

Western Kentucky Catholic
600 Locust Street
Owensboro, Kentucky 42301

Change Service Requested

Volume 28, Number 3

Western Kentucky CATHOLIC

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Owensboro, Kentucky

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
Paid
Owensboro, KY
Permit No. 111
42301

March, 2001

Diocese To Discuss Lay Ecclesial Ministries and New Five-Year Plan

By Mel Howard

OWENSBORO, Ky - Two articles about new ideas being prepared about diocesan ministries in both professional and lay ministries in the Catholic Church of Western Kentucky appear in this issue of *The Western Kentucky Catholic*.

On page 3, the article printed in English and Spanish, about "Who are Ecclesial Lay Ministers?" represents a first in the diocese to identify those serving in "Lay Ecclesial Minister."

Bishop John McRaith will celebrate with the Ecclesial Lay Ministers of the Diocese in a paraliturgical ritual on April 1, 2001 at 2:30 p.m in St. Stephen Cathedral. A reception will follow in the undercroft.

A second article, "Five Year Plan Helps Determine Direction of Diocese of Owensboro," on page 38 is a set of statements about Diocesan ministries which the Diocesan Pastoral Council (DPC) has sent to Councils in every parish of the diocese for parish input about the priorities and activities of diocesan ministries in the next five years. The article reflects how the DPC prioritizes the ministries now in existence in the diocese. The statements are attempts at setting some goals for those ministries.

Both the goal statements and the priorities of the ministries open for parish input will be discussed at a future DPC meeting and weighed on their merits.

The Western Kentucky Catholic will print more information about both these articles in upcoming issues.

As was noted above, some articles in *The Western Kentucky Catholic* have been printed in both Spanish and English here and in recent past issues. Ms. Lilly Barr of Owensboro has graciously agreed to do these translations from English into conversational Spanish.

Henderson Attorney Accepted Into Ursulines Contact Program

MAPLE MOUNT, Ky. -- During the Sunday liturgy on January 21 at Mount St. Joseph Chapel, the Ursuline Sisters welcomed Donna Sauer of Henderson into the community's Contact Program. This is a period of discernment—lasting from six months to two years—during which both the candidate and the community reflect on the candidate's call to be a member of the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph. Donna is assistant county attorney in Henderson and also has a private practice. Active in parish ministry, she served as president of the Holy Name Parish Council and on several parish committees. She was instrumental in organizing the Serra Club in the Parish.



Pictured are, from left, Sister Michele Morek, who will serve as Donna's contact sister; Donna Sauer; Donna's mother, Marian Theresa Hayden Sauer; Sister Rose Marita O'Bryan, superior of the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph; and Sister Pam Mueller, director of vocation ministry. MSJ Photo



Vocations Awareness Fourth-graders at Bishop Cotton School respond enthusiastically to a presentation by Sister Pam Mueller, director of vocation ministry for the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph, on January 19. Also talking with the students during National Vocations Awareness Week were Brother Tim Smyth, CFC, pastoral administrator at Sebree, and Father Larry Hostetter, campus minister and assistant professor of religious studies at Brescia University. At Bishop Cotton, the group spoke with children from the grades 4, 5, and 6. Mount Saint Joseph Photo

Welcoming Pentecost: A Diocesan
Encounter of Faith & Culture

*Many Faces In
God's House*

Saturday, June 2, 2001, 9:30
a.m.- 5:00 p.m.

Mass at 4:00 p.m. - St. Mary High
School, Paducah

All Catholics of the Diocese of
Owensboro are invited to attend this
diocesan-sponsored event, which is in
the planning stages. See upcoming
issues of the WKC for more details.
Please mark your calendars and plan
to attend!

Your Donations Give Great Help To The Poor. Will You Please Help Again?

My Dear Friends,

During his brief but humanity-transforming ministry on Earth, Jesus embodied a preference for the poor and suffering. From his humble beginnings to his simple lifestyle, the company he kept, and the people he healed, he was one with them. In our recent statement on immigration, *Welcoming the Stranger Among Us: Unity in Diversity*, the U.S. bishops wrote that the encounter with the living Christ through the new evangelization "leads to a daily vision of the risen Lord, present and active in the world, especially in the poor, in the stranger, and in the migrant and refugee." When we encounter such persons, we truly see "*Jesus in disguise*," the theme of the 2001 **American Bishops' Overseas Appeal (ABOA)**.

This annual appeal, which supports agencies that build the international social ministry of the Catholic Church, will be held in your parish on March 25, 2001. Your gift to the **American Bishops' Overseas Appeal** funds the work of four agencies of the Church, improving the lives of countless people the world over:

Catholic Relief Services, the U.S. bish-



Most Reverend John J. McRaith, D.D.
Bishop of Owensboro, Ky

ops' overseas relief and development agency, works in solidarity with poor people in more than eighty countries. CRS provides emergency relief and supports long-term sustainable development projects.

Migration and Refugee Services of the U.S. Catholic conference annually resettles approximately one-fourth of the refugees admitted to the United States and provides advocacy and pastoral care to many newcomers.

Holy Father's Relief Fund assists victims of natural disasters and other emergencies around the world.

Department of Social Development and World Peace of the U.S. Catholic Conference advocates for poor and vulnerable people and for peace and justice. It works to build the capacity of the Church to respond to global concerns such as debt relief to poor countries and religious freedom.

In giving to the **American Bishops' Overseas Appeal** you acknowledge the universal need for bread, dignity, and peace; the unity of the human family; and our common desire to know Jesus Christ. In my experience as a Bishop for these past many years, I can

personally attest to the great help to the poor that is accomplished by this collection. For example, **Catholic Relief Services** covers many parts of the world. We hear about their work at times of natural disasters, such as the recent earthquake in El Salvador, but their efforts to assist the people in the poorest parts of our world go on daily. I have had the privilege to visit some of these places and have seen firsthand the difference your contributions make to the poorest of the poor.

You have always been most generous in this and all the collections. I encourage you to continue that generosity as this collection, **American Bishops' Overseas Appeal**, is taken up on the weekend of March 25th.

Thank you for your past generosity and thanks for your consideration of being generous in this year's collection. God's blessings on you always.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend John J. McRaith
Bishop of Owensboro

Sus donaciones dan gran ayuda a los pobres. ¿Ayudará usted de nuevo por favor?

Carta del Obispo

Mis Estimados Amigos,

Durante su corta pero humanitaria-transformación del ministerio en la Tierra,

Jesús incluyó una preferencia para el pobre y el sufrido. Desde su humilde comienzo a su estilo de vida simple, la compañía que él conservó, y las personas que él sanó, él estaba con ellos. En nuestra reciente declaración sobre la inmigración, Dando la Bienvenida al Extraño entre nosotros: La Unidad en la Diversidad, los obispos americanos escribieron que el encuentro con el Cristo viviente a través de la nueva evangelización "lleva a una visión diaria de los levantados al Señor, presente, y activo en el mundo, especialmente en los pobres, el extraño, y el trabajador migratorio y refugiado." Cuando nosotros encontramos a tales personas, nosotros vemos de verdad "Jesús en el fingimiento," el tema de la Asociación de Intereses Extranjeros de Obispos Americanos. (ABOA siglas en inglés).

Este interés anual apoya a agencias que construyen el ministerio social

internacional de la Iglesia Católica, y se celebrará en su parroquia el 25 de marzo del 2001. Suregalo a los Fondos de Intereses Extranjeros de Obispos Americanos, el trabajo de cuatro agencias de la Iglesia, mejoran las vidas de innumerables personas en el mundo: el Servicio Católico de Alivio, el Servicio de Alivio al extranjero de los obispos americanos y la Agencia de Desarrollo, trabajan solidariamente con las personas pobres en más de ochenta países. El CRS (siglas en inglés) para el Servicio Católico de Alivio proporciona alivio de emergencia y apoyo a largo plazo a los proyectos de desarrollo sustentables.

El Servicio de Migración y Refugiados de la Conferencia Católica anualmente reagrupa aproximadamente un cuarto de los refugiados admitidos a los Estados Unidos y proporcionan servicios de abogacía y cuidados pastorales a muchos de los recién llegados. El Fondo de Alivio del Santo Padre ayuda a las víctimas de desastres naturales y otras emergencias alrededor del mundo.

El Departamento de Desarrollo Social y Paz del Mundo de los Estados Unidos de la Conferencia Católica aboga por los pobres y las personas vulnerables y por paz y justicia. Funciona para construir la capacidad de la Iglesia a responder a las preocupaciones globales como el alivio de la deuda a los países pobres y la libertad religiosa.

Dando a los Intereses Extranjeros de Obispos Americanos ustedes pueden reconocer la necesidad universal por el pan, la dignidad, y la paz; la unidad de la familia humana; y nuestro deseo común de conocer a Jesucristo. En mi experiencia como Obispo durante estos muchos últimos años, yo puedo personalmente atestiguar la gran ayuda a los pobres que se ha cumplido con esta colección. Por ejemplo, los Servicios Católicos de Alivio cubren muchas partes del mundo. Nosotros oímos hablar a veces de su trabajo cuando ocurren desastres naturales, tal, como el reciente terremoto en El Salvador, pero sus esfuerzos por ayudar a las personas en las partes más pobres

de nuestro mundo siguen diariamente. Yo he tenido el privilegio de visitar algunos de estos lugares y he visto a primera instancia la diferencia que sus contribuciones hacen al más pobre del pobres.

En el fin de semana del 25 de marzo de 2001, se llevará a cabo la colección para los Intereses Extranjeros de Obispos Americanos, y yo los animo para que como siempre ustedes que han sido muy generosos en esta y otras colecciones continúen con su generosidad para esta colección.

Gracias por su generosidad pasada y gracias por considerar ser generoso en la colección de este año.

Que las bendiciones de Dios estén siempre con ustedes.
Atentamente en Cristo,

Reverendo John J. McRaith
Obispo de Owensboro

FIRST IN THE DIOCESE

Bishop John McRaith will celebrate with the Ecclesial Lay Ministers of the Diocese in a paraliturgical ritual on April 1, 2001 at 2:30 p.m. in St. Stephen Cathedral. A reception will follow in the undercroft.

Who are Ecclesial Lay Ministers?

On page of the 1999 of the committee report, "Lay Ecclesial Ministry: The State of the Questions," the Bishops of The United States identify "lay ecclesial minister" as follows:

-A fully initiated member of the Christian faithful (including vowed religious) who is responding to the empowerment and gifts of the Holy Spirit received in baptism and confirmation, which enable one to share in some form of ministry

-One who responds to a call or invitation to participate in ministry and who has prepared through a process of prayerful discernment

-One who had received the necessary formation, education, and training to function competently within the given area of ministry

-One who intentionally brings personal competencies and gifts to serve the Church's mission through a specific ministry of ecclesial leadership and who does so with community recognition and support

-One to whom a formal and public role in ministry has been entrusted or upon whom an office has been conferred by competent ecclesial authority

-One who has been installed in a ministry through the authority of the bishop or his representative, perhaps using a public ritual

-One who commits to performing the duties of ministry in a stable manner

-A paid staff person (full- or part-time) or a volunteer who has responsibility and the necessary authority for institutional leadership in a particular area of ministry

PRIMERO EN LA DIOCESIS

El Obispo John McRaith celebrará con los Laicos Eclesiasticos del Ministerio de la Diócesis un ritual paraliturgico el 1 de abril del 2001 a las 2:30 p.m en la Catedral de San Esteban , (St. Stephen Cathedral) recepción seguirá despues del ritual.

¿Quiénes son los Ministros del Laico Eclesiastico?

En la página del informe del comité de 1999, "Ministro del Laico Eclesiastico:

Plantea las Preguntas, " los Obispos de Los Estados Unidos, identifican " Ministro del Laico Eclesiastico" como lo sigue:

-A un miembro completamente iniciado fiel al Cristianismo (incluyendo a los religiosos con votos) quién está respondiendo al fortalecimiento y regalos de el Espíritu Santo recibido en el bautismo y confirmación a que habilitan a que comparta en alguna forma al ministerio.

-Uno que responde a una llamada o invitación para participar en el ministerio y quién se ha preparado a través de un proceso de discernimiento piadoso.

-Uno que ha recibido la formación necesaria, la educación, y entrenamiento para funcionar competentemente dentro del área dada del ministerio.

-Uno que intencionalmente trae competencias personales y regalos para servir a la misión de la Iglesia a través de liderazgo aun ministerio

eclesiastico específico y quién hace esto con el reconocimiento y apoyo de la comunidad.

-Uno a quien un papel formal y público en el ministerio ha sido confiado o en quien una oficina se le ha conferido por competente la autoridad eclesiastica.

-Uno que ha sido instalado en un ministerio a través de la autoridad del obispo o su representante, quizás usando un ritual público.

-Uno que se compromete a realizar los deberes del ministerio de una manera estable.

-A una persona del personal pagada (de tiempo completo o medio tiempo) o a un voluntario que tiene la responsabilidad y la autoridad necesaria para la dirección institucional en una área particular del ministerio.



Mike Morrow, St. Pius Tenth Parish, Owensboro, at left, at The Opportunity Center, Owensboro. Said Mike: "We don't teach Jesus here; we just try to act like Jesus. WKC File Photo

BISHOP McRAITH'S MARCH SCHEDULE

1 Staff Meeting-CPC-9:00 a.m.
 1 NCCB Finance Committee Meeting-Washington, D.C.
 2 NCCB Finance Committee Meeting-Washington, D.C.
 4 Rite of Election-St. Stephen Cathedral, Owensboro-2:00 p.m.
 4 Rite of Election-Holy Name, Henderson-7:30 p.m.
 6 Development Committee Meeting-Brescia University-12:00 noon
 9 Youth 2000
 10 Workshop on Prison Ministry-CPC-10:00 a.m.
 10 Mass-Youth 2000-4:30 p.m.-Brescia University
 11 Charismatic Conference-Mount St. Joseph-1:30 p.m.
 11 - 13 NCCB Women's Committee Consultation with Diocesan Women-Chicago, Illinois
 15 Staff Meeting-CPC-9:00 a.m.

17 African-American Day of Reflection-Rosary Chapel, Paducah
 18 Boy Scouts Awards Mass-St. Stephen Cathedral-1:00 p.m.
 18 Awards for Excellence-Brescia University-4:00 p.m.
 19 Priest Personnel Committee-CPC-9:30 a.m.
 19 Priests' Council Meeting-CPC-1:30 p.m.
 19 Travel to Washington, D.C.
 20-22 USCC Administration Committee Meeting-Washington, D.C.
 22-25 National Symposium on the Spiritual Formation of Lay Ecclesial Ministers-Indianapolis, IN
 26 Diocesan Pastoral Council-St. Michael, Sebree-6:00 p.m.
 28 Paducah Office
 28 Confirmation-St. Jerome, Fancy Farm-7:00 p.m.
 29 St. Joseph Peace Mission-5:30 p.m.
 31 Confirmation-St. Martin, Rome-6:00 p.m.

The Western Kentucky Catholic

Official Newspaper of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Owensboro, KY

Story Deadline: 15th of month prior to publication

The Western Kentucky Catholic is published monthly except June and July from the Catholic Pastoral Center in Owensboro, KY.

Publisher: Most Rev. John J. McRaith, D. D.

Editor: Mel Howard

Business Address: Catholic Pastoral Center, 600 Locust St., Owensboro, KY 42301

Phone: 683-1545. Fax: 683-6883

Internet Address: www.owensborodio.org

Subscription Cost: \$10.00 per year

The Western Kentucky Catholic comes to your home as a direct use of your parish assessment dollars.

Announcement!

Brescia University Liturgy Course

What? 3-credit course, "Catholic Liturgy,"
taught by Michael Bogdon & Sr. Cheryl Clemons, OSU

When? March 17 & 31, April 21, and May 5 & 19, 9-1 p.m.

Where? Holy Name of Jesus Parish Hall, Henderson, KY.

For whom? Catechists, liturgy committee
members, Catholic school
teachers, Catholics interested in liturgy

How much? \$75.00 for entire course,
\$35.50 for audit
(1st-time Brescia students also have
a one-time \$25 registration fee)
- Payment due upon registration
OR at the first class.

Why? This course is part of the diocesan
religious education certification
program; it offers to anyone
interested in the church's worship a
general introduction to the history,
theology, and practice of Catholic
liturgy.

How? Contact Weekend College Office @
270-686-4252 or via e-mail:
grega@brescia.edu

to register and/or receive syllabus
OR - Registration after 5:30 p.m. Mass at
Holy Name on Saturday, March 10.
Course Outline and textbooks will
be available at that time.

NOTE: Textbooks also available in Brescia
University Campus Center
Bookstore

NOTE: Because of WEC format, pre-assignment due for 1st
class (see Course Outline).

WISDOM

By Ginny Knight Simon



Ella Mae Turner
St. Joseph Parish, Mayfield, Ky

I'm not sure how to begin! I married Edward Lee Turner from Fancy Farm and we had 13 children. In 1971 Edward was killed in a car accident. The lose was terrible for me, plus I had 13 children to raise alone. It got really rough at times, but the Lord was right beside me all the way, and somehow I managed.

In 1979 my daughter was also killed in an auto accident, and I just knew I couldn't go on, but the Lord told me I had to and He helped me. I say I raised the children alone, but I didn't. I leaned on the Lord and with His help we both did it.

All of my children except for one that lives in Virginia, live in this area and that is a blessing to me. I don't drive but I can always go! I have a wonderful faith family here at St. Joseph's and with my good friend, Christine Meyer, I'm never in need of a ride or great friends. I am in the Army of Mary as prayer leader and I like reading and I use to quilt a lot but not any more.

As far as my religion, I just don't see how people could live without the Lord in their life. I can only remember two times that I've missed Mass in my life.



OCHS Senior Well-Prepared For Higher Education

OWENSBORO, KY - Julie Anne Naviaux, daughter of Gene and Laura Naviaux of Owensboro, Ky, has been awarded an academic scholarship from Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio. Julie attends Owensboro Catholic High School.

Recipients of a scholarship to Xavier University must rank in the top 25 percent in their high school class. They must also achieve a 24 or higher on the American College Test (ACT) or I 100 or higher on the Scholarship Aptitude Test (SAT).

Julie won the \$5,000/yr. scholarship to Xavier as well as a \$7,500/yr award to Bellarmine in Louisville, and a \$6,500/yr to Butler. She also applied to Christian Brothers and Rhodes in Memphis.

Julie has been on the OCHS Academic Team varsity, is a member of the OCHS National Honor Society, vice president of Mu Alpha Theta, a Pep Club member, a Teen Court inducted member, has made TEC and a Koinonia as well as been a member of the youth group and youth council in her parish.

Julie was one of the youth organizers of the February 23-24 Thirty Hour Famine held at Saint Pius Tenth Church in Owensboro and sponsored by World Vision.

Julie wrote of the 30 Hour Famine experience last year: "We learned what it's like not to have basic needs met. Water and fruit juice is all we got for 30 hours. This doesn't harm the health of the average teenager. In fact, some claim it is a benefit, ridding the body of poisons. I speak from persnal experience, having participated in the Famine for the previous four years, that this truly is a worthwhile event."



Your are invited to
celebrate
**The Diocesan
Chrism Mass**
**Owensboro
Sportscenter**
April 10 ,2001
6:30 P.M.

Kordes Retreat Center Plans Programs for Lent

Kordes Retreat Center in Ferdinand, Ind., will offer special retreats and prayer days during March and April.

"A Lenten Retreat: As the Master Goes, So Goes the Disciple" will be offered on March 2-4. This retreat, presented by Rev. Eugene Hensell, OSB, professor of scripture studies at Saint Meinrad School of Theology, will focus on the life of Jesus and how Christians can become more Christ-like. This retreat begins at 7:30 p.m. EST on Friday, March 2, and closes at 1 p.m. on Sunday.

"Praying Without Words: An Introduction to Centering Prayer" is scheduled for March 3. This day of prayer invites participants to let go of the busyness of their lives and to rest in God. Participants will use this quiet prayer form to deepen their relationship with God. Certified Centering Prayer staff will direct this prayer day, which begins at 8:30 a.m. EST and concludes at 3:30 p.m.

During a "Triduum Retreat" from April 10-15, participants will join the Sisters of St. Benedict for Holy Week liturgies commemorating the Triduum of Jesus' death, burial,

and resurrection. Retreatants will enter into an atmosphere of silence during this most sacred time of the year. Spiritual Direction will be available Tuesday through Thursday. The retreat begins at 6:30 p.m. EST Thursday and closes on Easter Sunday at 10 a.m.

For further information or registration for any of these programs, contact Kordes Retreat Center at 800-880-2777 or 812-367-2777, or check the Kordes Web site at www.thedome.org/kordes

Calling All College Students

Brescia University Campus Ministry is sponsoring an overnight retreat for all area college students. The retreat will be held from Friday, March 30 to Sunday, April 1 at Camp Loucon near Leitchfield. The event offers students time for reflection and prayer intertwined with a mix of recreational activities. Interested students should contact Fr. Larry Hostetter at (270) 686-4328 or (270) 686-6423. You may also email Fr. larry at larryh@brescia.edu. The cost is \$15.

Position Available At St. Stephen Cathedral Parish

St. Stephen Cathedral is now accepting applications for the position of Director of Faith Formation (start date: July 1, 2001). Primary responsibilities include coordinating the RCIA process and Faith Formation for elementary students not in Catholic schools, as well as sacramental preparation programs for all students. For more information or to send resume contact Fr. John Vaughan, 614 Locust Street, Owensboro, KY 42301. Tel: 270.683.6526

Cathedral Preschool

is currently accepting applications for 3, 4, and 5 year olds for the 2001-2002 school year. Cathedral Preschool has a program for 3 and 4 year old children, and a pre-K program for young 5 year olds.

Call 926-1652 for more information.



TEC #136: Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

Pictured left to right: Row 1. Leanna Thompson, Maria Ponce, Stacey Hollman, Mary Wathen, Mary Stiff, Sarah Lilly, Allyson Hancock, Matt Morris, Kelly Hutchinson, Amber Wurth, Carrie Stenger; Row 2: Frank Minto, Melissa Alvey, Josh Turner, Kerri Thompson, Nicole Mlssig, Shannon Roberts, Jessica Hancock, Jessica Obest, Jared Watson, Darlene Mills, Kathy Cash Row 3: Regina Gomez, Katy McCalla, Meredith Liles, Jessica Moman, Jennifer Green, Kristin Ebelhar, Amy Stallings, Christian Farley, Carlon Woodall, Lindsay Prunty, Brandon Barnard, Barry Wolfe; Row 4: Amy Fogle, Matthew Williams, Martha Wheatley, Eddie Gray, Katie Murphy, Charlene Mingus, Therese Scheitz, Kate Stanton, Br. Ken Grondin, Matt Koperski, Shawn Storm, Martha Clark, Agnes Murphy, Charlotte Payne, Rachel Gray, Fr. Carl McCarthy, Sonia Stahr, Andrea Conder; Row 5: Aaron Jahn, Pat May, Zach Woodard, Josh Payne, Stephen Chapman, Joshua Frey, Roman Hagan, Brandon Johnson, Fr. Mike Williams, Nick Howard, Nick Warren, Kathy Doup, Bob Payne



June-October 2001 Schedule

TEC 138 - June 9-11, Brescia University, Owensboro

TEC 139 July 14-16, St. Mary's, Paducah

TEC 140 - October 6-8, St. Ann's, Morganfield

For information, contact The Diocesan Youth Ministry Office in Owensboro at 1-270-683-1545.

Catholic Elementary School Principal

Dedicated to Christian Formation and committed to academic excellence who possesses leadership and communications skills for Grades K-8, 215 students, 9 full-time teachers and 8 support staff. Must be a practicing Catholic, have Kentucky Certification or working toward certification. Experience preferred. Send resume by March 15, 2001 to:

Search Committee, St. Aloysius Parish Pastoral Center, 187 South Plum Street, Shepherdsville, KY 40165

Job Opening: Associate Director of Pastoral Services

The Diocese of Belleville in Southern Illinois is in need of an Associate Director of the Pastoral Services Department to head up planning initiatives throughout the diocese. Responsibilities include strategic planning, pastoral training and partnering with parishes, deaneries and agencies to build vision, provide guidance, promote ownership and leadership. This position will help groups identify the strategies with the greatest promise for helping them realize their mission.

A modest level of analytical ability is necessary, but the right person will be, most importantly: trustworthy, credible and available to parishes, responsive to others and comfortable facilitating sensitive meetings. Experience in planning, organizational development, interpersonal skills, ministry and or ministerial planning preferred. Salary is in the 40's.

Contact: Human Resources Dept., Diocese of Belleville, 222 S. 3rd St., Belleville, IL 62220, fax to 618.277.0819, e-mail to humanresources@diobelle.org

Bishops of Kentucky Issue A Call To Action On Behalf Of The Consistent Ethic Of Life

FRANKFORT, KY - January 22, 2001

The Catholic bishops of Kentucky issue this statement on this 28th observance of the tragic U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Roe v. Wade* to address the fundamental human rights issue of our day — the right to life of the unborn. We view the current policy of abortion on demand as a national scandal which strikes at the heart of our civilization. The legally sanctioned taking of the lives of the most vulnerable human beings in our midst erodes respect for all human life.

The violation of the most fundamental right — the right to life — can lull the social conscience in ways ultimately destructive of other human rights. Sadly, *Roe* has served to coarsen our great nation's character. *Roe* contributed to the creation of not only a culture of abortion, but also a culture that advances death as an acceptable answer to personal, societal and economic problems. These solutions hold out false hopes of relieving the pain of murder victims' families, curing physical illness and injury through discarded fetal tissue, and offering death with dignity for the terminally ill. Delusions of health and happiness founded in a contrived notion of a constitutionally guaranteed "right to choose" are mere shadows of what is true and just.

We renew our pledge to activate the resources at our disposal — parishes, schools, health care institutions, and social service agencies — to provide alternatives to abor-

tion and to engage all of us and others in the struggle to create an environment supportive of human life. The Catholic community's efforts to live out the Gospel of life must continue to reach across the Commonwealth in both prayer and action.

To the Catholic people of Kentucky, we issue a call to action on behalf of the consistent ethic of life. All can answer our call by prayer and sacrifice on behalf of the sanctity of life. Civility — respect, fairness, and restraint — should above all mark the Catholic pro-life movement. Women, because of their unique role in nurturing human life, play a special role in promoting the Gospel of life with a new pro-life feminism. We ask our priests and religious to be aware of the opportunities to weave the consistent ethic of life through preaching and other teaching roles. Healthcare professionals, lawyers, researchers, educators are asked to make their contribution in public discussion and within their professions. We also call upon public officials to exercise their moral responsibility to protect the weak and defenseless.

Kentucky is a state that has been strongly pro-life with regard to the unborn. Much has been accomplished yet much remains to be done. Each generation decides the future of a nation. Human freedom confronts a choice between two roads — a road to life or a road to death. Let our choice be guided by the biblical injunction:

"...I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. Choose life, then, that you and your descendants may live."
(Deuteronomy 30:20)

Source: www.ccky.org, official website of the Catholic Conference of Kentucky

Los Obispos de Kentucky emitieron una llamada a actuar en nombre de la consecuente ética de la vida.

22 de enero del 2001 Frankfort, Kentucky.

Los obispos católicos de Kentucky declararon en la observancia 28 de la trágica decisión de la Corte Suprema en *Roe* contra *Wade*, dirigirse a los derechos humanos fundamentales de nuestro día - el derecho a la vida del no nacido. Nosotros vemos la política actual del aborto en demanda como un escándalo nacional que golpea al corazón de nuestra civilización. El sancionamiento del derecho más fundamental de las vidas de los seres humanos más vulnerables de nuestro medio erosiona el respecto por toda la vida humana.

La violación del derecho más fundamental - el derecho a la vida- puede calmar la conciencia social de maneras finalmente destructiva de otros derechos humanos. Tristemente, *Roe* ha servido el carácter tosco de nuestra gran nación. *Roe* contribuyó no sólo a la creación de una cultura del aborto, pero también una cultura que adelanta la muerte como una respuesta aceptable a los problemas personales, sociales y económicos. Estas soluciones ofrecen falsas esperanzas para aliviar el dolor de los familiares de las personas enfermas, la cura para los lesionados y enfermos físicamente a través de desechos del tejido fetal y ofreciendo la muerte con dignidad para aquellos que tienen un enfermedad terminal. Los engaños de salud y felicidad fundados en una noción ideada de una garantía constitucional "derecho a escoger" es sombras no más de lo que es verdad y justo.

Nosotros renovamos nuestra promesa de activar los recursos a nuestra disposición- parroquias, escuelas, instituciones de cuidado de la salud, y las agencias de servicio sociales para proporcionar las alternativas al aborto y comprometernos todos nosotros y otros en el forcejeo para crear un ambiente a favor de vida humana. Los esfuerzos de la comunidad católica por hacer realidad el

Evangelio de la vida deben continuar llegando a las Comunidades de las naciones en oración y acción.

A las personas Católicas de Kentucky, nosotros emitimos una llamada a la acción en nombre de la consecuente ética de la vida. Todos pueden contestar nuestra llamada con la oración y el sacrificio en nombre de la santidad de la vida. La civilidad -el respeto, la justicia, y la restricción- todos estos mencionados deben marcar siempre el movimiento Católico pro-vida. Las mujeres, debido a su especial papel de nutrir a la vida humana, juegue un importante papel promoviendo el Evangelio de vida con un el nuevo toque de feminismo en pro de la -vida. Nosotros pedimos a nuestros sacerdotes y religiosos ser consciente de las oportunidades de tejer la consecuente ética de la vida predicando y desempeñando otros trabajos en la educación. Se les pide a los profesionales de la salud, abogados, investigadores, educadores que hagan su contribución en público con discusiones dentro de sus profesiones. Nosotros también llamamos a los oficiales publicos para ejercer su responsabilidad moral para proteger al débil e indefenso.

Kentucky es un estado que ha sido fuertemente pro- vida concerniente al no nacido. Mucho se ha hecho pero falta más por hacer. Cada generación decide el futuro de una nación. La libertad humana confronta el escoger entre dos caminos - un camino a vida y el otro el camino a la muerte. Permita que nuestra opción se guíe por el orden bíblico:

"..Yo he puesto ante usted la vida y muerte, la bendición y la maldición. Escoja vida, entonces, que usted y sus descendientes pueden vivir." (El Deuteronomio 30:20)

La fuente: www.ccky.org, sitio oficial de la Conferencia Católica de Kentucky.

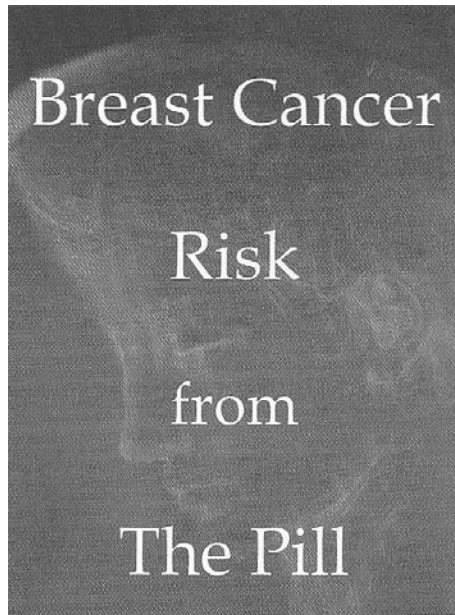
FIRST COMMUNION GIFTS AT MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH SHOP



The shop now has a full line of gifts for First Communion and Confirmation, including rosaries, Mass books, gift sets, candles, cards, medals, and veils. Also available: books for Lenten reading, and a colorful array of handmade items.

Store hours: Monday 12-3:30, Tuesday-Friday, 8:30-3:30, Saturday 8-12. For inquiries, call 270-229-0200, ext. 410. We look forward to serving your needs.

Issues in the Consistent Life Ethic



By Chris Kahlenborn, MD

Dr. Chris Kahlenborn is a practicing Internist in Altoona, PA. This information is a pamphlet published by One More Soul, 616 Five Oaks Ave., Dayton, OH 45406 1(800) 307-7685 web site: www.OMSoul.com

How could the Pill cause breast cancer?

Two of the most important types of hormones that control reproduction are estrogens and progestins. Birth Control Pills are made from synthetic estrogens and/or progestins. Experiments have shown that these hormones cause women's breast cells to divide more rapidly, which makes them more easily affected by carcinogens - agents which cause cancer.

Has this been proven?

Yes. Eighteen of the twenty-one research studies done since 1980 on the connection between the Birth Control Pill and breast cancer showed that Pill users have a higher risk of breast cancer than non-users. An analysis in 1990 of the research up to that time [1] showed that women who used the Pill for 4 or more years before their first full-term pregnancy had a 72% increased risk of developing breast cancer.

What does it mean to have "a 72% increased risk of developing breast cancer?"

A 72% increased risk means a 72% higher risk than someone would otherwise have. For example, if a person had a 10% risk of developing breast cancer, then a 72% increase would bring the risk up to 17.2%.

How serious a problem is breast cancer?

