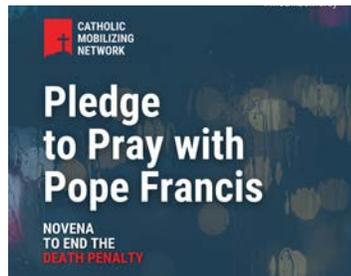


## “Hope for abolition”

Pope Francis asks the Church to join him in praying for the death penalty to be abolished throughout the world. A novena to end capital punishment in the United States will begin on Oct. 1.  
Page 13



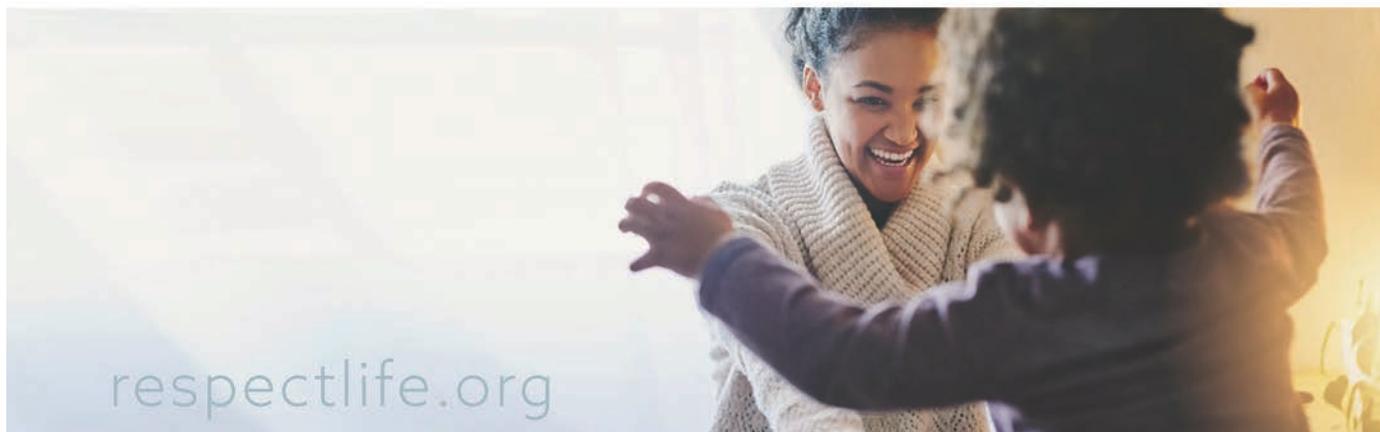
Hispanic Heritage . . . . . Page 3  
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# The CATHOLIC MISSOURIAN

September 30, 2022 • Vol. 66 No. 7

Newspaper of the Diocese of Jefferson City

## Catholics must help ‘build a world’ that welcomes all



This is the poster for Respect Life Month 2022, which has as its theme: “Called to Serve Moms in Need.”

— CNS photo/U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops

## Osage Angels music ensemble puts faith into every performance

By Jay Nies

Their harmonic strains can be heard on any given Sunday, echoing off stained glass or radiating across crowded churchyards in and near the heart of the Jefferson City diocese.

They are the Osage Angels, a string and voice ensemble that formed while three girls were students at St. Joseph School in Westphalia.

They mix their own songs with country, gospel and light-rock standards while performing at parish picnics and fall festivals, including this Sunday in Argyle.

They also lead and accompany hymns and provide an occasional contemporary prelude once a month at Sunday Mass in St. Joseph Church in Westphalia.

All three are tuned into the power of music to draw people into community and express some of the deepest longings of

the soul.

“Every song has a different emotion,” Zoe Rehagen, the youngest of the three, said of performing on stage.

“You play a fast song and people are dancing, or a slow song and sometimes people are crying,” she said. “It’s interesting how each song means something different to each person.”

Zoe is a senior at Fatima High School in Westphalia. Her sister, Abby Rehagen, is a sophomore at Louisiana State University (LSU) in Baton Rouge, and their friend, Allie Hale, is a sophomore at Lincoln University in Jefferson City.

“When we’re out on stage,” said Allie, “I try to think about how God gave us this moment — that we’re performing this music for Him.”

See OSAGE ANGELS, page 21

Catholic News Service

Washington, D.C.

The U.S. Supreme Court’s reversal of *Roe v. Wade* “is, without question, an answer to prayer,” but in a post-*Roe* world, “Catholics must now work together for another, even deeper paradigm shift,” said the U.S. bishops’ pro-life chairman.

“We must move beyond a paradigm shift in the law in order to help the people of our nation better see who we can be as a nation by truly understanding what we owe to one another as members of the same human family,” said Baltimore Archbishop William E. Lori, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Committee on Pro-life Activities.

“To build a world in which all are welcome,” he said, Catholics “must heed” the words of St. Teresa of Kolkata “and remember ‘that we belong to one another.’”

“We must shift the paradigm to what St. John Paul II described as ‘radical solidarity,’ making the good of others our own good, including especially mothers, babies — born and preborn — and families throughout the entire human lifespan,” Archbishop Lori said.

He made the remarks in a Sept. 21 statement for the Church’s observance of Respect Life Month in the U.S., which is October.

The theme of the observance is “Called to Serve Moms in Need.”

The first Sunday of October is designated as Respect Life Sunday, which is Oct. 2 this year.

In their June 24 ruling in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*, a majority of the justices ended the court’s nearly 50-year nationwide

See RESPECT LIFE, page 18

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09/30/22

**Pray for deceased priests**

- Oct. 2 — Bishop Joseph M. Marling, C.P.P.S. (1979)
- Oct. 3 — Msgr. Herbert J. Farischon, St. Joseph, Palmyra (1979)
- Oct. 4 — Msgr. John C. Mahoney, St. Patrick, Clarence; and St. Michael, Hager's Grove (1991)
- Oct. 5 — Msgr. John P. Flood, St. Patrick, Jonesburg (1991)
- Oct. 10 — Fr. James R. Fuemmeler, St. Anthony, Camdenton (2012)
- Oct. 14 — Fr. P. Brendan Lawless, Immaculate Conception, St. James; and St. Anthony, Rosati (2013)

**Life Chain in Sedalia**

**DATE: October 2**  
**TIME: 2 pm**

The 35th annual National Life Chain observance in Sedalia will be held on Sunday, Oct. 2.

It will take place from 2 to 3 p.m. in various locations in the city.

Members of many local churches, including St. Vincent de Paul, Our Savior Lutheran, Bethlehem Baptist, and Antioch Katy Park Baptist, will join other Life Chain participants in America and Canada to line sidewalks in over 1,200 cities to oppose abortion.

Participants will give public opposition to the killing of preborn boys and girls, as well as the exploitation of their mothers by the abortion

industry.

The chain will form at various locations: South 65 by Orschlen Farm & Home; Our Savior Lutheran Church; Thompson Hills Shopping Center; and downtown along Broadway between Moniteau and Massachusetts avenues.

Participants are asked to assemble by 1:30 for prayer and to receive instructions at each location.

Those who are unable to stand for an hour are welcome to bring a lawn chair.

Signs will be provided. Contact Dan Lowe at 660-287-6026 for information.

**Respect Life Celebration in Laurie**

**DATE: October 2**  
**TIME: 1 pm**

The National Shrine of Mary, Mother of the Church in Laurie will host a Respect Life Celebration on Sunday, Oct. 2.

The outdoor shrine is located on the grounds of St. Patrick Church, 176 Marian Drive, off of Highway 5 in Laurie.

The celebration will include the praying of the Rosary at 1 p.m., followed by Mass at 2 p.m. at the shrine's outdoor altar.

**Owensville Rosary**

**DATE: October 12**  
**TIME: noon**

Immaculate Conception Parish in Owensville will hold its annual Rosary Rally in the Public Square at the corner of Lincoln and South Cuba Streets on Saturday, Oct. 12 at noon.

Participants will pray the Rosary together. Everyone is welcome to attend.

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*"A diocesan paper serves as a bond of unity by publishing diocesan happenings and promulgating official regulations and decrees. It also plays a teaching role by reporting notable events of a religious and secular nature, and interpreting them in the light of Christian principles."*  
 — Bishop Joseph M. Marling C.P.P.S., July 7, 1957

**Bishop W. Shawn McKnight**  
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Light refreshments will be served afterward. Contact the shrine at 573-374-6279 or [shrinemothers@gmail.com](mailto:shrinemothers@gmail.com) for information, or visit [motherssbrine.com](http://motherssbrine.com).

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# Sacred Heart School celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month

By Skye Melcher

Sedalia

Sept. 15 to Oct. 15 is National Hispanic Heritage Month in the United States, a celebration of the contributions and influence of Hispanic Americans to the history, culture and achievements across the country.

Jose Maria Gonzalez, faith formation director for Sacred Heart School in Sedalia, said Hispanic people bring all sorts of customs, traditions and histories that enrich the collective culture of America and, along with other cultural backgrounds, make it an amazing, multicultural melting pot.

"We (Sacred Heart) celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month because we celebrate diversity as a fantastic opportunity to grow as a community of individuals," Mr. Gonzalez said. "All cultures and backgrounds bring beautiful stories, traditions, and

personal and collective testimonies that enrich our school community.

"Also, because there is a very strong presence of Hispanic families in our Catholic Church and we want to do as much as we can to integrate this group into our mission, hand in hand with all our other families," he stated.

More than 30% of Sacred Heart's student body has a Hispanic background and more than 70% of the active parishioners under 35 years of age in the Diocese of Jefferson City are Hispanic.

Mr. Gonzalez added that Sacred Heart does not limit this effort to the month when Hispanic Heritage is celebrated but extends it in a continuum throughout the year.

"To make this possible, we are working on building the



This map is used at Sacred Heart School during the year to help the students identify the flags and locations of all the countries represented by the student body.

— Photo courtesy of Sacred Heart School

first Sacred Heart Madrinass group," he said. "The idea behind this is to have a group of Hispanic parents help us better serve the Hispanic community by bringing lots of ideas and their perspective as Hispanic parents."

He added this will be a tremendous boost to help Sacred Heart minimize cultural differences, language barriers and any other obstacles that stand in the way of a closer relationship with the Hispanic population.

"During this month, we have been celebrating with our building decorations, by praying in Spanish and having bilingual Masses, and also talking about the Hispanic influence in the history of Catholic Church during religion classes," Mr. Gonzalez stated.

Another initiative to get closer to the Hispanic community has been the hiring of bilingual and bi-literate staff members with a Hispanic background.

"Hispanic Heritage Month means different things for different students, but all see this as an opportunity to celebrate what we are as a group, as I explain above," Mr. Gonzalez said. "Like every family, we have differences and things that help us stay together. In Sacred Heart, the things that help us stay together outnumber our differences by far and that makes it possible to keep a joyful environment of

diversity and unity."

He added that Sacred Heart's faith plays a vital role in keeping the community together and for those who have Hispanic ancestry, this month is a fun opportunity to celebrate their family heritage.

"This year, we are offering a new class called Hispanic Heritage/Culture," Mr. Gonzalez said. "The idea behind this new class was to offer a learning opportunity for students to be able to read and write in Spanish at an academic level, along with studying the culture of the different Hispanic countries and the identity of students who live with their feet planted in more than one culture."

The class is entirely in Spanish and students have been able to explore classic literature, learn about the Hispanic culture inside and outside the USA, study the ramifications of the different accents/dialects of Spanish in the world, and discuss typical language barriers and misconceptions associated with the Spanish language, in particular.

"This whole initiative was a request from some Hispanic parents who wanted to see their children live their Hispanic heritage and be able to communicate in Spanish at an academic level," Mr. Gonzalez said. "Obviously, the class is not restricted to any one group, but it is open

to whoever wants to achieve these goals."

He said he loves to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month at Sacred Heart because the culture is an important part of the school and church's culture. He added that he is Hispanic and loves his culture. In becoming more aware of his cultural norms, he is able to see the beauty in other cultures.

Mr. Gonzalez said the best way for others to help celebrate the month and the school's efforts to incorporate everybody is by giving feedback.

"We try to make everybody feel welcome at Sacred Heart," he said. "This is not an easy task when you have multiple cultural backgrounds because things that can be interpreted as unpersonal and cold can, at the same time, be interpreted as adequate and efficient."

"With time and the help of all other families, we have been learning how to effectively communicate with all our families and to celebrate and respect the different ways people understand and deal with things," he stated. "This has only been possible thanks to the comments and feedback of our families. They know we try hard to serve everybody, but they also know that we need to hear their experiences and perceptions so we can adapt what we do."

Sacred Heart will end Hispanic Heritage Month with a collective prayer.

According to Mr. Gonzalez, those praying will ask God that He might help them celebrate and recognize diversity, "knowing that they are all His children, created in His image, individual reflections of His divine creativity, and called to love one another like what we are: brothers."

*Ms. Melcher is a reporter for the Sedalia Democrat newspaper (sedaliademocrat.com). A version of this article was published in the Democrat on Sept. 22 and is republished here with permission.*



## Bishop McKnight's Calendar

**SEPTEMBER**

**Sep 30** St. Louis Province Bishops Dinner Meeting, 5:30 pm, Bishop's Residence; Missouri Catholic Conference Board Meeting, 6:30 pm, Bishop's Residence

**OCTOBER**

**Oct 3-6** Host USCCB Catholic Home Missions Subcommittee Meetings

Mon: Social & Dinner, Bishop's Residence, 5:30 pm  
 Tues: School Mass followed by Blessing of Animals, 7:45 am, St. Martin Parish, St. Martins; Allocations Meetings, 9:30 am-5 pm, Chancery; Dinner, 5:30 pm, Bishop's Residence  
 Wed: Tour and Rosary at the Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows, 9 am, Starkenburg; School Mass, 10:30 am, St. George Parish, Hermann; Visit St. Peter School, 1:30 pm, Fulton; Tour of America's National Churchill Museum, Westminster College, Fulton; Tour of Catholic Charities Center, 3:45 pm, Jefferson City  
 Thur: School Mass, 8 am, St. Peter Parish, Jefferson City

**Oct 8** The Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre Mass, St. Margaret of Antioch Parish, 10 am, Osage Bend

**Oct 10-14** Annual Diocesan Priests' Institute, Lake Ozark

**Oct 15** Fall Diocesan Deacon Retreat, St. George Parish, 11:30 am, Linn

**Oct 16** Confirmation Mass, Immaculate Conception Parish and St. Bonaventure Parish, 12:30 pm, Immaculate Conception Church, Brookfield

**Oct 17-28** Holy Land Pilgrimage

# Jacob Luecke brings broad experience, enthusiasm to new role as diocesan communications director

**Assists bishop on effective use of communication for fulfilling the Church's mission**

By Jay Nies

Jacob Luecke views the Church in central and north-eastern Missouri as a richly textured mosaic of stories, waiting to be shared.

His newfound mission is to help magnify and illuminate those stories while enhancing the Jefferson City diocese's efforts to spread the Gospel through the innovative use of words and images.

"Journalism is the foundation of everything I do," stated Mr. Luecke, who began work as the Jefferson City diocese's director of communications on Sept. 15.

"It's about telling stories in a compelling way," he said. "It's about talking to different people and telling their stories and highlighting what's going on the community."

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight appointed Mr. Luecke following a national search for a successor to Helen Osman, who served as the diocese's communication director since 2018.

Mrs. Osman will continue to work with Bishop McKnight as a communications consultant.

Mr. Luecke is now the general everyday spokesperson for the diocese and advisor to the

bishop for creative use of media and communications.

He is a member of the bishop's cabinet of official advisors and serves as assistant publisher of *The Catholic Missourian*.

A member of Cathedral of St. Joseph parish in Jefferson City, Mr. Luecke previously worked for eight years as communications director for the Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the state's largest business association.

"The Chamber is a fantastic organization where I learned so much about communication," he noted. "Communication is the lifeblood of what they do."

Communication is also an essential part of the Church's work of evangelization.

"Jesus Christ is the ultimate communicator," Mr. Luecke observed. "He was an incredible storyteller during His life on Earth. He took complex topics and turned them into compelling messages with an incredibly persuasive style."

The New Testament is filled with stories of Jesus presenting eternal truth in an irresistibly engaging manner.

"To follow His model means speaking to people in a way they want to be spoken to, presenting your material in a persuasive way that's easy for them to digest, and making the best use of all the tools that are available to you," he said.

## Solid foundation

Mr. Luecke grew up in a Catholic family in New Haven and Washington, Missouri, attending St. Francis Borgia Elementary School and High School.

"Mine was a very German Catholic family going back on both sides," he noted. "I learned the faith from my parents and my grandparents, and from the community at-large."

He pursued a degree journalism at Truman State University, followed by a master's degree from the Journalism School at the University of Missouri in Columbia.

He worked as a reporter for five daily newspapers — the *Columbia Daily Tribune*, the *Colorado Springs Gazette*, the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, the *Columbia Missourian* and the *Kirksville Daily Express* — before moving into media relations.

He served for three years as communications director for the Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry, followed by four years as media relations manager for Boone Hospital Center in Columbia.

He returned to the Missouri Chamber of Commerce in 2014.

He and his wife, Meghan, met each other while studying journalism in graduate school.

The couple have three children who are students at St. Joseph Cathedral School.

## United voice

Mr. Luecke believes God has been using his work and life experiences to help him prepare for his new ministry in the Church.

"You can't always see the path God has laid out for you," he noted. "But when you get there, you look back and see how He's been leading you."



Jacob Luecke

He's excited about using what he's learned as a communicator to help Bishop McKnight succeed in carrying out his vision for the diocese.

In addition to print and online journalism, he has worked extensively with audio and video production, podcasting, and various forms of online social media.

He's eager to use these tools to help magnify the stories of faith in action that are taking place in parishes throughout these 38 counties.

"We have such a unique assembly of communities in this diocese," he said. "As communicators, it's essential for us to speak loudly about the wonderful work that's going on in the diocese and make sure our work is very visible."

