



## Vacation serves as mission

### HAYS FAMILY TURNS ADVENTURE INTO SERVICE PROJECT

BY DIANE GASPER-O'BRIEN  
THE REGISTER

Like many parents, Chad and Sarah Meitner from Hays have tried to make a tradition of taking a family vacation every summer.

Although much different than the Grand Canyon or Disney World, the Meitners' 2022 vacation will likely be one they talk about for a long time.

In July, the couple took four of their five children ages 8 to 18 and a family friend on a mission trip to Peru — to work.

After two weeks of performing jobs such as pouring cement on dirt floors of huts and scraping and painting churches, all the while experiencing the culture of a poor population, the Meitners returned to Hays with memories for a lifetime.

In Peru, they stayed in a parish center made up of two bunkhouses, one for the males and one for the females. Their "living quarters" included an open-air gathering space, a church and a kitchen, where a cook prepared the meals for the Meitners and others participating in the mission.

The hot, humid climate of the rain forest was a stark contrast to that in Hays.

"The intent was to go and serve others and have our kids be a bit uncomfortable," Sarah said. "We wanted them to see how blessed they are. We want them to know that in this life, they have the responsibility to give to others."

The idea for this summer's vacation stemmed from a 2019 mission trip Chad took with the couple's oldest daughter, Julia, to Ecuador.

Julia wasn't keen on taking that trip at first but had a change of heart by the time she returned



COURTESY PHOTO

Chad and Sarah Meitner took their family on a mission trip this summer. Front row from left, Charlie, Leo and Abe Meitner. In second row are Julia Meitner and friend Tyson Dinkel.

home to Hays.

"Julia talked so highly of the trip and said she definitely wanted to go again," Sarah said. "She talked her brothers into going this time."

Chad also had taken students on mission trips during his time as a Spanish teacher at Sacred Heart High School in Salina several years ago.

"I had experienced the satisfaction of helping people and the spiritual growth," Chad said. "That was a big proponent of it."

With Julia graduating from high school and moving on to college this fall, the Meitners knew this

would be one of the last years their children would all be living under one roof and able to take such a trip.

So, they started making arrangements with the Family Missions Co., which has been sponsoring these trips for 25 years.

MISSION, PAGE 13



Charlie Meitner and some local children from the village and other missionary children.



Leo Meitner and a chicken that was gifted to the priest traveling in our group, pictured with the daughter of another missionary.

### JOINING THE RANKS

Brother Simeon professes vows in ceremonial event.  
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### HELPING HAND

Pair of events help fund seminarians.  
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# Fulfilling a role

A story that always makes my heart rejoice is when I recall how Catholic radio came to our diocese.

Donetta Robben from Hays approached a priest and said, "The Church needs to start a Catholic radio station in our diocese." The priest looked at her and said, "I think that's a great idea. Why don't you start one?"

Not knowing anything about how to run a radio station, let alone start one, Donetta began Catholic radio in Hays. As they say, the rest is history.

By God's grace, today Divine Mercy Radio has spread to most of our diocese.

What most pleases me is Donetta saw a need and did something about it. She, like all of us, are members of the Church. She saw a way the Church's mission could expand, and she took initiative.

Recently, I attended a meeting regarding lay ministry in the Church. One person stated she believed the biggest crisis in the Church is the laity (the faithful who are not clergy or religious life) do not understand their role in the Church. I think she is on to something.

The Vatican II documents *Lumen Gentium*, Decree on the apostolate of the lay people, as well as the decree on the church's missionary activity, discuss the important role of laity within the Church. In summary, the laity are called to be in the world to sanctify the world. The laity are called to spread the Gospel and be the light of Christ in our homes, workplaces and our communities.

What does this look like? Donetta's courage is one example, but here are a few others that come to mind (there are many more):

- Recently, a refugee couple from the Ukraine was able to move to Hays. This move was entirely arranged by the laity in the area. These same laity are continuing to support the family.

- Students from St. John Catholic High School in Beloit organized a local prayer service for Christians who are being persecuted throughout the world. It's part of a nationwide initiative called For the Martyrs.

- In Manhattan, laity from the three parishes started MC3. MC3 is a unique way for parishioners from the different

parishes to gather once a quarter for fraternity and listen to a guest speaker.

- A lay woman contacted people throughout the diocese to encourage them to take classes on healing prayer ministry so they can pray with people and spread Jesus' message of healing.

These are all examples of lay people taking initiative and being the light of Christ to their

communities and beyond. The Church is not just the clergy and religious. The Church is all of us. It is every person who has been baptized and confirmed into our shared faith.

Some of the greatest saints were lay people who started programs to serve the poor and needy throughout the world. They understood they are "Church." If they wanted the Church to do something, maybe it was they themselves who God was calling to do something. Through our baptism, confirmation and steady nourishment of the Eucharist, we are all equipped to fulfill the mission that God is asking of us, whatever that might be.

Pope Francis said in *Evangelium Gaudium* (the Joy of the Gospel), "Goodness always tends to spread. Every authentic experience of truth and goodness seeks by its very nature to grow within us, and any person who has experienced a profound liberation becomes more sensitive to the needs of others. As it expands, goodness takes root and develops. If we wish to lead a dignified and fulfilling life, we have to reach out to others and seek their good. In this regard, several sayings of St. Paul will not surprise us: "The love of Christ urges us on" (2 Corinthians 5:14); "Woe to me if I do not proclaim the Gospel" (1 Corinthians 9:16)."

Is there any place in our communities or world that you see a need? One example that comes to mind is help for single or pregnant mothers. What can I do? What can you do? How can we, as members of the Body of Christ, bring light to the world?

In Christ's service,

*+ Gerald L. Vincke*

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

**GERALD  
Vincke**  
BISHOP, SALINA DIOCESE



## BISHOP'S CALENDAR

### October

- 8** Marymount Alumni Mass, 4 p.m., Marymount Chapel
- 9** Deacon Retreat Mass, 10 a.m., Wichita
- 11** St. Andrew School Mass, 2 p.m., Abilene
- 14-16** Pathways Retreat, Sacred Heart Cathedral, Salina
- 16** Anniversary Mass, 3 p.m., St. Mary Queen of the Universe, Salina
- 18** White Mass, 6 p.m., St. Thomas More, Manhattan
- 19** Chancery Retreat, Salina (Chancery closed)
- 23** Mass at Ascension Living Via Christi Village, 10 a.m., Hays
- 26-27** Jesu Caritas, Wichita
- 30** Anniversary Mass, 3 p.m., St. Nicholas of Myra, Hays

## CLERGY ASSIGNMENTS

### Effective Sept. 1

#### Father Henry Saw Lone:

Officially excardinated from the Diocese of Taung-nгу and incardinated in the Diocese of Salina.



Saw Lone



Baxa

### Effective Sept. 8

#### Father Henry Baxa:

Transferred from being parish administrator of St. Edward Parish in Belleville, St. Isidore Parish in Cuba and St. George Parish in Munden to be priest supervisor of the same parishes, with continued residence in the St. Edward Parish rectory.



Heiman



Kirk

#### Deacon Steve Heiman:

Appointed parish director of St. Edward Parish in Belleville, St. Isidore Parish in Cuba and St. George Parish in Munden.



Micheal



Amoko-Opare

### Effective Sept. 15

**Deacon Brian Kirk:** Officially appointed to diaconal ministry at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Norton, and St. Joseph Parish in New Almelo.

### Effective Oct. 1

#### Father David Micheal,

**HGN:** Transferred from pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Goodland and Holy Ghost Parish in Sharon Springs to be parochial vicar of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Hays, with residence in the Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish rectory in Hays. (This supersedes his previous transfer to the parishes in Hill City and Damar.)

#### Father Ernest Amoa-

**ko-Opare:** Transferred from the parochial vicar of Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish in Salina and St. Joseph Parish in Brookville to be pastoral administrator of Immaculate Heart of

Mary Parish in Hill City and St. Joseph Parish in Damar, with residence in the Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish rectory in Hill City.

#### Father Joseph "Stanly"

**Basil, HGN:** Transferred from parochial vicar of St. Wenceslaus Parish in Wilson, St. Joseph Parish in Dorrance and St. Mary Parish in Holyrood to be parochial vicar of Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish in Salina, with residence in the Sacred Heart Cathedral rectory in Salina.

#### Father Joseph Michael-

**samy, HGN:** Transferred from parochial vicar of St. Francis Xavier Parish in Junction City to be 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.

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# Brother Simeon professes vows

BY AARON DLABAL  
SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

The congregation looked on solemnly as a few altar servers carefully lowered a funeral pall over a monk at Conception Abbey on Aug. 15.

As the church bells tolled, the quiet in the air was poignant. In most cases, these symbols would accompany a sad day. However, this was a day of rejoicing. The family, friends, seminarians, monks and priests gathered were celebrating not a funeral, but Brother Simeon Johnson's profession of solemn vows.

Brother Simeon professed solemn vows at Conception Abbey in Conception, Mo., on the Feast of the Assumption. Brother Simeon, formerly Cole Johnson, is originally from Beloit. By his final vows, he made Conception Abbey his permanent home.

