



## Celebrating priest jubilees

By KATIE HAMEL  
THE REGISTER

This year, there are seven priests within the Diocese of Salina who are celebrating milestone anniversaries. Celebrating 60 years of priesthood is Father Jerome Morgan. Celebrating 50 years is Father Norbert Dlabal. Celebrating 40 years is Father Steven Heina. Celebrating 25 years are Father David Metz and Father John Schmeidler. And celebrating 10 years are Father Gale Hammerschmidt and Father Brian Lager.

### Father Jerome Morgan (60 years)

"The biggest surprise of my priesthood is that God would take an average boy from a small parish in a small town and motivate him to become a pastor of large parishes," reflects Father Morgan on 60 years of priesthood.



Morgan

Ordained on April 7, 1962, at St. John the Baptist Church in Hanover, Father Morgan has since served in Colby, Salina, Abilene, Esbon, Smith Center, Clifton, Kimeo, Hays, Manhattan, Wilson and Dorrance. He also served as the chief financial officer of

the Diocese of Salina for nearly 20 years.

"The greatest blessing of being a priest is obviously changing bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ. But also, being of help to people who are hurting, and then, receiving their friendship," Father Morgan said.

One of Father Morgan's fondest memories is being able to preach for the mission group Unbound in many parishes across many states.

His hope for the future of the Church is for an increased holiness and insight among the youth, increased involvement of laity within the Church and a greater role for women in the Church.

### Father Norbert Dlabal (50 years)

"I would say the greatest surprise of being a priest is finding out that living life without a wife is not so bad after all," laughs Father Dlabal. He adds, "It is also a surprise to find out that one can bear fruit, even in old age."

Ordained on June 10, 1972, at St.



Dlabal

Wenceslaus Church in Wilson, Father Dlabal has since served in Hays, Manhattan, Tipton, Cawker City, Salina, Goodland, Sharon Springs, St. Francis, Bird City, Atwood and Herndon. For a time, he also served as vocations director for the Diocese of Salina.

"The greatest blessing in being a priest is being one who can go to God on behalf of the people and go to the people on behalf of God. Something like an ambassador. All this is done, of course, in the name of Christ," Father Dlabal said.

"I have fond memories of every parish I have served in, from Goodland on the west to Manhattan on the east, and a number of parishes in between. Most of that time, I was young. And now I am old. But I will say that the five years I served in Peru were special. It was there, while working in the southern hemisphere on a different continent in another country with a different culture and language, that I gained a broader perspective on the Church in the world today."

His hope for the Church is all people, deacons, priests, bishops, cardinals and



Father Steven Heina

popes take seriously their call to holiness.

### Father Steven Heina (40 years)

Father Heina shares a quote from Father Karl Rahner, SJ on the blessings of priesthood: "For must not some one of us say something about God, about eternal life, about the majesty of grace in our sanctified being? Must not some one of us speak of sin, the judgment and mercy of God?"

In reflecting on the quote,



Heina

Father Heina says, "This has been the blessing for me, especially in those most humanly significant moments of the sacrament of reconciliation, the sacrament of anointing of the sick and funerals."

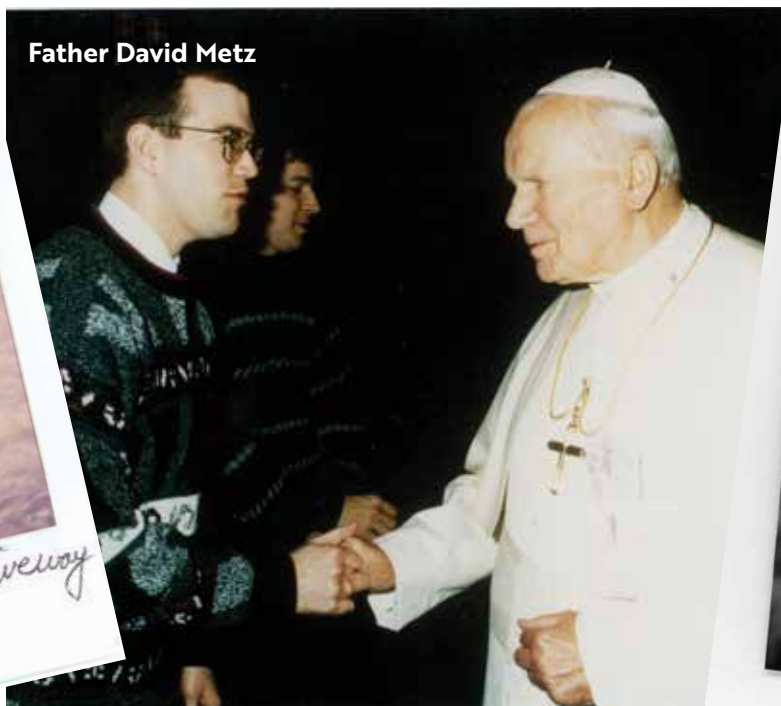
Ordained on May 28, 1982, at St. Edward Church in Belleville, Father Heina has since served in Salina, Hays, St. Francis, Bird City, Park, St. Peter, Colby, Concodia, Mankato, Esbon, Smith Center, Ellsworth, Kanopolis, Clifton, Clyde and Aurora. He also held roles at the diocese in evangelization, vocations and propagation of the faith.

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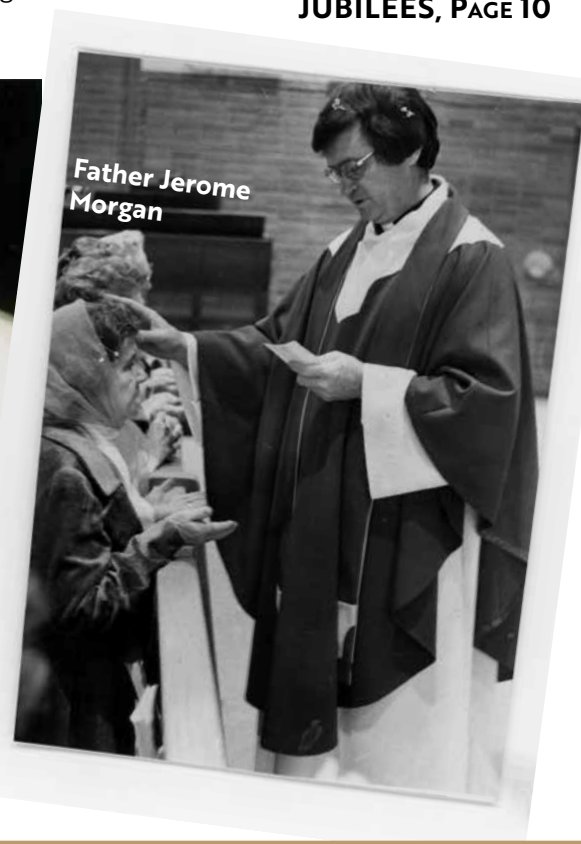


Father Norbert Dlabal

Clearing out the Driveway  
Jan. 2, 2007



Father David Metz



Father Jerome Morgan

### LASTING KINDNESS

Relationship between strangers leads to friendship.

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### SPECIAL DAY

Events focus on family, farm and faith.

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# Showcasing a heart for God, others

Recently, I led a pilgrimage with the seminarians and a few priests to Ars, France. This is where the patron saint of all priests, St. John Vianney, lived.

St. John Vianney once said, "If we had not the sacrament of orders, we should not have our Lord. Who placed him there, in that tabernacle? It was the priest. Who was it that received your soul, on its entrance into life? The priest. Who nourishes it, to give it strength to make its pilgrimage? The priest. Who will prepare it to appear before God, by washing that soul, for the last time, in the blood of Jesus Christ? The priest — always the priest. And if that soul comes to the point of death, who will raise it up, who will restore it to calmness and peace? Again, the priest. You cannot recall one single blessing from God without finding, side by side with this

recollection, the image of the priest."

This year, we honor the priests who are celebrating their anniversaries. We thank God for them and the people they serve.

Again, as St. John Vianney once said, "The priest is there for you (the people)."

I am proud of our priests and all they do for our parishioners. Whether it is celebrating the Mass, presiding at funerals, celebrating a baptism or

wedding, or simply being present to you at different times in your life.

Join me in thanking them for the gift of their priesthood.

In Christ's service,

*+ Gerald L. Vincke*

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

**GERALD  
Vincke**  
BISHOP, SALINA DIOCESE



## Value Them Both amendment effort enters final month

BY DEBBIE DENEAULT  
SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

When I attended our week of action across the state a few weeks ago, I was excited to see all the signs and bumper stickers supporting the Vote Yes for Value Them Both on Aug. 2. We're taking our message directly to Kansans: church to church, door-to-door and person to person.

What is the Value Them Both Amendment all about?

Voting "yes" for the Value Them Both Amendment restores to the people of Kansas, through our state legislature, the right to regulate abortion. This right was taken away by a court decision that has opened Kansas up to an unregulated and unrestricted abortion industry. Already, common sense, bipartisan laws passed by the will of the people are



going away, leaving women and preborn children vulnerable.

Because of the court ruling, every Kansas law regulating abortion is now "presumed unconstitutional." Unless Kansans vote "yes" on Value Them Both:

- Your tax dollars will almost certainly be used to pay for abortions.
- Parents will lose their right to know about and consent to an abortion by their teenage daughter.
- Kansas will become an ever-greater destination for abortion in the Midwest.
- Abortion will be virtually unregulated and unrestricted in Kansas.

We have the entire month

of July to continue our grassroots efforts. Although we have hundreds of people across the state knocking on doors, making calls and delivering signs, we still need your help. Join me in becoming a volunteer.

Contact me to volunteer and join our efforts at [debd@valuethemboth.com](mailto:debd@valuethemboth.com).

