



THE REGISTER

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SALINA

SEPT. 27, 2024

TOGETHER, LET US BE DISCIPLES OF JESUS ON MISSION.

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COURTESY PHOTO
Sr. John Marie leads her class at Holy Family Elementary in Hays.

Warmly welcomed and very blessed

Sisters embark on second year of teaching in Hays

BY ALLISON OCHOA
SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

In August 2023, four members of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary answered the call from their superior to move to Hays to share their teaching experience and vocations with the staff, students and families of Hays Catholic Schools. Now, with one year behind them, and after a summer of rest and spending time with their community in Colwich, Sr. Mary Agnes Wasinger, Sr. Mary Monica Augustine, Sr. Rose Marie Weber and Sr. John Marie Zwenger are excited to have returned to Hays and to their classrooms at Holy Family Elementary and TMP-Marian Jr./Sr. High School.

"Our sisters have been so warmly welcomed by the Hays community, and I am deeply humbled by everyone's sincere expressions of gratitude for our presence and their attentiveness and generosity in providing for our needs," Sr. Mary Agnes said. "We feel so very blessed to be teaching in

Hays and serving in the Diocese of Salina."

As they began the 2024-2025 school year, the Sisters shared their hopes and excitement for what the next nine months will hold.

"I'm looking forward to starting our second year in Hays, especially being back at TMP-Marian with my students and fellow faculty members," said Sr. Mary Monica, who teaches sixth-grade Old Testament and eighth-grade Church History classes at TMP-M Jr. High. "I found that the junior high students are hungry for the truths of the faith and improving their prayer lives. My hope is to help them fall in love with our Lord so they will want to be active Catholics and look forward to Mass on Sunday with their family."

Sr. Mary Monica explained that in addition to making the Old Testament and Church history come alive for her students, this year she will put a special focus on the saints and encouraging students' reverence and

love for Jesus, particularly in Eucharistic Adoration and confession that are offered on Fridays during the school year.

"I love teaching my students how to pray and we will spend class time in the chapel learning how to be quiet with Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament," she said.

For Sr. Mary Agnes, who teaches freshman and junior religion classes at TMP-M High School, seeing the students again is part of the joy of starting a new year.

"I really enjoyed teaching the freshman and junior students last year, and I am looking forward to teaching some of their siblings this coming year and getting to know their families better," she said. "After a year, it will be great to return and know all of the students in the high school."

With each of her students, Sr. Mary Agnes stresses the importance of receptivity and relationship with Jesus.

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JAMIE KUHLMAN, COURTESY PHOTO

FAITH & FUN AT JR. CYO CAMP

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LORI LEISZLER, THE REGISTER

God walks with his people: Visit to the Border

The Church celebrates Sept. 23-29, 2024 as National Migration Week, which culminates in the World Day of Migrants and Refugees. It is a time to reflect on how we can care for our brothers and sisters in need

When speaking of migrants, we must first start with the fundamental truth: the people coming to America from other countries are God's children, his sons and daughters. Therefore, they are our brothers and sisters too.

Last month, I had the opportunity to attend a gathering of bishops at the border of the U.S. and Mexico in McAllen, Texas. With immigration at the front and center of our country, I wanted to see firsthand what was taking place, rather than rely on news reports, which are often sensationalized. My eyes were opened, and so was my heart.

I admire the bishops who are assigned at the border of Texas and Mexico. Each of them has a real love for migrants. They first see the human person, the dignity of the person above all other things. In the Diocese of Brownsville, Catholic Charities turned an old nightclub into a rest center where migrants are fed and cared for after spending many days and months traveling without the basic necessities, often in extreme heat.

I met several of the migrant families who traveled hundreds of miles to have the opportunity to come to the United States. Their stories are ones of courage and hardships. Many of them must travel through the Darién Gap. The Darién Gap is the only overland path connecting Central and South America and is known as one of the world's most dangerous migration routes consisting of more than 60 miles of dense rain forest, steep mountains and vast swamps. It also houses many drug smugglers and political rebels, and it is easy for someone traveling through it to get abused and taken advantage of.

I also met a man who brought his family from Venezuela. The government ordered him to secure 10 votes for each of his four children and if he didn't do it his children would be killed.

Today, most of the migrants that are coming to America are from Venezuela, Nicaragua and Haiti. They would rather not leave their country that they love, but their country's political situation and the effects of poverty and danger make life very difficult for them and their families. It's very similar to our own ancestors, many from Europe, who came to

America because of poverty or other difficult conditions. They came here and contributed their talents for the betterment of our country—much like many migrants are doing today.

Most people go through border control, which can often take months to get approval after they get to the border. However, there are many who try to come across illegally. They often do this because others have told them it's a faster way, and often, there is a feeling of desperation. The migrants often pay every dollar they have to get to the border. Perhaps you have heard stories of people trying to cross the Rio Grande River. The river looks safe, but underneath there are a current and weeds, which can be very dangerous and even fatal.

There are close to 12 million undocumented immigrants living in the U.S. The Church teaches us that the God-given dignity and rights of undocumented immigrants should be respected. Many undocumented people that I know have been here for decades. They have worked hard to provide for their family, and haven't caused any problems whatsoever.

Obviously, no one wants criminals and those who want to do harm coming to our country. We have all heard these terrible stories. There is a need to secure our borders in a better capacity, because as the Catechism teaches us, every country has a right to secure their borders. But we must do it with an approach of God's love and compassion. Pope Francis has stated that "safe, orderly, regular, and sustainable migration is in the interest of all countries."

Jesus had to flee Israel when Herod was trying to kill them. God is walking with his people. And we are called to do the same.

+ Gerald L. Vincke

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

La Iglesia celebra el 23 al 29 de septiembre de 2024 la Semana Nacional de la Migración, que culmina con el Día Mundial de los Migrantes y Refugiados. Este es un momento para reflexionar sobre cómo podemos cuidar de nuestros hermanos y hermanas en necesidad.

Al hablar de migrantes, debemos comenzar con la verdad fundamental: las personas que vienen a Estados Unidos de América de otros

países son hijos e hijas de Dios. Por lo tanto, también son nuestros hermanos y hermanas.

El mes pasado, tuve la oportunidad de asistir a una reunión de obispos en la frontera de EE. UU. y México en McAllen, Texas. El tema de la inmigración ocupa un lugar central en nuestro país, por tanto quise ver de primera instancia lo que estaba sucediendo, en lugar de confiar en los informes de noticias, que a menudo son sensacionalistas. Mis ojos se abrieron, y también mi corazón.

Admiro a los obispos que están asignados a la frontera de Texas y México. Cada uno de ellos seinte un verdadero amor por los migrantes. Primero ven a la persona humana, la dignidad de la persona por encima de todo. En la Diócesis de Brownsville, Caridades Católicas transformó un viejo club nocturno en un centro de descanso donde se alimenta y cuida de los migrantes después de que han pasado muchos días y meses viajando sin las necesidades básicas, a menudo bajo un calor extremo.

Conocí a varias familias migrantes que viajaron cientos de millas para tener la oportunidad de venir a los Estados Unidos. Sus historias son de valentía y dificultades. Muchos de ellos deben atravesar el Tapón del Darién. El Tapón del Darién es el único camino terrestre que conecta América Central y América del Sur y es conocido como una de las rutas migratorias más peligrosas del mundo, que consiste en más de sesenta millas de selva tropical densa, montañas empinadas y pantanos vastos. También alberga a muchos contrabandistas de drogas y políticos rebeldes, y es fácil que alguien que viaje a través de él sea abusado y aprovechado.

También conocí a un hombre que trajo a su familia desde Venezuela. El gobierno le ordenó asegurar 10 votos por cada uno de sus cuatro hijos y, si no lo hacía, sus hijos serían asesinados.

Hoy día, la mayoría de los migrantes que llegan a América son de Venezuela, Nicaragua y Haití. Preferirían no dejar su país, al que aman, pero la

situación política de su país y los efectos de la pobreza y el peligro hacen que la vida sea muy difícil para ellos y sus familias. Es muy similar a nuestros propios antepasados, muchos de Europa, que vinieron a América debido a la pobreza u otras condiciones difíciles. Vinieron aquí y contribuyeron con sus talentos para el mejoramiento de nuestro país, tal como muchos migrantes lo están haciendo hoy.

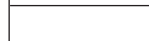
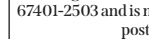
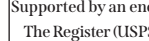
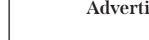
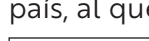
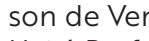
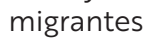
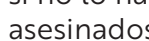
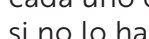
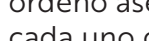
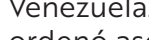
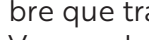
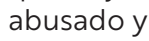
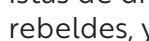
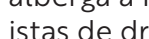
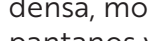
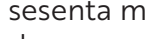
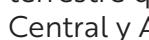
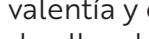
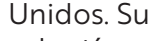
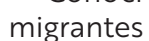
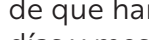
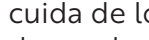
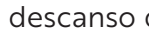
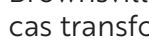
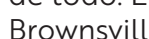
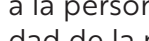
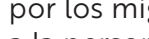
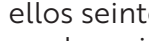
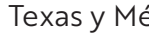
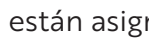
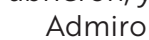
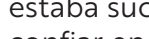
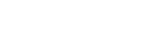
La mayoría de las personas pasan por el control fronterizo, lo que a menudo puede tardar meses en obtener aprobación después de llegar a la frontera. Sin embargo, hay muchos que intentan cruzar ilegalmente. A menudo lo hacen porque otros les han dicho que es un camino más rápido, y a menudo hay un sentimiento de desesperación. Muchas veces los migrantes pagan todo el dinero que tienen para llegar a la frontera. Tal vez hayas escuchado historias de personas que intentan cruzar el río Grande. El río parece seguro, pero debajo hay corrientes y maleza, lo que puede ser muy peligroso e incluso mortal.