Breast cancer is the worldwide leading can-

cer in women and is the most common cause of cancer death in U.S. women age 20-59. In the U.S. every year about 175,000 women are diagnosed with breast cancer and more than 43,000 women die from this disease [2]. This means that about one U.S. woman out of eight will develop breast cancer at some time in her life and one fourth of such women will die from this disease. Using the Birth Control Pill, especially at a young age, markedly increases a woman's risk for developing breast cancer. This risk is increased even higher when combined with other breast cancer risk factors such as induced abortion, hormone treatment (such as estrogen supplementation), family history of breast cancer, and other factors.

The U.S. has one of the highest rates of hormonal contraceptive use (73% to 90% of women born after 1950 [3,4]) and induced abortion in the world, especially in young women (eg 44 abortions per thousand women under 19 compared with at most 30 per thousand for any other country [5]).

Are some groups of women in greater danger?

Yes. The research shows that the Birth Control Pill increases the risk of breast cancer more for some groups of women than for others. Groups at especially high risk include younger women, women who have not given birth, women who have a family history of breast cancer, those who took Birth Control Pills for long periods (four years or more), and young black women.

Why would black women have more breast cancer?

Breast cancer in the U.S. is more prevalent in young black women than in white women of equivalent age (eg 45.6 compared to 40.3 new cases per year per 100,000 women [61], and is the second leading cause of cancer death (after lung cancer) among black women. This may be a consequence of more common hormonal contraceptive use and/or a greater frequency of abortion among young black women. Black women who develop breast cancer generally have more aggressive cancers resulting in a shortened life expectancy.

What is the risk for young women?

Studies of women who used oral contraceptives at an early age indicate that when they develop breast cancer they tend to have larger tumors, more aggressive tumors, greater prevalence of metastatic cancer, and a shorter life expectancy. [7]

What if there has been breast cancer in my

family?

Women who have a family history of breast cancer and use oral contraceptive pills have an increased risk from both factors. For example, if a woman's mother or sister has had breast cancer, her risks from other factors such as abortion and/or oral contraceptives are increased.

Do some contraceptives cause more risk than others?

Yes. Research studies show that breast cancer risk is *almost tripled* for women who used Depo-Provera for 2 years or more before age 25. [8] Norplant, which uses the same type of chemical as Depo-Provera, may carry a similar risk.

Are other types of cancer affected by oral contraceptive pills?

Oral contraceptive pills decrease the risk of uterine and ovarian cancer, but increase the risk of breast, cervical and liver cancer. It is estimated that an additional 40,000 - 80,000 cases of cancer will occur in the U.S. annually when the effect of oral contraceptives on all types of cancer is considered.

Aren't there other risks from contraceptives?

Certainly. Well known side effects of the Pill include an increased frequency of blood clots, high blood pressure, and heart attacks, as well as migraines, depression, loss of libido, and a variety of other disorders. Less well known is that oral contraceptives and injectable progestins (such as Depo-Provera) significantly increase the risk of contracting and transmitting HIV (the AIDS virus). [9,10] In addition, today's oral contraceptives work, at times, by causing an early abortion. [11]

How can I protect myself?

Many of the known risk factors for breast cancer can be avoided: hormone exposure (including hormonal contraceptives), abortion, heavy alcohol use, obesity, and radiation exposure. In addition, there is a significant reduction of risk with each child a woman bears. Every month of breastfeeding reduces breast cancer risk, as does bearing a child at a younger age. Vitamin A (which should not be taken in high doses by women who could become pregnant) and some "anti-estrogen" medications may offer some protection. Any woman, especially if she has one or more of the known risk factors, should consult a physician regularly and perform frequent self-breast exams.

If hormonal contraceptives and abortion are so dangerous, what options do couples have?

Natural Family Planning (NFP) methods are available which use no chemicals or surgery and cause no increase in breast cancer risk. Not to be confused with the "rhythm method," NFP is based on observations of a woman's cervical mucus and (for some methods) other symptoms as well. One of the largest research studies of NFP (involving 19,843 women and performed in India by the World Health Organization) showed a pregnancy rate of 0.2 pregnancies per 100 women yearly. [12]

Natural Family Planning methods have been used to diagnose and treat a variety of female reproductive disorders including infertility. Various medical problems (eg. excessive menstrual cramping and bleeding) can be treated far more safely with less toxic means (eg. magnesium/calcium supplements and/or ibuprofen products).

How can I find out more about breast cancer risk from the Pill?

The book *Breast Cancer, Its Link to Abortion and the Birth Control Pill* by Chris Kahlenborn, MD, is available from One More Soul. Eleven of the seventeen chapters in this book deal with cancer risks from Birth Control Pills. It contains an extensive bibliography of over 500 references on this and related topics. The material in this pamphlet is based upon information from Dr. Kahlenborn's book.

Where can I find information about NFP?

Natural Family Planning information is available from a number of national organizations:

Couple to Couple League-1.513.471-2000
Pope Paul VI Institute-1-402-390-6600
Family of the Americas-1-800-443-395
Billings Ovulation Method Association-1-888-637-6371
St. Augustine Foundation-1-877-554-4637
NW Family Service-1-503-215-6377
National Conference of Catholic Bishops-1-202-541-3240

One More Soul-1-800-307-7685

Many Catholic dioceses have NFP office family life offices which can supply information. Local parishes and Catholic hospitals may also be good sources. For information locally in Western Kentucky about Natural Family Planning call Edwina Hyland, Director, the Owensboro Diocesan Family Life Office - 1-270-683-1545.

Please see REFERENCES on page 8

Banning Foreign Aid For Surgical Abortion

Gail Quinn of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops hailed the Bush executive action and said, "Withholding funds from organizations that promote or perform abortions

Life Issues Update

overseas (often in violation of the host country's own laws) sends a clear message that Americans will not subsidize attacks on the first and most basic human right, the right to life." However, Mark DeYoung, director of the World Life League, was quick to point out that "in order to restore U.S. foreign policy, the president must boldly go beyond simply cutting funds related to surgical abortion. All support for contraception abroad, which includes chemical abortion-inducing contraceptives, must be stopped." (Reading: "Reaction to Bush's Ban on Abortion Funding," CWNews, 1/23/01, <http://www.cwnews.com/news/viewrec.cfm?RefNum=14724>;

Pill Bill Returns To Congress

Senators Harry Reid and Olympia Snowe have reintroduced the infamous "pill bill," known on Capitol Hill as the Equity in Prescription and Contraceptive Coverage Act (S 104). For detailed information on combating the measure, see documents located at <http://www.all.org/activism/pillbill.htm>. The entire pro-abortion, pro-population control movement is set to press for passage of this bill in the current session of Congress.

From the "Home Extension Department" of the Oscar Romero Catholic Worker House in Oklahoma City. . .

Rising energy prices are gravely impacting the poor, working, and middle classes. We offer the following online energy conservation free resources for your use. They may be downloaded, copied in any quantity, and freely distributed. They may be reprinted in whole or in part in any free publication. The flyers (about cutting your winter and summer energy bills, food security, and inexpensive recipes) in their pdf format should print out as two page flyers designed to be copied

back to back and folded in thirds. I am also including the urls of the html versions.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact us. Note: we take our own advice, and our monthly energy bills (electricity, natural gas, kerosene, propane) for the coldest part of December-January totaled \$241 — for two buildings (a house and a duplex), both of which were built in 1929. From what we hear, this is about half what our neighbors are paying.

Personhood: Where Are We Now?

Judie Brown of American Life League said, "For 28 years, we have educated and lobbied and protested and counseled and prayed that America would see an end to the legally sanctioned killing of babies who are waiting to be born. And we will never give up.

"Today, advances in medical science and technology have brought the core of the right-to-life cause front and center by forcing us to confront the reality that the humanity of the human embryo must be firmly established in the law if we are to ever restore respect for life. It's embryology 101. It's simple high school freshman biology. When the sperm and egg unite, a new, unique individual human being comes into existence. That human being must not be killed to benefit somebody else, as in human stem cell experiments.

"The embryonic human being must be recognized as a human subject, protected under the Nuremberg Code of Medical Ethics — or utilitarianism at all of life's stages will prevail. "28 years after Roe v. Wade we teeter on the brink of the abyss. It's not too late to pull back." (Reading: "28 Years Since Roe v. Wade," RNC Life FaxNotes, 1/19/01, <http://www.rnclife.org/faxnotes/2001/jan01/01-01-19.html>)

Source: *Communique - a pro-life news update* From: Judie Brown January 26, 2001 Vol. 11, #4. For information, e-mail Judie Brown of (jbrown@all.org) President of American Life League: <http://www.all.org>. "American Life League provides this news service because "no lie can come from the truth." 1 John: 2:21."

- Robert Waldrop, Archbishop Oscar Romero Catholic Worker House, Oklahoma City "By experts in poverty I do not mean sociologists, but poor men." - G.K. Chesterton <http://www.justpeace.org> — visit our new sustainable living website at <http://www.bettertimesinfo.org>

Catholic Worker Home Extension Department Energy Conservation Resources: *Coping with the Energy Crisis* — online version of a 4 page insert in the soon-to-be-published 3rd print edition of our Better Times Almanac of Useful Information for Poor People, incorporates the texts of the flyers below on saving energy in the summer and winter, plus additional info. <http://www.bettertimesinfo.org/energy2001.htm>.

Saving money on energy in the winter <http://www.justpeace.org/warmth.htm> <http://www.justpeace.org/warmth.pdf>. *Family Food Security* — <http://www.justpeace.org/foodsec.htm> <http://www.justpeace.org/foodsec.pdf>. *Saving money on summer energy bills* <http://www.justpeace.org/summerenergy.htm>; <http://www.justpeace.org/summerenergy.pdf>. *Making your own snacks* <http://www.justpeace.org/snacks.htm>; <http://www.justpeace.org/snacks.pdf>. *Easy very tasty recipes* <http://www.justpeace.org/tastycooking.htm>; <http://www.justpeace.org/tastycooking.pdf>.

Breast Cancer Risk From The Pill

Continued from page 7

References

1. Romieu I, Berlin J, et al. Oral contraceptives and breast cancer, Review and meta-analysis. *Cancer*. 1990;66:2253-2263.
2. Landis SH et al. Cancer Statistics, 1999. *CA Canc Clin*. 1999;49:12-23.
3. Collaborative Group on Hormonal Factors in Brea Cancer. Breast cancer and hormonal contraceptive further results. *Contraception*. 1996;34:SI-S106.
4. Brinton LA, Daling JR et al. Oral contraceptives breast cancer risk. *J Natl Cancer Inst*. 6/7/95 87:827-835
5. Tietze C. *Induced Abortion: A World Review*. 5th Ed. Population Council; 1983.
6. National Cancer Institute. *SEER Cancer Statistics Review*. 1973-1992: Tables and Graphs. Bethesda, Maryland.
7. Olsson H, Ranstam J, et al. Proliferation and DNA ploidy in malignant breast tumors in relation to early contraceptive use and early abortions. *Cancer*. 1991;11:2043-2046.

8. Skegg DCG, Noonan EA, et al. Depot medroxyprogesterone acetate and breast cancer [A pooled analysis of the World Health Organization New Zealand studies]. *JAMA*. 1995;799-804.

9. Ungchusak et al. Determinants of HIV infection among female commercial sex workers in northern Thailand: results from a longitudinal study. *J Ac Immune Defic Syn Hum Retro*. 1996.12:500-507.

10. Mostad SB et al. Hormonal contraception, vitamin A deficiency and other risk factors for shedding HIV-1 infected cells from the cervix and the vagina. *The Lancet* 1997.350:922-927

11. Larimore WL, Stanford J. Postfertilization effects of oral contraceptives and their relationship to informed consent. *Arch Fam Med*. 9;2000:126-133

12. Ryder RE. "Natural Family Planning": Effective birth control supported by the Catholic Church. *Br Med J* 1993;307:723-726.

Copyright: 2000 One More Soul

Euthanasia: The Debate Lives On; Reports of Abuses Are Growing

TORONTO, JAN. 27, 2001 (ZENIT.org).-International debate over euthanasia has intensified in recent weeks. Last week the Canadian Supreme Court upheld a 10-year minimum jail sentence against Robert Latimer, condemned for the murder of his disabled daughter. The Globe and Mail newspaper reported Jan. 19 that, while the judges admired Latimer's devotion to his daughter Tracy, they considered the decision to kill her was a grave mistake.

The court said there were options open to Latimer far less irrevocable than his decision to gas Tracy to end a life of pain and disfigurement. "Killing a person in order to relieve

the suffering produced by a medically manageable physical or mental condition," the court said, "is not a proportionate response to the harm represented by a non-life-threatening suffering resulting from that decision."

The decision is not likely to settle the euthanasia controversy in Canada. Euthanasia defenders speculate that the Latimer ruling will not end demands for a loosening of the law, the National Post reported Jan. 19.

Svend Robinson, a member of Parliament, plans to introduce a motion in the House of Commons this year to seek a review of the Criminal Code provisions dealing with euthanasia. The Canadian AIDS Society, which supports voluntary assisted suicide, says

Continued on page 9

Defending Life

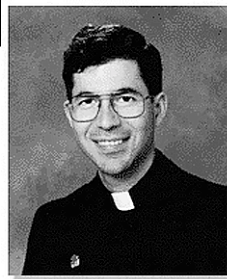
Experience

By Fr. Frank Pavone, National Director, Priests for Life

Whether it's from a legislator opposing restrictions on abortion, or a pro-abortion activist at a demonstration, one of the most common objections voiced against those who would eliminate abortion is, "Who are you to tell this woman she can't have an abortion? You do not know what it's like to be pregnant, nor can you judge her personal experience in the midst of this crisis. Only she knows what she is going through, and therefore only she can decide."

Here are a few suggested ways to respond. First of all, those who advocate against abortion are mostly women, vast numbers of whom have been through the very experiences of crisis pregnancy that pro-abortion activists claim pro-life people don't know. Moreover, many of them also know the experience of having an abortion — the very bitter experience which, if experience is an argument at all, is one of the strongest arguments against abortion that there can ever be. One of the many blind spots of the pro-abortion movement is precisely that it downplays the experience of those who suffer from abortion, even decades after they have had the "simple" procedure.

Secondly, it is noteworthy that the ability



to experience pregnancy only seems to be required for those who speak against abortion, not for those who speak for it. Among the latter would be the men who are former Presidents, Supreme Court Justices, legislators and activists who fight hard and speak loud about

Interfering?

*** Many people think being "pro-life" means, "I would never have an abortion." By our preaching and teaching, we need to help them realize that it also means trying to stop others from having abortions. People often feel that this constitutes "interfering in someone else's business." We need to help them see that it is no more an interference in others' business than it is if we try to stop people from abusing their children, pushing drugs, or committing violent crime. When somebody's choice destroys someone else's life, that's everybody's business. Source: Priests for Life Newsletter, Vol. 11, Number 1, January - February, 2001**

Crime and Justice

By Fr. John S. Rausch

Editor's Note: Fr. John Rausch just finished a two week tour of Appalachia with ten seminarians. He wrote us, "Prisons in rural areas represent economic development in many places, but the community pays a price. The story about Holy Communion in the first paragraph I heard during the tour. I hope parishes start organizing victim and offender ministries and take the bishops' pastoral seriously."

When the Catholic chaplain brings Communion to an inmate at a supermax prison in Southwest Virginia, he leaves the Eucharist on a chair, exits the room, then waits for the prisoner to enter and receive Holy Communion by himself. The rules deny any physical contact. Religious services appear an imposition on prison order. Located in a rural area at the extreme end of the state, the prison routinely uses isolation of inmates for up to 23 hours a day in a cell measuring 6 by 12 feet. Although sweeping vistas with crenulated

mountain ranges surround the facility, inmates never glimpse the beauty—another calculated punishment by sensory privation.

Across the state line in Kentucky an inmate serving one year for a parole violation contracted tuberculosis in a crowded jail cell. The regional jail represents a source of revenue for the county by housing state prisoners with more temporary county offenders. The prison has no exercise yard, few amenities and a library consisting of a roll-around book cart.

In November, 2000, the U.S. Catholic bishops issued a pastoral letter about a Catholic perspective on crime and criminal justice, "Responsibility, Rehabilitation, and Restoration." The pastoral addresses the state of criminal justice in the U.S. today and offers directions for reform based on Church teaching.

Continued on page 34

"upholding the right to choose." And, of course, don't forget the fathers and boyfriends who tell the girl that she has to have an abortion, even over her objections, because they "know what is best" in that situation.

Thirdly, experience is not the only factor to consider in evaluating whether a particular activity should be allowed or prohibited in society and law. I have never experienced the personal pressures a crisis pregnancy brings. But neither have I experienced the personal pressures which would lead a parent to abuse her children, nor the psychological twists and turns of the drug addict, or of the latest person to rob a bank. What is going on within them, to lead them to such actions? I have not experienced it.

Am I therefore to be silent about their actions?

Some choices have victims, and when somebody's choice destroys somebody

else's life, the experience of the chooser is not the most relevant factor. The most relevant factor is the protection of the lives and rights of those around him or her. The fact that we do not have the same experience should make us compassionate, and motivate us to strive to understand the person. But it brings no obligation to permit destructive activity.

A final word on experience. With more and more studies showing the likelihood of fetal pain, and with greater awareness of the brutality of abortion procedures, is it not appropriate to also consider the experience of the baby who is aborted? Experience, indeed, cuts both ways.

Contact Priests for Life at PO Box 141172, Staten Island, NY 10314; Tel: 888-PFL-3448, 718-980-4400; Fax: 718-980-6515; Email: mail@priestsforlife.org; Website: www.priestsforlife.org

Euthanasia: the Debate Lives On; Reports of Abuses Are Growing *(Continued from page 8)*

the government must act now to prevent cases of euthanasia from being pushed further underground.

The National Post, however, noted that palliative care experts, and groups that promote equal rights for disabled people, say most Canadians who choose to end their lives have not been offered adequate medical treatment. They say depression, loneliness and a fear of burdening families are the prime reasons why people with incurable diseases seek doctor-assisted deaths.

Death, Down Under

A West Australian medical board, meanwhile, has decided to allow the controversial euthanasia campaigner Dr. Philip Nitschke to practice medicine in the state. The Age newspaper of Melbourne reported Jan. 15. Nitschke became notorious when he helped four people die when euthanasia was legal in the Northern Territory. The NT law was later nullified by federal Parliament.

Nitschke plans to set up how-to-die clinics in West Australia after winning a two-year battle for registration in the state. He has rejected allegations that his clinics encourage people to commit suicide, saying they only provide people with enough information to make an informed choice about dying.

European situation

In Europe, debate over euthanasia was renewed in November when the Dutch lower house of Parliament took a decisive step toward making the Netherlands the first country to legalize euthanasia. While eu-

thanasia had been tolerated in practice, it was still technically illegal. By a vote of 104-40 the lower house approved a bill allowing doctors to help patients die.

The Catholic Church in the Netherlands declared that the law would make it too easy for people to give up. "People who are ill but consider themselves a burden to their family — that's the problem," said Peter van Zoest, spokesman for the bishops' conference.

The new law was condemned in Rome too. CNN on Nov. 28 quoted Father Gino Concetti, a senior moral theologian at the Vatican, commenting, "Life is inviolable. ... So any law that destroys it or approves of its destruction is inhumane."

Not terminally ill

More confirmation of abuses came from the United States. Autopsies showed that among 69 people in Oakland County, Michigan, who died with the help of Dr. Jack Kevorkian, only 17, or 25%, were terminally ill. Five of the patients had had no physical problems, the Associated Press reported Dec. 7.

Kevorkian has said that from 1990 to 1999 he helped about 130 people end their lives. He was convicted and sentenced to prison in 1998 for the death of a terminally ill man whose death he videotaped. The tape later was shown on national television.

It remains to be seen whether revelations about the Michigan cases give euthanasia supporters a reason to reconsider their view.

Rap Music and America's Young People

By Sr. Mary Rose McGeady, D.C., President of Covenant House

Sr. Mary Rose, the President of Covenant House, a shelter for homeless and at-risk young people, was recently exposed to the phenomenon of rap music and learned, coincidentally, that one of the singers she heard has been nominated by the National Academy of Recording Artists for a Grammy. The award ceremony took place on February 21st. Sister felt strongly enough about what she heard to share this reflection with anyone who genuinely cares about kids.

The seven kids sat huddled around a small TV in our shelter lounge on a gloomy, late winter's afternoon, doing what millions of other kids were doing at that precise moment--watching MTV.

I poked my head inside the room, to let them know that dinner was being served in twenty minutes, and decided to hang around for a song or two to see what was gluing them to their seats.

It didn't take long before I had lost my appetite.

The next twenty minutes were like an endless stream of horror and nightmare. Young singers, their faces pinched in anger, scream that they are 'fed up with your shi*^, and I'm going to kill you.' A boy in a drug induced daze ties up his pregnant girlfriend, stuffs her in the trunk of his car, and then drives into a river. Young girls get slapped and beaten and slapped again, a roomful of kids with heavy eyes and heavier looking hearts pass drugs to each other, a young couple still too young to pass a driver's test gropes and claws at each other's bodies.

While scenes of sex and depravity seemed to accent most of the videos, an unmistakable undercurrent of violence drove them—violence against gays.. violence against women, violence against life itself.

Every few minutes, in more videos than I can remember, there were scenes of kids standing in graveyards, despondent and beaten. If you believe the images I saw that afternoon, graveyards have become the new "teen hangout" for this millennium.

This dark philosophy of recklessness, hopelessness and nothingness, spooned out in bite size chunks by angry rap icons named Eminem and Puff Daddy and Dr. Dre, made me want to cry.

I couldn't help but wonder what it did to my kids' hearts.

Look, I'm no music or movie critic. And I don't want to suggest for a second that what America's kids watch on TV is the single

In one infamous rap song, the singer rapturously imagines the joy of murdering any woman he might come across. "Wives, nuns, sluts...whoever the bi**h might be".

In another popular rap entitled "The Real Slim Shady," he wails to our children that "We ain't nothing but mammals, well some of us cannibals, who cut other people open like cantaloupes (*SLURP*)"

"He is not some lonely voice in the forest, but our country's most popular Rap star, whose last album was bought by more than 7,000,000 of America's kids. His name is Eminem, and to millions of our kids he is more than a singer—he's their 'role model' and their conscience."

most important factor in their lives. There are plenty of reasons why kids are hurting that go way beyond the reckless trash that fills our media these days.

But I've been around kids long enough to know that we are in the midst of a creeping, and frightening, national calamity — a time when our country is spawning a generation of children who feel more lost, terrified, disenfranchised, hurt, and hopeless than any generation in the history of humankind.

And I will say flat out that much of what is being aired these days — a neatly packaged audio mantra that condones violence, prejudice, and hate—is making it brutally hard for our kids to believe in, much less cope with, this increasingly complicated world.

I get to see the results of the carnage they seem to endorse every day.

If you walked into our

shelter, you'd see roomfuls of kids who have lived in — and yearn to escape — the dark, hopeless world romanticized in America's video music culture.

These kids know what death and suicide are like, because most of them have seen it, up-close. They know how destructive drug addiction can be, because they've seen a parent destroyed by it or fallen prey to it themselves. They know what rape is, because many of them have been victims of it.

While many in the music culture seem to want to glorify violence and outrage, these kids have felt the stinging hand of uncontrolled anger, not as actors but as children. There are scores of kids at Covenant House tonight who will tell you from firsthand experience that there is nothing "artistic" about being shot with a bullet, or maimed by a knife. Nothing erotic about rape.

While they would look at me like I had two heads if I ever said it, in an awful and perverse way our kids are the lucky ones. At least they can see these videos for what they are ... cleverly packaged vignettes that seek to manipulate kids by capturing the feelings of

outrage that accompany — and often define — adolescence.

But there are millions and millions of other kids out there who aren't that lucky. Kids right there in your town, your neighborhood.. perhaps even your own home. And it scares me what these images might be doing to them.

If it's not asking too much, I'm begging you to please take some time to talk to and mentor those kids closest to you. Let them know that there truly is a difference between right and wrong. That life is filled with choices, and it's their responsibility to live with each of them. And most of all, that there is a loving and forgiving God who loves them and is always there for support and comfort but who does have expectations.

And while you're helping those kids close to you, I hope you can also take a moment to say a prayer for our kids as well.

(If you would like to contact Sister Mary Rose, you can do so at SisterMaryRose@covenanthouse.org.)



Stars Are Born At Middle School Lock-In Feb. 2 in Owensboro

Karaoke is an easy way to become a star. All you have to do is know the song, follow the words on the TV screen, and get into it. Here middle school students from Union County Youth Ministry belted out a heart-breaking song about, what else?, true love: Back row: (left to right) Amber Simpson, Emily Hooper, Tiffany Smith. Front row: (left to right) Alix Dye, Jamie Buckman, Thea Ervin, Jordan Nally, and Jade Ervin. Karaoke was one of the fun things to do at the Middle School Lock-In Feb. 2 hosted by the Diocesan Youth Ministry Office at the Family Y in Owensboro. The purpose of a lock-in is to let youth interact with one another in a safe environment as they share lots of activities which help them understand better how Jesus lives in each person and how He acts through each one. Staff Photo

Abortion

No Peace

Editor's Note: This article was submitted by the Diocesan Social Concerns Office. The author wishes to remain anonymous.

I work at an average job, I support my children on my own, I am active in the community and I am thirty-something. I might live next door to you, or work with you, or even sit in your congregation on Sunday mornings. I don't look or act like someone who is capable of doing what I have done.

My reason for writing this is nothing more than this: I want any woman, in this community or anywhere else, who is considering abortion, to be fully aware, and fully informed. One thing I will not do is try to defend my actions, or make excuses to justify what I have done. I made my decision, and I am living with it.

Everyone knows that an unwanted pregnancy is a crisis to any woman regardless of whether she is pro-choice or pro-life. It is a choice that comes with a pretty hefty price tag either way. Anyone who is considering her options had better know, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that she can live with her decision, for her own sake...

The day I found out I was pregnant, my whole life changed, and will never be the same. You see, I did not want to have another baby. I already had children, as did the father. He and I were not happy about our situation. We were both stable, respectable people, and life had just thrown us a curve ball.

We discussed our options. Abortion had never crossed my mind, but he brought it up. I said no, then he withdrew, and suddenly I was scared. I am for women's rights, but I felt he was using those rights against me. "Well, you can get an abortion," he said. The weight of this decision was all at once put onto my shoulders alone.

He tried to be honorable later by saying that he would stand by me either way, but what he said and his actions were two different things. He seemed resentful that my decision had the power to affect the rest of his life.

I thought he was committed, but he started changing before my eyes. He was committed all right--to a good time, good sex and good clean fun--as long as there was not too much

responsibility in it for him. It just wasn't "good" anymore. I guess he tried to do the best he could. After all, he did go with me the day it was done. Ultimately his commitment was not to me or to this child he helped created--it was to himself.

"First and foremost, I wanted to make it clear that I do not want to speak for the pro-life side, the pro-choice side, a politician's side, a man's side, or the women's movement's side. I am going to tell you my side. The side of experience. Who better?"

The difference between right and wrong is as bold as the difference between black and white. Somewhere in my distorted thinking I convinced myself that there was a gray area called "what is best." Now I can honestly say that there is no gray area in pain. You either feel it or you don't.

I made my decision. I thought I could live with it. I told myself that it wasn't a life yet. But even pro-abortion people have to admit that the "potential" for human life is there, and to interfere with it in anyway is to cut that life "potential" short.

The only thing this baby ever did was to be created, and that was through no fault of his own. Then he had to die only because his mother and father didn't want to face their responsibilities.

When the relationship ended, the man who had promised to stand by me, no matter what, ended up telling me that, after all, he had two kids to take care of, and he couldn't let this abortion get him down the way it had me. He also added that "we have tied our relationship and the abortion together, and it just can't work that way." Wow! That statement speaks for itself doesn't it?

He's not such a bad guy. He calls every now and then to ask how I'm doing. I always say, "I'm fine." But what I really want to do is ask him if he cries himself to sleep, and begs God to forgive him every single night. Is he afraid to go to sleep because of the nightmares that wake him up shaking and horrified? Does he ever doubt himself or his own judgment now? Does he ever feel the overwhelming guilt and shame? Has his entire personality changed? Does he still feel the same when he sits in church? Does he ever feel like he's losing his mind because the guilt never leaves him? And, is it getting worse the closer it gets to what could have been our due date, like it is for me? These things are what I want to say, but I don't. I just say, "I'm fine."

As a woman you need to remember that you, and only you, will feel most of the pain physically and mentally. He will never be able to fathom the feeling of a life inside of

him, or a life being taken out of him. Make this decision based on your feelings, not his.

There is one more thing I need to tell you. Make sure you are prepared for what will happen the day it will be done. Believe it or not, the day it happened, I prayed. I prayed harder than I have ever prayed in my life.

I can't begin to tell you the horrors of that day. But I will tell you, with as little emotion as I can, that it's not going to a standard medical facility where you will have the feeling of being in safe hands. (And I have researched this.) This place made me feel dirty just being there.

Do not expect them to be pleasant to you. They are cold and harsh. The counseling they give you is a joke in itself. Expect to be treated like a herd of cattle, because there are plenty more like you. At one point, while a worker was doing an ultrasound to find the gestational age of my "fetus," I saw the monitor and the baby's heartbeat. I asked this lady if "it" was going to feel any pain. She gave me the strangest look and asked, "Why do you care?" Ouch! Boy, did I deserve that one!

Be prepared to sign a form informing you of some of the unbelievable risks you are taking, and that you will not hold them responsible. Then you can expect to sign a form stating that what they take out of you is no longer yours. "IT" is now their property to do with what they see fit.

Be prepared for the fact that you will not be put to sleep. You will be wide awake to fully experience all of the sights, sounds, feelings, and thoughts that go with them. You should also know that the procedure is far from painless.

While I was still pregnant, I would kiss my children and say "God bless you." When I went to bed I would make a sign of the cross over where my baby was, and say, "God Bless you, too." The first night after my abortion, I put my hand on that same spot, and I was hit full-force with the fact my child was gone. It was the most empty feeling in the world, and my soul was dead. I realized I would never be able to put my child to bed and say, "God Bless you."

I know its hard to believe, but I did love this child. Looking back, if I had to accept the responsibility of having, raising, loving and taking care of this child all by myself for the next 12-20 years, with all the trials and responsibilities that go along with parenthood, it still would have been much easier than what I live with now.

The fact that I regret my decision doesn't change anything, or make it alright. This is what will be on my mind when I'm old and on my deathbed, and nothing I can do will ever change that.

I am a product of this community. I was born and raised here. I am a lot like you. If you are considering this as one of your options, now you can also consider yourself informed.

I know there are probably going to be people who will want to respond to what I have written. The only thing I can say is that no one can kick me any harder, make me feel any lower or judge me any more harshly than I am already doing myself. What I want now is far out of reach, and it is only peace.

Reprinted with permission from Celebrate Life (American Life League Newsletter) from which the article was forwarded.

Salvadoran Aid Sought Through Internet

The Archdiocese of San Salvador is turning to Internet to help victims of the recent earthquake. The Spanish-language Web page <http://www.arzsansalvador.org> reports on the devastation caused by the Jan. 13 quake, gives reports on the services rendered to the affected, and offers the possibility of contacting the archdiocese to help the victims.

The Web page reported, "According to official reports, up to January 19 there were: 681 dead ..., 3,440 wounded, about 1,000 disappeared, 54,107 evacuated from high-risk areas, 84,682 damaged homes, and 38,628 destroyed homes, 102 landslides affecting roads and rural zones, 258 parish churches damaged, 195 public buildings damaged, 8 hospitals

semi-destroyed, and 43 piers and ports damaged."

The government estimated losses at \$1 billion, but that figure will likely increase, according to Finance Minister José Luis Trigueros

In a message sent through the Web page, Archbishop Fernando Saenz Lacalle of San Salvador says: "The events we are living through are a precious opportunity for us to live our conversion in a genuine expression of charity through fraternal solidarity. "Truly I say to you, whatever you did to one of these, the least of my brethren, you did to me."

The archdiocese can also be contacted at terremoto@arzsansalvador.org.

My Catholic education has been something which I hold precious

WHITESVILLE, KY - Mary Conder was one of many students who read her Catholic Schools Week essay over the school PA system in the Trinity High School office in Whitesville Tuesday morning, January 30, 2001. Here's what Mary had to say:

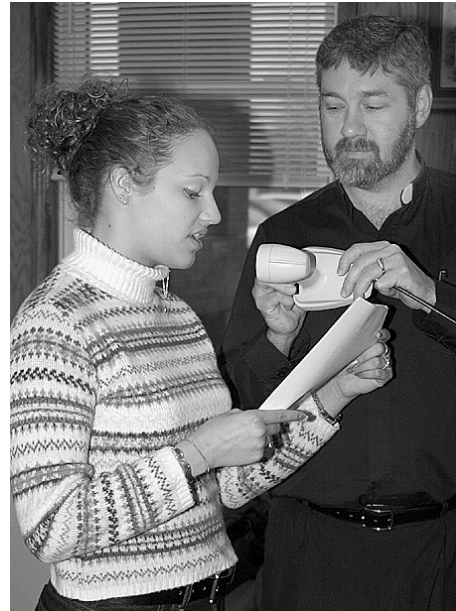
"As I look back at the past seven years in which I have been in Catholic schools, I look at the girl I was and the young woman I have become. Growing up in a public school environment, I have come to appreciate and cherish the privilege I have now to go to a Catholic school.