At Conception, the road to solemn vows begins with a short postulancy and a year of novitiate in which the prospective member becomes familiar with the community. If they would like to remain after that year, they take simple vows and receive a new name. At Conception, the period of simple vows lasts three years. After those are completed, the monk has the choice between leaving or making a permanent commitment to the community.

Solemn vows at Conception include three promises. A brother promises to live out stability in the community, obedience to the rule of St. Benedict, and fidelity to the monastic way of life. As a permanent member of the community, Brother Simeon can vote in community decisions and wear the cuculla, an additional garment worn by the monks on special solemnities. The cuculla symbolizes humility, compunction and death.

Arriving at final vows was the completion of a long journey for Brother Simeon. He first arrived at Conception as a seminarian studying for the Diocese of Salina in 2015. While there, he found himself attracted to the monastic way of life.

"During my time as a seminarian, I grew in appreciation for Benedictine spirituality and was drawn specifically to



COURTESY PHOTO

Brother Simeon is covered with the funeral pall during the ceremony.



Brother Simeon and his family.

Conception Abbey's liturgical and communal life," Brother Simeon said. "I felt at home around the Abbey, and I had a sense of peace. It just seemed like a good fit for me."

Upon graduating from the seminary college, Brother Simeon began his novitiate in 2018 and professed simple vows in 2019.

After three years of simple vows, his journey culminated with signing his vows on the basilica altar. He then stood amidst the community and sang to God with arms outstretched: "Suscipe me, Domine, secundum eloquium tuum, et vivam; et non confundas me ab expectatione mea." This translates in English

to, "Receive me, Lord, as you have promised, and I shall live; let me not be disappointed." (Psalm 119:116)

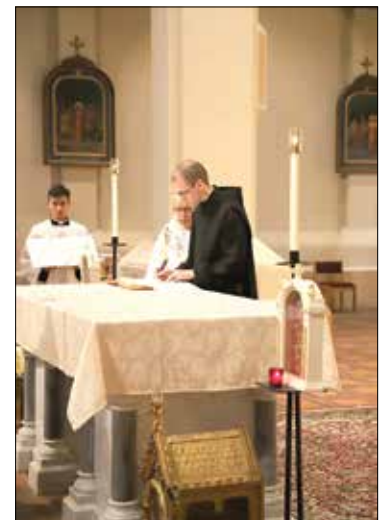
Next, Brother Simeon lay prostrate on the ground, and the altar servers stretched a funeral pall over him, symbolizing death to himself and to his old way of life.

"While I was lying under the pall, it hit me that I now need to put into practice what I've promised to do," he said.

Brother Simeon will fulfill his vows in a variety of ways. One of the most immediate will be studying for a master's degree in liturgical music at St. John's School of Theology in Minnesota, per the instruc-

tion of Abbot Benedict. By this and many other means, Brother Simeon will surrender to God's will for many years to come.

For more information, visit <https://www.conceptionabbey.org/br-simeon-solemn-vows/>.



From top, Brother Simeon during different stages of the Mass.





The Knights of Columbus group of St. Andrew's Parish in Abilene provided a much-needed cleaning to the outside windows of St. Andrew's School. Parents put in many hours cleaning the inside of the building following ceiling renovations, but ran out of time to get the outside windows cleaned. Thanks to organizers Father Peter and Grand Knight Kevin Herrman, this crew of Knights helped provide the students and staff members with the nice, clean view to start off the school year.



The Oberlin CYO group participated in the diocesan Prayer and Action program July 10 to 15 in Phillipsburg. Pictured (in no particular order) are Jenna Fortin, Gary Jennifer, Jenna Juenemann, Joshua Juenemann, Makadyn Ketterl, Michaela Wasson, Katrina Neal and Aidyn Witt. Not pictured, Jacie Fortin.

On July 12, Biking for Babies made its annual stop in Salina. Biking for Babies is an organization that provides hope in crisis and seeks to transform the culture into one that supports life. Every year, they form and equip missionaries to take on a long-distance cycling mission that raises awareness and funds for pregnancy resource centers nationwide to assist women and families experiencing crisis pregnancies. To learn more, visit [bikingforbabies.com](http://bikingforbabies.com).



On Sept. 6, the Knights of Columbus Council No. 601 hosted a St. Joseph Icon prayer service at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Salina. From left, Deputy Grand Knight Tym Bonilla, Bishop Jerry Vincke and Grand Knight Damian Schmidt.



In celebration of 25 years of priesthood, Father David Metz celebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving with brother priests and friends from across the diocese.



Students at St. Andrew Grade School in Abilene made straw and paper gliders and then tested and modified their designs as part of the Summer STREAM Academy. From left are students Creyton Berns, Maxwell Sawyer, Jayce Wilson, Crayton Taylor, Sam Krueger and Shannon Mead.

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# Always the bride in a Christ-centered life

When I was in college, I took a class called “Christian Marriage.” It was one of my favorite classes. We dove into the sacramentality of marriage, the canons of marriage and the realities of marriage.

After taking the class, I remember calling my mom and telling her I was rethinking marriage. It sounded daunting. She laughed and said, “It is. But it’s worth it.”

One of my favorite lessons was on the four marks, or the four intentions, of marriage.

Marriage must be free, total, faithful and fruitful.

Free meaning that no one is forcing you to be there. It is your willful choice that brought you to the sacrament. Total meaning that you are making a complete gift of self, there is no part of you that you are holding back or hiding. Faithful meaning that you are committed for life, there is no one or nothing else. And fruitful meaning that you are open to life and the way God chooses to bring new life into the world through you.

Now, those are just general summary sentences of the four marks. You could spend hours learning more. Our Church has such a rich tradition and beautiful teachings for “why” on each mark.

Nathaniel and I have been married for over half a year, and I finally printed off our wedding photos. I was flipping through it and reflecting on our wedding just the other day. And I thought about how it felt to be a bride. It was terrifying and exciting all rolled into one. I remembered the solemnity of the moment when we made our statement of intention and then said our vows to each other.

I’m now a wife, but my role of bride is not yet over.

Because as a member of the Catholic Church and the Mystical Body of Christ, I am also a bride of Christ. And so are you (even if you are a man).

And just as a bride on her wedding day declares through the statement of intention that she will

honor the four marks of marriage, so too do we as Catholics, brides of Christ, make that same declaration.

We accept the faith freely, totally, faithfully and fruitfully.

Nathaniel and I will sometimes have “marriage check-ins” or “marital maintenance” as my mom calls it. It’s never a planned conversation, but sometimes we just talk about our marriage and reflect on the vows we made.

Just as husband and wife check in with each other about their living sacrament, so too should we check in with our commitment to our faith.

Do we choose the faith freely? Do we give our whole selves to the faith, holding nothing back and accepting all the Church’s teachings? Are we committed to our faith for life? Are we open to the new life the Holy Spirit will give us through our “yes” to God?

If those questions are too much,

start small. For me, sometimes I’ll ask myself, “Why am I Catholic?”

The first time someone asked me why I was Catholic was in high school. And my response was, “Because my parents are.”

As I said those words, I knew that wasn’t a good enough reason to be Catholic. So, I decided to learn about Catholicism. And now, when people ask me why I’m Catholic, I can laugh and say, “How much time do you have?” Because there are so many reasons why I choose this faith.

Just as a married couple has those “marital maintenance” conversations, maybe we should try to have those prayerful conversations with Jesus about our faith. I can promise you we are never done learning about this faith of ours. And the more we learn, the more we fall in love with being Catholic.

*Katie*

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

**KATIE Hamel**  
CREATIVE EDITOR



# Practical strategies of evangelization

Through the years, I have been laying out what I take to be the basics of evangelization. Proclaiming the Good News has to do with announcing the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, declaring that Jesus is divine, celebrating the deep humanism of Christianity, and finally, insisting on the indispensability of the Church as the mystical body of the Lord.

In this column, I would like to reflect, however briefly, on some simple practical strategies for evangelization, things you can do to make this message public.

## **First, deepen your knowledge of the Catholic tradition**

A recent survey showed that, among the various religious groups, young Jews have the weakest sense of their own religious heritage, but second only to the Jews in this dubious distinction were young Catholics. This is nothing short of tragic. We have an extremely smart, rich and profound tradition, including the incomparable Scriptures, treasures of theology, spirituality, art, architecture, literature and the inspiring witness of the saints. To know this tradition is to enter into a densely textured and illuminating world of meaning; not to know it deprives one of spiritual joy, and perhaps even more regrettably, renders one incapable of explaining the Catholic faith to those who seek to understand it better.

Most Catholics stopped their formal religious education in

eighth grade or perhaps in senior year of high school.

No wonder we are relatively poor evangelists. So, resolve this year to read a good and serious book of theology, perhaps a classic such as St. Augustine’s Confessions or Thomas Merton’s Seven Store Mountain. Make an effort this year to delve into a great Catholic literary master such as Dante, G.K. Chesterton or Flannery O’Connor. Or study the paintings of Caravaggio and Michelangelo, and the sculptures and architecture of Bernini. Enter into the prayerful reading of the Bible.

In a word, learn the tradition of Catholic Christianity, so as to be a better bearer of it to others.

