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A Voice for the Voiceless

CRS official's job is privilege, responsibility

By Denis Grasska

SAN DIEGO — Through her work with Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Caroline Brennan is a voice for the voiceless.

When the humanitarian agency sends out an emergency response team to provide relief in the wake of a natural disaster or human crisis, Brennan is deployed alongside them to interview those affected and to collect their stories so they can be shared with the people back home in the United States.

Brennan, 43, said her job as Senior Communications Officer for the Humanitarian Response Department has given her access to many people who are “so far from the spotlight” and who “so rarely have a platform to be fully seen or heard.”

“Being able to learn from people and hear their thoughts and perspectives is, I think, a privilege,” she said, “and it’s a responsibility to be able to do justice to what I learn, and see, and hear.”

Brennan also gives presentations in the United States, reporting to CRS donors on what their financial support has made possible, and creates resources that CRS can use to



IN THE FIELD: Caroline Brennan is seen with Syrian refugee Zahaya in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley.

raise further awareness and generate additional support.

Born in Harrisburg, Penn., Brennan grew up in a Catholic military family that moved frequently. After graduating from Texas A&M University, where she studied journalism, she spent two years in Ethiopia as a Peace Corps Volunteer.

“Being able to live in a place and see the impact of development was profound for me,” she said, “and I realized I wanted to use my communication skills for the purposes of helping people overcome adversity, but also be empowered to have a better life in some way.”

She added, “I just can’t imagine doing anything else.”

After the Peace Corps, Brennan utilized her writing abilities on behalf of the Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago and the U.S. Committee for Refugees (now the U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants), headquartered in Washington, D.C.

SEE BRENNAN, PAGE 8

Benedictus President Extends Invitation to All Catholic Men

Quarterly breakfasts promote Christian leadership

By Denis Grasska

SAN DIEGO — When he stands outside local parishes, handing out flyers for men’s prayer breakfasts, the president of Benedictus never goes for the hard sell.

He just extends a gentle invitation.

“I let the Lord do the work,” Mark Emerson told *The Southern Cross*. “If they’re supposed to be there, they’ll be there and, when they do come, they’ll get fed. That’s all I know.”

Benedictus, dubbed “a ministry to Catholic men,” holds quarterly breakfasts where men receive both physical and spiritual nourishment.

“Our main thing that we try to do ... is to raise up men as Christian leaders,” Emerson said, “and we do that by explaining to them that they’re the spiritual leaders of their families and their community, and that men are the problem in the world but they are also a solution.”

“If all men were walking in the light ... as humble servant leaders,” the 15-year veteran of Benedictus added, “I believe the world would be a different place.”

The three-hour Benedictus gatherings, which are preceded by Mass, include live praise-and-worship music; a shared meal; a spiritual talk given by either Deacon Jim Kostic or Deacon Mike Partida, the ministry’s two spiritual leaders; small-group discussions about that talk; and a

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Pope to Visit Mexico Next Month

CHICAGO — During his Feb. 12-17 visit to Mexico, Pope Francis will stop in six cities, including two in the state of Chiapas and — across from El Paso, Texas — Ciudad Juarez.

Catholic Extension said it will work with the Diocese of El Paso to plan papal visit events on the U.S. side of the border. The Chicago-based papal society has a history of providing support to El Paso and other border dioceses.

The pope is scheduled to be in Ciudad Juarez Feb. 17 and his visit will culminate with an evening Mass at Benito Juarez Stadium right next to the border. According to the Diocese of El Paso, the Mass will include a cross-border component.

The Mass is expected to draw hundreds of thousands of pilgrims from both the U.S. and Mexico. Parishes in El Paso Diocese and in the neighboring Diocese of Las Cruces, New Mexico, will receive tickets for their parishioners to attend the Mass. In addition, the Texas diocese has plans to arrange a simultaneous celebration of the Mass at the El Paso border fence.