## "Let your light shine"

Mr. Luecke said he's impressed with Bishop McKnight's leadership and eagerness to lead people to Christ through communications.

"The focus on communication in the diocesan pastoral plan, I think, shows Bishop McKnight's understanding of the importance of communication in advancing the mission of the Church," he said.

Mr. Luecke pointed to the behind-the-scenes work Mrs. Osman led in building-up the infrastructure and platforms to allow the diocese and its parishes to communicate more efficiently and effectively.

"Strengthening our communications will play an essential role in unifying our voices and accomplishing our goals as a diocese," he said.

This is helpful in effectively reaching not only committed Catholics in the pews, but also "entire communities, the diocese, the people who aren't Catholic right now, and maybe those

who aren't as involved as they could be," he said.

He is committed to helping people get the "big picture" when it comes to projects and initiatives for moving the diocese forward.

"But I think it's also important to talk about who we are as a people, to highlight the individuals who are part of the diocese," he stated. "Their faith is truly inspiring."

He's convinced that Catholics are generally more comfortable "not letting the left hand know what the right hand is doing" (Matthew 6:3) than letting their light shine before others "so that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father" (Matthew 5:16).

"We as Catholics and as the Church do all kinds of amazing things," he said. "But there's a lot of humility in our culture. We don't like talking about the good we do as individuals. However, I want to make sure that cultural tendency doesn't get in the way of us telling the world about the great things we accomplish collectively as a diocese."

See LUECKE, page 27

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# Benjamin Roodhouse settling into new duties as chancellor

## Continues advising Bishop McKnight on matters pertaining to canon law

By Jay Nies

In heaven, God's memory alone is enough.

On earth, it is necessary for His agents in the Church to "let paper remember so that you can forget."

The spirit of that dictum is the essence of the work of the chancellor of every Roman Catholic diocese in the world.

By upholding rigorous protocols for retaining and preserving decrees and important documents, the chancellor safeguards the Church's institutional memory for future generations.

"All of this is for the sake of the mission of the Church ... which is the salvation of souls," stated Benjamin Roodhouse, JD, JCL, the recently appointed chancellor for the Diocese of Jefferson City.

Bishop W. Shawn McKnight appointed Mr. Roodhouse to succeed Constance Schepers, who retired as chancellor in May.

Mr. Roodhouse also continues to serve as diocesan director of canonical services, a position he has held since moving to Jefferson City a year ago.

"While every diocese is different, it is not abnormal to have a canonist serve as chancellor," he noted. "I would say one of the more common models (of diocesan administration) has the chancellor serving in a canon law advisory role."

His new, additional responsibilities as chancellor include curating important documents, in keeping with universal Church law.

Specifically, according to the Code of Canon Law, his principal function as chancellor is "to take care that acts of the curia are gathered, arranged and safeguarded in the archive of the curia."

The curia refers to the Chancery personnel who assist the bishop and implement his directives.

"All documents which regard the diocese or parishes must be protected with the greatest care," canon law further states. "In every curia,

there is to be erected in a safe place a diocesan archive, or record storage area, in which instruments and written documents which pertain to the spiritual and temporal affairs of the diocese are to be safeguarded after being properly filled and diligently secured."

The chancellor, with the help of his staff, must see to it that files, records and parish histories are properly stored and readily accessible to the bishop and his advisors.

This makes the chancellor a steward of the institutional patrimony of the Church within these 38 counties, linking him spiritually and temporally to the people of the past, the present and the future.

He also serves as a notary for official documents and decrees from the bishop.

### Collaboration and synergy

The roles of the chancellor and director of canonical services are distinct yet inseparable.

"The office of chancellor is usually shaped around the needs of the bishop and the proficiencies of the person who holds the office," Mr. Roodhouse noted.

In his case, that includes being the bishop's primary canonical advisor.

He said he can fulfill the duties of both offices well because of strong support from his staff.

"We have Bernadette Adams, our vice-chancellor, who is phenomenal at her job and a joy to work with, and Jordan Newham, (Senior Administrative Assistant to the Chancellor and to the Moderator of the Curia,) who is invaluable to our work," he noted.

They collaborate with him in his work as chancellor, allowing him to focus on matters that make the best use of his technical training.

### Law and order

Mr. Roodhouse holds both a licentiate in canon law and a juris doctorate in civil law.

The current law of the Church, the 1983 Code of Canon Law, prescribes in 1,752 rules — known as canons — much of how the Church governs itself while conducting its essential work

of preaching, teaching and sanctifying throughout the world.

In it is codified the responsibilities of every office in the Church, along with specific directives for how those responsibilities are to be carried out.

Together with the liturgical books, it spells out how the sacraments are to be administered and how the spiritual wellbeing of the faithful is to be safeguarded.

It sets out the processes for settling disputes within the Church and meting out disciplinary justice whenever necessary.

Mr. Roodhouse pointed out the final words of the Code of Canon Law: "... the salvation of souls, which must always be the supreme law in the Church, is to be kept before one's eyes."

Mrs. Adams sees how Mr. Roodhouse's extensive background in canon law benefits his work as chancellor, and vice versa.

She likened canon law to the skeleton of the Church.

"It provides structure and helps maintain specific order within the Body of Christ," she noted.

Someone properly educated in the purpose, specifics and nuances of canon law gives valuable insight, providing flesh to those bones in fulfilling the Church's mission.

"But it all starts with having that structure in place that we can build from," said Mrs. Adams.

### Spirit of the law

In this diocese, the chancellor serves as a member of Bishop McKnight's cabinet.

"The cabinet is a forum where the bishop can bring his vision for the diocese and get input from his trusted advisors on how to make it a reality," Mr. Roodhouse stated. "It is also a way to have people of various backgrounds and skill-sets look at problems and of-



Benjamin Roodhouse, JD, JCL

fer collaborative solutions and guidance."

He noted that canon law has an impact on or is impacted by every aspect of the diocese's ministry.

"And it's not enough simply to know that canon law explicitly states that 'you can do this' or 'you cannot do this,'" Mr. Roodhouse observed. "The law exists not merely to re-

strain our behavior. Rather, the law is a teacher: It leads us toward what is good and away from what is bad. But to properly apply the law in concrete circumstances, a person must know why the law exists, what it means, and how one law informs another and vice versa."

For instance, Mr. Roodhouse cited the canonical definition of a parish, stated in canon 515, paragraph 1:

"A parish is a certain community of the Christian faithful stably constituted in a particular church, whose pastoral care is entrusted to a (priest) as its (pastor) under the authority of the diocesan bishop."

Other canons and sections speak more specifically to parishes and aspects of their governance, "but understanding first and foremost that the parish is a group of people in a specific geographic area is very

See ROODHOUSE, page 27



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## Ukraine War Reveals Both the Tragedy of War and the Power of Catholic Compassion

A mother stumbles down a road strewn with rubble, her two frightened children in tow. This time last year, she and her husband would have been planning a vacation for the family. Now, their lives have been turned upside down, and she wonders whether her son and daughter will ever even see their father again.

More than a hundred miles away, another woman stands at a crowded checkpoint, hoping to cross into Poland before nightfall. Her children are grown, but she is heartsick because she was unable to confirm their whereabouts before fleeing from her home. She prays they are safe.

In the Archdiocese of Przemyśl, Poland, two men set up cots for arriving refugees. Their parish has mobilized these volunteers to help set up shelters and distribute food, but the men are concerned the flow of incoming women and children could soon overwhelm

them. Still, they work on, relying on God and the Church to make their mission of mercy successful.

“It is painful to see the fear and suffering in the eyes of the refugees fleeing Ukraine, but we should not shrink back from those images because they are a call to action — a call from God. He wants us to manifest His love for these families and to help them in their hour

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**“This war has shown us the face of human tragedy.”**

Jim Cavnar,  
Cross Catholic Outreach

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of need,” said Jim Cavnar, president of Cross Catholic Outreach, one of the respected Catholic ministries helping families displaced by the war. (See the



© The Yomiuri Shimbun via AP Images

related story on the opposite page.)

The stories Cavnar relates about the needs in Ukraine and Eastern Europe are heartbreaking, but there are success stories too. These demonstrate the power of compassion and underscore why it is so important American Catholics remain involved in relief efforts.

“In one case, we were asked to help *Caritas in Veritate*, a global confederation of Catholic institutions, obtain an ambulance to do triage work in the crumbling cities. With contributions from our donors we were able to help, and soon after the ambulance was put into action, we heard it had saved the life of a young girl who had been injured in the conflict. Her father had no way to get her to a hospital — and most of those were either damaged or overcrowded anyway — but the ambulance was able to reach her, stop the bleeding and take care of her wounds,” Cavnar said. “That was an answer to prayer. That was Catholic compassion in action.”

Even if the conflict in Ukraine ended today, Cavnar insists the Church and her

people would need to remain engaged and ready to serve.

“For now, we are focused on helping with medical needs and providing food and other necessities to the refugees fleeing Ukraine, but we know that the destruction the war caused to homes and livelihoods will create hardships for these people even after the conflict ends,” he said. “The Church will need to be a source of hope then too. This war has shown us the face of human tragedy, but it has also revealed the power of Catholic compassion.”

**Readers interested in supporting Cross Catholic’s outreaches to the poor can contribute through the ministry brochure inserted in this issue or send tax-deductible gifts to: Cross Catholic Outreach, Dept. AC02134, PO Box 97168, Washington, DC 20090-7168. The ministry has a special need for partners willing to make gifts on a monthly basis. Use the inserted brochure to become a Mission Partner or write “Monthly Mission Partner” on mailed checks to be contacted about setting up those arrangements.**



Displaced Ukrainians line up for supplies provided by Catholic ministries.

## Dedicated Catholics Make Major Impact on Poverty by Serving as ‘Mission Partners’

Consistency and reliability have long been recognized as important character traits in our society, and most of us raise our children to uphold those values, especially in the workplace. We do that because we know consistency and reliability produce stability and help us weather the unexpected storms in life.

The same is true when it comes to charity, according to Jim Cavnar, president of Cross Catholic Outreach. That is why his ministry cherishes its Mission Partners — donors

who have committed to monthly giving.

“Mission Partners represent the foundation of our ministry,” he said. “Their commitment to helping the poor on a monthly basis gives us a steady, reliable way to serve. Without them, the missions we support in the developing world would be unable to commit to long-term projects, and it would be much more difficult for us to respond to disaster situations. When we can depend on the support of Mission Partners, we

can move forward confidently and take on every challenge that’s put before us.”

Because monthly giving is so important to Cross Catholic Outreach’s work overseas, the ministry makes it as easy as possible for its donors to become Mission Partners. That option is included on appeals, on the charity’s website and in the brochures it distributes at Catholic parishes and in Catholic newspapers.

“Ultimately, we ask people to become Mission Partners because monthly giving

has a huge impact on the priests, religious sisters and Catholic lay leaders working in the trenches, fighting to end hunger and alleviate poverty,” Cavnar said. “When they face an unexpected crisis or a natural disaster strikes, the missions know they can come to us for help because our Mission Partners have provided the resources needed to overcome those immediate challenges. We can make decisions in a matter of hours and send help within days — and the poor are blessed as a result.”

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

# U.S. Catholics Offer Meaningful Support to Refugees Fleeing Devastating War in Ukraine

The images flashing across our television screens shocked young and old. For many, they evoked memories of photographs taken during World War II and stories told by parents and grandparents about the cities destroyed by advancing German tanks and bombers. Younger people, who may have fewer connections to the previous war in Europe, also found the broadcasts disturbing. Most were stunned to see modern office buildings and factories collapse before their eyes as frightened survivors fled missile and artillery barrages.

“All of us — young and old — were grieved by the destruction and suffering we saw, but importantly, our next reaction was compassion. We wanted to do something to help the people of Ukraine, especially the thousands of wounded and fearful families who were frantically seeking refuge from the violence,” explained Jim Cavnar, president of Cross Catholic Outreach.

As an official Catholic charity with a long history of providing disaster relief, Cross Catholic Outreach was able to quickly develop a plan to help Ukrainian refugees by providing medical aid and other resources through three key partners close to the action — Cardinal Konrad Krajewski of the Vatican’s Dicastery for the Service of Charity; *Caritas in Veritate*; and the Archdiocese of Przemyśl, Poland, which is located near the Ukrainian border.

“Each of these partners is directly involved in relief efforts, either in Ukraine or in neighboring countries accepting refugees,” Cavnar explained. “Thanks to contributions we’ve received from our U.S. Catholic donors, we have been able to help in a variety of ways. For example, we helped Cardinal Krajewski secure ambulances so emergency medical services could be brought directly to areas with urgent needs. We also helped fund generators, clothing and food for families still in Ukraine and those who had fled the country.”

In the case of *Caritas in Veritate*, Cross Catholic Outreach supported internally displaced children and families in the Ukrainian communities of Lutsk, Struga and Nowa Uszyca with much-needed food, water and spiritual support. Its work with the Archdiocese of Przemyśl focused on the care and resettlement of Ukrainian refugees, specifically helping with food, temporary shelters and trauma therapy.



Missile and artillery damage has made homes in Ukraine unsafe, so families have had to flee to other areas or leave the country to find relief. Fortunately, the Catholic Church has been mobilized to provide urgently needed food and other resources.



While these efforts represented a shift in focus for Cross Catholic Outreach, which is best known for its ministry work in other parts of the world, Cavnar felt compelled to become involved.

“The needs of war refugees weighed heavily on our hearts and on the hearts of our donors, even though they are usually focused on the work we do in Haiti, Guatemala, Kenya and other nations plagued by extreme poverty,” he explained. “This mission also fit perfectly with our traditional strategy for providing help overseas. We have always worked

through Catholic missions closest to the action, supplying them with the resources they need to serve more effectively,” Cavnar said. “Our expertise in identifying trusted Catholic partners and quickly mobilizing resources has been very useful to the ministries serving Ukrainian families in this great hour of need.”

Cavnar said that while he is proud of what Cross Catholic Outreach has achieved and is grateful to the many American Catholics who have helped fund the work being done, he hopes other troubled areas in the world will also remain on people’s hearts and minds in the months ahead.

“I think of Tigray, Ethiopia, where long-established Catholic missions are

also trying to help war survivors and where food shortages are causing serious problems with malnutrition. Then there are remote villages in Africa that, due to a recent drought, face a serious water crisis,” he said. “Cross Catholic Outreach has been able to remain involved in all of those areas, but it is only because faithful American Catholics have been so generous in supporting our work. As problems in the world escalate — and the war in Ukraine is certainly one of the most challenging trials — we will need to be even more openhearted and openhanded. The Church must remain a beacon of hope for families with no other place to turn for help, and we will all need to play our part in that mission of mercy.”

## How to Help

To fund Cross Catholic Outreach’s effort to help the poor worldwide, use the postage-paid brochure inserted in this newspaper, or mail your gift to Cross Catholic Outreach, Dept. AC02134, PO Box 97168, Washington, DC 20090-7168. The brochure also includes instructions on becoming a Mission Partner and making a regular monthly donation to this cause.

If you identify an aid project, 100% of the donation will be restricted to be used for that specific project. However, if more is raised for the project than needed, funds will be redirected to other urgent needs in the ministry.



## QUESTION CORNER

## Changing a child's godparents / Mass for an aborted child

By Father Kenneth Doyle  
Catholic News Service



*This column originally ran in 2013. Father Doyle is now retired.*

**Q. I was wondering whether you're allowed to change your child's godparents and, if so, how to go about it and have it be acceptable to the Church. The situation is this: When we chose our daughter's godparents, seven years ago, they were Catholic and went to church. But over the years, they stopped going to church, and I'm not even sure that they still consider themselves Catholic. My daughter will soon be receiving her First Holy Communion, and she has begun to ask questions about her godparents. I would like to be able to tell her that they are faithful religious people who are setting a good example for her, but I can't honestly say that. It's further complicated by the fact that my son's godparents are very strong Catholics, and my daughter wants to know why her own godparents are not like his. Any advice as to what I might do? (Gering, Neb.)**

A. You are not allowed to change your daughter's godparents. They are the ones who served as official witnesses to her baptism and the ones who, at the time, along with the parents, asked to have the child baptized into the Church. Their names are inscribed on your daughter's baptismal certificate and in the parish's baptismal registry, and history cannot be undone.

However, you understand correctly the proper role of godparents, which is to assure the religious and spiritual development of the child, particularly if anything should happen to the parents, and there are some options.

You could ask someone else to step into that role, perhaps a trusted friend or family member who might serve as an example of religious fidelity and help guide your daughter's growth as a Catholic.

Also, in a few years, your daughter will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, and although the Church's Code of Canon Law in No. 893.2 says that it is "desirable" to have the same sponsor as at Baptism, it is not required.

So you could pick someone else as the Confirmation sponsor. That new person would then become responsible for monitoring your daughter's religious development and, in many parishes, would attend Confirmation preparation classes with your daughter.

**Q. Many years ago, when I was in my 20s, a girl I was dating became pregnant by me. She then had an abortion. Not only did I not try to stop her, but I helped to pay for the abortion. I have confessed this and have received forgiveness. Just recently, I have begun praying for the soul of that aborted child. I was wondering whether I could schedule a Mass intention in my church for the child. (I could make up a generic name like "Jackie" since we didn't know the child's gender, and the Mass intention could be in that name.) I still feel guilty and would like to do as much as I can for that child's soul. (Columbia, S.C.)**

A. What you describe is not uncommon: Parents of an aborted child years later feel regret and remorse. As to having a Mass for the child, I feel quite confident that the child is in heaven and needs no prayers.

The child, of course, bore no responsibility for his or her own death, and the Vatican announced in 2007 that there are reason-

See FR. DOYLE, page 23

## Papal Audience September 28, 2022

Dear brothers and sisters:

In our continuing catechesis on discernment, the process of making sound decisions about the God-given meaning and direction of our lives, we now consider the importance of prayer. Praying is never a purely intellectual exercise; it also engages the heart and the emotions. Through prayer, we deepen our friendship with the Lord; we grow in trust as we realize that, in coming to understand and embrace his holy will, we find our true happiness. One of the great temptations in the spiritual life is the fear that fidelity to God's will can make us sad or unfulfilled. Prayer helps us to overcome such empty fears, and brings instead a deep spiritual joy, even in the midst of trials and tribulations. As the fruit of prayer, discernment makes us sensitive to God's "kindly light," illuminating our minds and warming our hearts. Drawing each day closer to the Lord, we come, by a certain "connaturality," to recognize more fully His will for our lives, and in that will to find our peace and our authentic fulfillment.