## **Second, invite someone you know to come back to church**

Evangelization can focus on the conversion of the nations, or on the Catholicizing of Protestant Christians, but it can also focus much more narrowly on the reactivizing of inactive Catholics. Everyone reading these words knows someone – a friend, a co-worker, a family member, perhaps even a godson or goddaughter – who has stopped attending Mass or availing himself of the sacraments. Resolve in the next year to send that person a note, give him or her a phone call, sit down for a good conversation – and urge him or her to come home to church. This over-

ture might cost you. It might prove a bit uncomfortable or embarrassing. Evangelization is always a risk. For the sake of that person’s spiritual health, take it.

## **Third, let the language of the faith be naturally on your lips**

Many of us Catholics – consciously or unconsciously – censor our own speech against anything smacking of our religious convictions. We learn early on the etiquette of a pluralist society: it is not

polite to talk in public settings about politics or especially religion. To be sure, we should never be aggressive or overbearing in regard to our faith, but we should never acquiesce to social conventions that require a privatization of our religion. Our faith must be all-pervasive, invading and influencing every dimension of our lives, both public and private, both personal and professional. Thus, at your place of work, at social gatherings, among friends, allow your Catholic convictions to come to verbal expression. And the non-verbal can be just as important: put a crucifix or a picture of a favorite saint up in your office; arrange to have a Biblical quote as the screensaver on your computer. If this prompts a reaction or a question, so much the better for evangelical purposes. How many people in your circle of acquaintances or in your place of business even know that

you are a Catholic? I would submit that if the answer to that question is few to none, then you have been too reticent in your everyday evangelizing.

## **Fourth, don’t be afraid to pray in public**

How many times have you sat down with your family or with Catholic friends at a restaurant and have simply dug into your food without offering a word of thanks? Again, you need not be ostentatious, but a simple, unaffected prayer, publicly offered, can be a powerful witness to those around you. Do you remember that sentimental but effective painting by Norman Rockwell depicting an elderly woman and her grandchildren bowing their heads in prayer before taking a meal in a truck stop? What I’ve always loved are the looks of bewildered admiration on the faces of the regular denizens of the place.

Don’t underestimate the evangelical power of demonstrating your faith in public. Jesus told his disciples to proclaim the Gospel to all nations. This call went out, not simply to the leaders of the Church then and now, but to all of us, to all the baptized, to every one of the people of God. Don’t miss the opportunity to be an angel of God, a bearer of the impossibly good news.

*Robert Barron is bishop of the Diocese of Winona-Rochester (Minn.) and an acclaimed author, speaker and theologian. He is one of the most followed Catholics in the world on social media.*

**ROBERT Barron**  
BISHOP, WINONA-ROCHESTER DIOCESE





# Marymount celebrating centennial

SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

An all alumni reunion and special centennial tribute to Marymount College is underway. The celebration is scheduled for Oct. 7 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



KANSAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY, COURTESY PHOTO

**The fine arts building at the former campus of Marymount College in Salina.**

graduate of the school.

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. 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," Arnold said. "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 who is also a steering committee member.

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

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

Emails should be sent to Marian at msalwierak@gmail.com.

An invitation is extended to the Sisters of St. Joseph, former faculty and friends. 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 reunion will include a gathering and Friday evening social — an all-alumni centennial celebration event, campus tours, golf outing, Saturday evening Mass celebrated by the Most Rev. Jerry Vincke, bishop of Salina, followed by a social hour and centennial banquet.

The official centennial reunion hotels are the Courtyard by Marriott, Hampton Inn and Hilton Garden Inn, all in Salina.

For more information, contact Marian Labrie Salwierak at msalwierak@gmail.com or John Arnold at john@johnsarnold.com.

## BRIEFS

### Bazaar set for Oct. 9 in Wilson

The St. Joseph's Catholic Church of Dorrance Bazaar will be Oct. 9 at the Wilson Catholic Parish Hall in Wilson.

A complete dinner including turkey, real mashed potatoes, gravy, dressing, Jell-O salad, homemade rolls, pie and drinks will be served from 5 to 7 p.m. Games and the cake wheel will start at 5:30 p.m.

Bingo with a variety of prizes will start at 7 p.m. Raffle tickets for money and other prizes can be purchased from any parish member or purchased that evening.

### White Mass to honor healthcare professionals

Bishop Jerry Vincke will celebrate a White Mass for physicians, nurses and other healthcare professionals and their families at 6 p.m. Oct. 18 at St. Thomas More Catholic Church in Manhattan.

The White Mass derives its name from the color traditionally and in many cases still worn by healthcare providers.

"This special Mass is a wonderful opportunity for all who work in healthcare to come together and ask for God's blessing in this healing ministry. It's open to anyone who wears a lab coat, scrubs, a uniform or business attire as well as their family and friends as we are all one community serving those most in need," said Tracey Biles, chief

mission integration officer for Ascension Via Christi.

The Mass is being hosted by the Catholic Diocese of Salina and Ascension Via Christi.

### Knights offering new ASAP program

The Knights of Columbus have established a new Culture of Life program called Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP).

The national program is designed to support pregnancy centers in anticipation of an increased need after the overturning of Roe vs. Wade by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Through this program, for every \$500 a council gives to a pregnancy center, up to a maximum of \$2,000 per fraternal year in either cash or material donations, the Supreme Council will provide the center with an additional \$100. This increases a local contribution by 20% and has been well received by the council in Kansas.

### Auction, food on tap for event in Chapman

St. Michael's Parish in Chapman is hosting a bazaar Oct. 2.

Games and booths will be open from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. A country store and bake sale will operate at the same time with home-canned, home-baked and homemade items.

A live auction starts at 12:30 p.m. In addition to the live auction, card games will allow players to win cash and will be played during the live auction. Participants must be present to win. A silent auction will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Additionally, there is a raffle for a queen size, handmade quilt. Tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5.

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

### Fall seminary visits upcoming

Opportunities this year for men (high school juniors and older) to discern the priesthood include fall seminary visits to:

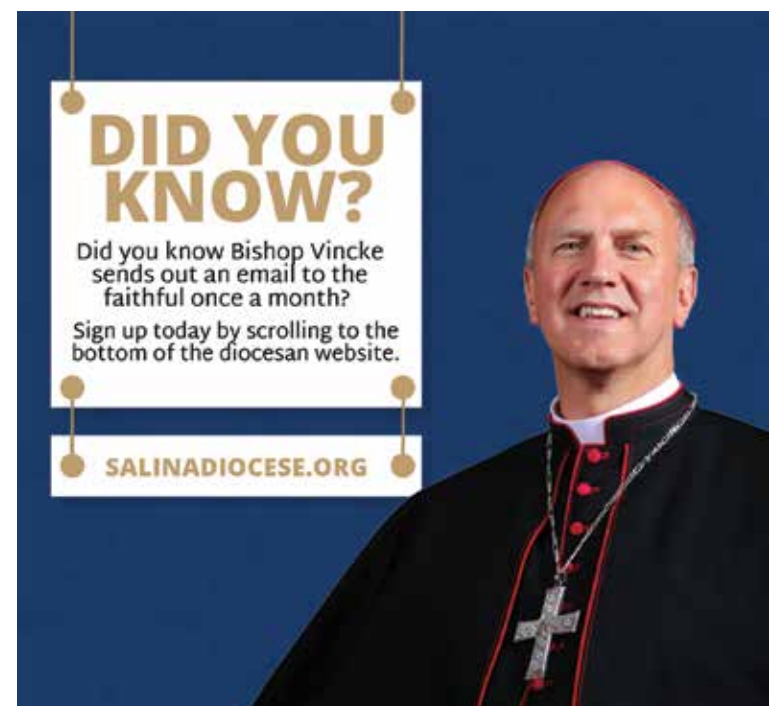
- Kenrick Seminary in St. Louis: Oct. 13 to 15.
- St. John Vianney Seminary in Denver: Oct. 27 to 29.
- Conception Seminary in Missouri: Nov. 12 to 14.

Additionally, the Vocations Office will be taking a group of young men to the Quo Vadis Discernment Retreat in Wichita on Dec. 30 to Jan. 1.

To register for the events, email andy.hammeke@salinadiocese.org.



This is the quilt that will be raffled off at the Oct. 18 annual ham loaf dinner at St. Andrew Parish Hall in Abilene. The \$10 dinner is carryout only. Tickets for the quilt (59 inches by 74 inches) are \$1 each, six for \$5, or 13 for \$10. For more information, contact Sarah Geiger at (785) 263-6199.



### SEND US YOUR INFORMATION

Have something interesting happening in your parish? Let us know by emailing us at [theregister@salinadiocese.org](mailto:theregister@salinadiocese.org)



## Diocese celebrates Respect Life Month

By THE REGISTER

October is commonly known as Respect Life Month. During that time, Catholics are asked to take even greater care to pray for the sacredness of life to be celebrated at every stage, from conception to natural death. The Diocese of Salina Respect Life Office intends to host two events in the month of October to recognize the sanctity of life.