I want to take a moment to thank each of you who are already involved by praying for the passage of the amendment, attending training to knock on doors or make phone calls, knocking those doors and calling, as well as displaying signs and bumper stickers.

We must all join together to get the amendment passed.

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

### BISHOP'S CALENDAR

July

- 4 Independence Day, Chancery closed
- 9-10 Knights of Columbus State Office-District Deputy Installation, Manhattan
- 24 Confirmation, 10:30 a.m., St. John's, Hanover
- 30 Catholic Charities 17th Annual Green Tie Celebration

### PRIESTS MOVES

#### Effective July 1

**Father Mathew Chacko, CMI:** (from the Carmelites of Mary Immaculate - St Thomas Province) Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Oberlin, Sacred Heart Parish in Selden and Immaculate Conception Parish in Leoville, with residence in the Sacred Heart Parish rectory in Oberlin.



Chacko

**Father Carlos Ruiz Santos:** Granted three-month sabbatical leave.



Ruiz Santos

**Father Joseph Michael, HGN:** (from the Heralds of Good News Mary Queen of Apostles Province) Parochial Vicar of St. Francis Xavier Parish, Junction City, with residence in the parish rectory.

**Father Joseph Stanly, HGN:** (from the Heralds of Good News Mary Queen of Apostles Province) Parochial Vicar of St. Wenceslaus Parish in Wilson, St. Joseph Parish in Dorrance, and St. Mary Parish in Holyrood, with residence in the St. Wenceslaus Parish rectory in Wilson.

#### Effective Oct. 1

**Father Carlos Ruiz Santos:** From three-month sabbatical leave to pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Parish in Goodland and Holy Ghost Parish in Sharon Springs, with residence in the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish rectory in Goodland.

**Father David Micheal, HGN:** Transferred from pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Goodland and Holy Ghost Parish in Sharon Springs, to pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Hill City and St. Joseph Parish in Damar, with residence in the Sacred Heart Parish rectory in Hill City.



D. Micheal

**Father Henry Saw Lone:** Transferred from pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Hill City and St. Joseph Parish in Damar to pastor of Sacred Heart Parish in Atwood and Assumption of Mary Parish in Herndon, with residence in the Sacred Heart Parish rectory in Atwood.



Saw Lone

**Father Norbert Diabal:** Granted return to full-time retirement with residence in the St. Mary Help of Christians Parish Rectory in Gorham.



Diabal

### DID YOU KNOW?

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# A kindness that lasts decades

By KATIE HAMEL  
THE REGISTER

No one can ever truly know the impact one act of random kindness can have on the life of another. At least, that's the case for Betsy Bachofer.

In 1973, the United States and North Vietnam concluded a final peace agreement. However, war and conflict remained between North and South Vietnam until 1975. In that time, Vietnamese families fled their native home, looking only to survive. After years of warfare, it is estimated 2 million Vietnamese were killed, 3 million were wounded and 12 million had become refugees.

In 1975, Bachofer was a young girl who, at the behest of her mother, worked to clean and make ready a small home in Salina for a refugee family. Catholic Charities had agreed to sponsor three Vietnamese families to come to Salina.

"My mom, Phyllis, signed us up to help," Bachofer said. "She would drop us (myself and two sisters and whoever else we happened to be with) off to clean. My dad, Neil, borrowed my grandfather's truck, and we would pick up appliances that other parishioners donated. I remember asking my mom what was going on. She said, 'These people coming need our help.'"

The Vietnamese family



COURTESY PHOTO

Anh Vinh and Betsy Bachofer

seeking refuge found it in Salina. They led their lives, and Bachofer continued with hers.

In 2015, Bachofer received a message in the middle of the night. She worried that someone was in crisis or had died, but instead she read a message her cousin had sent to her.

A woman named Anh Vinh had shared her refugee story on Facebook.

"I am a refugee. Here's my story.

*It's really my parents' story — I was just an infant along for the ride. My dad was an officer in the South Vietnamese army and fought alongside the U.S. military. It was a tough war — one that the Americans couldn't discern an ally from an enemy. When the war was lost, our family was in real danger.*

*I was the youngest of six children and only 3 months old, my oldest sister 11. My*

## PRAYER FOR REFUGEES

Dear Lord Jesus, your family on earth knew the life of refugees when they fled to Egypt. Bless all who seek refuge on this earth. Meet their needs for safety and for home. Move the hearts of your

people to show them welcome. Cause wars to cease and bring justice to the nations that no one will need to flee again. In your great mercy, Lord, hear our prayer. Amen.

*mom recalls body parts landing in front of her during our escape. My older sisters recall bodies flung from bombs like little toys. My parents brought nothing with them to leave the only land they knew as home to find a place that they could survive.*

*They didn't know where they were going.*

*They didn't know when they would see their parents again, if ever.*

*They didn't even know if leaving would ensure our survival, but they knew if we stayed, we would be dead.*

*Their journey is its own incredible story, one that to this day my parents continue to attribute to the grace of God. It was a hard journey, but unfortunately not their first. When they were children and the communists infiltrated the North, their families had also made a very dangerous trip to the South so that they could leave the oppression.*

*But this time, this time was different. This time, their journey had no destination other than to live. They had no idea what was going to happen to them when they*

*jumped on the boat, or where that boat was going to take them. They had no idea that they would be separated. When my mother's small boat approached the naval ship, she watched as other mothers cried in hysterics when their children fell into the ocean and got smashed between ships while trying to climb up the rope ladder to safety.*

*She had six children to get up that rope ladder — alone. The 11-year-old took the 4-year-old. The 9-year-old took the 6-year-old. She took the 2-year-old and the 3-month-old. And somehow, she made it up the rope ladder with all of us. My sister recalls some light-skinned giants pulling us onto their ship, and as luck would have it, it belonged to the United States Navy. Only then was my mother able to breathe and see beyond the next 30 seconds. It was then it dawned on her that she may be a widow. Somewhere on a distant ship, my father would be alone, terrorized with the fact that his decision to leave Vietnam may have killed his wife and six children.*

*We eventually ended up in*

*Guam. My parents found each other, and we spent another nine months in refugee camps, most of that time in Fort Chaffee. After extensive screening and processing, and more processing, we ended up in Salina. We were the first of three Vietnamese families to settle there.*

*We didn't know the language.*

*We didn't know that even their own soldiers weren't welcomed back from Vietnam. In Vietnam, the Americans didn't know if we were allies or Viet Cong. In America, it didn't matter. We were Vietnamese, and for many, that was enough to consider us enemies.*

*We didn't know we would encounter so many cruelties, or that 40 years later, only the acts of kindness would matter to us."*

Bachofer was impressed by the story and reached out to Vinh. She shared that she had helped prepare a house for a refugee family in Salina. She thanked Vinh for sharing her story.

As the two women chatted, they learned the house Bachofer had cleaned was the same house Vinh had first lived in when her family settled in Salina all those years ago. The two ladies connected, and a beautiful friendship blossomed.

And to think, it all began with a simple act of kindness to a total stranger.

## Church beginning process of Eucharistic Revival

By BILL MEAGHER  
SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

It is no secret that our world is hurting and all of us are in need of healing. Yet, at the same time, never have so many of us separated ourselves from the very source of our strength. God has heard our prayers, and there is a revival coming.

During the next two years, the Holy Spirit will be inviting each of us to return to the source and summit of our faith — his Real Presence in the Holy Eucharist. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops is asking every diocese in the U.S. to join together and participate in a Eucharistic Revival.

The mission of the Eucharistic Revival is to renew the Church by enkindling a living relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist. Together, we will look to inspire a movement of Catholics across the U.S. who are healed, converted, formed and unified by an encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist before being sent out on a mission to bring that

message to others.

The official launch date for the Eucharistic Revival was June 19. The Church will spend the next two years challenging every Catholic to rekindle the fire of love and devotion for the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus. The Eucharistic Revival will culminate in the National Eucharistic Congress on July 17 to 21, 2024, in Indianapolis.

The first year of the revival focuses on diocesan-wide programs and education opportunities before the revival moves in year two into each parish to allow for more local and parish-driven leadership. At the end of the two years, we will be putting together a group of people from the Salina Diocese to represent us at the National Eucharistic Congress.

The Holy Spirit is calling us to learn more about our faith and grow in appreciation for the extraordinary gift of the Eucharist. The world needs people to attend Mass regularly, receive the Eucharist worthily, and spend more time before the Blessed Sacrament in prayer. These things can bring about the change

this world needs as we join our hearts to Christ.

The revival calls each of us to grow in our understanding of the Church's teachings and dedicate time in our lives to spend with Christ and allow Him to guide and form our hearts and minds. We must look around our world today and understand we live in a missionary society. We are surrounded by hurting people looking for hope and a sense of value. They have not heard the Gospel's message and do not know God's immeasurable love. It is on each of us to share with others the incredible love God has for each of us.

The apostles brought the Gospel message first to the people in Rome and then to the entire world. It is time for us to join them in their mission and actively spread the Gospels to those who desperately need to hear its message of love. Souls are at risk, and we need to be out in the world bringing Christ's love to those in darkness. Many in our world need to hear the message that they are valuable and loved by

God and that he desires to have a relationship with them in this world and spend eternity with him in heaven.

God is present in every Catholic church in the world, and he desires for us to come to spend time with him in prayer and adoration. That is where he can speak to our hearts and give us the strength we need to thrive in this world. We are excited to spend the next two years growing in our understanding of the real presence of the Eucharist and better appreciate the gift it is for us.

Much more information will come as we begin the Eucharistic Revival in the Salina Diocese. You will see information in the Register, *faith* magazine, the diocesan website and our social media platforms. We will also be connecting with each parish soon to begin helping them plan the parish year of the revival.