I greet the English-speaking pilgrims taking part in today's audience, especially those from Denmark, Ghana, the Philippines, Canada and the United States of America. I offer a cordial greeting to the numerous student groups present, and in particular the diaconate class of the Pontifical North American College and their families. Upon all of you I invoke the joy and peace of Christ our Lord. God bless you!



## Diocesan Ultreya for Cursillo, Oct. 6 in Columbia

**DATE: October 6  
TIME: 6:30 pm**

The Our Lady of Lourdes Men's Saturday morning Small-Group Reunion for Cursillo will host a diocesan Ultreya on Thursday, Oct. 6.

It will include a potluck dinner at 6:30 p.m., with drinks and table service provided, followed

by the Ultreya at 7 p.m. Fred Juettner will give the witness.

Both will be in Flanagan Hall of Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 903 Bernadette Dr. near Stadium Boulevard and I-70.

All Cursillistas in the diocese are invited.

Contact Marcia Doll at 573-999-5066 for information, or visit: [diojeffcity.org/cursillo](http://diojeffcity.org/cursillo).

## St. Vincent de Paul orientation, Moberly

**DATE: October 29  
TIME: 9 am**

The St. Pius X Parish conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society will hold a mem-

ber orientation from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 29, in St. Pius X Church, 209 S. Williams St.

"The orientation will cover all of the topics needed to give

new members to St. Vincent de Paul a feel for what and why the Society is, and generally how we are expected to approach this ministry," organizers stated.

## Proclaiming Christ's gift of Himself



This billboard testifying to the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist was recently installed near Fitzgibbon Hospital in Marshall.

## Being Catholic, being known

By Maureen Pratt  
Catholic News Service



A recent experience at a Catholic hospital made me realize how we cannot just assume our faith practices will be understood within an increasingly secular health care environment.

The situation was fairly straightforward: I wanted to see how a patient on a special diet might receive Holy Communion. I spoke with the hospital's speech therapist. The therapist told me it would be best to puree the host!

The therapist was not new to the hospital but seemed to be new to at least one of the Catholic sacraments. I tried to explain that the host could not be pureed and why, but my efforts were not effective (or, perhaps, accepted).

So, I called the hospital's pastoral care department and explained the situation. Fortunately, the Catholic chap-

lain understood the dilemma and set up a formal meeting with the therapists. The chaplain explained the sacrament, its requirements and discussed what might work in the specific instance that prompted the encounter.

Later, the chaplain told me that I had opened a conversation leading to a learning experience for all. Ultimately, everyone benefited.

The experience I describe made me more aware of a present and growing reality in our faith-based health care institutions: Pastoral care, even in a Catholic hospital, is increasingly disconnected from the medical care of patients.

Not all of the hard-working professionals who treat patients in a Catholic setting will be aware of what the faith practices of the patients (and, for that matter, the staff) are and how to see that the spiritual needs of those suffering are met.

It is not reasonable to expect all staff in a hospital to be chaplains, of course. However, knowledge of the role of spiritual care is sometimes not among the

priorities of scientifically trained personnel.

So, it is even more important for us to make our faith needs known and, if needed, avail ourselves of advocates who will navigate the sometimes deep divide between physical health care and spiritual care.

Beyond checking the box for religious affiliation, someone entering a health care facility (hospital, nursing home, rehab center) can and should ask for the number and name of the chaplain or pastoral care department serving the facility.

Often, the pastoral care staff receive basic information about those admitted to the facility, but the sooner a personal connection is forged, the better communication can unfold throughout the individual's stay.

If a Catholic has a religious object (a rosary, a prayer book, a Bible), these should be pointed out to staff. We understand that our precious, blessed items should be treated with care, but perhaps

not all around us have the same knowledge.

Alternatives to physical objects might be necessary, too. For example, certain situations might not allow for a metal rosary in a patient's bed, but a softer, crocheted rosary, a virtual rosary on an app such as Laudate or a televised rosary might be a substitute.

No matter the conscious state of the patient, prayer at the bedside or on a wider scale is a foundation of pastoral care. I have known of medical teams that pray before a patient's surgery or other procedure, but also of medical "professionals" who dismiss discussions of things spiritual because of their focus on "science."

In these and other situations, it is up to us to speak up, to make our faith and spiritual needs known (or our loved ones'). And in so doing, we can be part of the conversation that lessens the chasm between medicine and faith and creates more of an appreciation of how they can work together for everyone's benefit.

## Longing for a normal school year

By Katie Prejean McGrady  
Catholic News Service



The outer space themed backpack hung on the hook by the door. A new water bottle was tucked into the side pocket while an empty lunchbox sat open underneath, waiting for an icepack and

a Bentgo box to be set inside the next morning.

Little black Mary Janes with a freshly washed pair of white socks stuffed inside sat on the shoe bench and a plaid jumper with a Peter Pan collar oxford shirt and a blue cardigan were set out on the couch.

Nestled in bed slept Rose, our outgoing and amiable 5-year-old, heading to kindergarten the next day.

This wasn't her first day of school, and it certainly won't be her last. But it does seem to be the most normal of her first days, in what will hopefully be a remarkably normal school year, at least since 2019.

New school years bring with them loads of opportunities, a seemingly endless wealth of possibilities. We felt that in 2019, when we dropped her off at a little half day pre-K 2 program, which was cut short by COVID-19 lockdowns. We were hoping for it in 2020, a school year that for us didn't begin until November due to two major hurricanes wrecking our town.

Her pre-K 3 class moved to three different classrooms in six months. We

thought we had it in 2021, pre-K 4 starting with some masking and social distancing, but kept stopping due to exposures and quarantines.

And so, here we are in 2022, a fourth "first day" for our 5-year-old, launching into kindergarten with hopes, dreams and expectations of "normalcy" resting on her little outer space backpack laden shoulders.

But even as I sit here longing for the most normal, ordinary and usual of school years, I can't help but think that I have no idea what one of those looks like, and to be honest, neither does Rose.

We know nothing but having to adapt to all being at home together, attempting to continue our learning with Scholastic workbooks hastily bought from the grocery store and too many episodes of "Bluey" playing in the background. We are used to last minute hurricane evacuations and months of repairing homes, shingles being nailed into roofs the soundtrack of our weekends.

We have learned how to handle five days home here and 10 days home there, the COVID-19 testing kits lined neatly up in the medicine cabinet, with a bag of M&M's ready to go, the treat for after the uncomfortable nose swab.

We've adapted, and that's become our new normal.

And in that adaptation, in that figuring out what to do to manage the chaos and survive in the mess, we've discovered that grace abounds all the more.

The Lord shows up in the most nor-

### REFLECTION

## What you did not do

By Mark Saucier

Years ago, a friend gave me a copy of a lithograph of St. Lazarus — the one held in the bosom of Abraham, not the Lazarus awakened by Jesus from a four-day death nap.

There's a church in the background. In the story of the rich man and Lazarus, Jesus doesn't tell us if Lazarus was a church-goer, but if he was, he didn't attend what looks like a medieval Italian parish.

The tall, gray-haired, and fair-skinned Lazarus looks more like a haloed Scandinavian senior than a Mediterranean mendicant.

He has tattered clothes, walks with a crutch and carries a bell like a leper to warn of his presence. He's the patron of lepers, but the story never says he has leprosy, only sores.

Why do I even hang on to that picture? Well, it reminds me of my favorite parable and the one that may have been Jesus's favorite, too. After all, Lazarus is the only character in all the parables to whom Jesus gives a name.

The rich man, with his vast estates, expensive linen and purple robes, is nameless and begging for a taste of water.

While suffering in the afterlife, there is no backstory of murder, extortion, tax cheating, or wife beating. All we know is that he ignored poor Lazarus lying "at his door."

That location of Lazarus implies that the rich man intentionally turned a blind eye to Lazarus. He would have had to step over him just to get out of his house.

And then there is Lazarus himself. Again, there is no personal history. We don't know whether his poverty was something he was born into or something he fell into after some traumatic event.

We don't know if he was a good person, virtuous and righteous, rather than shiftless and lazy.

All we know is that he was poor. All we know is that dogs licking his sores was more comfort than the rich man offered him.

In this skeletal structure, Jesus allows no grounds for the defense of the rich man and no opportunity for judgement of the poor man. He ties our hands and restrains our jerking knees so that there is only one conclusion: you must serve the poor.

And that name Jesus used? In Hebrew, Lazarus is "Eliezer" which means "God helps" — in this world and the next.

As the rich man learned too late, a lack of that help in this world is on us.

See MCGRADY, page 23

# Newman Center speaker explores social justice, Catholic identity

By Jay Nies

Pope Francis is prone to speeding up the tempo of the metered prose known as Catholic social teaching.

He refers to those who put that teaching into practice with their work and action as “social action poets.”

“You are social poets, because you have the ability and the courage to create hope where there appears to be only waste and exclusion,” the pope said last October at a gathering of Catholics committed to putting their faith into practice.

“Poetry means creativity, and you create hope,” he said. “With your hands you know how to shape the dignity of each person, of families and of society as a whole, with land, housing, work, care and community.”

Marie Kenyon, director of the Office of Peace and Justice of the St. Louis archdiocese, used the pope’s metaphor as a springboard into an explanation of Catholic social teaching Sept. 15 in the St. Thomas More Newman Center Chapel in Columbia.

Her topic was: “Forming ‘Social Poets’ in Your Parish: Living Catholic Social Teaching in Meter and Meaning.”

“The main reason we do these things is because we are Catholic,” she stated. “We do it because Jesus made it very clear that it’s what He expects us to do.”

“Matthew 25 scares the heck out of me,” said Ms. Kenyon, referring to Jesus’s warning that the Last Judgement will be based on what people did and did not do for the least among them.

She noted that conversations about Catholics’ incumbent obligations to the poor and marginalized are difficult and uncomfortable.

“People want to come to church and hear, ‘Baby Jesus wants to love you,’ not, ‘Adult Jesus has requirements of you,’” she said.

## “Follow Me”

Ms. Kenyon was the inaugural speaker for the Martha Trauth Social Justice Education Endowment’s annual speaker series on Catholic social teaching.

The seed money for the en-

dowment is a gift from the family on behalf of their beloved mother and St. Thomas More Newman Center parishioner Martha Trauth, who died in 2020 at age 103.

Catholic social teaching refers to the body of Church instruction, including Sacred Scripture, the natural law and centuries of insights from learned people, focused on applying God’s revelation to everyday life and modern reality.

As St. Thomas More Newman Center parishioner Ruth O’Neill stated in her introductory remarks: “When Jesus said, ‘Follow Me,’ He was saying, ‘Do what I do while you’re following Me.’”

Father Daniel Merz, pastor of St. Thomas More Newman Center Parish, opened the discussion with a prayer:

“We thank You for this great gift, this great teaching. We know that You are a God of justice. ... Open our minds and warm our hearts so that the teaching that You have given may be diffused a little more clearly and beautifully and strongly in our lives, in our parish and in our Church.”

## “Who we are”

Ms. Kenyon served in the Peace Corps before studying law and completing a juris doctorate at the Saint Louis University School of Law in St. Louis.

She served as founding attorney for the Catholic Legal Assistance Ministry in St. Louis until 2015, when Archbishop Robert J. Carlson, now retired, appointed her to lead the archdiocese’s newly-reconvened Peace and Justice Commission.

The commission later became an archdiocesan office, along with the Office of Racial Harmony.

The purpose for both is to help parishes find useful ways to apply Church teaching to the challenges facing society, especially families and people who are routinely forgotten.

“So the question that I’m here to talk about tonight is: ‘Why is social justice so important? Why do we as Catholics, need to be involved in this?’” she said.



Marie Kenyon, director of the Office of Peace and Justice of the St. Louis archdiocese, gives a presentation on Catholic social teaching as the inaugural speaker for the Martha Trauth Social Justice Education Endowment’s annual speaker series on Sept. 15 in the St. Thomas More Newman Center Chapel in Columbia.

Her answer: “It’s who we are. It defines who we are as Catholics.”

She cited Jesus’s parable of the rich man and the leper at his door (Luke 16:19-31).

Jesus speaks of a rich man living in luxury while Lazarus, a beggar with leprosy living outside the rich man’s home, is starving and longs to eat the scraps from the rich man’s table.

When both men die, the beggar is taken up into the bosom of Abraham, and the rich man is banished to the fiery netherworld, where he carries on a conversation with Abraham across an impassable void.

“What upsets Abraham the most is, the rich man knew who Lazarus was,” said Ms. Kenyon. “He knew him by name. He recognized him at his door. And he ignored him.”

“My take on this is this: We are not allowed to ignore the poor and call ourselves Catholics,” she stated.

“And that applies to everybody on the margins — people who are being discriminated against, those who are incarcer-

ated, people who we have just forgotten about.”

## “A thorn in my heart”

Ms. Kenyon noted that Pope Francis has been making this abundantly clear since accepting the papacy nine years ago.

“He’s had more of an impact on the Church’s social mission than any other modern pope,” she stated, “beginning with his first pastoral visit.”

That visit was to an island called Lampedusa, located off the coast of Sicily and about 70 miles off the coast of North Africa.

“It’s the doorway to Europe,” said Ms. Kenyon. “Anyone trying to leave North Africa gets in one of these little boats and goes to Lampedusa.”

Shortly before Pope Francis’s papacy began, about 200 people were attempting to cross that stretch in a rickety boat that got shipwrecked.

All but eight people drowned. They clawed onto a net from a nearby fishing boat, hoping the fishermen would reel them in and take them to

the shore.

The fishermen cut the nets, and all eight of the migrants drowned.

“He said, ‘It’s a thorn in my heart’ when he saw the pictures of their lifeless bodies washing up onto the shore,” said Ms. Kenyon.

The pope has not stopped challenging indifference to human suffering, whether by visiting the barrios of Rio de Janeiro in his homeland or offering Mass in a Philadelphia prison during his first visit to the United States.

“And when he got the chance to talk to (the U.S.) Congress, what did he talk about? He talked about the death penalty, racism, immigration,” she said.

In doing so, Pope Francis is drawing upon and building on the teachings proclaimed by patriarchs, prophets, apostles, Church fathers, saints, mystics, his papal predecessors and Jesus Christ Himself.

“So when we talk about Catholic social teaching,” said Ms. Kenyon, “it really comes down to how we treat each other, and what we take from Scripture and doctrine and apply them to the issues of modern life.”

## “In God’s likeness”

Ms. Kenyon spoke of the Seven Principles of Catholic Social Teaching as articulated by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

They are: the Life and Dignity of the Human Person; the Call to Family, Community and Participation; Rights and Responsibilities; the Option for the Poor and Vulnerable; the Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers; Solidarity; and Care for God’s Creation.

“The dignity of the human person is the foundation for how we view the world,” she said. “Why? Because we’re all made in the image and likeness of God.”

So the Church takes clear positions on such issues as abortion, euthanasia and capital punishment.

Pope Francis takes that teaching to its next logical step, addressing the consequences of

See SOCIAL JUSTICE, page 19

# Hispanic Heritage Month: Interviews give insight into joys, challenges for Hispanic Catholics here

By Jay Nies

In observance of Hispanic Heritage Month, which is observed in the United States from Sept. 15 through Oct. 15 each year, *The Catholic Missourian* is conducting interviews to shed light on the experience of being Hispanic, Catholic and American.

“Hispanic” generally refers to people who came from Central or South America or the Caribbean, or whose ancestors did so, and who speak Spanish as a first or main language.

Their collective heritage spans numerous nationalities, cultures, dialects and places of origin, encompassing roughly two-thirds of the Western Hemisphere.

Here are synopses of two of the interviews:

## Out of the many

Erick Chinchilla, 29, has always felt right at home in Milan in northeastern Missouri, where he moved with his parents as a child.

He remembers little about life in Honduras, where he was born.

He does not recall the transformation of St. Mary Parish in Milan from a small rural parish made up mostly of descendants of its Irish founders, into a multiethnic community after the opening of a large food-processing plant nearby.

“In Milan, both sides have united, and that has been very special,” said Mr. Chinchilla. “To me, it’s one! There really is no distinction. To me, it’s just Catholicism. That’s one of the things I find really beautiful.”

Within that unity is a mixture of cultures.

“Whenever we have a picnic, you have people bringing food from different countries,” he said, pointing to the diversity of nationalities and cultures that are known as “Hispanic.”

“Hispanic culture is such a big umbrella,” he said. “That’s the beauty of it.”

Mr. Chinchilla is working as an intern with the Jefferson City diocese’s Office of Faith Formation, through the University of Notre Dame.

His father, Deacon Jeronimo Chinchilla, assists the pastor of St. Mary Parish in Mi-

lan.

Mr. Chinchilla talked about how Catholics have been baptizing cultures all over the world ever since Jesus said, “Go forth and make disciples of all nations.”

“The Catholic Church is always incorporating what’s good about any culture,” said Mr. Chinchilla.

This, he noted, has strengthened the Church while benefitting millions of Hispanic people all over the Western Hemisphere.

“The truth is, the Church gave us a lot,” he said. “And here in the United States, Hispanic culture can help bring back the idea of communal, family-oriented values that have been cherished from the beginning but now seem to be disappearing here.”

At the same time, Hispanic Catholics in this country have access to robust teaching and catechesis that appeal to the mind as much as the heart.

“From what I’ve seen, many Hispanic adults here benefit from developing a more mature understanding of their faith,” said Mr. Chinchilla.

He finds it interesting that as long as he can remember, St. Mary Parish has been evenly Anglo and Hispanic.

