



THE REGISTER

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SALINA

JAN. 26, 2024

TOGETHER, LET US BE DISCIPLES OF JESUS ON MISSION.

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United in Faith and Community

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ALAN HOLDREN, SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

Bishop Jerry Vincke leads the group in prayer during the procession from Glasco to Beloit on Jan. 6

A walk for peace

Bishop Vincke leads 20-mile Eucharistic procession in diocese

BY ALAN HOLDREN
SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

Pilgrims from the Diocese of Salina and even farther participated in a Eucharistic pilgrimage for peace led by Bishop Jerry Vincke on the Jan. 6 Feast of the Epiphany. The trip went from St. Mary's Parish in Glasco to St. John the Baptist in Beloit.

"We can just imagine the visitation, where Mary, with the child Jesus in her womb, and Joseph walk to visit her cousin Elizabeth, and in the womb of her cousin Elizabeth is St. John the Baptist," Bishop Vincke said at Mass to begin the pilgrimage.

The bishop agreed to make the nearly 20-mile pilgrimage if St. John's Catholic Church and School

in Beloit raised \$250,000 during a November #iGiveCatholic fundraising campaign. The campaign went on to raise more than \$320,000.

Immediately following the 8 a.m. Mass in Glasco, the Blessed Sacrament was placed in a tabernacle in the back of his vehicle to lead the pilgrimage. Due to road conditions, he and more than 40 others completed the first 3 miles by car.

Then, wearing a bright yellow Holy Family hoodie over his Roman collar and donning a Salina Diocese March for Life stocking hat, Bishop Vincke led a 16-mile walk to St. John the Baptist Parish.

Pilgrims dressed for the near freezing temperatures came mostly from Beloit, but others joined from Salina, Colby, Wichita and even St.

Louis.

Theodore Nieses made it from Wichita with his brother, Timothy. They walked the entire route.

"Praying for peace was one of the biggest reasons I decided to go on this walk. That is the easiest way we can all help the world today, and the world really needs our prayers," Nieses said.

The pilgrimage route was divided into four sections, passing through the townships of Simpson and Asherville. The only breaks were for 10 minutes at the rural fire stations and nearer to Beloit at the Doug and Arlene Theissen farm. St. John's parishioners were at the scene to provide hot chocolate and water at several stops.

WALK, PAGE 5



ALAN HOLDREN, SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

What does God want?

I was recently asked by a priest if the diocese is going to dispense from the abstinence of meat on Ash Wednesday because it falls this year on Valentine's Day, Feb. 14. My answer was "no." Sorry.

However, I think it's great that Lent begins on Valentine's Day. Valentine's Day is usually a day when we do something special for our spouse or girlfriend/boyfriend to show them how much we appreciate and love them. Perhaps this Lent we can do something special for Jesus, rather than simply giving up something. What does Jesus really want?

Last week, I joined the priests for our Clergy Renewal Days. One of our presenters talked about the sacrifices we often make for Lent. But he detailed what God really wants. He mentioned four Scripture passages:

1) "More precious than sacrifice is obedience." (1 Samuel 15:22)

2) "I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice." (Hosea 6:6)

3) "Do I eat the flesh of bulls, or drink the blood of goats? Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving." (Psalm 50) 4) "I desire mercy, and not sacrifice." (Mt. 9:13). What God wants more than giving up something is obedience, steadfast love,

thanksgiving and mercy.

Pope Benedict XVI said that external sacrifice "is not representation (of the heart) but replacement (of the heart), and worship with replacements turns out to be a replacement for worship. Somehow the real thing is missing."

Pope St. Leo the Great said, "For all, regenerated in Christ ..., are consecrated priests by the oil of the Holy Spirit, so that beyond the special service of our ministry as (ordained) priests, all spiritual and mature Christians know that they are ... sharers in the office of the priesthood. For ... what is more priestly than to prom-

ise the Lord a pure conscience and to offer him in love unblemished victims on the altar of one's heart?"

What does God really want? You, and our hearts filled with obedience, steadfast love, thanksgiving and mercy. May any sacrifice we make lead to what God desires.

In Christ's service,

+ Gerald L. Vincke

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

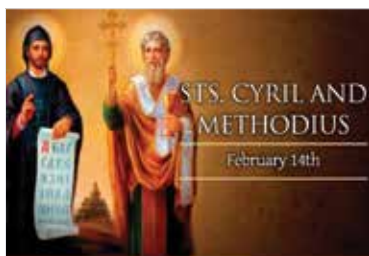
**GERALD
Vincke**
BISHOP, SALINA DIOCESE



ABOUT STS. CYRIL, METHODIUS

By BILL MEAGHER
THE REGISTER

Feb. 14 is a celebration of two great saints we should know about and constantly ask to pray for our Church, nation, communities and families. I learned about these two great saints by their window in the Marian Chapel at Thomas More Prep-Marian. As the campus minister, I was always giving tours to people of our chapel, and when I began, I didn't know much about these two saints. What I learned has inspired me and has me



constantly asking for their prayers and intercessions. In a world with so much division, here are two beautiful patrons of healing divisions and creating peace.

St. Cyril and St. Methodius are venerated as the "Apostles to the Slavs" and are remarkable figures not only

for their work in spreading Christianity but also considered patrons of unity, peace and the bridging of cultural divisions. Their legacy as patrons of divisions and peace resonates profoundly in the context of their missionary work and the cultural-political landscape of 9th Century Europe.

Born in Thessalonica, Cyril and Methodius were well-positioned to understand the importance of cultural and linguistic diversity.

SAINTS, PAGE 8

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 February

We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and

accompaniment.

Diocesan prayer intention for February

We pray that this upcoming Lenten Season may be a time of reflection and spiritual growth for each of us as we seek to imitate Christ better and bring Him to all we encounter.

BISHOP'S CALENDAR

February

- 1 Catholic Schools Week, Salina, Beloit and Tipton
- 2 Catholic Schools Week, Hays, Ellis and Plainville at Thomas More Prep-Marian, Hays
- 3 Year of Mercy, Clyde
- 4 Year of Mercy, Clifton
- 4 Confirmation, 5 p.m., St. Thomas More, Manhattan
- 7 Year of Mercy, Abilene
- 10 Year of Mercy, Ogden
- 11 Mass in Beloit for St. Padre Pio Relics, 10 a.m.
- 12/13 Year of Mercy, Seven Dolars, Manhattan
- 14 Ash Wednesday
- 14 Year of Mercy, St. Isidore's, Manhattan
- 18 Rite of Election, 3 p.m., Cathedral, Salina
- 28 Year of Mercy, Clay Center
- 29 Year of Mercy, Miltonvale
- 29 National Rural Life 100-year anniversary, 5 p.m., St. Isidore's, Manhattan

FATHER KAPAUN

SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

The cause of beautification and canonization of Father Emil Joseph Kapaun will be discussed in a meeting of the Theological Consultors at the Ordinary meeting of Cardinals and Bishops in

June. If their opinion is affirmative, it will be presented to the Holy Father for his decision with a corresponding decree. Father Emil Kapaun died May 23, 1951, at a prisoner of war camp in North Korea.

PROMISE TO PROTECT



PLEDGE TO HEAL

If you have been abused or victimized by someone representing the Catholic Church ... Please believe in the possibility for hope, help and healing. We encourage you to come forward and speak out. Our victim assistance coordinator is available to obtain support for your needs, to help you make a formal complaint of abuse to the proper authorities and to arrange a personal meeting with the bishop or his representative, if you desire.

To contact the
Victim Assistance Coordinator
866.752.8855 ext. 1067
reportabuse@salinadiocese.org
www.reportandprotect.com.

PROMESA DE PROTEGER



COMPROISO PARA SANAR

Si has sido abusado o fuiste víctima de alguien que representa a la Iglesia Católica... Por favor confía en la posibilidad de esperanza, ayuda y sanación. Te alentamos a que te presentes y hables. Nuestra coordinadora de asistencia a las víctimas está disponible para ofrecer apoyo en tus necesidades, para ayudarte a presentar una queja formal de abuso ante las autoridades correspondientes y para hacer una cita personal con el obispo o su representante, si lo deseas.

Para contactar a la Coordinadora de Asistencia a Víctimas
866.752.8855 ext. 1067
reportabuse@salinadiocese.org
www.reportandprotect.com.

Catholic Bishop Abuse
Reporting Service:
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Publisher: Most Rev. Gerald L. Vincke, BISHOP OF SALINA

Editor: Katie Hamel, THEREGISTER@SALINADIOCESE.ORG

Advertising/circulation: Brenda Streit, NEWSPAPER@SALINADIOCESE.ORG

Business manager: Jennifer Hood, FINANCE@SALINADIOCESE.ORG

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Help us make a difference with annual appeal

We will be kicking off the 2024 Bishop's Annual Appeal – Call to Share on Feb. 10 and 11. While it might seem like we've barely turned the calendar to a new year, we are full steam ahead at the Catholic Foundation for Diocese of Salina, continuing the work to support our diocesan mission of being disciples of Jesus on mission.