"I have been influenced throughout my life by my family, friends and also my Catholic education. It has helped me become a person with good Catholic morals and a positive future. I have been surrounded by people who hold the same Christian beliefs as I do and this has reaffirmed my faith. I have been able to get a good education as well as learn about my faith and my church's history.

"I have been able to pray in the classroom and attend a weekly Mass. My Catholic education has been something which I hold precious to me and it has lead me to become a better Catholic and a better person. I believe I have been very privileged to have had my Catholic education and I hope someday I can pass this tradition on to my children and enroll them in a Catholic school?" --Mary Conder, Senior, Trinity High School



At left, What Parents And Teachers Talk About: How the student is doing.

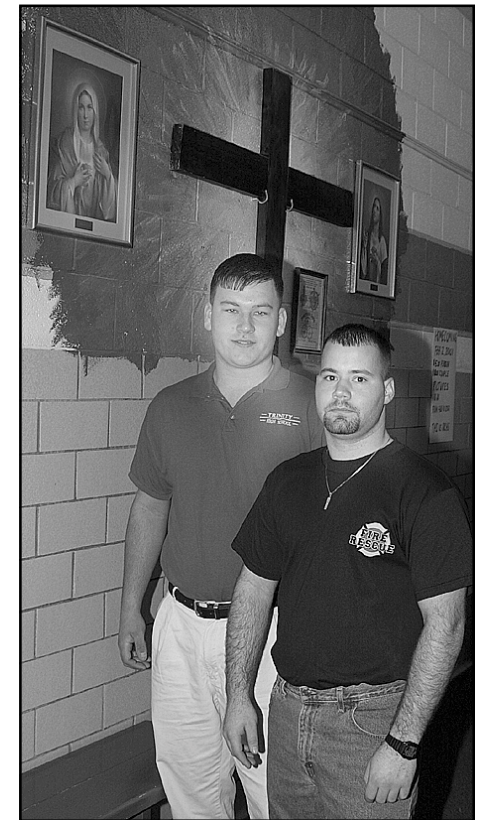


Fr. Mike Williams, Religion Dept. Head at Trinity High School, held the microphone for Mary Conder Jan. 30 as she read her Catholic Schools Week essay. Staff Photo

In photo at far right, Lindsay Calhoun, sixth grader at Christ The King School, Madisonville, played a flute January 29, 2001, in Mr. Bill Murphy's band class. At right, Rachel Dorris, second grader at Christ The King, was intrigued by a poster on a wall at school that invited students to send in their name for information about vocations. Rachel is the daughter of Jim and Mary Kay Dorris of Madisonville. At bottom left, Cathy Croft, right talks with Christ The King seventh grade math and algebra teacher Janie Kerlick in a parent/teacher conference.

Waiting To Go Home

Below, at the end of the school day Monday, Jan. 29, 2001, Christ The King Elementary students lined up in the activity room waiting for their rides home. Staff Photos.



The Fastest Firefighters

Kevin Lanham, left, and John Edge, Trinity High School students shown here in a Trinity hallway, won First Place in the Fire Rescue Relay at Winterfest 2001. The contest involved working as a team to don firefighter gear (Rapid Dress), and then with five guys facing away from the leader (John Edge), hook up firehoses (Relay) ready to fight a fire. The Lanham-Edge team was the fastest there. Both young men hope to put their skills as firefighters, perhaps with the Knottsville Volunteer Fire Dept. Staff Photo

Catholic Schools Week

Students and Faculty Celebrate Community Life Of A Catholic School In Catholic Schools Week



With photographs and colorful art every Catholic School in the Diocese celebrated Catholic Schools Week January 29-Feb. 2. Mary Carrico Elementary in Knottsville posted this wall display. Staff Photo



The students of Mary Carrico Memorial Elementary School in Knottsville paid their teachers a huge compliment during Catholic Schools Week celebrations by teaching them some new fashions. On January 30, the students dressed the faculty for a party. Even principal Gene Farrell donned a Hillary Clinton style bonnet for the judging of the best dressed teacher. Mrs. Mattintgly won the honor much to the delight of her students. From left are, kneeling, Mrs. Bostwick, Ms. Howard, and Mrs. Lashbrook; standing from left are Mrs. Puckett, Mrs. Hagan, Mr. Ferrell, Mrs. Mattingly (The Winner!), Ms. Birchler, Mrs. Haycraft, and Mr. Phelps. Staff Photo.

Dear Mrs. Bush,

Students from Christ The King School in Madisonville wrote letters to the First Lady of the United States, Mrs. Laura Bush. On this page are letters from Ember Jo Hatfield, standing at left in the picture below, and Lindsay Calhoun. Both girls were photographed during band practice thanks to the kindness of teacher Mr. Bill Murphy.

Hi. I'm Lindsay Calhoun. I have a Mom, a Dad, and a sister whose name is Cara. I have a dog and a cat. I am 12 years old. My hobbies are reading and drawing. My favorite food is pizza and nachos with extra cheese.

I hate Pokemon and brussel sprouts. I am a cadet in Girl Scouts. I was born in Louisville, Ky. I live in Hanson, Ky.

I go to school at Christ The King. I am involved in after-school activities such as academic team and choir. For library we had a Dewey Decimal Decathlon and our librarian Mrs. Craft came up with the idea. I have very many friends. In band I play the flute.

Why I think Catholic Schools are important is because we can be involved in after-school activities. We also get to learn about God. The teachers here are very friendly and make us feel very smart. Our principal Mr. Bishop is funny. One of the best things about Catholic Schools is teachers and friends.

Sincerely, Lindsay Calhoun

Dear Mrs. Bush,

My name is Ember Jo Hatfield. I love to sing and ride horses! My parents' names are Darrell and Joanne Hatfield. I have two sisters, Echo and Ava. We have a farm with cows, goats, chicken houses and horses. We have eight horses. Their names are Winde, Apple,



Bucky, Fancy, Stormy, Diamond, Princess, and Thunder.

I am 11 years old in the 6th Grade, and I go to a private school called Christ The King. My Homeroom teacher is Mrs. Linda Denny. My other teachers are Mrs. Kerlick, Mrs. Myers, and Mrs. Riddle. We have 139 students in our school. It is K through 8th grade.

Next week is "Catholic Schools Week." We do things like play volleyball, kids versus teachers. Also, "Crazy-Hat Day" - it's when you wear weird-looking hats in a contest. The winner gets to win money! I know that my school is rather small, but I would rather go here than to a public school because the teachers pay more attention to our students!

My family and I appreciate Mr. Bush being President and you being our 1st Lady. My Mom says "Keep up the good work!" You all are doing great! Oh, yeah, Mrs. Bush, don't let them condemn you because of your clothes! BE YOURSELF!!! That's how you got where you are standing now. Good Luck!

Bye and please write back,
Ember Jo Hatfield

At left, Ember Jo Hatfield and Lindsay Calhoun. Staff Photo

Kentucky's private and religious schools make significant contributions to the success of our state

Parents are the first and foremost educators of their children. Parents in Kentucky deserve a choice in selecting educational opportunities for their children and the necessary financial support to exercise that choice. One model is the long-running and successful **G.I. Bill program** which provided genuine educational choice and *positively* revolutionized American higher education.

Parents, Not the State

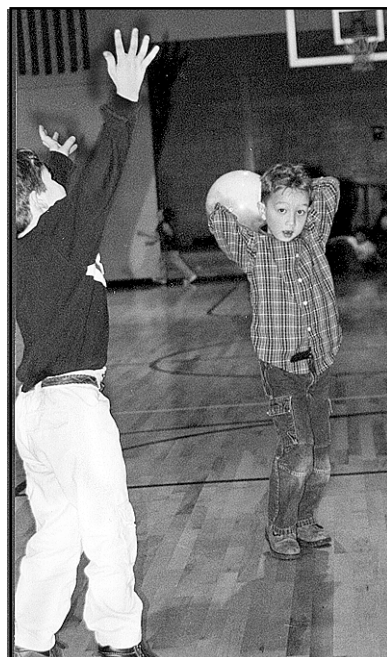
Parents are responsible for their children and they, not the state, should be able to make fundamental decisions about where and how their children will learn.

Contribution/Competition

Private and religious schools in Kentucky make significant contributions to the success of our state. Non-public school graduates are making significant contributions in business, industry, and government across our state. Clearly, schools do not have to be owned by the government to educate students who will be capable of and interested in contributing to the **common good** of Kentucky.

When parents of all income levels are given a choice of where their children will attend school, a new and profound chapter in Kentucky educational reform will be written.

Effects on Minorities and Low-Income Students



They're All Team Players --- On January 30, 2001, Tuesday of Catholic Schools Week in photo at top left, St. Angela Merici Elementary Kindergrtengers Mason Miller, right, has the ball looking for the open player as Chris Blevins plays the tough "D." Above right: Aaron Wathen, grade 4 at St. Angela Merici, read a book for Kindergartener Samuel Howard. At right: Helana Bowman had an ouchy; her knee hurt. Morgan Goetz, right, slid in to see if Helana needed any help in the St. Angela Merici gym. Staff photos

At left, Brandon Mattingly portrayed King David as the students at St. Angela Merici School sang "From a King to King of Kings" as the presentation of their Christmas Cantata. Submitted by Virginia Blandford

Parental Choice in Education - Overview

Religious schools in particular have a long history of serving the poor. Many have an excellent success rate in educating low-income and minority students. Several recent studies have shown conclusively that the average level of achievement is not only higher in religious schools, it is less strongly related to social class and racial background.

Society's Commitment

For almost a century now, our nation has been committed to spending a significant amount of money on the education of each and every child

born in this country. It is now time to let parents control where the resources allocated for their children's education will be used. If parents are allowed to direct their children's education, we will all be more confident that our tax dollars are being spent to provide the best possible education for America's school children.

What are education vouchers?

Educational vouchers are a designated dollar amount endorsed to parents to be used as an offset for tuition expense in the school of their choice.

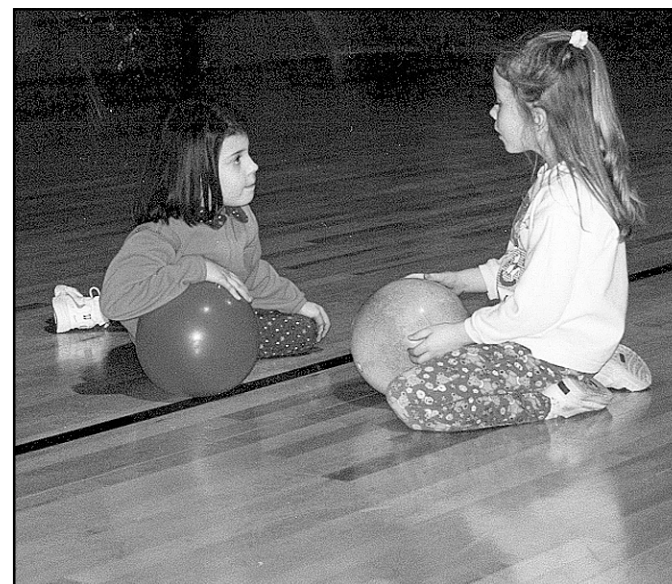
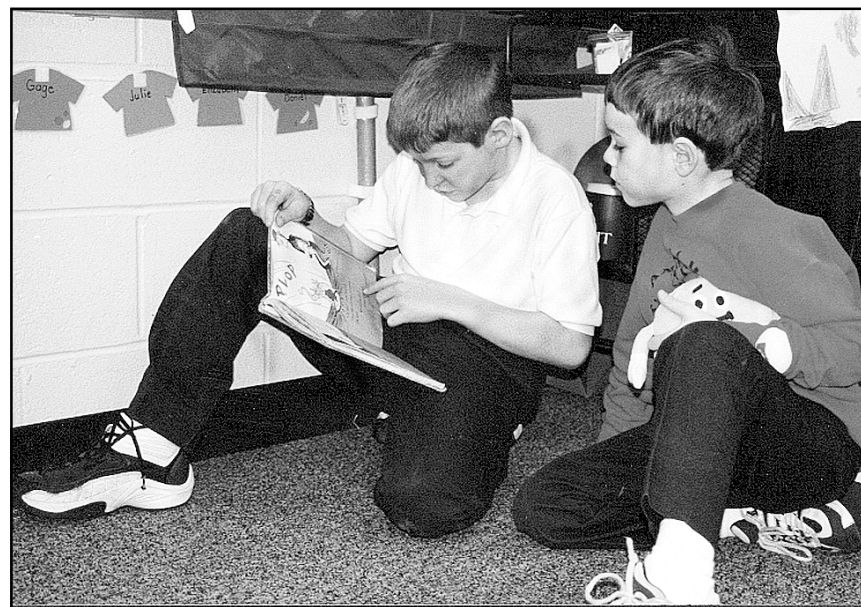
What is a tuition tax credit?

Tuition tax credits create a dollar for dollar reduction (credit) on a taxpayer's state income tax bill. KLEA proposes that parents paying tuition to a non-public school are eligible for the credit. This yet to be determined dollar amount (the credit) serves to offset a portion of the tuition cost to parents.

What's the bottom line?

Approximately 100,000 Kentucky parents presently make financial sacrifices to educate some 80,000 children in 380 private schools, thus saving Kentucky taxpayers 448 million dollars annually in direct public education expense. A tuition tax credit would cost taxpayers a mere 10 million dollars.

Source: www.ccky.org, official website of the Catholic Conference of Kentucky



Catholic Schools Week-2001: Two Student Essays From St. Ann School

“A Lasting Education”

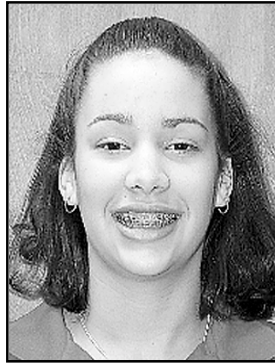
By Ashley Nicole Clark

The dramatically different life-styles of my friends who do not attend a Catholic School are shown greatly throughout everyday activities. An education from a Catholic School is quite different from that received in a public school. In a Catholic School, you share a greater and more fulfilling relationship with God. Your faith in Him, in your peers, and in others around you is greatly increased and shown through everyday examples in the home and at school. St. Ann's teaches you responsibility, thoughtfulness, and day to day values that will help you throughout your life. We are taught to set goals and to stick with them. We are also taught that with God anything is possible and you can achieve your greatest and deepest dreams and goals. Throughout my life I have overcome many problems and hardships that I know I could not have done without God's help. The great friends that I have made in my nine years at St. Ann's will always be a reminder of the great times and rewards of attending a Catholic School. The teachers have always been there to help me and to work through my problems with me. Attending Mass at least two times a week with my school family has increased my faith in God and in the importance of Catholic Schools. I have learned that God is always there for me, although he may not be visibly present. God's presence is always around me and His arms are always carrying me when I am in need of someone. I feel that God has become my best friend and confidant.

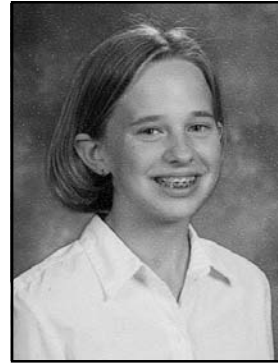
When I was younger (4th & 5th grades), I was gladly awaiting the time when I would get to leave those dreadful uniforms behind and head across to Union County Middle School. After informing my parents of my great dream, my bubble was soon popped. They assured me that I would be spending my middle school years at St. Ann's. I fought and argued until the first week of my 8th grade year. Yes, it took me that long to actually appreciate my school. I soon found an advantage to the old boring uniforms. You didn't have to make sure that whatever you wore would fit the expectations of everyone else in your class. You also didn't have to spend a lot of money buying name brand clothes just so you wouldn't be made fun of. Then, I began to enjoy my mornings spent in church. I take it as my time to truly talk and relate to God about what is going on in my life. Those mornings sure have helped me to conquer several troublesome times and trials in my life. It expanded my relationship with God and in turn I received one of a kind friend. A friend that would never lie to me, gossip about me behind my back, and would just be an all around awesome friend.

After talking to a few of my friends from UCMS (Union County Middle School), I soon found myself relieved to not be there. Everyday things are going on that students here at SAIS have never been exposed to. We are protected and sheltered, but not too much. We are closely monitored at school and social events. We still encounter those everyday problems with peer pressure, gossiping, etc. that every normal teen is faced with. I am not discriminating against public schools, I just feel that a Catholic School gives you a better chance to learn because the classes are smaller and you have one-on-one help from your teachers. I feel that we are able to receive a higher and more profound education in a Catholic School environment. My education is personally watched over and reinforced by helping, kind, and nurturing teachers, aides, and other staff members. The friends that I have made at St. Ann's will always hold a special place in my heart. They are ones that I know ten years from now, I can call if I ever need help of any kind. These past nine years, the students and staff at St. Ann's have helped me through many strenuous and depressing times. The special relationships formed here will always be of great importance to me as I reflect back on my years at St. Ann's. St. Ann Interparochial School will always hold a very special place in my heart now and always.

Ashley Clark's parents are Mike and Pat Clark of St. Agnes Parish, Morganfield, KY



Ashley Nicole Clark



Ashley Wurth

“The Influence of Catholic School in My Life!!”

By Ashley Wurth

As the Statue of Liberty's torch reaches for the sky so does St. Ann School. One of the largest statues in the world the Liberty rises 93 and 1/2 meters into the beautiful blue sky. The Liberty Enlightening the World or as we know it today the Statue of Liberty is a symbol that stands for freedom. St. Ann School provides their students the freedom to amplify their goals into a bright future.

The cornerstone of St. Ann School is to help the students learn about history, reading, animals, plants, and everything possible that there is to learn. And that is what they did for the past 8 years that I have been there. They helped me with all I needed help with and best of all they helped me learn about God. They showed me the meaning of Church, Christmas, Easter, and everything else about God. They also brought me closer to God.

A Catholic School is like the granite pedestal of the Statue of Liberty. The pedestal stands strong through depressions, world wars, pollution, and even the changing of the weather. The Catholic School builds me up and helps me stand tall through the hard times. As the pedestal will stand forever so will the faith and learning of the Catholic School.

This year I will be leaving the Catholic School, but as I leave I will have tons of memories. Memories that will stay with me forever. All the good times being a student. I have learned so much from my teachers that I have had this year. Without the Catholic School I might not be an A-B student. Without them I would not be strong and ready to face all the challenges I will have next year in high school. As I strived to reach my goals, St. Ann has been there for me all the way.

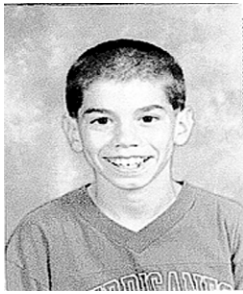
The torch reaches out into the heavens as a symbol of reaching for the highest mountain. The 25 windows in the crown of the Statue of Liberty symbolize gemstones found on the earth and the heavens rays shining over the world. The students are like the heavens rays standing up and reaching out in the world by the help of SAIS.

Greg and Jennifer Wurth are the parents of Ashley Wurth, and attend Sacred Heart Parish in Union County.



Fr. John Vaughan, priest-pastor of St. Stephen Pre-School, Owensboro, blessed the children and parents January 30, 2001, during a Catholic Schools Week Celebration. Owensboro Catholic High School senior Stephen Murphy, at left back, played guitar for the blessing. Staff Photo

2000-2001 Catholic Schools Award for Excellence



John Lanham



Samantha Durbin



Kyle Tincher



Caroline Cash



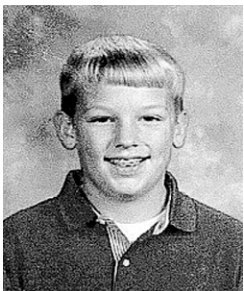
Aaron N. Cecil



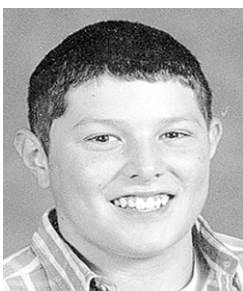
Alyssa Hagman



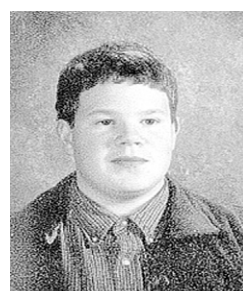
Callie Hayden



Wesley Taul



Brad Meredith



Marc Arnaez



Ashley Clark



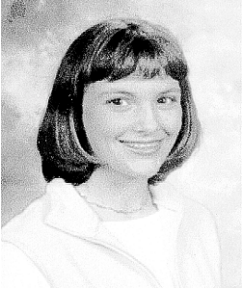
Cassie Haynes



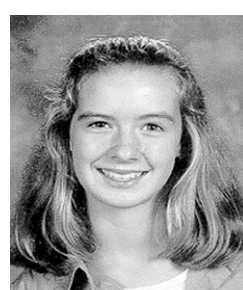
Rachel Merritt



Margaret Mitchell



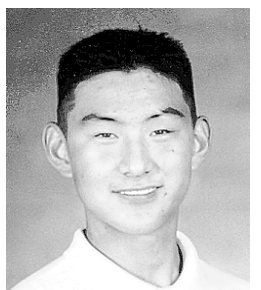
Rebecca Whitfill



Ashtin Riney



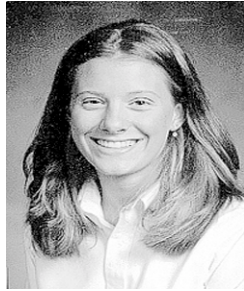
Matthew Shoulta



Hun Park



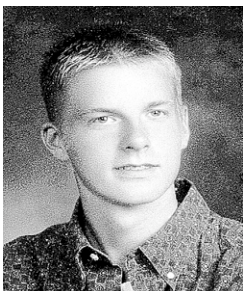
J. Ashlee Wilson



Kelly Kuehn



Stacey Hollman



Jeremy Howard

St. Angela Merici School

Aaron N. Cecil
 Joe & Barbara Cecil
 Blessed Mother Parish
St. Ann, Morganfield
 Ashley Nicole Clark
 Mike & Pat Clark
 St. Agnes Parish
Catherine Spalding
 Wesley Taul
 John & Janie Taul
 St. Anthony, Browns Valley
Christ the King
 Marc Arnaez
 Cathy Craft/ Bernardo Arnaez
 Christ the King, Madisonville
Francis Cotton
 Alyssa Hagman
 Charles & Patricia Hagman
 Immaculate Conception
Owensboro Catholic High
 Stacey Hollman
 Stephen & Karen Hollman
 St. Pius X, Owensboro

Henry Soenneker

John Lanham
 George & Wanell Lanham
 Precious Blood
Holy Angels
 Callie Hayden
 Mark & Paula Hayden
 St. Alphonsus
Holy Name
 Margaret Mitchell
 Jay & Reva Mitchell
 Holy Name Parish
St. John
 Samantha Durbin
 Eddie & Rhonda Durbin
 St. John Parish, Paducah
St. Joseph, Bowling Green
 J. Ashlee Wilson
 Steve & Jane Wilson
 Holy Spirit
St. Mary High
 Kelly Kuehn
 Stephen & Stephanie Kuehn
 St. Francis de Sales

St. Joseph, Mayfield

Caroline Cash
 James & Cindy Cash
 St. Joseph Parish
St. Mary Elementary
 Kyle Tincher
 Bruce & Colleen Tincher
 St. John, Paducah
Mary Carrico
 Cassie Haynes
 Larry & Debby Haynes
 St. William, Knottsville
St. Mary Middle
 Matthew Shoulta
 Kenny & Carol Shoulta
 St. John, Paducah
St. Mary of the Woods
 Rachel Merritt
 Jerome & Patti Merritt
 St. Mary of the Woods,
 Whitesville

Owensboro Catholic Middle

Ashtin Riney
 Keith Riney
 St. Alphonsus
St. Paul
 Brad Meredith
 Bruce & Cathy Meredith
 St. Paul, Grayson Co.
Sts. Peter & Paul
 Hun Park
 Dong-In & Ae-Kyong Park
 Sts. Peter & Paul, Hopkinsville
St. Romuald
 Rebecca Whitfill
 Jeff & Sandy Whitfill
 St. Mary of the Woods,
 McQuady
Trinity High School
 Jeremy Howard
 Randall & Pat Howard
 St. Mary of the Woods,
 Whitesville

Catholic Schools Week

Community Readers Spend A Day of Catholic Schools Week At Bishop Cotton Elementary



Kirstin Reilly walking into Bishop Cotton Elementary January 30 with her daddy, Brescia Coach John Reilly. Staff Photo



Community Readers Day From A Daughter's Point of View

On January 30, 2001, Kirstin Reilly's daddy, John Reilly, Head Men's Basketball Coach at Brescia University, brought her with him to Bishop Francis R. Cotton Elementary in Owensboro for "Community Readers Day" during Catholic Schools Week. Kirstin's daddy read a book to the kids in Ms. Hayden's Kindergarten class. Then he was busy talking with Principal Ron Ryan and School Secretary Sue Roberts as Kirstin waited with her favorite huggy animal in the doorway: "Daddy, it's time to go home!" Staff Photos



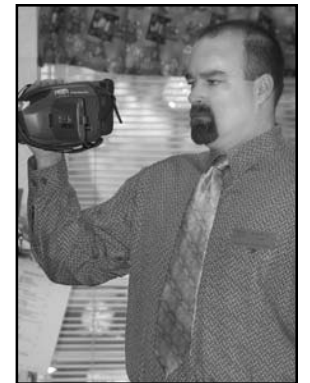
Kirstin Reilly waiting to go home at Bp. Cotton Elementary Jan. 30. Staff Photo



Jim Ed Oberst, President of Oberst Printing, read to Ms. Head's Third Grade Class using the Bible. At right, Kelsey Ruth listened closely to Jim Ed Oberst reading from the Bible. Staff Photos



Ron Payne, Brescia University Alumnus and Owensboro City Manager, read to Ms. Riney's First Grade class. Like a proud daddy, Bp. Cotton Elementary principal Ron Ryan caught some of the Community Readers' Day on videotape. Staff Photos



ST. MARY

By Lyndsay Rasche, Grade 11, St. Mary High School, Paducah, Ky.

St. Mary has many valuable qualities including a good education and a warm environment. Teachers care about each of the students as individuals. I think it is a great place to be.

The class size at St. Mary is very small. This helps students get the one-on-one attention they need. It is also a great opportunity for students to know everyone in their class personally.

At St. Mary, teachers know each student by name. They care about each student even out of class. The teachers work with and for the students.

Rules are always enforced at St. Mary. Students and faculty are aware of the rules and



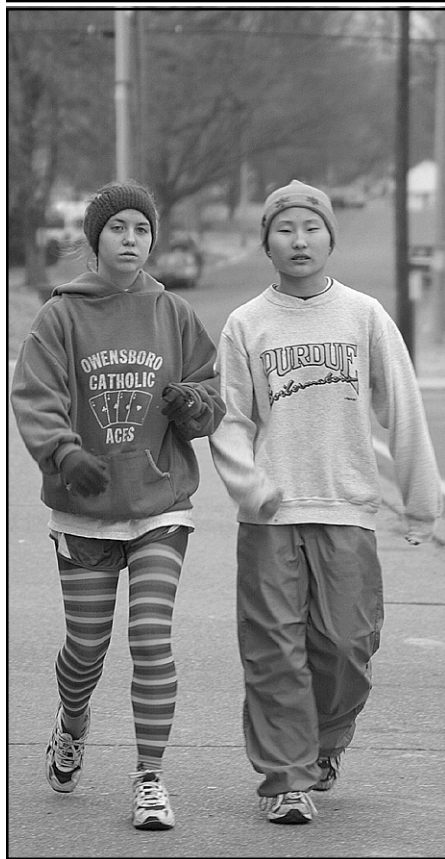
regulations. Students are always treated on an equal basis. Classes are disciplined which makes for better learning.

Some might say that St. Mary is only for Catholic students, but there are many students here who are not of the Catholic religion. Many great morals are taught that are not necessarily only for Catholics, but for all Christians.

Some students do not want to wear uniforms. I personally think that they are great. It makes it easier to choose what to wear and students do have several options to choose from. Everyone always looks nice in a uniform that is properly worn. Besides, wearing a uniform is cheaper than buying enough clothes for an entire school year.

Some people say the cost of attending a private school is too high, I say the education is well worth the price. The education offered at St. Mary is unlike any other in our area. The environment here can't be found anywhere else.

At St. Mary, you feel right at home. It is a place where everyone belongs. What is better than a great education, friendly faculty, and friends for life all in one place?



Catholic Schools Offer Variety of Career, Personal Development Opportunities

Left photo: Two future track stars for Owensboro Catholic High School were out for a training run in late January after school: Sarah Jarboe, left, and Cate Hulse, OCHS freshmen.



Holly Conkwright, Admissions Counselor for Brescia University, staffed a table at the Discover College Day at Owensboro Daviess County Mercy Hospital January 26, 2001. Juniors from Trinity High School in Whitesville and from Owensboro Catholic High School toured displays from different agencies and businesses who came to show what they offer young people for career training and counseling in the work world. OCHS teacher Jim Ivey, at back left, drove one of the busses delivering 155 OCHS juniors to the event. Staff Photo

By Mel Howard

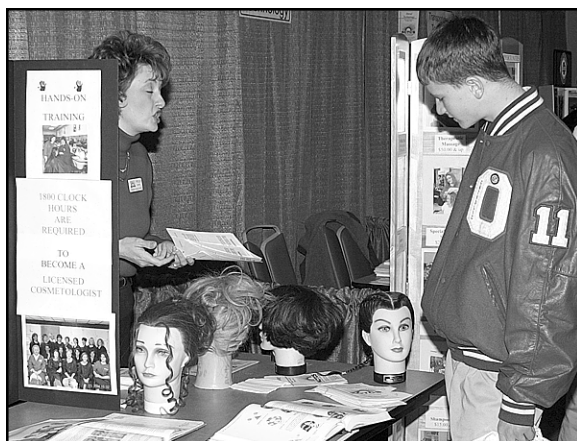
Junior Achievement of Owensboro, Inc. hosted a Job Shadow Day on February 1, 2001, the day before Groundhog's Day. Students from Owensboro area high schools spent the morning shadowing a career person who is employed doing what the student is interested in doing as a career. Students from Owensboro Catholic High School participated in the day.

Junior Achievement (JA), Inc. was founded in 1919 to ensure every child in America has a fundamental understanding of the free enterprise system. JA strives to educate and inspire young people to value free enterprise, business, and economics to improve the quality of their lives. JA was founded in Owensboro in 1959. Over 5,000 area Kindergarten - 12th grade students participate in the 1999-2000 program year, according to a JA fact sheet available at the noon luncheon for Job Shadow Day held at the Executive Inn Rivermont.

"Job Shadow Day" activities began in February of 1998 by a coalition between America's Promise founded by General Colin Powell, Junior Achievement, American Society of Association Executives and National School-to-Work Opportunities Office. Job Shadow Day is an initiative dedicated to engaging students in the world of work and to provide students with an up-close look at how the skills learned in school are put into action in the workplace.

Keynote speaker John Bays, owner of the Executive Inn Rivermont, said that "Job Shadow Day is one of the demonstrable ways that school and the business community work together for the

Joey Schell, an OCHS junior, briefly listened to an official from a Cosmetology school talk about their training. Cosmetology was one of a couple dozen career choices which Joey and his classmates learned about Jan. 26 at Discover College Day. Staff Photo



common good so that young people learn marketable skills through effective education." He spoke of his own rise from poverty to success as a business man with the help of training he received in the U.S. Marine Corps as a young man coming from the hills of Eastern Kentucky. Different styles of job shadowing was key to his own success, Bays told nearly 100 young people and their mentors.