“Pretty much half-and-half,” he said. “But now, you’re seeing a large influx of people from (the Democratic Republic of) Congo in Africa. So now, it’s getting to be one-third, one-third, one-third.”

“And isn’t that beautiful!” he said. “I hope we can minister to them, as well. It’s essential for us to help them keep their faith. That’s hopefully something we as Hispanics have learned from our own experience.”

He noted how many children of Hispanic immigrants in this country have not studied Spanish and now speak it

as a second language, while their parents often speak it as a first language.

“I would say that if I’m blessed with children, I would love to have them be able to speak English and Spanish,” he said. “For me, being able to speak and understand Spanish

was growing up, his parents were filled with faith but were not equipped to answer some of the serious questions and doubts that he eventually brought to them.

“It’s not that they didn’t want to answer my questions,” he said. “But they could not

throughout the Church, “for us becoming one, just as Jesus and the Father are One.”

“A unity that doesn’t erase our identities but celebrates them,” he added.

## “I am going”

Alma Sandoval was driving from Marshall to Kansas City in a snowstorm for an appointment regarding her immigration status.

“If I missed this meeting, I could lose my employment status, my job, everything I’ve

worked for,” she recalled.

She plodded apprehensively through falling snow and the slushy slop on Highway 65 while 18-wheelers flew by.

“There was a lot of fear and apprehension at that point,” she recalled. “I was driving like a turtle.”

Then she remembered the prayer her mother would pray in Spanish whenever leaving home: “In the name of God, All Powerful, may we get to our destination well and return well.”

“It was a lightbulb moment,” Ms. Sandoval recalled. “I felt covered in warmth. I felt like she was there with me. I

has opened so many doors.”

But that’s not what’s most important to him.

“The thing that is so wonderful about these Hispanic countries is that their faith is such a big part of their culture,” he said. “Our culture really is founded on our faith. It’s that simple.”

“If that is ever lost, it would be truly upsetting,” he said.

That’s another place where he sees Anglo and Hispanic cultures benefitting from each other.

“In many Latin American countries, people are often Catholic out of culture, out of tradition,” he said. “But many of the people who are Catholic here in the U.S. are Catholic out of conviction.”

“The people who have chosen to remain Catholic here have done so because they recognize the veracity of Catholicism,” he stated.

Mr. Chinchilla sees an opportunity to help Hispanic Catholics hold onto and grow more deeply in their faith, by giving parents more learning opportunities.

“They’re the ones who take the children to church, who are teaching the faith to the kids, who are answering their kids’ questions when they come up,” he said.

He recalled that while he

give answers that they had not first been given.”

“We can’t just depend on, ‘Of course, my children are going to be Catholic,’ anymore,” he asserted. “We know there are many other options for them — including the option to decide to have no faith at all.”

Mr. Chinchilla is convinced that no one would leave the Catholic Church if they really understood the truth that it upholds with its teaching.

“We have it all!” he said. “We have the truth. We have Jesus! Who would rationally give that up?”

During Hispanic Heritage Month, Mr. Chinchilla suggests praying for greater unity



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## ‘Please pray for us,’ Cuban writes on diocesan Facebook post after Ian

By Rhina Guidos  
Catholic News Service  
Washington, D.C.

Hurricane Ian made landfall Sept. 27 in Cuba’s western region of Pinar del Rio, with sustained winds of 125 mph that took down the entire island’s electric grid.

The Diocese of Pinar del Rio posted on Facebook photos of hurricane damage to its cathedral and four other churches.

“We are still without electricity and have a bad (internet) connection. The damage has been horrible in both churches and houses. It was a long and intense night and morning. Please pray for us,” someone wrote in the Facebook post.

Cuban authorities so far have reported two deaths and said some electricity has been restored, mostly in the capital, Havana, but that it would take a while for the island to return to normal.

Telepinar, Pinar del Rio’s regional TV station, posted



Debris covers a street as Hurricane Ian passes through Pinar del Rio, Cuba, Sept. 27. The entire island of Cuba is without power, following the destructive winds and flooding left in the wake of Hurricane Ian. Preliminary reports point to major damage in Pinar del Rio.

— CNS photo/Alexandre Meneghini, Reuters

on social media photos of collapsed walls, flooding, trees and debris left in the hurricane’s wake.

Pinar del Rio diocese showed damage to the exterior to its San Rosendo Cathedral, as well as of broken stained-glass windows and other structures at Consolación, La Palma, Viñales and San Cristóbal churches.

Cuban President Miguel Díaz-Canel toured Pinar del Rio, an area known for its tobacco industry, and said it was too early to tell the full extent

of the damage, but the governments of Mexico and Venezuela said they would help, and he thanked them for their “solidarity in the most difficult times.”

Media website *14ymedio.com* reported that 5,000 “tobacco houses” were damaged and said there was untold destruction of crops in the area.

Major city centers such as Santiago de Cuba, close to the island’s iconic Shrine of Our Lady of Charity of El Cobre, remained without power as Hurricane Ian headed toward Florida Sept. 28.

## Pope calls for increased assistance to those hit by Hurricane Fiona

By Carol Glatz  
Catholic News Service

Vatican City

As Hurricane Fiona swept across the Caribbean, leaving behind numerous victims and material destruction, Pope Francis called for greater solidarity in assisting all those affected.

In separate telegrams sent to the presidents of the bishops’ conferences of Puerto Rico and of the Dominican Republic Sept. 21, the pope assured them of his prayers, asking that God would offer his consolation to those suffering as a result of the natural disaster.

The telegrams, written on behalf of the pope and signed by Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican Secretary of State, were sent to Bishop Rubén Antonio González Medina of Ponce, Puerto Rico, and Archbishop Freddy Antonio de Jesús Bretón Martínez of Santiago de Los Caballeros, Dominican Republic, the presidents of the conferences.

The pope was “deeply distressed to learn of the natural

disasters that have struck” both countries due to Hurricane Fiona, the telegrams said.

The hurricane touched down in Puerto Rico Sept. 18, causing massive flooding, wind damage, power outages and the shutdown of water service across a large part of the island, affecting millions of residents and leaving at least two people dead, officials said.

The hurricane caused worse damage in the Dominican Republic as it picked up strength moving north, triggering mudslides and destroying hundreds of homes. At least two people were killed — one by a utility pole, another by a tree, which were toppled by gusting winds.

In the papal telegram, the pope asked that all Christians and people of goodwill increase their efforts of “solidarity to help those affected by this calamity and therefore show that fraternal closeness to which we are all called.”

The hurricane hit Turks and Caicos Sept. 20, and gusts were recorded as high as 155 miles an hour Sept. 21 as it headed toward Bermuda.



## ‘Heart-breaking’: Irish priest says Pakistan flooding still critical

By Sarah MacDonald  
Catholic News Service

Dublin

An Irish missionary priest in Pakistan said the “sheer scale” of the flooding disaster is “hard to comprehend” and “the misery of people, camped on the side of the road with their meager belongings, is heart-breaking to see.”

Columban Father Liam O’Callaghan told Catholic News Service (CNS) there was “an urgent need for relief aid,” and he appealed to Catholics worldwide to respond.

“The reality is shocking. The infrastructure — like roads, bridges, rail lines, schools, health centers — is so damaged. Where do you start? It will take years to repair,” he said via Zoom from the Columban-run parish of St. Thomas the Apostle in Badin, a rural city in the Diocese of Hyderabad in Sindh province.

The Pakistani government has de-

clared a national emergency. More than 1,100 people died and many more were injured in the flooding caused by this year’s significantly heavier monsoon rains, which deluged the South Asian country over a two-month period. More than 220,000 houses were destroyed and another 500,000 were damaged.

Aid agencies are finding it difficult to get into the areas where relief is most needed due to the damage caused to hundreds of bridges and thousands of miles of road. The economic losses are estimated to be over \$10 billion.

Fr. O’Callaghan, who has been working in Pakistan since 1998, said that while the whole country has been suffering, Sindh and Balochistan provinces, in the south and southwest, have been the worst-affected by the floods.

The country experienced nearly 190% more rain than the 30-year aver-

age in this year’s monsoon season, with Sindh province getting 466% more rain than the average.

“There has been six months of extreme weather and climate chaos, a cocktail starting with the heat wave in March and April. March was one of the hottest on record, with 60% less rainfall. That was followed by heavier monsoon rains, and the glacier melts in the north filled the rivers,” Fr. O’Callaghan explained.

“In Sindh province, where the Columbans work, the situation is still critical. The majority of the province is under water at the moment. The sheer scale is hard to comprehend. In places it is like looking out on a lake as far as the eye can see,” he said in late September.

The area along the flood plain of the Indus River was badly affected. “About 2 million acres of cultivated crops have been wiped out, and many hundreds of thou-

sands of livestock have been lost. This will lead to food shortages and food inflation over the coming months,” the priest said.

He added that he is worried about the impact of the coming winter and the challenge of waterborne diseases linked to the lack of sanitation and clean drinking water. Cholera, malaria and dengue fever are likely to thrive in stagnant flood waters.

In Badin and Khipro, where the Columbans work, many parishioners have been affected. The missionaries have been helping to distribute food rations, tents, mosquito nets, and medical aid to the most vulnerable families.

Christians are a small minority in Sindh and Balochistan provinces and tend to be poor tenant farmers.

“Their lives were already fragile, and the flooding has made it even worse,” Fr. O’Callaghan said.

## Death penalty encourages revenge, not justice, pope says

By Junno Arocho Esteves  
Catholic News Service

Vatican City

The death penalty is an affront to human dignity that offers no solace to victims and denies the possibility for conversion of those who commit serious crimes, Pope Francis said.

The growing calls around the world for an end to capital punishment are “a sign of hope” for the Church, the pope said in a video message released by the Pope’s Worldwide Prayer Network Aug. 31.

“Capital punishment offers no justice to victims, but rather encourages revenge. And it prevents any possibility of undoing a possible miscarriage of justice,” he said.

“From a legal point of view, it is not necessary,” the pope added.

At the start of each month, the network posts a short video of the pope offering his specific prayer intention. For the month of September, the pope dedicated his prayer intention for the

abolition of the death penalty.

In his video message, the pope said the death penalty was unnecessary because society “can effectively repress crime” without denying those who offend “the possibility of redeeming themselves.”

The death penalty, he said, is “morally inadmissible” because it destroys life, which is “the most important gift we have received.”

“Let us not forget that, up to the very last moment, a person can convert and change,” the pope said. “The commandment, ‘Thou shalt not kill,’ refers to both the innocent and the guilty.”

Concluding his prayer intention, Pope Francis called on “all people of goodwill” to rally together to end capital punishment and prayed that “the death penalty, which attacks the dignity of the human person, may be legally abolished in every country.”

In 2018, Pope Francis or-

dered a revision of the catechism’s paragraph on capital punishment to say that “the

death penalty is inadmissible because it is an attack on the inviolability and dignity of the

person” and to commit the Church to working toward its abolition worldwide.

## Catholic Mobilizing Network ushers in Respect Life Month with Novena to End the Death Penalty

Echoes Pope Francis’s  
September prayer intention

Organizations and advocates across the globe celebrate World Day Against the Death Penalty on Oct. 10.

Catholic Mobilizing Network (CMN) — the national Catholic organization working to end the death penalty and promote restorative justice — approaches this worldwide celebration in a unique way: through the powerful lens of prayer.

World Day Against the Death Penalty is situated providentially in the midst of Respect Life Month, a U.S.-based dedication to efforts that uplift the dignity of human life.

This year, CMN invites Catholics to bridge these two powerful celebrations of life by joining in a Novena to End the Death Penalty from Oct. 1-9, to pray for all of those who are affected by capital pun-

ishment, in fervent hope that this death-dealing practice will soon be no more.

This dual commemoration of Respect Life Month and the World Day Against the Death Penalty follows a month of prayer dedicated for the global abolition of the death penalty, which was initiated by Pope Francis in his September prayer intention:

“Let us pray that the death penalty, which attacks the dignity of the human person, may be legally abolished in every country.”

Capital punishment is an often-overlooked “life issue” for Catholics, but it remains a direct threat to human dignity.

This October is an important moment to answer the invitation to action, and to carry our death penalty abolition prayers into Respect Life

Month.

This year on Oct. 10, the Catholic Mobilizing Network will celebrate World Day Against the Death Penalty with Justice Reimagined Awards & Celebration, hosted at the Apostolic Nunciature of the Holy See in Washington, D.C.

For an extensive collection of resources on this topic, visit: [catholicmobilizing.org/mobilize-mercy-toolkit](http://catholicmobilizing.org/mobilize-mercy-toolkit)

## Putin’s nuclear threat ‘repugnant,’ says Vatican secretary of state

Catholic News Service  
New York

Russian President Vladimir Putin’s warnings that he would consider using nuclear weapons is a “repugnant threat” that shows the urgency of moving to eliminate nuclear weapons from arsenals around the world, said Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state.

Putin’s threat “illustrates just how close the world has come to the abyss of nuclear war. This looming threat, with devastating implications for all humanity, demonstrates that ‘nuclear weapons are a costly and dangerous liability,’ which undermines international security,” the cardinal said Sept. 26 at the U.N. high-level meeting to commemorate the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons.

In a speech Sept. 21, Putin said, “I want to remind you that our country also has various means of destruction ... and when the territorial integrity of our country is threatened, to protect Russia and our people, we will certainly use all the means at our disposal.”

“It’s not a bluff,” he said during his televised

address, according to the Associated Press.

Noting Pope Francis’ insistence that “the ultimate goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons becomes both a challenge and a moral and humanitarian imperative,” Cardinal Parolin told his U.N. audience that nations possessing nuclear weapons seem to be “increasing their reliance on nuclear deterrence” rather than moving toward disarmament.

And, on an international stage, the cardinal said, little progress is being made to encourage more countries to sign commitments under the terms of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

“Achieving the total elimination of nuclear weapons requires a response that is ‘collective and concerted, based on mutual trust’ and considers the catastrophic humanitarian and environmental consequences of nuclear use,” the cardinal said, quoting Pope Francis.

“As long as nuclear weapons exist,” he added, “we cannot rule out the possibility of their use, which threatens ‘any possible future for our common home’ as well as humankind’s very existence.”

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## Cathedral Parish mission, Oct. 9-10

Internationally-renowned Catholic speaker and author Jon Leonetti will lead a parish mission for Cathedral of St.

Joseph Parish in Jefferson City on Sunday and Monday, Oct. 9 and 10.

Sessions will be held from 6:30 to 8 p.m. both evenings in the St. Joseph Cathedral School Gym, 2315 Main St.

The theme will be: "Surge of The Heart — A Parish Mission."

All are invited and welcome to attend either or both sessions.

Mr. Leonetti will take participants on a deep-dive into the truth and beauty of Catholicism.

The sessions are "designed to create meaningful momentum in your parish for Jesus Christ and His Catholic Church," organizers stated. "Surge of the Heart is a parish mission where you will laugh, grow, be inspired and never forget!"



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**DIOCESE OF Jefferson City**

# Padre Pio showed the world that 'God is real,' Cdl. O'Malley says

By Junno Arocho Esteves  
Catholic News Service

Vatican City

St. Pio of Pietrelcina did not boast of his fame or holiness but instead showed that God "chooses the weak to confuse the strong," said Cardinal Seán P. O'Malley of Boston.

"Today, we stand before this great saint and we thank him for showing the world that God is real and that the only true success in life is holiness," Cardinal O'Malley said Sept. 23 during a Mass at the Shrine of St. Pio of Pietrelcina in San Giovanni Rotondo, Italy.

The Mass on the saint's feast day also was part of the shrine's celebrations of the 20th anniversary of his canonization.

In a tweet published Sept. 23 on his official Twitter account, Pope Francis said St. Pio's life was an example that "charity inspired by faith has the power to disarm the forces of evil."

"Saint #PadrePio of Pietrelcina fought evil throughout his life: with humility, with obedience, and with the Cross, offering up suffering for love," the tweet said.

While at the shrine in southern Italy, Cardinal O'Malley also blessed three sculptures of Padre Pio designed and sculpted by Canadian artist Timothy Schmalz. The sculptures were donated to the Padre Pio Foundation of America and to the Shrine of St. Pio of Pietrelcina.

In his homily, the cardinal reflected on the humble example of the "saints next door" who in small ways give witness to God's love in their ordinary lives.

At times, however, "God takes 'the saint next door' and shines a spotlight on that individual so that his life and testimony become a window, a portal, through which people can have a glimpse of God's presence, to discover God hidden in plain sight," he said.

"Padre Pio was a man who did not boast of his wisdom, nor of his strength, nor of his riches. Like St. Paul, his boast was in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, and like the Poor One (St. Francis), Padre Pio became a living crucifix," said the cardinal, a Capuchin friar like Padre Pio.

Recalling the suffering endured by the saintly friar due to "the burden of the stigmata,"

Cardinal O'Malley said Padre Pio's example of bearing pain with "love and patience" can help Christians see that holiness "brings light and peace to a world of darkness and chaos."



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1:00PM Garland of Roses (Rosary) | 2:00PM Sunday Mass in the Shrine

Light Refreshments to follow!

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St. Anthony, Mo.

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*With mashed potatoes & gravy, kraut & potatoes, green beans, sweet potatoes, coleslaw, applesauce & pie*

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OCTOBER 16

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Sunday, October 9

Drive-Thru & Carry-Out  
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Fresh Whole Hog Sausage & Fried Chicken Dinner

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Served from 11 am to 5 pm - \$15 per plate

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Ice Cream - Refreshments - Kettle Corn - Country Store - Prizes

Annual St. George Parish

## FALL Festival

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Sunday, October 2

Serving from 11 am to 6 pm

Dessert Auction — 4 pm  
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Sandwich Stand • Country Store • Games • Prizes • Refreshments

## Aux. Bishop Rodriguez offers Mass in Denver cathedral on 104th anniversary of Servant of God Julia Greeley's death

Auxiliary Bishop Jorge Rodriguez of Denver offered Mass in that city's Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception June 6, the 104th anniversary of the death of Servant of God Julia Greeley, a Missouri native who came to be known as Denver's Angel of Charity.