We accomplished so much with the 2023 Bishop's Annual Appeal – Call to Share. There is an air of excitement and momentum throughout the diocese, as witnessed by the many accomplishments this past year, including:

- The addition of a third seminarian dinner – and record-breaking financial support for our 10 seminarians.
- More than 175 students attended the Respect Life Conference – inspiring students to become more involved in the pro-life community.
- Support for 65 active priests and 12 retired clergy to ensure peace of mind for these men who have been by our side throughout life's journey.
- Youth ministry programs that bring together more than 2,000 youth in our diocese through summer programs such as Totus Tuus and Prayer and



CORRINA Hudsonpillar
CATHOLIC FOUNDATION

CORRINA HUDSONPILLAR IS DONOR ADVISOR AT CATHOLIC FOUNDATION FOR DIOCESE OF SALINA.

Action.
Your gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal is crucial in continuing our mission. To see the impact your gifts made on the people of the Diocese of Salina in 2023, visit <http://bit.ly/2023BAAImpact>. When you say "yes" to supporting the appeal, you are saying "yes" to our mission – to supporting the youth in our diocese, our clergy in all stages of life, religious education programs, protecting the unborn, and sharing the gospel through evangelization and communication efforts. What will your "yes" help us bring to reality in 2024? Here is just a sample of some of those things we can make happen with your support:

- A diocesan-wide Eucharistic Conference on Aug. 9 and 10 will bring together all ages from across our diocese in strengthening our belief in the Eucharist.
- The new Young Adult Ministry will provide events for young adults, single and married, to make connections with other individuals from



around the diocese, deepening their faith and love of our Lord Jesus Christ.

- The transitional deacon ordination for Kade Megaffin, Jesse Ochs and Adam Urban on April 6.
- The first Diocese of Salina FertilityCare Services Practitioner Education Program through the Natural Family Planning Office.

These are just a few of the new and exciting things in store for our diocese in 2024, supported by the generosity shown through the Bishop's Annual Appeal. In addition to new programs and initiatives, we continue striving to make encounters with Christ happen through the numerous ministries and programs your gift supports.

How to make a gift to support the 2024 Bishop's Annual Appeal:

- Online at join.salina-diocese.org.
- By check to: Catholic Foundation for Diocese of Salina, PO Box 1696, Salina, KS 67402-1696.

DID YOU KNOW?

The mission of the Diocese of Salina is to uphold tradition and to continue the vibrant legacy of our Catholic faith. We give glory through:

- Proclaiming the Gospel**
 - Family Life
 - Hispanic Ministry
 - Rural Life
 - Celebration of the Sacraments
- Passing on the Faith**
 - Religious Education
 - Communications and Evangelization
 - Youth Ministry
 - Catholic Schools
- Caring for the Vulnerable**
 - Respect Life
 - Hospital and Prison Chaplaincy
 - Marriage Tribunal
 - Natural Family Planning
- Forming Future Priests & Supporting Retired Clergy**
 - Seminarians
 - Deacons
 - Active Clergy
 - Clergy Health & Retirement

- Gifts of securities or grain.
- Recommend a grant from your donor-advised fund.
- Direct a distribution from your retirement account.

If you have any questions, contact the Catholic Foundation for Diocese of Salina: Katie Platten (katie.platten@salinadiocese.org), Heather Hartman (heather.hartman@salinadiocese.org), or Corrina Hudsonpillar (corrina.hudsonpillar@salinadiocese.org).

Bishop: Your support is crucial

Dear Brothers and Sisters, Together, let us be disciples of Jesus on mission. I love the Diocese of Salina because even though we are spread about by distance over 27,000 square miles, it feels like we are one family together on our journey with Jesus. Together, we are disciples of Jesus. And together we are on a mission to help everyone in our diocese encounter the merciful and abiding love of Jesus, too. I need your help on this journey together. In the coming weeks, you will be receiving a letter from me about supporting the Bishop's Annual Appeal – Call to Share. I want to thank everyone for your sacrificial gift to our appeal in the past and hope all of you will respond to God's invitation to support our

mission by giving to this appeal. I spend a lot of time visiting our parishes throughout the diocese. In fact, I have made it a point to visit every one of our 86 parishes this year. The time visiting the parishes is a blessing as I have enjoyed meeting so many of you and spending time with you through the years. In my prayer each day, I think of the people I have encountered at the parish, especially those who are going through a difficult time. The reason I visit our parishes is because we are on a mission. In my homilies, I often talk about how we are all created by God out of love. Unfortunately, we



GERALD Vincke
BISHOP, SALINA DIOCESE

were all captured by sin and death. But we are rescued by the saving love of Jesus by his life, death and resurrection. Our response to this love of God for each one of us is crucial. We have the free will to say "yes" or "no." How do I respond with my "yes" to God and his love for me? One of the best things I have witnessed is the joy that comes from a life of saying "yes" to God. When we say "yes" to the little things and the big things God asks of us, we bring glory to his name. Take a moment and ask yourself, "How do I say 'yes' to God?" Our diocesan mission is to help others encounter the

saving, merciful and abiding love of Christ. Indeed, we are disciples of Jesus on mission, that is who we are. We need your help and your generosity to the Bishop's Annual Appeal – Call to Share to do so. A lot of wonderful things are happening in our diocese, and I trust the Holy Spirit will continue to bring forth much fruit in the future. As I mentioned above, I love the Diocese of Salina. Thank you for your love of our diocese as well. Please join me in supporting the Bishop's Annual Appeal – Call to Share in 2024. In Christ's service,

+ Gerald L. Vincke

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

Catholic Schools Week is here

By DIANE GASPER-O'BRIEN
THE REGISTER

Students and staff in the 15 Catholic schools in the diocese always look forward to the last week of January and celebrating Catholic Schools Week (CSW).

This year will be a milestone for CSW as it marks the 50th anniversary for the annual national celebration of Catholic education in the United States.

Bishop Jerry Vincke will celebrate eight masses around the diocese, with students and teachers from some schools traveling to a nearby parish for a consolidated celebration.

The theme for this year's CSW, set for Jan. 28 through Feb. 3, is "Catholic Schools: United in Faith and Community."

School personnel know they wouldn't be able to

succeed without their faith and the support of their community, so some of the activities usually involve the students' families, fellow parishioners and community members.

One of the favorite days for the schools, as well as other parishioners, is when Bishop Jerry Vincke comes to town.

Bishop Vincke and Superintendent of Catholic Schools Geoff Andrews will take to the road Monday for northwest Kansas to begin their five-day trek across the diocese.

The first Mass of CSW

2024 will be at St. Joseph Church in Oakley, and the bishop will conclude his week-long journey across the diocese Friday in Hays.

That Mass at Thomas

More Prep-Marian Junior/Senior High School will involve students from four different schools — Thomas More Prep-Marian Junior/Senior High

and Holy Family from Hays, as well as two neighboring elementary schools — St. Mary's in Ellis and Sacred Heart in Plainville.

In between, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday will both feature a morning



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Here is a look at where Bishop Jerry Vincke will be celebrating Mass for Catholic Schools Week from Jan. 28 to Feb. 3:

- Jan. 29 — For Colby and Oakley students, 11a.m. at St. Joseph Church, Oakley.
- Jan. 30 — Hanover, 8:30 a.m. at St. John the Baptist; Abilene, 1:30 p.m. at St. Andrew's.
- Jan. 31 — Manhattan, 10

- a.m. at Seven Dolors; Junction City, 1:30 p.m. at St. Francis Xavier.
- Feb. 1 — Salina, 8:05 a.m. at St. Mary Queen of the Universe; for Beloit and Tipton, 2 p.m. at St. John the Baptist, Beloit.
- Feb. 2 — For Hays, Ellis and Plainville, 10 a.m. at Al Billinger Fieldhouse, TMP-Marian campus, Hays.

and afternoon Mass at home parishes of diocesan schools.

It makes for a quick and busy week, but Andrews said it's something he looks forward to every year, including the travel time.

"I really treasure my road-trip time with Bishop Vincke," Andrews said. "It's a time of prayer; we do Liturgy of the Hours or Morning Prayer or a rosary. Then we can talk shop."

On their return trip home, the duo also surely reminisce about their day with the students.

"The bishop makes several visits to all the schools during the year, so the students are always excited to see him," Andrews said. "But Catholic Schools Week is special. It's almost like a spirit week in high school during homecoming week."

Catholic cagers meet up in January



DIANE GASPER-O'BRIEN, THE REGISTER

Father Damian Richards begins a prayer with basketball players, coaches and clergy from TMP-Marian and Salina-Sacred Heart in action earlier this month at Al Billinger Fieldhouse in Hays.



MATEA GREGG, COMMUNICATIONS

Bishop Jerry Vincke, Father Brian McCaffrey, Father Daryl Olmstead and Father Andrew Rockers are joined by student-athletes from Salina-Sacred Heart, Beloit-St. John's and Tipton Catholic during a pregame prayer before tipoff of the games Jan. 4 in Salina.

Games feature competition and prayer

By THE REGISTER

Four of the five Catholic high schools in the diocese kicked off the new year by joining in prayer and competition the first weekend of January.

Salina-Sacred Heart hosted teams from St. John's-Beloit/Tipton Catholic for basketball games Jan. 4, and Sacred Heart traveled to Hays the following day for games with Thomas More Prep-Marian.

The Sacred Heart boys stretched their unbeaten streak to nine in a row with wins over the Blujays and Monarchs, while the Knights girls' team also went 2-0, including a 44-42 thriller over St. John's/Tipton.

Brian Gormley, head coach for the Sacred Heart boys, thoroughly enjoys the matchups with fellow diocesan teams.

When time allows, the schools sometimes attend Mass together and have a meal together before the games begin. However, even when that isn't part of

the agenda for a particular year, a few players always gather at mid-court between games with a priest and the coaches to say a communal prayer.