Some of the Owensboro Catholic High School students who participated in the Job Shadow Day Feb. 1 in Owensboro were, from left, Daniel Ackerman, Wes Morris, Kristi Minalga, Nick Castlen, and Renee Best. Staff Photo

Catholic Schools

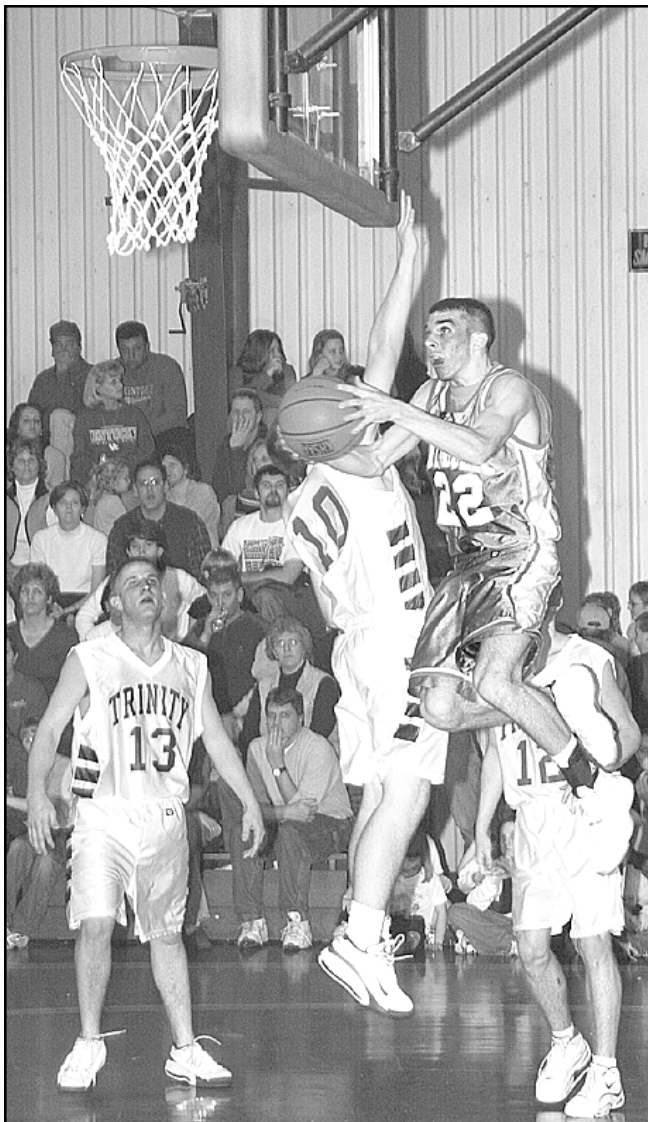
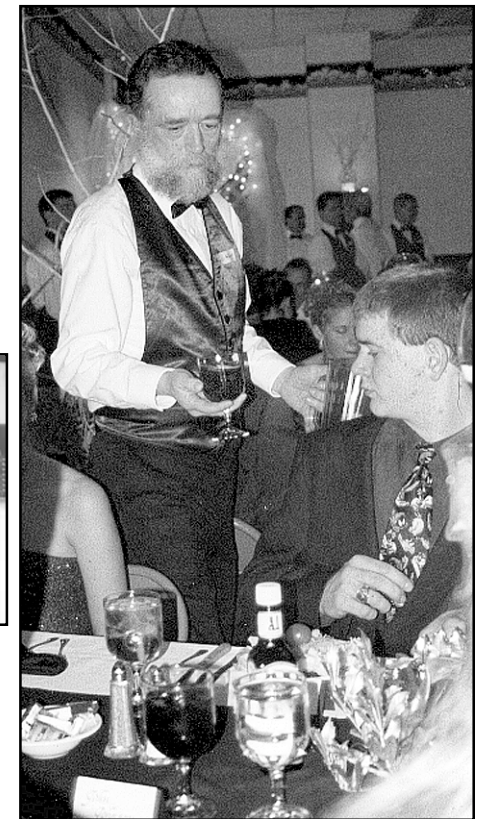


Catholic School fathers are called to do many things for Catholic Schools. Above, Joe Bittel, who has two daughters at Owensboro Catholic High School, Lauren and Lynssie, is shown at work shoring up the walkway



for the Snow Ball Jan. 27. Tommy Conder climbed a ladder to fix the scoreboard at the THS. OCHS game Feb 2. A t far right, Bill

McCormick dressed in tie and vest, was one of many parents who served at table for OCHS seniors during the Snow Ball. Bill and Myra McCormick's daughter Bridget is an OCHS senior. Staff Photo



Above, Trinity senior Jeremy Hamilton got off this shot at the Trinity Homecoming game with OCHS Feb. 2. Below at left, OCHS senior Brad Hayden roamed the baseline for shots like this one during the THS/OCHS game. Staff photos

Celebrate Catholic Schools



Parents and faculty at OCHS really get involved with putting on the school's annual Snow Ball, frequently held around Catholic Schools Week time. Here Ann Noel and Sharon Ford enjoy with OCHS teachers Judy Hicks and Mary Hilda MacFarland the entrance of Lauren Reid, Daniel Tierney, and Lynnsie Bittel. This year's Snow Ball was one of the best attended in years for the school. Staff Photo

At left Lisa Ward holding Meltei, age 10 months, at the Trinity High School/Owensboro Catholic High School basketball game in Whitesville during Catholic Schools Week. Lisa and her husband Terry of Philpot also have two sons, Tanner, 5, and Tyler, 4. Staff Photo

Catholic Education 2001



Leading the Way

SECOND HAND SMOKE- A Killer of the Unsuspecting

By Bev Howard, OCHS Counselor

Secondhand smoke is the third leading cause of **preventable death** in the United States causing approximately 53,000 nonsmokers to die prematurely every year. That is the approximate population of the city of Owensboro. **6 hours of exposure to secondhand smoke is equal to smoking one pack of cigarettes.** Bar and restaurant workers have a 4-6 times higher rate of contracting cancer than do other workers if the place is not smoke free.

Because of these facts, Owensboro Catholic High Teen Leadership Conference (TLC) students decided it was time to work with the school administration to create a totally smoke free environment for students at OCHS to cut down on nonsmokers exposure to secondhand smoke. A grant was made available through Green River District Health Department using tobacco settlement money to initiate some new efforts at OCHS.

The group found a lady who was willing to come in from 11 AM to 1 PM each day to help monitor the bathrooms to ensure that students have a place to use the bathroom where they do not have to come out smelling like smoke or breathing the harmful tobacco-smoke-filled air. The school nurse, Kathryn Crowe, is also getting training in two programs (TEG, or Tobacco Education Program that can be used as an alternative to suspension for students who are caught smoking) and TAG (a cessation program for students who want to quit smoking).

The S.C.R.U.B.S. (Students Creating Respect Using Better Solutions) will be holding monthly "Kick Butts" days where they will educate peers about the dangers of secondhand smoke.

The TLC group from OCHS is also working with another group from Owensboro High School in conjunction with the Regional Prevention Center to encourage the Sportscenter, where many athletic events are held in Owensboro, to go smoke free.

The main goal that the TLC group has in doing these projects is keeping students and all others at OCHS healthy and to raise awareness of the dangers of secondhand smoke for smokers as well as nonsmokers.

THESE YOUNG PEOPLE ARE ON A MISSION TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

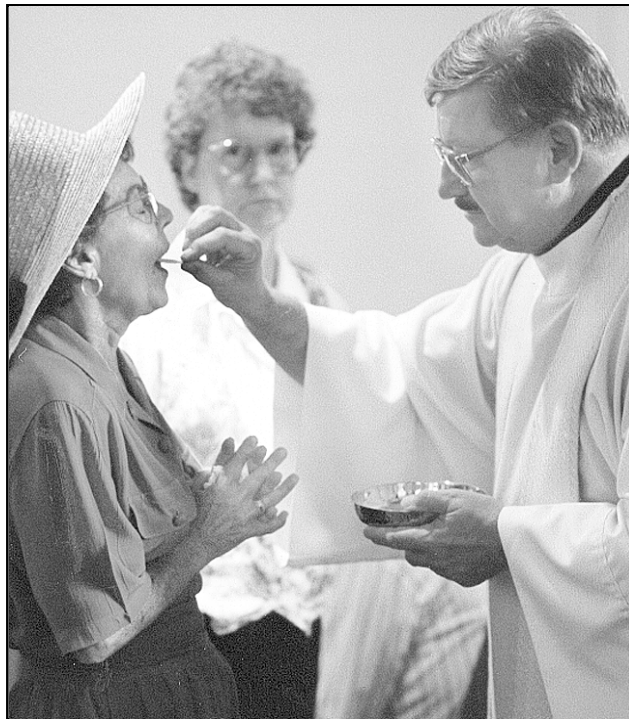
Submitted by the Counseling Dept, Owensboro Catholic High School, Owensboro, Kentucky.

Reception of Communion, Music Gives Evidence of Joy Of Heart

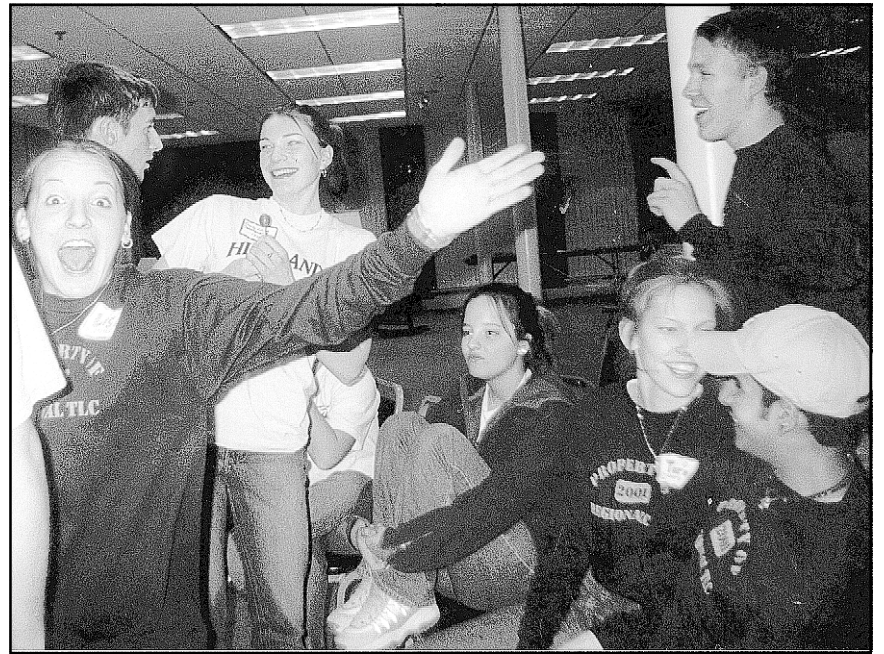
By Martha Hagan, Associate Director, Office of Worship

The February 2001 issue of the *Western Kentucky Catholic* contained an article entitled "Final Answer" article makes several well-intentioned recommendations, opinions really, concerning the celebration of the liturgy. Mr. Allard's thoughts were meant to help inspire belief in the real presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. While some may believe that these changes would be positive ones, they would not be in accord with canon law.

One opinion that Mr. Allard gave is that the faithful administer communion to themselves. The *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* (which carries the weight of canon law) does not allow for this as an option. It states that "The com-

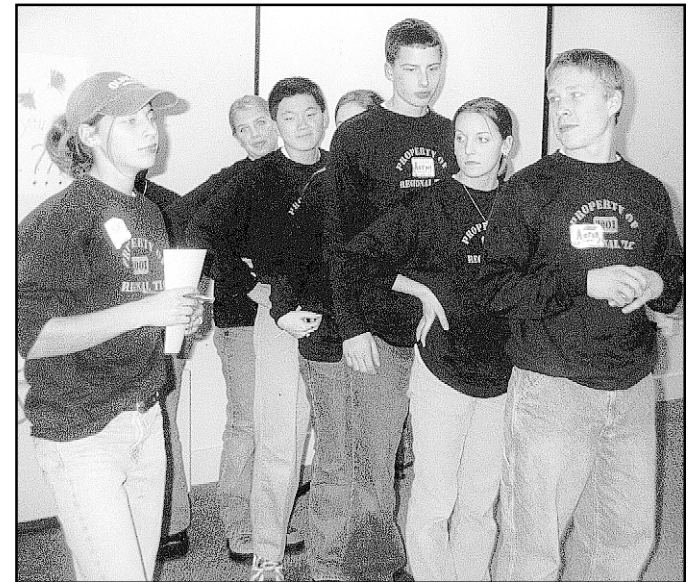


Fr. Len Arcelisi giving Communion to a lady. 1997 WKC file photo



Lisa Jarboe expresses her enthusiasm for the Owensboro Catholic High School TLC Program with fellow students: Pratih Prajapati, Tara Robertson, Aaron Flaherty, Ginny Grant, Emily Long, Simon Ebelhar.

Doing a skit for TLC, Tressie Lilly finds herself in charge with fellow OCHS students in the lineup: Aaron Flaherty, Lisa Jarboe, Aaron McNulty, Stephanie Bumm, Seth Hulsey and Jessica Mills. Photos submitted by Counseling Office, OCHS.



communicants approach, make the proper reverence, and stand in front of the priest. Showing the host he says: The Body of Christ. The communicant answers: Amen and receives the Body of Christ from the priest." (GIRM 244 c)

The article also expresses the opinion that there should be no music at Communion. The General Instruction of the Roman Missal in paragraph 56 (I) states: "During the priest's and the faithful's reception of the sacrament the communion song is sung. Its function is to express outwardly the communicants' union in spirit by means of the unity of their voices, to give evidence of joy of heart, and to make the procession to receive Christ's Body more fully an act of community.

If you have any questions or comments about the content of the article or any of the above information, please contact Fr. Larry McBride at 270-442-1923 or Martha Hagan in the Office of Worship at 270-683-1545.

Catholic Schools Week



Ryan Winsatt didn't let a little thing like a broken bone stop him from doing school work. Staff Photo



Kayla Howes, a student in Ms. Rice's room at Bishop Soenneker School recited a poem, "Spaghetti, Spaghetti" by Shel Silverstein February 2, 2001 of Catholic Schools Week.. Staff Photo.

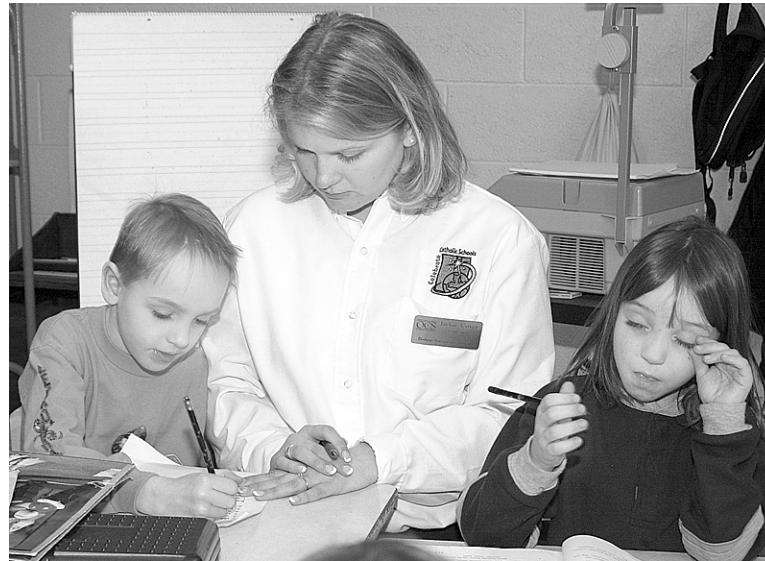


Kara Rice, 3&4 grade teacher at Bishop Soenneker School knew every word of every poem which her students recited for the other grades during Catholic Schools Week, but her students didn't need prompting as they recited their lines without a hitch. Staff Photo

A Bishop Soenneker School Photo Album From Catholic Schools Week



Bishop Soenneker School principal Ms. Sandy Fleming watches as a student enjoys an accomplishment during Catholic Schools Week. Staff Photo



Individual attention for students is a hallmark of Catholic Schools. Here Mrs. Jackie Coyer helped two of her students Ryan Peveler and Patricia Teasley with their writing. Staff Photo.



Kaleb Caceres can concentrate on his reading just about any time. Here he reads during class at Bishop Soenneker School Feb. 2, 2001. Staff Photo

Brescia Contemporary Woman Program Presents Three March Programs

OWENSBORO, Ky - Brescia University's Contemporary Woman Program is offering the following Programs for March.

"Healing Touch" will be offered on Monday, March 5, and Tuesday, March 6, from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Healing Touch is an energy-based therapeutic approach to wellness. Participants in these two sessions will learn basic principles and ideas in healing touch and experience hands-on techniques in self-balancing, centering through guided imag-

ery and basic anatomy of the human energy field. Both men and women are welcome. The presenter is Sharon Ford and the cost for both sessions is \$15.

"Spirituality for Today's Woman" begins on Monday, March 12, from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. During the five sessions, the group will study the lives of women in scripture. Participants will be encouraged to integrate the spiritual, physical and psychological aspects of life. The presenter is Sr. Marita Greenwell and the

cost for all sessions is \$25.

"Women and Short Stories" starts Tuesday, March 20, from 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. Sr. Dolores Kiesler, Ph.D., O.S.B., will lead this discussion group. The short stories of two female writers of the early 20th century, Charlotte Perkins Gilman and Kate Chopin, will be explored in this class. Both of the authors have had a revival of their stories in the past 10 - 15 years and are often heralded as writers whose fiction speaks more to the late 20th



century than it did to readers of their day. The cost is \$15 for all five sessions plus \$12.10 for two small books (total \$27.10)

For information contact Jeanette Woodward Director of Public Relations, Brescia University 270-686-4293

Adolescent Girls Resolve Conflicts, Boys Avoid Them

AUSTIN, Texas — Adolescent girls are more likely to try to resolve differences with their best friends than are adolescent boys, according to a recent study published in the journal *Adolescence*.

“Males more often recommend forgetting about problems and females more often recommend talking about them,” the authors of the study wrote, pointing out that their findings were similar to other studies on gender differences in adolescents.

The researchers watched almost 30 adolescent girls and about 10 adolescent boys in discussion with their best friends. Pairs of best friends were asked to talk about and try to resolve a conflict or disagreement they had had between them.

“Results indicated that males exhibited more avoidance of the discussion than did females, as evidenced by their higher withdrawal scores,” the researchers concluded.

Overall, adolescent girls had better communication skills, were more supportive, and were less willing to withdraw from their best friends than were adolescent boys.

While the study had many strengths, particularly since the adolescents were observed in an actual conflict situation, the authors did admit that the study might not have been effective in capturing adolescent male conflict-resolution behaviors.

“Asking adolescents to announce their problems and discuss them with their best friends may be more similar to the ... interactions females have with friends than the coordinated group activity that males engage in with friends,” the authors wrote. “Thus, such a task may put males at a disadvantage.”

The study supported previous findings regarding female relationships, mainly that female adolescents have more intimate friendships—they share more personal thoughts and feelings—than male friends do.

The adolescents averaged about 15 or 16 years old, and they had been friends with their best friends for an average of about 5 years.

Reference: Black, K. A. (2000). “Gender differences in adolescents’ behavior during conflict resolution tasks with best friends”. *Adolescence*, 35(139), 499-512. Source: ©2001 PeoplesResearch.com.

When God Works In Your Life, He Will Bless You

Angela L. Farmer of Owensboro received an unexpected note in the mail on January 3.

The unsigned letter had no return address, except for the words, “From a Friend.” Enclosed in the envelope was \$100 and the following letter:

“This I feel I owe you from many years ago, the early ‘50’s (I think). I backed into your car door, passenger side and made a small dent. I don’t know why I did not say anything to you about it then. I just put it out of my mind and over the years, I never did recall it.

“Do accept this money as I work on ‘getting right with God.’” I asked Him to bring to my mind any wrong I have done and honestly forgotten. This came to my mind, and I trust you will accept it and enjoy it.”

Ms. Farmer had long since forgotten the dented door but would like to send the following message to the person who sent the letter and money:

“I want to let whomever sent the letter above and the money to know I am donating the money to the Blessed Mother Family Life Teen Center so God’s people will benefit from it. It is good to know God is working in your life, and you will be blessed for it.

Your friend in Christ, Angela Farmer



Angela Farmer

Teens most likely to listen when parents promote chastity lesson

WASHINGTON, DC — “Chastity education that promotes respect for the mind, body and soul of the person is best taught in the home,” said Cathy Brown, director of American Life League’s youth outreach division. “So assisting parents in their responsibility of educating their children is the major focus of this year’s National Week of Chastity.”

In addition to educating parents about the importance of teen chastity through ALL’s regular publications, WhyLife? (a division of ALL’s youth outreach program) is planning a series of literature drops in high schools across the country throughout the National Week of Chastity.

“This literature will help teens understand that they are worth waiting for,” Brown said. A chastity ad campaign in college and high school newspapers will also take place as part of the week’s activities.

“In the classroom, so-called sex education may lead to obscene discussions,” Brown said. “We want to help direct the discussion away from the classroom and towards the family, where children are still treated with the respect they deserve.”

Brown criticized Planned Parenthood for its war against parents and children. “Planned Parenthood promotes deviant sex to teens, and this organization has attempted to redefine abstinence to include deviant sexual behavior,” Brown said. The result has been ruined lives and a national outbreak of sexually transmitted diseases.

“We will do everything in our power to help educate parents in defense of the dignity of their teenaged children,” Brown said.

Source: American Life League e-mail release, Stafford Va. www.all.org

BRESCIA UNIVERSITY
...invites you to attend an
Open House
Saturday, March 3
10:00 a.m. -- 12:00 noon

- Professors and staff available
- Financial Aid Information
- Campus Tours Every Half Hour

For information or to make reservations
Call toll free 1-877-273-7242

admissions@brescia.edu
717 Frederica Street
Owensboro, Kentucky

Lay Ecclesial Ministry

“Together in God’s Service”

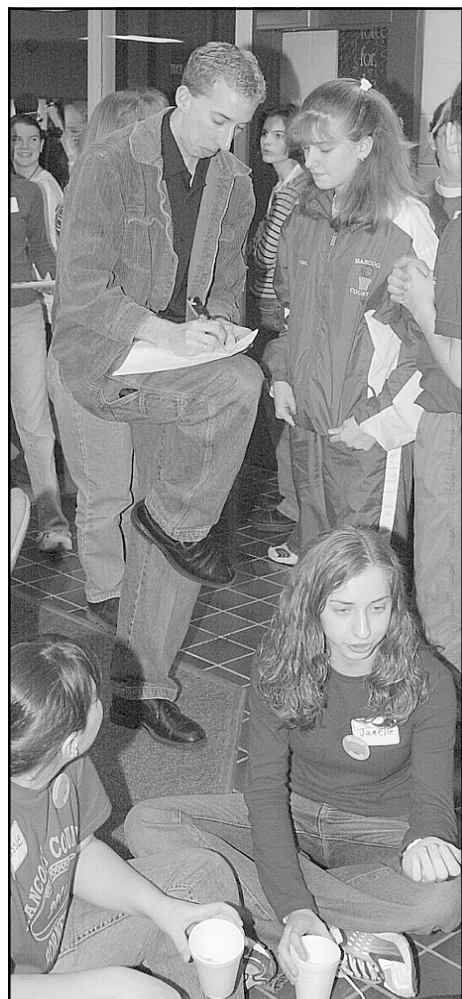
Lay Ministry Acceptance Varies

By Paul Quirini

ALBANY, NY — Lay ministry is gaining acceptance in the contemporary Church, but diocesan and parish leaders must support such work if Catholics are to experience ministry by lay people, according to lay ecclesial ministry experts.

At a time when priests are dwindling in number across the United States, parishioners need to recognize the value of service that lay ministers provide, said Lucille Merlihan, director of the Office for Lay Ecclesial Ministry in the Archdiocese of Chicago.

“Most people will naturally look to Father for assistance, but with fewer priests in parishes, out of necessity people are being cared for by lay ministers,” she said. “There’s a growing acceptance of that, and we’re very supported by our Cardinal (Francis George).



It’s slower in some parishes than others; if a parish is traditional, they may have high expectations for having priestly ministry rather than lay ministry.”

Many Catholics who accept lay ministry wonder why lay ministers can’t do more, Merlihan pointed out. In the case of a terminally ill person who has been ministered to by a lay minister, the person sometimes asks why the lay minister can’t anoint the person through the sacrament of the sick or preside at the funeral.

“They do indeed feel very ministered to, and it’s their way of affirming the lay minister,” she said.

Affirmation of lay ministry is important, but endorsement of this work must come from bishops and archbishops if Catholics are to accept the growing involvement of the laity.

“In some ways, diocesan leaders aren’t doing enough to promulgate lay leadership,” Ms. Merlihan said. “We have to think of what we can do to promote acceptance more and make people more aware of what lay people are doing.”

John Reid, co-founder and director of Reid & Associates, Inc., agreed that Catholics tend to be more accepting of lay ministry when local Church leadership shows its support.

“The acceptance is uneven because the support for lay ministry across the country is uneven,” he said. “Clearly, when the institution’s response is stronger, when there is a greater effort to bring lay and ordained ministers together periodically to acknowledge the family of ministers, there is a greater sense of acceptance because the understanding is better. Everybody benefits when that happens.”

Reid & Associates, Inc. is a national consulting firm based in Seattle that promotes spiritual development and helps non-profit Church groups, health care organizations, colleges and universities, and corporations be more effective.

Lay ministers complement the work of priests, but as the number of clergy decreases, the laity become concerned about the effectiveness of ministry overall, Reid noted.

“Most people are interested in quality pastoral ministry,” he said. “There’s a growing frustration on the part of many lay people that with the scarcity of priests for leadership positions, there’s a real danger that many people will not be well-served.”

The Formation for Ministry Program in the Diocese of Albany, NY, trains lay people for such ministries as baptismal preparation, bereavement, visiting the homebound and “all of the jobs an associate pastor used to do,” said Betsy Rowe, the program’s director. “The Church needs the gifts of everyone, and all gifts, all ministries are of value.”

Begun in 1984, the Formation for Ministry Program is a two-year program designed for formation of the laity of the Church; about 800 lay ministers have been trained for ministry through the program.

Ms. Rowe understands why people have come to expect priests to minister to them entirely, but lay ministers are being appreciated for their service despite this mentality.

“Naturally, people are going to prefer Father, but I think people who are involved in lay ministry feel accepted,” she said. “They have a certain dignity and bring passion to it, and there comes a point where, if people feel cared about and ministered to, it doesn’t matter whether it’s a priest or lay minister.”



Photo at far left, Aaron Jahn, Youth Minister at Immaculate Parish, Owensboro, at the Middle-School Lock-In February 2, tried the “Crane Technique” while signing autographs. Above, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Youth Minister Danny May and St. Stephen Cathedral Parish Youth Minister Ron Greenwell talked things over at the Middle School Lock-In. Below, Diocesan Youth Ministry Office Co-Director Melinda Prunty, center, and Ron Greenwell got the Middle School Students lined up for the ice-breaker. Staff Photos.



Public affirmation of lay ministry is one way that ordained ministers can help Catholics accept the increasing role of the lay people, but perhaps the best type of advocacy is lay ministry itself, says Ms. Rowe.

“It’s simple human kindness extended to one another, and if you’ve received that kind of service in the name of the Church and Jesus, wouldn’t you feel ministered to?”

Paul Quirini is a reporter for The Evangelist, the weekly newspaper of the Diocese of Albany, NY.

To Talk of Many Things

"The time has come, the walrus said, to talk of many things; of shoes and ships and sealing wax, of cabbages and kings."

By H. J. Ramage, Jr.

One of the most cherished works in our language and culture is the word "freedom." Following it a close second is the word "law." These two words are at complete opposite ends of the spectrum- freedom, to move and act unrestricted, law, to operate and live under rules and regulations. It is only when these two words are joined by the word "under" that their togetherness makes sense. It is when the phrase "freedom under law" is used that we have any basis for the order and stability within our society. Man by his very nature desires to do as he pleases, whether that be right or wrong, good or evil. It is a longing that we are born with, and it is good if we choose to use our freedom in the right manner. If we have chosen freedom with the realization that certain rules are necessary for the general welfare of society, then we will not object to the enactment and enforcement of just laws.

Unfortunately, some laws that are in place are not just. When we know of these laws then we have an obligation to work to repeal them. To work at repealing an unjust law does not, however, give us the right to violate other laws that are just, or to disturb other people's tranquility and safety in calling attention to the injustice of the particular law. If we embark on a course of using unlawful actions such as violence, destroying public or private property, endangering innocent persons, then we are giving precedence to the "law of the jungle." When this happens we actually do harm to our case, mainly by turning public sentiment against what we are striving to achieve. Many persons may turn against or take an indifferent attitude toward a just cause if the manner of publicity is carried out in a way that emphasizes destruction.

If our system of government is to survive, then we must use the same system and procedure to remove an unjust law that was used to put such a law in place. This can be accomplished primarily through education, and peaceful publicity on whatever the subject may be. It may also be a process that takes many years to accomplish. Let's remember the old adage: the wheels of justice turn very slowly, but they grind exceedingly fine.



A Self-Encounter of the 3rd Kind

Single Married Divorced

Saturday, March 17, 2001

Mount Saint Joseph Center, Maple Mount, Kentucky

Have you suffered a loss? Are you struggling to work through the effects of the loss? Do you know someone who is working through a loss? Would you like to know how you can use your own personality to find healing and strength? If so, this day-long workshop is for you.

It will allow you to identify traits of your personality through an established professionally developed personality identifier known as the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI). This system will help you identify your personality type and explain how your individual personality deals with loss. Learn about the grief process for dealing with loss-moving through the stages of denial, bargaining, anger, depression, acceptance. You will have the chance to name and claim feelings associated with different stages by experiencing the play, *Winds of Change*. Then conclude the day with liturgy and go out to dinner with new acquaintances.

Adapted from poems written by Judy and Jay Eckland, music by JoAnn Vickers and stage script by Tom Dolan, *Winds of Change* portrays the raw emotions, second thoughts, and desire for physical consolation, experienced by many individuals when they divorce. The play opens as husband (Tom Dolan) and wife (JoAnn Vickers), a long married couple, meet one last time to pack up boxes in order to vacate their apartment. Unlike television dramas, no answers or easy solutions are offered. The complexity and unresolved ending of the play reflect real life divorce when individuals are plagued with feelings of love/hate, joy/sadness, expectation/regret. This play is not recommended for the very newly hurting. It will be used with individuals a little further along the divorce recovery process, to identify and work through feelings.

Winds of Change features JoAnn Vickers and Tom Dolan. Also appearing Catherine Nading, Natalie Hale, and Katie Jones. Copies of the script and an audio tape of the music will be available for \$8. Tapes of JoAnn Vickers songs are also available. Play Trippers can be contacted at 615-612-0593.

Continental breakfast, coffee, snacks, and lunch are include in the registration fee of \$15. Please plan to arrive early to take the MBTI Personality Profile or if you have already taken the instrument, bring your profile with you.

Schedule

- 8:30 a.m. Registration (Self-scored MBTI)
- 9:00 Opening Prayer
- 10:30 Review personal profile and temperament for self-evaluation
- 10:45 Break
- 11:00 Grief and the MBTI Temperaments
Ken Thomas and Susan Hoefler
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:30 *The Process of Dealing With Loss*
Susan Hoefler
- 1:50 Reflect - finding ourselves in the process
- 2:15 *Feelings That Accompany The Stages of Grief* - Susan Hoefler
- 3:15 - 3:30 Break
- 3:30 - 3:40 Intro to Play (written handout)
- 4:00 - 4:10 Identify feelings triggered by play
- 4:20 Share in small groups feelings, thoughts and reaction to play
- 5:00 Mass

OUT TO DINNER

Registration

Please return registration form
by March 10, 2001
to Diocese of Owensboro Family Life Office,
600 Locust Street, Owensboro, KY 42301
Attention: Betty Medley

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State/Zip _____
Daytime phone _____
Evening Phone _____
E-mail address _____

A limited number of guests are available for Friday, March 16 and Saturday, March 17 at MSJ Center at a cost of \$25 per night.

Housing for March 16 _____
Housing for March 17 _____
\$15.00 Registration Fee
Make Checks payable to Diocese of Owensboro
Co-Sponsored by the North American Conference of
Separated and Divorced Catholics Region V
Office of Family Life 270-683-1545 ext 121

The National Catholic Youth Choir

Spreading the Catholic Faith Through Great Music

The National Catholic Youth Choir is accepting applications for its second season - June 8-24, 2001. This choir, directed by Dr. Axel Theimer, is open to Catholic students entering grades 10, 11, and 12 and is held on the beautiful wooded campus of St. John's Abbey and University in central Minnesota.

Students are accepted on the basis of their application and audition tape. For the entire camp there is a special low price of \$350 that includes both room and board. Curriculum includes intensive daily choral rehearsal of classical literature, and daily music and religion classes. Applications are due March 19, 2001.

Contact for information and application materials: Michelle Plombon, St. John's University, School of Theology, Collegeville, MN 56321. Telephone number: 320.363.2062, Fax: 320.363.2614. Email: mplombon@csbusju.edu. Website: <http://www.csbusju.edu/nccyc>.

The Diocesan Charismatic Liturgy

celebrated at Precious Blood Church, Owensboro,
will not be scheduled until further notice. Check in The Western Kentucky Catholic
in September, 2001 for information about new Mass times.
Any Questions? Call Peggy at 771-4012.

*May the Holy Spirit Lead Us To Hear Our Father's Divine Will
So We Can Live Our Lives In Peace, Joy and Love.*

Diocese

Sunday's For The Family

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

March 4, 2001

Luke 4:1-13

Theme: *EDUCATION OF CHILDREN*

Family Life: My children have been baptized, received First Communion, the sacraments of Reconciliation and Confirmation. I take comfort in this; I've done my job. My daughter phones home from college. She is miserable about failing in her major. I reassure her that God has a purpose for her and encourage her to pray with a listening heart. "Mom," she said, "Don't you know my most fervent prayers right now are when I talk to you?" For a moment I am stunned by the impact of her words. In a flash of insight, I recognize the graces of the "intimate communion of life and love"...in action!