Instead of praying the Votive Mass of the Sacred Heart as on previous anniversaries, Bishop Rodriguez used the Mass for that day's feastday, Mary, Mother of the Church, and he skillfully wove Julia Greeley into his homily as a model of Mary-like adoptive motherhood of countless children to whom she ministered.

About 25 members of the Julia Greeley Guild sat as a group on the left side of the transept, many wearing their Greeley stoles or Sacred Heart red clothing; and after the Mass they had an informal gathering near Julia's sar-

cophagus.

The guild (*juliagreeley.org*), an organization committed to sharing Servant of God Julia's story and praying for her to be declared a saint.

Miss Greeley, born into an enslaved family near Hannibal before the Civil War, is one of six African American Catholics currently under formal consideration for being declared a saint.

One of the others is Venerable Father Augustus Tolton, the Roman Catholic Church's first recognizably Black priest in the United States, who was also born in part of what is now the Jefferson City diocese.

Compassionate and deeply spiritual, Miss Greeley was known even in her lifetime as an Angel of Charity.

Her self-effacing kindness, missionary zeal and devotion



Members of the Julia Greeley Guild gather at the resting place of Servant of God Julia Greeley in the Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Denver after Mass on June 6, the day before the 104th anniversary of "Beloved Julia Greeley's" death.

— Photo from the *Lil' Red Wagon*, newsletter of the Julia Greeley Guild

to the Sacred Heart of Jesus emblazoned her memory onto the minds of people who encountered her in Colorado, where she spent most of her adult life.

She was blind in one eye due to the harsh treatment she had received as a slave. Her body bore the ravages of excessive, menial work.

She never earned much money as a housekeeper, even to a governor of Colorado and his family.

But as a Catholic convert and professed member of the Secular Order of St. Francis, she held nothing back in helping people who were worse off than she was.

When she ran out of her own money to give away, she begged for more.

She worked in darkness and secret, in deference to the dignity of the people she was helping.

She also visited firehouses and gave away tracts promoting devotion to Jesus's Most Sacred Heart, to which she was deeply devoted.

Her earthly remains now await the Resurrection in a place of honor in Denver's soaring gothic Catholic cathedral.

The Denver archdiocese opened a sainthood cause for her in 2017.

### Aspects of motherhood

In his homily for the June

6 Mass, Bishop Rodriguez pointed out that emancipation from slavery did not mean the end of a life of servitude and poverty for Miss Greeley.

"God 'writes straight on crooked lines,' and this event meant for Julia the beginning of a journey to the loving Heart of Jesus and to the Catholic Church," the bishop stated.

He drew parallels between Miss Greeley and the Blessed Mother, whom Jesus presented to the Church as mother from the cross.

Since the moment when Jesus said to St. John, "Behold your mother," "Mary became the mother of all the Church's children," Bishop Rodriguez noted. "And she has shown to be a mother for all, a mother of all peoples, races and human conditions."

He pointed to how a mother is "always open to receiving all her children, understanding them, forgiving them, serving them when they come back from a long journey; the one who is able to continue loving even if her child doesn't fit the expectations people have on them."

Furthermore, the bishop noted, a mother "is the one with a heart big enough to love each child in a unique way without making distinctions, between a smart and a less smart one, a healthy

one or one who is sick ... a mother is the one who is able to spend entire nights at the bedside of her sick child. One who doesn't judge her child but tries to understand why."

The bishop pointed to various apparitions of the Blessed Mother throughout history, in which she appeared with the features of the people who were seeing her.

"She took the features of her children because she wanted all of them to see a mother in her," said Bishop Rodriguez. "All Catholics must know and experience that they have a mother in the Church and a mother in Mary. This is what we celebrate today liturgically, and we live in our daily lives."

The Church, he emphasized, is also called to be seen as a mother to people throughout the world.

"Under the loving mantle of Mary there is no room for racism, division, discrimination, or inequality," he stated. "Under the protective and loving mantle of Mary we all discover ourselves to be children of God with the same dignity and rights."

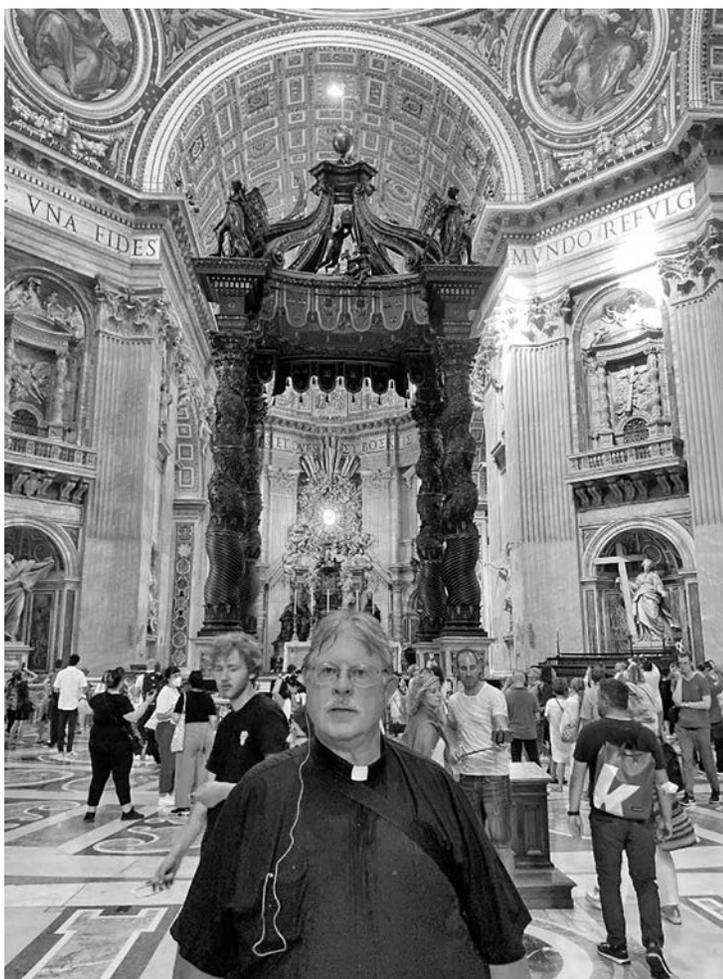
He pointed out that Miss Greeley lost her own mother at an early age and was never a biological mother herself.

Nonetheless, she "found in her heart the love and care children need and offered them in a life of service as a nanny, which inspires us to find ways to be, as a Church, the loving mother all need, with our openness, service, and sincere care for each other," he said.

"May our Sister, Servant of God Julia Greeley, who in 1865 experienced liberty for the first time, and found a Mother in the Church and in Mary, help us to be a Church where nobody feels like a motherless child," the bishop prayed.

*Much of the information in this article came from the August 2022 edition of the Lil' Red Wagon, newsletter of the Julia Greeley Guild.*

## When in Vatican City ...



Father Daniel Luckenotte, pastor of Holy Cross Parish in Cuba, St. Francis Caracciolo Parish in Bourbon and St. Michael Parish in Steelville, visits St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City Sept. 11 while on sabbatical in Rome.



## Spiffing up the grounds

About 60 Our Lady of Lourdes Interparish School teachers and families and parishioners of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Columbia take part in the school's first annual Campus Cleanup on Aug. 13, the week before the new school year began. Parishioner Julie Arment organized this event and put together a list of all the areas that needed attention before students arrived on campus for the first day of school. Volunteers pulled weeds, trimmed bushes, cut out weeds, raked, removed dead branches and added mulch.

— Photos by Alexis Hecht, director of communications, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish and School



## Pilgrims visit national shrine's Our Mother of Africa Chapel

Catholic News Service Washington, D.C.

Placing his hands on the sculptures he made 25 years ago, Ed Dwight told visitors at the Our Mother of Africa Chapel what inspired his art.

Dwight, along with other artists and community members, was honored at the chapel during its 25th anniversary at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington Sept. 17.

The National Black Catholic Congress (NBCC) hosted the pilgrimage celebration. The NBCC is an organization that represents about 3 million African American Catholics to address their spiritual needs within the Church.

The chapel was a gift to the national shrine on behalf of the congress. It recalls the history of slavery in the United States and provides a sense of hope.

Dwight shared his method of using bronze and molding faces when sculpting. The artist also talked about how his work was influenced by his Catholic faith and his mother, who made sure he went to church and Catholic school while he grew up in Kansas City, Kansas.

Using Church imagery and the people he grew up with made it easy to create sculptures for the chapel, he said. "It was a totally natural setting for me, and it's one of the few sculptures I've ever done where it was more natural to do," said Dwight, now 89.

## Giving thanks



Father Simon Jude Kanyike was recently the guest of honor at a meal following the Saturday Vigil Mass at St. John Church in Memphis and a reception with cake, donuts and drinks at St. Joseph Parish in Edina. Fr. Kanyike celebrated his 17th anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood. He is a missionary priest from Uganda and was serving the parishes of St. John in Memphis, St. Aloysius in Baring, St. Joseph in Edina and the Newman Center in Kirksville while Father Simeon Etonu was in Washington, D.C., taking classes and traveling to his homeland this summer. — Photo by Nancy Peterson

## RESPECT LIFE

From page 1

“regime of abortion on demand,” the archbishop said.

This “regime” was “based on the indefensible view that the U.S. Constitution implicitly forbids government from protecting the preborn child in the womb from the violence of abortion,” he said.

The court “concluded that there is nothing in the Constitution’s text, history, American legal tradition or the court’s precedents that justified the extreme holding of *Roe*,” he said.

*Dobbs* was a challenge to a Mississippi law banning abortion after 15 weeks. The court affirmed the law 6-3 and also voted 5-4 to overturn the 1973 *Roe* ruling, which legalized abortion nationwide, and 1992’s *Casey v. Planned Parenthood* ruling, which affirmed *Roe*.

The ruling returned the issue of abortion to the states.

With *Dobbs*, the high court “cleared the way for a paradigm shift in American law, allowing it to enlarge its boundaries to again welcome a segment of the human family that had been outside of its protections for close to half a century,” he added.

He called *Dobbs* “a victory for justice, the rule of law and self-governance.”

“But for those of us who have prayed for this moment to arrive, it is the time for a renewal and rededication of our efforts to build a culture of life and civilization of love,” he said. “Justice is, of course, essential to this end. But it is not sufficient.

“To build a world in which all are welcome requires not only justice, but compassion, healing, and above all, unconditional love.”

“Abortion is a gruesome sign of how we have forgotten our mutual belonging,” Archbishop Lori continued. “The logic of *Roe v. Wade* has framed

our national discourse on the issue of abortion as a zero-sum conflict among individual strangers.”

But “mother and child are not strangers; they are already bound together by flesh and kinship,” he said. “The new life that is developing under the heart

of the mother is already situated in a network of relations, including family, neighbors and fellow citizens.”

*Roe*’s logic “offers the woman only the right to see lethal force used against her child, but it otherwise abandons her,” he explained.

But “the logic of the culture of life recognizes that the pregnant woman and her child are not alone — they are fellow members of our larger human family whose interwoven vulnerability is a summons to all of us, but especially Catholics because of the teaching of Jesus and His proclamation of the Gospel of life,” the archbishop said.

To practice “radical solidarity and unconditional love in a post-*Roe* world,” he said, means speaking and living the truth “with compassion — the truth that abortion not only “unjustly kills a preborn child, but also gravely wounds women, men, families and the nation as a whole.”

Through law, policy, politics and culture, society must do whatever it can to provide mothers, children and families in need “with the care and support necessary for their flourishing throughout the entire arc of life’s journey,” he said.

“Building a world in which women are esteemed, children are loved and protected, and men are called to their responsibilities as fathers, requires us to understand and address the

complex and tragic tangle of affliction and strife that culminates in the violence of abortion,” Archbishop Lori said.

societal duties,” he said. “Millions of individual Catholics from all walks of life are already personally endeavoring

source centers, post-abortion counseling, he said, as well as Walking with Moms in Need, an initiative of the U.S. bish-

ops to connect pregnant women and their families with parishes and to a growing network of resources.

**“To build a world in which all are welcome requires not only justice, but compassion, healing, and above all, unconditional love.”**

— Abp. William E. Lori, chairman, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Committee on Pro-life Activities

“This is a massive and daunting undertaking.”

“Catholics already have a strong foundation in the Church’s centuries-long encouragement of parental and

to build the bonds of solidarity and compassion throughout our society.”

Many also are engaged in parish and community initiatives such as pregnancy re-

*The full text of Archbishop Lori’s statement and Respect Life Month materials from the USCCB’s Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities can be found online at: [respectlife.org/respect-life-month](https://www.respectlife.org/respect-life-month).*

## HISPANIC

From page 11

even looked over to the passenger seat to make sure.”

Ms. Sandoval’s mother, Alma Quinteros, who had brought her to the United States as a toddler out of fear for her safety, had died this past February.

“I don’t feel like myself anymore,” said Ms. Sandoval, age 26. “My mom was such a big part of my identity. She was my best friend. It’s been very hard without her.”

El Salvador’s bloody civil war had ended several years before Ms. Sandoval was born in 1996, but the effects were still evident.

Her parents were working in public-safety roles when they started getting anonymous threats against them and their daughter.

“Mom was the first to jump,” said Ms. Sandoval. “She wanted us to be safe ... for me to be safe.”

Ms. Sandoval’s mother didn’t have everything she needed in order to obtain a visa and flee to the United States.

“She used to tell me how she prayed,” said Ms. Sandoval. “She prayed the night before she went to the consulate: ‘If something is going to happen to my daughter if we stay here, please let us leave, please grant me the visa so that I can take my daughter to safety.’”

The next day, she applied for and was granted a visa.

“She immediately started arranging for her and my grandmother and me to move to the United States,” said Ms. Sandoval. “Because in her eyes, that was God’s way of telling her, ‘Yeah, your daughter’s life is in danger.’”

They settled in Los Angeles but didn’t stay there.

“There was a lot of open gang activity back then,” Ms. Sandoval noted.

The day after a gang-related shooting outside Ms. Sandoval’s grade school, her mother started planning to move again.

They knew some fellow Salvadorans who had settled in Marshall in north-central Missouri.

“They helped us move,” said Ms. Sandoval. “I turned 8 here that year.”

Her mother became active in the community and in St. Peter Parish, spending much of her spare time and energy helping people file their immigration paperwork.

“My mom loved helping people,” said Ms. Sandoval. “My mom loved helping the community. That was her personality. That’s who she was.”

Together, they proudly represented El Salvador in local and diocesan multicultural celebrations.

“Mom made the costumes for everything,” said Ms. Sandoval. “She was active in a lot of stuff, and I used to be with her.”

In adulthood, Ms. Sandoval bought a house, invited her mother to live with her, and convinced her to retire due to declining health.

One night, Ms. Sandoval was leaving for work when her mother had a sudden asthma attack.

Ms. Sandoval called 911 and did everything she could to help, including CPR.

“She told me three times between breaths, ‘*Estoy iendo*’ — ‘I am going,’” Ms. Sandoval recalled.

“I think she was ready,” Ms. Sandoval added. “Even though it hurts, I tell people I’m grateful because she’s not suffering anymore.”

Amid bouts of anxiety, Ms. Sandoval pulled back from her community.

“I haven’t been active in church,” she said.

“That doesn’t mean I don’t believe,” she quickly stated. “I just don’t feel like myself anymore. I feel like I’ve lost my purpose.”

She longs for the spiritual certainty that was her mother’s lifeline.

“Mom always had the biggest strength in believing,” she said. “Everything she ever did, she entrusted to God.”

For Hispanic Heritage Month, Ms. Sandoval suggested that everyone pray “for everything you currently have, for everything you ever fought for, everything you ever struggled with and saw your way through — to keep that in your life.”

“Be grateful for your family, for friends, even the most meaningless little items that bring you joy. Be grateful!” she advised.



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## SOCIAL JUSTICE

From page 10

excluding fellow human beings.

“Just as the commandment ‘Thou shalt not kill’ sets a clear limit in order to safeguard the value of human life, today we also have to say ‘thou shalt not’ to an economy of exclusion and inequality,” the pope states in his apostolic exhortation, “Joy of the Gospel” (#53).

“Such an economy kills,” he continues. “We have created a ‘throw away’ culture which is now spreading. ... Human beings are themselves considered consumer goods to be used and then discarded.”

Regarding the second principle, Ms. Kenyon noted that the family — the nuclear family as well as people from multiple generations living under one roof — is the center of society.

“We as Catholics take it that the family is the center of society,” she said. “Everything starts and ends with the family. Because without the family, society is nothing.”

From that, people have the right to order themselves into a society that looks out primarily

for everyone’s wellbeing, especially the poor and vulnerable.

“Not only do we organize ourselves as a society but we also have to make sure that everybody is allowed to participate,” she said.

### “Because we’re Catholic”

Regarding the third principle, she noted that with each person’s fundamental right to life and to those things required for human decency, comes a corresponding duty and responsibility “to one another, to our families, and to the larger society.”

“We as Catholics are taught that everyone has a right to live a basic, decent life, to have a home, to have food, to have medical care,” she said.

So when the Missouri Catholic Conference took a position in favor of expanding eligibility for Medicaid health coverage for low-income people in this state, “the reason was because that’s who we are as Catholics,” she said.

The next principle, the preferential option for the poor and vulnerable, is probably the most familiar.

“For us, it’s not an option. When we think about actions, policies, what should we do about this, the poor and vulnerable have to come first,” said Ms. Kenyon.

**“Poetry means creativity, and you create hope. With your hands you know how to shape the dignity of each person, of families and of society as a whole, with land, housing, work, care and community.”**  
— Pope Francis

“The basic moral test of our time is how the most vulnerable members of our human family treated,” she stated, referring back to Matthew 25.

This mentality comes naturally in families, where care for the very young and the very old takes precedence.

“That’s how families work,” Ms. Kenyon stated. “That’s how society needs to work, too.”