Catholic News Service

New Church Dedicated for St. Thomas More Parish

By Aida Bustos

OCEANSIDE — “Yes, we have arrived!” With those words, Father Mike Ratajczak jubilantly marked the dedication of St. Thomas More Catholic Church on Dec. 16, some 30 years after the parish was formed.

During that time, its members met at each other’s homes, at the Rancho Buena Vista High School gym, the Eternal Hills Mortuary chapel and the Shadowridge Plaza Mall. In 2001, they moved into a parish hall that served as their “temporary” home until their church was built just steps away.

“Over the last 30 years, and especially in the last 10 years, we laughed, we cried, we struggled, we celebrated, we pushed and we pulled, but now we rejoice overwhelmingly, because today our church has its permanent home,” Father Ratajczak told the crowd of 1,000-plus that filled every seat during the joyous dedication Mass.

The 23,400-square foot church is a striking white, modern building topped by a wooden “Tower of Light” perched above the corner of South Melrose and Cannon Road. The church serves about 1,000 households from Vista, Oceanside, Carlsbad, Encinitas, San Marcos and Fallbrook.

The main hall is a spare space with travertine walls, American cherry wood panels and floor-to-ceiling glass windows that bathe the interior in a warm, natural light.

A distinctive aspect of the church is the way the windows capture the natural light and bounce them off walls to illuminate interior features, such as the 10-foot-tall bronze and steel crucifix, said its architect, Renzo Zecchetto.

He and about a dozen designers and artists attended the Rite of Dedication,



DEDICATION: A crowd of more than 1,000 gathered for the Dec. 16 dedication Mass in the new St. Thomas More Church.

presided over by Bishop Robert W. McElroy.

“The glory of this moment is not the completion of a building,” the bishop said in his homily. “It’s a testimony of your true community of faith.”

The rite included the blessing of the baptismal font, made of bronze and olivine stone; the anointing of the altar, a 12,000-pound structure made out of olivine; the incensation of the altar; the placing of the altar cloth; the decoration of the sanctuary with flowers; and the lighting of the altar and church. The bishop also inaugurated a

small chapel adjacent to the sanctuary, where daily Mass and funerals will be held.

During the Mass, a section of cherry wood pews was reserved for the “Pioneers,” individuals who had been a part of the parish since its earliest days. One of them was Sondra Parks, who joined St. Thomas More in 1992.

“We were a much smaller community then,” she recalled. “We knew every single person.”

She recalled parishioners having to move from location to location while waiting for their permanent home. When she battled a

SEE MORE, PAGE 15

Mother Teresa to Be Canonized Soon

By Carol Glatz

VATICAN CITY — Pope Francis has approved a miracle attributed to the intercession of Blessed Teresa of Kolkata, thus paving the way for her canonization.

Pope Francis signed the decree for Blessed Teresa’s cause Dec. 17.

The postulator for her sainthood cause, Father Brian Kolodiejchuk of the Missionaries of Charity, said the second miracle that was approved involved the healing of a now 42-year-old mechanical engineer in Santos, Brazil.

Doctors diagnosed the man with a viral brain infection that resulted in multiple brain abscesses, the priest said in a statement published Dec. 18 by *AsiaNews*, the Rome-based missionary news agency. Treatments given were ineffective and the man went into a coma, the postulator wrote.

The then-newly married man’s wife had spent months praying to Blessed Teresa and her prayers were joined by those of her relatives and friends when her dying husband was taken to the operating room Dec. 9, 2008.

When the surgeon entered the operating room, he reported that he found the patient awake, free of pain and asking, “What am I doing here?” Doctors reported the man showed no more symptoms and a Vatican medical commission voted unanimously in September 2015 that the healing was inexplicable.

Mother Teresa died Sept. 5, 1997, and was beatified in 2003.

Catholic News Service

Fair Trade Shop Is a Ministry, Business Owners Say

By Denis Grasska

SAN DIEGO — After three years of working for Catholic Relief Services, promoting the fair trade movement, Evangely Aliangan Ward decided that she could do more.