SECONDSUNDAY OF LENT

March 11,

Luke 9:28-36

Theme: *TRANSFORMING POWER OF PRAYER*

Family Life: My dad and I sit in the doctor's office, waiting to hear the updated prognosis

on his advancing cancer. On the radio I hear the words of a song, "You'll never love someone, you'll never love someone, the way I love you." I lose myself for a moment in the experience of love for him and feel God's calming presence come over me. Isn't it odd how the most vivid experiences of hope and peace come in sharp contrast to context of loss and hopelessness?

THIRDSUNDAY OF LENT

March 18, 2001

Luke 13:1-9

THEME: *HOPE IN THE LORD*

Family Life: "Our twenty year old daughter seems to have no direction in her life. She's loaded with talent. She's had the advantage of excellent schooling, complete with teachers that have gone out of their way to advise and counsel her. And yet she seems to have no ambition. She refuses to even consider college. She's had several jobs, but quits them after a short time. Now she just sleeps a lot. She won't look for work. She has no friends. She just seems lost. As parents, we've tried everything. We're completely

A HEALING & INFORMATION PROCESS: For People With Divorce & Annulment Questions

On **Thursday March 8th** 2001 at **6:30 pm** the Family Life Office of the Diocese will sponsor an evening for those people who would like to learn more about the annulment process. This will be held at the **Catholic Pastoral Center, 600 Locust Street, Owensboro, Kentucky.**

Fr. Greg Trawick from the Tribunal Office for the Diocese of Owensboro will speak to those who want to know more about the annulment process, the difference between divorce and annulments. There will be time for questions afterwards. This is open to anyone that may be going through the annulment process.

**For further information you may contact Betty Medley
in the Family Life Office at: (270)683-1545 ext. 121.**

frustrated and don't know where to turn."

FOURTHSUNDAY OF LENT

March 25, 2001

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Theme: *FORGIVENESS*

Family Life: "Our seventeen year old son becomes involved in drug use. He becomes increasingly hostile, sullen, withdrawn. He isolates himself from family life. He refuses

to join us in even the smallest of activities. Anger begins to dominate our home life. We find ourselves fighting with him. Then we begin blaming ourselves: 'Where did we go wrong?' Finally, we start to turn against each other as parents and look to see if we can find blame there. We're at a point of utter exhaustion, confusion, and near despair."

Happy Anniversary

Blessed Mother, Owensboro

Mr & Mrs Stewart Schrecker, 55 years

Holy Spirit, Bowling Green

George T & Marie R. Miller 61 years

Holy Name, Henderson

Jack D. & Susan Wathen, 58 years

David & Paula Morris, 25 years

Holy Redeemer, Beaver Dam

Harold & Ermon Hardesty, 56 years

St. Agnes Uniontown

Victor & Anna Yates, 62 years

William & Christine Duncan, 55 years

St. Anthony of Padua, Grand Rivers

Donald & JoAnn Wardynski, 50 years

St. Columba, Lewisport

Harmon & Martha Long, 52 years

St. Elizabeth, Clarkson

Pat & Louise Boone, 51 years

St. Jerome, Fancy Farm

Mr & Mrs Andrew Elliott, 25 years

Mr & Mrs Joseph Thompson, 55 years

Mr & Mrs J. Albert Cash, 60 years

St. Joseph, Central City

Richard & Queenie Schmidt, 56 years

St. Joseph, Mayfield

Otto & Mary Jo Hayden, 72 years

St. Leo, Murray

Mr. & Mrs John Whelan 69 years

St. Mary & James, Guthrie

Harley & Betty Fletcher, 65 years

St. Pius Tenth, Owensboro

Mr & Mrs Joseph L. Johnson, 51 years

Mr & Mrs Wm. Campbell, 52 years

St. Romuald, Hardinsburg

Henry & Anna Crawford, 53 years

St. Stephen, Owensboro

Gene & Carolyn Bowlds, 25 years

Louis & Mary Byrne, 52 years

Martin & Clara Millay, 61 years

Charles & Nannie Payne, 61 years

Bill & Helen Pence, 50 years

St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville

David and Mary Ann Howard, 54 years

WISDOM By Ginny Knight Simon



Joseph and Linda Englert St. Joseph Parish, Mayfield, KY

Joseph "We don't mind being called Senior Citizens at all. We have time to do more of the things we like. We have just come from our water aerobics at the "Y" - we really love it- it helps to make our ole' bones feel better! We do a few things at the Mayfield Senior Citizens Center which is for all of Graves County. We also like to play cards and nap!

Linda "We will be married 54 years in August and we have 7 children and several of them live in this area. In January 2000 I had an aneurism and everyone prayed for me. Fr. Ray anointed me and faith pulled me through it. My doctors told me that 90% of people don't pull through, but I did and I'm thankful for every new day.

Joseph- Our 37 year son was alcoholic and committed suicide, that was the hardest thing we've ever had to go through. We had gone to some of the AA meetings for family and read their books. AA always talks about a "higher power" to help you, and it's true. God is our higher power and without Him it would be impossible to go on.



Were You Taught by The Sisters of Charity?

The Sisters of Charity of Nazareth wish to reconnect with their former students. If you were taught in elementary or high school by the SCNs, and would like to receive our quarterly publication, *SCN Journey*, please send your name and address to:

Sister Barbara Peterson
Director of Alumni Relations
P.O. Box 9
Nazareth, Ky 40048

Mary Gertzen Gladdened Hearts In So Many Ways

By Carolyn Haas

MURRAY, KY - Mary Gertzen died August 10, 2000. She was a well-loved leader in Murray, Kentucky. She was instrumental in showing the community that Catholics are "okay." She'd belonged to Murray Woman's Club and Church Women United of Murray for many years. At St. Leo's, Mary was one of the pillars. She often did Ministries at Masses. She loved serving organizations both as an officer and/or as activities' director. Mary could be counted on to have the Program planned- for example, in March, she'd pass out handmade St. Patrick's's Day name tags to groups members, and read poetry and prayers about St. Patrick, maybe even led Irish songs. When she was a Renew group leader, she asked others for advice how to be a better leader. She was humble. She was just eager to serve us all.

As a reporter for this newspaper she had sent many articles and pictures to The Western Kentucky Catholic. The most recent article (and pictures) was about how St. Leo Newman House MSU students had assisted parishioners in performing various outdoor chores. Mary's and neighbor Margaret Fretz's leaves were raked during the last week in October 1999 by the group.

On June 4, 2000, the St. Leo's Ladies' Guild celebrated 25 years of Service to the Parish. Mary Gertzen had been one of the Charter Members. The Guild started with Father Martin Mattingly as Spiritual Advisor. On June 3, 1975, the group of 14 women met in Gleason Hall; Claire Resig served as the first President. Billie Hall was the first Vice President, Mary Gertzen was the first Secretary, and Helen James was the first Treasurer. Twelve more ladies joined the Guild before 1975 ended.

The Guild has been very successful in: promoting fellowship of parish members, supporting religious vocations, practicing Christian charity, promoting spiritual welfare of the members, and performing assigned special works. Only God knows all that was and is being accomplished by groups like the Guild in our Diocese.

On Sunday, June 4, 2000, Mary was very ill with cancer and couldn't come to the Special Mass the Ladies' Guild celebrated together. She's not in the group picture taken by the Blessed Virgin's statue after Mass. But, Mary briefly attended the Open Reception held at 1:00 in the Parish Center.

The Reception was successful with many there who'd traveled from afar to celebrate with the Guild. Community members also attended. Close to 2:00, just as the present six "Past and Present Presidents of the Guild" were lining up in



Cutting the anniversary cake at the Ladies Guild celebration are from L-R: C. DeNezo, J. Tidwell, Claire Resig, Anita O'Neal, Betty Jerge, Sr. Mary Mathias Ward. Photos by N. Callahan



Present and Past Presidents of the Ladies Guild pose at St. Leo's Parish Center in June, 2000. They are L-R: Judy Krouse, Joyce Tidwell, Terry Burke, Billie Hall, Mary Gertzen, Claire Resig, and Christine DeNezzo. St. Leo photos by Ned Callahan.

front of the Reception's audience, Mary's daughter wheeled Mary into the Parish Center. Emotions abounded. We thank the Lord for such special happenings in our lives; we all gain encouragement from them. Mary joined the other six Presidents in the line. The audience applauded all of them. They look lovely and proud in the picture here. Judy Krouse, Joyce Tidwell, Terry Burke, Billie Hall, Mary Gertzen, Claire Resig, and Christine DeNezzo are full of joy.

Mary Gertzen gave this writer a large collection of articles and pictures about St. Leo Parish. Included also are many of Mary's personal prayers, poems, handmade items and ideas for group activities. This writer is distributing some items and using others in the St. Leo's Quarterly NEWSLETTER, Wisdom and Wit, as the editor. We will be influenced by Mary for decades to come. Here is a short prayer that covers nearly everything Mary practiced; this was in one of the bags Mary gave this writer.



Editor's Note: Mary Gertzen is still a very dear friend of this newspaper.

Mary always had a smile and said a prayer for her dear Joe when we talked. Now she sings among the angels. I'll miss seeing her stories typed on pink, blue or yellow-bordered thank you notes. She once told me that she'd be Catholic no matter what. Her hope that things in life worked out for the better inspired us. For Mary the better part of life was what God willed. She loved just about everything about the Catholic Church, especially St. Leo Parish, and from the story here done in a style Mary liked, St. Leo Parish loves her just as much. If you knew Mary Gertzen, you felt loved - her love is her continuing ministry among us. - MDH



Accompanied by her daughter, Kathy, Mary Gertzen (wheelchair) attends the Ladies Guild on June 4, 2000.

Lord God,
you have given us a place to live in,
a town and space to build in
and people to live with.

Make us humble enough to help other
people and comfort them
so that a little of your love may
be seen in all of us.

We ask for your guidance in our
decisions and blessings upon our
work and service

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen
--written by Carolyn Haas for Mary
Gertzen

Members of the Ladies Guild who
attended the June 4, 2000 25th anni-
versary celebration at St. Leo's,
Murray. Photo by N. Callahan

Diocese

Parish Council Members and Religious Education Students Share Their Talents at St. Mary of the Woods in Franklin

Photos and captions submitted by Cathy Hoots Abell

The Religious Education students recently sang during Mass. The students were led by Mr. Andy Herman who spent much time working with the students. The Students sharing their musical talents was enjoyed by all.

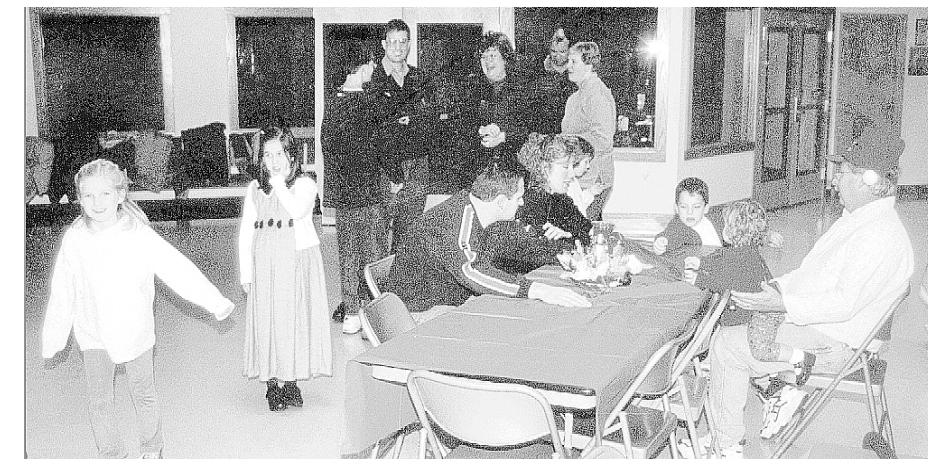
The Parish Council of St. Mary of the Woods hosted a dinner for members of the church that share their talents by serving the church in various roles. The council members, Paul Abell, Marie Buchanan, Rosemary Estep, Daryll Hall, Charlene Moore, Karen Trouten, and Fr. Holly, invited church committee members, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, cantors, ushers, counters, religious education teachers, and servers to an evening of fellowship and fun to express their gratitude for each one's individual dedication and service to the church.

The evening was opened with prayer and a dinner. Following dinner, a variety of games were enjoyed by all. It was no surprise to anyone that Fr. Holly's team won the "Mass Trivia" game. This is an annual parish event that the council hopes to continue.



Above: The kindergartner and first grade Religious Education students sing "Happy Birthday to Jesus" as Father Holly looks on.

To left: The second through eighth grade Religious Education students sing "Silent Night" led by Mr. Andy Herman.



Above: Early arrivers wait for the fun to begin!

Right middle photo: The event held at St. Mary of the Woods in Franklin was for all ages and parishioners.

Right bottom: Everyone enjoyed participating in the games sponsored by the council members of St. Mary of the Woods.

Twenty-one Ursuline Sisters Celebrate Jubilees

This spring and summer, 21 Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph will celebrate anniversaries of their commitment to religious life. One Sister is celebrating 80 years, one 75 years, five 70 years, six 60 years, one 50 years, six 40 years, and one 25 years.

For this issue of *The Western Kentucky Catholic*, the 80-, 75-, and 70-year jubilarians will be featured. (Stories of the other celebrants will be in the next two issues.) Most of these Sisters now live at the motherhouse, where they dedicate themselves to the ministry of prayer for the Church and the world, for those who express particular prayer needs, and for the mission and ministries of the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph.



Celebrating **80 years** as an Ursuline Sister of Mount Saint Joseph is **Sister Charles Asa Williams**, a native of Owensboro who entered the Ursuline community in 1920, received the habit in 1921, and pronounced final vows

in 1926. Sister Charles Asa's ministry in the Owensboro Diocese includes teaching at St. Peter High School, Waverly, 1928-32; principal, Mount Saint Joseph Academy, 1966-69; principal, Immaculate School, Owensboro, 1972-78; sister-in-residence at St. Pius Tenth, Owensboro, 1978-85. She also taught in Jefferson, Marion, Nelson, and Washington counties in Kentucky, and in Nebraska and Missouri. From 1985 until her retirement in 1988, she served as a part-time receptionist at Mount Saint Joseph. Sister Charles Asa now serves in the ministry of prayer at the Mount.



Celebrating **75 years** in religious life is **Sister Mary Bertha Wethington**. Born in Clementsville, Ky., she entered the community in 1925, received the habit in 1926, and made final vows in 1931. In the

Diocese of Owensboro, she taught at St. Mary Magdalene School, Sorgho, 1927-28; Sts. Joseph and Paul School, Owensboro, 1950-51; St. Joseph School, Leitchfield, 1951-57 and 1964-67. She served as principal at St. Pius Tenth School, Owensboro, 1968-71. Her other ministries include Affton (St. Louis), Mo., and Louisville, where she was coordi-

nator of St. Angela Education Center. She is currently engaged in quilting for the community at St. Angela Convent in Louisville.

The **70-year jubilarians** are Sisters Blanche Rita Bickett, Mary Beatrice Donahue, Charles Irene Hayden, Mary Ann Krampe and Dorothy Ann Whelan. These Sisters entered the Ursuline community in 1930, received the habit in 1931, and pronounced final vows in 1936.



Sister Blanche Rita was born in Union County, Ky. Her ministries included Jefferson, Marion and Meade counties in Kentucky, as well as New Mexico and Nebraska. From 1952 until her retirement in 1989, Sister Blanche Rita was full-time supervisor of the motherhouse laundry at Mount Saint Joseph. She now serves in the ministry of prayer at the Mount.

ment in 1989, Sister Blanche Rita was full-time supervisor of the motherhouse laundry at Mount Saint Joseph. She now serves in the ministry of prayer at the Mount.



Sister Mary Beatrice is a native of Holy Cross, Ky. Her teaching ministry in the Owensboro diocese included Immaculate Conception School, Earlington, Ky., 1933-34, 1935-36; St. Joseph School, Owensboro, 1934-35; St. Denis,

Bardwell, 1937-39; St. Anthony, Axtel, 1939-45; and Peonia School, Peonia, 1960-72. She also ministered in Jefferson, Marion and Washington counties in Kentucky, and in Jeffersonville, Ind. In 1984, she retired to the motherhouse, where she participates in the ministry of prayer.



Sister Charles Irene was born in Sutherland, Ky. In the Owensboro Diocese, she taught at St. Mary Magdalene School, Sorgho, 1946-47, and Blessed Mother School, Owensboro, 1956-66. Other places

of ministry were in Jefferson, Marion, Washington, and Larue counties in Kentucky, in

Jeffersonville, Ind., and in Nebraska and New Mexico. From 1994 up to her retirement in 2000, Sister Charles Irene served as local treasurer at Mount Saint Joseph. Currently she is active in Motherhouse activities, including the ministry of prayer.



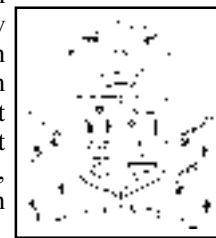
Sister Mary Ann is a native of Browns Valley, Ky. Her ministries in the Owensboro Diocese include St. Charles Convent, Bardwell, 1941-42; St. Joseph Convent, Central City, 1944-46; St. Elizabeth School, Curdsville, 1946-47; St. Elizabeth of Hungary

School, Clarkson, 1947-49; St. Romuald School, Hardinsburg, 1952-54; St. Thomas More School, Paducah, 1955-57, 1966; and Mary Carrico School, Knottsville, 1971-78. She also served in Jefferson, Marion, Meade, Casey, and Nelson counties in Kentucky, as well as in Nebraska. In 1979, she retired to the Motherhouse, where she participates in the ministry of prayer.



Born in Howardstown, Ky., **Sister Dorothy Ann** was a teacher in the Owensboro Diocese at St. Anthony School, Peonia, 1936-38 and, as principal, 1958-62; St. Joseph School, Mayfield, 1947-48; and Immaculate School,

Owensboro, 1957-58. From 1988-93 she ministered in parish outreach at St. Joseph, Leitchfield. Other ministries included Jefferson, Marion, and Casey counties in Kentucky, as well as Nebraska. From 1993 until her retirement in 1996, Sister Dorothy Ann served as librarian at Mount Saint Joseph Conference and Retreat Center. She now lives at the Motherhouse, where she is active in the ministry of prayer.



WFSJDCM By Ginny Knight Simon

Christine Meyer
- St. Joseph Parish, Mayfield, KY



"I'm originally from New York City and I came here in 1952 with my husband, Matthew, who started working in the atomic plant. Jobs were very hard to come by in those days especially if they paid anything. My husband came down here and got a job. He called me in New York and told me that I would have to move and I had two days to move from New York City to Mayfield, KY with two children. I just left most of everything except for a few pieces that I could sell. I moved here bringing 1 bag, 1 trunk and two children and we came down here on a bus, which took forever! I've never regretted living here instead of a big city. I really like the small town values and I have great friends here. I tell everyone Ella Mae Turner is my adopted sister. We have been great friends since I moved here.

Matthew and I are both retired now and we also like to nap! I go to daily mass and am involved as much as my health will allow. My special ministry is to greet people at Mass. Kinda, lighten them up if they look down. I try to speak to everyone and some just get hugged. I try to spread a little cheer to all. God has been so good to me that I try to share His goodness whenever I can.

What The Bible Really Says About ...

By Fr. John Buckel, St. Meinrad School of Theology, St. Meinrad, In.
jjbuckel@juno.com

"The bible says that you should not drink alcohol."

"The bible says that people who trust in God's protection should not go to the doctor."

"The bible says there is nothing wrong in owning slaves."

Every one of these statements has, at one time or another, been presented as biblical teaching.

If one is to interpret Scripture accurately, one must be familiar with its contents and observe some basic principles.

Caution must be taken not to interpret a biblical passage out of context. Almost any position, regardless of how absurd, can find biblical support if Scripture is quoted out of context. "There is no God," the author seems to say in Psalm 14. However, in its proper context



the Psalm reads: "The fool says in his heart, 'there is no God.'"

Different books of the bible sometimes present different positions on a given topic. The morality of drinking alcohol is a classic example. "Take no wine or strong drink," Samson's mother is told.

On the other hand, Jesus changed water into wine at a wedding reception in Cana. During the last supper Jesus gave a cup of wine to his disciples and commanded them to drink from it. The author of the First Letter to Timothy counseled those under his care to "take a little wine for the good of your stomach."

The teachings of the New Testament supercedes those of the Old. In Leviticus one finds, "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." Jesus, however, commanded his disciples to "offer no resistance to injury," and to "turn the other cheek." The New Testament does not contradict the Old, rather it fulfills it.

Using common sense is of the utmost importance in coming to a valid interpretation of Scripture. Doctors, nurses and other medical personnel can act as tools in the hand of God to restore health. Taking advantage of modern medicine does not go against the teachings of Scripture.

Priority must be given to biblical teaching that is consistent throughout Scripture. For example, God is all loving, forgiving and compassionate. Everyone is made in the divine image and therefore worthy of respect. Any interpretation of the bible that contradicts one of these basic teachings is invalid. Every unchristian type of behavior is absolutely contradictory to the teachings of the bible. That includes slavery, persecution and the taking of innocent life.

The bible was not composed just to satisfy human curiosity. Rather, Scripture was composed to reveal to us everything we need to know about our salvation.

Therefore, in our quest to discover the meaning of a particular passage, we should begin by asking: "What does it tell me about salvation?"

The correct interpretation of Scripture presupposes a familiarity with the contents of the bible, both the Old Testament and the New. Old Testament symbolism, vocabulary and themes are often found in the New Testament writings.

As a result, the more one knows about the Old Testament, the better one can understand what the New Testament has to say about Jesus and his followers.

History informs us that one's understanding of the bible can have a profound influence on the way one lives and treats others. Sometimes it is even a matter of life and death.

Sister Maureen Griner, OSU, Receives Liturgy Award

Sister Maureen Griner, a member of the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph, is one of three recipients of the 2001 Spirit and Truth Award. Established in 1999, the award recognizes persons from the United States, Canada, and several other countries for significant contributions made to pastoral liturgy by the Center for Pastoral Liturgy at Notre Dame University.

Sister Maureen currently serves as director of music for the Diocese of Memphis and the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. She is also founding director of the Liturgical Ministry Institute, a diocesan program that forms and educates participants in the basics of liturgy, liturgical music, and liturgical ministry.

A native of Louisville, Sister Maureen has served as a liturgist-musician for the past 31 years. In the Diocese of Owensboro, she ministered at Brescia College (1979-80, 1991-92) and, from 1986-91, at Holy Name Parish, Henderson. Her ministry has also called her to schools, parishes, and diocesan offices in Missouri and Nebraska.

Sister Maureen served the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph as Director of Initial Formation (1980-85) and as chairperson of the committee that oversaw the renovation of the motherhouse chapel in 1992.

She holds the master's of music education degree from the University of Nebraska and a master's in liturgical studies from the University of Notre Dame.

The Spirit and Truth Awards will be bestowed in June at the 2001 Pastoral Liturgy Conference at Notre Dame University.

MEDITATION RETREATS AT MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH CENTER

Mount Saint Joseph Retreat Center will offer three meditation retreats during March, April, and May. Father Bernard Powers will direct these retreats, which begin at 10 a.m. and close at 3 p.m. each day. Cost: \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door.

March 8: Prayer Prayer is a gift from the Holy Spirit. Prayer nourishes the life of the soul. Prayer brings a person into the deep presence of God. Prayer leads the soul to imitate Jesus. Prayer is an act of love in response to the request of Jesus to "pray unceasingly."

April 5: Suffering Suffering is a part of human life. Suffering is part of the journey of salvation. Suffering was in the life of Jesus and Mary. No one is free of suffering—neither the bad nor the good. Meditating on suffering brings some understanding, and it also brings acceptance in a positive way.

May 10: Spiritual Reading. So much is printed today. So much is available on TV. The mind is an active faculty and must be well disciplined and well fed. Thus spiritual reading. Today we consider its value...a method...the kind of reading. Spiritual reading nourishes the mind, feeds the spirit, and aids the heart in prayer.

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State/zip _____

Retreat(s): March 8 _____
April 5 _____ May 10 _____
Amount enclosed \$ _____

For information, contact Kathy McCarty, Director of Facilities, Mount Saint Joseph Center, 8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount KY 42356. Phone: 229-0200, ext. 413.

MSJ Ursulines Donate Money For Poor In El Salvador

MAPLE MOUNT, KY - The Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph recently gave a donation of \$1000 to help alleviate suffering among the victims of the January 13 earthquake in El Salvador. Over a million people were affected, with 35,000 homes destroyed or damaged, plus many schools, hospitals, churches, and farms. The people of El Salvador continue to work to pick up their lives in the midst of mud and rubble.

The Ursulines' donation was made through the SHARE Foundation, a non-profit institution supporting the empowerment of impoverished and marginalized Salvadoran communities. Giving through this established foundation, which is endorsed by the Leadership Council of Women Religious, helps avoid government mishandling of direct donations.

"Our hearts, through prayer, had already responded to those who were suffering from the 7.6-magnitude earthquake in El Salvador," stated Ursuline superior Sister Rose Marita O'Bryan. "We knew we had to respond with money, too, to help the poor from sinking into misery. Through the SHARE Foundation, we are given a marvelous opportunity to build a new El Salvador today." The Ursuline Sisters invite others to join them in the partnership of sharing.

One Million Rosaries Is Goal For Pro-Life Prayer Day May 12

MEMPHIS, Tn - The Rosaries for Life, sponsor of the ONE MILLION ROSARIES TO END ABORTION prayer event, is continuing its effort to have one million people pray the Rosary (Joyful Mysteries) on May 12, 2001 (8:00 a.m., Central Standard Time) for an end to the surgical and non-surgical killing of unborn babies.

"I hope no one will just say 'That sounds like a great idea' and then not get involved," said Patrick Benedict, director of the Rosaries for Life. "I am hoping, instead, that one million or more people are willing to participate in this pro-life prayer event."

For more information, including a form to officially register as a participant for the ONE MILLION ROSARIES TO END ABORTION prayer event, please write to: Rosaries for Life; P.O. Box 41831; Memphis, Tennessee 7,8174. (It is asked, but not required, that one postage stamp be included for return mail.)

All Invited to Angela Merici Program At Mount Saint Joseph

"The Inner Voice of Angela Merici" is the title of a presentation at Mount Saint Joseph on March 23, with a repetition on March 24. Leading this contemplative experience will be Sister Helen Normandeau, an Ursuline of the Chatham Union, Canada.

Hidden in the writings of Saint Angela Merici, foundress of the Ursuline Sisters, Sister Helen has found "archetypal images of what it means to be *Ursuline*." An artist as well as an author, she has created a series of *mandalas*—symbolic paintings—inspired by the writings of Saint Angela.

Sister Helen emphasizes that, rather than a lecture, this will be a time of quiet reflection that will offer times for participants to express their own experience. "Helen Normandeau's paintings and writings are deeply inspiring," states Ursuline Superior Sister Rose Marita O'Bryan. "But it is the person of Helen, herself, that I found to be inspiration in its purest form."

The Ursuline Sisters cordially invite their Associates, co-workers, and friends to join with them on March 23 or 24 for the presentation in the chapel and lunch with the Sisters. There is no charge, but registration is required by March 16. To register, or for more information, call Sister Marietta Wethington, 270-229-4103, ext. 204 (e-mail: mwethington@juno.com), or Sister Ruth Gehres, 270-229-4103, ext. 404 (info@ursulinesmsj.org). Brochures are available.



Sister Helen Normandeau, OSU

Glenmary and Ursuline Communities To Observe National Days of Fast and Prayer

Two national days of prayer and fasting established by the Leadership Council of Women Religious (LCWR) will be observed in the Owensboro Diocese under the leadership of Glenmary president Sister Chris Beckett and Ursuline superior Sister Rose Marita O'Bryan, both LCWR members.

As reported in the February issue of the *Western Kentucky Catholic* (pp. 11 and 47), LCWR has made a commitment, during the year 2001, to a year of contemplation and fasting for the healing of broken relationships within our church and society. "Shaped by Jubilee reflections," the communication states, "we see more clearly, feel the pain more acutely, and hear more sharply the cries of the poor, of creation, and of the oppressed."

In this spirit, the first Day of Contemplation and Fasting will be observed in the Owensboro Diocese on the Friday after Ash Wednesday—**March 2, 2001**. A special service, coordinated by Sisters Chris and Rose Marita, will be held from 4-5 p.m. on Friday afternoon at St. Stephen Cathedral. All members of the Catholic community are invited to come to pray and to open their hearts to the spirit. Through fasting and this time of contemplation, the LCWR communication explains, the Catholic community seeks to experience God's love, to know dependence on God through fasting, to rediscover unity with themselves and with all creation, and to act with new wisdom and energy to heal the brokenness within themselves, in the church, and in the world.

In addition to the national days of prayer and fasting, LCWR members will observe a rolling fast... that is, on every day of the year 2001, a religious congregation of women will be holding the church and the world in prayer. The Glenmary Sisters will observe September 2 and 29, and the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph, September 1 and 23. (LCWR member communities based in other dioceses will have received a notice of their dates also.) "We believe that this sustained prayer and fasting witnesses to our belief that God working among us can do more than we could ever ask or imagine," the LCWR message states.

Members of the Owensboro Diocese will find information in their bulletins about the Cathedral service as well as possible observances of this day in their own parishes. The second day of contemplation and fasting will be observed on December 2.

Day of Contemplation and Fasting, Friday, March 2, 2001

Prayer service/time of contemplation: St.
Stephen Cathedral, 4-5 p.m.

Who is invited: **EVERYONE!**

*When "we do not know how to pray as we ought...
the Spirit makes intercession for us
with groanings that cannot be expressed in speech."*

(Romans 8:26)

Diocese

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Celebrates Feast Day

By Lois Rutigliano

OWENSBORO, Ky - Our Lady of Lourdes Parish celebrated the feast day of its patron saint with a potluck supper held in the parish hall on Sunday February 11, 2001 at 3:30 PM in the afternoon. All were invited to attend the feast. Extra tables and chairs were set up to accommodate the overflow of those who attended the event. The parish furnished the meat, drink, and utensils, while those who attended the feast brought a vegetable, salad, or dessert dish. Fr. John Meredith, pastor of the parish, indicated the barbecue chicken

was finger licking good as he licked his fingers between bites.

Tickets were drawn at the conclusion of the meal to determine the winner of the door prize and a floral arrangement centerpiece. Mary Jane Roberts won the beautiful arrangement of spring flowers. "I'm very proud of this," she said. Mary Jane has been a member of Our Lady of Lourdes since it was built and passed the faith tradition to her six children. Walter Knott was the lucky winner of the door prize,



At left, Mary Jane Roberts posed with the floral arrangement she won as a door prize at the Feast Day celebration. Above, Our Lady of Lourdes pastor Fr. John Meredith handed out door prize tickets as parishioners made their way to the serving line for the potluck supper. Lois Rutigliano photos.

MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH CONFERENCE AND RETREAT CENTER Calendar of Events, March-June, 2001



Programs sponsored by the Center are in capital letters. For information about scheduling a program or event for your organization, contact Kathy McCarty, Director of Facilities, (270) 229-0200, ext. 413.

MARCH 2001

- 2- 3 Girls, Inc.
- 2- 4 Catholic Engaged Encounter
- 6- 7 Principals, Owensboro
Consolidated Catholic Schools
- 8 **MEDITATION RETREAT: PRAYER**
- 9- 11 Charismatic Conference/Retreat
- 10 **PROJECT EMPOWER**
- 15 BECOMING A LEADER WITH SOUL
- 16-18 **WOMEN'S RETREAT**
- 17 Separated, Divorced, and Widowed Retreat
- 17 Quilters Guild
- 18 RCIA, Precious Blood Parish
- 24 CPC: Planning for Adult Faith Formation

APRIL 2001

- 1 Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Owensboro, RCIA
- 4 CPC: Planning for Adult Faith Formation
- 5 **MEDITATION RETREAT: SUFFERING**
- 5-6 Senior Retreat, St. Mary High School, Paducah
- 6- 8 Christian Women 2001 Retreat
- 6- 8 New Hope MBC Retreat
- 7 **PROJECT EMPOWER**
- 7 RCIA, St. Mary Parish

- 16-20 WARE Energy
- 16-21 Habitat for Humanity: Youth Group from Fenton, Michigan
- 18 **SECRETARIES' DAY**
- 20- 22 Catholic Engaged Encounter
- 21 Owensboro Quilt Guild
- 23 Second Grade, St. Angela Merici School
- 24 Spiritual Care Ministers
- 26 **CENTER ADVISORY BOARD**
- 27-28 Methodist Women's Retreat
- 27-29 Cursillo Regional Conference

MAY 2001

- 4- 6 Retrouvaille
- 10 **MEDITATION RETREAT**
- 11-13 Catholic Engaged Encounter
- 12 **PROJECT EMPOWER**
- 15 Council of Religious
- 18-20 Mount Saint Joseph Academy Alumnae Weekend
- 31 **CENTER ADVISORY BOARD**

JUNE 2001

- 1-2 Lighthouse Christian Fellowship
- 1- 3 Ursuline Way of Life Weekend
- 10-23 Music at Maple Mount
- 24-29 Christian Leadership Institute

which was a framed enlarged photograph of a colorful fall scene with a scripture reading from Isaiah chosen by Fr. John.