She further noted that taking care of the people who are the helpless and vulnerable makes all of society stronger.

### Whether near or far

The fifth principle is the dignity of work and the rights of workers.

“People have the right to productive work, to fair and decent wages, the right to organize and join a union,” Ms. Kenyon stated.

She asked people who help with food pantries for people in need, if they’re amazed how many people who work 40 days a week still need that kind of assistance.

“What is going on if people are working full-time and still can’t afford to feed their family?” she said.

She pointed out that especially in the 1930s and ’40s, the labor movement in this country was fueled by Catholic priests helping immigrants organize into unions so their employers would treat them fairly.

She said the sixth principle, solidarity, basically means that all people are members of one family.

“We really are our brothers’ and sisters’ keepers,” she stated.

“What happens to one, happens to all of us.”

That said, the center of solidarity is the work for justice.

“No one’s life is more important than anyone else’s,” she noted. “If someone is suffering, we have to do something about it. Whether they’re next door to us or 10,000 miles away.”

nity of human life — holding prayer vigils outside abortion clinics as well as the prisons in which state-sanctioned executions are carried out.

“Anytime there is a loss of life, we have to publicly witness that we know it’s wrong,” she said.

Regarding human dignity, she pointed to the good work Catholic Charities of Central and Northern Missouri has been doing to help resettle refugees here who are fleeing danger and oppression in their

homelands.

“And I hear some people at the parish have sponsored families,” she said. “Keep up the good work.”

She talked about the federal Deferred Action for Child Arrivals (DACA) policy, which allows people who entered this country as children without documentation to petition for temporary immigration status.

“If you were brought over to this country before you were 16 years old without papers, there is a provision that if you were 16 before you came, you haven’t been in trouble, you’re in school, or are in the military — there’s a list of things — you have the ability to apply for a deferred action,” she said.

She noted how in parts of the St. Louis archdiocese where gun violence has been rampant, parishes are distributing gun locks to parents in order to keep children from using them.

“Archbishop Rozanski is also leading prayer services for victims of gun violence,” she said.

All of this is part of the prose of social justice, which is lived out daily in the teachings of the Church, she stated.

## Jesus, present in the Eucharist, inspires compassion, sharing, pope says

Catholic News Service

Vatican City

One cannot love and worship the Eucharist without compassion for the poor and marginalized, Pope Francis said at a Mass concluding Italy’s eucharistic congress.

“Let us recognize that the Eucharist is the prophecy of a new world, it is the presence of Jesus Who asks us to dedicate ourselves to an effective conversion,” which includes the conversion from indifference to compassion, from waste to sharing, from selfishness to love and from individualism to fraternity, he said in his homily Sept. 25.

The pope concelebrated the Mass at an outdoor stadium in the southern Italian city of Matera, which was host to Italy’s 27th National Eucharistic Congress Sept. 22-25.

Rain, thunder and lightning storms forced the pope to travel by airplane and car rather than by helicopter from the Vatican. In his homily, the pope reflected on the day’s Gospel reading (Luke 16:19-31), in which Jesus tells the parable about the nameless rich man who “dined sumptuously each day” and ignored the poor man, Lazarus, “who would gladly have eaten his fill of the scraps.”

Pope Francis said, “It is painful to see that this parable” is still alive today with so many “injustices, inequalities, the unequal distribution of the earth’s resources, the abuse of the powerful against the weak, the indifference to the cry of the poor, the abyss we dig every day creating marginalization.”

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By Father Don Antweiler

**ACROSS**

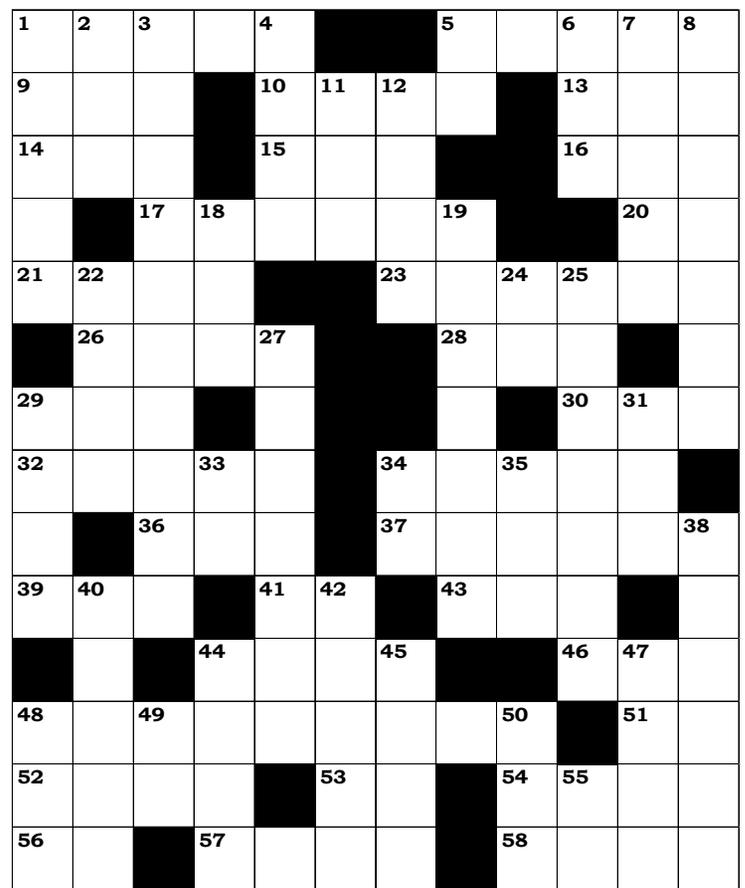
1. This puzzle features European capitals which are reflected in \_\_\_\_ all over Missouri.
5. The capital of England is London which has its counterpart in (New) London, Mo. in \_\_\_\_ County.
9. \_\_\_\_ constrictor.
10. It has been remarked that everyone would probably have a much smaller \_\_\_\_ if they had to cut it with a non-riding push-mower.
13. Quaker \_\_\_\_ meal.
14. One of the secrets for the effectiveness of a black-\_\_\_\_ covert action is to keep it secret.
15. I love; Latin 101 word.
16. Letters for Louisiana State Univ. in Baton Rouge. It is usually a major football contender in the Southeast Conference (SEC) in college football, which makes it a major competitor for Mizzou football which is also in the SEC.
17. The capital of Portugal is Lisbon which has its counterpart in Lisbon, Mo. in \_\_\_\_ County.

20. Mt. Rushmore State (abbr.).
21. One of the Great Lakes.
23. The capital of France is Paris which has its counterpart in Paris, Mo. in \_\_\_\_ County.
26. Cross letters.
28. "...and to the miser, of what \_\_\_\_ is gold?" (Sirach 14:3).
29. "Or hand him a scorpion when he asks for an \_\_\_\_?" (Luke 11:12).
30. His quick \_\_\_\_ got him out of many a tight spot.
32. One of the biggest advantages of \_\_\_\_ communities is security and privacy. The biggest disadvantages in the long run is loss of public space and potential spatial and economic fragmentation and polarization.
34. The capital of Greece is Athens which has its counterpart in Athens, Mo. in \_\_\_\_ County.
36. \_\_\_\_-Wan Kenobi; Star Wars Jedi warrior.
37. The capital of Austria is Vienna which has its counterpart in Vienna, Mo. in \_\_\_\_ County.
39. "Hold fast to what you have received; preserve it joyfully; \_\_\_\_ no more," —sermon on Baptism by St. Pacian, Bishop (310-391 AD).
41. One of the most significant developments in the next 20 years is said to be the continuing development of artificial intelligence (\_\_\_\_).
43. Fast flier.

44. Mary's mom.
46. "Life can be frightfully beautiful and all that, but what's the point of living at all if it's for nothing in the \_\_\_\_?" —*See No Evil*, Fiorella De Maria.
48. The capital of Spain is Madrid which has its counterpart in (New) Madrid, Mo. in \_\_\_\_ County (2 wds.).
51. I was appointed to the \_\_\_\_-Hoc Committee by the Parish Council.
52. The Magi, for ex.
53. Moon of Jupiter.
54. The \_\_\_\_ of Mo.'s State capitol, already situated on a limestone bluff, dominates the skyline in all directions in the Capital City. It towers 262 feet above the lower level floor of the building.
56. Short for height.
57. "Meg, though I shall feel myself weakening and on the verge of being overcome with fear, I shall remember Saint Peter...I trust Christ shall place His holy hand on me and in the stormy \_\_\_\_ hold me up from drowning," —letter from St. Thomas More from prison to his beloved daughter Margaret.
58. "\_\_\_\_, as now, souls were devoured with that thirst for God without God," —*Secret of the Cure of Ars*, Henri Gheon.

**DOWN**

1. A type of steak.
2. Alley \_\_\_\_; cartoon caveman.
3. The capital of Serbia is Belgrade which has its counterpart in Belgrade, Mo. in \_\_\_\_ County.
4. When I'm doing a movie, I eat the same thing every day. For lunch, it's tuna salad or chicken salad and cole \_\_\_\_\_. That's it," —Sylvester Stallone.
5. Professional patient caregiver.
6. Laugh out loud online.
7. Lariat.
8. "When I was in junior high school, the teachers voted me the \_\_\_\_ most likely to end up in the electric chair," —Sylvester Stallone.
11. Doctors' org.
12. "He sets out to cudgel his way through, and I have the good sense to \_\_\_\_ my way in gently," —Benet to Brother Cadfael in *The*



18. "\_\_\_\_ the ramparts we watched..." —from the "Star-Spangled Banner."
19. The capital of Italy is Rome which has its counterpart in Rome, Mo. in \_\_\_\_ County.
22. Capital of Latvia, one of the Baltic States.
24. Letters for the Canadian Province of Nova Scotia.
25. His literature professor advised him to completely \_\_\_\_ his dissertation if he wanted his degree.
27. The National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) is three days of worship, music and fun for Catholic teens across the country attracting 20,000 young people. Every other year it is held in this Midwest State (abbr.).
29. Hollywood is filled with big ones.
31. The President who followed Harry Truman won with a campaign button that said, "I like \_\_\_\_!"
33. Letters for Energizer Bunny; mascot of Energizer company; first appeared in 1988; 115 commercials.
34. Letters after a member of the Congregation of the Mission (\_\_\_\_); commonly called the Vincentians after their founder St. Vincent de Paul.
35. The Cure of \_\_\_\_ refers to St. John Vianney, patron of diocesan priests.
38. "When the people are saying, 'Peace and security,' then \_\_\_\_ disaster comes upon them ...and they will not escape," (1 Thessalonians 5:3).
40. Inactive; with no strength or energy to move.
42. "...Ahasuerus who ruled over a hundred and twenty-seven provinces from \_\_\_\_ to Ethiopia..." (Esther 1:1).
44. Shepherd and prophet; in 700s B.C.; 37th book of the Bible.
45. Cupid.
47. "Seraphia was the \_\_\_\_ of the brave woman who was afterwards known by Veronica, from the words 'vera icon' (true portrait) on the veil still shown for the veneration of the faithful," —from *The Dolorous Passion Of Our Lord Jesus Christ*, visions of Sister Anne Catherine Emmerich, 1774-1824.
48. The ultimate degree.
49. Most Mo. State Parks have full \_\_\_\_-FI coverage in the campgrounds while others have designated hot spots.
50. Banned insecticide.
55. This Midwest State was declared a State in 1803 with its boundaries and constitution approved by Thomas Jefferson (abbr.).

ANSWERS on page 23

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## OSAGE ANGELS

From page 1

"I think more than anything, we play well together and enjoy each other's company," Abby stated. "I find that playing with my little sister really helps us connect, and Allie has helped me find a closer relationship with God. Having this community of each other has been really great."

### In perfect harmony

Allie had dreamed of being a country music artist since she was little.

Her parents gave her a guitar for Christmas when she was 8, and she took piano lessons for a few years, but her passion for music merely simmered.

One day, Allie's mother got a guitar and decided to learn to play it.

Hearing her mom practice awakened Allie's dormant dreams. She set about learning chords on the guitar whenever her mom wasn't using it.

"You can learn just about anything by watching YouTube videos," Allie noted.

Before long, she was performing Taylor Swift's "Our Song" for children in the neighborhood.

Then, she started writing her own songs.

Abby and Zoe started taking violin lessons when they were little. Allie invited Abby, one of her best friends, to join her in performing at a St. Joseph School assembly when they were in eighth grade.

The three girls began practicing together.

Abby's and Zoe's mother, Donna Rehagen, encouraged her daughters to branch out into other instruments.

"She said, 'Why don't you learn to play bass?'" Zoe recalled. "We just suddenly started acquiring these random instruments."

Once the girls started developing a repertoire, Mrs. Rehagen encouraged them to perform at local nursing homes.

"That was such a profound experience for me," said Allie. "To see the awe on the people's faces was such a humbling experience. We were doing God's work, and it was affecting them in a spiritual way."

The residents would line up to greet the girls after each performance.

"They'd say, 'This is the highlight of our day!'" Zoe recalled. "I loved it. I could have stayed there all day."

Allie's great-grandmother was living at one of the nursing homes the girls played at.

"She told me one of the last times before she died: 'Your great-grandpa would love to play music with you one of these days,'" Allie recalled.

Her grandfather, who enjoyed sitting on his porch and playing his harmonica, had died about 10 years before that.

"I felt very close to God in those moments," said Allie. "He was trying to teach me something very important about the need for volunteering and sharing His gifts with others."

### Celestial voices

By March of the following year, the girls had proven their ability and desire to entertain and connect with people.

Mrs. Rehagen helped them book their first gig for a wider audience. They played a couple of songs during karaoke night at The Mission, a music venue in Jefferson City.

Allie's mother, who would refer lovingly to her daughters as "Hale's Angels," suggested that this new ensemble should be called the "Osage Angels."

"It fits so well," said Allie. "It fits our personality. We're very hometown. And we do try to be angels. ... We do try."

"Momma Don" — Mrs. Rehagen — became the group's *de facto* manager and booking agent.

The girls' voices became part of the summer soundtrack in nearby locales, as they performed at wedding receptions, local venues and church events.

"It's fun to see people who come repeatedly to our performances," said Zoe. "You really do build bonds with them."

Zoe especially enjoys playing at church picnics.

"It just reminds me of where I grew up and what I've been taught to be grateful for," she said. "And when someone tells you that you just played their favorite song, you feel like you really did something for them."

Allie smiles whenever she



The Osage Angels — Zoe Rehagen, Allie Hale and Abby Rehagen — give a performance. — Photo from the Osage Angels Facebook page

looks out from the stage across a crowded picnic ground, and contrasts what she sees with what she used to dream about.

"We're not standing on some stage that's as big as a house," she noted. "We're standing on the back of a truck!"

"And it's where we're supposed to be," she said. "If I were up on a giant stage, I wouldn't be able to see my family. This way, I can see the people who have made me who I am."

"For me, it's a lesson in community and friendship," she said. "Especially when you're there on stage with your best friends."

### Between the notes

Abby didn't know anybody when she arrived at LSU as a freshman last fall.

That changed when she went to her first Sunday Mass at Christ the King Parish and Student Center on campus.

"One thing I've always had in my life is my Catholic faith," she said. "I went over there and found my community of friends."

Fellow students welcomed her and invited her to a Bible study, a volleyball night and other events throughout the week.

She started attending a prayer and formation group for parish musicians and music ministers.

She became part of a sacred music ensemble that leads the singing once a month during communal Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Although energized by music, she often seeks out the stillness of the Adoration Chapel.

"It's super-quiet in there," she said. "I like to sit in the silence and think about the day and talk to God."

### "We're in heaven"

Allie thought hard about going away to college and diving deeper into music after graduating from high school in 2021.

"I prayed and prayed and prayed all through my junior year," she said. "After praying, I knew Lincoln was the place for me. It's close to home, and I can still do all the things I want to do in my community and church."

Everything fell into place for her after she made that decision.

"I feel that God has led me to where I'm supposed to be," she said. "I can't imagine being in a better place. I feel perfectly at home."

Allie and Zoe play guitar and sing together with Sarah Groene, who plays piano, one Sunday a month at Mass in Westphalia.

"I really enjoy singing in church," said Zoe. "I feel very reverent when I get to sing those songs with Allie. I get to share my faith. I feel closer to people when I do that. It feels purposeful. It helps me get closer to God."

Allie remembers being struck with a thought one Sunday while singing with Zoe during Holy Communion: "We're in heaven now!"

"When you give of your-

self and give of your gifts in church, and after you receive Jesus, you're in heaven," she said. "Time doesn't even exist. I was there, playing in heaven with my friend."

### Hearts overflowing

One of Abby's favorite songs that the Osage Angels perform is called "Give Thanks," written by Allie.

"It's a song about Thanksgiving," Abby noted. "She felt that Thanksgiving doesn't get enough recognition as a holiday."

Speaking of thanks, Zoe believes this is a time she and her fellow Osage Angels will look back on with gratitude for the rest of their lives.

"I'm very thankful to my parents for helping get me into this," she said. "It's definitely a gift we've been given."

Allie is grateful that her parents sent her to a Catholic grade school, which helped her find the peace she now experiences in college.

"I learned so many things that I still carry with me," she said. "Even things that I learned in kindergarten, first and second grade — I remember things that resonate so deeply with me, that I will continue using throughout my life."

All three girls talked about the kindness and selfless gift of time that the Hale and the Rehagen parents have bestowed, allowing the Osage Angels not just to sing but to soar.

They noted how their parents spend time with them, listening to them practice and perform.

Looking ahead, Abby asked for prayers for the Osage Angels to bridge the distance and make time to get together and play more music.

Allie requested prayers for help finding where God wants her and each of her friends to be — "and that we always share our gifts and never give up on doing what we can do."

Zoe asked for prayers for guidance.

"There's a mission for each of us, something greater for us to achieve," she stated. "And we will get there if we focus on what God is telling us to do."

Follow the Osage Angels at [facebook.com/OsageAngels](https://www.facebook.com/OsageAngels).