Hay cerca de 12 millones de inmigrantes indocumentados viviendo en EE. UU. La Iglesia nos enseña que la dignidad y los derechos de los inmigrantes, dados por Dios, deben ser respetados. Muchos indocumentados que conozco han estado aquí durante décadas. Han trabajado duro para mantener a sus familias y no han causado ningún problema en lo absoluto.

Obviamente, nadie quiere a criminales ni a aquellos que quieran hacer daño viniendo a nuestro país. Hay una necesidad de asegurar nuestras fronteras de mejor manera, porque como nos enseña el Catecismo, cada país tiene derecho a asegurar sus fronteras. Pero debemos hacerlo con un enfoque del amor y la compasión de Dios. El Papa Francisco ha declarado que "una migración segura, ordenada, regular y sostenible es del interés de todos los países."

Jesús tuvo que huir de Israel cuando Herodes intentaba matarlo. Dios camina con su pueblo. Y estamos llamados a hacer lo mismo.

**GERALD
Vincke**
BISHOP, SALINA DIOCESE



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**OCTOBER IS
RESPECT LIFE MONTH**

SISTERS START SECOND YEAR, FROM PAGE 1

"I definitely like to challenge my students in their knowledge of the faith, but I think the most important aspect of what we will do in class is striving to encounter Christ and learn how to live in a loving relationship with Him," Sr. Mary Agnes said.

"I cannot teach my students all the content they will need to know to help them throughout the rest of their lives," Sr. Mary Agnes said. "However, if we are able to take time to cultivate their minds and hearts to produce rich and receptive soil, then the Lord will be able to continue to plant seeds of the faith that will bear fruit for years to come."

The new school year has brought some changes to teaching responsibilities for Sr. Rose Marie and Sr. John Marie, both at Holy Family Elementary.

"This year my main responsibility will be running the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program," Sr. Rose Marie explained. "Last year we had [students in] 3-year-old preschool up to second grade attending every week. I will be adding third grade coming to the atrium every week. I will continue to make regular classroom visits to the fourth- and fifth-grade classes where I will talk mainly on various religious topics and do some things that are based on CGS."

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a recent offering to the Catholic community in Hays and is different than what many would consider to be a traditional religion curriculum.

"CGS provides an environment for the children to encounter God in prayer and ponder the mysteries of Scripture and the liturgy through hands-on materials," Sr. Rose Marie said. "They are presented material based on the Scriptures or the Liturgy and are given time to ponder

materials by working with it on their own later. What I do in CGS supports what the students are receiving in the classroom. I want to take what they receive in the classroom, at home, and at Mass and assist them to pray and ponder."

In addition to her work with the religion and CGS classes at HFE, Sr. Rose Marie said she will continue to work with classroom teachers to bring students' attention to Jesus' presence in the Holy Eucharist with visits to the Adoration Chapel at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church next door to HFE.

"Last year I was struck by how many of the students after one visit to the adoration chapel expressed a strong desire to come back," she said. "We hope to foster a greater appreciation for the Eucharist and silent prayer in the students at an earlier age so that their Eucharistic prayer life will continue to grow when they go to adoration at TMP and after high school."

Making the biggest change in her teaching role is Sr. John Marie. During the 2023-2024 school year, she worked primarily with Holy Family



Sr. Rose Marie teaches her elementary school students about the significance of the Easter candle.



Sr. Mary Monica asks a question of her students at TMP-M Jr. High.

Elementary's pre-school students and the CGS program. Now, Sr. John Marie is the new HFE music teacher and coordinator of the liturgical music for the school's twice-weekly Masses.

"Music aids the memory and influences the mind. I hope to give students a positive and engaging experience of music, building a



COURTESY PHOTOS

Sr. Mary Agnes speaks to high school girls. Sr. Mary Agnes is one of four IHM Sisters from Wichita teaching in Hays for the second year in a row.

repertoire of wholesome music worth remembering," she said.

In addition to practicing basic skills related to rhythm and melody, Sr. John Marie said she will also be teaching students to read and notate music and sing together—which requires listening. She also hopes to help students develop an appreciation of classical and patriotic music, but her larger goal is to help them relate their musical knowledge to their experience of the Mass.

"I am most excited to help the children pray with the music at Mass," she added. "The Gloria, the Holy Holy and the Lamb of God express beautiful elements of our faith. The prayers and hymns at Mass are there to help us worship God, thank Him and seek his help. I hope to help our students use the music to help them participate more fully at Mass."

While teaching is their primary objective in their respective classrooms and schools, the Sisters hope their presence and living out their vocation are reminders of the calling God is placing in the hearts of each person they meet.

"I hope by my presence and guidance that the students will recognize that they are called to practice Christian virtue and to build up solid relationships through the witness of their lives," Sr. Mary Agnes said. "The students have a tremendous role to play in fostering a Christ-centered climate in the school, and I hope to challenge them to live up to that every day."

"As IHM Sisters we strive to be 'other Marys,' bringing Jesus to others," Sr. John Marie added. "I hope to be a person whose presence makes it easier to want to be good, to love Jesus whole-heartedly."

BISHOP'S CALENDAR

October

- 6 Confirmation, OLPH, Goodland, 10:30 a.m. (MT)
- 6 Vietnamese Mass w/Bishop Nguyen, 4 p.m., St. Mary Queen of the Universe, Salina
- 9 Jr./Sr. Respect Life Retreat Mass, 12:05 p.m., Sacred Heart Cathedral, Salina
- 11-12 Conception Seminary Board of Regents mtg., Conception, MO
- 12 Blessing of the Altar Mass, St. Francis Xavier, Junction City., 5:15 p.m.
- 13 Confirmation, St. Frances Cabrini, Hoxie, 10 a.m.
- 20 K of C Clergy Appreciation Dinner, Salina, 5 p.m.
- 23-24 Kenrick-Glennon Seminary, St. Louis, MO
- 27 Anniversary Mass, St. Nicholas Parish, Hays, 3 p.m.

OCTOBER 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 intentions:

We pray that the Church continue to sustain in all ways a Synodal lifestyle, as a sign of co-responsibility, promoting the participation, the communion and the mission shared among priests, religious and lay people.

Diocesan intentions:

We pray for all those who are facing financial hardships. May the Lord provide them with the support, guidance and opportunities they need to overcome their difficulties. May they find hope in God's boundless love, and may we be inspired to help those in need.

OFFICIAL PRIEST ASSIGNMENTS

Effective Sept. 5, 2024:

The following priests were reappointed or appointed to the College of Consultors; all new appointments are current members of the Priests' Council.

- Rev. Richard Daise (reappointed)
- Rev. Frank Coady (reappointed)
- Rev. Andrew Hammeke
- Rev. Fred Gatschet (reappointed)
- Rev. Jarett Konrade (reappointed)
- Rev. Joseph Kieffer
- Rev. Gale Hammerschmidt
- Rev. Damian Richards (reappointed)
- Rev. Brian Lager
- Rev. Keith Weber (reappointed)
- Rev. Kevin Weber (reappointed)
- Rev. Peter O'Donnell



SPREADING CHEER WITH BOXES OF JOY

Boxes of Joy is a program encouraging people to create gift boxes filled with toys, books, and goodies for children in need during the holidays. Please check with your parish or school about helping children in developing countries experience the joy of Christmas! Boxes are due back to the chancery by Nov. 7.



St. Bernard parishioners celebrate return home

BY DIANE GASPER-O'BRIEN
THE REGISTER

After being gone for most of the summer, parishioners of St. Bernard Parish in Ellsworth were glad to be back in familiar surroundings earlier this month.

Bishop Gerald Vincke presided over a rededication Mass on Sunday, Sept. 1, in celebration of a renovation project for the church.

"When I go on vacation, I can't wait to get home," Bishop Vincke said, comparing that feeling to our hearts longing to be home with God. "It's good to be home in this church."

He got no argument from the parishioners, who packed the church for Mass, then stayed after lunch to visit with each other.

The renovation committee decided to schedule the rededication on Labor Day weekend to coincide with the annual Fiesta celebration held the day before at one of their sister parishes, St. Ignatius of Loyola in nearby Kanopolis.

New paint and other improvements have been needed for some time at St. Bernard's, and the idea for

raising money for church improvements was met with approval by Fr. Stanly Basil when he was assigned to pastoral care in solidum for three area parishes in July 2023.

(Right) Bishop Gerald Vincke speaks to the parishioners at St. Bernard parish in Ellsworth and congratulates them on their renovations.



PHOTOS BY DIANE GASPER-O'BRIEN, THE REGISTER



(Left) During the rededication Mass, Bishop Vincke blesses the church, including the walls, windows and everyone in attendance.

Pastors in solidum are a group of priests who share responsibility for a family of parishes, and Fr. Stanly shared responsibilities for those three parishes with Fr. Fred Gatschet, then pastor of Sacred Heart Cathedral in Salina.