So, in late 2010, she founded Around the World Gifts. Located in Old Town San Diego, nestled among an assortment of shops and restaurants, the gift shop sells only items that are certified “fair trade,” meaning that they were produced in an environmentally-friendly manner by artisans and farmers in developing countries who received fair wages for their labor.

For Evangely and her husband, Gerrit Ward, who manages the shop, Around the World Gifts is more than just a business.

“This is a ministry,” Evangely told *The Southern Cross*. “It’s a place where I can bring my faith and my beliefs. It’s a place [where] I know I’m making a difference.”

About 75 developing countries currently have fair trade cooperatives, and almost 50 of those countries are represented by products at Around the World Gifts.

“The theme of our store is gifts from all over the world, so we try to get things that are endemic to the culture of that particular region,” said Gerrit, noting that Indian artisans are known for woodworking with brass inlay and that soapstone carvings and items constructed from recycled plastic are commonly produced in Kenya.

He said, “The idea is that when you pick up items in our

store ... it should be indicative of their particular culture.”

The shop’s inventory includes a wide array of items, including clothing; accessories, such as jewelry, scarves, hats and belts; home and garden décor; Nativity sets and other holiday items; chocolate; and even musical instruments like pan flutes, recorders and whistles.

“We try to think of all members of the family” when placing orders with fair trade vendors, said Evangely, whose awareness of fair trade came about through her employment with Catholic Relief Services from 2007 through 2010. Among its many projects, CRS is a strong proponent of the fair trade movement.

“When I learned what fair trade really is, it made sense,” she said. “To think of the artisans in developing countries, the children that are being worked when they should be in school; to think of the men and women that are working so hard and are treated so wrong, are not paid even a portion of what they deserve, what their working conditions are like.”

Fair trade cuts out “the middleman,” she said, explaining that the artisans and farmers are able to receive a larger percentage of the profit, reinvest in their business and bring about more opportunities within their community.

In October 2010, after months of planning, Evangely opened an online store at *AroundtheWorldGifts.biz*. (Though the Web site is still active, Gerrit said it serves as “more of a tool” through which he can show people the types of products available at the store. Though items can be

purchased online, the entire inventory isn’t represented there.)

On Nov. 1, 2010, Evangely opened a kiosk on the second floor of the Westfield Horton Plaza mall. She operated the kiosk for three months, but wanting to grow her business and be able to offer “more than a table” of fair trade products, she moved to a new location in Old Town in February 2011.

Around the World Gifts remained at that address for about a year and a half before moving two doors down to its current location, which has a large outdoor patio.

The store, which hosted a fifth-anniversary celebration Nov. 1, has benefitted from the “steady foot traffic” of tourists in Old Town, said Evangely, whose shop is also part of the Fair Trade San Diego network and an exhibitor at events like the annual diocesan Church Ministers Conference.

Many of the items sold at Around the World Gifts come with a tag with information about the group of artisans that made them — and some even have the name of the specific artist within that group.

Gerrit said the couple sees it as “part of our mission” to educate potential customers about fair trade.

He noted that one of the distinguishing features of fair trade is that products can be easily traced back to the group that made them.

“That’s very liberating,” he said, “because in our current

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Bishop: Year of Mercy Invites Us to Reflect on Who God Is

By Denis Grasska

PASTORAL CENTER — The Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy has begun.

Announced by Pope Francis, the jubilee year opened on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, Dec. 8, 2015, and will conclude on the Solemnity of Christ the King, Nov. 20, 2016.

But just what should this jubilee year mean for the average Catholic? What practical steps can the lay faithful take to answer the Holy Father's call?

Bishop Robert W. McElroy told *The Southern Cross* that "the central invitation of this Year of Mercy" is to reflect on who God is.

For many, God is "primarily a judge," he said. Others treat him like "an insurance policy" or turn to Him only when they want something.