"There is such a com-

monality among our diocesan schools," said Gormley, long-time English teacher at Sacred Heart. "And it's nice that we can carry that over to some competition."

SPECIAL PRAYER FOR RESPECT LIFE

WRITTEN BY CATHOLIC SCHOOL STUDENT, ELLA

Dear Heavenly Father,
We come before You today with heavy hearts, seeking guidance and understanding in the midst of the complex issue of abortion. We acknowledge that life is a precious gift from You, and we recognize the pain and anguish that surrounds this topic.

Lord, we pray for those who find themselves facing the difficult decision of whether to proceed with an abortion. Give them wisdom, compassion, and support, that they may truly understand the weight of their choice. Help them to seek alternatives and consider the sanctity of life.

We also pray for the unborn children, Lord. May their tiny hearts be protected and their lives cherished. Grant them the opportunity to grow, experience love, and make an impact on this world.

Father, we ask for healing and forgiveness for those who have been impacted by abortion. Comfort the hearts of those who carry guilt, shame, or regret. Help them find solace in Your grace and mercy.

Lastly, we pray for our society as a whole. Open our eyes to the value of every life, from conception until natural death. Guide our lawmakers and leaders to make decisions that uphold the dignity and sanctity of life.

In Your infinite wisdom, Lord, we trust and surrender this issue of abortion to Your hands. May Your love and compassion prevail in our hearts and in our society.

In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Light shines on young Catholics

BY DIANE GASPER-O'BRIEN
THE REGISTER

Martha Saldana-Rodriguez was disappointed when NCYC was canceled in 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

As a freshman at Hugoton High School two years earlier, Martha said it was a life-changing experience for her at the National Catholic Youth Conference that takes place annually in Indianapolis for high school students.

So when she heard last semester about a similar conference for college students, she signed up.

And she wasn't disappointed.

Martha is now a freshman at Fort Hays State University. She was one of nearly 200 students from the two universities in the Salina Diocese — FHSU and Kansas State University — who attended SEEK24 in St. Louis the first week of the new year.

SEEK is hosted by FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students) to gather for prayer and entertainment and to learn more about their Catholic faith.

An estimated 24,000 students from throughout the country attended the conference to enrich their

faith through presentations and breakout sessions, Mass, confession and Eucharistic adoration.

The event that included 44 bishops and 450 priests featured world-renowned speakers, including Father Mike Schmitz, a priest from the Diocese of Duluth, Minnesota. Father Mike is well known for his podcasts with Ascension Press, including "Bible in a Year."

This year's conference theme was "To Be the Light," and Carson Ackerman has embraced that theme wholeheartedly.

"I think what SEEK has done for me the past two years is set a fire in my heart to live out my mission," said Ackerman, a Hays native and a senior at Kansas State University. "They end the conference in a very good spot to send us out to make disciples of the nation."

Like Martha, Carson attended NCYC in high school.

"NCYC was awesome, but my faith wasn't as high of priority as it is now," he said. "It did impact me but not to the level of SEEK."

Carson immediately became involved at St. Isidore's Catholic Student Center when he left home



COURTESY PHOTO

Martha Saldana-Rodriguez, bottom center, and several of her friends from FHSU's Catholic Disciples group, take a picture in front of the SEEK banner.

for Kansas State University in 2020.

He joined a Bible study at the request of a FOCUS missionary, and "I started going to daily Mass because of the community at St. Izzy's."

"I had faith that the Lord would work through that, and he captivated my heart," Carson said. "I realized this is what I desired my whole life. Continuously showing up set me ablaze."

Carson now leads one of

the Bible study groups.

Martha had a similar experience at FHSU.

She noticed a campus center booth at the annual back-to-school picnic on campus last fall. She signed up and attended Mass one Sunday at the St. Francis chapel of Comeau Catholic Campus Center.

"At first, it was hard; I didn't know anyone, but something told me to go back, and the people there were very welcoming, especially Father Andy," she

said of CCCC Chaplain Father Andy Hammeke.

"Being a first-generation college student and being away from family, to have that group is like having a second family here," she added.

She said she was impacted by the entire conference at SEEK but her favorite was Eucharistic adoration.

"I have been to many adorations, and it's a wonderful time — it's you and God," she said. "But to be in adoration and to see 20,000 people adoring God was absolutely amazing. I had never witnessed anything so beautiful. It kind of left me speechless."

Martha plans to attend several more SEEKS during her college career, while Carson will graduate in May with a degree in journalism and mass communications.

He hopes to get involved in some type of ministry with the Catholic church. But for now, he is looking forward to his final semester at K-State and the opportunity to lead fellow students at St. Isidore's.

"I'm on fire for the men that I lead in my Bible study," Carson said. "I have a passion, a zeal to lead them and to invest in those guys intentionally."

WALK, FROM PAGE 1

Nieves was impressed with the organization of the pilgrimage, including those providing snacks along the way and police and rural fire department support — and the presence of both elderly and young pilgrims.

"I have never been anywhere else where the Blessed Sacrament was present like that outside of church. I think it is a very powerful message that we can share in our community and throughout the world. God is present here in our midst for all of us if we are willing to accept him," Nieves said.

St. John's parishioner, Maria Diers, who is used to walking pilgrimages in Mexico and did the last 4 miles of this one, echoed Nieves' sentiments.

"The Blessed Sacrament does not necessarily need to be present, yet it is much more significant if it is," she said.

During each leg the group prayed a set of mysteries of the rosary. It was a solemn atmosphere, with ample time



ALAN HOLDREN, SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

Pilgrims accompanied Bishop Jerry Vincke along the route during the day.

for prayer interspersed with conversation.

"As we accompanied the Eucharist, I recognized that our walk was literally and figuratively the way that we achieve peace — by taking Jesus out into the world," said Benedictine College student Maria Mick, who walked the route with her dad, Roger. "One moment that struck me was when a woman next to me asked Jesus to bless her crops as the tabernacle passed her family's fields."

Pilgrims were united by the prayer but also the

sacrifice.

"When you do a pilgrimage like that, walking a great distance with him in the Eucharist, in a small way, it is similar to walking the way of the cross," said Adoratio Foundation President Andrew Niewald, also a parishioner at St. John's.

He organized much of the logistics of the walk and volunteers. For him, it was a "mini-retreat."

"You had to clear your schedule and plans, be intentional about prayer during the walk and be



ALAN HOLDREN, SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

Father Konrade leads the Litany of Peace and Benediction as they draw closer to St. John's.

comfortable with long periods of silence," Niewald said.

Some people walked just a few miles, others traversed the entire route. With just a mile to go, the Eucharist was transferred to a monstrance and carried in procession to St. John's by Father Jarett Konrade. More than 180 people were present for the final stretch, praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet, the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary and singing several

songs.

Upon the group's arrival at St. John's, Father Konrade led the litany of peace and benediction.

"My heart just leapt for joy when I saw Jesus in the monstrance on the altar," Bishop Vincke said. "I was just like, 'Wow.' It was all worth it, and I'm sure the three kings, the magi felt the same way, right? It was worth it; it was worth the journey because I encountered the living God."

Feasting on a steady diet of holiness

I see a lot about nutrition today. You can't help but be bombarded with ads for workout programs, healthy food and advice on being healthier. There is an adage that says you are what you eat. I agree wholeheartedly with that statement, but I think it applies to an even more critical area of our lives than food.

As Americans, we consume a lot of things that are not food in a day. We consume music, television, social media and things on the Internet. In 2022, a comprehensive study was done to see how many minutes of media were consumed by Americans each day. The study showed the average American consumed 494 minutes of media daily, 62% being digital media such as social media. That is around eight hours a day. They project the number of minutes will be 508 in 2024.

We talked earlier this year about the problems caused to us by the constant notifications and dopa-

mine addiction. Still, another concern is how we allow the world to change, influence and manipulate us through media consumption. If we don't shut off the tap ourselves, the world has unfiltered access to us to bombard us with its values and ideals.

Thanks be to God that he offers us a way to combat that influence and allow him to form us in his likeness and image. We are what we consume most, and if we focus on a good diet of sacred scripture, prayer, the sacraments and adoration, then we will be spiritually healthy and fully capable of defeating the influence of Satan and the world.

Through prayer and reading the Bible, we hear God's words spoken to our hearts. We hear the truth and receive the wisdom we need to grow in our faith and closer to God. Some of the most challenging

times in human history gave us some of the greatest saints. Those saints stayed connected to God through those tough times and avoided the muck and mess of sinful times because they were committed to prayer and had a living relationship with God.

With Lent approaching quickly, this is the perfect time to ensure the things we consume build us up and strengthen our souls. We need a two-fold approach. First, we need to turn off the spigot from the world. Turn off social media and the TV. Satan and the world can't influence us if they can't reach into our minds and lives.

Second, we need to open the valve to God and his graces. Commit to replacing that time with prayer, reading the Bible, receiving the sacraments and spending time before our Lord in adoration. God is ready and

excited to spend this Lent with each of us and wants to help us grow in holiness and virtue. He wants to fill our life with blessings and peace. He wants a living relationship with us that allows us to grow closer to him and know his love for us.