"Fresh, right inside the door, Fr. Stanly agreed to

again."

The renovation began less than a year later, with the last Mass before closing for the summer being held on June 23.

The project focused on repainting the interior of the church as well as other improvements. The domed ceiling over the front of the

church had cracked and discolored over the years.

Now, its fresh sky-blue color gives a serene, calming effect over the entire sanctuary. The altar was repainted in its original brown tones with gold stenciling. A light brown color now makes the white Stations of the Cross more vibrant, as does stenciling above the wainscoting on the side walls and around the stained glass windows.

"I think the altar is really a statement piece," Warta said. "It's just beautiful."

While their church was closed, St. Bernard parishioners were able to attend Mass just 5 miles away at St. Ignatius.

Fr. Stanly normally says weekend Masses Saturday evening in Kanopolis, at 8 a.m. at a third sister parish (St. Joseph in Brookville) and 10 a.m. in Ellsworth.

During the renovation, St. Ignatius held its traditional 5 p.m. Saturday Mass as well as the 10 a.m. time to accommodate their neighboring parish. St. Bernard also held its two weekday Masses at the St. Ignatius church.

"We are so very grateful for the hospitality that St. Ignatius parish extended to our parish family," said Melody Magette, a St. Bernard parishioner for 13 years. "They literally turned their church over to us for our services."

But it still wasn't home. And with summer vacations, a lot of St. Bernard's parishioners attended weekend Mass at other churches, too, so the rededication Mass truly was a coming-home celebration.

"It's just wonderful to be back in our own parish family," Magette said.

The rededication celebration also included the installation of Fr. Stanly Basil as St. Bernard's pastor after he received that appointment from the bishop earlier this summer.

"Today is one of the wonderful days in the life of the church at St. Bernard's," Fr. Stanly said. "On this day of the Lord, let us remember and acknowledge all the pastors and our ancestors who were behind the foundation, formation and maintenance of this parish over the years."

On Mission: Arts on the Green event supports refugees

BY LORI LEISZLER
THE REGISTER

The Manhattan community came together to celebrate the arts on Sept. 8. People gathered on the green across from Seven Dolores Catholic Church for an evening of music and beauty.

Each year, Arts on the Green promotes helping neighbors in need. This year's proceeds benefitted the Manhattan Area Resettlement Team, or MART. Founded in 2021, the group works locally to welcome, assist and connect people from other countries to get them the help they need.

Attendees and volunteers at this year's Arts on the Green helped live out the Corporal Works of Mercy of clothing the naked and counseling the doubtful, as they raised money to help MART assist people in need in their community.

In their vision statement, MART states that, "We strive to create a community in Manhattan where every refugee, regardless of their origin, feels wel-



LORI LEISZLER, THE REGISTER

Down the Block musicians open Arts on the Green with live music.

comed, supported and empowered to rebuild their lives."

Fr. Leo Blasi, pastor at Seven Dolores, opened Arts on the Green with a prayer, asking that the community could come together in support of one another.

"May we learn to love others as Jesus loved," Fr. Blasi said.

The event brought in live music, horse-and-buggy rides, food, activities and vendors selling their artwork.

Of the vendors from the area, several were Catholics excited to share their

creativity and sell their artwork.

Like Itzel Unsworth, a parishioner at Seven Dolores who sells homemade jewelry and rosaries through her home business, Hummingbird Creations. Unsworth has attended Arts on the Green for the last two years.

"We look forward every year to Arts on the Green, supporting the church, supporting the community and the artists in town," Unsworth said.

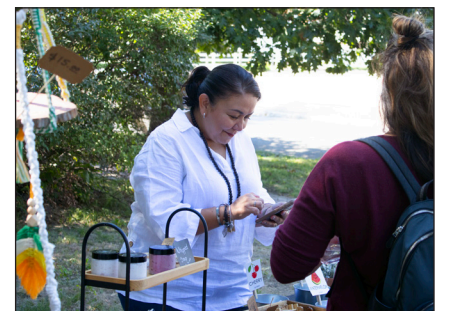
As visitors to the event walked around the green, they could listen to live music by local groups. Down the Block, a musical



LORI LEISZLER, THE REGISTER

Attendees could take a ride in the horse-drawn wagon, one of the most popular attractions of the night.

group comprised of folks who proclaimed to live just down the block from the event, kicked off the performances for the afternoon. On the mic, they shared their reason for attending, too: "This event is all about coming together across differences."



LORI LEISZLER, THE REGISTER

Diana Munoz talks with a customer about her Alebrije Art homemade products.



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St. Ignatius-Kanopolis hosts festival

Community celebrates Mexican heritage

By LORI LEISZLER
THE REGISTER

Parishioners of St. Ignatius of Loyola and members of the community feasted on authentic Mexican food on Aug. 31 and celebrated the Mexican heritage of their parish.

The community well-attends the Mexican festival, the funds from which go toward the general upkeep of the church. Volunteers served authentic Mexican food in the church hall, with vendors set up outside with additional food, treats and activities.

Rita Whitmer, a parishioner at St. Ignatius since birth and a volunteer at the event, has many favorite parts of the church's annual festival.

"It's been going on now for over 80 years, so for me a lot of it is the nostalgia," Whitmer said.

In particular she noted how the greater community and people who have moved away still return for the fiesta.

"I love that it brings back families that have left, and they continue to come back year after year for Labor Day weekend," Whitmer said. "And I love that as a small parish we're thriving, by the grace of God."

Bishop Gerald Vincke also showed his support at the event, celebrating 4 p.m. Mass at the parish before the evening activities of bingo, games and a raffle.

During Mass, Bishop Vincke installed Fr.

Stanly Basil, who had been there for the last year, as pastor. Bishop Vincke thanked Fr. Basil, who is an international priest from the Heralds of Good News, for his service to the Diocese of Salina.



PHOTOS BY LORI LEISZLER, THE REGISTER



Mary, Shield of Peace, pray for us!



The image and prayer cards are located to the left of the altar at St. Isidore's Catholic Student Center.



Mary, Shield of Peace, Bearer of the Christ, protect my soul from Satan's hidden attacks. Keep me safe within your shield, and preserve me in the tranquility of Christ's peace.

When worry seizes my mind,
Mary, Shield of Peace, protect me.
When anxiety disturbs my heart,
Mary, Shield of Peace, protect me.
When fear assaults my soul,
Mary, Shield of Peace, protect me.
When despair crushes my hope,
Mary, Shield of Peace, protect me.
When images violate my thoughts,
Mary, Shield of Peace, protect me.
When temptation overwhelms my strength,
Mary, Shield of Peace, protect me.
When shame overshadows my dignity,
Mary, Shield of Peace, protect me.
When lies distort my identity,
Mary, Shield of Peace, protect me.
When discouragement poisons my joy,
Mary, Shield of Peace, protect me.
When opinions consume me,
Mary, Shield of Peace, protect me.
When noise distracts me from God,
Mary, Shield of Peace, protect me.

O Mother Victorious, nurture in me the transforming Peace of Christ. Amen.

SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

On Sunday, Sept. 8, Bishop Gerald Vincke introduced a new painting at St. Isidore's Catholic Church in Manhattan. The painting: Mary, Shield of Peace. The bishop prays that the image, and the accompanying prayer, may invite people to have hope and peace of mind amidst life's anxieties.

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God works in weekend of camp fun and faith

BY LORI LEISZLER
THE REGISTER

Over Labor Day weekend, 114 students in sixth, seventh and eighth grades attended the annual Jr. CYO Camp. The group of campers, led by 26 college-aged students, encountered faith and fun over the action-packed three day weekend at Rock Springs Ranch outside of Junction City.

Campers experienced many activities special to Rock Springs, like canoeing, rock-climbing, horseback riding and using a bow-and-arrow. The kids also experienced classic Jr. CYO Camp traditions, like Rock-Paper-Scissors and Camp Olympics.

Alongside the activities, the kids had space to learn about their faith. Bill Meagher, Director of Youth Ministry and Religious Education for the diocese, hosted Q&A sessions during activities so that every camper could be open about their spiritual questions.

Additionally, campers experienced prayer on a daily basis, with Masses celebrated by Fr. Gale Hammerschmidt and Bishop Gerald Vincke.

Katie Johnson, at camp for her eighth time as a counselor, attended camp all three years when she was in middle school. Johnson said the faith



Middle-schoolers and their camp counselors gather on Labor Day after a weekend full of adventure at Rock Springs Ranch.

JAMIE KÜHLMAN, COURTESY PHOTO

community keeps bringing her back.

“When I went, I was surrounded by 300 other kids my age who were Catholic,” she said. “And it was amazing for me to see. So I wanted to come back. That was like my jumpstart in the faith.”

“**I LOVE WATCHING WHAT GOD DOES IN A WEEKEND.**”
-COUNSELOR KATIE JOHNSON

Johnson isn't the only one coming back as a counselor. Josh Jueneman, who led Prayer & Action this summer, said, “I loved camp when I went in junior high. Being here now is just a way to give back to kids and continue that chain of faith.”

Another former Prayer & Action leader, Jamie Kuhl-

man, returned to camp this summer, but not as a counselor. Kuhlman, the newest addition to the office of youth ministry, helped Meagher plan the event.

“You can definitely tell that some of the kids were starting to form friendships that they may not have had even in their own school,” Kuhlman said. “You can just see the Lord working through the youth in many different ways and starting to build the future of the Church.”