The role of Our Lady of Lourdes is to serve as intercessor for the healing power of God.

A HEALING & INFORMATION PROCESS: For People With Divorce & Marital Invalidity Questions

On **Thursday March 8th 2001 at 6:30 pm** the Family Life Office of the Diocese will sponsor an evening for those people who would like to learn more about the Marital Invalidity process. Fr. Greg Trawick from the Tribunal Office for the Diocese of Owensboro will speak to those who want to know more about the annulment process, the difference between divorce and Marital Invalidity. There will be time for questions afterwards. This is open to anyone that may be going through the process. This event will be held at The Catholic Pastoral Center in Owensboro, Ky.

On **Sunday, March 11, 2001, at 4:00 p.m.**, Fr. Greg Trawick will speak to those who want to know more about the Marital Invalidity process. Time for questions will be made available afterwards. This event will be held at The Catholic Community Center in Paducah.

For further information you may contact Betty Medley (270)683-1545 ext. 121.

Climbing Back 4 week Teen Support Group

6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Hospice Inc., 723 Harvard Drive, Owensboro, KY 42301
March 12, 19, 26, 2001, and April 2, 2001



Climbing Back is a four-week support group that teaches teens how to help themselves and their peers cope with loss and grief. For teens ages 13-18 who have experienced the loss of a parent, sibling, grandparent or friend.

Sponsored by the Diocesan Family Life Office and Hospice, Inc. of Owensboro. For more information, call 1-270-683-1545.

Walnut Memorial Baptist Church Hosts Legislative Prayer Breakfast

By Lois Rutigliano

OWENSBORO, Ky - The Action Life League of Western Kentucky sponsored the 6th Annual Pro-Life/Pro-Family Legislative Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, February 10, 2001 at Walnut Memorial Baptist Church. The breakfast honored Congressman Ron Lewis, State Reps. Brian Crall, and Mark Treesh, as pro-life officials. The event was open to the public. The Registers, nondenominational musicians, provided music in the Fellowship Hall following the continental breakfast.

After extending a warm welcome to the large crowd that attended, host John Bickel asked Rev. Paul Powell to give the invocation. Fr. Powell said, "All right thinking people know life exists at the moment of conception and our task is to change hearts not minds."

John Bickel, Congressman Ron Lewis, Reps. Mark Treesh, and Brian Crall, all honored the recently deceased Charlene Armendarez, a pro-life advocate, for her dedicated and committed work. John Bickel held up the First Annual Charlene Armendarez Award plaque, which will be presented to Sen. Larry Saunders. US Congressman Ron Lewis said, "Charlene dedicated her heart, her soul, her all to unborn babies. When we reverse Roe versus Wade that will be the day. "Charlene has passed on, now is the time to pass the torch carried by Charlene to a new generation. Who will rise up and carry that torch? We need to light our torch from one another," said Rep. Mark Treesh. Rep. Brian Crall said, "I will never apologize for protecting innocent life in Kentucky that are being killed in their mothers wombs."

Joy Anderson, in her testimony, "What Was I Supposed To Be?" spoke about how there was no gray area as far as abortion was concerned. Abortion is murder at any stage. Ask the question; what was I supposed to be? In our society we place more emphasis on saving whales than the soul of a child. Whales are important, but we are made in God's image.

Susan Ippoliti and her adopted daughter Teresa, an abortion survivor, gave the keynote address. Her story follows. The family lived in Korea when Susan's husband was stationed there in the Air Force. Already the parents of two children, they had been thinking about adoption, but were in no hurry to do so. All that changed when a nun from a near by orphanage told them about Teresa. Teresa's mother was seven months pregnant when she had an abortion. The baby was severely injured and her small body was black and blue from the trauma of the abortion. Barely breathing, she was wrapped in paper and placed on a shelf to die. Since death was thought to be eminent, nuns were called to pray for her. When they noticed movement they began caring for her as best they could. The baby couldn't suck or swallow and was believed to be retarded, so a feeding tube was placed directly into her stomach and she was frequently suctioned. At age 4mos. the Ippoliti family adopted Teresa and began round the clock tender loving care. When Teresa was 5 she learned to swallow and the feeding tube was eventually removed. She was home schooled and received therapy for her disabilities. Now Teresa is 12 years old and in the 5th grade. When Teresa's Mother asked her what she liked to do, Teresa said, "I like to read my school books



John Bickel, host for the legislative prayer breakfast Feb 10 in Owensboro, spoke here with a participant. Above right, Susan Ippoliti and her daughter Teresa, keynote speakers for the legislative prayer breakfast, posed with Ky. Representative Mark Treesh and Jenny Armendarez. Lois Rutigliano photos

and I get everything done in good time." Recently it was discovered Teresa had the ability to distinguish the difference between musical keys and will soon start taking piano lessons. "Teresa is a very special child," said Susan.

Rev. Garswa Matally, Pastor of Wing Avenue Baptist Church, gave the benediction and the Registers led the packed Fellowship Hall in singing God Bless America.

Sacred Heart Russellville St. Valentine's Day Pot Luck Brunch

RUSSELLVILLE, Ky - On Feb. 11th the parishioners of Sacred Heart Church here enjoyed a potluck brunch with a St. Valentine's Day theme. What a treat to sample the delicious foods.

The parish's Youth Group decorated the parish center with hearts and flowers carrying out the theme. Door prizes (12 in all) added to the festive morning. Everyone enjoyed the chance to visit and a good time was had by all! *Story and Photos submitted by Houston Meriwether.*



In photo at right, parishioners enjoying the meal.

In lower photo, rom left to right, parishioners who helped prepare the food: Dianna Simmons, Sandra Lennon, Linda Katz, Mary Jane Kondracki, Laurie Meriwether, Johna Norris and Bernadette Wheeler. Houston Meriwether photos



Day of Discipleship 2001

The Centre, 715 Locust St. Evansville, Indiana

March 31, 2001

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Keynote: Tony Melendez, singer, guitarist,
author, composer, Christian Witness

Workshop sessions at 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 1:30 p.m.

For registration information, contact Day of Discipleship, PO Box 4169, Evansville, IN 47724-0169 or in Owensboro, Ky, call Sr. Pat Froning, OSF, at The Catholic Pastoral Center at 270-683-1545.

Diocese

African Children's Choir Presents "Walking in the Light"

By Lois Rutigliano

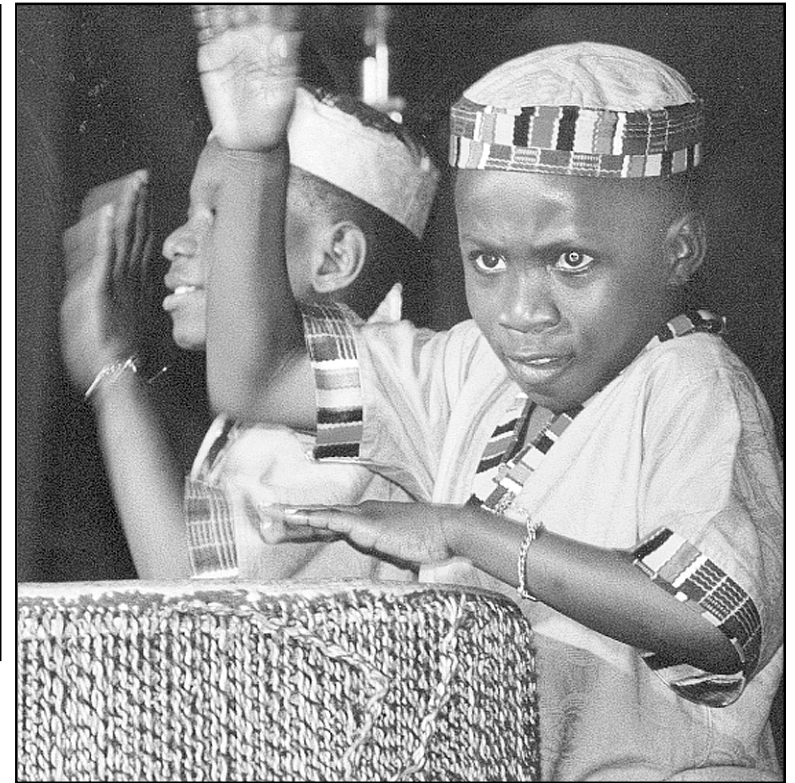
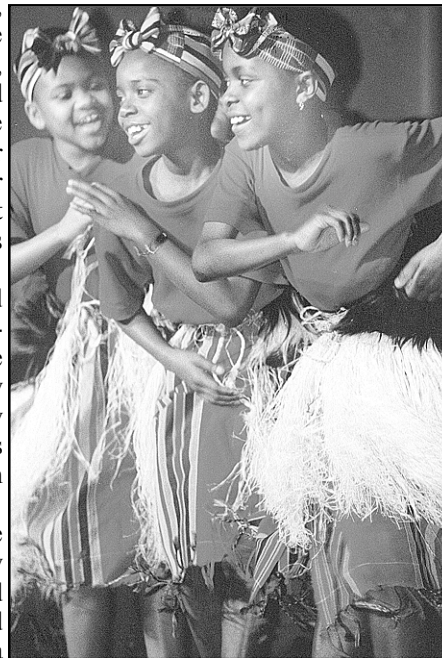
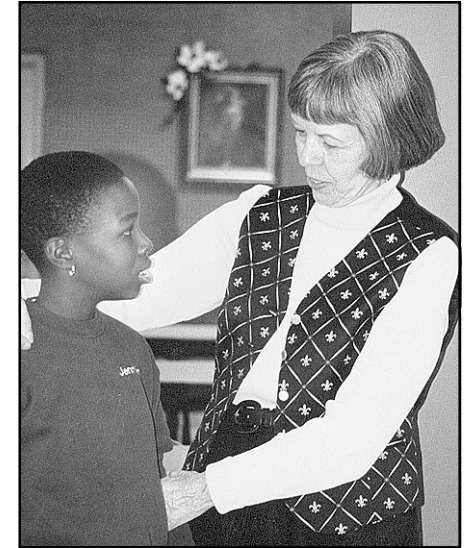
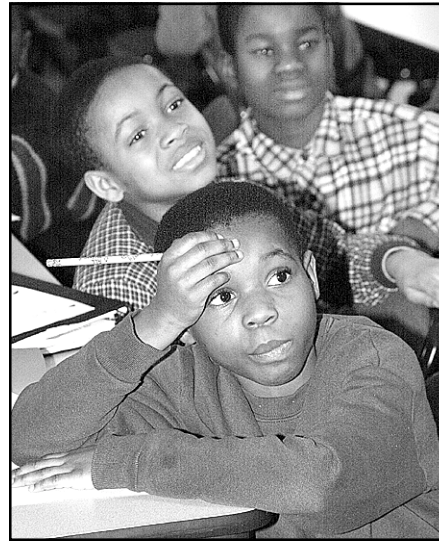
OWENSBORO, KY - Turning the sanctuary area at St. Stephen Cathedral Parish into a stage for the evening, the African Children's Choir, composed of thirteen girls and ten boys from Ghana and Nigeria, rushed on the scene with a burst of energy and enthusiasm ... hips swaying and feet moving in a series of intricate steps to the rhythm of native drums and instruments, amid aurora borealis, like flashing lights of various colors.

Gloria Adams, Pastoral Associate of Blessed Sacrament Chapel, heard the Children's Choir for the first time at the Owensboro Christian Church twelve years ago. It was a major experience and I was totally impressed. It was inspirational, humanitarian, and they stole my heart," said Gloria. After learning the choir would be touring in the Owensboro area recently, Gloria decided to sponsor the group for a concert at St. Stephen Cathedral Parish on February 7th at 7:00 PM. The Cathedral was filled to capacity with people of different cultures and faiths coming together to enjoy a completely new experience. The remarkable group of children dressed in brilliant red, yellow, and blue color costumes native to the culture, continued their lively performance throughout the evening, treating the audience to a joyful, inspiring experience. All the children that were chosen to travel with the choir for a year and a half were from very poor backgrounds or were orphans. Their purpose is to raise funds to build and staff schools in villages in the bush and large cities in an effort to provide education to children in the most remote areas of the country.

Mary Korola, from Ghana, is a regular Junior High School teacher, but volunteered to travel with the choir out of concern for the children. "They were in crises," she said. When the choir is on tour, Mary teaches them four subjects ... Science, English, Math, and Social Studies. If they have any difficulty understanding any of the lessons, Tony Mbowa, a teachers assistant, clarifies things for them with further explanation. Tony is from Uganda and a former member of the second choir. The present choir is the eighteenth. At the end of the concert season, the organization will sponsor his continued education.

In 1984 after hearing a news report about the suffering and devastation of the African children, Ray Barnett, an orphan himself, got the idea of forming an organization called Friends in the West. He founded the Children's Choir after giving a young boy a ride between two cities while traveling through Africa. The boy sang for the entire journey and Mr. Barnett was so moved by his beautiful voice that the idea emerged to form what is now known as the African Children's Choir.

People in the Owensboro area served as Host families for the choir while they were here. Elaine Robertson, a member of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish and her family hosted Ophella Askah and Chinwendu Nwalwu. When Elaine was asked how they entertained their guest she said, "We played an African game called Mancala



The African Children's Choir performed in Owensboro Feb. 7. Arriving early in the day the children had classes in the Catholic Pastoral Center; three boys are shown above in a math class. At top right, Edwina Hyland talked with Jennifer Ocran who stayed in her home Feb. 7. Above, center photo, girls danced and sang part of their repertoire. At right above, Victor Ngozi played a drum. At left bottom, more of the 23 choir members performing. Lois Rutigliano photos

with them." "They already knew how to play and it was fun," said Ginni, Elaine's daughter. The Catholic Pastoral Center basement served as a classroom during the morning, a playroom after lunch, and a short afternoon nap before the concert Wednesday night.

The "Walking in the Light" concert is about light and hope and mixes African dance and song with gospel and contemporary music. The choir depends on individual donations and the love offering taken up at the end of each concert. The generous contributions make a great difference in the children's lives when they return to their country. They are provided with food, clothing, shelter, education, and most of all love. The organization is hopeful that the children will become effective leaders in their community.

The Healing Place

By Jeannie Grant

CLARKSON, Ky.-- On Dec 2, 2000, students, instructors, and parents of students in the St. Elizabeth Church high school CCD program "joined a miracle in progress." Early that morning the parishioners met at the church in Clarkson and loaded up the boxes and bags of items that had been given to them as a "wish list" in preparation for their trip. After prayer for a safe trip and for guidance on the journey in which they were about to embark, they headed to 1020 West Market Street in downtown Louisville better known as the Healing Place.

The Healing place is a shelter that is a cross between recovery dynamics and a therapeutic community. They have a 4-6 month program where clients must attend classes and community meetings and work on-site to continue to stay there. When they graduate, they enter phase II where they are provided career training and helped to get a job. Many go back to school and if they stay clean and sober become contributing members of society. If they do relapse, all services stop and they go back to the beginning.

The Healing Place Mission Statement:

To provide shelter for homeless people and an Innovative Program of care and recovery for chemically dependent needy People in the Louisville area.

The Healing Place provides: 26,000 free meals each month, shelter for 400 people each night including 60 men and 30 women in the recovery program. Plus free medical care to 80 or more people each week ... all at the cost of \$25 per day per person.

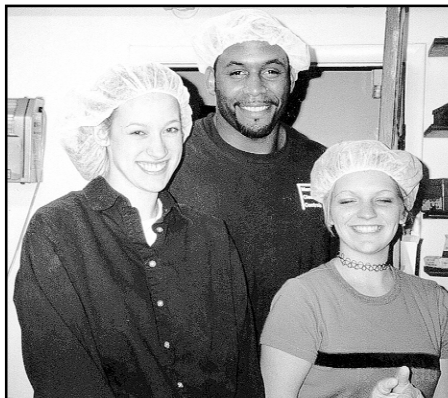
The model being used by The Healing Place requires the clients/residents to take care of their own day to day needs, such as cooking, cleaning and security. But the parishioners of St. Elizabeth were more than willing to jump in and give a hand. Some sorted and folded the mounds of donated goods that had blocked part of the entry way into the dining hall for several weeks because of the shortage in volunteers. Others organized the room where all of the apparel and shoes are kept for the clients/residents until they need them. Some assisted the kitchen staff in the meal preparation, serving, and cleaning up. But of all the amenities offered by the parishioner that day one was hope of breaking free of this tangled web.

The volunteers realized that the path to homeless shelter can be complex. For soe people, shelters serve as temporary refuge after job loss or natural disasters. However, when alcoholism/drug dependency are part of the picture, the chances of return to productive life are slight. Many men, women and their failies get stuck and ultimately abandon hope of breaking free of this tangled web.

But the Healing Place is all about hope and solution. On December 2, 2000, the students and parishioners of St. Elizabeth were a part of that hope and solution. It is amazing what one person can do in the life of another. One person can make the difference between a life that is full of potential--but being wasted; or a human life being restored to a valuable asset to themselves and their community. And as we help someone restore their life, we come upon our true spirit path of fulfillment as well.



L-R: Victoria White, Angela Felker and Eddie Felker from St. Elizabeth Parish in Clarkson help sort clothes at the Healing Place Shelter in Louisville this past December.



L-R: Beth Burkhead and friend Alicia Miller pose with worker at the Healing Place, waiting to serve food.



L-R: Mary Beth Killingbeck, Chris White and Kerry White help wash dishes at the Healing Place Shelter. Photos submitted by Jeannie Grant.

Crime and Justice....By Fr. John Rausch

Continued from page 9

"How can we protect and rebuild communities, confront crime without vengeance, and defend life without taking life?" it asks. It sees crime not simply as a violation of law, but a threat to community. It rejects punishment for its own sake, emphasizing rather its constructive and redemptive purpose.

By affirming the principles of human dignity and community the pastoral bucks the fashionable political trends in corrections. It dismisses "three strikes and you're out" and "zero-tolerance" for drug offenders as too simplistic and a major cause for the rapid growth of the U.S. prison population, now at

two million. It rejects trying a juvenile as an adult, and it deplores the expanded use of isolation units. It calls for the sensible regulation of handguns and the abolition of the death penalty for the violence it inflicts on society. Ultimately the bishops seek a criminal justice system that tempers justice with mercy.

Looking at the major causes of crime, the bishops recognize the link with poverty for spawning gangs, violence and substance addiction. In their words: "Fighting poverty, educating children, and supporting families are essential anti-crime strategies." Drug-related crimes account for at least one third

of all convictions, but treatment programs in prisons have been diminishing. Yet, a finding by the California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs indicates that every dollar spent on treating substance abuse problems saves seven dollars through reductions in crime and hospitalization. Simply put, society will need fewer prisons with more crime prevention, addiction treatment programs and poverty reduction.

Prophetically, the bishops encourage the spiritual healing of both victim and perpetrator of crime through restorative justice. The process calls the offender to face the victims and the community for his crime. When a criminal meets the person he robbed, the

offender begins to realize the consequences of his actions, accept responsibility, make reparation and finally rebuild his life. The victim most times experiences a greater sense of peace and closure to the personal violation. Restorative justice heals by putting a human face on the process.

The bishops want the \$35 billion spent annually on corrections to be reconsidered. Rather than building prisons to warehouse more people, the bishops ask to address the root causes of crime and build a healthier society.

Source: January 27, 2001, release from Fr. John Rausch via e-mail. Contact him at jrsrausch@kih.net



St. John the Evangelist Family News

By Richard Durbin

Winter continues to show some cold weather as we've had a few days of lower 20's. I don't know how you friends and readers feel about it but I would like to have the rest of the winter between now and the 20th of March, if I could have my way. The spring-like weather we had the first week of February is a fooler and only contributes to early budding and losses of fruit. We will have to take it as it comes however.

We just attended the funeral Mass of Eldon "Al" Brons at St. Francis de Sales with Father McBride officiating. Al was a friend of Senior Citizens in Paducah. He did volunteer work there mostly in the form of music and teaching Ballroom dancing. He taught a lot of Seniors the basics of dance. At the age of 89 he had limited his activities to playing tapes before lunch. I referred to him as the "music man" who also played a very good saxophone. We pray for him and his widow Edna who is in Parkview nursing home.

The St. John Quilters are now making quilts for our next Picnic. Those beautiful quilts, that are so lovingly made by a group of ladies of the parish, add a big money figure to the total net income every year. Our thanks to the ladies who give of their time to make these quilts. For more information call Barbara Felts @ 554-1862. Please remember the "Blood Drive" to be held March 11th in the cafeteria at St. John. It will begin at 8:30 AM and continue till Noon. Your support of this great life-saving donation of blood will no doubt be appreciated by those in need. We had a letter of thanks from Sister Marcia of the Sisters of Mercy in Louisville, for the generous donation by the people of St. John, for the poor and needy in Jamaica. The amount given at the three Masses amounted to \$1,557.00. Thanks to all who helped out. A baby sitter is needed in the St. John area, Monday through Friday. Call Chris at (270) 658-3853.

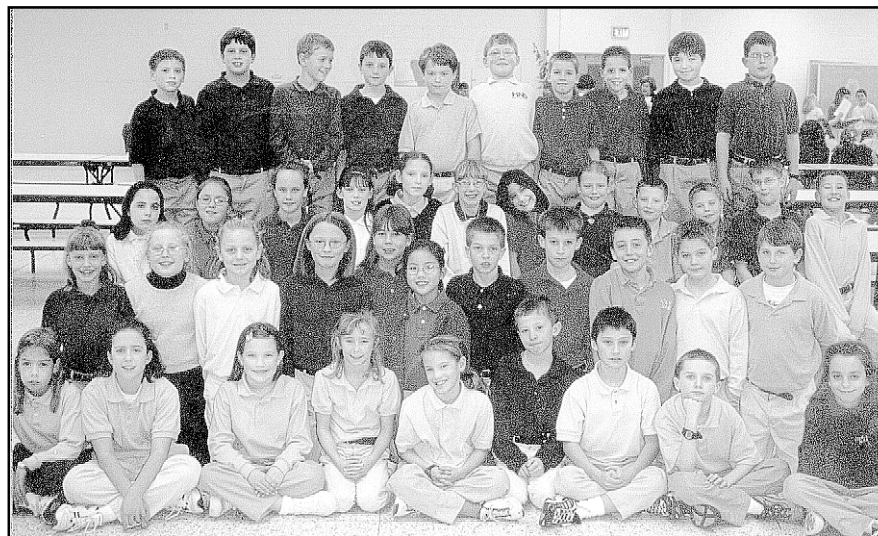
I'd like to remind you Bingo lovers as well as any one looking for a pastime, to join us at the new K of C hall across the 4-lane from St. John and enjoy a night of fun. The Knights made a big move from Reidland and will welcome you to the very nice facility. The games start at 6:30 PM each Thursday and Friday. Due to the Bingo schedule, the K of C "Lenten Fish Fries" will start on the first Saturday as a test. If the public likes the Saturday date for that very tasty Fish and all the trimmings of baked or fried potatoes, slaw, beans, Hush puppies, and coffee or tea, then we will continue on through Lent. I hope to see you there. The Youth 2000 special weekend for Teens, will be celebrated at Brescia University in Owensboro, March 9, 10, and 11 for young people 13 to 30. It is co-sponsored by the Diocesan Marian Shrine Committee and the Office of Youth Ministry of our diocese. This event was attended last year by over 1000 Teens.

The very complete and beautiful "Pictorial Directory," recently delivered to those who had signed up for it, is available to anyone who desires to have one, at a very low cost of \$8.00. The supply is limited to a first come basis, as long as they last. In case you failed to get a 2001 Art Catholic Calendar, a new supply is on hand at the side door. They are free thanks to Milner and Orr Funeral directors. If you would like a publication in the bulletin, Father Ben says to have your material to him no later than Wednesday, as they go to press sooner than before.

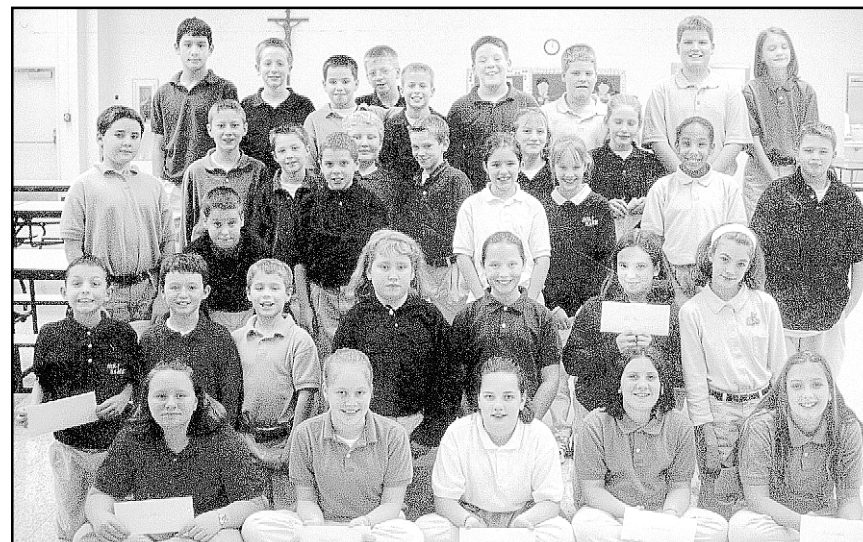
If you have a story or a message for the Western Kentucky Catholic, I would like to have it by the 10th of the month, by calling me at 554-1278, or you could mail it to WKC, 600 Locust Street, Owensboro, Ky. 42301.

We had the annual Blessing of throats in honor of St. Blase at all the Masses February 4th. We congratulate Kaley Addison Wood who was recently baptized, and her parents Gary Jason and Laurie Suzanne Wood. Also Sydney Ellen Robertson, daughter of Michael Scott and Christy Dawn Robertson who received the Sacrament of Baptism. Also congratulations to Reid Thomas Courtney, son of Stacey and Tracy Courtney. He, too, was baptized by Father Ben Luther recently. Anyone can observe the Sabbath, but making it holy surely takes the rest of the week.

Map 2001 Program



These fourth grade students from Holy Name have qualified for Duke University's (MAP) Motivation for Academic Performance Program by scoring at or above the 90th national percentile on their CAT5 achievement tests. Front row, left to right: Shelby Barron, Katie Phillips, Jordan Stallings, Molly Gibson, Kirsten Hengen, Chris Vickers, Jim Landry, Jake Skelton, Lorrie Strong. 2nd row, left to right: Mary Anne Johnson, Christine Duncan, Jessica Raleigh, Morgan Konsler, Natalie Farmer, Annie Tiu, John Hodge, Logan Staples, Ryan Haile, Mitchell Mattingly, Curby Crister. 3rd Row, left to right: Cassie Caudill, Megan Haayes, Meredith Mullican, Adria Johnson, Sophia Dery, Whitney Kirkwood, Mariana Martinez, Hannah Rosenhamer, Logan Dodson, Hayden Nesbit, Joseph Todd, Mason Stump. Back row, left to right: Jordan Francke, Wesley Fehrenbacher, Isaac Farley, Jesse Young, Michael Yates, Andrew Thompson, Ramey Hengen, Drew Probus, Robbie Toerne, and Michael Ringlein. Not pictured are: Mark Taylor, Tanner Wedding and Kate Ramsey. Photos submitted by Connie McFarland.



Holy Name's fifth grade students qualifying for the MAP Program are as follows: Front Row, left to right: Emily Utley, Kelsey Davis, Elizabeth Neel, Abbie Wilkerson, Ande Tweddell. 2nd row, left to right: Joey Marlin, Christopher Thomas, Chad Phillips, Cristina Heisler, Kate Kirkpatrick, Clay Moran, Elizabeth Metzger. 3rd row, left to right: Alec Stroud, Michael O'Nan, Jarrod Burgess, Jordan Swaidner, Tyler Long, Spencer Meyers, Todd Duckworth, Haley Mauzey, Teresa Shoemaker, Elizabeth Massoth, Catherine Leinenbach, Mia Higgins, and Jacob Davis. Back row, left to right: Paul Kirkpatrick, Adam Hobson, Robb Taylor, Joseph Williams, Travis Noland, Chase Tucker, Elliot Cave, Taylor Chapman, and Beth Baskette. Not pictured is Emily Chandler.

Jubilarian Celebration 2001

St. Stephen's Cathedral in Owensboro held the anniversary celebrations of approximately 73 priests and religious brothers and sisters on February 18, 2001. Listed below are the 2001 Jubilarians, their religious community affiliation, followed by the total years they have been in religious life.

Fr. Charles A. DeNardi-65
 Fr. Henry P. O'Bryan-60
 Fr. Joseph V. Rhodes-60
 Fr. Francis Mastrovito, TOR-50
 Fr. George Mathis, GLMY-50
 Fr. Gerald Calhoun-40
 Fr. Timothy Sweeney, OSB-40
 Br. Jack Henn, GLMY-25
 Sr. Charles Asa Williams, OSU-80
 Sr. Francis Rita Ballard, SCN-75
 Sr. Mary Bertha Wethington, OSU-75
 Sr. Blance Rita Bickett, OSU-70
 Sr. Leonora Brunner, SCN-70
 Sr. Mary Beatrice Donahue, OSU-70
 Sr. Ann Benedict Elder, SCN-70
 Sr. Mary Fedler, SCN-70
 Sr. Helen Gertrude Fontaine, SCN-70
 Sr. Charles Irene Hayden, OSU-70
 Sr. Mary Ann Krampe, OSU-70
 Sr. Frances Miriam Loker, SCN-70
 Sr. Margaret Jean Meyer, SCN-70
 Sr. James Maria Spillane, SCN-70
 Sr. Dorothy Ann Whelan, OSU-70
 Sr. Francis Benita Clar, SCN-65
 Sr. Rita Englert, SCN-65
 Sr. Marie Hill, SCN-65
 Sr. Frances Josephine Smith, SCN-65
 Sr. Ann Leo Wilson, SCN-65
 Sr. Frances Barber, SCN-60
 Sr. Mary Corda Carrico, OSU-60
 Sr. Mary Evelyn Duvall, OSU-60
 Sr. Julia Clare Fontaine, SCN-60
 Sr. Mary Joseph Fosskuhl, OP-60
 Sr. Theresa Giardino, SCN-60
 Sr. Bertha Geobel, OSF-60
 Sr. Margaret Rose Griesbaum, SCN-60
 Sr. Rosa Maria Mattingly, OP-60
 Sr. Pauletta McCarty, OSU-60
 Sr. Helen McNulty, SCN-60



Bishop John McRaith presided at a Diocesan Liturgy celebrating the 25, 40, 50, 60, 65, 70 or 80th anniversaries of priests, sisters and brothers serving in the diocese. Those in attendance gathered on the altar steps for a group photo Staff Photo



Bishop John McRaith posed with the priest jubilarians Fr. Timothy Sweeney, Fr. Joseph Rhodes, and Fr. Jerry Calhoun. Lois Rutigliano photo

Sr. Mary Jovita Milner, OSU-60	Sr. Clarence Marie Luckett, OSU-50
Sr. Jean Gertrude Mudd, OSU-60	Sr. Martha Mahoney, SCN-50
Sr. Eleanor Rahig, OSF-60	Sr. Margaret Mary Mattingly, CP-50
Sr. Celeste Reedy, SCN-60	Sr. M. Andrea Niehaus, DCJ-50
Sr. Marita Riede, SCN-60	Sr. Veronica Ramos, MAG-50
Sr. James Albert Wiggins, SCN-60	Sr. Mary Lou Ruck, SP-50
Sr. Dorothy Marie Willett, OSU-60	Sr. Grace Maria Saja, SCN-50
Sr. Eileen Willims, SCN-60	Sr. Catherine Schoenborn, GHMS-50
Sr. Mary Christopher Baseheart, SCN-50	Sr. Rose Andrew Waller, SCN-50
Sr. Virginia Blair, SCN-50	Sr. Helena Fischer, OSU-40
Sr. Marie Vincent Brocato, SCN-50	Sr. Julia Marie Head, OSU-40
Sr. Mary Austin Donovan, SCN-50	Sr. Kathleen Kaelin, OSU-40
Sr. Mary Kevin Egan, SCN-50	Sr. Nancy Murphy, OSU-40
Sr. Jane Hall, SCN-50	Sr. Peggy Nau, SP-40
Sr. Earline Hobbs, SCN-50	Sr. Rose Marita O'Bryan, OSU-40
	Sr. Rosanne Spalding, OSU-40

GM-Glenmary Missioners; SP-Sister of Providence; AD-Sisters of the Lamb of God; OSB-Order of St. Benedict; DCJ-Carmelite Order; OSU-Ursuline Order; SCN-Sister of Charity of



Bp. John McRaith handed a Jubilee Certificate to Sr. Audrey Gold. A.D. Lois Rutigliano photo.

Sr. Audrey Gold, AD-25
 Sr. Martha Keller, OSU-25
Nazareth; OSF- Order of St. Francis; TOR-Third Order Regular; MAG- Missionaries of The Sacred Heart

Immaculate High School Youth Ministry Sponsors Events

By Aaron Jahn

The Youth Ministry program at Immaculate Parish, in Owensboro, has been sponsoring some new kind of events for the youth of the area. On January 6, there was a traveling dinner to celebrate the feast of Epiphany. Approximately 75 youth from the Owensboro area traveled to different parishes for one course of a meal, and ended up at Immaculate for a white elephant gift exchange.