I am tired of being influenced by the world and hungry to find something better to nourish my mind and soul. I believe there are others out there that believe the same way. I hope some of you will join me on this Lenten challenge. It gives me chills to think about how amazing Easter will be for us if we turn off the world's influence for the next 40 days and allow God to be our primary influencer. It will be challenging, but we must remember that eating healthy and exercising makes our bodies feel better. Imagine how much healthier our minds and souls will be after we cut out the junk and replace it with the nourishment of God. Here is to a healthier us.

BILL Meagher

BILL MEAGHER IS DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY, FAMILY LIFE AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN THE DIOCESE OF SALINA.



DELEITARSE CON UNA DIETA CONSTANTE DE SANTIDAD

Veo mucho sobre nutrición hoy en día. No puedes evitar ser bombardeado con anuncios de programas de ejercicios, comida saludable y consejos para estar más saludable. Hay un refrán que dice: eres lo que comes. Estoy totalmente de acuerdo con esa afirmación, pero creo que se aplica a un área aún más crítica de nuestras vidas que la comida.

Como estadounidenses, consumimos muchas cosas que no son alimentos en un día. Consumimos música, televisión, redes sociales y cosas en Internet. En 2022, se realizó un estudio exhaustivo para ver cuántos minutos consumían de medios los estadounidenses cada día. El estudio mostró que el estadounidense promedio consumía 494 minutos de medios diarios, el 62% de los cuales eran medios digitales como las redes sociales. Esto equivale a unas ocho horas al día. Proyectan que la cantidad de minutos será de 508 en 2024.

Hablamos a principios de este año sobre los problemas que nos causan las constantes notificaciones y la adicción a la dopamina. Aun así, otra preocupación es cómo permitimos que el mundo nos cambie, influya y manipule a través del consumo de medios. Si no cerramos el grifo nosotros mismos, el mundo tendrá acceso sin filtros a nosotros para bombardearnos con sus valores e ideales.

Gracias a Dios que nos ofrece una manera de combatir esa influencia y permitirle formarnos a su semejanza

e imagen. Somos lo que más consumimos, y si nos enfocamos en una buena dieta de Sagrada Escritura, Oración, Sacramentos y Adoración, entonces estaremos espiritualmente sanos y plenamente capaces de vencer la influencia de Satanás y del mundo.

A través de la oración y la lectura de la Biblia, escuchamos las palabras de Dios dirigidas a nuestros corazones. Escuchamos la verdad y recibimos la sabiduría que necesitamos para crecer en nuestra fe y acercarnos más a Dios. Algunos de los tiempos más desafiantes de la historia de la humanidad nos dieron algunos de los santos más grandes. Esos santos permanecieron conectados con Dios durante esos tiempos difíciles y evitaron la suciedad y el desorden de los tiempos pecaminosos porque estaban comprometidos con la oración y tenían una relación viva con Dios.

Con la Cuaresma acercándose rápidamente, este es el momento perfecto para asegurarnos de que las cosas que consumimos nos fortalezcan y fortalezcan nuestras almas. Necesitamos un doble enfoque. Primero, necesitamos cerrar el grifo del mundo. Apaga las redes sociales y apaga la televisión. Satanás y el mundo no pueden influir en nosotros si no pueden llegar a nuestras mentes y vidas.

En segundo lugar, necesitamos abrir la válvula a Dios y sus gracias. Comprométete a reemplazar ese tiempo con oración, lectura de la Biblia, recibir los sacramentos y

pasar tiempo ante nuestro Señor en Adoración. Dios está listo y emocionado de pasar esta Cuaresma con cada uno de nosotros y quiere ayudarnos a crecer en santidad y virtud. Él quiere llenar nuestra vida de bendiciones y paz. Él quiere una relación viva con nosotros que nos permita acercarnos más a Él y conocer su amor por nosotros.

Estoy cansado de ser influenciado por el mundo y hambriento de encontrar algo mejor para nutrir mi mente y mi alma. Creo que hay otros que sienten lo mismo. Espero que algunos de ustedes se unan a

mí en este desafío de Cuaresma. Me da escalofríos pensar en lo maravillosa que será la Pascua para nosotros si apagamos la influencia del mundo durante los próximos cuarenta días y permitimos que Dios sea nuestro principal influenciador. Será un desafío, pero debemos recordar que comer sano y hacer ejercicio hace que nuestro cuerpo se sienta mejor. ¡Imagínese cuánto más saludables serán nuestras mentes y almas después de que eliminemos la basura y la reemplacemos con el alimento de Dios! ¡Por un nosotros más saludable!

RURAL LIFE ANNIVERSARY

BY DAVID EDELL

SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

The Rural Life Office of the Diocese of Salina will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of Catholic Rural Life.

St. Isidore's Student Center on the campus of Kansas State University will host the event Feb. 29.



The theme of the event is "Rural Life: Tending the Land, Mind & Spirit" and will focus on mental health in our agriculture community.

DAVID Edell

CATHOLIC RURAL LIFE

Attendees will be able to view a video history of National Catholic Rural Life. Look for more information on the Rural Life Office webpage. See ad to the right for more information.

Rural Life: Tending the Land, Mind & Spirit

Catholic Rural Life Centennial Celebration

Thursday, Feb. 29, 2024



KSU Saint Isidore Catholic Student Center
Newman Hall • 711 Denison Ave • Manhattan, KS 66502

Keynote Speaker:



Catherine DiNuzzo, MA

Catherine is a Licensed Professional Counselor in private practice who also operates Sacred Heart Mental Wellness, as well as author of the book "The Catholic Guide Through Anxiety."

Featured Guests:

Bishop Gerald Vincke

Bishop of the Salina Diocese, His Excellency Gerald Vincke is the ninth of ten children born to a family on a dairy farm near Saginaw, Michigan.



Mike Beam

Secretary Kansas Dept. of Agriculture, Mike Beam was appointed by Governor Laura Kelly in January 2019. Beam came to KDA following 38 years of experience in association management for the Kansas Livestock Association.



Fr. Gale Hammerschmidt

Fr. Gale is the Chaplain for St. Isidore's as well as priest supervisor of Seven Dolores of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Manhattan and Chaplain of Manhattan Catholic Schools.



This event is **free** to attend! A free will offering will be collected during the event.

- Doors Open at 5:30 PM
- Meal Served at 6:00 PM
- Catholic Rural Life Presentation

RSVP by Thursday, Feb 1 to ensure our capacity to seat all guests for dinner.



Please visit salinadiocese.org/office/rural-life for more information or to register or call Sienna Wingerson at (785) 282-8048.

-Event Sponsors-

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

Jan. 28

- St. Mary's School carnival/luncheon, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Ellis.
- Holy Family Chili Bazaar, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Hays.

Jan. 28-Feb. 3

- Catholic Schools Week (See bishop's calendar on page 2 for locations and times.)

Feb. 10

- St. Andrew's School Mardi Gras Auction, 6 p.m., Abilene.
- Bishop's Annual Appeal Kickoff Weekend.

Feb. 11

- Immaculate Conception of BVM and Knights of Columbus Mass and Chili Supper, 4 to 7 p.m., Solomon.

Feb. 16

- Stations & Fish Fry by Knights of

Columbus, 6 p.m., St. Thomas More Church, Manhattan.

Feb. 18

- Hays CYO Spaghetti Fundraiser, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 4:30 to 7 p.m., Little Theatre of Holy Family Elementary School, Hays.

Feb. 23

- Stations & Fish Fry by Knights of Columbus, 6 p.m., St. Thomas More Church, Manhattan.

Feb. 25

- Home and School Fundraiser, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Colby (lunch in church basement, concessions and games in school).

Feb. 29

- Rural Life: Tending the Land, Mind & Spirit, 5:30 p.m., KSU's St. Isidore Catholic Student Center, Manhattan.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SALINA

JANUARY 27TH
7:00PM-11:00PM

WHO?
YOUNG ADULTS AGES 18 +

WHAT?
SOCIAL EVENT TO MEET NEW PEOPLE FROM AROUND THE SALINA DIOCESE. DANCING, GAMES AND REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED! CASH BAR/VENMO FOR DRINKS
DANCE ATTIRE IS RECOMMENDED

WHERE?
THE SULLIVAN AT UNITED CAPITAL PLAZA
227 N SANTA FE AVE, SALINA, KS 67401

MARCH FOR LIFE

Marchers from the Diocese of Salina participated in the annual March for Life in Washington, D.C.

COURTESY PHOTO



APPOINTMENTS

Effective Dec. 5, 2023

Ms. Brenda Streit: Appointed Ecclesiastical Notary for judicial and administrative acts of the Catholic Diocese of Salina.



Streit



Jurgensmeier

Effective Jan. 2, 2024

Ms. Karen Jurgensmeier: Appointed Ecclesiastical Notary for judicial and administrative acts of the Catholic Diocese of Salina.

TUESDAYS WITH THE DIOCESE

Adult Formation

Join adults of the Dioceses of Dodge City and Salina to learn more about The Dignity of the Human Person, The Second Vatican Council and Catholic Social Teaching. People are invited to attend all three evenings or just one at no cost. Connect via Zoom using your own device. To sign-up and receive the link, visit dcdioocese.org/af.

The Dignity of the Human Person (6 to 8 p.m. Feb. 20)

Presenter: Father Ted Skalsky
Catholics, and many Christians, have a deeply held belief that our world desperately needs to hear. It is a belief that has the power to bring together the gulf that

divides our nation and much of the western world. This urgently needed belief could address the confusion about human trafficking, religious oppression, euthanasia, gender ideology, capital punishment, abortion and pornography. That belief is that the human person has been created by God with great dignity.