Need more info about an event or want to see more events?  
Visit the diocesan EVENT CALENDAR at [diojeffcity.org/events](http://diojeffcity.org/events).  
Want your event listed?  
Fill out the ONLINE FORM at [diojeffcity.org/event-listing](http://diojeffcity.org/event-listing).

## Fundraisers & Social Events

Oct. 2

**Argyle**, St. Aloysius Parish & St. Boniface Chapel fall festival, 11 am-7 pm; **Holts Summit**, St. Andrew Parish fall festival, 11 am-6 pm; **Linn**, St. George Parish fall festival, 11 am-6 pm; **Martinsburg**, St. Joseph Parish Oktoberfest, 10 am-6 pm; **Morrison**, Assumption Parish fall dinner, 11 am-4 pm

Oct. 3

**Jefferson City**, "Swing for St. Mary's" annual golf classic & tennis/pickleball rally, 9 am-5:30 pm, Jefferson City Country Club, for info or to register visit [stmarysfoundationjcmo.com/swing-for-st-marys.html](http://stmarysfoundationjcmo.com/swing-for-st-marys.html)

Oct. 5

**Jefferson City**, St. Peter Parish Ladies Sodality card party, 6:30-9 pm, Msgr. Hoog Hall

Oct. 8

**Mary's Home**, Our Lady of Snows Parish Fantasy Night, 5-11 pm

Oct. 9

**Belle**, St. Alexander Parish breakfast, 7-11 am; **Fulton**, Callaway County CROP Hunger Walk, 1 pm, Champ Auditorium at Westminster College, for info call 573-254-3455 or 573-826-0591; **Hermann**, St. George Parish fall dinner, 11 am-5 pm; **Wardsville**, St. Stanislaus Parish fall supper, 11 am-6 pm

Oct. 10

**Fulton**, K of C Council 8400 (Holts Summit) golf tournament, 10 am-4 pm, Tanglewood Golf Course, for info call 573-619-0966 or email [tschwartz@hotmail.com](mailto:tschwartz@hotmail.com)

Oct. 14-15

**St. Robert**, St. Robert Bellarm-

ine Ladies Altar & Rosary Society annual Fall sale, 9 am-5 pm

Oct. 15

**Jefferson City**, K of C Council 14906 BBQ, 11 am-4 pm, McCarty Street Plaza (next to Immaculate Conception Church)

Oct. 16

**St. Anthony**, St. Anthony of Padua Parish fall supper, 11 am-4 pm; **Westphalia**, St. Joseph Parish fall festival, 11 am-6 pm

Oct. 23

**Eldon**, Sacred Heart Parish picnic, 11 am-6 pm

Oct. 30

**Jefferson City**, St. Peter Parish Holy Name Society pancake breakfast, 7:30-11 am, Selinger Centre

## Meetings/ Workshops

Oct. 4

**VIRTUAL**, Marriage Prep Facilitators' morning refresher, 10:30-11:30 am, for info or to RSVP email [faithformation@diojeffcity.org](mailto:faithformation@diojeffcity.org)

Oct. 6

**Columbia**, Mid-Missouri Ul-treya for Cursillo & potluck dinner, 6:30 pm, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish's Flanagan Hall

Oct. 7

**Holts Summit**, "Wine & Shrine" presentation on Marian Apparitions with John Carpenter, 6-7:30 pm, Veit Hall, for info call 573-619-6912 or email [jenburewood@yahoo.com](mailto:jenburewood@yahoo.com)

Oct. 18

**VIRTUAL**, Marriage Prep Facilitators' evening refresher, 5:30-6:30 pm, for info or to RSVP

email [faithformation@diojeffcity.org](mailto:faithformation@diojeffcity.org)

Oct. 19

**Jefferson City**, "Equipping Catholic Leaders" DREYM Team Workshop, 9:30 am-2 pm, Alphonse J. Schwartze Memorial Catholic Center, for info or to register contact [maureenquinn@diojeffcity.org](mailto:maureenquinn@diojeffcity.org)

Oct. 29

**Moberly**, St. Vincent de Paul Society orientation, 9 am-3 pm, St. Pius X Parish, for info call 573-356-4254 or email [ca.nierling@gmail.com](mailto:ca.nierling@gmail.com)

## Eventos del Ministerio Hispano

septiembre 30

**Marshall**, Asamblea de Jóvenes, 7-9 pm, Parroquia San Pedro, Esta es una oportunidad de reflexión y oración para todos los adolescentes y jóvenes que deseen compartir con otros jóvenes de su edad en un ambiente de fraternidad. Para más información contacte a lsi Palacios al 316-530-1004 o por correo electrónico a [Comite DiocesanoRCCH@gmail.com](mailto:ComiteDiocesanoRCCH@gmail.com).

octubre 1-2

**Marshall**, Congreso Diocesano, edificio de usos múltiples del recinto ferial del condado de Saline, para más información contacte a lsi Palacios al 316-530-1004 o por correo electrónico a [Comite DiocesanoRCCH@gmail.com](mailto:ComiteDiocesanoRCCH@gmail.com)

octubre 8

**Marshall**, Planificación Familiar Natural-Familia de las Américas, 9 am-12 pm, Parroquia San Pedro, [diojeffcity.org/natural-family-planning](http://diojeffcity.org/natural-family-planning)

octubre 9-11

**Griswold, IA**, Retiro para Diáconos, ¡Cupo limitado a 20 participantes! para más información contacte a Diácono Enrique Castro al 573-680-3650 por su celular o por correo electrónico a [ecastro@diojeffcity.org](mailto:ecastro@diojeffcity.org)

octubre 29

**Columbia**, Taller de Preparación de Quinceañeras, 9 am-2 pm, Parroquia Sacrado Corazon, para más información contacte a Diácono Enrique

Castro al 573-680-3650 por su celular o en WhatsApp o por correo electrónico a [ecasastro@diojeffcity.org](mailto:ecasastro@diojeffcity.org)

octubre 29-30

**Lake Ozark**, Retiro de Inicio, 8:30 am, Nuestra Señora del Lago, para más información contacte a Rosa o Luis Campos al 471-321-2091 o por correo electrónico a [r.campos.agui@gmail.com](mailto:r.campos.agui@gmail.com)

## Faith Formation & Spiritual Renewal

Oct. 4

**Jefferson City**, "Tuesdays with Faith" fellowship group video series with Fr. Dave Pivonka and Wild Goose Ministries, 6:30-8:30 pm, Immaculate Conception Parish's Pleus Hall

Oct. 8

**Columbia**, Contemplative Outreach of Central Missouri Welcoming Prayer Retreat, 9 am-4:30 pm, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish's Flanagan Hall, for info or to register, visit [cocoemo.org/calendar-retreats](http://cocoemo.org/calendar-retreats)

Oct. 9

**Clarence**, "Walking With God: Becoming One & Fruitful," free event sponsored by the parishes of Shelby and Macon counties and Mid-Missouri NFP, 4-5:30 pm, Camp Jo-Ota Retreat Center, for info, call 660-415-7362 or email [adurbin@gmail.com](mailto:adurbin@gmail.com)

Oct. 9 & 10

**Jefferson City**, "Surge of the Heart - A Parish Mission," with John Leonetti, 6:30-8 pm, St. Joseph Cathedral School gym, for info call 573-635-7991 or email [julie.g@cathedraljc.org](mailto:julie.g@cathedraljc.org)

Oct. 11

**Jefferson City**, "Tuesdays with Faith" fellowship group video series with Fr. Dave Pivonka and Wild Goose Ministries, 6:30-8:30 pm, Immaculate Conception Parish's Pleus Hall; **St. Martins**, "Praise, Pizza and Pitchers" evening of prayer and fellowship for adults 40 and older, second Tuesday of each month, 5 pm Rosary and Mass at St. Martin Church, followed by dinner at Pizza Haus, for info visit Facebook @Praise, Pizza and Pitchers

Oct. 18 & 25

**Jefferson City**, "Tuesdays with Faith" fellowship group video series with Fr. Dave Pivonka and Wild Goose Ministries,

6:30-8:30 pm, Immaculate Conception Parish's Pleus Hall

Oct. 22

**Taos**, "Keeping a Mary Spirit Throughout a Martha Day," with Donna Cori, 10 am-3 pm, St. Francis Xavier School cafeteria, to register call 573-395-4401

## Liturgical

Oct. 2

**Laurie**, Respect Life Celebration, 1-4 pm, National Shrine of Mary, Mother of the Church, for info call 573-374-6279 or visit [thenationalshrineofmarymotherofthechurch.com](http://thenationalshrineofmarymotherofthechurch.com)

Oct. 11

**Starkenburg**, Second Tuesday Mass & luncheon, 11:30 am-1 pm, Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows

Oct. 18

**Columbia**, St. Luke healthcare Mass, 7:30 am & 12:30 pm, St. Thomas More Newman Center

## Youth & Young Adults

Oct. 3

**St. Martins**, "Pews and Brews" evening of prayer and fellowship for young adults in their 20s and 30s, first Monday of each month, 5:30 pm Adoration and Confession, 6 pm Mass at St. Martin Church, followed by fellowship at Last Flight Brewing in Jefferson City, for info visit Facebook @Pews&Brews

Oct. 5

**Jefferson City**, Rooted and Connected youth and young adult faith sharing group, 6:30-8 pm, Immaculate Conception Parish, for info visit [ican.gels.com/youngadults](http://ican.gels.com/youngadults)

Oct. 19

**Jefferson City**, Rooted and Connected youth and young adult faith sharing group, 6:30-8 pm, Immaculate Conception Parish, for info visit [ican.gels.com/youngadults](http://ican.gels.com/youngadults)

## Health & Wellness

Oct. 3

**Rich Fountain**, Blood drive, 2-6 pm, Sacred Heart School cafeteria

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## Anniversaries

**Argyle, St. Aloysius**  
John & Jane Hoeller, 30 years  
Travis & Christine Reichel, 20 years

**Camdenton, St. Anthony**  
Bob & Estelle Faust, 65 years  
Dennis & Shari Rhoades, 40 years  
Daryl & Katy Cunningham, 30 years  
Oscar & Amelia Cortez, 25 years

**Jefferson City, St. Peter**  
Kevin & Janet Brown, 45 years

**Kirkville, Mary Immaculate**  
James Hendler & Melissa Passe, 25 years  
Gary & Donna Hicks, 15 years

**Mary's Home, Our Lady of Snows**  
David & Rose Evers, 55 years  
Bernard & Margaret Koetting, 55 years  
Tim & Paula Evers, 35 years  
Darren & Christy Evers, 25 years  
Loren & Ashley Groose, 15 years

**Palmyra, St. Joseph**  
Robert & Doris Wolfmeyer, 65 years  
Thomas & Brenda Dodd, 60 years  
Michael & Liza Summers, 50 years  
Justin & Janet Krekemeyer, 15 years

**Rolla, St. Patrick**  
Doyle & Micheline Edwards, 35 years

**Westphalia, St. Joseph**  
Harry & Rita Buersmeyer, 70 years  
Sam & Jane Massman, 40 years

## Baptisms

Marshall, St. Peter — **JT Ashton Farrelly**, son of JR Gino Wendolin & Ashley Rhaym-Terry; **Xionayra Granados**, daughter of Lizandro Granados & Yenci Escobar; **Neifirston LJ Umwech**, son of Klemente Umwech & Lourdes Angkel

Salisbury, St. Joseph — **Avery Nicole Snodgrass**, daughter of Shane & Jordanne Snodgrass

## Birthdays

Holts Summit, St. Andrew — **Richard McMichael**, his 90th on Oct. 4

St. Clement, St. Clement — **Marcella Buntin**, her 103rd on Oct. 11

## Marriages

St. Thomas, St. Thomas the Apostle — **Karlie Reinkemeyer & Matthew Maasen**

To submit **Baptisms, Birthdays** for ages 90 and older, **Anniversaries** of 10+ years in increments of 5 ONLY (e.g., 15, 25, 45 years, etc.), **Elections, Honors and Appointments**, please go to:

[diojeffcity.org/parish-correspondence](http://diojeffcity.org/parish-correspondence)

For marriages and deaths, please use the form at [diojeffcity.org/update-information/](http://diojeffcity.org/update-information/) so that we may update our mailing lists and records.

## Deaths

Argyle, St. Aloysius — **Bernice Schmitz**

Eldon, Sacred Heart — **John Hurst; Fredrick Otto**

Kirkville, Mary Immaculate — **Paulie Schmitz**

Mary's Home, Our Lady of Snows — **Christopher Groose**

St. Martins, St. Martin — **Charles L. Redmond**

Salisbury, St. Joseph — **William E. Farnen**

## FR. DOYLE

From page 8

able grounds to believe that an infant who dies before being baptized will be brought by God to heaven.

What you might do instead is to have the Mass offered for “a special intention” and have that intention be for the mother, that she will have repented for the sin and, if a Catholic, have sought forgiveness through confession; and next, for our nation, that the scourge of abortion will be lifted from us. (With respect to the hundreds of tiny children who are aborted each day, I believe that historians a century from now will say — as they now say of the rise of Hitler in Nazi Germany — “How could a civilized nation have let that happen?”)



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# Pope decries savagery, monstrosities against people in Ukraine

Catholic News Service

Vatican City

Highlighting the “terrible situation” unfolding in Ukraine, Pope Francis again called for prayers for the nation’s “noble and martyred” people.

The pope said his envoy there “told me about the pain of these people, the savagery, the monstrosities, the tortured corpses they find.”

Pope Francis was relaying the news he said he received Sept. 20 by telephone

from Polish Cardinal Konrad Krajewski, papal almoner, whom the pope has sent to Ukraine to deliver humanitarian aid and comfort in his name.

Speaking to those gathered for his general audience in St. Peter’s Square Sept. 21, the pope asked that people pray and unite with “these people who are so noble and martyred.”

Cardinal Krajewski was making his fourth visit to Ukraine since the war began and traveled to Odesa and sur-

rounding areas. In an interview with Vatican News published Sept. 19, the cardinal said he could only pray when

he was standing near a mass grave site in eastern Ukraine and seeing the delicate and solemn removal of bodies.

## MCGRADY

From page 9

mal, ordinary and usual of circumstances. But it’s become clear to us that the Lord shows off when things are anything but normal, and when they’re out of the ordinary and we’re swimming in the unusual.

Jesus stands up in the midst of the storms that rage around us and cries out, “Peace, be still!” He enters into the swirling mess and brings comfort and rest, and not just because He can, but because He wants to — because He loves us. Jesus calls us out onto that water, invites us to walk through the storm with Him, even when the ground beneath us is liquid on which we could never stand on our own.

Longing for normalcy and ordinariness is entirely OK. Who couldn’t use a bit of rest and respite after these few years we’ve all had. But embracing that there is nothing but a new normal, and nothing may ever be ordinary again, is just giving God permission to show up in bigger, more beautiful, more grace filled ways than He may ever have before.

*Katie Prejean McGrady is an award-winning author, podcaster and host of The Katie McGrady Show on Sirius XM’s The Catholic Channel. She lives in Lake Charles, Louisiana, with her husband and daughters.*

## Retired Abp. Fiorenza dies; was tireless advocate for the poor

Catholic News Service

Houston

Retired Archbishop Joseph A. Fiorenza, the longtime bishop of Galveston-Houston and a tireless social justice advocate throughout his priesthood, episcopacy and in retirement, died Sept. 19.

He was 91. He lived at the Archbishop Joseph A. Fiorenza Retirement Residence, a priest retirement home of about 18 residents.

The Beaumont, Texas, native served as bishop of the Diocese of Galveston-Houston from 1985 to 2006 and was made archbishop in 2004, when the diocese was elevated to the status of archdiocese by St. John Paul II.

Archbishop Fiorenza also was a former president of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops-U.S. Catholic Conference, now called the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, serving in the role from 1998 to 2001.

“Archbishop Fiorenza was known to be a champion of civil rights and a tireless worker in overcoming the presence of racism in our community. He was also known as a great promoter of genuine renewal in the Church, and in making the teachings of the Second Vatican Council known,” said Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo.

The cardinal succeeded Archbishop Fiorenza as head of the archdiocese in 2006.

## Crossword puzzle answers

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| N | E | H | J | S | V | E | S | L | H |
| E | M | O | D | O | I | O | I | R | L |
| D | V | D | I | R | D | V | M | E | M |
| D | N | E | E | N | N | V | N | N |   |
| U | L | S | S | I | V | N | I | S |   |
| S | E | I | R | V | M | I | B | O | O |
| K | R | V | T | C | D | J | V | G |   |
| L | W | G | N | G | G | E |   |   |   |
| N | S | U | I | R | N | I |   |   |   |
| E | O | R | N | M | O | R | E | I | E |
| D | S | D | R | V | W | O | H | N |   |
| U | S | O | M | V | S | P |   |   |   |
| L | V | N | W | V | T | V | O | B |   |
| S | T | V | R | S | N | W | O | L |   |

# Good-bye to Summer in Wien



St. Mary of the Angels Parish's religious education students in Wien attend an end-of-summer party Sept. 4. They had water gun and balloon fights, a slip 'n slide, and roasted hotdogs and marshmallows. — Photo from the St. Mary's-Wien, MO Facebook page

# Happy Birthday, Mary!



Students at St. Mary School in Glasgow celebrate the Blessed Mother's birthday (the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary) on Sept. 8 by praying the Rosary with blue helium balloons and letting them go, followed by birthday cake. — Photos by Jamie Thies

# Wonderful days at Wonderland Camp



LEFT: Junior high students from St. George School in Linn attend Wonderland Camp in early September.

— Photos from the St. George Home & School Association Facebook page



# Celebrating Trailblazer spirit



Fr. Tolton Regional Catholic High School in Columbia held a Spirit Day Aug. 26, as the Tolton Trailblazers girls' golf, volleyball, football, girls' tennis and boys' soccer seasons got under way.

— Photo from the Trailblazer Parent Association Facebook page

# Naaman visits Elisha to be cured of leprosy

By Jennifer Ficaglia  
Catholic News Service

A man named Naaman commanded the king of Aram's army. Although he was valiant and respected, Naaman was a leper.