But, echoing a central message of Pope Francis' pontificate, the bishop said, "Mercy is the primary attribute of God in relationship to us" and, "if we are to understand who God is, we must begin with mercy."

Such a paradigm shift can be difficult, the bishop admitted, partly because we might misinterpret the message of mercy as "a call to moral laxity."

But, far from being a permission slip to remain in one's sins and ignore Christ's call to repentance, he said, it is "a call to live the Gospel" while recognizing that, even when we fall short and give in to temptation, God is still "embracing us, forgiving us, lifting us up."

Another obstacle to seeing God as a merciful Father, the bishop said, is our own judgmentalism, a vice that we are encouraged to conquer during this Year of Mercy.

"Judgmentalism is different than having moral standards," Bishop McElroy explained, emphasizing that such standards are important. By contrast, he said, "Judgmentalism is the tendency all of us have as human beings to feel better about ourselves because we can point to someone else and identify their shortcomings."

The concept of a jubilee year is an ancient tradition and, as such, it is accompanied by



symbols rich in meaning. Perhaps the most notable, the bishop said, is the opening of the "holy door."

Pope Francis opened the holy door of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, he said, to indicate that this year is "a special time of invitation to everyone to come home, to come to God's Church," an invitation extended especially to those who have felt excluded or estranged.

The Diocese of San Diego is doing its part to deliver this welcoming message through the opening of various "holy doors" throughout the diocese.

Bishop McElroy has designated six local churches as "pilgrimage churches" for the Year of Mercy: La Capilla de Cristo Rey, El Centro; Our Lady of Guadalupe, Calixico; Mission San Diego de Alcalá; St. Joseph Cathedral; St. Jude Shrine of the West; and St. Thomas More, Oceanside.

At each of these parishes, a "holy door" has been or will be opened in conjunction with the Year of Mercy.

As an example of how Catholics might grow in faith during the Year of Mercy, Bishop McElroy recommended learning and living out the corporal and spiritual works of mercy.

The corporal works of mercy include: feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, clothing the naked, visiting the imprisoned, sheltering the homeless, visiting the sick, and burying the dead. The spiritual works of

OFFICIAL PRAYER FOR THE EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE OF MERCY

The Holy Year of Mercy began on Dec. 8, 2015, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, and will close on Nov. 20, 2016, the Solemnity of Christ the King. The following is Pope Francis' prayer for this Jubilee of Mercy:

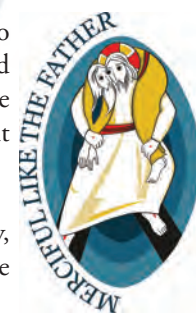
Lord Jesus Christ,
You have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees You sees Him. Show us Your face and we will be saved. Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money; the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things; made Peter weep after his betrayal, and assured Paradise to the repentant thief. Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us, the words that You spoke to the Samaritan woman: "If you knew the gift of God!"

You are the visible face of the invisible Father, of the God who manifests His power above all by forgiveness and mercy: Let the Church be Your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified. You willed that your ministers would also be clothed in weakness in order that they may feel compassion for those in ignorance and error: Let everyone who approaches them feel sought after, loved and forgiven by God.

Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with His anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord, and Your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind.

We ask this of You, Lord Jesus, through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy; You who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit forever and ever.

Amen.



mercy include: counseling the doubtful, instructing the ignorant, admonishing sinners, comforting the afflicted, forgiving offenses, bearing wrongs patiently, and praying for the living and the dead.

"It goes to the heart of our understanding as people of faith that we are called to concrete actions in our lives to express the mercy of God," the bishop said. "As we receive God's mercy, so we're called to express it, both in the spiritual dimension and in helping people with their material needs."

The bishop said the works of mercy represent "a rich tradition" that "has fallen by the wayside in so many of our lives." The Year of Mercy, he said, provides the impetus to reexamine them.

The Church is currently awaiting an apostolic exhortation by Pope Francis. Based on discussions that took place at the recent synod on the family, Bishop McElroy said, the document is expected to deal with "the great theme of mercy."

