwensen-Rook Funeral Home in Clay Center. Burial was in Greenwood Cemetery in Clay Center.

Ronald William Wondra, 74, of Concordia, died April 27, 2022. Funeral Mass was May 2 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Concordia. Father David Metz presided and Father Steven Heina concelebrated. Burial was in St. Concordia Cemetery in Concordia.

Dorothy L. Havel, 93, died Oct. 16, 2021. Funeral Mass was April 21, 2022, at St. John the Baptist Church in Clyde. Father Steven Heina officiated. Inurnment in Mount Calvary Catholic Cemetery.

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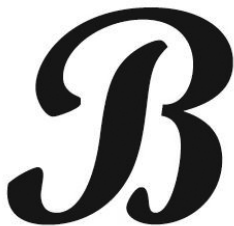
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Arthur Befort joins Catholic Rural Life Board of Directors

SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

Arthur "Art" Befort, a farmer in Smith County, has joined Catholic Rural Life's Board of Directors. Catholic Rural Life is a national, nonprofit membership-based organization comprised of thousands of Catholics joined in a common effort to serve the rural church and rural people.

For nearly 100 years, CRL has been promoting Catholic life in rural America. The organization's vision is thriving families, farms and parishes centered on faith, community and care of creation.

Befort is a retired aviator now farming in Smith County. He was

born and raised a Catholic farm boy in Smith County. After high school, he served four years in the U.S. Air Force, followed by a 40-year technical and pilot career in civil aviation. After retiring in 2012, he moved back to Smith County where he farms 500 acres, adhering to strict conservation and soil health practices incorporating a no-till farming system.

Befort is a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Smith Center. He volunteers his time on several church and local civic organizations and serves as president of the

Salina Diocese Catholic Rural Life Commission. He is a graduate of Our Lady of the Lake University, San Antonio, Texas, with a bachelor's degree in applied studies, business management.

Befort has been married to his wife Linda for 51 years. He has three children and nine grandchildren. Befort and Linda often say they have come full circle; their home in Smith Center is 200 feet from the old hospital where they were both born.

Founded in 1923 by Father Edwin V. O'Hara, CRL's mission is to

promote Catholic life in rural America. That mission has been firm throughout its rich history. CRL fulfills that mission through two key program areas: Rural Ministry and Outreach and Ethical Food and Agriculture. With members in 42 states, CRL receives strong support from church leaders (bishops, priests, religious men and women, and deacons) throughout the country as well as lay men and women in urban and rural areas. In addition, CRL collaborates with local leadership within each diocese to create a network of local CRL Chapters to effectively reach laity throughout the countryside.



Befort

Women's conference Aug. 20 in Hays

SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

The Salina Diocesan Council of Catholic Women Convention will be Aug. 20 at St. Nicholas of Myra Catholic Church in Hays.

Sarah Hart will be the featured speaker, presenting on "Blessed Are You: The Beatitude Walk."

Bishop Jerry Vincke will be having Mass for the women at 11 a.m. that day.

Women will be able to register online at the Salina Diocese website or by mail.

For more information, contact Elaine Peters at (785) 534-0546.

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ANNIVERSARY

Dennis and Kathleen (Hamel) Ouellette celebrated 50 years of marriage May 20, 2022. They were married at St. John the Baptist Church in Clyde by the Rev. Robert Vering. Mrs. Francis (Pauline) Ouellette, sister of the bride, attended as matron of the bride. Francis Ouel-

lette, brother of the groom, attended as the best man. They are members of Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Clay Center. They have two sons, Aaron (Lisa Pfizenmaier) Ouellette and David Ouellette, and one daughter, Janae (Jason) Wollenberg and seven grandchildren.



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birth moms

Placing a child for adoption is a brave and difficult decision. Funds help support cost of living post-delivery, including mental health support.

about us

Leap of FaithE strives to support all involved in the adoptive process. Rooted with a focus of weaving strong relationships with sound mental health support, our foundation wants to hold hands with all parties involved to celebrate making adoption an easier choice. **Financial assistance is available through our foundation.** Scan the QR code above to learn more. www.nortonccf.org/leapoffaith

Leap of FaithE is a field of interest fund held at the Norton County Community Foundation / EIN: 48-1158543