### Rosary Congress

The Rosary Congress will be Oct. 1 to 7. The hope of the Rosary Congress is to have seven parishes commit to hosting 24 hours of adoration at their parish. Each parish chooses a day to host 24 hours of adoration, with a Rosary for the sanctity of life prayed at every hour. At the end of the week, at least 168 Rosaries will have been prayed in defense of the dignity of human life. For more information, contact Rick Binder at (785) 827-



8746 or email [rick.binder@salinadiocese.org](mailto:rick.binder@salinadiocese.org).

### High School Respect Life Conference

For the second time, the diocese will host a respect life conference for Catholic school juniors and seniors. The conference will take

place in Salina at the Salina Fieldhouse and the Sacred Heart Cathedral on Oct. 5. Please pray for the students in attendance.

### March for Life

In addition to these two events, registration for the 2023 March for Life opens Oct. 1. More information can be found at [salinadiocese.org](http://salinadiocese.org) at that time.

The March for Life is scheduled to take place Jan. 20. The diocesan pilgrimage will depart from the Chancery in Salina on the morning of Jan. 18, with an expected return of Jan. 22.

"The 2023 March is more important than ever in light of the recent overturning of Roe v. Wade by the U.S. Supreme Court," said Rick Binder, director of Respect Life. "Action is needed now to continue to build on the momentum of restoring a 'Culture of Life' in our country and to change peoples' hearts by speaking truth immersed in love.

The goal is for every parish in the diocese to have at least one parishioner represent them at the March."

## ANNIVERSARY MASSES

By THE REGISTER

The Office of Family Life will host the two annual diocesan anniversary Masses. The Masses are to honor couples who are celebrating their first anniversary, any anniversary ending in zero or five, or any anniversary over 70 years.

Bishop Jerry Vincke will

preside at both Masses. The first is Oct. 16 at St. Mary, Queen of the Universe Church in Salina. The second is Oct. 30 at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays. Both Masses are at 3 p.m. Register at [salinadiocese.org/events](http://salinadiocese.org/events). Family and friends are welcome to attend, and there is no cost for the event.

THE REGISTER  
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SALINA

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# Charities relieves stress, gives hope

By OLIVIA AYRES

SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

Coupled with a frightening diagnosis, medical expenses can be one of the most trying parts of coping with a catastrophic illness.

That was certainly true for wife and mother Brittanie. In 2020, at just 24, Brittanie was diagnosed with stage three breast cancer. After undergoing intensive chemotherapy and numerous operations, Brittanie was happy to report she was cancer-free. However, the onslaught of procedures depleted her both mentally and physically.

"I was extremely stressed," Brittanie said. "Even after all my treatments were over, the financial stressors were still there. I also was not able to work from the lingering effects of chemotherapy."

Feeling the weight of these heavy financial burdens, Brittanie contacted Catholic Charities.

"I was extremely depressed, coming to terms



COURTESY PHOTO

**Catholic Charities helped Brittanie get back on her feet while battling cancer.**

with the fact that I was not able to work, no matter how hard I wanted to," Brittanie said. "I remember being at my wit's end. I was desperate for any kind of help."

Through Catholic Charities' Financial and Housing Assistance Program, Brittanie's family received

vital help with rent and utility bills. Brittanie said these services provided a sigh of relief to her young family.

"Catholic Charities went above and beyond for me," Brittanie said. "After I received assistance, my situation changed tremendously. I was not having to

stress about how the bills would be paid or sending my son to daycare so I could go to appointments. My expectations were met and exceeded."

For Brittanie, the support she received from Catholic Charities signifies a life-saving hope.

"Hope to me represents

being at the lowest point of your life, and there are still people in this world that are going to be there that next day to help you, and to say you are strong, a fighter, and can do this."

To learn more about the Financial and Housing Assistance program, visit [ccnks.org/financial](http://ccnks.org/financial).



CATHOLIC DIOCESE  
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# School bell rings for Meagher

By DIANE GASPER-O'BRIEN  
THE REGISTER

Beginning-of-the-school-year meetings for the directors of religious education (DRE) and CYO leaders across the Salina Diocese returned this year after a halt in the meetings for a few years because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Bill Meagher, the new director of religious education and youth ministry for the diocese, scheduled gatherings at four different sites — Colby, Hays, Beloit and Clay Center — in an effort to give CYO leaders and DREs in the 86 diocesan parishes a chance to attend a meeting in their area.



Meagher

Meagher, who took over the position when longtime religious ed director Sister Barbara Ellen Apaceller died in June 2021, had visited with many of the DREs in the individual parishes either by phone or email. But he knows that isn't the same as putting a face to a name.

"It was nice to get out and shake hands and meet people face to face and make a solid connection with them," Meagher said. "I think it was good for them to see and hear from me what I'm about and what we are working on trying to accomplish together. They are such an important part of that process."

Meagher also introduced some new programs he is implementing this year.

"It was great to get out and listen to them and learn about what is going on in their

## Prayer for Catechists

Loving Father, we pray today for our catechists. We thank you for their gift of ministry in your Church.

Grant them your wisdom that they may grow in the understanding and teaching of your Word. Grant them also your love that they may be fruitful heralds of your Word and lead others to love you.

Pour forth your Holy Spirit upon them to grant them wisdom about what is important; knowledge of the truths of faith; understanding of their meaning; right judgement about how to apply them in life; courage to persevere even in the face of adversity; reverence before all that is sacred and holy; and that loving zeal which leads others to a transforming encounter with your Son.

We pray this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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parishes to understand better how we can help. They have very tough jobs," he said. "There are just so many challenges in working with young people right now with the culture they are growing up in."

Meagher said the meetings also gave him the opportunity to thank the directors personally.

"I want them know we are here for them," Meagher said. "I also wanted to give them some encouragement, as they are the ones most impacting our young people directly. We are so blessed in our diocese to have so many incredible people in those positions."



COURTESY PHOTO

Father Wade Menezes speaks to the crowd during a Divine Mercy Radio event recently.

## Message comes in loud and clear

By ALLISON OCHOA  
SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

Divine Mercy Radio welcomed Father Wade Menezes, CPM, a member of the Fathers of Mercy, as the keynote speaker for the apostolate's annual appreciation banquets Sept. 10 and 11 in Hays and Salina.

The events brought nearly 350 people together during the two days to hear updates about the station and hear Father Menezes's message.

In her remarks to those in attendance, Executive Director Donetta Robben shared news about the addition of a new station — KGOH 89.1 — to the list of areas served by Divine Mercy Radio. The station will be located near Colby and will have a coverage area that is expected to include Oakley, Hoxie and Atwood. Goodland may also be included, but the exact reach will not be known until the station is built. Robben said equipment has been ordered, and the station should be on the air by the end of 2023.

Robben also introduced the station's new assistant director, Nathan Lang. Lang began his role in early September after serving as a police officer in Hays and for Fort Hays State University for more than a decade.

In his keynote address, titled, "In Defense of Truth and Faith: Our Catholic Calling," Father Menezes cited scripture and the Catechism of the Catholic Church, as well as multiple saints, popes and Catholic writers from across the Church's history in his explanation of truth.

"In 500-year intervals, (the Church) has experienced trials and tribula-

tions related to heresies," he said. "We've had heresies against Christ and the Holy Spirit. There was the split between East and West in the Church, not in doctrine but in jurisdiction. We saw the Protestant Reformation, and we've seen the heresies relate to secular humanism, relativism and the clergy-abuse scandals.

"We can literally know the truth by the Church's three-legged stool — sacred scripture, sacred traditions and the Magisterium. If you separate yourself from one of those three legs, you fall because the stool falls."

Father Menezes also spoke on faith, the attacks on the Church and the challenge to all Catholics to carry on the Gospel message.

"Make no bones about it: The devil is after priests," he said. "Why? The devil knows that if there are no priests, there is no Mass. If there is no Mass, there is no Eucharist. If there is no Eucharist, there is no Jesus fully present to the Church which is his bride. If Jesus is not fully present to the Church which is his bride, there is no vehicle for salvation. If there is no vehicle for salvation, there is no salvation. And if there is no salvation, there is only damnation."

He noted mediums like Catholic radio can help Catholics in their evangelization mission and their efforts to defeat the devil's attacks.

Citing St. Vincent Pallotti, a 19th-century priest and servant of the poor and underprivileged, Father Menezes said, "St. Vincent Pallotti stated, 'The Christian life is one of action; not of speech and daydreams.' Catholic radio is action."

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CATHOLIC DIOCESE  
of SALINA



# Families receive farm awards

By DAVID AND LINDA EDELL

RURAL LIFE COMMISSION

On Aug. 14, the Diocese of Salina and the Rural Life Commission celebrated Rural Life Day at St. Fidelis Basilica in Victoria. The main event featured the presentation of the Century Farm Awards. The day began with a prayer service led by Father Jim Moster, OFM, Cap. Approximately 100 people were in attendance.

Afterwards, six families were presented the Msgr. John George Weber Century Farm Awards. All the families expressed the many blessings given them are the result of their Catholic faith. Faith is one of the backbones that has contributed to the history of farming in the rather unpredictable Great Plains.

## Brull Farm

When Jacob Brull was 14, he and his family traveled by steamship to America from Saratov, Russia. They moved to Kansas, where Jacob worked in Topeka for a nurseryman until he was 24.