At the end of the weekend, many kids leave excited to share that faith and foster their new friendships.

“As I continue to come back,” Johnson said, “I love watching what God does in a weekend. The Holy Spirit is so present out here. It's just beautiful to watch. It's honestly one of my favorite parts of summer.”



Counselor Chris LaRocque joins some of his campers in Group 2 before heading to breakfast on Sunday.

JAMIE KÜHLMAN, COURTESY PHOTO



Craig Kuhlman prepares to lead an intense round of Rock-Paper-Scissors for the campers.

HALEY BURKS, COURTESY PHOTO



Campers connect their canoes during activity time on Sunday morning before heading to their next event.

LORI LEISZLER, THE REGISTER

Divine Mercy Radio hosts banquet

SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

Divine Mercy Radio celebrated its 14th Annual Appreciation Banquet on Sept. 7 in Hays and Sept. 8 in Colby, with Joe Heschmeyer as a speaker each night. Heschmeyer is a staff apologist for Catholic Answers Live on Divine Mercy Radio.

It was the first time the event was held in Colby, with a turnout of over 40 attendees. At the banquet, Divine Mercy Radio shared that it wants to start broadcasting in Hill City, to bridge the gap for listeners between Hays and Colby. When

that happens, the 105.7 KMDG, Hays station will be broadcast via a translator station in Hill City on a frequency of 107.3.

Divine Mercy Radio, a non-profit organization, was established in 2010, with the goal of bringing educational, entertaining and spiritual programming that shares the love and mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.

At the banquet in Colby, Heschmeyer shared, “What's the Big Deal about Mary?” and how Catholics can draw nearer to Christ

through her.

Heschmeyer walked attendees through moments in the Old Testament that prefigure Mary as the new ark of the covenant, the new Eve and our queen mother.

“The ark of the Lord crushed the head of the devil of Israel,” Heschmeyer said, referring to Mary's role in the salvation story.

To learn more about Divine Mercy Radio, visit dvmercy.com. On the website, visitors can listen live, ask priests questions, donate to the program and more.



Joe Heschmeyer speaks on “What's the Big Deal about Mary?” to his Colby audience. In Hays, he spoke on “Pope Peter.” Heschmeyer is a staff apologist for Catholic Answers Live on Divine Mercy Radio. Catholic Answers Live airs from 5-7 p.m. Monday through Friday.

JAMIE KÜHLMAN, COURTESY PHOTO

St. Andrew's celebrates more room to learn and play

By DIANE GASPER-O'BRIEN
THE REGISTER

On the first Wednesday of this month Bishop Gerald Vincke made a special visit to the students, teachers and staff of St. Andrew's Elementary School in Abilene.

The afternoon celebration started out with a Mass in the church to celebrate the completion of a new addition to the school.

If the children weren't already excited enough, the bishop took care of that.

"Are you as pumped up as I am about today?" he said, beginning his homily amid shouts of a loud chorus of "Yes!"

"We all accomplished this goal together," Bishop Vincke said, going on to emphasize how the new space was only made possible by God's guidance and the community allowing Him to work through them.

A beautiful Mass continued, with students participating in many parts of the liturgy: the children's choir, altar servers, lectors, offertory collection and gift bearers.

Then the students and school personnel, along with family and friends, made their way to the school. They lined the walls up and down the hallways, waiting for the bishop and the big moment.

"This is exciting," said Janette Mohlman, who identified herself as the grandmother of future St. Andrew's students. Her daughter, Elaina Johnson, and husband Willard became parents of twins Willard and Catherine in November and plan to send them to St. Andrew's in a few years.

Fr. Peter O'Donnell and Principal Chris Whitehair stretched a wide ribbon across a hallway as someone handed a large scissors to the bishop for the ribbon cutting.

However, he graciously deferred that important task to Whitehair, in her 23rd year at the school for preschool through sixth-grade students.

The children then made their way quickly to the playground as the adults got glimpses of the new classrooms and music room on their way outdoors.

Once outside, Bishop Vincke blessed the crowd and the new playground equipment from the new spider web.



MATEA GREGG, COMMUNICATIONS

Principal Chris Whitehair leads the charge at the ribbon-cutting celebration at St. Andrew's Elementary School in Abilene.



MATEA GREGG, COMMUNICATIONS

Bishop Gerald Vincke prepares to climb the spider web to bless the new playground.

Afterwards, Whitehair passed out ice cream and fudge bars to people of all ages to celebrate. Even a representative from Icon Structures, Inc., the construction company out of Manhattan, attended the dedication.

Mark Claussen, director of business development, said he thoroughly enjoyed being around the children during the building process, and he enjoyed the dedication celebration as well.

"When you have a bishop climbing the web, it's pretty impressive," he said with a laugh.

Fr. Peter gave Whitehair credit for her leadership with students and staff, who had to improvise and make do with less space during the construction process.

Whitehair in turn expressed her gratitude toward Fr. Peter.

"We've been talking about needing more space for about 10 years, but other things always

seemed to take precedence," she said. "We knew it was a big undertaking financially, and Fr. Peter had a huge part in making it happen."

Shortly after Fr. Peter was appointed pastor of St. Andrew's in the summer of 2021, plans for the improvements began.

During the ensuing two years of planning, a large donor helped give the project a kickstart, and a groundbreaking ceremony was held on May 5, 2023.

The addition on the southwest corner of the school features a set of restrooms, two new classrooms and an all-purpose room that will serve as the music classroom and a tornado shelter. The \$3 million project also included extensive kitchen renovations, other up-grades within the school and purchasing some property west of the school for an expanded playground.

Fr. Peter said he appreciated all the support from parishioners, school families, alumni and other benefactors for the much needed improvements, saying "projects like this have a way of bringing the community together."

New playground equipment, surrounded by a new chainlink fence, greeted the children this school year. The playground includes that popular spider web and even a zip line – something the bishop didn't attempt on dedication day.

Give him time, kids! Give him time.



Bishop Vincke celebrates with the children at Mass before the blessing of the new addition to the school.

Synod on Synodality continues in Rome

SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

On Oct. 2, the second Vatican assembly for the Synod on Synodality will be taking place. It will bring together clerics and laity for a month of discussions.

The discussions will center around three main points:

- 1.) How can we be more fully a sign and instrument of union with God and of the unity of all humanity?
- 2.) How can we better share gifts and tasks in the service of the Gospel?
- 3.) What processes, structures, and institutions are needed in a missionary synodal Church?

The document prepared for the assembly, "Instrumentum laboris," discusses how to be a missionary synodal Church. It proposes ways to have a more synodal approach in Church governance, theology, mission and discernment of doctrine.

The word synod comes from the Greek word synodos, which means assembly. Pope Francis wants to hear the voice of the entire Church, and the synod is an opportunity for mutual listening.

As Pope Francis said, "The Synod now taking place is – and should be – a journey in accordance with the Spirit, not a Parliament for demanding rights and claiming needs in accordance with the agenda of the world, nor an occasion for following wherever the wind is blowing, but the opportunity to be docile to the breath of the Spirit."

The Synod on Synodality was initiated by Pope Francis back in 2021, as a multiyear global undertaking to ask Catholics, "What steps does the Spirit invite us to take in order to grow in our 'journeying together?'"

This October assembly marks the conclusion of the discernment phase of

the synod, paving the way for the next phase focused on implementation.

Let us pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit in these discussions, seeking unity as we journey together towards eternal life.



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Serving in freedom: St. Isidore's new chaplain hits the ground running

ners who I hung out with while they were here at K-State.”

Emily Genereux is the director of communications at St. Isidore's. She stressed the importance of Fr. Buster's work-relationship with Fr. Hammerschmidt. Some of the perks of being Fr. Hammerschmidt's associate chaplain are the opportunities to build connections with students inside and outside the church doors.

walk alongside our students in unique ways and get to know them as friends but also as his sons and daughters.”

In between the fun and games also lie challenges. One of the challenges Fr. Buster aims to tackle is the difficulty of being a shepherd at a college. He compared fatherhood at K-State to the Super Bowl because he has to be on his A game every day with how malleable students are.

Fr. Buster said he believes college is where many things are “set in stone” during a person's life.

“What happens in college is going to affect the rest of your life, but in college there is less stability than in other times in your life that you might be malleable,” Fr. Buster said. “High schoolers are malleable, but they live with their families. I don't know if there's going to be some guy in a frat who's going to Mass for the first time in two years ... Depending on what I say, I may lead them to the road to redemption or to never step foot in a Catholic Church again.”

Genereux echoed some of those challenges. She said the community is vibrant, but also “vulnerable and intimate.” Part of the process is meeting students where they're at, which takes humbling yourself to a new growth and learning.

“I know that Fr. Buster will love this growth and intentionality when walking with students through their journeys, sufferings and joys,” Genereux said. “Fr. Buster will fit in well as he has such a tender heart, a listening ear, unique interests, passions and experiences that will serve our students in new ways. He'll make a good fit simply because he reveals a different part of the heart of Jesus than any other priest we have had.”

By CHASE HAGEMANN
SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

Tuesday night swing dancing, football tail-gates and packed 9:09 p.m. Masses are intertwined with the St. Isidore's Catholic Student Center experience at Kansas State University. With school back in session, returning K-Staters are jumping back into the vibrant Catholic community as newcomers like Fr. Trevor Buster explore what the “home away from home” slogan is all about.