Join us on this journey and pray for success of the Eucharistic Revival.

*Bill Meagher is director of youth ministry and point person for the Salina Diocese Eucharistic Revival.*



# Youth take over ‘town’ for day

By KATIE HAMEL  
THE REGISTER

On the streets of quaint AmeriTowne, the mail carrier cheerfully delivers postcards as the mayor is seen visiting with the citizens. Hammering sounds emit from the Container Shop, the smell of warm cookies wafts down the street from the Snack Shop and the journalists at the Newspaper

Shop run around town as they collect stories for the daily paper.

The town is inviting, warm, friendly and efficient. The town is also completely made up of students from fourth through eighth grades.

Young AmeriTowne is a program licensed through the Young American Center in Denver. For years, Kansas students and

teachers would travel to Wray, Colo., to take part in AmeriTowne. Many teachers and community members remarked that having the program closer to home would better allow students to engage in an immersive, hands-on experience.

In 2018, Nex-Generation sought to bring Young AmeriTowne of Kansas to life.

Nex-Generation’s mission is to educate northwest and north-central Kansas students about local career opportunities by supplying and supporting programs in career development, entrepreneurship and internship.

“When we started Nex-Generation in 2013, one of our top priorities was to continue enabling our northwest and

north-central Kansas schools with the AmeriTowne curriculum,” said Nex-Generation Executive Director Jacque Beckman.

In the summer of 2018, the second floor of the former Lenora High School building was transformed into the quaint village of AmeriTowne. Ten “shops” were constructed for the citizens to work in.

AMERITOWNE, PAGE 5

## Students learn 7 themes of CST

NO. 6 — SOLIDARITY

By ALLISON OCHOA  
SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

In a reflection on the Catholic social teaching of Solidarity, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops explains in part, “We are one human family — whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic and ideological differences. We are our brothers’ and sisters’ keepers, wherever they may be. Loving our neighbor has global dimensions in a shrinking world.”

For students at Holy Family Elementary School in Hays, and Tipton Catholic High School, the characteristics of this theme are built into the cultural fabric of their schools.

“Solidarity is such an important part of our teaching at TCHS. Our students learn early on that we are very accepting and that we expect a lot from our students,” said Tipton Catholic High School Principal Gery Hake. “Students, teachers, staff and parents all understand that it is a unified effort to make TCHS the great school that it is.”

At Holy Family Elementary, Solidarity is taught through community-building with class-based groups, in-school “families” and Virtue-Based Restorative Discipline.

“Each week teachers hold community-building circles, which is where we learn how to empathize, trust one another, celebrate one another and build our classroom communities,” said HFE Principal Rachel Wentling.

HFE students also meet with their in-school “families” each month for First Friday Prayer Circles. Each family is comprised of a student from each grade, with the sixth-grade students leading the family in a prayer or activity.



COURTESY PHOTO

Students at Holy Family Elementary in Hays take part in circle activities.

Much like the students at HFE, Hake said the lessons of community and the importance of supporting one another are learned in and outside of school for his TCHS students.

“They learn the values of hard work, and teamwork, both of which are lifelong lessons. With the guidance from an excellent group of faculty and staff, students learn the importance of volunteering, respecting life and being accepting of everyone,” he said.

The USCCB explains, “At the core of the virtue of solidarity is the pursuit of justice and peace... The Gospel calls us to be peacemakers. Our love for all our sisters and brothers demands that we promote peace in a world surrounded by violence and

conflict.”

These characteristics are practiced at Holy Family Elementary through Virtue-Based Restorative Discipline.

“We use circles frequently to build school and classroom community, but when some kind of conflict arises, we use restorative practices the same way they use the circles in the larger groups and it helps us get to a solution a lot faster,” Wentling said. “Students don’t love having to be part of restorative circles, but it’s a process to help them verbalize what’s happened in a way that is fair and just. They learn how to manage conflict and look for resolutions to conflict. It’s a large investment of time in building these relationships, which is a challenge. But that

time will be spent one way or another.”

Both principals hope the teaching of Solidarity that is woven through their schools will have a lasting impact on their students.

“Our students leave Tipton with a belief that they truly can and did make a difference,” Hake said. “We are all truly children of God, and no one individual is more important than the whole.”

“My hope is that they’ll take along with them persistent growth in virtue,” Wentling said. “I also hope they’ll embrace the idea that every single person has dignity despite some of the decisions they may make, so that when they try to make amends, they’re brought straight back to the virtues.”



# God's timing never truly disappoints

Almost 18 months ago, one of my closest girlfriends was staying with me during the weekend. We were making brunch and talking about work and life. At the time, both of us were single, and neither of us wanted to be.

There are always waves to being single. One week you're fine with it and soaking up every blessing singlehood has to offer, and the next week you're crying and wondering if maybe you're not meant for marriage. There's a lot of ups and downs.

This particular week, I was at peace with my singlehood. But as my friend and I talked, she asked if I still desired marriage, and I said, "Yes, but I'm done looking."

It wasn't with bitterness that I said that. I wasn't angry or ill-tempered. I was just done looking. I had taken my singlehood to prayer so much, and so many times God had simply urged me to trust him. Finally, instead of trying to forge

my own path, I had decided to rest in the state of life and the vocation I was in. I decided to trust.

While I was done looking, I wasn't done praying. And when my friend asked if I would join her in a novena for our future spouses, I agreed. We started our 54-day Rosary Novena that day (go big or go home). My friend left to return home, and I went about my day. And then, Bishop Jerry Vincke called me.

"I met a man today," he told me. "I'd like to give him your number."

Bishop Vincke relayed how he had met this man and what he thought of him. He told me when the man walked into the room, he felt it on his heart to tell the man about me. I agreed to share my number, and the next day, the man texted me. His name was Nathaniel.

In case you've missed a few of my

previous columns, Nathaniel is now my husband.

I called my friend a few weeks after Nathaniel and I had officially met. I told her I didn't know how to explain it, but I knew that one day, I would marry him. She was happy for me, and then she quickly asked when the bishop would be calling to organize her match.

While Bishop Vincke did not find her match, my friend did find the man she would one day marry.

She got engaged a few months ago, and a few weeks ago, she asked me to be a bridesmaid. Of course, I said yes. But after she left, I began to reflect on life.

I've been thinking about how I was so anxious to be married. I was so disappointed when I was 25 and had not yet had a serious relationship. Hindsight really does provide clarity, because now I look back

and I see God's hand in every moment of my life.

Nathaniel and I met when we were supposed to. We joke that if we had met in high school or immediately after, we probably wouldn't have liked each other very much. He was a "hellion with a golden heart," and I was... not a hellion.

We met when we were supposed to. I guess when we hear people tell us to "trust God's perfect plan and timing," we probably should.

Looking back, I'm so glad God waited to answer some of my prayers. He answered them. But he answered them in unexpected ways and in unexpected times.

And I'm so glad he did.

*Katie*

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

## AMERITOWNE, FROM PAGE 4

These shops include Towne Hall, the Bank, Snack Shop, Newspaper, the Medical Shop, Radio Station and more. In 2019, the transformation was complete and AmeriTowne was open for business.

Before attending their assigned AmeriTowne day, students complete a lengthy curriculum which includes lessons on finances, checking and savings accounts, balancing checkbooks, running a small business, earning wages, interview techniques and more. The students prepare for their day in AmeriTowne by deciding which shops they will work in, holding staff meetings and training for their positions as managers, accountants, service and salespeople, quality control specialists and media specialists.

On the day of their visit, the students attend an opening ceremony and then disperse and go to their shops. They open their shop, review their financial statements and begin their operations. They spend the day creating a product and later selling it at an amount of their choosing. Their goal is to support their town by buying locally, but they are also tasked with paying back their business loan.

The day is an exciting one that allows students to take what they have learned in the classroom and apply it to real-life scenarios.



COURTESY PHOTO

The former high school in Lenora is transformed into the AmeriTowne village for the special event.



Students participate in a ribbon-cutting during the day.

This year, four Catholic schools from the Diocese of Salina participated in the program: St. Joseph Grade School in Oakley,

Sacred Heart Grade School in Colby, Sacred Heart Grade School in Plainville and St. John Catholic Schools in Beloit.

## AMERITOWNE TESTIMONIALS

### Teachers

"The fifth-grade students who were going for a second time did a great job at filling leadership roles and showed maturity and growth. It is a fantastic opportunity for students to practice real-world skills and learn about small-town economies."

*Will Allen, Colby*

"Young AmeriTowne allowed me to expand on the career awareness component, while also exposing students to some basic economic and civic principles that were suited for their age."

*Jeff Bates, Beloit*

"Taking part in AmeriTowne gave our students the opportunity to experience real-life situations where they had to make educated choices. Learning about investing, budgeting, job applications, and how to keep track of our money has only enhanced the opportunities we strive to provide for our students."

*Torie Schrick, Oakley*

"Students who participate in the AmeriTowne experience not only gain invaluable exposure to real-life concepts but then have the opportunity to put them into practice in a realistic setting. AmeriTowne is a fantastic program that will serve students well into adulthood."

*Lanette McCune, Plainville*

### Students

"My favorite lesson in the AmeriTowne curriculum

was learning how managers can lead employees."

*Lenzy, Colby*

"My favorite part of the day was greeting people and being DJ."

*Macy, Colby*

"The worst part of the day was having to pay for things."

*Lukas, Colby*

"The worst part of the day was worrying about whether people were going to buy my product if I even got it done on time."

*Emma DiNuzzo, Beloit*

"My favorite lesson in the AmeriTowne curriculum was learning how to spend money wisely and to think through things more clearly."