Jacob's father, Michael, moved to Munjor in 1886. At that time, there were no fences, only the occasional telegraph pole and wires. Jacob visited his father while selling trees and fell in love with the open range. He resigned from the nursery, and, on Sept. 9, 1890, his train arrived in Ellis County — where he purchased 80 acres of farmland.

Jacob married Magdalena Sack in 1891. Through the years, their family blossomed to 13 children, of which seven survived to adulthood (two boys and five girls). The family lived in a one-room bunkhouse until 1904 when a two-story home, that is still standing, was built.

As the years passed, their land holdings increased. During all this time, the family remained true to their Catholic faith as members of St. Joseph Church in Hays. They made a point to travel by wagon to attend every Sunday Mass and Holy Day.

Eventually, Jacob's sons, Tom and Gabe, took on more of the farm work, and later acquired land from their father. In their later years, Jacob and Magdalena moved to town, and Gabe and his wife Catherine (Huser) continued farming the land, moving into the two-story home. They had three sons, two of whom died in infancy. The surviving son, Charles, grew up on the farm and learned the trade.

In 1956, Charles married Marlene Gable, and the couple built their home on the land and raised their three children (Mike, Judy and Jim). Eventually, Charles was able to acquire the land that had been given to his Uncle Tom. In this way, nearly the entire property owned by Jacob is now continuously farmed by his descendants.

Charles and Marlene eventually moved into the two-story home. Their son, Mike Brull, with his wife, Denise, moved into the home Mike grew up in where they raised their two boys, Brandon and Justin, on the farm.

## Cersovsky Farm

John Cersovsky, wife, Anna Scharf, and children immigrated

to America from Hengersdorf, Austria, in May 1880. They spent 12 days on a ship named Oder. After arriving in New York, the family journeyed to Wahoo, Neb., and lived on an 80-acre farm.

After six years in Wahoo, in March 1886, John shipped his belongings, machinery and livestock by railroad car to Oberlin. He then traveled 50 miles by wagon with his family and arrived at a homestead northeast of Colby in the middle of a blizzard. There was a small dwelling on the 160-acre homestead. John filed his claim and declared his intention to become a U.S. citizen.

The family were members of Sacred Heart Church in Colby. They had 15 children: eight born in Austria and seven born in America. Four of the children died in infancy. One of their children was a son, Anthony.

Anthony married Elizabeth Bremenkamp on Oct. 10, 1905. Anthony and Elizabeth were married 55 years and blessed with three children, Sylvia, Lloyd and Clarence. The pair purchased a farm south of Halford in 1908. In 1917, they purchased some land in Thomas County. And in 1923, Anthony had a tractor, making him one of the first farmers in Thomas County to change from horses to tractor. Anthony eventually sold his quarter to his son and daughter-in-law, Lloyd J. Cersovsky Sr. and Eva Renner.

Lloyd Sr. and Eva purchased the land in 1939. They farmed the land and raised their six children on the farm until moving to town in 1963. They were married for 74 years.

## Chopp Farm

In the year of 1890, William C. Picking homesteaded Farm No. 10-25-2W in Republic County. He fulfilled a homesteading requirement by planting a shelterbelt of deciduous trees the full half mile width of the 360-acre farm.

In 1906, a dressmaker from Narka, Marie Brash, married E.B. Webster, who by this time had bought the William Picking farm.

In 1917, Frank Chopp and his brother-in-law, Oscar Homolac, were offered the opportunity to farm the Webster place. Frank Chopp farmed the east 80 acres, and Oscar farmed the west 80 acres.

Frank was offered the opportunity to farm this place because his wife, Marie, worked for Webster in her dress shop, and they became good friends before Marie married Frank in 1903.

Crop profits were split between Webster, Frank and Oscar. This farming arrangement remained in place until about 1936 when Frank's son, Henry Chopp, married Rosemary Baxa. At that time, the entire farm was turned over to Henry.

Henry continued to farm the place until about 1975. Eventually, the two daughters of Marie (Brash) Webster owned portions of the land. Daughter Laura willed hers to the University of Kansas Endowment, and daughter Olive sold hers to Henry's son, Paul Chopp.

Paul and the KU Endowment have owned the land for 47 years. Paul has farmed the land for those 47 years, continuing to give

a share of the crops to the KU Endowment.

## Dreiling Farm

Peter Dreiling was born in Saratov, Russia, on Oct. 15, 1862. In 1888, he married his second wife, Dorothy Bauer. Their son, Alex, was born in Russia in 1891. The family departed Hamburg, Germany, on Jan. 3, 1892, on the SS Rhaetia to immigrate to the United States.

In 1908, Peter and Dorothy acquired and homesteaded 160 acres north of Catherine. After the deaths of his parents, Alex acquired the land in 1933.

Alex eventually purchased additional farm ground near Antonino. In October, he walked his cattle from Catherine to Antonino. Then, he walked them back to Catherine in April. They had one overnight stop along the way at the corner of Buckeye Road and Hyacinth Avenue, which was considered a public holding pen.

Martinus "Martin" and Virginia Dreiling purchased the farm in 1974, making the Dreiling farm a third-generation farm that was passed from father to son. With Martin's passing in 1995, Virginia began leasing the farm, and her son Myron helps to oversee the farming operations.

In the past eight years, all 160 acres of the Dreiling farm have burned three separate times. Before the grass regrows, wagon ruts are visible going upward on the hilly landscape. The tracks serve as a reminder of those who came before. The adversities of immigration, relentless farm work and loss were softened by faith and blessings from the Lord.

Throughout the generations of farm ownership, the Dreiling families have been active members in the Catholic faith and supporters of Catholic Charities, including the adoption of two children by Martin and Virginia. Virginia Dreiling is a member of Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Hays. Myron, his wife Monica, and daughter Mariella are members of St. Joseph Church in Hays.

## Kuhn Farm

Michael and Margaretha Kuhn came to the United States on the SS Mosel in 1876. They had nine children. Margaretha passed away, and Michael married Catharine Appelhans. They had four children together. Catharine passed away, and Michael married Margaret Gerber-Hoffman on Oct. 31, 1898.

Margaret had five children with her late husband. Together, Michael and Margaret had three children: Augustine, Lidwina and Magdalena.

Michael and Margaret purchased a quarter of ground Jan. 17, 1917. They lived on the farm for two years when they deeded the farm to their son, Augustine.

Augustine acquired the farm Oct. 23, 1919. He married Helen Dreiling on Oct. 11, 1921, and they had 14 children.

In 1973, their son Francis and wife Estella (Schippers) bought the farm from the family. The farm was then willed to Curtis and Rochelle Kuhn on Nov. 5, 2020.

FARM, PAGE 11



PHOTOS BY MATEA GREGG, COMMUNICATIONS

Charles and Marlene Brull accepted the Century Farm Award for the Brull Farm.



Lloyd J. Cersovsky Jr. and Cindy L. Cersovsky accepted the Century Farm Award for the Anthony and Elizabeth Cersovsky Farm.



Paul Chopp accepted the Century Farm Award for the Chopp Farm.



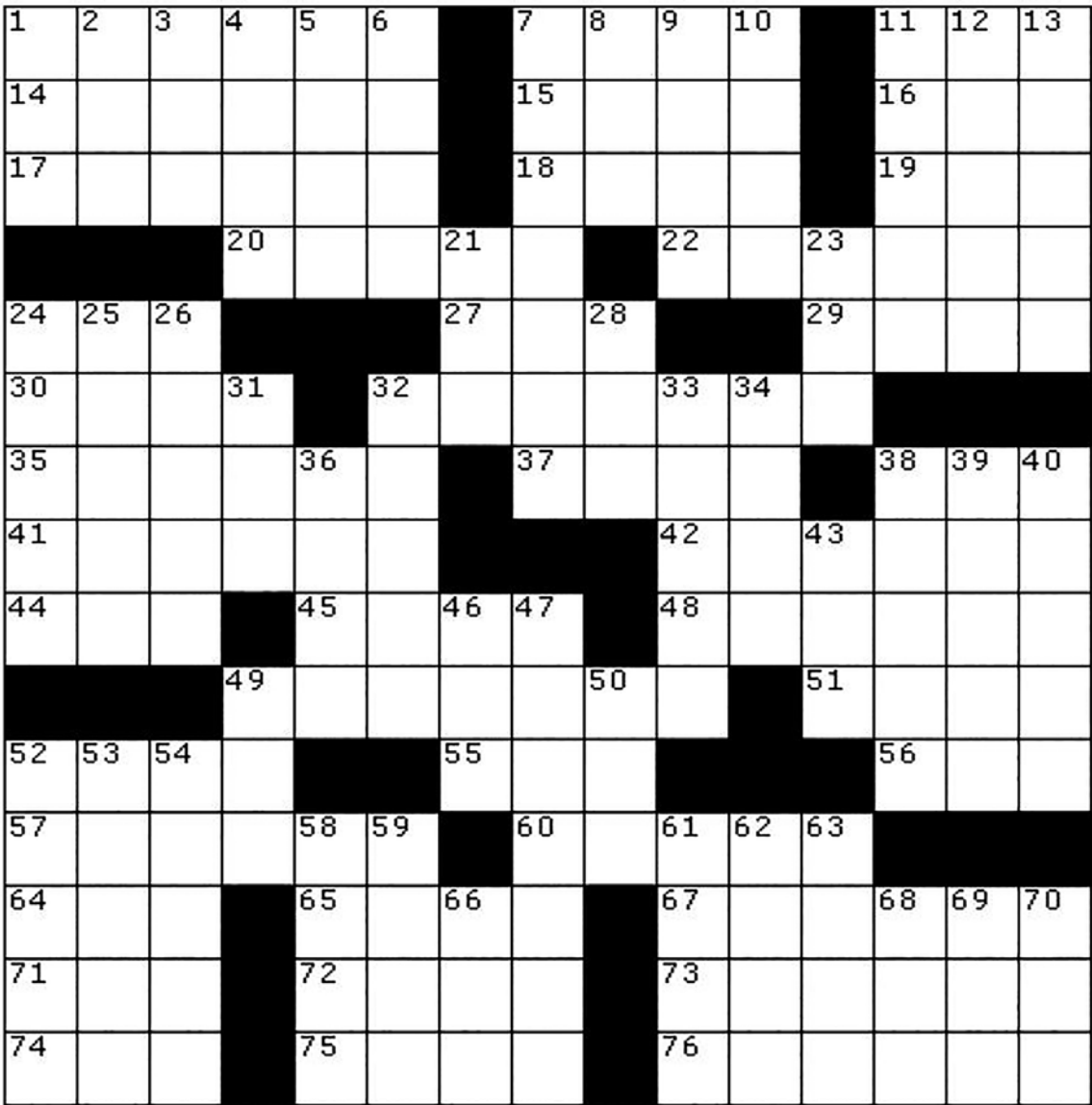
Virginia Dreiling along with Myron, Monica and Mariella Dreiling accepted the Century Farm Award for the Dreiling Farm.