Beginning on Thursday, January 11 and continuing for five consecutive weeks, the youth at Immaculate, joined by some friends, have been learning the steps to the classic dances. Ranging from the waltz, to swing dancing, the youth have covered the floor of the parish hall with attempted grace.

On January 26, the youth of the parish crowded on a bus and headed to the slopes of Paoli for a midnight madness run of snow skiing. Thirty-eight youth, accompanied by six chaperones, enjoyed the frigid night air mixed with spills and slips on their way down the icy slopes.

When these special events are not occurring, the youth of the parish enjoy their newly renovated youth room fully equipped with a bar area, pool table, ping pong table, air hockey, football, and other attractions. The high school youth meet here every Thursday night from 7:00-9:30 to just hang out and discuss the important issues happening in their lives.



Adam Meister and Stephanie Bumm practice a spin while learning the waltz.



During one of the Thursday night meetings, the youth gather around to watch an intense game of pool. Last August, the youth room at Immaculate was remodeled to better suit the needs of the youth. Here is a picture of the room filled with game tables and other items added to enhance the youth room. Aaron Jahn photo



Dance instructor, Fred Zinobile shows Jessica Byrne the right way to perfect the ball room dance steps the Immaculate Youth Group are learning.



Matt Thomson and Jessica Byrne are hand to hand while learning the basics of the Fox Trot.



Matt Thomson, John Coomes, Jessica Byrne, Ashley Williams, Anna Sitarski, Brian Greenwell and Lacey Stallings cram together for a group shot while stopped at St. Stephen's Cathedral during the Epiphany traveling dinner.



Anna Sitarski sticks her nose up at the camera, while Lacey Stallings, Brian Greenwell and Jessica Byrne look on in confusion while they are attempting to finish their salad.

Photo at right, the best was saved for last as some of the youth enjoy a variety of desserts at St. Mary Magdalene, Sorgho, as a conclusion to the traveling dinner in celebration of the feast of Epiphany.



Julie Naviaux and John Michael Ford show off the promenade style of dancing.

Five Year Plan Helps Determine Direction of Diocese of Owensboro

The Diocese of Owensboro is asking Parish Pastoral Councils what direction ministries should take in a five-year plan (2002-2006). In 1991 a diocesan synod was held to determine a five-year plan (1992-1996); then diocesan committees with the help of diocesan staff wrote a five-year plan for the years 1997-2001. It is now time to set the direction for the next five years. Bishop McRaith has asked that the input for this direction come from the people of the diocese. In August, 2000, the Diocesan Pastoral Council brainstormed and came up with the following areas of ministries and named needs they saw in that particular ministry. They then prioritized the ministries. Following are the areas of ministries (as prioritized by them by writing 1-19 (one being the most important) on the line beside the ministry. Then they prioritize them by putting them in order of importance. Listed below are the areas of ministry along with concerns and needs for each of these. Parish councils are encouraged to add, delete, change any item for each ministry and then pass this information along to their deanery council representative by March 26.

Adult Education- Continuing Faith Formation

- ~ Need to Encourage More Lay Involvement--Offer parish retreats and more adult education at parish level.
- ~ Adult Education needed--Still some adults not willing to do anything else to help their faith life. Seem content to stop learning after confirmation even after all kinds of encouragement from parishes, the Bishop and other lay leaders.
- ~ Faith and Doctrine--Refresher material.

Vocations

- ~ Need to work with parents. Change of attitudes. Need them--but not my sons or daughters.
- ~ Priest Staffing/Clustering/Etc.--Aging priests/aging population; access to sacraments.
- ~ Religious Vocations needed.
- ~ Religious Life--Emerge from silence to new forms of telling the stories. Not enough emphasis to our young people about the religious life--no one is talking. Not enough priests and the ones we have are overworked.

Religious Education

- ~ Parents need to assume responsibility for participating in and supporting parish programs.

Small Christian Communities

- ~ Need to continue groups sessions such as Renew.
- ~ Need for concerted effort for connecting all forms of SCC's and providing resources and assistance.

Evangelization--Outreach (Inactive & Fallen Away)

- ~ No programs on the parish level to visit those fallen away.
- ~ We have made minimal strides in evangelization in the area of ministry to the inactive.
- ~ Outreach to unchurched is needed.
- ~ Programs to help us get off dead center so that we evangelize are needed.

Catholic Schools

- ~ Support of Catholic Schools needed.
- ~ Whole question of tuition --we are not growing much--other dioceses are. Tuition



Anita Willoughby, Pastoral Associate for Holy Spirit Parish in Bowling Green, and then President of the Association of Lay Ministers of the Diocese of Owensboro, addressed the Diocesan Pastoral Council about gaining an ALMDO representative on the DPC in 1997. WKC file photo

part of issue.

- ~ Teacher salaries need to be raised.
- ~ Make Catholic education more affordable.
- ~ To give every child a Catholic education at any cost.

Family Life

- ~ Promote and support Christian values in the "Society of Death."
- ~ To improve % of engaged couples that receive the preparation that is prescribed by our diocese.
- ~ Support for marriages & families--encourage Marriage Encounter and other programs.
- ~ Need more understanding, welcoming, compassion to broken families.

Parish Councils/Deanery Council/ Diocesan Councils

- ~ Stress need of Parish Council in those Parishes which do not have one.
- ~ Parish Pastoral Council--Encourage every pastor in promoting policy already in place.
- ~ Collaboration--The need for upholding parish councils and committees-respecting the laity.
- ~ Giving up control--willingness to change--accepting Vatican II.

~ Parish Support of Deanery Councils/DPC--Some parishes have no representative; therefore, they don't get the information--also cannot pass information up from parish level to deanery level to the diocesan level.

~ Lack or defect perceived--a sense of separation--deanery councils for priests & religious and deanery councils for laity. Believe more effective structure is combined deanery councils with pastors, some religious of area and representatives of parishes involved.

~ Councils--Need ongoing council development at all levels--parish, deanery, diocese. maybe a "Council Conference" to help--in various 3-4 locations of diocese.

Social Ministries--Diocesan & Parish Level
More than socials but for some people they are socials and do not necessarily do outreach to others within the community.

~ While in some areas there is progress--many of our parishes are still very parochially minded and do not look to other ministries beyond their walls (social, ecumenical, diocesan, etc.)

Stewardship

- ~ Some do not understand what they give they receive back (many more times).
- ~ Universality of the Church--not my universe--it belongs to the people.

Youth Ministry

- ~ Need to keep youth involved.
- ~ Need youth minister coordinator in each deanery.
- ~ Need to continually invite/involve our youth to live in Christ.

Adult Education--Formal Education

- ~ More opportunities for adults in higher education--Beyond Ministry Formation Program--Beyond Brescia University's five outreach classes.
- ~ We need to work at closer relation with Brescia University in terms of lay ministry.

Worship

- ~ No follow up for RCIA program--After someone goes through RCIA and joins the church the lose the structure and support they had during RCIA.

Hispanic Ministry

- ~ Programs and services in Spanish or bilingual needed.
- ~ We have a start--not sure of how to go from here--clear goals but hard to come by.

Communications

- ~ Need to invite all to find themselves in Christ. Internet/TV/Radio/ Newspapers--invite and respond.

Young Adults

- ~ Need to minister to the 19-30 years aged singles.

Ecumenism

- ~ Follow through with what was recently stated at Jubilee 2000.

Spirituality

~ Spirituality --more desire, appreciation and reception of Sacraments.

~ Spiritual Life--Develop Spiritual Life Committee on Diocesan level and then on parish level.

~ Parish Enlightenment--More and more opportunities for people to experience faith filled community and individual revelations.

Home Schools

- ~ Connectivity to the community and parishes.

Diocese

WISDOM By Ginny Knight Simon

**6 Cecilia Lancaster, St. Joseph Parish,
Mayfield, KY
2000 Sophia Award Recipient**



I appreciate winning the Sophia Award very much. I do feel like there are many more people more deserving than I that could have won it. I think the awards mass in recognition of the senior citizens is a very good thing. We had a family celebration and I'd say there was approximately 20 people there. I have a niece from North Carolina that came for it.

I'll be 92 on February 17th so I don't do as much as I used to. I limit my driving to mostly going to church in daylight hours.

I got married in the Rectory in 1928 to Earl Lancaster. He wasn't Catholic at the time so we couldn't marry in the Church. Later in the 50's Earl joined the Church under instructions from Fr. Denus. We had four children and my husband and I both worked. He worked at the clothing mill and I usually cooked for the priests. We didn't have a lot but our house was always big enough for the priests and sisters to come and visit and have a meal. I still like to cook but I don't as much as I use to. My husband passed away in 1966 and I have managed to stay in my house since then. I was able to help take care of my sister who lived two doors down from me until her death two years ago. As I look back I can see that it was great blessing for both of us for me to be able to care for her.

As far as my faith goes...it's everything in my life to me.

Pope Hails Spirituality of Communion

Message to Cardinals and Bishops, Friends of Focolares

VATICAN CITY, FEB. 15, 2001

(Zenit.org).- The spirituality of communion which characterizes the Focolare Movement in particular will bring unexpected fruits of renewal in believers, John Paul II said.

He relayed his thought in a message to 87 cardinals and bishops — friends of the ecclesial movement — who are met the week of Feb. 16 in Castel Gandolfo, near Rome. The seven-day meeting is reflecting on the topic "Christ Crucified and Abandoned, Root of the Church as Communion in the Light of Novo Millennio Ineunte," the apostolic letter with which the Pope closed the Jubilee Year.

"In the historic transition in which we are living," the Pope said in his message to the cardinals and bishops, "we are faced with a mission of commitment: to make of the Church the place where one

lives and the school where one is taught the mystery of divine love."

However, in order to "rediscover an authentic spirituality of communion," the Pope recommends that the cardinals and bishops "perceive the Trinitarian mystery, which is in us, with the eyes of the heart, and know how to see it in the face of others."

"Only by giving time to a brother, in order to understand what is positive in him, is it possible to understand to what extent he is a gift to me," the Holy Father said.

Lived in this way, the spirituality of unity and communion, which characterizes the Focolare Movement founded by Chiara Lubich during the Second World War, "will bring rich fruits of renewal for all believers."

Tri-Parish Teens and Chaperones from FarWestern Kentucky Travel to St. Louis

By Matthew Evers

FULTON, Ky.- On January 14 & 15, teens and chaperones from the tri-parishes of St. Edward in Fulton, St. Jude in Clinto, and Sacred Heart in Hickman made a pilgrimage/ski trip to St. Louis.

First on the agenda Sunday evening was *LifeTeen Mass* at Incarnate Word Church on Olive Boulevard. What an inspiration to see 200 youth joyously praising and worshipping the Lord! The second part of the trip was a midnight skiing session at Hidden Valley in Eureka, near Six Flags. Twenty-nine people in the group were brave enough to tackle the slopes from 9:30 p.m. until 2:30 a.m., many of them first-time skiers. Guardian angels must have worked overtime as nobody suffered broken bones or serious injuries.

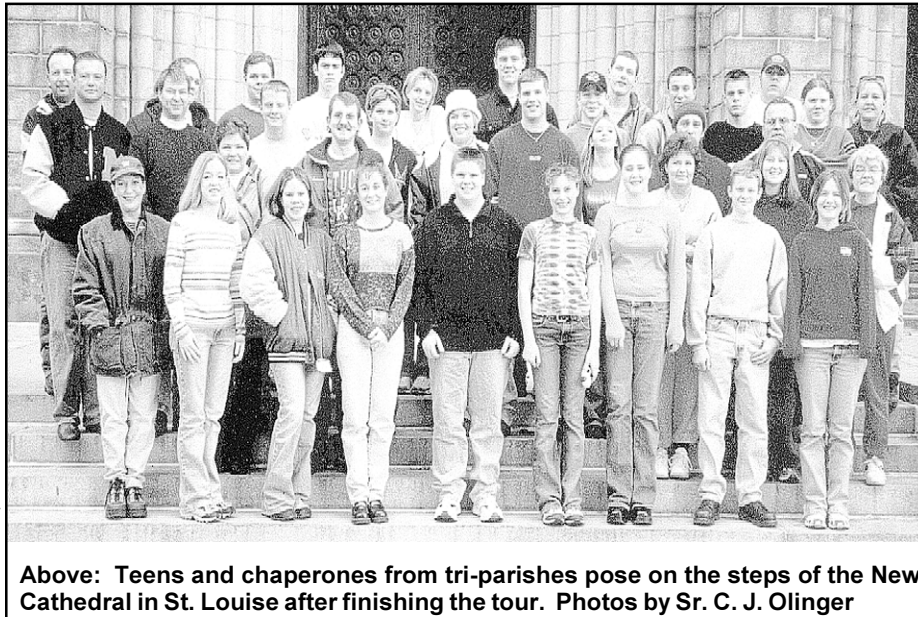
After this it was on to St. Aloysius School for about four hours of sleep (!!!) on the hard, cold floor! Some "veterans" from last year's trip brought foam pads, etc. to soften the sleeping bags for their weary bodies. After munching assorted breakfast bars and foods, washed down with various juices, the pilgrims went to the "New" St. Louis Cathe-

dral on Lindell Boulevard. Construction on this cathedral began in 1907; it houses the largest mosaic collection in the world.

Because the tour guides did not arrive that day, Fr. Mike Clark, pastor of the tri-parishes, ably stepped in to explain the breathtaking mosaics to the awestruck group.

Our next and last stop as we left St. Louis

was at Cracker Barrel for some *real food*--hot and delicious! Altogether, 36 made the trip, including 26 teens and 10 adult chaperones and drivers. Although everyone was tired and sore when they got back to Fulton, some were excitedly making plans to go again next year.



Above: Teens and chaperones from tri-parishes pose on the steps of the New Cathedral in St. Louis after finishing the tour. Photos by Sr. C. J. Olinger

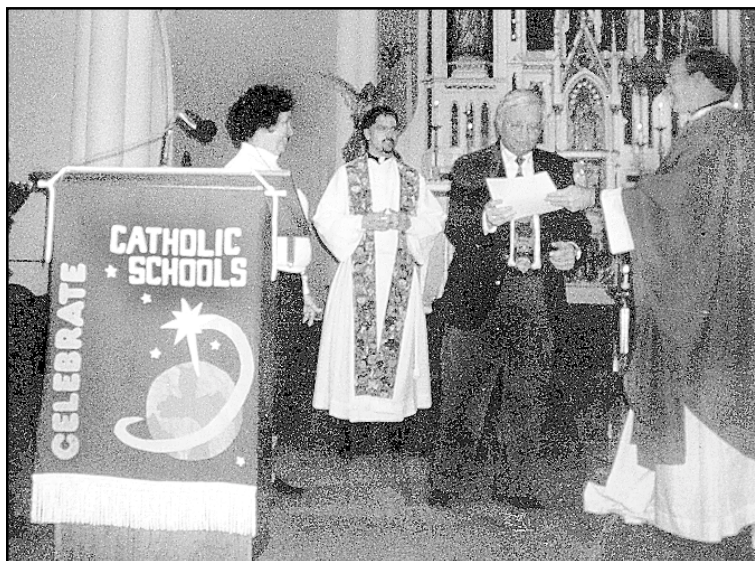


Kara O'Connor, Paula Jones, Arnie Taylor, and Jason Schwartz model their skiing gear. Notice the smiles? Have they actually tried the ski slopes yet???

Below: Paula Jones and Kara O'Connor relax and warm up before heading out for the slopes again. Both teens are from St. Jude Parish in Clinton.



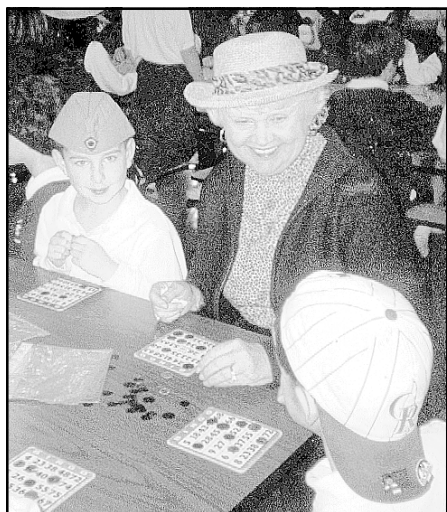
St. Joseph School in Bowling Green Celebrates Catholic Schools Week



Dr. R. Neal Garrison receiving the distinguished Graduate Award from Fr. Jerry Riney for St. Joseph School in Bowling Green during Catholic Schools Week. Principal Joey Powell and Fr. Brian Johnson looked on. Photos by St. Joseph School

St. Joseph School in Bowling Green celebrated Catholic Schools Week from Sunday, January 28, through Friday February 3. The students celebrated Sunday of that week by being greeters at the doors of the Parishes and bringing up the gifts at the various Masses. Monday was celebrated by the students wearing St. Joe colors of Blue and Gold, and with an assembly to kick off the week's events. Students were recognized on Tuesday by giving parents hand written notes of thanks during a Mass celebrated in their honor. Each teacher planned an activity for the students to show appreciation for them.

A student body Mass was held on Wednesday, honoring our Nation and a Distinguished Graduate of St. Joseph School. Dr.



R. Neal Garrison was the honoree. Dr. Garrison attended SIS for grades one through 12. He is noted throughout the state of Kentucky as the founder of the Kentucky Organ Donor Affiliates (KODA). He is currently a Professor of Surgery at the University of Louisville School of Medicine, Department of Surgery. Following Mass, Dr. Garrison spoke to the students about setting goals and having big dreams. A reception was given in his honor.

Thursday was for celebrating our many volunteers, and all students wrote letters of thanks to the many volunteers of St. Joseph. Grades five through eight attended Mass, and presented their parents with thank you notes for their Catholic Education.

Friday the students wore their favorite "crazy hat!" The eighth graders came to each classroom and taught the class for 45 minutes while the teachers "rested" at their desks. To honor the faculty and staff, the SPS held a luncheon during lunch periods. The Students played BINGO and enjoyed ice cream in the afternoon to wrap up the week's events. Thanks to all who helped in anyway to make Catholic Schools Week the best for Saint Joseph in Bowling Green.

Left, Second Grade teacher Donna Kanaly enjoys BINGO with her students on "Crazy Hat Day" as St. Joseph School in Bowling Green celebrates Catholic Schools Week.

Eighth Grade Students from St. Joseph School Participate in March for



The 8th grade class from St. Joseph on the steps of the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. Photo and story submitted by Mary Ann Wolfran

The eighth grade class of Saint Joseph School in Bowling Green, Kentucky traveled to our nation's capital in order to participate in the annual March for Life. The entire class with 13 adults (parents and teachers) was able to show its belief that life must be respected and protected at all stages - from conception to a natural death.

After arriving in Washington on Sunday, January 21, we went to Arlington National Cemetery where students walked through the cemetery, visited the graves of John F. Kennedy and Robert Kennedy, and then witnessed the ritual of the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. From Arlington we traveled to the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception for Mass with those who were preparing to march on Monday. When we reached the church, it was completely filled; our group went to the lower level to find a quiet chapel in which to meditate. We were fortunate to come together with another group and a priest offered to say Mass for us. This Mass was a very intimate prayer in which we were able to pray together for "life" in our country.

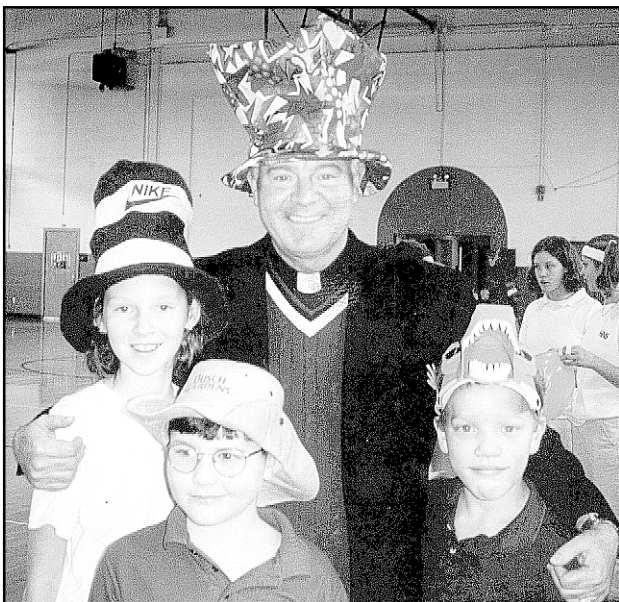
Monday, the day of the March, was brisk, but sunny. We arrived and instantly became part of a tremendous group of thousands of marchers. The students had made a banner to carry in the march which reads "Our parents made a choice - and here we are." We stood, ready to join the march, at the corner of 15th and Constitution and watched thousands of people pass in front of us. It was exciting and sobering to realize the numbers of people who were there for the same purpose, to support the same cause. After three-fourths of the march passed, we joined in and the students took turns proudly carrying the banner. In this way, we had the best of both worlds - we saw the majority of the marchers and the various parts of the country from which they came. We were able to see the Kentucky Pro-Life banner go by, but because of the dense crowd, we were not able to march near them. After being observers, we were able to participate.

For three days students were immersed in many different activities. The evening after the March, the class took a night bus tour of many of the monuments in Washington. On Tuesday, we were given tours of the White House and the Capitol Building. The remainder of the day and Wednesday morning found students throughout the various Smithsonian Museums. As different as these activities were, they all seemed to have a unifying theme. We are all put here to follow the will of God, which includes loving and respecting our fellow man and rights as children of God. Those who have died for our country, did so for freedom for all of us. We build and view memorials so we do not forget their sacrifices. We also march in this annual march to profess that each of us is a child of God and we all deserve the freedom to live. I realize that these eighth graders recognize and can understand some of these truths. It is my hope that they carry these ideas and memories throughout their lives and realize that they can indeed, through love and respect for God and his laws, make differences in the lives of people they will meet in their future.

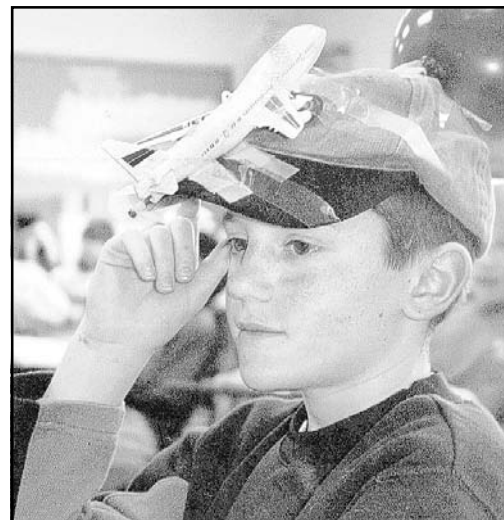
Diocese

Crazy Hats at Holy Name!

Friday, February 2 at Holy Name School in Henderson ended Catholic Schools Week with "Crazy Hat Day." Even Fr. Bradley got into the theme of the day. Photos submitted by Holy Name Elementary.



Fr. Bradley poses with Holy Name students..



Jesse Young, 4th grade with "airplane hat."



At right, Madison Warren, 3rd grade in "Goofy Hat," complete with long ears.



At left, Zach Bealmer, 3rd grade, smiles for the camera.



Day of Discipleship 2001

The Centre, 715 Locust St. Evansville,
Indiana

March 31, 2001
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Keynote: Tony Melendaz, singer, guitarist,
author, composer, Christian Witness
Workshop sessions at 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.,
and 1:30 p.m.

For registration information, contact Day of
Discipleship, PO Box 4169, Evansville, IN
47724-0169 or call Sr. Pat Froning, OSF,
Owensboro Diocese at 270-683-1545.

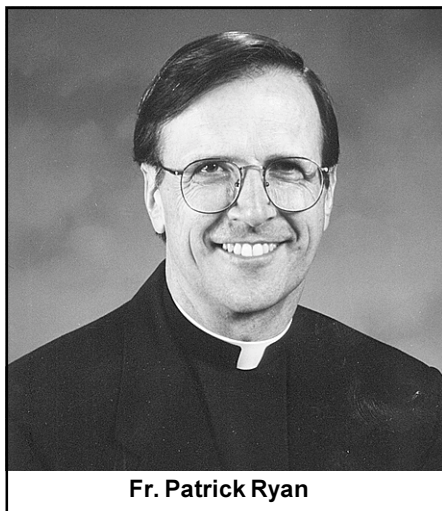
A Gift of Song. Florence McDaniel, left, has been a pastoral musician as a student and as an adult member of St. Mary of the Woods Church in Whitesville. Florence caught the gift of song from her family and now she passes it on to her 11-year-old grandson, Logan Boarman on drums, her nephew Ryan Aud on the keyboard, and her great-nephew James Jarboe, also a cantor. The family group were pastoral musicians for the February 4 8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Mary of the Woods Church in Whitesville. Staff Photo.

Brescia's Fr. Patrick Ryan Invited To Pastoral Summit

OWENSBORO, Ky - Brescia University's Assistant Professor of Pastoral Ministry, Fr. Patrick Ryan, has been invited to participate in the Pastoral Summit to be held in New Orleans, LA this summer. The Summit will mark the first national gathering of both Protestant and Catholic pastors, staff and lay leaders focused entirely on the local church. Fr. Ryan serves as the area coordinator for Brescia's Religious Studies programs and Director of Brescia's Pastoral Ministry Program.

Fr. Ryan came to Brescia from Most Precious Blood Church in St. Louis, MO, which was named an "Excellent Parish" as the result of a nationwide study. The study, underwritten by a grant from the Lilly Endowment, combed the country for the best examples of local church excellence, both Catholic and Protestant. Size or location, denominational affiliation or lack of one were not important, but a certain "habit of being" was. Paul Wilkes, an author and professor who directed the study said, "we looked for parishes that nurtured the spirit, welcomed and yet challenged, both preached and — more importantly — lived the Good News."

Fr. Patrick Ryan obtained a Master of Divinity Degree from Kenrick Seminary and his



Fr. Patrick Ryan

Doctorate of Ministry from Eden Theological seminary, both in St. Louis. He is a member of the National Catholic Education Association and an affiliate member of the Religious Education Association. Ryan's past experience includes serving as field supervisor for St. Louis University Corporate Ministry Program, the Aquinas Institute, the Kenrick Seminary, and the Office of Lay Ministry for the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

Carrico's Ramblings

Can You Identify Yourself With Any Three Of These Oddities? If so, You Are An Oldster!

By G.E. (Jerry) Carrico

Not long ago I wrote an article for The Western Kentucky Catholic about old age. For the most part it centered on my mother's aging process. Well for some reason or other, the subject of old age has continued to interest me. Maybe it is because I am now in that category, like it or not. As a matter of fact, I am now 24 years past the average death age of most Americans according to government statistics. Recently I had an interesting experience comparing ages while having breakfast at a local restaurant. A gentleman perched on a counter stool beside me got my attention by telling me about his aches and pains because of his old age. Of course, I then asked him his age. He quickly said he was 65. He asked my age. I honestly



said 84 years old. He quickly said he didn't believe it, that I looked to be around 65. He then insisted on seeing my driver's license to prove my age. Of course, that settled his curiosity, and it made me feel

better than good. I concluded that looking a bit young is one thing; reality is something else.

After that story, let me now get down to some harder aging facts, oddities and characteristics, maybe even peculiarities of people enjoying a ripe old age. Here goes:

- In a hostage situation, an older person will likely be released first.
- People call at eight or nine o'clock at night wondering if they got me out of bed.
- Oldsters rightly feel it is proper to eat at four o'clock in the afternoon.
- Oldsters often act a little buggy thinking it is alright since young people generally expect it of them.
- Oldsters consider coffee one of the most

Workshop of Restorative Justice & Prison/Jail Ministers' Sharing



Saturday, March 10, 2000
10 AM - 4 PM

Catholic Pastoral Center
Basement
600 Locust Street
Owensboro, Kentucky

Facilitators: Fr. Pat Delahanty & Maria Hines, Ph.D.
Welcoming by Bishop John McRaith
Prison & Jail Ministry Experience Sharing

Barbeque Sandwiches & Drinks Provided

Cut & Mail to: Rita Brothers, 600 Locust Street, Owensboro, KY, 42301,
or fax: 270.270.6883

How many attending _____

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State/Zip+4 _____

Home phone _____ Office Phone _____

I can bring: Vegetable _____ Salad _____ Dessert _____

Questions? Call Rita Brothers at 270.683.1545, ext 105

important things in life.

- Oldsters enjoy hearing about others' operations.
- Most oldsters enjoy a heated argument about Social Security, pensions, and politics.
- Generally speaking, oldsters are unaware of speed limits and driving rules.
- Oldsters' arms are too short to read a newspaper.
- Secrets are safe with their friends because they can't remember them anyway.
- Oldsters consider their walking canes as deadly weapons.
- They are happy when their investments in Social Security pay off.
- They despise dressing up because they aren't going anywhere anyway and, of

course, good table manners are "for the birds."

Well, I hate to tell you this, but if you can identify yourself with more than three of the above items you are in the old age category. This, in my case, takes away the esteem my breakfast partner so innocently gave me for thinking I was 65 or maybe a year more. Thanks, buddy, anyway!

If there is any truth in my younger looks at my age of 84, I owe it to my parents for their good genes and to God Himself for the gift of longevity. I'm hoping He will let me write a few more articles for all of you in this Western Kentucky Catholic!

Diocese

Comfort & Hope...a message about grief

By Jeannie Boone

The night that my young daughter, Katy, was killed there was still evidence of Christmas strewn about her room and a partially completed Valentine box was pushed to the end of the kitchen table along with her Girl Scout cookie order sheet. Her scruffy old loafers, assorted school papers, and some doll clothes were visible under the bed she shared with her sister. There was a hairbrush embedded with long blond hair on the bathroom sink; Smurf toothbrush and birthstone earrings lay nearby, but she would never use them again. It was February 1, 1989 and 8 year old Katy was dead. The house, so full of what was the joy of Katy, became in a moment of absolute horror an oppressive and unbearable container of unspeakable pain. For years I could not look at a Valentine, think of a Girl Scout cookie, or part with those loafers. If I seemed for a time to be coping... and the pain softer, the sight of a small girl with golden curls and a "pug" nose would plunge me back into despair. I used to go to bed at night and pray, "now I lay me down to sleep. I pray the Lord my soul to take." Oh, how I prayed to die, not to stop The Pain, but to hold my child again. I knew what I was asking, knew I had other children to care for who needed me, but I laid my head on the pillow every night for months whispering that prayer with the hope that God would take pity on this bereft mother and before the morning I might be holding her once again.

On a recent Saturday I shopped with my granddaughter who will be 5 soon and we looked at Valentines. She liked Powder Puff Girls and since I didn't know who they were she exclaimed, "Oh, Granny! You're so silly". It dawned on me later that after 12 years I had not felt The Pain when I looked at the Valentines. Just as it was a revelation to buy Girl Scout cookies a few years ago and pick a bouquet of Katy's beloved daffodils last Spring, I marveled at how such a simple everyday experience could feel so wonderfully new and glorious. And I am thankful that God did not grant my evening prayer requests so long ago.

I still have Katy's loafers among boxes of her toys and favorite things; an assortment of school papers penned with her name is priceless to me. I often wonder what her brothers and sisters will do with them when I am gone, but then it won't matter. I realize today that my heart is capable of so much wonder and my brain is so attuned to revelation because of where I have been; because



a slow elevator!

This is certainly not a path I would have chosen to travel. I miss Katy in still newer ways every day knowing how she would have loved her nieces and nephews; watching her friends marry and start families and careers is bittersweet. She even has a beautiful little namesake, born in September. But I also know that she knows! She is watching and loving and understanding from a perspective that we cannot know at this time. *No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him. 1 Corinthians 2:9*

There were some that tried to share such thoughts with me in 1989 and I was appalled at what I perceived as a lack of compassion. I didn't care what was in heaven for Katy and to suggest that I would grow in spirit from the loss was blasphemous, nothing less! The time was not right and everything has its time...the early weeks of loss are for mourning, and no matter how many times we plead to know why... we aren't supposed to know.

And so for those of you who grieve so deeply at this moment in time; this simple message is for you. As lonely, cold and dark as it is now...it will not last. You can persevere, in spite of the fact that right now you may not want to persevere. There are prayers for your safety and well being that are uttered in eternity and the day will come when you'll begin to feel warm again. No one can take away the pain and sorrow of your loss, or turn back the clock, but friends are lifelines; use them. It won't always hurt as deeply and relentlessly as it does now. When you're ready to reinvest in life begin by sharing what you've learned with others who need to know and we will all be blessed.

NOTE: Your emails are a source of strength and encouragement. I'll answer as many as I can. Thanks and keep 'em coming.... kyboones2@hotmail.com

of The Pain that was my only compass for so long and lingers still, in the shadow of my soul. It is a great rabbi. *Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.* I have been comforted and I have been lifted up, but it was

Pilgrimage to Italy

with



You are invited to join Brescia University in a pilgrimage tour of Italy, May 30 to June 10, 2001. Sites include Milan, Brescia, Venice, Florence, Assisi and Rome. The tour will include all of the religious and cultural sites, including a Wednesday audience with the Pope. The price (\$2,145) includes round trip airfare from Louisville, accommodations, taxes, two meals a day, bus transportation to Italy, sightseeing and admissions, tips and baggage handling. Daily Mass will be offered.