The Wichita priest arrived on campus July 1 to replace Fr. Matt Davied as the associate chaplain to Fr. Gale Hammerschmidt. Fr. Buster said he heard Fr. Davied and Fr. Drew Hoffman always talking about St. Isidore's, and he can't wait to hit the ground running.

“I don't want to watch from the sidelines,” Fr. Buster said. “The time that I have here is so short that I have to take it for all it's worth. I want to be involved in all the events that are going on, and I'm looking forward to calling these students friends. Who knows? Maybe 20 years from now I'll be a pastor at some parish and have parishio-



FR. GALE HAMMERSCHMIDT, COURTESY PHOTO

Current Associate Pastor Fr. Trevor Buster shares a smile with former associates Fr. Matt Davied and Fr. Drew Hoffman.

“I think Fr. Buster is already loving the freedom he has to serve students in such personal ways,” Genereux said. “Before the students even arrived he was ready to start putting together sign-ups for house blessings for the homes our students live in. I think he will love getting to

Persevere in faith: Whitaker shares life lessons at women's convention

By ALLISON OCHOA
SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

Kathryn Whitaker is a Catholic convert with a goal of inspiring women to live “an intentional, ‘you betcha’, kind of life.” The sixth-generation Texan, author, and podcast host did just that during her featured presentation to the 109 women gathered at Immaculate Conception Parish in Grinnell for the biennial Salina Diocesan Council of Catholic Women Convention on August 24.

In her two presentations, Whitaker addressed the various seasons women go through during their life's journey, and she encouraged them to find God in whatever each season holds.

“The advice a priest gave me once was, ‘Pray like a mom, not like a nun,’” she shared. “At that point in my life I was overwhelmed; I felt like I had no prayer life, and I felt like I was drowning. I learned it's about embracing the season you're in. Your life should become a prayer, so start making that season work for you.

“You can find God anywhere,” she continued. “Ask yourself, ‘Where is he trying to talk to me,’ and find him there, in the dishes or the laundry ... wherever.”

Whitaker shared the story of her pregnancy with her son Luke, the complications that arose and concerns doctors had for his viability. Luke's delivery by emergency C-section and lengthy stay in the neonatal intensive care unit tested Whitaker's faith but she persevered, finding

strength in Jesus and the sacraments. That challenging time taught her several important lessons, including the importance of authentic friendships.

“Hard things lead us to grow in relationship with each other, and to grow in relationship with the people who are in the trenches with us,” she said. “God gives us these life preservers when he gives us these good, authentic friendships. Where is God asking you to grow in relationship?”

“Imaginary friends, like those on social media, don't lead you to Christ, but real friends can, and real friends will lead you to Christ, not the confessional” she reminded attendees, urging them to be intentional about who they choose to surround themselves and their families with.

During her presentations, Whitaker also explained keys to fostering holiness and reminded the audience that their approach may not look like the prayer life of another person.

“I have shown God my Type A, color-coded timelines and I have seen pictures of people's prayer corners and thought one of my own had to be beautifully set. But my prayer corner is at the kitchen sink, doing dishes,” she said. “We have to work with what we have. Maybe your

prayer time is on your run, or while you fold laundry, or while you garden. If Jesus is there, it's good. Keep showing up, even imperfectly, because slow progress is still progress; you don't have to be perfect, just be present.”

In addition to Whitaker's keynote addresses, the SDCCW



ALLISON OCHOA, COURTESY PHOTO

Kathryn Whitaker speaks on holy living at the Salina Diocesan Council of Catholic Women Convention.

convention included Mass and a business meeting at which new officers were elected for the diocesan-wide board of directors. The newly elected officers are President Elaine Peters from Randall, Secretary Kathy Martin from Clay Center, and Treasurer Tammy Steeples from Palco. They will serve the organization until the next election at the 2026 convention.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

BISHOP VINCKE & THE DIOCESE OF SALINA WISH TO HONOR ALL COUPLES CELEBRATING THEIR 1ST WEDDING ANNIVERSARY & ALL OTHER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES ENDING IN 0 OR 5 AND ANY ANNIVERSARIES OVER 70 YEARS IN 2024.

Anniversary Masses



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- Oct. 4**
 - Manhattan Catholic Schools Auction, 6 p.m., St. Thomas More Utopia Room, Manhattan.
- Oct. 5-11**
 - Diocesan Rosary Congress
- Oct. 6**
 - Confirmation, 10:30 a.m. MT, OLPH, Goodland
 - Fall Festival, 4:30 p.m., St. Edward's, Belleville
- Oct. 9**
 - Jr./Sr. Respect Life Retreat, Mass at 12:05 p.m., Sacred Heart Cathedral, Salina.
- Oct. 12**
 - Blessing of the Altar Mass, 5:15 p.m., St. Francis Xavier, Junction City.
- Oct. 13**
 - Confirmation, 10 a.m., St. Frances Cabrini, Hoxie.
- Oct. 19**
 - Young Adult Faith and Froth, St. Thomas More, Manhattan.
- Oct. 20**
 - Knights of Columbus Clergy Appreciation Dinner, 5 p.m., Salina.
 - White Mass, 1 p.m., St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Salina.
- Oct. 26**
 - Sacred Heart School Auction, 5:30 p.m., Colby.
- Oct. 27**
 - Anniversary Mass, 3 p.m., Hays.
 - Annual Turkey Supper, 5-7 p.m., St. Patrick Church, Lincoln.

If you have any questions about an event listed here, please contact the parish/office/school directly.



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CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SALINA

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Finding Christ in our neighbors' wounds

By MEGAN ROBL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF NORTHERN KANSAS

"Jesus tells us that the path to encountering Him is to find His wounds. We find Jesus' wounds in carrying out works of mercy, giving to the body of your wounded brother, because he is hungry, because he is thirsty, because he is naked, because he is humiliated, because he is a slave, because he's in jail, because he is in the hospital. Those are the wounds of Jesus today." - Pope Francis

Back in high school, I sprained my foot while walking down the sidewalk. Speaking from experience, when your foot is injured, your entire body feels the impact—your hips and back

ache from limping, use of your hands is limited by crutches, and balance becomes challenging. Similarly, as living members of the Body of Christ here on Earth, when one part of the body suffers, we are all affected. As Pope Francis reminds us above, to encounter Jesus, we must seek out and address the suffering of our neighbors.

In our world today, Jesus's wounds can look like sudden illness, predatory debt, unexpected death in the family, storm damage, anxiety and depression, or an unplanned pregnancy. These wounds compound, much like an injured foot causing broader bodily issues. Your generosity soothes and heals these wounds.

You are Christ's hands and feet here on Earth,





providing local families with essential services like emergency rent assistance, nutritious food, mental health support, and so much more. By contributing to Catholic Charities of Northern Kansas, you do more than just donate—you encounter and heal the Body of Christ.

Every dollar you give mends the wounds of your neighbors, bringing them closer to a brighter, hopeful future.











Your support is a powerful answer to Christ's call—transforming hunger, illness and loneliness into hope and healing for our neighbors. Thank you!



Across Our Diocese

			
3,370	7,074	1,750	976
families served across 31 counties	individual lives touched	families received help for the first time	families served through outreach services

Lives Touched Last Year

				
975	190	77	45	10
families received financial and housing assistance across 30 counties.	moms received free pregnancy support services across 20 counties.	families were blessed with Christmas assistance across 10 counties.	families received affordable mental health counseling across 10 counties.	families received adoption services, with 1 successful placement.
				
5,796	5,109	2,268	591	380
food boxes were shared with 1,805 families across 31 counties.	hygiene kits were shared with 2,185 families across 31 counties.	cases of 100 diapers shared with 427 families across 22 counties.	clothing vouchers shared with 426 families across 17 counties.	transportation vouchers shared with 282 families across 16 counties.

IT TAKES A DIOCESE!

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WHITE MASS TO HONOR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS

Reverend Keith Weber will celebrate a White Mass for physicians, nurses and other healthcare professionals and their families at 1 p.m. Sunday, October 20, at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Salina.

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 with Ascension Via Christi, and Salina Regional Health Center.

KNIGHTS RECEIVE TOP AWARD

Knights of Columbus Council 8488 in Manhattan was awarded the distinction of Star Council for the Fraternal Year 2023 - 2024, the international organization’s top honor for local councils.

The Star Council Award recognizes overall excellence in the areas of growing membership, promoting Knights of Columbus insurance benefits, sponsoring Catholic faith formation programs and volunteering time through service-oriented activities.

An active council through the leadership of Grand Knight Jay Borja, it co-hosted a First Friday Vigil monthly, and held a prayer service prior to the monthly council meeting. It recognized

the Family of the Month and sponsored a Souper Bowl to benefit the Manhattan Bread Basket. The council annually collected Coats for Kids and held a Free Throw Contest. It promoted the Ultra Sound Program and provided assistance to the Christian Refugee Relief effort.

K of C Council 8488 strives to promote the Catholic faith through service to the St. Thomas More parish and community.

Membership in the Knights of Columbus is open to men 18 years of age or older who are practicing Catholics in union with the Holy See. For information on joining the Knights of Columbus contact local Membership Director Paul Oehm at peohm@gmail.

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE- STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION

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LOLA GOMEZ, CNS

POPE FRANCIS: 'ON THE ROLE OF LITERATURE IN FORMATION'

By ANDY BRANDT

SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

One of the temptations felt by those of us who study the humanities (Literature, Philosophy, Theology, etc.) is to mount some kind of “defense” for our study. We say silly things like, “It teaches critical thinking!” or “It makes you a better writer!” as though a full course of study were needed to develop those skills, rather than a few specialized classes. I think this stems from a sense of embarrassment, a fear that our work is impractical.