Curtis and Rochelle Kuhn and their children accepted the Century Farm Award for the Kuhn Farm.



CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**

1 Sister of Moses

7 Time periods

11 Jaguar

14 Eave hanger in winter

15 Invalidated

16 Fire remains

17 Abase

18 Austin novel

19 Her

20 Had by Joseph, Joseph and magi

22 Method

24 Container

27 Pen brand

29 Dry

30 Evils

32 Usurp

35 Greenhorn

37 Soybean

38 Teaspoon (abbr.)

41 The Messiah

42 Cola brand

44 Straw

45 Dregs

48 Beer brand

49 Muslim dedicated to poverty and chastity

51 Sticky fastener

52 Big sandwich

55 Samuel's mentor

56 Affirmation
- 57 OT name of God

60 A witch lived here

64 Compass point

65 Ripped

67 Major OT prophet

71 Profit

72 Stylish

73 Previous

74 Alternative (abbr.)

75 Faith, \_\_ and charity

76 Teeter
- DOWN**

1 Center

2 Winter hazard

3 Lip

4 Chilled

5 Like a wing

6 Word interpreted by Daniel

7 Love your \_\_

8 Liquor

9 Charity

10 Kill

11 Class

12 Tribe of Israel

13 Subject matter

21 Reduced (abbr.)

23 Concord e.g.

24 White barked tree

25 Hawaiian 'hello'

26 Give \_\_ to God
- 28 Executive

31 Slide on snow

32 Fisherman disciple

33 Gift of the wise men

34 Tempo

36 Island

38 Present time

39 Tilt

40 Sheets of paper

43 Midwest time

46 First woman

47 Hush

49 \_\_ Jones Industrial average

50 Transgression

52 Laughing dog

53 Artist's need

54 Gone With the Wind's Mr. Butler

58 \_\_-a-sketch

59 Santa call (2 wds.)

61 Obligation

62 Fake butter

63 Chasm

66 Rend

68 Write quickly

69 Exist

70 That woman

Answers on Page 14



Patrick and Paula (Brungardt) Zwenger accepted the Century Farm Award for the Brungardt Farm.

FARM, FROM PAGE 10

**Brungardt Farm**

Andrew Brungardt and Monica Brungardt, along with their respective families, immigrated from the Volga region in Russia to Ellis County in 1876 as young children. They married in 1886.

In 1893, at the prospect of better land, they headed north to Canada. During the one-year journey, their third child, Andrew, died at 10 days old, and a crossing of the Republican River resulted in the loss of most of their worldly possessions. They returned to Kansas to pick up the thread of life among family and friends.

In 1905, Andrew and Monica purchased one half section of land 8 miles north of Victoria. They transformed the raw prairie into a homestead to sustain their five boys and seven girls. Their Catholic faith was central to their life, and they were members of Sacred Heart Church in Emmeram.

Andrew died suddenly in 1909, leaving Monica with seven children under the age of 14 at home. She sustained the family by the efforts of the children working at home or hiring out to neighbors, taking in sewing, and living frugally. Their third son, Ambrose, 8 years old at the time of his father's passing, would be next in line to steward the land.

Ambrose was largely self-educated. He married Adelia Dreiling in October 1926. They settled at the home place and had eight children: two boys and six girls.

Ambrose and Adelia worked the land for 41 years, raising livestock and crops. The family was involved in the life of Sacred Heart Parish until it closed in 1968. They were well-known for providing music at many liturgy celebrations, Ambrose on the keyboard and Adelia in the choir.

In 1973, Ambrose and Adelia retired to Victoria and handed the mantle of farm management to their son, Paul.

Paul married Mildred "Mickie" Basgall in 1952, and by the time they moved to the farm had welcomed seven children: three boys and four girls, with several of the children growing up and continuing to help on the land.

Paul and Mickie worked the land for 44 years. They worked to implement stewardship practices and sustain the gifts God had given their family. Their daughter, Paula, married Patrick Zwenger.

Patrick served in the Air Force for more than 20 years, and Catholicism was an important part of their lives. They had three children. When Patrick retired from the military, the family moved to Omaha, but made frequent trips back to the family farm.

Eventually, they wanted to return to the land. At a Rural Life Seminar sponsored by the Salina Diocese in 2020, they learned about different programs for retired military members interested in farming. The couple took advantage of the opportunity and are now pursuing a small lavender farm.

For more information, visit [salinadiocese.org/office/rural-life/rural-life-day-century-farm-award](http://salinadiocese.org/office/rural-life/rural-life-day-century-farm-award).

Sister Nacke presents on human trafficking

*SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER*

On Aug. 30, the Catholic Charities Office in Salina was filled with an attentive audience of Chancery and Charities staff members. The speaker of the day was Sister Margaret Nacke, CSJ, and she was sharing her experience from a decade of working to end human trafficking.

After service in Kansas City for 21 years, Sister Nacke moved to Belleville. One day while sitting in her office, a thought came to her. She wondered if the women religious of the United States were doing anything to fight human trafficking.

She called the Leadership Council of Religious Women with a simple idea of creating a database that religious women could share to learn more about how to stop human trafficking. Eventually, it turned into the U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking.

Sister Nacke has been involved in the fight against trafficking for more than 13 years, and she admits her talks are radically different from when she first started. However, one consistency is audiences are always shocked to learn human trafficking happens in local communities.

"When I first started giving these talks, people would come up to me and ask, 'But it doesn't happen in this country, does it?' But it does. It happens all over the world," she said.

"Human trafficking is modern-day slavery. It is a multi-billion dollar criminal activity that is sustained by greed and demand."

More often than not, people associate trafficking with sex trafficking, which is when victims are manipulated or forced against their will to engage in sex acts for money.

However, the majority of trafficking is actually that of forced labor

and domestic servitude, where victims are made to work for little to no pay in jobs they did not choose, such as nannies or production.

The State Department estimates 16,500 to 18,500 individuals are victims of trafficking in the U.S. every year. Sister Nacke added that not only are there trafficked people, but there are also traffickers who are taking people outside of the United States.

Victims of trafficking can be any age, sex, race or socioeconomic class.



# Events support seminarians

BY THE REGISTER

Every year, there are two events that bring in financial support for the Seminarian Education fund — the seminarian dinner and the seminarian collection.

This year, the Catholic Foundation for Diocese of Salina hosted two seminarian fundraising dinners, one in Salina and one in Hays. A total of 314 people attended the dinners, with 167 attendees in Salina and 147 in Hays.

The following weekend (Aug. 13 to 14) was the Seminarian Collection. The Seminarian Collection takes place in all 86 parishes across the diocese, and the gifts, along with the profit from the dinners, goes to support the Seminarian Education fund.

An exciting match of \$105,000 from a pool of donors was announced prior to the dinners. Any gift made to the Seminarian Education fund would be matched \$1 for \$1 while funds remained.

The match was met. As of Sept. 15, a total of \$245,000 has been contributed to the Seminarian Education

fund, and there are still donations coming in from the Seminarian Collection.

While the match has been met, the need has not.

The cost to educate one seminarian for one year is approximately \$50,000. This includes tuition, books, room, board and summer ministry expenses. Additionally, there are other costs associated with the recruitment of future seminarians.

With 10 seminarians this year, the Diocese of Salina is looking at a minimum of \$500,000 cost to ensure these men can receive a well-rounded formation.