If interested, contact Fr. Larry Hostetter at (270) 686-4328 or (270) 686-6423. E-mail address: larryh@brescia.edu.

You may also view the itinerary on the tour website at www.etitours.com

Eucharistic Life of Jesus Divine Mercy Pilgrimage 2001 Stockbridge, Massachusetts

We invite you to join us on a journey in Faith
April 18-24, 2001
for the
Feast of Divine Mercy Celebration, April 22



"On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of Mercy." *Diary of Sister Faustina, 699.*



Jesus I trust In Thee

Spiritual Director:
Father Paul
(Pike) Powell



This tour includes transportation, lodging and attractions at a price of \$479 per person/double occupancy. \$450 per person/triple-quad.

For more information: Jim or Martha Kauffeld, 2222 Woodland Drive, Owensboro, Ky 42301 (270) 771-5525.

Books to Read

Awful Moments Can Open Us to Awesome Sights

West Covina, CA, February 1, 2001--A Catholic author has just published a book about finding the positive presence in life's awful events. Much of the book, *Awe-Full Moments: Spirituality in the Commonplace*, by Richard Bauman is intended to help others look for and find the blessings in life's painful situations.

The book is a collection of essays, many of which are based on the author's personal experiences. As the book's title suggests, awful events can contain elements of awe, wonder and even comfort. One however, has to be open to such moments to see them and accept them.

The book presents stories of life situations, some painful, others remarkable, each with an element of "awe" contained in it. The book reinforces the Chinese proverb, "It is better to light one candle than curse the darkness." Through the book's stories readers can see that even a tiny bit of light in a dismal situation can push back the darkness.

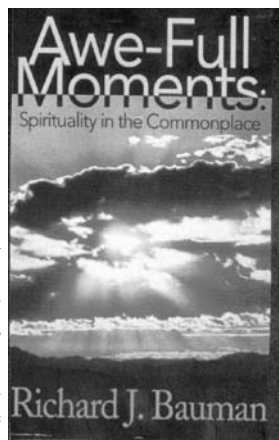
Coincidences, chance happenings and the inspiration of others allow us the opportunity to have moments of awe.

For example, one story in *Awe-Full Moments* deals with how painful illness, a misspelled name, and a subsequent chance remark led to the author's reunion with a cousin he hadn't seen in 25 years.

Yet another chapter shares with readers the story of a lifesaving encounter with his Guardian Angel.

Richard Bauman is a member of St. Lorenzo Ruiz Parish in Walnut, California. He has been a free-lance writer for nearly 30 years, and his articles have appeared in major Catholic and Christian periodicals. *Awe-Full Moments: Spirituality in the Commonplace* is his first book. It is available, on-line at bn.com, amazon.com, iUniverse.com or it can be ordered through most major bookstores.

For additional information contact Richard Bauman at (909) 594-5335, or richardb1207@earthlink.net.



Job Openings: Check Out The Occupation of a Saint

Reviewed by Mel Howard

Here's a book that needs to be in every Catholic school library. It also needs to be on table tops where kids of all ages can pick it up and read a few stories, look at a few pictures. This book needs to be along on every high school retreat. This is a book for young people who may be searching for what to do with their life. It is also a great book for non-readers and bored kids who scan through magazines and stuff looking for something, anything to catch their eye.

Patrons and Protectors: Occupations will do that.

Here are stories from the "winningest high school basketball coach in the history of the game"; do you know his name? Here you'll find the Who are the patron saints of zoo-keepers, roadworkers, dentists, journalists, soldiers, social workers, and businesswomen? What do you think these saints looked like? How did they choose their occupations?

Here is a +

Artists have always had a way of taking the ordinary and showing something extraordinary. Artist and writer, Michael O'Neill McGrath did this with a rather unusual subject matter, patron saints.

Combining the imagination of a science-fiction writer and the eye of an artist, Brother Mickey takes these individuals and transports them into our contemporary culture. And it works. Each saint is quite comfortable within the common modern occupations of our times.

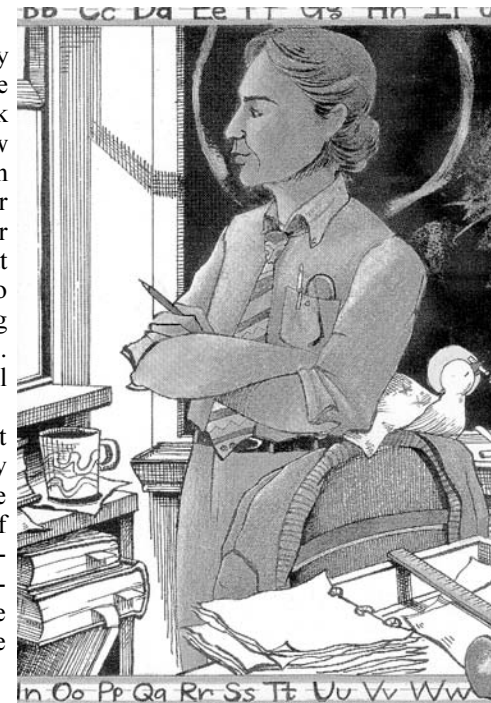
In *Patrons and Protectors: Occupations*, the first in a series published by Liturgy Training Publications of Chicago, McGrath combines art and stories from contributors showing us the saints as the people we share sidewalks and freeways with. In each painting he combines the sacred with the ordinary. Through his art and the contributors' stories, we come to understand how much we are like the saints and they are like us.

Saints are taking the publishing world by storm but seldom are they represented with much warmth and real humanity. McGrath captured the essence of each of the saints, page-by-page. He shows how these ancient saints move beyond time and space into our day-to-day life. At a time when interest in saints is dramatically increasing, he makes them relevant as mentors and models in a contemporary age.

Michael O'Neill McGrath is a brother of the Oblates of St. Francis deSales. After eleven years as a teacher at deSales University, he ventured into a full-time career as an artist and his work now appears in many leading Catholic publications. He is an illustrator for the Catholic Youth Bible, (Saint Mary's Press) a best-selling bible that has established a new standard in bibles for youth. His unique, earthy approach makes the saints relevant to modern sensibilities at a time when interest in saints is dramatically increasing.

Brother Mickey McGrath will be visiting St. Edward Parish in Fulton in May, 2001, for a presentation.

For information about *Patrons and Protectors, Occupations*, call Liturgy Training Publications at 1-800-933-1800. ISBN# 1-56854-109-0, 58 pages, \$18.95.



**Saint John Baptiste de la Salle,
Patron of Teachers**

St. Augustine's Works Online In Latin and Italian, for the Moment

ROME, JAN. 23, 2001 (Zenit.org).- An ancient giant of the Church is coming to Internet.

On the 1,600th anniversary of St. Augustine's "Confessions," the Augustinians have inaugurated an Internet site which makes available the complete works of the bishop of Hippo, as well as an extensive bibliography on the saint.

Jean Guitton, the distinguished 20th century French intellectual, pointed out that, if the Christian community had not been given the gift of an Augustine in the period of the Fathers of the Church, and of a Paul during the early days of the Church, the course of Western history would have been different.

The purpose of the new site (<http://www.augustinus.it/>) is to make known

not only the saint's multifaceted figure, but his entire personality. The seriousness of the work is guaranteed by the experience and qualifications of the translators, the Fathers of the monastery of St. Nicholas of Tolentino, among whom are Father Agostino Trape and Father Domenico Gentili. The site is managed by Father Franco Monteverde and, for the time being, is available only in Latin and Italian.

In the near future there will be a series of texts divided by subjects or keys to readings.

The page is still being constructed but already offers the possibility of consulting four fundamental works in their entirety, in Italian: "Le Confessioni," "La Trinità," "La Città di Dio," and "Le Rittrattazioni."

Diocese

Coming Soon to a Computer Near You Patron Saint of the Internet

By Jennifer Askin

LONDON, Feb. 9 — Instead of fumbling through bulky computer guides and frantically calling distant help desks, the religiously inclined may soon have a higher option when their computer crashes.

Pope John Paul II is expected to soon be naming the patron saint of Internet users and computer programmers.

Vatican sources have confirmed that St. Isidore of Seville, nominated two years ago, is a leading contender to be the saintly guardian of cyberspace.

St. Isidore is attributed with writing the world's first encyclopedia, known as *Etymologia*. Written more than 1,400 years ago, it was a 20-volume collection of writings on subjects ranging from art, medicine, history and theology to mathematics, literature, agriculture, war and mineralogy.

Spanish religious groups, among others, already designated their countryman as a "protector" of the World Wide Web in 1999. Because his life's work ended up in a categorized database, an ancestor of today's Internet, he seems a natural choice for many. A recent online poll in *The Economist* found he had the most Web page references of all the cyberspace patron saint candidates.

SaintDot-Com

The Holy See has yet to make a final decision, leaving the field open to other candidates, most of

whom are underdogs, given St. Isidore's popularity with online users. He is up against St. Paul, the Archangel Gabriel, and St. Anthony of Padua, whom many of the prayerful turn to when they have lost something.

There is also San Pedro Regalado, a 15th-century global navigator who is believed to have appeared in two places at once. For some, he would be an appropriate guardian for the cybersurfer.

Even in the Vatican, the internet has introduced an unprecedented era. If enough Internet users choose Saint Isidore as their patron saint, this virtual word-of-mouth may unofficially canonize him. Mistaken cyber gossip may have already anointed him.

Despite the fast-paced and unparalleled force of the Internet, Pope John Paul II is endeavoring to keep up. Back in 1996, the Vatican launched its own Web site, www.vatican.va, which publishes church documents, papal speeches, news updates, and interactive information on the Vatican. The site is named after its own saintly watchdogs, the archangels Raphael, Michael, and Gabriel.

The pope himself first ventured into cyberspace in 1998 when 1 billion Internet users were able to hear him recite his Sunday Angelus prayers. It is now possible to check his site to see these each week as well as his regular Wednesday audiences.

Source: ABCNEWS.com, Feb. 9, 2001

Teen Pregnancy Rates Declined in U.S. During the 1990s

AUSTIN, Texas — The rate of teenage pregnancies in the U.S. fell more than 15 percent between the early and the mid-1990s, according to a recent study published in the latest issue of *Family Planning Perspectives*.

The decline appeared to be mostly the result of increased contraceptive use among adolescents.

"Little of this drop can be attributed to increased abstinence," the study's authors wrote, "since the proportion of teenagers who are sexually experienced has fallen little."

In addition, the researchers found that major declines in the teenage birthrate during this time were mostly due to apparent increases in contraceptive use among teenage mothers who already had children. The teenage birthrate among teenage mothers who already had one child fell 20 percent, while it fell 3 percent among those teenage girls who had no children.

"About three-fourths of the decline in the teenage pregnancy rate resulted from changes in contraceptive behavior, and

only about one-fourth from delayed onset of sexual activity," the authors concluded.

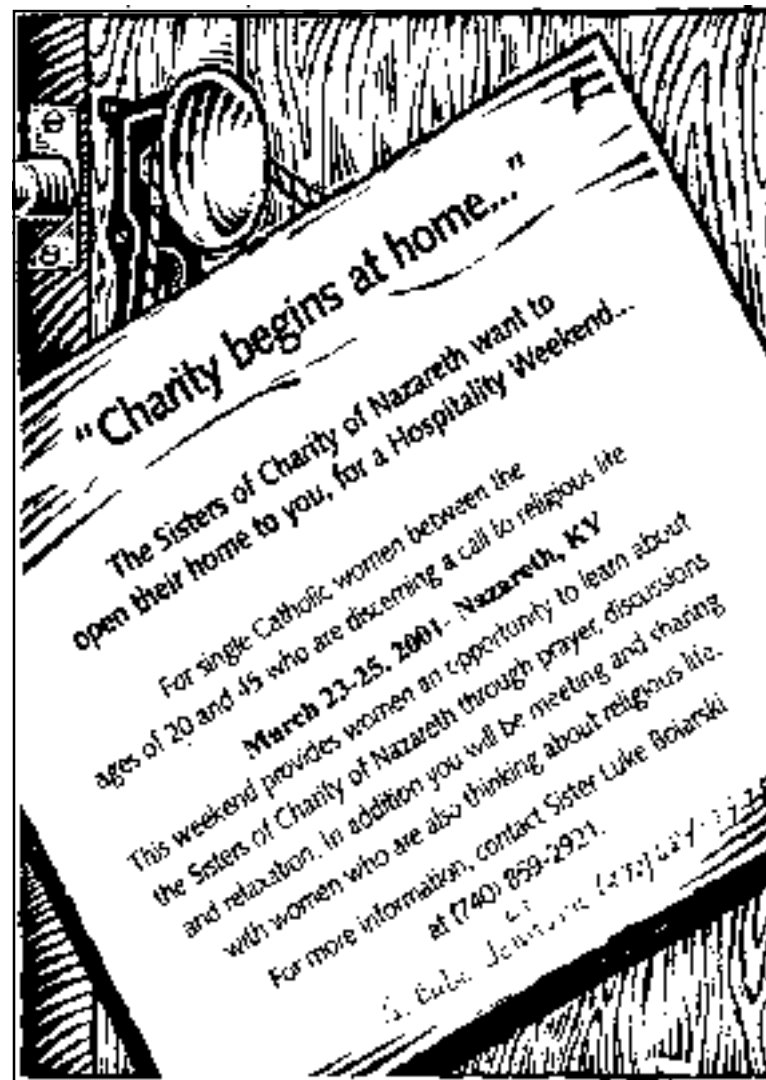
The drop in the teenage pregnancy rate comes after a rise in the late 1980s. For 1996, about 10 percent of females 15 to 19 years old became pregnant, while in 1990 the rate was closer to 12 percent.

The rate of abortions among teenagers fell more quickly than the rate of pregnancies and births to teenagers.

"A higher proportion of pregnant teenagers are choosing to give birth and not to have an abortion," the authors wrote, pointing out that this trend was "concentrated among non-Hispanic whites, with little change among black and Hispanic women."

In addition, younger adolescents were no longer more likely to terminate pregnancies by means of abortion than were older adolescents.

"Among industrialized countries with data, the United States is the only one in which younger adolescents are not substantially more likely than older ones to terminate pregnancies by abortion," the authors found.



Non-Hispanic white teenagers had the lowest rates of pregnancy. But while rates also declined a significant amount for black teenagers, they did not decline nearly as much for Hispanic teenagers.

The authors also found that teenage pregnancy rates were highest in the South and Southwestern U.S., while they were lowest in the North Central and Northeastern states.

They pointed out that the typically more socially conservative Southern states

were at no advantage over typically more liberal parts of the country—such as Massachusetts, where teenage pregnancy rates were very low.

Birthrates among teenagers in the U.S. remain one of the highest among the developed countries of the world, including the rates for non-Hispanic white American teenagers.

©1/20/2001 PeoplesResearch.com

Reflection for Prayer

THOMAS A KEMPIS: From "Imitation of Christ," Book 2, Chapter 7, Section 3:
"If in all things thou seek Jesus doubtless thou wilt find Jesus. But if thou seek thyself thou wilt indeed find thyself, to thine own ruin. For a man does himself more harm if he seeks not Jesus, than the whole world and all his enemies could do."

Easter Celebration

By Timothy Tennyson

The phone rang and rang again
I did not want to answer; I had to watch my team win.
I heard the answering machine kick into gear
And I heard myself saying, "I am not home, leave a message here."
The machine clicked and whirled some more
Until I heard a voice that I had heard somewhere before.
I no longer cared about the basketball game
There was a man on the phone and I needed to figure out his name.
"I am sorry I have missed you again, Tim."
The hair on my neck stood up. I knew it was Him.
"I have been trying to reach you", He went on,
"To invite you to a party that I am hosting before too long.
I know you are busy with all the things you have to do,
But I was hoping you would be ready to start your life anew.
You are like almost everybody else, I guess
You are trying really hard to reach some sort of success.
You have had disappointments, everyone does you know
Just don't ever forget that all of us in Heaven really love you so.
You would have liked to have heard your parents say out loud
That for all the things you accomplished they were very proud.
Your father is gone, your mother is too-,
One reason I'm calling is to see if they should still be proud of you."
I reached for the phone, but I stopped half way.
I was scared to hear what else He might have to say.
"You gave your life to me a ve long time ago
What were you then? eleven? twelve? or so?
It seems we have not kept in very good touch,
I'm beginning to wonder if you really love me that much.
The party I mentioned is going to be this Easter morning;
Please attend, so our friendship will blossom and be reborn.
In other words, its time to go down the aisle and take that walk,
Don't be nervous or scared-, this is no time to balk.
The refreshments will be my body and bloo and to be precise
They are the most precious signs, better than riches or spice."
I grabbed the phone and cried, "Hello, God, It's me."
I knew He was there because His warmth filled me with glee.
I'm truly honored by your special invitation;
Yes, God I will be at your supreme celebration."
I felt, as they say, as giddy as a schoolboy because it was me that He did select-.
And I could hear His angels singing, "We are proud of this elect."

Tim Tennyson wrote this poem while going through the RCIA program for St. Peter's in Waverly last year.

Chicago's Cardinal George to Preach Pope's Retreat

VATICAN CITY, FEB. 8, 2001 (Zenit.org).- Cardinal Francis George of Chicago will preach the annual Lenten retreat for the papal household, the Vatican announced.

The March 4-10 retreat will be held in the Redemptoris Mater chapel of the apostolic palace.

Cardinal George, 64, has led the Chicago Archdiocese since 1997. He entered the Oblates of Mary Immaculate at age 20, and was ordained to the priesthood in 1963. He

became provincial superior in Minnesota for the order in 1973, and the following year moved to Rome as vicar general for the Oblates, a post he held until 1986.

He returned to the United States in 1987 as bishop of Yakima, Washington, and became archbishop of Portland, Oregon, in 1996 before being named to succeed Cardinal Joseph Bernardin in Chicago.

The offices of the Roman Curia will be closed during the week of the retreat.

LIFETEEN AT ST. JEROME

2 BE or NOT 2 BE...In Control.....

By Angie Burgess

2 Be or Not 2 Be...In Control...that is the question posed to teens at the November 29 LifeNight held at St. Jerome Parish in Fancy Farm.

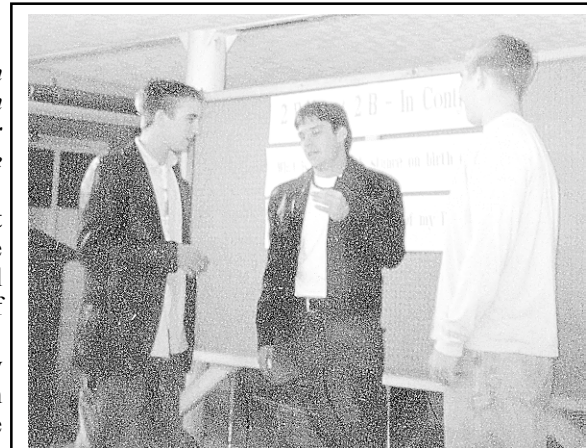
The goal for this Issue Night was to help teens understand the church's stance on birth control and how to surrender control of their lives to God.

Our guest speaker was Kathy Hancock from St. Ann's Parish in Morganfield, who works at the Shelter of Love, a pregnancy care center in Morganfield, Ky. Kathy and her husband, Gary, witnessed their experience with Natural Family Planning (NFP), a method in which couples learn when conception is most likely to occur. They agree that this method promotes a healthy and respectful relationship between married couples.

Kathy brought some startling facts to light regarding "the pill," which has long been endorsed by society as a safe way to prevent pregnancy. The teens learned that in some cases "the pill" can be abortifacient (which means it prevents a fertilized egg from attaching to the womb and aborting a pregnancy). Artificial contraception gives teens false hope and a feeling that sex outside of marriage is all right as long as the girl doesn't get pregnant, which is the direct opposite of the law of God and the teaching of the Catholic Church. The teens learned that engaging in premarital sex puts them at risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases (STD's) and that the use of a condom is no guarantee that the tiny HIV virus that causes AIDS will not infect the sexually active teen. It was a very informative LifeNight.

The LifeTeen program is designed to "Lead Teens Closer to Christ," by celebrating the Eucharist with teens, and by providing LifeNights that teach teens the truth about their Catholic faith.

For more information about the Shelter of Love or Natural Family Planning call: 270.389.2847. Angie Burgess is the Music & Liturgy Corrdinator of St. Jerome Parish, Fancy Farm, KY.



Jacob Elder, Eric Hobbs, and Cody Elder illustrate in a hilarious skit how "out of control" life can get without God. Photo by Susi Newhouse

Sister Jane Frances Donahue, OSU, 97, dies Feb. 11

Sister Jane Frances Donahue, 97, and Ursuline Sister of Mount Saint Joseph, died February 11, 2001, at Owensboro Mercy Health System. This year she was celebrating her 80th year in religious life.

Born in Holy Cross, Ky., Sister Jane Frances taught in many schools in the Diocese of Owensboro: St. Joseph High School, Owensboro, 1946-47; St. Joseph School, Mayfield, 1948-51; St. William High School, Knottsville, 1961-67; Trinity High School, Whitesville, 1967-69, 1973-82. She also ministered in Jefferson, Nelson, Washington, Marion, and Casey counties in Kentucky, and in Missouri and New Mexico. Returning to the motherhouse in 1982, she assisted in the Mount Saint Joseph Archives until 1995.

Sister Jane Frances is survived by a brother, Augustine Donahue of Mineral, Ill.; and two sisters, Sister Mary Beatrice Donahue, Maple Mount, Ky., and Anna Catherine Donahue of Eaton, Ohio. Funeral services were at Mount Saint Joseph on February 14, 2001.



Readers Write

Catholic Schools Educate the Parent and Child

To the Editor,

This month communities across our nation are celebrating catholic schools Week in a variety of ways. This year's celebration is a very special one for me personally at Christ the King School in Madisonville because it will be our family's ninth year to celebrate the wonderful gift of Catholic Education at CTKS. While some may say we have made "sacrifices" for our son to attend Catholic School we know that we did not sacrifice anything, we only prioritized to insure our son would have an education of superior quality, an environment that reflects our family beliefs, and most importantly, an environment where he would be surrounded with Christ centered individuals.

When we started school in August I found myself reflecting over the past nine years and felt a variety of emotions as we started prepare for Marc's High School years. Our son, Marc, brought reality home with a simple statement in October, "I'm ready for High School and I want to go to a Catholic High School." The decision again was not one of sacrifice but one of priority and simplicity, send him.

I Then realized a very important part of Catholic Education that goes unnoticed, the education of the parent. Over the years I knew our son was being prepared but I never realized I was, too. Personally, I thought I was educated enough with my college degree. I now humbly acknowledge that choosing Catholic Education at CTKS has taught me more about the importance of life than any previous education I have received. Every CTKS staff member has taught me a lesson; one that goes unwritten in the weekly lesson plans and is not detailed in a job description, the lesson of compassion for mankind. You have shown me my strengths with praise and recognized my weaknesses without ridicule, you have guided and strengthened me in a difficult times and celebrated with me during joyous times. You have guided me with honesty and provided me with support. This lesson will remain engraved in my heart.

Everyday Catholic School staff members continue the lesson plan of two thousand years ago as delivered to us by the greatest teacher of all, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. You are molding our future one student and one parent at a time. You are delivering His message and continuing His works. By doing God's work you have enriched our lives forever, and will continue to enrich the lives of every child and family who enter the doors of Catholic Schools.

God bless each of you and God Bless Catholic Schools.

--Cathy Craft, Madisonville, KY

Missionary Asks For School Materials

Dear Editor & Good Readers,

May I wish you a smiling New Year of health, wealth, happiness and holiness.

We are grateful to you for all the services rendered to the missionary church in India during the last century.

This is to request you to help us again in our work for the Lord Jesus in the New Year,

Kindly send us your spare Rosaries, Statues, Medals, Scapulars, used Christmas

cards, used magazines and other odds. Also please send ball point pens, Papermate pens, pencils and other helps for our school children.

Your dear intentions will be remembered in our holy masses and prayers in return.

Please forward the above items to

Father Paul Cruz
St. Anthony Church
Vaddy, Kollam, p.o., 691 013
Kerala, India

Read the Gospel for their night prayers

Dear Editor,

Famed football coach Joe Paterno said, "It was a wonderful time growing up when I grew up and have the church tell what is right and wrong. It's not like a lot of kids today who have to find out for themselves."

In finding out for themselves, experimenting with drugs, booze, fast driving, sex for

fun, violence, many youth destroy themselves. We need preventive medicine. We must urge teens to read the Gospel for their night prayers and meet Christ.

- Fr. Rawley Myers, St. Mary High School,
 22W. Kiowa, Colorado Springs, CO 80903



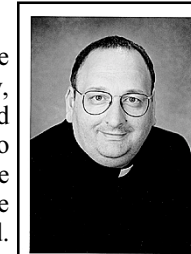
Miracle Growth: A Seed of Inspiration



Shake it off and step up

By Father Joe Sica

Once upon a time there was a farmer who had an old mule. The mule fell into a deep dry well and began to cry loudly. Hearing his mule cry, the farmer came over and assessed the situation. The well was deep and the mule was heavy. He knew it would be difficult, if not impossible, to lift the animal out. Because the mule was old and the well was dry, the farmer decided to bury the animal in the well. In this way he could solve two problems: put the old mule out of his misery and have his well filled. He called upon his neighbors to help him and they agreed. To work they went. Shovel full of dirt after shovel full of dirt began to fall on the mule's back. He became hysterical. Then all of a sudden an idea came to the mule. Each time they would throw a shovel full of dirt on his back he could shake it off and step up. Shovel full after shovel full, the mule would shake it off and step up.



Father Joe Sica



exhausted and dirty, but quite alive, the mule stepped over the top of the well and walked through the crowd.

A great attitude. A great way to approach life. Shake it off and step up. Too often we hold on to what has happened to us. We hold on to it for a week, a month, even years. We cannot shake it loose from our memory. It eats away at us and steals our joy, happiness and peace of mind. The past hurt can create feelings of bitterness, resentment, anger and revenge. We keep allowing these emotions to be thrown on our backs and if we do nothing, we will be buried

deep in the well. Walls will be build in our relationships. We will avoid each other and the cold war goes begins. But, we have a choice: keep it inside and embrace the hurt or shake it off and step up.

Give it a try. Shake it off and step up. Words that have been said or actions that have been done, shake it off and step up. Let it go. Whatever it is: a rude comment, a past

mistake, being ignored, we can stew over it all week. It occupied us all the time. Too often we nurse hurts, we keep them alive inside and go over them again and again; not only stewing over them, but now chewing them over until we get sick. Too often we nurse hurts, tell everyone what has happened to us. The cure is to accept what has happened, try to make sense out of it, learn from it, then shake it off and step up.

THAT'S LIFE! If we face our problems and respond to them positively, and refuse to give in to panic, bitterness, or self-pity... THE ADVERSITIES THAT COME ALONG TO BURY US USUALLY HAVE WITHIN THEM THE POTENTIAL TO BENEFIT AND BLESS US! Remember that FORGIVENESS—FAITH—PRAYER—PRAISE and HOPE... all are excellent ways to "SHAKE IT OFF AND STEP UP" out of the wells in which we find ourselves!

Editor's Note: This is the first time we have printed a column from Fr. Joe Sica, a priest for the Diocese of Scranton. Ordained for eighteen years, Fr. Sica has been in the teaching ministry for twelve of those years. Presently, he is an assistant pastor at Our Lady of the Snows in Clarks Summit, PA. He has published in Today's Catholic Teacher (another article coming out in the spring of 2001), The Priest, Marriage and Family Living.

Readers can let Fr. Joe Sica know what you think of his column. You can contact him: Father Joe Sica, Our Lady of the Snows, 301 South State Street, Clarks Summit, PA 18411. E-mail him at OLS1@prodigy.net; be sure to put Fr. Joe Sica's name in the subject line of your e-mail.

It eats away at us and steals our joy, happiness and peace of mind. The past hurt can create feelings of bitterness, resentment, anger and revenge.

Editorial

People Today Look To Church To Point Out Hope

What is a fundamental duty of the Church?

Answer: *After referring to the Apostle John's invitation to "defeat evil and the Evil One, in virtue of the efficacious presence of the heavenly Father, to point out hope is a fundamental duty of the Church," said Pope John Paul II in a general audience address in Rome, January 24, 2001.*

"Point out hope," The Pope teaches us.

Last month we wrote here of how Western Kentucky Catholics who send in their pictures and stories keep hope alive for our readers who live in all sorts of human situations.

The Catholic Press Association (CPA) of America released figures in January taken from the Catholic Press Directory comparing diocesan newspaper circulation with diocesan population. Of 168 diocesan newspapers who are CPA members, *The Western Kentucky Catholic* ranked fourth in the nation. 41% of our reported Catholic population in Western Kentucky receive *The Western Kentucky Catholic* each month of publication (20,400 households out of a population of 50,023 people).

There are few public messages that give people hope. However, one Catholic ad which has been on national TV tells people, "If you don't think you can make it right, you're wrong." Another message which the Catholic Church has been putting out there is Jesus' words reaching out to a repentant woman, "Neither do I condemn you."

Oh really? You ask.

Well, there is Project Rachel, a telephone line which receives calls for information and counseling from women who have had an abortion. Callers, not all of whom are women, get information about a network of priests and lay professionals trained in post-abortion counseling. There are weekend retreats in Project Rachel.

For people needing new hope in Owensboro, there is The Birthright Center, The St. Joseph Peace Mission, the St. Vincent De Paul Stores and parish SVPD societies, The Catholic Charities Office of The Catholic Pastoral Center, and eight Catholic churches. In future editions we will look at places of hope in other Western Kentucky towns.

Married couples trying to live a Christian life in today's culture which is very different from their parents' young adult culture find

the procreation of children difficult. Elders say, "Well, we had it tough. We made it. So can you!" But that does not give a sense of hope as clearly as does the message that Natural Family Planning (NFP) has.

NFP is a good way to plan the spacing of children in a family and one which the Catholic Church endorses. There are various NFP methods a couple can use to delay conception of a child or to time pregnancies so that the birth and care of the new life they create with God will take place when the couple has the stability in their lives needed to both care for children as well as support one another's careers or ministries. NFP requires the cooperation of both man and woman in understanding the woman's fertility cycle and sharing the discipline of conceiving a baby in God's own time which they together discern. For many Catholic couples, NFP is both a way to make it easier to communicate with one another as well as deepen their love for God, themselves, and their children. NFP gives couples hope and models for the whole community the care which a provident God has for creation.

We have included here photos and the phone numbers of Natural Family Planning instructors who give married couples hope in our own diocese of Western Kentucky: Gwen Jennings and Angie and Denny Sims.

Modelling for the whole community the providence of God is one of the reasons the Catholic Press exists in America.

The Western Kentucky Catholic wants to be the kind of Catholic paper that you can look through or read in the evening of any day and find many good things about life that will not disturb your sleep. We strive to give people hope by being a channel of dialogue among the people of the Church of Western Kentucky.

We encourage parishes, schools, readers, and parents who educate their children at home to send in to us your photos and your stories of how God

BRESCIA UNIVERSITY

...invites you to attend an
Open House
Saturday, March 3
10:00 a.m. -- 12:00 noon

- Professors and staff available
- Financial Aid Information
- Campus Tours Every Half Hour

For information or to make reservations
Call toll free 1-877-273-7242

admissions@brescia.edu
 717 Frederica Street
 Owensboro, Kentucky

works in your life, of how prayer is answered, of how living a virtuous life can change a culture of death into a loving family of people caring for the common good.

Send your pictures and stories to Editor, The Western Kentucky Catholic, 600 Locust Street, Owensboro, Kentucky 42301. Or e-mail the scanned photos and articles to Mel Howard, Editor, at mel@cpc.brescia.edu.

NFP Instructors in the Diocese of Owensboro



Gwen Jennings
 (270) 926-7694



Angie Sims (270) 684-8499 with her husband Denny and children.

Scouting News

The Diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting reminds everyone, especially Catholic Girl Scouts, Tiger Cubs, Cub Scouts, Webelos, Boy Scouts and Venturers who have submitted applications to earn their respective religious emblems, plus their parents and adult leaders, that the Annual Catholic Scouting Awards Mass will be celebrated on Sunday, March 18 at 1:00 p.m. at St. Stephen's Cathedral in Owensboro.

The Most Rev. John J. McRaith, Bishop of Owensboro, will preside and present the medals, assisted by Fr. Ken Mikulcik, Diocesan Scouting Chaplain.

If you are scheduled to receive a Catholic Scouting religious award, please make every effort to be present at this Mass. Several adults are to be recognized for their contributions to Catholic Scouting in the Diocese of Owensboro.

As was the case last year, liturgical music will be provided by the group "Jubilation." There will be a reception for all awards recipients following the Mass downstairs in the Undercroft. Everyone is welcome.