Pope Francis, a former literature teacher himself, feels no such embarrassment, as evinced by his recent letter “On the Role of Literature in Formation.” Although he says this was initially intended to be a letter on Priestly formation, the Holy Father realized the importance of the subject to all Christians, and so published the letter to all of us.

After a short thought on the general value of reading, Pope Francis points to a few particular values for Christians in reading fiction and poetry. He says first that they teach us to “listen to another person’s voice,” learning not to simply criticize what is being said, but to genuinely enter into the experience of being told a story, or hearing a poem.

Literature also offers “a training in discernment,” an opportunity to intimately understand the spiritual state of another: the author of a poem, or a character in a novel. This “practice” then allows us to gain greater insight into our own spiritual state. When we read, say, Dostoevsky’s Crime and Punishment, even those who are innocent of the kind of crime the protagonist commits can still learn to recognize his feelings of guilt in themselves, and act on it.

Finally, the Pope says that we learn to “see through the eyes of another,” to think and feel with somebody who is not like us, in the story we read, just as Christ identified with the people he encountered in first-century Judea.

“Literature,” the Holy Father says, “can greatly stimulate the free and humble exercise of our use of reason, a fruitful recognition of the variety of human languages, a broadening of our human sensibilities and, finally, a great spiritual openness to hearing the Voice that speaks through many voices.”

In other words, literature helps to make us more fully human, and it brings us closer to God and each other.

So, whether you’ve just finished your last long-haul through Anna Karenina, or it’s been years since you picked up a work of fiction, read! God created us to hear and enjoy stories, and will draw you closer to Himself through them.

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Pastor and teacher Fr. Tallman dies

Capuchin-Franciscan Father Gilmary Tallman, 90, former president and highly-respected teacher at Thomas More Prep in Hays, Kansas, and pastor or associate pastor in 10 different parishes in Kansas, Colorado and Missouri, died Wednesday, August 14, 2024 at Via Christi Village in Hays.

He had been a professed Capuchin for 69 years and a priest for 64.

The son of Kenneth and Elsie (Burkhart) Tallman, Raymond Tallman was born in Hays on January 8, 1934. He attended Jefferson West Grade School and St. Joseph's Military Academy for a year, but then, with his twin brother Ernest, transferred to St. Francis Seminary in Victoria, which was then in its second year.

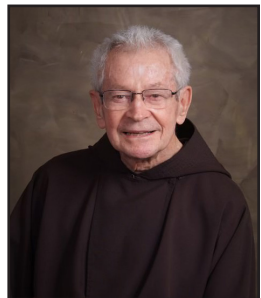
Both were in the high school seminary's first graduating class, and after two years at St. Fidelis Seminary College in Herman, Pa., Ernest discerned a different vocation and Raymond entered the Capuchin novitiate in Annapolis, Md. Using a new religious name, Gilmary, he professed vows as a Capuchin on July 14, 1955.

Two years of philosophical studies back at Herman and three years of theological studies in Washington D.C. earned Gilmary a B.A. in philosophy and M.A. in religious education, and prepared him for ordination by Bishop Frederick Freking at St. Joseph Church, Hays, on May 28, 1960. After two more years of formation in Washington and Pittsburgh, he returned to the West, and has been here ever since.

Gilmary's time as a priest divides mostly into three large parts: the first 20 years as a teacher, 26 years mainly in parish administration, and the last 13 in semi- or full retirement.

Preparing for a teaching career, Gilmary had taken graduate courses in history at Catholic University in Washington and

Duquesne University in Pittsburgh. When he arrived in Kansas in 1962, an English instructor was needed, so he earned an M.A. in English at Ft. Hays State University.



FR. GILMARY TALLMAN

He taught at St. Francis Seminary for seven years and then moved to the Military Academy in Hays to replace a young friar who had died suddenly. During his first year there, the Capuchins decided to combine their Victoria and Hays schools and form a Christian leadership college-prep called

Thomas More Prep. He was heavily involved in the process of forming the new program in 1970, and taught there for another 12 years, while serving at various times as academic dean, vice president and president.

During those years, he was also a major player in another important decision, not another merger, but a division. In 1975, the Capuchin Province of Pennsylvania named him a "quasi-councilor for the west," to help plan for the division of the province into two new provinces at the Indiana-Illinois border.

When the division took place in 1977, Gilmary was on the first provincial council of the new Province of St. Conrad.

He left academia in 1983 and took a year's refresher course in theology and ministry at St. Louis University, while also serving on the province's formation staff, before beginning parish ministry.

His many years in parish administration were at St. Fidelis in Victoria, and its Kansas mission churches: St. Ann's in Walker, St. Boniface in Vincent, and Holy Cross in Pfeifer; St. Elizabeth's and its mission St. Patrick's in Denver; Immaculate Conception in Arnold, Mo.; St. Joseph's in Hays, Notre Dame in

Lakewood, Co.; and St. John the Evangelist in Lawrence, Ks. He was pastor for eight years, sacramental pastor for eight, and associate pastor for 12.

In between parish assignments, he also served 2001-2002 on the first staff of the confessional ministry at The Catholic Center in Colorado Springs' Citadel Mall.

Besides his many Capuchin brothers, Gilmary is survived by his twin brother Ernie and sisters Marilyn Matthias and Susie Berger, and many nephews and nieces, and grand nephews and nieces.

Mass of Christian Burial was at 1:00 pm on Monday, August 19, 2024 at the Basilica of St. Fidelis in Victoria, with Bishop Gerald Vincke officiating and Fr. Bill Kraus, OFM-Cap. concelebrating. Burial followed in St. Joseph Cemetery, Hays. Memorials are suggested to the Capuchin Province of Mid-America, Inc. Services are in the care of Hays Memorial Chapel Funeral Home and condolences and memories of Fr. Gilmary may be left for his Capuchin brothers and his family at www.haysmemorial.com



COURTESY PHOTO

During the funeral, Capuchin Brothers of Fr. Gilmary Tallman, OFM Cap., sing the traditional *Ultima*, a hymn to the Blessed Mother asking for her intercession for the grace for a happy death. The Friars sang it in Latin, German, English and Spanish.

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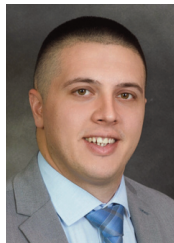
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BAPTISMS

TUESDAYS WITH THE DIOCESE: FREE ADULT FORMATION

6-8 P.M. "COME AND SEE" JOHN 1:45-46. JOIN ADULTS OF THE DIOCESES OF SALINA AND DODGE CITY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE FAITH. ATTEND ALL THREE EVENINGS OR JUST ONE. CONNECT VIA ZOOM USING YOUR OWN DEVICE. TO SIGN-UP AND RECEIVE THE LINK, GO TO DCDIOCESE.ORG/AF

Oct. 1:

The Second Vatican Council: How do Humans Participate in the Paschal Mystery of Christ? Presenter - Fr. Frank Coady.

The Paschal Mystery is the dying and rising of Christ that is exhibited not only in Jesus but in all of creation, of which, along with the Father and the Spirit, he is the author. The evening will explore the particular way that humans participate in that infinite Mystery.

Oct. 15:

Vanity Faith: Searching for Spirituality Among the Stars. Presenter and Author - Fr. Terrance Klein.

The book, *Vanity Faith*, reveals how God can be found in the movies and on television, and how faith and culture can teach you more than you could have ever dreamed.

Oct. 29:

Ministry to the Sick and Elderly. Presenter - Fr. Robert Schremmer and guest speakers.

Fr. Bob will interview guest speakers who will share their experiences on accompanying the sick and elderly.

RURAL LIFE AWARDS

On Aug. 25, the Rural Life Commission celebrated Rural Life Day and presented the Century Life Awards. New this year, the commission also presented the Weber Golden Business Award (50+ years of a continuously run/owned Catholic family business). Please see the October Register for a full list of winners and more details.

Isla Juanita Aguirre, daughter of Jesus Aguirre and Lindsey Fallwell, was baptized July 23, 2023, by Fr. Joseph Kieffer at St. Augustine Church in Washington.

Mattiss Grey Alcalá, daughter of Derreck and Brittnee Alcalá, was baptized August 24, 2024, by Dcn. Larry Erpelding at St. Thomas More Church in Manhattan.

Abel Baca-Romero, son of Hernan and Yamiley Baca-Romero, was baptized August 17, 2024, by Fr. Vincent Thu Laing at St. Frances Cabrini Church in Hoxie.

Tate Joseph Bulleigh, son of Lucas and Abigail Bulleigh, was baptized August 18, 2024, by Fr. Steven Heina at St. John the Baptist Church in Clyde.

Lorna Imelda Demuth, daughter of Shawn and Andrea (Smith) Demuth, was baptized August 11, 2024, by Fr. Damian Richards at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays.

Jack Dennis Dietz, son of Matthew and Sabrina (Hallagin) Dietz, was baptized August 18, 2024, by Fr. Dana Clark at St. Mary's Church in Ellis.

Arin Elizabeth Dreiling, daughter of Leo and Michaela (Kuhn) Dreiling, was baptized August 18, 2024, by Fr. Damian Richards at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays.

Kataleya Luna Franco, daughter of Joaquin, Jr., and Arianna Franco, was

baptized August 17, 2024, by Fr. Trevor Buster at St. Isidore's Catholic Student Center in Manhattan.