*Cecilia Horinek, Beloit*

"The worst part of the day was having to pay bills and write checks."

*Anne Greenwood, Beloit*

"My favorite part of the day was being the bank president because I sat down and did paperwork and did stuff on the computer all day."

*Carson Thomas, Beloit*

"My favorite lessons were learning about deposits, check writing, withdrawing and also learning free enterprise when we created our own food truck business."

*Kendyl Ganoung, Plainville*

"My favorite part of the day was being the mayor and being the boss."

*Cayden Klein, Plainville*



# Parents find comfort at special events

BY KATIE HAMEL  
THE REGISTER

On May 10 at Sacred Heart Church in Colby and May 11 at St. Andrew Church in Abilene, two special Masses were celebrated.

"We are celebrating these Masses for the ones God has loved for all eternity," Bishop Jerry Vincke said.

The two Masses were for parents who have lost children. In years past, only one Mass took place and was geared more towards mothers.

But as the event grew, it became more evident that more than one Mass was needed. It also became clearer the Mass needed to be for mothers and fathers.

The Mass in Colby was the first time this event took place in the western part of the diocese. Approximately 30 people attended, 28 of whom were experiencing the Mass for the first time. Nearly 70 people attended the Mass in Abilene.

For both Masses, Bishop Vincke



MATEA GREGG, COMMUNICATIONS

**A father takes a ceremonial rose at the special Mass.**

shared in his homily that, "Death enters the world by a tree. What does God do about that? He redeems us by a tree."

Bishop Vincke reminded the parents that death is not the end. He quoted St. John Chrysostom when

he said, "Those whom we loved and lost are no longer where they were before. They are now where we are, all through Jesus."

Following communion, every person or couple was given a rose to represent the children they had lost.

They then placed their roses at the feet of Mary, entrusting their children to her.

After Mass, a light reception took place, and parents shared memories of their children.

"It is very emotional and there is clearly a healing presence at the Mass and reception following as people share their stories," said Rick Binder, director of Family Life. "I do not think any quote could do justice to the depth of emotion and healing people were feeling. Some of the couples that were there for the first time shared that this was something they have needed for a long time, some as many as 50 years since they lost a child."

Bishop Vincke added: "We heard many powerful and moving stories. There was one father whose daughter died decades ago. He has made a point to visit her grave every day since. The love of a parent is without measure."

# Appreciation Mass honors religious women

BY KATIE HAMEL  
THE REGISTER

Monsignor Barry Brinkman, chaplain of Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse in Concordia, presided at the annual religious women appreciation Mass to honor the women who have dedicated their life to Christ.

He welcomed all to the Cathedral by jokingly stating, "Obviously, I am not the bishop. Life is full of disappointments."

Unfortunately, Bishop Jerry Vincke was unable to preside at the Mass, but many priests from around the diocese were there to show their love and appreciation to the sisters.

"This Mass is a Mass of thanksgiving," Monsignor Brinkman said. "We are celebrating the living examples of the women who have sustained and built the faith. We are thankful for your answer to God's call."

Nearly 60 religious women were present, including the Sisters of St. Joseph, the Madres and consecrated virgin Judy Kvasnicka, as well as a handful of lay faithful. It was to the religious women that Father Don Zimmerman addressed his homily.

Father Zimmerman began by reiterating the Mass was to honor the religious women who serve the Church.



MATEA GREGG, COMMUNICATIONS

**Religious women listen during a special Mass at St. Joseph Motherhouse in Concordia.**

"You serve the Church in your particular time," he said. "We are very blessed to have many who have gone before us. We stand on their shoulders."

He mused that maybe many of the sisters had not received flowers over the years, at least not the

typical bouquet, but that they had all received many spiritual bouquets as many people have prayed for them, and they have prayed for others.

"Maybe we wonder at our effectiveness," Father Zimmerman said. "We have pain in the joints or

think that we are too old. But you have represented Christ in your ministry, and God still calls you to be the good news. Regardless of when God calls you home, your time may be brief, but it is certainly spectacular."

Following Mass, the sisters gathered for a luncheon prepared by the ladies of the cathedral and served by clergy and diocesan staff. Tables were filled with religious wom-

en, clergy and diocesan staff conversing and laughing, as each shared their own stories of how they have served the Church.

Following lunch, Father Zimmerman brought in several bouquets of flowers and gave each religious woman a long-stemmed rose or carnation.

Not only did they receive the spiritual bouquet of the Mass, but a real flower as well.



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Two events in 2022!

<p>AUG <b>10</b> 2022</p> <p>5:15 PM Salina Country Club 2101 E. Country Club Salina, KS</p>	<p>AUG <b>11</b> 2022</p> <p>5:15 PM The Strand 1102 Main Street Hays, KS</p>
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**We sincerely hope you will attend one or both events!**

More information to come



# Family, farm, faith focus of St. Isidore's Day

BY LINDA AND DAVID EDELL  
SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

Catholic Rural Life celebrated St. Isidore's Day on May 16 in Hanover. St John the Baptist Church served as the host for this year's event.

Prior to the Monday event, participants from Catholic Rural Life Offices in the (Arch)Dioceses of Kansas City, Salina and Lincoln participated in a successful nine-day Novena for St. Isidore via video conference.

Approximately 70 people attended the Mass officiated by members of the aforementioned dioceses. Clergy from the Diocese of Salina included Father Joseph Kieffer, Father Rich Daise, Father Jerome Morgan, Father Soosai Rathinam and Deacon Ed Souza. They, along with clergy from the other dioceses Father Quentin Schmitz (KCK), Father Lucas Grell (Lincoln) and Father Brian Wirth (Lincoln), co-celebrated the Mass.

Father Wirth provided the homily which was centered on the blessings of rural life and the rich tradition of spirituality in the farming communities in the Great Plains.

"Farming takes an amazing amount of faith (to help produce) the most perfect and bounteous gift of all; the growing of wheat and grapes to produce the products that will be transformed into the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ," he said.



MATEA GREGG, COMMUNICATIONS

Emma Brungardt has her horse, Guy, blessed at the St. Isidore's Day event in May.

He also emphasized that depending upon faith for a successful crop, the farmer, and those who support farming, must work together, not only in faith, but in a spirit of community cooperation and love to survive the ups and downs that are innate in the farming industry.

Activities after the celebratory Mass included blessing of animals. A group of Hanover area farmers and ranchers brought their animals to St. John the Baptist Church for blessings. Father Daise provided blessings for goats, cattle and horses.

Emma Brungardt brought her horse, Guy, to

be blessed.

Father Daise also blessed the Lazy J Longhorn brought to the event by Joe Sedlacek. Lazy J has been raising Longhorns for 26 years.

Following Mass and the blessing of the animals, the Altar Society of Hanover provided lunch for the attendees.

The blessing of fields occurred while visiting Rick and Jane Samland's operation in Hanover. They are farmers, butchers and metal fabricators. They are known as Hired Hands.

The Samlands led the participants in a tour of their butcher and metal fabrication shops. Sam-

land gave an interesting presentation on the changes in not only butchering meat but metal fabrication through the years of family farming. Some of the techniques used during the butchering and metal fabrication (blacksmithing) processes of the 1800s can still be found in use today.

During the tour of his fabrication operation, Samland mentioned his current shop was completed in 2011 "with the help of plenty of neighbors, good people. Without their help, none of us could survive."

The group also visited Landoll Corp., which was founded by Don Landoll.

Approximately 55 years ago, Landoll and a partner purchased a small welding company. Since then, the Landoll family has turned a small Marysville welding shop into a manufacturer of farm and industrial equipment with world-wide distribution.

With a vision that includes family, Landoll has been an innovator in design, manufacturing and marketing of quality products.

"We have shared our success with the community by being good stewards to the area community, renovating and putting into operation several vacated properties," Landoll said. "We have led the revamp of the now completed Catholic school and playground, airport, Library Park and a reading garden at the elementary school. We have the largest donor while leading fundraising efforts for the area's new hospital and is now completing work on the Catholic church."

The Catholic Rural Life office of the Salina Diocese would like to thank all who came to Hanover and Marysville to celebrate this event. Without the cooperation and involvement of parishioners and clergy, an event like this would not be possible.

Visit the Catholic Rural Life page at [salinadiocese.org](http://salinadiocese.org) for more information about Catholic Rural Life events.

Linda and David Edell are Catholic Rural Life members.

## RETIREMENTS

In May, the annual Clergy Health and Retirement meetings were held. There was time for Mass and socializing prior to the business meeting. Chancery and Foundation staff met with the priests and each had time to share their needs and discuss diocesan matters.



**Spiritual Life Center, Victoria**  
Front row from left, Father Norbert Diabal, Father Alvin Werth and Father Bill Surmeier. Back row from left, Father Rich Daise, Father Dana Clark, Bishop Jerry Vincke, Father Charlie Steier and Father Jim Dallen.

MATEA GREGG, COMMUNICATIONS



**Sacred Heart Cathedral, Salina**  
Front row from left, Father Henry Baxa, Monsignor Jim Hake, Father Larry Letourneau, Father John Wolesky and Father Frank Coady. Back row from left, Father Rich Daise, Father Don Zimmerman, Father Mark Wesely, Father Kerry Ninemire, Father Steve Heina, Father Jerome Morgan and Father Daryl Olmstead.

MATEA GREGG, COMMUNICATIONS

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**St. Joseph Church, Oakley (seniors) — May 15**  
From left, Father Luke Theilen, Jason Bretz, Riley Chrisler, Abby Scheetz, Emma Evins and Deacon Dennis Engel. Not pictured, Corbin Bockwinkel.