When it is released this spring, he said, there will be a diocesan effort to integrate it "very robustly into the life of the Church" and in a manner that "will involve people at all levels of the diocese."

Beyond the corporal and spiritual works of mercy, he said, the release of the awaited apostolic exhortation will provide Catholics with additional ways to live out the jubilee year fully.

The Southern Cross

500-Mile Pilgrimage to California Missions Leads to Spiritual Reawakening

By Dan Meloy

DETROIT — While everyone is called to walk in the footsteps of the saints, Anthony Petz took things a little more literally.

The Detroit native and San Diego resident recently completed a 500-mile, 12-stop pilgrimage along the El Camino Real in California, touring the missionary outposts established by the recently canonized St. Junipero Serra.

Petz, who relocated to California in July 2014 for work, rediscovered his faith and its deep history in the rolling hills and trails of the state where the saint once walked.

"When I moved, I didn't have a strong grounding in my faith," Petz told *The Michigan Catholic*, the Detroit archdiocesan newspaper. "For whatever reason, from going to school or Mass, I was never really invested in my faith, things really didn't click."

"When I moved out to California, I found St. Brigid Parish in San Diego and met the people of the parish, and it brought to light how deep our faith is."

California's heritage traces to the missions established by Franciscan and Jesuit priests in the 18th century, when the area was part of New Spain and later Mexico. Surrounded by that his-

tory and aiming to rediscover his faith, Petz decided to start a pilgrimage to Mission San Antonio de Padua in Jolon, California, visiting as many missions as possible.

Petz started his trip at Mission San Diego, and hiked along the El Camino Real as much as possible in order to reach Mission San Antonio de Padua. The trail, which translates to "the king's highway," follows the path taken by priests and friars to visit the missions.

Petz made a point to stop and pray at each of the missions he visited, usually taking time to snap pictures or purchase a souvenir from the mission's gift shop.

The purpose of the trip was to visit the mission named after Petz's patron saint, St. Anthony of Padua, but instead he discovered something about the trip — and himself — that he didn't anticipate.

"There were a few instances where I really felt God was there



ANTHONY PETZ

with me, especially when I didn't want to continue," Petz said. "On the last day, I felt very humble to make it to Mission San Antonio de Padua — it was the real heart of the trip, but it was very anticlimactic."

"There were certain missions where I was blown away by the historical feel to it — certain missions I had a personal connection with. But San Antonio de Padua had no big revelation, no huge spiritual moment I was expecting. But then I stood back and realized, it's not about where you end up, but how you get there."

Petz has returned to work with renewed vigor, looking forward to what the Year of Mercy as declared by Pope Francis might entail. He considers the trip a great success, but has no plans for a future trip — for now.

"The trip was all about figuring out how I reach people, doing what Pope Francis wants me to do," Petz said. "We have to reach people, reflect on how we do that. The biggest takeaway: how to live my faith to the fullest and spread it. What it means to be a Catholic today and an evangelical Catholic, just like St. Junipero Serra, who walked this trail before me."

Catholic News Service

Briefs

Mercy Gives Hope for New Year

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The gift of mercy is a light that helps Christians reflect on the past year and radiates hope at the start of the new year, Pope Francis said. While retracing the events of 2015 may recall moments of both joy and sorrow, it also offers a moment to understand the presence of God who “renews and sustains with His help,” Pope Francis said during an evening prayer service in St. Peter’s Basilica on New Year’s Eve. Even though the year was marred by violence and the suffering of people fleeing for better living conditions, the pope said, there were also gestures of goodness, love and solidarity, even if they are not covered by the news.