Aitana Garcia, daughter of Eliezer Garcia and Susana Galvan, was baptized June 29, 2024, by Fr. Vincent Thu Laing at St. Frances Cabrini Church in Hoxie.

Adrian John Goeckel, son of Alex and Nicole (Barnes) Goeckel, was baptized April 28, 2024, by Fr. David Metz at St. Augustine Church in Washington.

Lexi Jo Holle, daughter of Tyler and Faith (Cecrle) Holle, was baptized May 4, 2024, by Fr. David Metz at St. Augustine Church in Washington.

Quinnlyn Tomi Jones, daughter of Kelton and Marissa (Lambert) Jones, was baptized August 3, 2024, by Fr. Dana Clark at St. Mary's Church in Ellis.

Sophia Jo, daughter of Mitchell and Alex Keating, was baptized August 25, 2024, by Fr. Peter O'Donnell at St. Michael Church in Chapman. Godparents are Cole Kitterma and Laci Foltz.

Casey Nolan Makoa Lyman, son of Phillip and Leilani Lyman, was baptized August 11, 2024, by Fr. Frank Coady at St. Thomas More Church in Manhattan.

Celia Rose Maneth, daughter of Chad and Jennifer (Reichert) Maneth, was baptized August 25, 2024, by Fr. Damian Richards at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays.

Connor Isidore Mark, son of Nathan and Stephanie (Demuth) Mark, was baptized August 11, 2024, by Fr. Damian Richards at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays.

Mateo Lopez Martinez, son of Jorge Lopez and Teresa Martinez, was baptized August 5, 2023, by Fr. Joseph Kieffer at St. Augustine Church in Washington.

Levi Jan Karol Orłowski, son of Kacper and Carleigh Orłowski, was baptized September 8, 2024, by Fr. Fred Gatschet at St. Joseph Church in Hays. Godparents are Br. Simeon Johnson, OSB and Christina Bixenman.

Maryam Montes Orozco, daughter of Jesus Omar Montes Antunez and Ivon Lizbeth Orozco Chaves, was baptized June 22, 2024, by Fr. Vincent Thu Laing at St. Frances Cabrini Church in Hoxie.

Brenlee Vivian Otott, daughter of Bryan and Haley (Wecker) Otott, was baptized June 11, 2023, by Fr. Joseph Kieffer at St. Augustine Church in Washington.

Blakely Rose Perez, daughter of Blake and Sarah Perez, was baptized August 17, 2024, by Fr. Jarett Konrade at St. John the Baptist Church in Beloit.

Deegan Ray Pestinger, son of Dustin and Kylie (Krahl) Pestinger, was baptized September 1, 2024, by Fr. Kevin Weber at St. Mary Queen of the Universe Church in Salina. Godparents are Ricardo Bonilla and Carissa Krahl.

Dominik Renoga, son of Heiner and Angie (Briceno)

Renoga, was baptized August 24, 2024, by Fr. Nick Parker at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Hays.

Jianna Joelle Robles, daughter of Ivan and Johnae (Blackmon) Robles, was baptized August 10, 2024, by Fr. Brian McCaffrey at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Hays.

Embree Rae Sander, daughter of Dustin and Kylee (Roth) Sander, was baptized August 31, 2024, by Fr. Damian Richards at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays.

Vincent Ambrose Tremblay, son of Tate and Kathryn Tremblay, was baptized July 14, 2024, by Fr. Vincent Thu Laing at St. Frances Cabrini Church in Hoxie.

Nathan Gael Villezcas-Garcia, son of Jesus and Raquel Villezcas, was baptized July 6, 2024, by Fr. Vincent Thu Laing at St. Frances Cabrini Church in Hoxie.

Emma Rue Walter, daughter of Martin and Andrea (L'Ecuyer) Walter, was baptized December 18, 2023, by Fr. David Metz at St. Augustine Church in Washington.

Chloe Mae Washburn, daughter of Dustin and Emily (Herl) Washburn, was baptized August 24, 2024, by Fr. Brian McCaffrey at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Hays.

Tripp Michael Welch, son of Michael and Keelie (Carron) Welch, was baptized November 5, 2023, by Fr. David Metz at St. Augustine Church in Washington.

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FUNERALS

Lavern J. "Augie" Augustine, 82, died August 19, 2024. Funeral Mass was celebrated August 26 at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Hays. Fr. Nick Parker presided. Burial in St. Joseph Cemetery, Hays.

Marlene Ann Brull, 87, died July 26, 2024. Funeral Mass was celebrated July 30 at St. Joseph Church in Hays. Fr. Fred Gatschet and Fr. Dana Clark presided. Burial in St. Joseph Cemetery, Hays.

Dean Catlin, 90, died August 15, 2024. Funeral Mass was celebrated August 22 at St. Anthony's Church in Miltonvale. Fr. Mike Leiker presided. Burial in Miltonvale Cemetery.

Alice Munsch Herrman, 85, died September 5, 2024. Funeral Mass was celebrated September 17 at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Schoenchen. Fr. Curtis Carlson, OFMCap. presided. Burial in St. Anthony Cemetery, Schoenchen.

Janetta (Kinderknecht) Heroneme, 65, died July 27, 2024. Funeral Mass was

celebrated August 1 at St. Mary's Church in Ellis. Fr. Dana Clark presided. Inurnment at St. Mary's Cemetery, Ellis.

Violet D. Junk, 82, died August 22, 2024. Funeral Mass was celebrated August 26 at St. Aloysius Gonzaga Church in Osborne. Fr. Daryl Olmstead presided. Burial in St. Aloysius Cemetery, Osborne.

Madeline Lea Lambert (Tate), 75, died August 18, 2024. Funeral Mass was celebrated August 22 at St. John the Baptist Church in Clyde. Fr. Steven Heina presided. Burial in Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Clyde.

Herman J. Leiker, 85, died August 18, 2024. Funeral Mass was celebrated August 23 at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Munjor. Fr. Damian Richards presided. Burial in St. Francis Cemetery, Munjor.

Joan Irene Ostmeyer, 72, of Overland Park, died August 28, 2024. Funeral Mass was celebrated September 3 at St. Joseph Church in Hays. Fr. Don Zimmerman, Fr. Fred

Gatschet, Fr. David Metz, Fr. Alvin Werth, and Fr. Joshua Werth presided. Burial in St. Joseph Cemetery, Hays.

Roselin Pfeifer, 76, died August 18, 2024. Funeral Mass was celebrated August 22 at St. Nicholas of Myra Church in Hays. Fr. Damian Richards presided. Burial in St. Joseph Cemetery, Hays.

Robert "Bob" Speltz, 71, died July 23, 2024. Funeral Mass was celebrated July 29 at SS Peter and Paul Church in Clay Center. Fr. Mike Leiker presided. Burial in Hayes Cemetery, Clay County, KS.

Mickayla Rae Standlea, 25, died August 17, 2024. Funeral Mass was celebrated August 27 at SS Peter and Paul Church in Clay Center. Fr. Mike Leiker presided. Burial in Greenwood Cemetery, Clay County, KS.

Sophia Walter, 99, died August 11, 2024. Funeral Mass was celebrated August 17 at St. Catherine Church in Catharine. Fr. Earl Befort presided. Burial in St. Catherine Cemetery, Catharine.

WEDDINGS

Mitchell Allen Temps Titus and Andi Lynn Siebert were married August 2, 2024, at St. Isidore's Catholic Student Center in Manhattan. Fr. Gale Hammerschmidt witnessed their vows. Parents of the groom are Michael and Crystal Titus. Parents of the bride are William and Lindsey Siebert. Witnesses were Will Bauer and Allison Jarrett.

Kory Jerrell Finley and Bryce Alexis Brown were married August 3, 2024, at St. Isidore's Catholic Student Center in Manhattan. Fr. Trevor Buster witnessed their vows. Parents of the groom are Michael and the late Sondra Finley. Parents of the bride are Scott and Shanda Brown. Witnesses were Brett Apel and Cydney Brown.

Luc Gabriel Gradisar and Victoria Beth Roberts were married August 23, 2024, at St. Isidore's Catholic Student Center in Manhattan. Fr. Gale Hammerschmidt witnessed their vows. Parents of the groom are Matthew and Suzanne Gradisar. Parents of the bride are Kurt and Christine Roberts. Witnesses were Kurt Roberts and Matthew Gradisar.

Timothy Jaron Flax and Sydney Hilde Tastad were married August 24, 2024, at St. Isidore's Catholic Student Center in Manhattan. Fr. Trevor Buster witnessed their vows. Parents of the groom are Timothy and Michele Flax. Parents of the bride are Matthew and Cynthia Tastad. Witnesses were Joseph Flax and Eva Tastad.

Heiner Renoga and Angie Yulieth Briceno were married August 24, 2024, at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Hays. Fr. Nick Parker witnessed their vows. Parents of the groom are Rufino and Cermelinda Renoga. Parents of the bride are Edison and Leidy Briceno. Witnesses were Dan Cummings and Patty Cummings.

Gabriel Luna and Carol Vasquez Lozano were married August 24, 2024, at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Hays. Fr. Nick Parker witnessed their vows. Parents of the groom are Gabriel and Elivia Luna. Parents of the bride are Ancelmo and Teresa Vasquez. Witnesses were Salvador Luna and Maria del Socorro Luna.