Save the Dates

March 5 – The Second Vatican Council: Why Did We Renew the Liturgy, Anyway?
Presenter: Father Frank Coady

March 19 – Catholic Social Teaching
Presenter: Sister Francine Schwarzenberger

The Catholic Daughters
Annual Lenten Retreat

The Power of the Eucharist

Who: Men or Women (high school age or older)
When: March 2nd 2024
Where: St. Mary's Queen of the Universe (230 E Cloud Street-Salina)
When: Registration 8:30am
Retreat 9:00am-3:00pm
Presenters: FHSU Retreat Team
Cost: \$25 (includes the meal)
Discounts available for Couples and Students

Registration Information
Call or Text Marlene at 785-342-0130 or email at salinacda@gmail.com
Registration deadline--Wednesday February 28th

HOLY HOOPS



MATEA GREGG, COMMUNICATIONS

Participants in the Runnin' Revs game Dec. 29 at Sacred Heart High School in Salina.

JOB OPENING

Director of Religious Education, Concordia

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church is seeking a full-time ministry leader for K-12. Experience preferred, but not required. Must be self-motivated and have a good rapport with young people and parents. Must be a practicing Catholic in good standing. Please email resume to Father Joseph Kieffer at frjosephkieffer@gmail.com.



Parishioners not fazed by fire

BY KATIE HAMEL

THE REGISTER

The Feast Day of the Epiphany, celebrated this year on Jan. 7, dawned with the winter sun shining on a brisk morning and the 122-year-old limestone church in Beloit. Breath hung heavy in the air, as did a sense of anticipation as parishioners of St. John the Baptist Parish in Beloit trudged across the frosted landscape to enter their newly renovated church.

A Mass of Celebration to commemorate the completion of a nearly two-year renovation project was being celebrated. Christmas decorations still adorned the church, and parishioners entered the nave under an archway wreathed in garland and ribbon. Every sense was greeted with beauty as the eyes took in the sacred space of the newly painted sanctuary covered in a sea of poinsettias and a forest of Christmas trees. The ears took in the sound of the choir singing a song of worship.

Eyes were drawn heavenward to gaze upon constellations of golden stars that shone upon a sky of Mary's mantle blue. The entirety of the ceiling of the church depicted a starry sky, which was fitting on the feast of the epiphany as parishioners remembered the wise men who followed the star.

Mass was celebrated by Bishop Jerry Vincke, pastor Father Jarett Konrade and associate pastor Father Andrew Rockers. Every pew was filled, and an estimated 350 parishioners participated. A special part of the Mass was the sprinkling of holy water over the congregation and the walls of the church, calling to mind the baptism of every member of the Body of Christ.

"I am absolutely thrilled to be here as we bless this beautiful, amazing, stunning church," Bishop Vincke said as he began his homily.

But he also recalled the tragedy that led to the renovation.

"God brings good out of our difficult situations," he said.

On June 27, 2021, the Feast of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, a fire accidentally started in the south tower. It left the southeast corner of the church interior destroyed, as



MATEA GREGG, COMMUNICATIONS

Bishop Jerry Vincke delivers his homily during the special Mass on Jan. 7 at St. John the Baptist Church in Beloit.



MATEA GREGG, COMMUNICATIONS

The renovated ceiling at the church.

well as severe smoke damage throughout the entire church.

As a team of parishioners and outside professionals went about the task of evaluating the damage, it became clear other structural and deterioration issues needed addressed. The realization led to



MATEA GREGG, COMMUNICATIONS

Father Andrew Rockers leads the procession of the blessing of the church with holy water.

looking at a wider scope of repair and restoration.

Following the homily, Mass proceeded as normal, culminating with the Eucharist and ending on a note of thanksgiving.

The fundraising campaign for the church was titled Prepare the Way

Restoration, and the renovated church was projected to cost \$3.5 million. The entire cost of the project was funded mostly by parishioners in Beloit, but also through former St. John's Catholic School alumni and friends from outside Beloit.

SAINTS, FROM PAGE 2

This background was crucial in their future mission to the Slavic peoples. At a time when Europe was deeply divided along linguistic, cultural and religious lines, their approach to evangelism was groundbreaking. Instead of imposing an alien culture and language upon the Slavs, they embraced and elevated the Slavic linguistic and cultural identity.

Their greatest contribution to this cause was the development of the Glagolitic alphabet, which enabled the translation of Chris-

tian texts into the Slavic language. This was not merely a linguistic or religious endeavor but a profound statement of respect for the Slavic people. By promoting literacy and religious practice in the vernacular, Cyril and Methodius helped to bridge the gap between different cultural groups, fostering understanding and unity.

Their work also had significant implications for peace in the region. The introduction of a written Slavic language reduced the cultural and religious domi-

nance of neighboring powers. This helped alleviate tensions between the Slavic peoples and their neighbors, providing a basis for mutual respect and understanding. The brothers' approach to missionary work emphasized dialogue and cultural respect for the people they were evangelizing.

Sts. Cyril and Methodius' efforts had a lasting impact on Slavic identity and unity. The Cyrillic alphabet, derived from their original Glagolitic script, became a unifying symbol for many Slavic

nations, transcending political and religious divisions. Their work laid the foundation for several Slavic countries' cultural and religious identities, helping to forge a sense of common heritage and shared values.

The brothers' dedication to bringing Christ to others is an incredible example to each of us. Their legacy as patrons of divisions and peace is a powerful reminder to constantly work to bridge divides and foster peace and harmony wherever possible.

Glimmer of hope provides miracle

By JEREE HUGHBANKS
SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

In the heart of northern Kansas, Christmas brings joy and warmth to many. But for families facing financial and emotional challenges, the season can be a daunting burden.

This is where Catholic Charities of Northern Kansas steps in, weaving a tapestry of compassion through its Adopt-a-Family Program.

Last year, more than 80 families experienced the magic of Christmas thanks to the program, creating a tradition of spreading joy. One such family is led by Amanda, a single mom to Abigail (14) and Charleston (6), who, like many, found solace and support in the embrace of Catholic Charities.

Amanda, facing tough times, sought help from Catholic Charities, particularly through the Adopt-a-Family Program.



COURTESY PHOTO

Amanda, Charleston and Abigail radiate joy as they celebrate their Christmas dreams coming true, thanks to the generous sponsorship of Salina's PEO Chapter BW through the Adopt-a-Family Program.

"It would be wrong for them to not have anything on Christmas," she said, expressing the challenges of providing for her kids during the holiday season.

Her connection with Catholic Charities became a lifeline, a source of hope amid struggles.

The Adopt-a-Family Program drew the attention and commitment of the women of Salina's PEO Chapter BW, who have actively sponsored families for at least five years.

Shannon Rayl, a dedicated PEO member, shared the group's motivation, saying, "We were always moved by the stories we heard about the families. We loved that Catholic Charities made it possible for us to just step in and do this so easily."

Amanda's experience with

PEO Chapter BW's sponsorship was nothing short of magical. Facing unique challenges, she had requested cleaning supplies, and the group responded with creativity and generosity.

Each member contributed their favorite cleaning supplies, providing enough for almost a year. The unexpected outpouring of support left Amanda emotional and overjoyed.

"I wasn't expecting all that. I was really happy to see the cleaning supplies," she said.



COURTESY PHOTO

Megan Robl, Catholic Charities executive director, is pictured alongside Betty Schmidt and Shannon Rayl, dedicated members of PEO Chapter BW, as they drop off the gifts.

"The kindness out of people's hearts, to do this for a family ... you don't see that. It's very rare."

Rayl emphasized the joy of making a difference, especially for mothers like Amanda.

"You just want to help share the load, share the burden of providing for her family and maybe give her room to breathe so that she doesn't have quite so much stress," she said. "Just to know, people are supporting her and that people care and that she matters. She and her children matter to us."

Amanda's tears of gratitude spoke volumes about the profound impact of the Adopt-a-Family Program. She highlighted the organization's reliability and reassurance that help would be there when needed.

"I would thank them for providing for my family, for something I couldn't do, giving them something I couldn't get them," Amanda said. "It means a lot. I'm just really, really, thankful and grateful."

As the PEO Chapter BW reflected on the experience, member Betty Schmidt emphasized the true spirit of Christmas.

"When you can give back just a little bit, that is what Christmas is all about," she said.

In the tapestry of giving orchestrated by Charities and the community, Amanda's Christmas wish became not just a reality but a radiant light, illuminating the true meaning of the season.

Jerree Hughbanks is communications manager for Catholic Charities of Northern Kansas.



YOU gave her hope.

"If it wasn't for Catholic Charities coming to our community, we would not have been able to make ends meet or keep our boys fed. We look forward to that van that comes once a month and gives us hope," says Cathie from Beverly, Kansas. Thank you!

Join us in God's work at www.ccnks.org!



COURTESY PHOTO

Christmas decorations at St. John the Baptist Church in Hanover.

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Your Legacy Matters

Many of us support our parish, Catholic school, favorite ministry, or our diocese on a regular basis. But have you considered how you can support these causes through your legacy and why a legacy gift matters?