**St. Joseph Grade School, Oakley (kindergarten) — May 6**  
Front row from left, Ava Brown, MaKenzie Andersen, Talon Jones, Lawson Rumback and Olson Samuelson. Back row from left, Father Luke Theilen, Juanita Ottley and Michelle Selzer.



**St. Joseph Church, Oakley (fifth grade) — May 12**  
Front row from left, Isabelle Urrego, Eliana Rincon, Breckyn Selensky and Harper Weber. Back row from left, Father Luke Theilen, Michelle Selzer, Jethro Chrisler, Cody Smith, Cody Andersen and Torrie Schrick.



**Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, Solomon (eighth grade and seniors) — May 15**  
From left, Dawson Duryea, Matthias Baxa, Father John Wolesky, Jarrett Baxa and Ryan Gray. Not pictured: Isabella Owen and Noah Martin.



**Christ the King Church, WaKeeney — May 8**  
From left, Isaac Brungardt, Garrett Kuhn, Carson Walt, Father Charles Steier, Vanessa Weigel, Megan Hober, Alyssa Schneider and Caroline Brungardt.



**Ss. Peter and Paul Church, Clay Center — May 15**  
Father Kerry Ninemire (center) recognized two graduates from the parish, Lane Musselman, valedictorian, and Caitlyn Hood, salutatorian.





**St. Mary Church, Ellis (sixth grade) — May 11**  
Front row from left, Emma Downing, Coltan Mader, Journey Swagerty and Rylan Aschenbrenner. Back row from left, April Pfeifer, Kori Whited, Hannah James, Asher Haag, Father Dana Clark, Arien LaDuke and Shiloh Gaschler.



**St. Mary, Queen of Angels Church, Russell**  
Front row from left, Brooke Leiker, Abigail Myers, Camille Dortland, Cassidy Hobbs, Brittan Fritschen and Emerson Nichols. Back row from left, Andrew Roth, Joshua Sohm, Jacob Windholz and Father Michael Elanjimatthil. Not pictured, Wyatt Evans.



**Sacred Heart Church, Atwood — May 8**  
From left, Ashlyn Livas, Father Norbert Dlabal, Sadie Sramek, Deacon Jim Blume and Omar Sanchez.



**St. Joseph Church, Bird City — May 22**  
Cheylin High School and eighth-grade graduates from left, Dylan Ketzner, Grace Wright, Gabrielle Pochop and Father Joseph Asirvatham.



**St. Fidelis Basilica, Victoria — May 8**  
Front row from left, Taylor Anderson, Brooklyn Nowak, Shelby Schmeidler, Melany Huser, Father Jim Moster, Jessica Schroeder, Kassi Weber, Kaitlyn Windholz, Macy Hammerschmidt and Carson Werth. Middle row from left, Nathan Windholz, Levi Huser, Grant Schoenrock, Isaiah Aguilar, Grant Hammerschmidt and Eric Braun. Back row from left, Dylan Robben, Tate Dorzweiler and Christian Wellbrock.



**St. Mary Church, Ellis — May 7**  
Front row from left, Samuel Honas, Kaden Solorio, Easton Burton and Tyson Jimenez. Back row from left, Faith Fondoble, Journey Eck, Lakyn Fischer and Haley Schmidt. Not pictured: Daniel Crawford, George Crawford IV, Maja Crawford, Mali Crawford, Wyatt Ferland, Madison Gottschalk, Mason Gottschalk, Michelle Gottschalk and Meghan Zweifel.



**Sacred Heart Church, Colby — May 8**  
Front row from left, Mya Betz, Emma Curry, Cindy Chavez, Jalyn Sabatka and Lakin Denny. Back row from left, Ian Rosales, Jacob Franz, Tyler Voss, Colin Carroll, Conner Lanning and Father Brian Lager.



**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Concordia**  
Front row from left, Juana Ayala, Kylee Hower and Kira Kearn. Middle row from left, Keyan Miller, Braxton Kindel, Tessa Christensen and Maddie Schlyer. Back row from left, Cav Carlgren, Father David Metz and Dalton Owen. Not pictured: Kiana Champlin, Logan Leiszler, Hunter Teel, Jara Nordell, Hunter Blackwood and Claudia Nava.



## JUBILEES, FROM PAGE 1

He laughs as he shares his greatest surprise in priesthood.

"As a young person, never in a million years would I have thought of myself as a teacher," he said. "So, it was a surprise that my dad was right about the satisfaction of helping other people learn."

Some of his many memories are the times he was able to collaborate with a group of people, be they brother priests, women religious or laity, in planning a big event or program. He recalls a lot of laughter during those times.

Father Heina's hope for the Church is that all people can rediscover Christ in their everyday lives, and that those encounters will be so life-transforming that everyone will share them with the rest of the world.

**Father David Metz (25 years)**

"It is really hard to pick a greatest blessing because the life of a priest is filled with many," Father Metz said. "I am truly blessed to bring the Eucharist, the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Christ to the people of God. I am also blessed to be available to people of all ages and to their circumstances in life. I am blessed to journey with people at all stages, from birth to death, from baptism to burial."

**Metz**

Ordained on May 31, 1997, at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Hays, Father Metz has served in Manhattan, Hays, Wilson, Dorrance, Holyrood, Hanover, Washington, Greenleaf, Concordia, Belleville, Cuba, Munden and Aurora. He also served in the diocesan vocations office for five years and was the state chaplain for the Knights of Columbus.

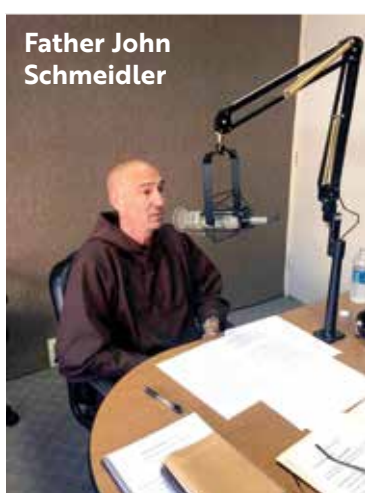
Father Metz shares that the greatest surprise of being a priest has been the people. "People come from different backgrounds, and they have different views, personalities, perspectives and opinions," he said. "I have preached that God has brought us together at this particular time for a specific reason. We may not know what that reason is, but God does, and that is why we place our total faith and trust in him."

Some of his memories include the time he spent in the vocations office. He spent much of his time traveling the diocese and visiting the parishes and schools to talk about vocations. At one point, there was even a billboard on I-70 with his picture and the words, "Is God calling you?"

His hope for the Church is all people truly listen to the voice of Jesus and follow the will of God.

**Father John Schmeidler (25 years)**

Father Schmeidler shares



one of the many blessings of priesthood.

"Priesthood has enabled me to enter the lives of people and discover the presence of God," he said. "I am humbled that people trustingly approach me in their moments of need within the sacraments and within their daily lives."

Ordained in 1997, Father Schmeidler has served in Victoria, Vincent, Walker, Phillipsburg and Logan.

**Schmeidler**

"As priest and people, we encounter the mystery of God's presence among us," he said. "What a blessing to encounter healing and strength through Christ because we believe that Christ helps us through our struggles. Yet, we need physical realities where Christ's healing and strength can be encountered. The sacraments provide a physical encounter of Christ ..."

His hope is for continued encounter with the presence of God, which is made possible through the sacredness of priesthood and the lives of people participating together in faith.

**Father Ernest Amoako-Opare (25 years)**

Currently on sabbatical, Father Ernest Amoako-Opare is a Ghanaian Catholic priest from the Diocese of Koforidua in Ghana. He shares that the greatest blessing of being a priest is "to be called and chosen among the lot by God; setting me apart as an instrument of his word and sacraments; to behold Christ (Body and Blood) in my hands. Unworthy as I am, I consider it a blessing."

**Amoako-Opare**

Father Amoako-Opare was ordained in 1997 by the Most Rev. Charles Palmer Buckle in the Diocese of Koforidua - Ghana. He began ministry at Sacred Heart Cathedral in the Diocese of Salina in September 2021.

One of his favorite memories was the day of his ordination. His hope is all people may share in the eternal life of God one day.

**Father Gale Hammerschmidt (10 years)**

Father Hammerschmidt reflects on one of his favorite memories of being a priest.

"In my first year as a priest. I went on a mission trip to Honduras with students from Sacred Heart High School in Salina," he said. "While in Honduras, I had the opportunity to celebrate a Mass in Spanish for a group of orphans and those who care for them. This group had not had a priest celebrate Mass for them in over a year. I was amazed that they knew every response, and they also sang amazingly beautiful songs they had been practicing for weeks in anticipation of my arrival."

**Hammerschmidt**

Ordained on May 19, 2012, at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Salina, Father Hammerschmidt has since served in Salina, Brookville, Junction City and Manhattan. He served as vocations director for six years and is the founder of the popular summer program Prayer and Action.

He shares that the greatest blessing is "being able to spend so much time with so many people talking about

such important topics."

His hope for the Church is every person on earth becomes Catholic, and every Catholic then comes to know more deeply the love of God.

**Father Brian Lager (10 years)**

"The greatest blessing of being a priest is to witness the transformation of people's lives as they come in contact with Jesus Christ in the sacrament of confession and the Eucharist," he said. "Watching them turn away from sin and become disciples of Christ is the greatest blessing."

Ordained May 19, 2012 at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Salina, Father Lager has since served in Salina, Brookville, Concordia, Belleville, Cuba, Munden, Plainville, Stockton, Hays, Comeau Catholic Campus Center and Colby.

His greatest surprise is being able to give homilies without fear. For a long time, he hated speaking in front of people, and when he did, he had to have his speech written out word for word.

"I really shouldn't be surprised by this because God's grace is bountiful. However, I



am always surprised when I can do this and I know it is not me, but the Holy Spirit working through me."