Nathan Vinton and Rebecca Kohl were married August 10, 2024, at St. Mary's Church in Ellis. Fr. Matthew Nash witnessed their vows. Parents of the groom are Michael and Stacey Falls. Parents of the bride are Alan and Janet Kohl. Witnesses were Samuel Vintron and Chelsea Strecker.

Tyler Rueschhoff and Breanna Park were married August 17, 2024, at St. Mary's Church in Ellis. Fr. Dana Clark witnessed their vows. Parents of the groom are Darren and Angel Rueschhoff. Parents of the bride are Allen and Patti Park. Witnesses were Patrick Rydberg and Alex Johnson.

Landon Younger and Abby Burton were married August 24, 2024, at St. Mary's Church in Ellis. Fr. Dana Clark witnessed their vows. Parents of the groom are Bobby and Toni Younger. Parents of the bride are Corey Burton and Amy Burton. Witnesses were Bryce Younger and Sierra Schmidt.

Brady Glaves and Alyssa Kern were married August 31, 2024, at SS Peter and Paul Church in Clay Center. Fr. Mike Leiker witnessed their vows. Parents of the groom are Scott and Amy Glaves. Parents of the bride are John and Lisa Kern. Witnesses were Parker Tholstrup and Grace Johnson.

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~ Directors Steven Surber, John Surber and Don Waddington ~



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A Life of Service and a Lasting Gift

By Corrina Hudsonpillar

Fr. Merlin Kieffer dedicated his life to the service of God and the people of the Diocese of Salina. His commitment to his faith and community extended beyond the parishes he served during his years of active ministry. When he passed away in 2021, he not only left behind countless memories from the sacraments given to many but also a lasting legacy through the gifts he bequeathed in his will.

Gifts to Catholic Schools and Clergy Retirement funds at the Diocese of Salina reflect his deep commitment to Catholic education and genuine concern for the well-being of his fellow clergy. Fr. Kieffer experienced the importance of a Catholic education firsthand. He did

graduate work in counseling psychology for four summers at Catholic University in Washington, D.C. and was a guidance counselor and instructor in Latin and Church History at the Catholic high school in Concordia (1960-1963) and Manhattan (1963-1971).

Later he would find himself back to the heart of the diocese and the role of Director of Education and Superintendent of Catholic Schools. At one of his final parishes served, St. John the Baptist Parish in Beloit, he provided pastoral supervision to the K-12 Catholic Schools. Having dedicated such a large portion of his life to Catholic schools, Fr. Kieffer's legacy gift underscores how much his time spent in education meant to him.

The Clergy Retirement fund at the Diocese of Salina ensures that all priests receive the accommodation, health care and support they need in retirement. The Diocese of Salina has 19 retired priests, many of whom have worked long into their 70s and still work today, covering masses when needed. His gift to support clergy retirement is a testament to Fr. Kieffer's appreciation for his fellow clergy, symbolizing his thoughtfulness and respect for them.

"The diocese was incredibly blessed by Father Kieffer, his generosity, and for all the works that he did for the people during his priesthood. The diocese and the people he shepherded were always his top priority and he is greatly missed," stated Bishop Vincke.



Fr. Kieffer is one of many pastors and lay people who created opportunities for the future Church by making a gift in his will. Making a gift such as Fr. Kieffer's to support your parish, Catholic school, or diocesan ministry is easy and can truly have a transformative impact. For more information about creating a legacy gift, contact the Catholic Foundation for Diocese of Salina at development@salinadiocese.org or 785-827-8746.

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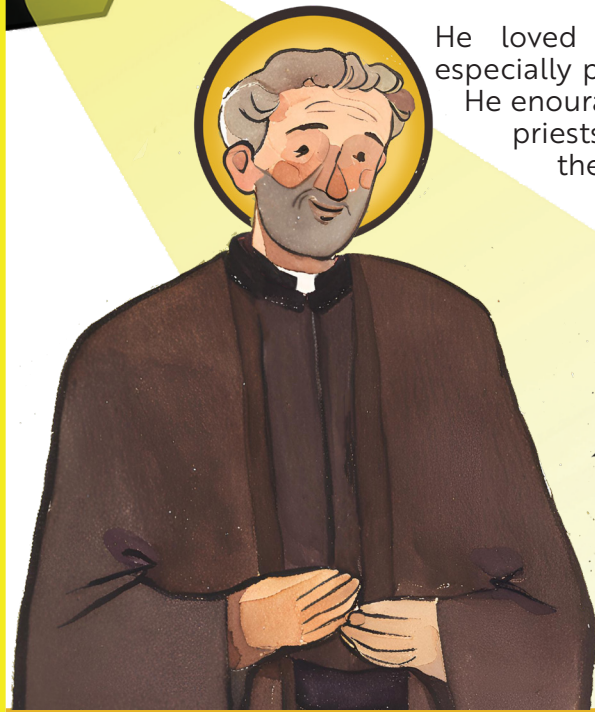
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SPOTLIGHT ON THE SAINTS

St. John Leonardi was born in Italy in 1541. He was the youngest of seven children and was a hard worker. He spent a lot of time working in a medicine shop and eventually went to school to be a pharmacist.

After studying for many years and working as a pharmacist, he realized through reflection and prayer that God had different plans for him. So he became a priest instead! With his pharmacy background, he was able to help people discover "the medicine of God," which is Jesus Christ and His love for us.

He loved teaching and helping people, especially people in hospitals and in prisons. He encouraged many young men to become priests like him. St. John Leonardi is now the patron saint of pharmacists.



"THE MEDICINE OF GOD IS JESUS CHRIST"

SAINT JOHN LEONARDI

FEAST DAY: OCTOBER 8

DID YOU KNOW? PARISH & TOWN TRIVIA

Test your knowledge of a featured parish in the Salina Diocese!

Above the baptismal font is a mural of orange trees "flowing from the font," symbolizing the tree of life that grows on the sides of the river, of the water of life that flows from the throne of God and from the Lamb (Rev 22:1-2).

The original church building had a planned ground breaking ceremony on Aug. 10, 1981. Rains on the scheduled day forced the ceremony into St. Mary's Grade School, where a large tub of soil from the building site was blessed -- providing a most unusual ground breaking ceremony.



ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON, SALINA

FAMILY PRAYER

Cut this out and pray with your family this month!

1 Make the Sign of the Cross & recite the Apostles' Creed.

2 Recite the Our Father.

3 Recite three Hail Marys.

4 Recite the Glory Be.

5 Announce the first mystery and recite the Our Father.

6 Recite ten Hail Marys.

7 Recite the Glory Be and the Fatima Prayer.

8 Announce the second mystery. Recite the Our Father and repeat the steps throughout the Rosary.

9 After completing the mysteries, recite the Hail Holy Queen & end with the Sign of the Cross.

Pray the Rosary

"The rosary is the most powerful weapon to touch the Heart of Jesus, Our redeemer, who loves His Mother."

-St. Louis de Montfort

BY BILL MEAGHER
DIOCESE OF SALINA

The Salina Diocese Family Life office is inviting and encouraging all families in the diocese to participate in a new program starting in October. We know that the family that prays together stays together, and we are encouraging families to join us in a new prayer each month together as a family. Satan hates when families pray together, which, for me, is a great reason to start if you are not doing that currently.

In The Register, we will put a suggested prayer for the upcoming month. The prayers will be tied to what is going on during the liturgical year or what the month is dedicated to in the church. We will begin in October with the Rosary.

By tradition, the Catholic Church dedicates each month of the year to a particular devotion. October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary, one of the best-known Catholic devotions. October includes the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary (Oct. 7).

On October 7, 1571, a great victory over the mighty Turkish fleet was won by Catholic naval forces, primarily from Spain, Venice and Genoa, under the command of Don Juan of Austria. It was the last battle at sea between "oared" ships, featuring the world's most powerful navy.

Knowing that the Christian forces were at a distinct disadvantage, the holy pontiff, St. Pope Pius V, called for all of Europe to pray the Rosary for victory. The Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary powered the patchwork team of Catholic ships.

History has shown us that this victory was significant, prevented the invasion of Europe, and it evidenced the Hand of God working through Our Lady.

At the hour of victory, St. Pope Pius V,

who was hundreds of miles away at the Vatican, is said to have gotten up from a meeting, gone to a window, and exclaimed with supernatural radiance: "The Christian fleet is victorious!" and shed tears of thanksgiving to God.

For us today, the Rosary brings peace to all who pray it and a beautiful way to allow Mary to point our families to her Son. We need this peace in our world, country, community and families.

The Rosary can be a big bite to chew for a young family, so I have a suggestion if your family falls in this boat. Start by breaking up the Rosary over the seven days of the week. You could pray these together when you first get up, as you are driving to school, or right before you go to bed. Remember to pick an intention for your Rosary each week.

- **Sunday:** Creed, Our Father, Three Hail Marys, Glory Be
- **Monday:** 1 Mystery, Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory Be, Fatima Prayer
- **Tuesday:** 1 Mystery, Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory Be, Fatima Prayer
- **Wednesday:** 1 Mystery, Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory Be, Fatima Prayer
- **Thursday:** 1 Mystery, Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory Be, Fatima Prayer
- **Friday:** 1 Mystery, Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory Be, Fatima Prayer
- **Saturday:** Hail Holy Queen, Rosary Concluding Prayer

We hope your family will join us this year as we invite God into our families in a new and exciting way. You and your family will be blown away by what God does for you as you pray together, building up the beautiful domestic church in your home!

Pray with your family!