LIVING LEGACY CIRCLE FOR DIOCESE OF SALINA

- Focus on the Future. The support you show the Church through your offertory, special collections, and other gifts each year is critical to continue the mission. Your legacy gift can be a source of support that can continue the mission for generations to come. Ask yourself this question: If you could live forever, would you continue to support the Church? If the answer is yes, then a legacy gift is a way to accomplish this.
- No impact on your current finances. What if you could take care of your priorities now, and still provide for the

mission of the Church in the future? There are many ways to accomplish this but two of the most popular are:

- Gift in your will- you can gift a specific dollar amount or asset or gift a percentage of your estate in as little as one sentence.
- Beneficiary designation- name your parish, Catholic school, ministry, or diocese as a beneficiary on your retirement plan, IRA, donor advised fund or life insurance policy.
- Recognize the role that your faith played in your life. From the sacred waters of

baptism to the threshold of eternity, leaving a legacy gift is a heartfelt way to show the significant impact the Church has had on every stage of your life.

When creating or updating your will and other parts of your estate plan, we hope that you consider the role that your faith has played in your life and how you can continue to make a difference for future generations. Contact Heather Hartman or Corrina Hudsonpillar at the Catholic Foundation for Diocese of Salina to discuss your giving options – development@salinadiocese.org.

College Scholarships Available



The Catholic Foundation for Diocese of Salina has many roles, some of which are overseeing endowment funds and investment savings accounts, including those designated for scholarships. We are delighted to share news of three available scholarships for the upcoming school year, 2024-2025.

MONSIGNOR CLEMENT A. KRUSE SCHOLARSHIP



Monsignor Clement A. Kruse was ordained a Roman Catholic priest on June 7, 1941, and was named Monsignor in 1982. He served parishes in Grainfield, Sharon Springs, Hoxie, Seguin, Damar, and many other parishes in the Diocese of Salina. He also served on the Diocesan Board of Consultants. He passed away March 6, 2006, at the age of 90. Those applying for the Monsignor

Clement A. Kruse Scholarship must be attending an accredited college or university as an undergraduate and be an active registered member of a Catholic parish in the Diocese of Salina.

MARYMOUNT MEMORIAL EDUCATIONAL TRUST SCHOLARSHIP

Marymount College was a four-year liberal arts college in Salina that opened in 1922 as a women's college. It was operated by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia, Kansas. Marymount became coeducational in 1968.

Originally established as a scholarship for students

attending Marymount College, it was expanded to include any accredited Catholic college upon the closing of Marymount College in 1989. Those applying for the Marymount Memorial Educational Trust Scholarship must be attending an accredited Catholic college as a full-time undergraduate student and an active registered member of a Catholic parish in the Diocese of Salina.



SUSIE DEGES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



The Susie Deges Memorial Scholarship was established in memory of Susie Deges, a young woman whose life was tragically cut short on the eve of her high school graduation. Susie had held leadership positions for CYO at both local and diocesan levels. After Susie's passing, the outpouring of support enabled the fund to be established. To honor Susie's life and help other young Catholics achieve their educational dreams, this scholarship is awarded to an undergraduate student at an accredited college or university, who is an active registered member of a parish in the Diocese of Salina and is also active within their parish CYO group.

If you would like more information on establishing a scholarship fund, contributing to an existing fund, or information on the funds available at the Catholic Foundation for Diocese of Salina - please contact Heather Hartman at 785-738-7336 or heather.hartman@salinadiocese.org.

To apply: visit bit.ly/diocesescholarships2024 or by scanning the QR code.

Have questions while applying? Contact Torrie at torrie.gregg@salinadiocese.org.



**SCAN THE QR CODE
TO APPLY TODAY !**



Catholic Foundation for Diocese of Salina Staff

Torrie Gregg, Heather Hartman
Katie Platten, Corrina Hudsonpillar

**WE LOVED SERVING YOU IN
2023 AND WE ARE LOOKING
FORWARD TO A GREAT 2024!**

CATHOLIC FOUNDATION FOR DIOCESE OF SALINA



**CATHOLIC
FOUNDATION**
FOR DIOCESE OF SALINA

Life

Simple.
Sacred.

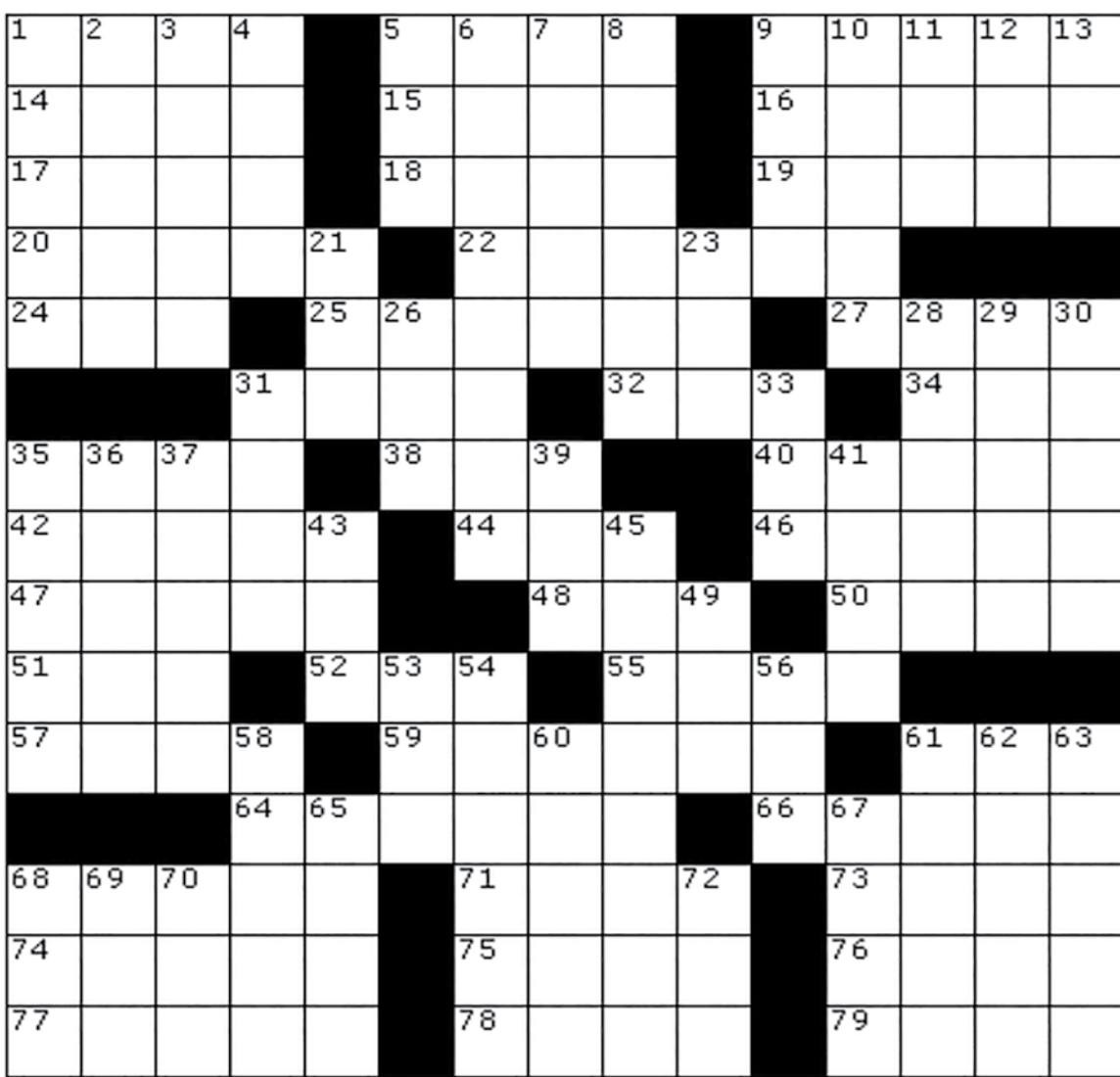
“Even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God’s creation, made in God’s own image, destined to live for ever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect.”

— POPE FRANCIS
to the Bishops of Ireland,
Scotland, England and Wales,
July 17, 2013

*Please join the Sisters of St. Joseph of Concordia
in prayer for the sanctity of all human life.*



CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**

 - 1 Pummel
 - 5 A king of the Amalekites
 - 9 Expenses
 - 14 Prego's competition
 - 15 Divan
 - 16 Plentiful
 - 17 Epochs
 - 18 Needy
 - 19 ___ be with you
 - 20 I am the ___ and the Omega
 - 22 Sharp angled path
 - 24 Tinct
 - 25 Tenderly
 - 27 Church part
 - 31 Bird Noah sent out
 - 32 Electroencephalograph (abbr.)
 - 34 Fled
 - 35 Glen
 - 38 Time zone
 - 40 Aflame
 - 42 Growing older
 - 44 Cry
 - 46 Had by Joseph, Joseph and magi
 - 47 Asian capital
 - 48 Thai
 - 50 Pallid
 - 51 Anger
 - 52 Animal doc
 - 55 Sacred
 - 57 Jesus turned water into
- wine here

 - 59 Italian cheese
 - 61 Before Wed.
 - 64 Very small bird
 - 66 Remorse
 - 68 Right angle to a ships length
 - 71 Opera solo
 - 73 Son of Adam and Eve
 - 74 Major division in a long poem
 - 75 Fibber
 - 76 European monetary unit
 - 77 Shade providers
 - 78 Went to the bottom
 - 79 Baths

DOWN

 - 1 Man shall not live by ___ alone
 - 2 ___ bird
 - 3 Biblical Greek word for love
 - 4 Fanny
 - 5 Poisonous snake
 - 6 My ___!
 - 7 Walking (KJV)
 - 8 Use mouthwash
 - 9 Cloak
 - 10 Last letter of Greek alphabet
 - 11 Resort hotel
 - 12 What a nurse gives
 - 13 Perceive
- 21 Gone by
 - 23 Caustic substance
 - 26 Adam and ___
 - 28 Uses a lever
 - 29 Wife of Abraham
 - 30 Foe
 - 31 Refuse to believe
 - 33 Tribe of Israel
 - 35 Prophetic
 - 36 Ancient Greek market-place
 - 37 Consider equal
 - 39 Child
 - 41 Fracas
 - 43 Governor (abbr.)
 - 45 Of the Bahamas
 - 49 Charged particle
 - 53 White-tailed sea eagle
 - 54 Adds up
 - 56 Lumber
 - 58 Reduce
 - 60 Santa ___ (Columbus' ship)
 - 61 Truss (2 wds.)
 - 62 Extreme
 - 63 Basic beliefs
 - 65 OT prophet
 - 67 Wields
 - 68 Skit
 - 69 Forbid
 - 70 Vane direction
 - 72 Noah's boat

Answers on Page 14

AROUND THE DIOCESE



Twenty-three students and 10 sponsors from the Colby Sacred Heart CYO attended the National Catholic Youth Conference in Indianapolis in November.