"We are simply blown away by the number of people who were inspired to give in support of our seminarians," said Katie Platten, Foundation CEO. "We've got some fantastic men in seminary right now. But even though we have met the match, we have not met the need. The reality is that it costs a significant amount of money to ensure that our seminarians can receive a quality, well-rounded education to become priests. The goal of



MATEA GREGG, COMMUNICATIONS

**Seminarians served Mass with Bishop Jerry Vincke at the annual men's conference. Front row from left, Max Megaffin, Jesse Ochs, Brady Hutchison and Steven Matthews. Back row from left, Kade Megaffin, Michael Lager, Bishop Jerry Vincke, Kyle Pfeifer and Collin Thielen. Not pictured: Holden Gieffer and Joseph Schones.**

the diocese and Foundation is to ensure that these young men can pursue the priesthood without incurring any financial burden. And it is only by your generosity that we can make this happen."

Co-vocations director Father Joshua Werth said he was pleased for the support.

"I'm proud of the people of my diocese for the

financial and spiritual support that they have already given and continue to give on a daily basis for the future of the priesthood in our local Church," he said. "When I was ordained, there was a priest that felt he could retire without guilt because there was someone to replace him. Now, I'm afraid we are not scheduled for a priestly ordination for another

## HELPING OUT

If you would like to make a gift in support of our seminarians, use the QR code or visit <https://salina-diocese.org/office/catholic-foundation-for-diocese-of-salina/general-donations/>. Or mail a check to Catholic Foundation for Diocese of Salina, P.O. Box 1696, Salina, KS 67402-1696.



three years. I hope any young men reading this will be heartened by the overwhelming support of the faithful for homegrown Kansas priests. As much as people beg God for priests in prayer, our loving God will not override free will. Young men have to ask Jesus what cross he wants them to carry with him. If that answer from God is the priesthood, please know that the Salina Diocese faithful are ready to support you."

# Message comes from 'Hart' of speaker

BY DIANE GASPER-O'BRIEN

THE REGISTER

Women from across the diocese were treated to a day of song, prayer and reflection at the 2022 conference of the Salina Diocese Council of Catholic Women (SDC-CW).

More than 175 women attended the conference, which is every two years at one of the diocesan parishes. This year's event was hosted by the West Vicariate of the diocese on Aug. 20 at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays.

Nationally acclaimed musician and songwriter Sarah Hart from Nashville mixed humorous stories and music featuring the beatitudes.

Her stories paraphrased Scripture, and Hart had the audience engaged from the start.

"I don't know if you all know this, but it is really hard to get here," she said amidst laughter while telling of a challenging trip to reach Hays.

She encouraged the entire group of registrants to join in singing the words to "We are the Light of the World."

"There's nothing better than praying together," Hart said. "Praying together is singing together, and singing together is praying together."



**Musician Sarah Hart from Nashville kept the audience engaged with her songs and storytelling.**

Father Damian Richards, pastor at St. Nick's, concelebrated a Mass for the women along with Father Daryl Olmstead and Father Leo Blasi. Father Olmstead is a former pastor of St. Nick's who now serves parishes in Tipton, Downs and Osborne, while Father Blasi is pastor of the parishes in Plainville and Stockton.

"This was an absolute blessing to have Sarah here," said Cheryl Glassman, music director at St. Nick's. "A lot of songs in our songbook 'Breaking Bread,' were written by Sarah, and it was a real honor to sing her music with her."

Attendees even included women



COURTESY PHOTOS

**Women from across the diocese prepare for Mass at the biennial Salina Diocese Council of Catholic Women conference in Hays.**

from other dioceses.

Anita Wirth from Lincoln had seen Hart at a conference in Manhattan several years ago and this time brought along her daughter Adeline Chandler from Great Bend, which is part of the Diocese of Dodge City.

Wirth also convinced her sisters, Susan Hellmer from Salina and Janet Huss from Lawrence (Kansas City Diocese), to attend.

"They called me and said, 'You have to hear this lady,'" Huss said. They were not disappointed.

Hart flushed out deeper meanings of each beatitude, both in song and in verse.

"There is holiness in breaking," she said while talking about the

second beatitude, "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted."

One of her favorites is the seventh beatitude, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God."

"The sign of peace is miraculous," Hart said. "I believe in all my heart that there is something miraculous happening in our liturgy."

She challenged the audience to see the face of God in everyone, even someone who might "drive you crazy."

"I see the face of Christ in all of you," she said. "This was absolutely and positively worth my three flights and hour-long storm to get here."



MISSION, FROM PAGE 1

Some of Chad's family had initially intended on joining, but when Chad's father, Jim, was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, Chad's siblings opted to stay home and help. Chad and Sarah wondered if they should cancel their plans.

After some family discussion, however, Chad said, "We thought this was a way to go and offer up prayers as a pilgrimage for my dad – to ask for graces from the Lord."

One of the tombs they visited was that of St. Martin de Porres, a native of Peru who was a skilled surgeon and a patron saint of healing.

"We took our father's cause to him and asked for his prayers there," Chad said.

"Every church we went into and at every saint's tomb, we prayed for gratitude, and for the Holy Spirit to let us know what he wanted us to do."

Sarah said being familiar with the missions company made them comfortable enough to take along their youngest son, 8-year-old Abe, who has Down syndrome. They even met another child with Down syndrome on the trip.

The missions company, which sponsors youth and adult groups as well as families and individuals, is led by missionaries who have a two-year commitment to serve as hosts for the trips.

"It was a wonderful mix of connections that could be



A Family Missions Co. missionary and the Meitner family pray with a local Peruvian family for their child, who has a disability.

made," Sarah said. "I was excited for our boys to see young men strong in their faith and not embarrassed by it. One of the young missionaries was really into weightlifting. Our boys saw

that you don't have to pick sports or God. You can do both." Mission trips are special, and the Meitners were grateful for the impact the trip had on their children.

Sarah pointed out that during reflections at the end of the day, she heard her children sharing things she didn't know they were paying attention to. "We had to give testimo-



Tyson Dinkel and Julia Meitner prepare a space for painting in a church.

nies each night, and Leo, our fifth-grader, told how he thought church was what you had to do on Sundays," Sarah said. "Coming to mission showed him how living the Catholic faith is much bigger than that, that we are called to help others. This experience moved him so much."

Even after returning home and anticipating the start of school, the Meitners were still talking about their experiences from the mission trip and how they can share them with others.

"We were asking 'Where should we go next?' and were wondering how we could get other TMP students involved," Sarah said. "I hope this plants a seed for our kids to use their talents to help those in need, and by doing that, they are loving and serving the Lord."

"We are just so thankful that we were able to experience these things together," Chad added, "and to be able to put faith in the forefront."



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BAPTISMS

**Macy Lynn Best**, daughter of Heath and Mackenzie Best, was baptized Aug. 27, 2022, by Father Vincent Thu Laing at St. Frances Cabrini Church in Hoxie.

**Daniella Lynn Butler**, daughter of Matthew and Dayana Butler, was baptized Aug. 14, 2022, by Father Nick Parker at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Hays.

**Francis Theodore Daniel Feight**, son of Robert Feight and Joelle Blecha, was baptized Sept. 3, 2022, by Monsignor Barry Brinkman at St. George Church in Munden.

**Killian Les Grisamore**, son of Shawn and Amber Grisamore, was baptized Aug. 21, 2022, by Father Donald Zimmerman at St. Thomas More Church in Manhattan.

**Jaren Dane Howells**, son of Brian and Amber Howells, was baptized Aug. 14, 2022, by Deacon Wayne Talbot at St. Thomas More Church in Manhattan.

**Renley Ann Klug**, daughter of Kevin and Mackenzie Klug, was baptized Aug. 6, 2022, by Father Keith Weber at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church in Salina.

**Madilyn Joanne Kolterman**, daughter of Jayde and Amanda Kolterman, was baptized

Aug. 28, 2022, by Father Kerry Ninemire at Ss. Peter and Paul Church in Clay Center.

**Jaeger Allan Lambert**, son of Garret Lambert and Brittany Dibbell, was baptized July 25, 2022, by Father David Metz at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Concordia.

**Kinley Andrea Lambert**, daughter of Colby Shuler and Caitlyn Lambert, was baptized July 25, 2022, by Father David Metz at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Concordia.

**Scarlett Jane Lambert**, daughter of Garret Lambert and Brittany Dibbell, was baptized July 25, 2022, by Father David Metz at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Concordia.

**Waylon Lavern Lambert**, son of Garret Lambert and Brittany Dibbell, was baptized July 25, 2022, by Father David Metz at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Concordia.

**Kellen Jay Long**, son of Zachary and Desirea Long, was baptized Aug. 14, 2022, by Father Damian Richards at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays.

**Ruth Ann Miller**, daughter of Rex and Jessica Miller, was baptized Aug. 28, 2022, by Father Norbert Dlabal at

Sacred Heart Church in Atwood.

**Lakin Kate Mizner**, daughter of Nick and Kristin Mizner, was baptized Aug. 14, 2022, by Father Jarett Konrade at Sacred Heart Church in Esbon.