In one of their raids against Israel, the Arameans had captured a little girl, who became the servant of Naaman's wife.

"If only my master would present himself to the prophet in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy," the girl said to Naaman's wife.

Naaman went to the king and told him what the girl said.

"Go," the king said. "I will send along a letter to the king of Israel."

Naaman set out, taking along 10 silver talents, 6,000 gold pieces and 10 festal garments.



ments.

He went to the king of Israel and handed him the letter. It read: "With this letter I am sending my servant Naaman to you, that you may cure him of

his leprosy."

The king of Israel tore his garments, thinking that the king of Aram was trying to pick a fight with him.

Elisha, a prophet of God,

heard what the king had said and sent him a message.

"Let him come to me and find out that there is a prophet in Israel," Elisha said.

Naaman went to Elisha's house and stopped his horse and chariot right outside the door. The prophet sent him a message.

"Go and wash seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will heal, and you will be clean," Elisha's message said.

Naaman was angry. He had expected Elisha to come to him in person, call on the name of God and put his hand over the leprosy spots on his skin to cure him.

"Are not the rivers of Damascus, the Abana and the Pharpar, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash

in them and be cleansed?" Naaman said and left in anger.

Naaman's servants ran after him to reason with him.

"My father, if the prophet told you to do something extraordinary, would you not do it? All the more since he told you, 'Wash, and be clean?'"

Naaman relented. He did as Elisha instructed, and his leprosy was cured.

Naaman returned to Elisha and stood before him.

"Now I know that there is no God in all the earth, except in Israel," he said.

### Read more about it... 2 Kings 5

1. Who wanted to be cured of leprosy?
2. What was Elisha's cure for leprosy?

## Bible Accent

As we read further in 2 Kings 5, we learn that Naaman was thankful that Elisha cured his leprosy, and he wanted to give the prophet a gift.

"As the Lord lives whom I serve, I will not take it," Elisha said.

"If you will not accept, please let me, your servant, have two mule-loads of earth, for I will no longer offer holocaust or sacrifice to any other god except to the Lord," Naaman said.

"But may the Lord forgive your servant this: When my master enters the temple of Rimmon to bow down there,

as he leans upon my arm, I too must bow down in the temple of Rimmon. When I bow down in the temple of Rimmon, may the Lord please forgive your servant this," Naaman added.

"Go in peace," Elisha replied.

After Naaman had gone some distance, Elisha's servant, Gehazi, ran after him. He wanted to have some of the gifts Naaman offered Elisha.

When Gehazi caught up to Naaman, he lied and said that Elisha wanted a talent and two festal garments for other people. Naaman happily

had his servants give the items and more to Gehazi, who kept them for himself.

When Gehazi returned to Elisha, the prophet knew the evil thing Gehazi had done.

"The leprosy of Naaman shall cling to you and your descendants forever," Elisha said, and Gehazi became a leper with skin like snow.

## Essay

When have you prayed to God to heal someone?



## Saint Spotlight

**St. Hilarion**

St. Hilarion was born around 291 in Palestine. After learning the ways of a monk as a teenager, he sought the life of a hermit. Hilarion, who is credited with introducing monasticism into Palestine, had a hard time finding the solitude he craved. He became famous for his many miracles, so people were constantly seeking him out to cure their illnesses and demon possessions.

Hilarion died in 371, and we remember him on Oct. 21.

## Puzzle

Using the hints provided, unscramble the letters in each word and arrange the words to form a quotation from the children's story.

|         |         |        |       |
|---------|---------|--------|-------|
| ma      | verstan | uyo    | i     |
| _____   | _____   | _____  | _____ |
| densing | ot      | amanna | ym    |
| _____   | _____   | _____  | _____ |

Sentence:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Answers: am, servant, you, I, sending, to, Naaman, my, I am sending my servant Naaman to you.

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## Even biblical scholar finds new insights in Bible stories retold

*The Mothers and Daughters of the Bible Speak: Lessons on Faith from Nine Biblical Families*, by Shannon Bream. Broadside Books (New York, 2022). 267 pp., \$26.99.

*What's the Message? Bible Basics for Busy People*, by Kevin Sullivan. Paulist Press (Mahwah, New Jersey, 2022). 119 pp., \$15.95.

Reviewed by Eugene J. Fisher

Catholic News Service

These two books are for all Catholics. Each offers insights into the Bible and how we can meaningfully understand its relevance for our daily lives.

I recommend the Bream book most highly.

Many readers will like the Sullivan book, which I can recommend with one strong caveat.

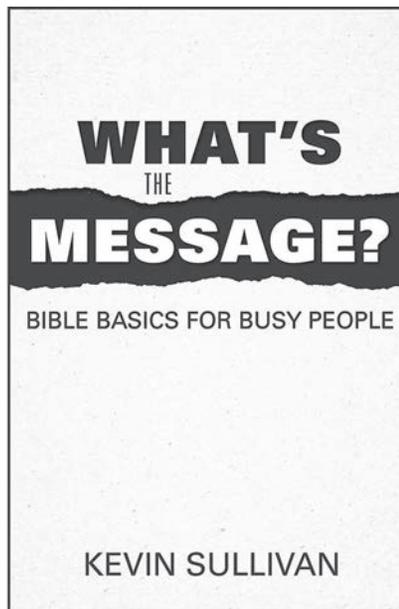
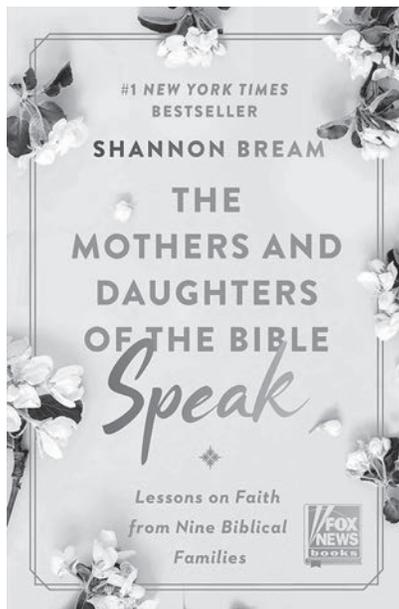
Bream interweaves her narrations of the biblical stories with reflections on her own life experiences, which helps readers to immerse themselves in the stories she tells.

In this way, the reader is gently led to thinking about the biblical women and men that she presents as models, guides and in some cases warnings about the decisions we make in our own lives.

Bream is the author of a New York Times bestseller, *Women of the Bible Speak*, and is the chief legal correspondent for Fox News.

The book is divided into three sections, each of which has study questions that can also serve as discussion starters for groups who may be reading and discussing the book together:

- Mothers and daughters, in



which she tells the stories of Jochebed and Miriam, Ruth and Naomi, and Elizabeth and Mary.

- Mothers and sons, presenting the lives of Rebekah, Bathsheba and Mary the mother of Jesus.

- Daughters and fathers, which focuses on Dinah, Esther and Michal.

It concludes with another reflection on mothers and daughters, focusing on the Book of Kings and the Gospel of Mark.

Each section concludes with a prayer that readers may recite and meditate upon.

As a biblical scholar, I was aware of these stories. But Bream's approach, speaking from within her understanding of women, consistently gave me new and deeper insights into the characters, the stories and their meaning for my life and for the lives of all Catholics, indeed all Christians.

Jews reading her presentations of the stories from their Bible, the Hebrew Scriptures, may gain insights as well and into the life and teaching of the Jew, Jesus, who lived and died a faithful Jew of His time.

Frankly, I was drawn into this book very deeply by the simplicity and depths of its narrations and, once again, recommend it most highly to all readers of all ages.

Monsignor Kevin Sullivan, the author of *What's the Message?*, is CEO of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York. As such, he has had

deep contacts with ordinary people and with many people in need.

His book first quotes key biblical passages (which takes up about half of the book) and then comments on them in a colloquial, folksy way seeking to bring out the deeper meaning of each for ordinary people.

A few chapter titles illustrate his approach: "Let's Start at the Beginning" (Genesis 1), "Don't Waste God's Time" (Psalms), "Leniency on the Way: Not So Much at the End" (Matthew, Luke), "A Non-Majestic Messiah" (Isaiah 53), "God's Turn-around Plan for the Down-trodden" (Isaiah 61) and "Two Oldies Too Goodie to be Left Out" (Psalm 23 and the "Our Father").

Many readers will enjoy this humorous approach and learn from it. Others may not. But the book is certainly worth checking out if one wants a quick and lively approach to the Bible.

My caveat comes in Chapter 6 in which "all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about His death," and join together to force Pilate to crucify Him lest a riot break out (Pages 44-45), repeating this on Page 51: "You Israelites crucified Jesus," citing Acts.

The problem is this ignores the fact that Pilate appointed and totally controlled the chief priests. They had to do whatever he told them to do.

It was Pilate and Pilate

## Movie Ratings discontinued



As of July 30, movie ratings are not being currently supplied by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Film and Broadcasting Office.

alone who had the power to order the crucifixion of Jesus, which he did, on his own. As our creed rightly states, Jesus suffered and died under Pontius Pilate with no reference to Jewish involvement.

The reason that presenting the death of Jesus as the result of Pilate's decision is that the notion that "the Jews" killed Jesus was the basis for centuries of the ancient Christian teaching of contempt for Jews and Judaism. Jews were blamed for all social ills, even scapegoated if the water in wells went bad. They were persecuted.

Ultimately, the Nazis changed the teaching of contempt into a racial slur, anti-semitism, and used it to justify rounding up the Jews of Europe and sending them to the

death camps.

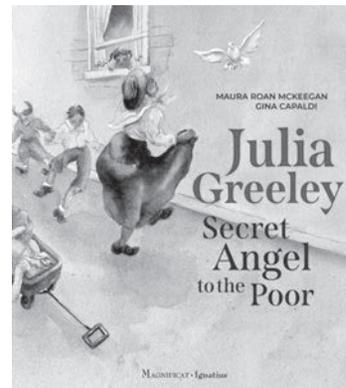
Interestingly, many Italian Catholics hid Jews in their homes, monasteries and convents, saving many, though they could not save the 6 million.

The Second Vatican Council in "*Nostra Aetate*" clearly and definitely rejected the false claim that "the Jews" were (and are) collectively guilty for the death of Jesus.

Msgr. Sullivan's treatment obfuscates this sacred Catholic teaching. So this section of his book, in my opinion, should be rewritten in a new edition to better conform to official Catholic teaching.

*Fisher is a professor of theology at St. Leo University in Florida.*

## Children's book on Missouri native Svnt. of God Julia Greeley



Maura McKeegan, author of numerous popular Catholic childrens books, has written a hardback 40-page picture book about Julia Greeley, titled *Julia Greeley: Secret Angel to the Poor*.

It is scheduled for release on Oct. 10 by Ignatius-Magnum publishers.

The book is illustrated by Gina Capaldi, who has won many awards for art work in other books.

Amazon, EWTN, Sunrise-Marian Distributors, and oth-

ers are already taking pre-publication orders for the book, which is listed at \$15.99.

Ignatius Press, the publisher of book, is offering it with an online 15% discount, at \$13.59 at [ignatius.com/julia-greeley-6sdhl](https://www.ignatius.com/julia-greeley-6sdhl).

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## ROODHOUSE

From page 5

important and helpful,” he stated. Without understanding that at its heart, a parish is territorial, many other provisions in the code will not make sense.

### Paths to understanding

Mr. Roodhouse grew up in California and Oregon.

His love and knowledge of the Catholic faith blossomed while he was attending Jesuit High School in Portland, Oregon and while he was studying history at Hillsdale College in Michigan.

He later studied civil law at Ave Maria School of Law in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and practiced real-estate law for several years.

He happened to meet his wife, Jennifer, while working in Washington, D.C.

He later went about pursuing a licentiate in canon law at The Catholic University of America.

They are now members of Cathedral of St. Joseph Parish in Jefferson City. They have a 7-month-old son, Mark Thomas.

“People talk about how much fatherhood instantly changes everything, and in a way, it does,” Mr. Roodhouse stated. “But the most remarkable part of this experience has been the gradual unfolding of what it means to be a father. As my son has been learning all about the world around him I’ve been experiencing new depths of what fatherhood is and what new life is all about.”

“Before he was born my

life felt full and complete,” he said. “But now that he is here, my wife and I can’t even imagine what a day would be like without him.”

### No two days alike

Bishop McKnight hired Mr. Roodhouse last summer to work full-time in the Chancery in Jefferson City, advising the bishop, his cabinet and the heads of various diocesan offices on matters of canon law, and helping with cases in the diocesan Matrimonial Tribunal.

“It’s been a bit of everything, and it’s been really fun because of that,” Mr. Roodhouse stated.

He enjoys the nature of his work, which takes place mostly behind the scenes.

“This job is essentially office work,” he said. “There are exciting, dramatic days, and days where I’m working on various long-term projects to bring things into compliance with canon law, or helping to draft long-term policies.”

As chancellor and director of canonical services, he offers guidance on how canon law enhances and supports each of their ministries and vice versa.

In doing so, he helps implement the mission of the diocese as articulated by the bishop.

He said his experience of

working with other department heads and curia members in the Chancery has been very good.

“The department heads understand that the diocesan curia has one mission and one mission only: to assist the bishop in doing his job,” said Mr. Roodhouse. “That’s our only purpose for being here.”

He lauded Bishop McKnight for empowering the people he works with to help him execute his duties and become a better bishop.

“The people here understand that we need to work together to implement the bishop’s vision for the governance of this diocese,” said Mr. Roodhouse.

He said he’s grateful to Bishop McKnight for entrusting him with these roles and is eager to continue learning about the people and processes of this diocese.

“The office of chancellor isn’t one I take lightly, and I am very thankful to the bishop for entrusting this important work to me. Even on the most mundane days I know that my work is supporting the Church of Christ and its saving mission.”

He asks for prayers “simply that I persevere in my vocation — both to holiness personally and a sincere devotion to my duties.”



## LUECKE

From page 4

### “Stories to tell”

Mr. Luecke has noticed many similarities between the tight communities where he spent his formative years and many of the towns and cities of this diocese.

“You have so many people care about you, so many people supporting you all the time,” he said. “It’s important to feel their support and understand that you’re part of a network of supporting each

other — the kind of community you don’t always find in today’s society — that teaches you that you’re part of something bigger.”

He’s looking forward to collaborating with the diocese’s communication staff and working with people and parishes throughout the diocese.

“I love speaking to anyone and learning about each person’s journey in their life,” he stated. “Being the communi-

cations director is such a great opportunity to do that. You’re talking about the people and their faith and some of the most important aspects of their life.”

He is grateful for all the help and support he has already received from his predecessor, Mrs. Osman.

“To have Helen to learn from has been fantastic,” he said. “She’s already been a great mentor to me. It’s so fortunate for the diocese to have had

## Daily Readings

### Sunday, Oct 2

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
Hb. 1:2-3; 2:2-4  
Ps. 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9  
2 Tm. 1:6-8, 13-14  
Lk. 17:5-10

### Monday, Oct 3

Gal. 1:6-12  
Ps. 111:1b-2, 7-8, 9, 10c  
Lk. 10:25-37

### Tuesday, Oct 4

St. Francis of Assisi  
Gal. 1:13-24  
Ps. 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 14c-15  
Lk. 10:38-42

### Wednesday, Oct 5

St. Faustina Kowalska, virgin;  
Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos,  
priest (USA)  
Gal. 2:1-2, 7-14  
Ps. 117:1bc, 2  
Lk. 11:1-4

### Thursday, Oct 6

St. Bruno, priest; Blessed Marie  
Rose Durocher, virgin (USA)  
Gal. 3:1-5  
(Ps.) Lk. 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75  
Lk. 11:5-13

### Friday, Oct 7

Our Lady of the Rosary  
Gal. 3:7-14  
Ps. 111:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6  
Lk. 11:15-26

### Saturday, Oct 8

Gal. 3:22-29  
Ps. 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7  
Lk. 11:27-28

### The Holy Father’s prayer intentions for October:

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

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someone like her guide us in recent years and continue to help guide us into the future.”

He asks for prayers “that as communications director I can help faithfully represent the many voices of our diocese, and that I can contribute to a strengthening of faith and participation in our communities.”

He noted that most people are more comfortable talking

about politics or their favorite sports teams than they are about their faith.

“That’s something we have to work on,” he said. “I think good communications can help with that. If we are putting great stories about the work of our Church into the world, that can turn attention to our faith and open more eyes to the awesome work our Church is doing.”

*St. Andrew Parish*  
**FALL FESTIVAL**

**Sunday, October 2**  
11 am - 6 pm

*Holtz Summit*

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Games  
Prizes



**St. Luke Healthcare  
Masses in Columbia**

**DATE: October 18**  
**TIME: 7:30 am & noon**

St. Thomas More Newman Center Parish will host St. Luke Healthcare Masses at 7:30 a.m. and at noon on Tuesday, Oct. 18.

Both Masses will be in the St. Thomas More Newman Center Chapel, 602 Turner Ave. It will be the feastday of St.

Luke, physician and evangelist.

The purpose will be to worship God and honor those called to minister in the healthcare profession.

The noon Mass will be livestreamed on the St. Thomas More Newman Center Facebook page.

People of all faith backgrounds are welcome.

**Fertility awareness event in Clarence**

**DATE: October 9**  
**TIME: 4 pm**

A free event, "Walking with God: Becoming One & Fruitful," will be held from 4 to 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 9, at Camp Jo-Ota Retreat Center, 1272 Hwy MM in Clarence.

Hosted by the parishes in Macon and Shelby counties, the event will cover "Theology of the Body," Natural Family Planning (NFP), and fertility awareness.

The seminar will include a question-and-answer session with diocesan NFP coordinators.

There is no pre-registration required, but no one under 16 can attend due to the subject matter.

Childcare will be provided.

For more information contact Amanda Durbin at 660-415-7362 or [adurbin@ymail.com](mailto:adurbin@ymail.com).

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