A look at the 2024 legislative session

The 2024 Kansas Legislative session is in full swing with significant issues up for debate. Bishop Jerry Vincke and the Catholic Bishops of Kansas, through their office of the Kansas Catholic Conference (KCC), seek to inject the voice of Christ into public policies.

Every seat for state senator and state representative is up for election in 2024.

Learn who is representing you and make a connection at www.kansascatholic.org/take-action.

The Kansas Catholic Conference supports further reductions in the sales tax on groceries. Your state grocery tax bill dropped from 4% to 2% on Jan. 1.

Solutions to accessing healthcare are complicated. The KCC supports Medic-

aid expansion while also acknowledging government-sponsored insurance is a flawed solution. Largely ignored is the link between Medicaid expansion and projections of increased abortions likely to result if passed. No matter what happens with Medicaid expansion, Kansas taxpayers soon might be forced to pay for abortions.

The KCC supports legislation to help women in unplanned pregnancies.

Payday loan reform, enhanced mental

health coverage, expanded educational opportunities and defending the family from radical gender ideology measures are among our many other legislative priorities.

To stay informed and learn more, go to www.KansasCatholic.org.

Pray for our elected officials.



CHUCK Weber

CHUCK WEBER IS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE KANSAS CATHOLIC CONFERENCE. HE CAN BE REACHED AT CHUCK@KANSASCATHOLIC.ORG.

ALTAR APPRECIATION



COURTESY PHOTO

Altar servers appreciation and training was Jan. 3 at Sacred Heart Parish in Atwood.

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Marymount alumni celebrating with trip

SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

Marymount College of Kansas alumni and Sisters of St. Joseph and friends will have a special event overseas later this year. Get ready for a spectacular, fun and exciting group

trip to France as Marymount alumni, the Sisters of St. Joseph and friends celebrate the history and tradition of the Sisters of St. Joseph and their founding heritage in France. The trip will be from Sept.

20 to Oct. 1. The 12-day trip will include many of the French sites and cities people would expect to see: Paris, Versailles, Lyon, Avignon, Lourdes, Normandy (Omaha Beach), Avignon, Liseux and, of course, Le Puy-en-Velay, where the Sisters of St.

Joseph, Concordia were founded. "As a community, we are excited to partner with and invite alumni of Marymount College, Nazareth Academy, faculty, sisters, family and friends to join us for this special

trip," said Sister Marilyn, who serves on the CSJ Leadership Team as well as having served on the Marymount College faculty. Pricing, dates, tour and additional information are all available to view at www.mmcfrance2024.com. For more information, email planning committee member Leslie Krauledis at leskraul@gmail.com. Pentecost Tours, www.pentecosttours.com, is helping with arrangements for the trip to France.





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TJ Lamb
Field Agent
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thomas.lamb@kofc.org



Cody Honas, FIC
Field Agent
785-650-9387
cody.honas@kofc.org



Brady Jacques
Field Agent
785-639-2339
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WEDDINGS

Kyle Hull and Aubry Appelhans were married Sept. 9, 2023, at St. Fidelis, Victoria. Father Andy Hammeke witnessed the vows. Parents of the groom are Downer Hull and Tricia Hemphill. Parents of the bride are Chris and Lori Appelhans. Witnesses were Colton Hull and Lydia Hynek, Jace Hull and Savannah Yost.

Chad Andrew Diederich and Elizabeth Jayne Leidig were married Aug. 23, 2023, at St. John the Baptist Church in

Hanover. Father David Metz witnessed the vows. Parents of the groom are Matt and Kelli Diederich. Parents of the bride are Darryl and Jayne Leidig. Witnesses were Ethan Sweetser and Lexis Horn.

Logan Widen and Mariah Hammersmith were married Dec. 2, 2023, at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Concordia. Father Joseph Kieffer witnessed the vows. Parents of the groom are Jeffery and Lisa Widen. Parents of the bride are

Joseph and Karen Hammersmith.

Mason Ramage and Veronica Lyle were married Nov. 25, 2023, at St. Andrew Church in Abilene. Father Kevin Weber witnessed the vows. Parents of the groom are Rusty and Candee Ramage. Parents of the bride are John and Julie Lyle. Witnesses were Tanner Schafer and Alexandra Davidson.

Peter Charles Paras Jr. and Alexis Lee Kelly were married

Dec. 2, 2023, at St. Isidore's Catholic Student Center in Manhattan. Father Gale Hammerschmidt witnessed the vows. Parents of the groom are Peter and Marilyn Paras Sr. Parents of the bride are Kenneth and Wendi Rieb. Witnesses were Mitchel Vespestad and Mariam Sears.

Lane Garrett Sebes and Kaitlyn Lee Fischer were married Dec. 30, 2023, at St. Isidore's Catholic Student Center in Manhattan. Father Warren Stecklein witnessed

the vows. Parents of the groom are Michael and Cheron Sebes. Parents of the bride are Bryan and Shannon Fischer. Witnesses were Gabe Sanders, Kirby Sebes and Sarah Skaggs.

Barron English and Kathryn Tatner were married Nov. 18, 2023, at St. Andrew Church in Abilene. Parents of the groom are Bruce and Carol English. Parents of the bride are Joseph Tatner and Michelle Barszcz. Witnesses were Carlos Ruiz and Nicole Alcala.

BAPTISMS

Emma Jane Anderes, daughter of Daniel and Abby Anderes, was baptized Dec. 10, 2023, by Father Peter O'Donnell at St. Michael Church, Chapman.

Baylor Morris Brack, son of Kaishen Brack and Kaley Logue, was baptized Dec. 17, 2023, by Father Dana Clark at St. Mary's Church in Ellis.

Ariana Sara Byarlay, daughter of Aaron and Rachel (Holzmeister) Byarlay was baptized Dec. 31, 2023, by Father Brian McCaffrey at St. Mary Queen of the Universe Catholic Church in Salina.

Paisley Jayne Elling, daughter of Kamrynn Elling, was baptized Aug. 13, 2023, by Father Mitchel Zimmerman at St. Frances Cabrini in Hoxie.

Sawyer James Feltes, son of Brent and Madison Feltes, was baptized Dec. 3, 2023, by Father Peter O'Donnell at St. Andrew Church in Abilene.

Jensen Brooks Grater, son of Daniel and Jenna Grater, was baptized Dec. 3, 2023, by Father Gale Hammerschmidt at St. Isidore's Catholic Student Center in Manhattan.

Liam Patrick Kelly, son of

Ryan and Lindsey Kelly, was baptized Dec. 30, 2023, by Father Matthew Davied at St. Isidore's Catholic Student Center in Manhattan.

Revan Max Lamberson, son of Philip and Abbey Lamberson, was baptized Dec. 17, 2023, by Deacon Wayne Talbot at St. Thomas More in Manhattan.

Trace James Linden, son of Brian and Lindsey Linden, was baptized Dec. 10, 2023, by Father Vincent Thu Laing at St. Frances Cabrini in Hoxie.

Jameson Lane Livingston, son of Andrew and Chelsey (Smith) Livingston, was baptized Dec. 23, 2023, by Father Dana Clark at St. Mary's Church in Ellis.

Brynn Marie Miller, daughter of Robert and Taylor Miller, was baptized Dec. 22, 2023, by Father Peter O'Donnell at St. Andrew Church in Abilene.

Levi Thomas Miller, son of Jaden and Zoe (Woolsoncroft) Miller, was baptized Dec. 31, 2023, by Father Brian McCaffrey at St. Mary Queen of the Universe Catholic Church in Salina.

Haley Marie Pachta, daughter of Bryce and Jordan

Pachta, was baptized Dec. 10, 2023, by Deacon Steve Heiman at St. Edward Church in Belleville.

Rhiannon Rose Roberts, daughter of Logan and Annie (McPherson) Roberts, was baptized Dec. 23, 2023, by Deacon Gregory Leiker at St. Mary's Church in Ellis.

Ian John Schultz, son of Cas and Ashley Schultz, was baptized Jan. 3, 2024, by Father James M. Thomas at Immaculate Conception Church in Grinnell.

Amelia Olga Shaw, daughter of Anthony and Olga Shaw, was baptized Dec. 10, 2023, by Deacon Wayne Talbot at

St. Thomas More in Manhattan.