**Emilia Serrano Silva**, daughter of Daniel and Maria (Silva) Serrano, was baptized Aug. 14, 2022, by Father Nick Parker at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Hays.

**Charlotte Jo Tien**, daughter of Brady and Jessie Tien, was baptized Aug. 21, 2022, by Father Damian Richards at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays.

**Remi Len Woods**, daughter of Brandon and Lacey Woods, was baptized Aug. 27, 2022, by Father Damian Richards at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays.

**Kallie Rae Wurtz**, daughter of Keenan Wurtz and Caitlyn Lambert, was baptized July 25, 2022, by Father David Metz at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Concordia.

**Kamrey Marie Wurtz**, daughter of Keenan Wurtz and Caitlyn Lambert, was baptized July 25, 2022, by Father David Metz at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Concordia.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

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

Pope's prayer intention for October

We pray for the Church; ever faithful to, and courageous in preaching the Gospel, may the Church be a community of solidarity, fraternity and welcome, always living in an atmosphere of synodality.

Diocesan prayer intention for October

For all our young people in our schools and religious education programs, as well as for our farmers.

DID YOU KNOW

Scholarships are available to students wanting to attend a Catholic school in the diocese.

The Scholarship Granting Fund for the Catholic Diocese of Salina distributes funds to qualifying students in grades K-8 and are eligible for free/reduced lunches.

Funds are available through the Tax Credit for Low Income Students Scholarship Program created by Kansas Legislature in 2014.

More information can be found at [salinadiocese.org/](http://salinadiocese.org/)

[office@catholic-schools/a-scholarship-opportunity/](mailto:office@catholic-schools/a-scholarship-opportunity/) or by calling your parish office.

It's trick-or-treat time, and tricking potential victims into promising them something they might never be able to get on their own is a given for traffickers, a way they make their money. U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking is a 501c(3) organization, 2039 N. Geyer Road, St. Louis, MO 63131 ([sistersagainsttrafficking.org](http://sistersagainsttrafficking.org)).

WEDDINGS

**Tanner Gasper and Ashley Koenigsman** were married Aug. 27, 2022, at St. Boniface Church in Tipton. Father Daryl Olmstead witnessed their vows. Parents of the groom are Joseph and Judy Gasper. Parents of the bride are Greg and Rhonda Koenigsman. Witnesses were Dylan Goeckel and Nicole Haug.

**Ryan Hilkemann and Nicole Hall** were married Sept. 3, 2022, at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Hays. Father Nicholas Parker witnessed their vows. Parents of the groom are Leo and Cheryl Hilkemann. Parents of the bride are Rick and Gayla Binder. Witnesses were Daniel Hilkemann and Tara Graham.

ANNIVERSARY

**Donald and Karen Weis** celebrated their 50th

wedding anniversary Aug. 26, 2022. They were married St. Mary Church in Smith Center.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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## DEATHS

**Berniece Heier**, 90, died July 31, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated Aug. 6 at Immaculate Conception Church in Grinnell. Father James M. Thomas presided. Burial in Immaculate Conception Cemetery in Grinnell.

**Marvin J. Kaiser**, 81, of Hays, died Sept. 1, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated Sept. 6 at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays. Father Damian Richards, Father Daryl Olmstead, Father Jarett Konrade, Father

Richard Daise and Father Pascal Klein presided. Burial in St. Joseph Cemetery in Hays.

**Charla Rose Moos**, 69, died Aug. 5, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated Aug. 11 at Immaculate Conception Church in Grinnell. Father James M. Thomas presided. Burial in Immaculate Conception Cemetery in Grinnell.

**Donald August "Don" Neff**, 90, of Oberlin, died Aug. 14, 2022. Funeral Mass was

celebrated Aug. 20 at Sacred Heart Church in Oberlin. Father Mathew Chacko presided. Burial in Selden Cemetery in Selden.

**Mary Bernetta (Heim) Niblock**, 80, died Aug. 19, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated Aug. 25 at St. Frances Cabrini Church in Hoxie. Father John Lager, Father Brian Lager and Father Vincent Thu Laing presided. Burial in St. Frances Cabrini Cemetery in Hoxie.

**Janice M. (Cass) Baalman**, 83, died Aug. 26, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated Aug. 30 at St. Frances Cabrini Church in Hoxie. Father Vincent Thu Laing presided.

Burial will take place at a later date.

**Robert "Bob" Joseph Ross**, 69, of Oberlin, died July 24, 2022. Graveside service was July 29 at Oberlin Cemetery in Oberlin. Father Mathew Chacko presided.

**Jack Bolding**, 92, died July 19, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated Aug. 15 by Father Frank Coady at St. Thomas More Church in Manhattan. Burial in Sunrise Cemetery in Manhattan.

**Dylan Lynn Sulanka**, 18, of Aurora, died Aug. 10, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated Aug. 16 at St. Peter Church in Aurora. Father David Metz presided. Burial in St. Peter

Cemetery in Aurora.

**Francis Dale Todd**, 92, of Concordia, died Aug. 17, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated Aug. 20 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Concordia. Father David Metz presided. Burial in St. Joseph Cemetery in St. Joseph.

**Kenneth L. Girard**, 83, died Aug. 23, 2022. Funeral Mass was celebrated Sept. 16 at Seven Dolors Church in Manhattan. Father Ryan McCandless presided. Inurnment in Mount Cavalry Cemetery in Clyde.

**Trefflia "Treff" Paul Alexander**, 39, died Aug. 27, 2022. Celebration of Life service was Sept. 8 at Chaput-Buoy Funeral Home in Concordia. Father Steve Heina officiated. Inurnment in Pleasant Hill Cemetery in Concordia.

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To submit a funeral, baptismal or wedding announcement, email [theregister@salinadiocese.org](mailto:theregister@salinadiocese.org)

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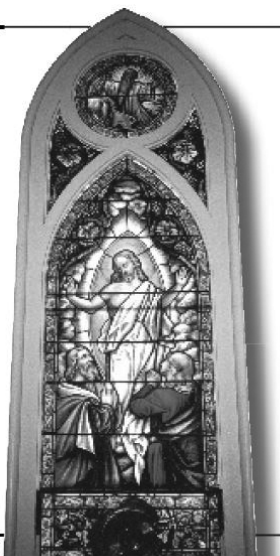
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# Beloit woman appears on EWTN show

By ALLISON OCHOA  
SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

According to the American Psychiatric Association, nearly 30 percent of adults will be affected by anxiety at some point in their lives. As the national conversation about mental health continues, one counselor has taken her expertise to Catholic media to speak about anxiety from a Catholic perspective.

Catherine DiNuzzo is a licensed professional counselor and is the founder of Sacred Heart Mental Wellness. Working from her home in Beloit, the member of St. John the Baptist Parish wrote the book "A Catholic Guide Through Anxiety" with the goal of changing the narrative surrounding mental health and anxiety.

"So often people think, 'If I'm struggling, there must be something wrong,'" she said. "We need to change that narrative to one that is proactive and positive. There aren't enough counselors to go around so we need to be proactive and start using the available tools (to treat the anxiety) without guilt or shame."

This summer, DiNuzzo took her message to EWTN's Women of Grace program hosted by Johnette Williams.

"It was a God thing for sure," she said of the interview. "The forward of the book was written by Father John Paul Mary, the chaplain for EWTN. Johnette requested a copy of the book, and then a few months later she asked me to be a guest on the show."

DiNuzzo spent two days in June taping her interview at the EWTN studios in Irondale, AL. The two-part program aired in July.

"Once I started talking about anxiety and approaching it from a Catholic perspective, you could see the camera operators and people in the control room respond to the information," she said. "It was fun to watch that happen."

Following her EWTN interview, DiNuzzo returned to Kansas to continue her work on improving the mental health of her clients and guiding others in recognizing the signs that they might need to focus on their own mental wellness. That guidance includes helping people move through the transitions they might experience that can cause some anxiety like students heading back to school or adults becoming



COURTESY PHOTO

Catherine DiNuzzo was a recent guest on Women of Grace on EWTN.

empty-nesters, for example.

"Our students and teachers are going back to a 'normal' year for the first time in a couple of years, so it's good to acknowledge these last two years have been challenging. During this transition back to school, we need to offer grace and kindness in helping them as their brains may wonder if this is normal. I encourage parents and teachers to listen to

understand, not to fix; let the child say how they're feeling. Also know that if they feel more is going on with a child they should go to the teacher, the principal, the religious education director, etc., and get those resources that can help you and the child."

For adults who might feel anxious about transitions, DiNuzzo said to begin with acknowledgment.

"Perhaps your children

have moved away to college so you can say, 'Life is different without kids here and it makes me sad. I miss them. But I am also excited for

parts of this new chapter in my life.' It is OK to feel both feelings at the same time and give yourself permission to feel both and work through both.

"Then think about ways you can stay connected to your kids, or ways to stay connected to your community. Finally, you can reassess your time and what you want that time to look like. Don't skip a step."

DiNuzzo understands the challenge she faces in changing the narrative surrounding mental wellness.

"Think about carrying the cross; when Jesus did it, it was hard, but we can embrace things that are hard and still keep walking," she said.



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