One of his fondest memories from the priesthood was being able to celebrate his first Mass at his home parish in Angelus, the place he received his sacraments. Another fond memory is traveling to Italy with his parents and celebrating Mass in various holy places.

His hope for the Church is the people of our diocese come to know Jesus and fulfill the great commission by living the faith in a manner that brings others to Christ.

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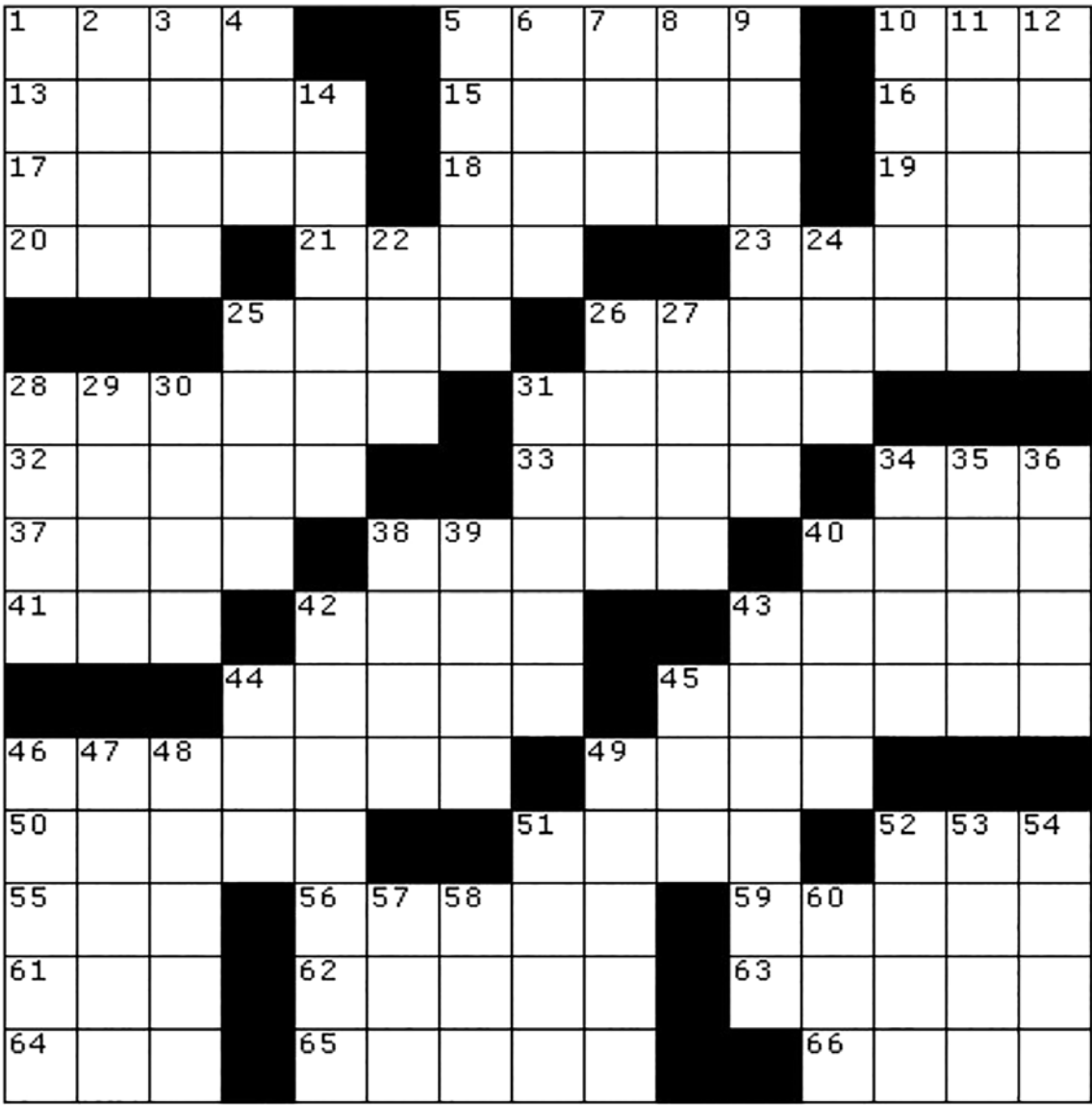
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CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**

1 Cain's brother

5 Warn

10 Request

13 Prophetic

15 Wife of Abraham

16 Uproar

17 Car manufacturer

18 Large eastern religion

19 Past

20 Slide on snow

21 Was

23 Silent \_\_

25 Transgressions

26 Lunacy

28 Roman governor

31 Ladies

32 Objects of false worship

33 Done

34 Dirt

37 Sheltered inlet

38 Signal

40 Wife of Joseph

41 Lager

42 Tree growth

43 Analyze syntactically

44 King when Jesus was born

45 A Christian woman from Joppa

46 Wheat derivative

49 7 days
- 50 Root beer brand (3 wds.)

51 You are the \_\_ of the earth

52 Halloween mo.

55 By way of

56 Restless

59 Color with dye

61 And so forth

62 Gaseous element

63 Where Jesus died

64 Morse code dot

65 Tiny bit

66 September (abbr.)
- DOWN**

1 Car rental agency

2 Lay in the sun

3 Decorative needle case

4 Movie star Taylor

5 Sackcloth and \_\_

6 Set down

7 Sea eagle

8 Radiation dose

9 Boom

10 Saying

11 Sounds of relief

12 Loops the rope

14 Biblical units of length

22 Vane direction

24 No room for them in the

25 Sold at a discount
- 26 Shift

27 Last word of a prayer

28 Typesetting measure-ment

29 Object of false worship

30 \_\_ your neighbor

31 For God so loved the \_\_

34 Artist Chagall

35 \_\_ Minor (Little Dipper)

36 Tints

38 Certain

39 Press

40 One of the Gospels

42 Between (KJV)

43 Romantic imagery

44 Owned

45 Eastern state

46 Motioned "hello"

47 Island nation

48 Make into law

49 Cowboy John

51 What a doctor gives

52 Double-reed instrument

53 Point

54 Screen

57 British drink

58 Nervous system

60 Married woman

Answers on Page 14

Beloit woman builds on counseling services

By JOSEPH KNAPPERT  
SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

Catherine DiNuzzo was finding that she had more potential clients than she had time. She needed to grow her booming Beloit-based counseling business for the good of many suffering people worldwide.

But, she had a problem. There's just one of her. That's why she came up with the idea of Sacred Heart Mental Wellness, an online resource that aims to help prevent mental health issues before they occur.

The website, [www.sacredheartmentalwellness.com](http://www.sacredheartmentalwellness.com), offers videos, literature and online courses to help visitors manage their



DiNuzzo

mental health. It walks subscribers through their personal mental health works and how they can manage effectively.

In addition to the online resources, DiNuzzo recently wrote and published a book called *The Catholic Guide Through Anxiety: Sacred Heart Mental Wellness*.

Fellow Beloiters Meg Malone edited the volume.

DiNuzzo has been a licensed professional counselor since 2006. She brought her DiNuzzo Counseling business with her when she moved to Kansas in 2013.

Joseph Knappert is a student at St. John's Catholic Schools in Beloit.

The Eucharistic Miracle of Dronero

SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER  
Reprinted with permission from the Blessed Carlo Acutis Institute.



**Eucharistic Miracle of Dronero, Italy | 1631**

In the afternoon of Sunday, Aug. 3, 1631, a great fire broke out in the commercial district of Aluzzo in the town of Dronero. A young farm girl foolishly kindled a fire with dry hay at the very moment an upwind was developing into a thunderstorm.

The flames quickly and violently spread to the home of the Borgo Maira. The townspeople desperately attempted to extinguish the fire, but all their efforts proved useless as the fire developed further.

Friar Maurice da Ceva, a Capuchin, was inspired to

have recourse to the power of the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. He immediately organized a procession with the Blessed Sacrament – followed by all the townspeople – to the location of the fire.

The moment the Blessed Sacrament arrived, the flames subsided and miraculously were extinguished. The miraculous event is described in details on a stone tablet in the small Church of St. Brigid. On the Feast of Corpus Christi, the citizens of Dronero keep alive the memory of this miracle with a solemn annual procession with the Blessed Sacrament.

APPRECIATION MEAL



On June 4, the Knights of Columbus Councils from Ellis County joined together to host a barbecue lunch for the first-responders of Ellis County. The first-responders put their lives on the line every day to be sure the public is safe and taken care of. It is with heartfelt appreciation that the Knights of Columbus thank you for your service and dedication. Front row from left, Gary Augustine, Bill Zimmerman, Bill Ring, Rocky Feltis and Roger Rife. Back row from left, Karl Meis, Matt Windholz, Jacob Meis, Stan Staab, Paul Meis, Tim Dickman, Larry Staab and Brad Stramel. Ellis County Knights of Columbus welcomed many first-responders for lunch.

PRAYER INTENTION

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

**Elderly**

We pray for the elderly, who represent the roots and memory of a people; may their experience and wisdom help young people to look towards the future with hope and responsibility.

Bishop Jerry Vincke has announced the diocesan prayer intention for July is human life

That we may learn to see each human life through the eyes of God, their maker, and treat them with the dignity and love they deserve.



# Priest named ECF Volunteer of Year

SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

Father Joshua Werth has served as the prison ministry chaplain at Ellsworth Correctional Facility (ECF) since July 2016. On average, he visits the inmates once a week for confessions and Mass. During Covid, he was unable to visit the inmates, so he recorded all his Masses for them and wrote them letters. He was awarded Volunteer of the Year at the recent ECF Awards Ceremony.