Milan Dash Shaw, son of Anthony and Olga Shaw, was baptized Dec. 10, 2023, by Deacon Wayne Talbot at St. Thomas More in Manhattan.

Kaihnoa Grey Davis Taitano, son of Jaron and Ashley Taitano, was baptized Dec. 30, 2023, by Father Matthew Davied at St. Isidore's Catholic

Student Center in Manhattan.

Jonas Victor Wahlmeier, son of Joaquin Wahlmeier and Helen Carlin, was baptized Dec. 24, 2023, by Deacon Brian Kirk at St. Joseph Church in New Almelo.

Maddie Elizabeth Worl, daughter of Chris and Jill Worl, was baptized Nov. 19, 2023, by Father Stanly at St. Bernard Parish in Ellsworth.

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DEATHS

Judith "Judy" Abbott, 75, died Nov. 6, 2023. Funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 8 at Keithley Funeral Chapel in Ellis. Father Dana Clark presided. Inurnment in St. Mary's Cemetery in Ellis.

Teresa Marge Ashbaugh, 54, of Salina, died Dec. 10, 2023. Funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 19 at St. Frances Cabrini in Hoxie. Father Vincent Thu Laing presided. Burial in St. Frances Cabrini Cemetery in Hoxie.

Reginald "Reggie" E.

Bergstrom, 71, of Clyde, died Dec. 18, 2023. Funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 21 at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Clyde. Father Steven Heina presided. Burial in Mount Calvary Catholic Cemetery in Clyde.

William H. Bixenman, 92, of Grinnell, died Dec. 5, 2023. Funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 11 at Immaculate Conception Church in Grinnell. Father James M. Thomas presided. Burial in Immaculate Conception Cemetery in Grinnell.

Glenna Ferris Burckel, 83, died March 17, 2023. Funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 26 at St. Isidore's Catholic Student Center in Manhattan. Father Gale Hamerschmidt presided. Inurnment in St. Thomas More Catholic Church Columbarium.

Robert Burckel, 83, died Dec. 10, 2023. Funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 26 at St. Isidore's Catholic Student Center in Manhattan. Father Gale Hamerschmidt presided. Inurnment in the St. Thomas More Catholic Church Columbarium.

Cora A. Dortland, 94, of Gorham, died Dec. 10, 2023. Funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 14 at St. Mary Help of Christians Church in Gorham. Father Michael Elan presided. Burial in St. Mary's Cemetery in Gorham.

Darrell Genereux, 80, died Nov. 30, 2023. Funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 4 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Concordia. Father Joseph Kieffer presided. Burial in St. Concordia Cemetery.

Evelyn A. Hurley, 91, died Dec. 20, 2023. Funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 28 at St. Edward Church in Belleville. Father Joseph Kieffer presided. Burial in St. George Cemetery in Munden.

Raymond Harold "Bo" Johnston, 91, died Dec. 12, 2023. Funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 19 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Concordia. Father Joseph Kieffer presided. Burial in St. Concordia Cemetery.

Jerry Kopsa, 89, died Nov. 27, 2023. Funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 2 at St. Edward in Belleville. Father Joseph Kieffer and Father

Henry Baxa presided. Burial in Belleville City Cemetery.

James Peltier, 83, died Dec. 19, 2023. Funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 23 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Concordia. Father Joseph Kieffer presided. Burial in St. Concordia Cemetery.

Kay Ann (Weishaar) Peppiatt, 60, died Dec. 21, 2023. Funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 30 at St. Mary Queen of the Universe in Salina. Father Brian McCaffrey presided. Burial at a later date.

Jerry Raye Robertson, 85, died Dec. 29, 2023. Funeral Mass was celebrated Jan. 4 at St. Mary Queen of the Universe in Salina. Father Kevin Weber presided. Burial at a later date.

Joyce Tholstrup, 72, died Dec. 16, 2023. Funeral outside of Mass was celebrated Dec. 22 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Concordia. Father Joseph Kieffer presided. Burial in Pleasant Hill Cemetery.

Gerald Joseph "Jerry" Vitztum, 88, of Hays, died Dec. 22, 2023. Funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 27 at St. Joseph Church. Father Curtis Carlson presided. Burial in St. Joseph Cemetery.

Marlys M. Werth, 83, of Schoenchen, died Nov. 25, 2023. Funeral Mass was celebrated Dec. 2, 2023, at St. Anthony Church. Father Curtis Carlson and Father Joshua Werth presided. Burial in St. Anthony Cemetery.

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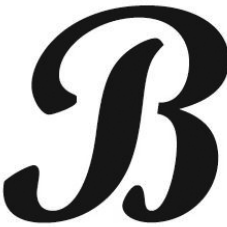
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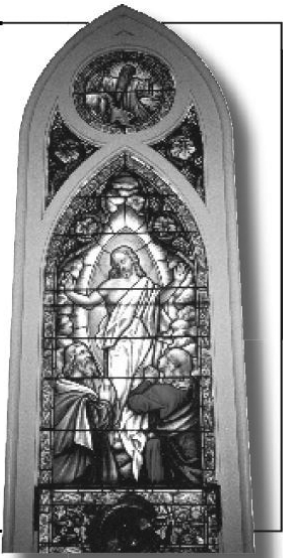
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BIBLE ACCENT

Before Jesus healed Jairus' daughter and the woman with hemorrhages, he healed a man on the other side of the Sea of Galilee.

In Mark 5:1, we read that Jesus and the apostles had crossed the sea by boat and landed in the territory of the Gerasenes.

When they disembarked, a man with an unclean spirit met them. No one in the community could subdue him, even when they used shackles and chains.

He had been living among the tombs, and he had seen Jesus from a distance. He ran up to Jesus and prostrated before him.

"What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me!" the man cried in a loud voice.

"What is your name?" Jesus asked.

"Legion is my name. There are many of us," the man replied.

The man begged that the unclean spirits be allowed to stay in the territory and suggested Jesus allow them to enter into a herd of nearby swine.

Jesus agreed. The unclean spirits came out of the man and entered the swine. The herd of about 2,000 rushed down a steep bank into the sea and drowned.

Afterward, the man who had been possessed by the unclean spirits regained his right mind.

JESUS HEALS IN MANY WAYS

By JENNIFER FICCAGLIA
CATHOLIC COURIER

Jesus and the apostles were in the territory of the Gerasenes near the Sea of Galilee.

They crossed the sea by boat, and a large crowd was waiting for them on the opposite side.

Jairus, an official from the synagogue, came forward and fell at Jesus' feet.

"My daughter is at the point of death. Please, come lay your hands on her that she may get well and live," Jairus pleaded.

Jesus agreed to go with Jairus. The large crowd also followed.

As they were heading toward Jairus' house, a woman in the crowd reached for Jesus' cloak.

For 12 years, she had suffered greatly from hemorrhages. She spent all of her money on doctors, but her affliction only grew worse.

"If I but touch his clothes, I shall be cured," she said to herself.

Immediately after touching Jesus, she

could feel that her bleeding had stopped and her affliction had been cured.

Jesus felt that power had gone out from him. He turned around to look at the crowd.

"Who has touched my clothes?" he asked.

The woman, realizing what had happened to her, came forward trembling in fear. She fell down before Jesus and told him everything.

"Daughter," Jesus said, "your faith has saved you. Go in peace and be cured of your affliction."

While Jesus was still speaking, people from Jairus' house arrived.

"Your daughter has died; why trouble the teacher any longer?" they said.

Jesus looked at Jairus.

"Do not be afraid; just have faith," he said.

When he reached Jairus' house, Jesus brought Peter, James and John inside with him. All the people in the house were weeping and wailing.

"Why this commotion and weeping?" Jesus asked. "The child is not dead but asleep."

The people ridiculed Jesus, who sent them all outside.

Jesus brought the girl's parents and the three apostles into the girl's room. He took the child's hand and said, "Talitha kum," which means, "Little girl, I say to you, arise!"

The girl arose immediately and walked around, and all who saw were utterly astounded.

READ MORE ABOUT IT:

Mark 5

Q&A

1. Who asked Jesus to help his daughter?
2. Who in the crowd touched Jesus?

TRIVIA

What did Jesus say the girl should do after he raised her? (Hint: Mark 5:43)

Answer: Get something to eat.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE SAINTS

St. Josephine Bakhita was born in Sudan in the late 1860s. As a child, she was kidnapped by Arab slave traders. A Muslim owner named her Bakhita, which means "lucky."

Josephine endured years of cruelty and torture before being sold to an Italian consul who planned to free her. He took her to Italy, where she worked as a nanny for another family.

In 1889, she won her freedom in court. She was baptized Josephine, entered the Canossian Sisters in Italy and served her order for more than 50 years.

Josephine died in 1947, and we remember this first Sudanese saint on Feb. 8.



ST. JOSEPHINE BAKHITA



PUZZLE

Using the hints provided, fill in the blanks about the parables Jesus told before traveling to the territory of the Gerasenes.

1. Jesus said the kingdom of God is like a _____. (Mark 4:30-31).
2. The seed that fell on rich soil produced _____. (Mark 4:8).
3. The birds _____ the seed that fell on the path. (Mark 4:4).
4. Should a lamp be placed under a _____? (Mark 4:21).

Answers: 1. mustard seed; 2. fruit; 3. ate; 4. bushel basket or bed.