**What has been the greatest blessing of your volunteer work?**

The greatest blessing of my prison ministry has been the gratefulness and contentment I have received from the inmates. They have made me grateful and content with all the blessings I have received in my own life. If I am having a bad day, I often think to myself, "What would the prisoners do with this day if they had it on the outside?" and that just changes my whole perspective.

**What has been the greatest challenge?**

The greatest challenge has been relating to them the

idea of a loving Father. I once asked about their home lives, and about 86% of them were either from a broken home or had parents who were never married. Most of them never grew up with a father that would do anything for them, so the description of the heavenly Father is so foreign to them that I have to stop and explain what a loving father relationship should have looked like in their lives. I explain that God is here to fulfill that perfectly.

**What reason do you think the inmates seem to gravitate towards the faith?**

The inmates like the idea that there is one set of rules for everybody. They are so used to a survival mentality that says, "What is right is what benefits me, and what is wrong is what threatens me." But they can see that there is then no objective standard for what is right and wrong. There is no stability. So, they really like the stability and uniformity of the faith.

**Have you witnessed any tremendous conversions or reversions?**

I have seen major fruit of



COURTESY PHOTO

**Father Joshua Werth was named the Volunteer of the Year at Ellsworth Correctional Facility.**

conversions and reversions from years past. When I began my assignment, the weekly Mass was already going on from the ministry of several priests before, and no matter the priest, there was always a handful of guys that are constant at every Catholic function and always wanting more opportunities to grow in the faith. I'm sure you would not have wanted to run into these guys in a dark alley before they came to prison, but now they have given their lives over to Christ. They are some of the greatest Christians I have ever met.

**What have you learned**

**from your work with the inmates?**

I have learned that these guys did not wake up one day and want to hurt someone. They mostly had abusive and neglectful childhoods, which put them in a survival mentality and led them to self-medicate on drugs and alcohol. Then, in their inebriated state, they lashed out and hurt someone. I have learned to appreciate that old saying, "But for the grace of God, go I." If it had been my dad who left my family instead of my mom, and I did not have a father figure to show me how to be a man, I can't guarantee that I wouldn't be

in ECF right now, not as a priest, but as a prisoner.

**What kinds of skills does it take to work in prison ministry?**

I think the inmates would welcome anybody that wanted to be a volunteer. But to be successful, I think it takes humility. Humility in just being able to say to a guy, I don't know what your life has been like, but I want to hear it. I try not to offer solutions to their individual problems, but instead teach them about Christ and get the inmates to talk to Jesus. Jesus knows the answers to their problems, not me. He loves them so much he specifically identifies with them. You don't read the Bible in the same way after being in a prison, because God is constantly talking about his closeness, care and concern for prisoners. People forget that for a short time, Jesus was on death row. And he is still on death row in minimum through super maximum security. That's where Jesus wants to hide himself because that is where he wants to be found. I am so thankful God has called me to find him in prison ministry.

## SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMS



MATEA GREGG, COMMUNICATIONS

**Totus Tuus Team 1: From left to right, Ella Girton, Gabe Friess, Robyn Logan (co-leader) and Sam Stone (team leader). Towns they are serving this summer include Atwood, Goodland, Sharon Springs, WaKeeney, Osborne and Lincoln.**



MATEA GREGG, COMMUNICATIONS

**Totus Tuus Team 2: From left to right, Candace Taylor (team leader), Michael Lager (co-leader) and Imagen Tremblay. Not pictured: Brady Hutchison. Towns they are serving this summer include Hoxie, Oakley, Ellsworth, Colby, Ellis and Clyde.**



MATEA GREGG, COMMUNICATIONS

**Totus Tuus Team 3: From left to right, Austin Bradley, Kallyn DeWitt, Jesse Ochs (team leader) and Elizabeth Wright (co-leader). Towns they are serving this summer include Abilene, Phillipsburg, Hanover, Salina, Beloit and Wilson.**



MATEA GREGG, COMMUNICATIONS

**Prayer and Action leaders front row from left, Laura Meyer, Jamie Kuhlman, Torrie Gregg and Tiffany Pfeifer. Back row from left, Ethan Dlabal and Jake Schroeder.**



# Marymount centennial in Oct.

## EVENTS CELEBRATE COLLEGE'S HISTORY

SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

SALINA — An all alumni reunion and special centennial tribute to Marymount College is underway. The celebration is scheduled for Oct. 6 to 8 in Salina.

Marymount College was founded in 1922 as a Catholic undergraduate institution for women. The four year college was operated by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia. Marymount was recognized for its BSN programs in nursing as well as recognition in education, fine arts, science and humanities. The

school became co-educational, admitting men in the 1960s. The school closed for financial reasons in 1989.

“The centennial reunion is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to come together and celebrate our shared experience as well as salute the Sisters of St. Joseph and lay faculty who were so instrumental in our lives,” said John Arnold, a 1974 graduate.

Arnold, who lives in Florida, serves on the volunteer steering committee working with others to organize and execute plans for the reunion.

“The dedication, energy level and fellowship we are witnessing is more than we could ever imagine. Alumni are yearning and hungry to return and celebrate,” he said. “At the same time, the centennial reunion is a moment to recapture those special memories and re-engage one more time

with those people who were special in our lives. And we’re going to have a great, fun time.”

The Class of 1972 gets to celebrate its 50 year reunion. The Classes of 1970 and 1971 (due to Covid) can celebrate their 50th as well.

“I am just so excited this is finally happening,” said Marian Labrie Salwierak, a 1972 graduate and steering committee member.

She and her husband, Gary Salwierak, also a 1972 graduate, are working on alumni data and helping contact alumni along with other committee members.

“It is hard work. There is no alumni office like other schools depend on,” she said. “But it is fun re-connecting with people. I hope people will forward their emails and classmates’ emails so we don’t miss anyone.”

Alumni can send emails

to Marian at [msawierak@gmail.com](mailto:msawierak@gmail.com).

An invitation is extended to the Sisters of St. Joseph, former faculty and friends to attend. A special invitation is extended to those who attended Marymount at any time.

“As a Marymount alum, I consider anyone who attended Marymount as alumni as well, so please come and join us,” said Lori Richards Swanson, a 1980 graduate.

The events Oct. 7 to 8 (more details to follow) will include a gathering for early arrivals (Thursday), an all alumni centennial celebration event, campus tours, golf outing, Saturday evening Mass celebrated by the Most Rev. Bishop Jerry Vincke, bishop of Salina, followed by social hour and centennial banquet.

The official centennial reunion hotels will be the Courtyard by Marriott and Hampton Inn in Salina.

For more information, contact Marian Labrie Salwierak at [msawierak@gmail.com](mailto:msawierak@gmail.com) or John Arnold at [john@johnsarnold.com](mailto:john@johnsarnold.com).

## Beloit church launches restoration


SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

BELOIT — St. John the Baptist Catholic Church recently launched a \$3 million restoration project to repair damage from a fire in June 2021, address structural and deterioration issues, and restore the interior of the church in a way that reveals the original design and glory.

“We have benefited from the dreams, sacrifices and faith of previous generations of St. John’s parishioners who built this church more than 120 years ago,” said Father Jarett Konrade, pastor of St. John’s. “Time has taken its toll, and it is now our turn to ensure this gift is passed on to future generations for the next 100 years.”

To date, \$1.1 million has been raised or pledged for the project. St. John’s parishioners, past members, alumni and friends are being asked to prayerfully consider a sacrificial gift.

For more information, visit [www.stjohnsbeloit.org/preparetheway](http://www.stjohnsbeloit.org/preparetheway).



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BAPTISMS

**Colt Kelvin May**, son of Kelvin and Katie May, was baptized May 8, 2022, by Father Daryl Olmstead at St. Boniface Church in Tipton.

**Bexley Owen Nash**, son of Zachary and Bailey Nash, was baptized May 14, 2022, by Father Damian Richards at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays.

**Jovi Ann Tidwell**, daughter of Alexander and Janae Tidwell, was baptized May 14, 2022, by Father Damian Richards at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays.

**Lathan Joseph Schuetz**, son of Thomas and Janessa Schuetz Jr., was baptized May 14, 2022, by Father Damian Richards at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays.

**Mac William Hoffman**, son of Nolan and Jessica Hoffman, was baptized May 15, 2022, by Father Damian Richards at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays.

**Harlan Rippe**, son of Rodney and Katelyn Rippe, was baptized May 7, 2022, by Father Alvin Werth at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays.

**Emily Lynn Royse**, daughter of Craig and Amber Royse, was baptized March 26, 2022, by Father Gnanasekar Kulandai at St. Francis Xavier Church in Junction City.

**Aiden Patrick Torres**, son of Gonzalo and Pristine Torres Jr., was baptized April 10, 2022, by Father Gnanasekar Kulandai at St. Francis Xavier Church in Junction City.

**Alexander Luis Torres**, son of Gonzalo and Pristine Torres, Jr., was baptized April 10, 2022, by Father Gnanasekar Kulandai at St. Francis Xavier Church in Junction City.

**Simeon James Diabal**, son of Josh and Brenna Diabal, was baptized May 7, 2022, by Father Andrew Rockers at St. John the Baptist Church in Beloit.

**Ellie Elizabeth Gengler**, daughter of Justin and Shelby Gengler, was baptized May 8, 2022, by Father Josh Duncan at St. John the Baptist Church in Beloit.

**Holland Henry Tegtmeier**, son of David and Danielle Tegtmeier, was baptized May 22, 2022, by Deacon Wayne Talbot at St. Thomas More Church in Manhattan.

**Madison Elizabeth Broderick**, daughter of Jacob and Jessic Broderick, was baptized May 29, 2022, by Father Donald Zimmerman at St. Thomas More Church in Manhattan.

**Franklin Theodore Bolton**, son of Franklin and Mika Bolton, was baptized May 29, 2022, by Father Frank Coady at St. Thomas More Church in Manhattan.

**Isabella Rae Guzman**, daughter of Allen and Haley Guzman, was baptized May 8, 2022, by Deacon Wayne Talbot at St. Thomas More Church in Manhattan.

**Gabriel Raphael Guzman**, son of Allen and Haley Guzman, was baptized May 8, 2022, by Deacon Wayne Talbot at St. Thomas More Church in Manhattan.

**Eldoy May Weber**, daughter of Kyle and Peony Weber, was baptized May 29, 2022, by Father Dana Clark at St. Mary Church in Ellis.

**Owen Wesley Patterson**, son of Lane and Sarah Patterson, was baptized May 25, 2022, by Father Damian Richards at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays.

**Bridger Dean Cunningham**, son of Matthew and Jenna Cunningham, was baptized May 29, 2022, by Father Dana Clark at St. Mary Church in Ellis.

**Harper Kate Wurtz**, daughter of Joseph and Laura Wurtz, was baptized May 19, 2022, by Father Steven Heina at St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Clifton.

25TH JUBILEE YEAR OF FIRST PROFESSION OF VOWS

Sister Mary Elizabeth Brungardt CP was born and raised in Ellis County. She is the daughter of Margaret Brungardt of Victoria and the late Dr. Joe Brungardt. She was a member of the Basilica of St. Fidelis Parish and graduated from Fort Hays State University in 1992 and Webster University in 1995. She entered the Passionist Nuns of Ellisville on July 23, 1995, made her first profession July 23, 1997, and made her final profession of vows June 11, 2003. She and her fellow Passionist nuns will celebrate her anniversary (and the 75th year anniversary of the Passionist Nuns presence in

St. Louis) with Holy Mass at 7:30 a.m. July 24 at Immaculate Conception Monastery Chapel, followed by a reception in the monastery's visitor parlor.

"Above all, I love living life in the Paschal Mystery: the Passion/suffering, crucifixion, death and resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ to the Praise of His glory," she said.

For more information, visit [monachepassioniste.com](http://monachepassioniste.com).

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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37	C	O	V	E		38	S	I	R	E	N		40	M	A	R
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64	D	I	T		65	T	A	S	T	E		66	S	E	P	T

WEDDINGS

**Daniel Honas and Olivia Wiesner** were married at St. Mary Church in Ellis on April 30, 2022, by Father Dana Clark. Witnesses were Sarah Martin and Ethan Cox.

**Ryan Hillman and Taryn Rupp** were married at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Hays on May 7, 2022. Father Nicholas Parker witnessed their vows. Parents of the groom are Ed and Kristen Hillman. Parents of the bride are Kim and Deana Rupp. Witnesses were Braden Evans and Shania McCormick.

**Daniel Dysinger and Kelly Geist** were married at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in

Hays on May 14, 2022. Father Damian Richards witnessed their vows. Parents of the groom are Robert and Chris Dysinger. Parents of the bride are Gary and Lou Ann Geist. Witnesses were Eric Dysinger and Michelle Geist.

**Brady Peterson and Alexandra Herrman** were married at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays on May 28, 2022. Father Damian Richards witnessed their vows. Parents of the groom are Eugene and Lori Peterson. Parents of the bride are Troy and Tina Herrman. Witnesses were Devin Tavarez and Eliana Buller.

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DEATHS

**Larry Winterscheidt**, 88, of Ellis, died May 8, 2022. Funeral Mass was May 18 at St. Mary Church in Ellis. Father Dana Clark officiated. Burial in St. Mary's Cemetery in Ellis.

**Deloris M. Berland**, 78, died May 9, 2022. Funeral Mass was May 19 at St. Thomas More Church in Manhattan. Father Frank Coady officiated. Burial in Sunrise Cemetery in Manhattan.

**Loyola "Ann" Schell**, 90, died May 25, 2022. Funeral Mass was June 1 at St. Thom-

as More Church in Manhattan. Father Frank Coady officiated. Burial in St. Gregory's Catholic Cemetery in Marysville.

**Pete Lorenz**, 76, died May 1, 2022. Funeral Mass was May 11 at St. John the Baptist Church in Beloit. Father Andrew Rockers officiated. Burial in St. John's Cemetery in Beloit.

**Ernestine Mick**, 99, died May 5, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated May 12 at St. John the Baptist Church in Beloit. Father Jarett Konrade

officiated. Burial in St. John's Cemetery in Beloit.

**Dennis Lee Ouellette**, 73, of Clay Center, died May 4, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated May 11 at Ss. Peter and Paul Church in Clay Center. Father Kerry Ninemire officiated. Burial in Mount Calvary Cemetery in Clyde.

**Carolyn "Carol" Klaus**, 93, of Hays, died April 4, 2022. Funeral Mass was April 9 at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Hays. Father Gale Hammerschmidt officiated. Burial in St. Joseph Cemetery in Hays.

**Cecelia "Sis" Pahls**, 96, of Tipton, died May 4, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated May 10 at St. Boniface Church in Tipton. Father Daryl Olmstead officiated. Burial in St. Boniface Cemetery in Tipton.

**Mary Brummer**, 70, died April 29, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated May 4 at Ss. Peter and Paul Church in Cawker City. Father Jarett Konrade officiated. Burial in Ss. Peter and Paul Cemetery in Cawker City.

**Rafael Rivera Jr.**, 28, died April 2, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated April 12 at St. Francis Xavier Church in

Junction City. Father Gnanasekar Kulandai officiated. Burial in Milford Cemetery.

**Cynthia Diane Higgins**, 62, died March 31, 2022. Funeral Mass was May 6 at St. Francis Xavier Church in Junction City. Father Gale Hammerschmidt officiated. Burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

**Jerry L. Hall Sr.**, 80, died April 10, 2022. Funeral Mass was May 7 at St. Francis Xavier Church in Junction City. Father Gnanasekar Kulandai officiated. Burial in St. Mary's Cemetery.

**Linda Charowhas**, 80, died April 16, 2022. Funeral Mass was April 22 at St. Francis Xavier Church in Junction City. Father Gnanasekar Kulandai officiated. Burial in Humboldt Creek Cemetery.

**Victoria Lynn "Vicki" Rajewski**, 70, of Hays, died May 11, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated May 17 at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays. Father Damian Richards and Father Robert Wachter officiated. Burial in St. Boniface Cemetery in Vincent.

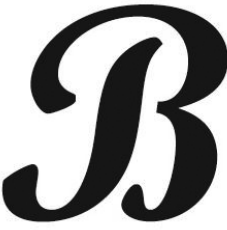
**Dennis Lee Schmidt**, 78, of Hays, died May 11, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated May 18 at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays. Father Damian Richards officiated. Burial in St. Ann's Cemetery in Walker.

**Ann Rose Ruder**, 71, of Hays, died March 2, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated May 20 at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays. Father Damian Richards officiated. Burial in St. Joseph Cemetery in Hays.

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# Life-saving procedure provides second chance at life

By OLIVIA AYRES

SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

All Angela wanted was for her 13-year-old daughter, Elizabeth, to be able to live a normal, healthy life. However, this wish seemed increasingly impossible by the day as Elizabeth's health was quickly declining.

Elizabeth had been diagnosed with Tarlov Cysts, a rare disease in which fluid-filled nerve root cysts are found along the base of the spine causing extreme pain, muscle weakness and even loss of reflexes.

"It was stressful, very stressful," Angela said. "When you know something is wrong with your daughter, all you want is for your kid to live a normal life. All you want is to find one doctor that believes in you to say, 'This is what's wrong. We are going to fix it, and she will be OK.' It was hard."



The only way for Elizabeth's disease to be cured was to travel to Dallas and undergo back surgery. While this operation would pose a fair amount of risk, it would allow Elizabeth to regain a normal life. Due to the countless medical expenses that accompanied Elizabeth's disease, Angela did not know how she and her daughter would travel to Dallas for this life-saving procedure.

"We had the stress of trying to figure out how to get down to Dallas," Angela said. "And figuring out where we were going to stay because we had to be there for eight days."

Desperate to find a way to make the trip from Salina to

Dallas, Angela came to Catholic Charities and met with Jill Smith-Barker, community engagement and outreach coordinator. She was able to receive catastrophic illness assistance.

"Catholic Charities helped us with our hotel and food," Angela said. "It was a lot of reassurance to know that money was there to help."

Elizabeth was able to travel to Dallas with her mother and receive back surgery, a procedure that ultimately gave her a new chance at life.

"Before her surgery, her outcome was just being at home," Angela said. "Now she can go back to school, she is in driver's ed. She gets to go do things and be a kid again where before she was stuck at home in bed."

Angela said the assistance she received from Catholic

Charities not only changed her daughter's present life, but her future.

"Catholic Charities' help brought hope to us," Angela

said. "Hope for Elizabeth to be able to live again."

Olivia Ayres is the communications coordinator for Catholic Charities.

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**SCAN ME**

**financial support**

We award funds through an application process that adoptive and birth parents complete together, furthering the open adoption relationship that we hope will grow throughout the life of the child.

**adoptive families**

We understand firsthand the financial strain of adoption, which is why funds are available to help cover costs for adoptive families.

**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/leapoffaithe](http://www.nortonccf.org/leapoffaithe)

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

**WERTH** Hays and Leawood  
WEALTH MANAGEMENT

## Enhancing Lives & Strengthening Families

We've cultivated a rich tradition of trust and long-term relationships.

For decades, we have developed relationships with families just like yours.

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