Court Throws Out Conviction for Msgr. Lynn

PHILADELPHIA (CNS) — The landmark trial of Msgr. William Lynn, the first high-ranking American Catholic churchman convicted of a crime in connection with the clergy sexual abuse scandal, will play out again as

Pennsylvania Superior Court threw out his July 2012 conviction and ordered a new trial. The three-judge panel said in its 43-page split opinion Dec. 22 that Common Pleas Judge Teresa Sarmina, who presided over the original trial, erred by admitting evidence of sexual abuse of minors by priests of the Philadelphia Archdiocese in the years before Msgr. Lynn served as secretary for archdiocesan clergy from 1992 to 2004. Msgr. Lynn was convicted during the trial under the state’s child endangerment statute and sentenced to three to six years in prison.

March for Life Changes Venues This Year

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The annual March for Life, set for Jan. 22, will convene in a new location in the nation’s capital for the traditional midday rally. Because of the ongoing refurbishment of the National Mall and strict new regulations that require temporary flooring to protect the grass, the rally has been moved from the West Front of the Capitol to the Washington Monument grounds. Other than the venue, the event is expected to remain much the same. Held since 1974, the march marks the anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court’s *Roe v. Wade* decision in 1973, which legalized abortion.

A Work of Mercy



COURTESY OF ST. PATRICK SCHOOL

On Dec. 4, junior high students at St. Patrick School in Carlsbad, under the leadership of seventh-grade teacher Anne Kramer, packed and gift-wrapped nearly 100 shoeboxes filled with toiletries to be distributed by the Stella Maris Seafarer’s Center to foreign sailors who would be spending Christmas in San Diego Harbor.

The boxes were filled with personal-care items and a few treats, which were donated by the junior high, St. Pat’s Serra Club, and the school Military Outreach program. More than 22 junior high students and 10 parents participated in the packing and wrapping event.

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ADVERTISING & OFFICE COORDINATOR: Donna Lightsey

TELEPHONE: (858) 490-8266 FAX: (858) 490-8355 WEB SITE: www.thesoutherncross.org E-MAIL: Socross@diocese-sdiego.org BULLETIN BOARD: dgrasska@diocese-sdiego.org *The Southern Cross*

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A Cake Worthy of Kings

For Spaniards and some Latin Americans who grew up with it, the aromatic smell of the “roscon de reyes” is one of the most treasured of childhood food memories surrounding the Epiphany. The “roscon de reyes” cake makes its appearance on the tables of Spain and Mexico each Jan. 6, but it is popping up regularly these days at the homes of immigrants who now call the United States home.

The cake has simple ingredients for the most part. The dough is a mix of flour, eggs, yeast and milk, allowed to rise in the shape of a ring, leading to the name “rosca” or “roscon,” which

in Spanish describes an oval shape. Popular versions are decorated with candied fruits and sugar and glazed with an egg yolk to provide a shine. Some are cut in half and stuffed with chocolate or cream.

The “roscon” has a unique aroma well-known throughout Spain, and which likely comes from the orange flower blossom water used to prepare the dough, said Javier Romero, executive chef of Washington’s Taberna del Alabardero. These days, thanks to chefs such as Romero, you don’t have to travel far for the experience.

Catholic News Service

Reaching for the Stars

The fourth time proved to be the charm for a Catholic school project to send a satellite to space.

After three scrubbed launches, a CubeSat built by students at St. Thomas More Cathedral School in the Diocese of Arlington, Virginia, was finally launched into space Dec. 6, headed to the International Space Station. Astronauts at the station will deploy the satellite — a 4-cubic-inch package that weighs less than 3 pounds and is packed with a payload of scientific experiments — into orbit in late January.

On Dec. 3, hundreds of St. Thomas More students, parents and teachers filled a conference room at the Boeing Building in the Crystal City section of Arlington County to watch the launch on large TV monitors hanging on the walls. The screens showed the United Launch Alliance V 401 rocket ready to go, and students and parents were excited.

“It’s good for the school. It’s a once-in-a-lifetime thing,” parent Michelle Potter told the *Arlington Catholic Herald*, the diocesan newspaper.

But there was a problem — a problem not uncommon for launches. Liftoff was scheduled for 6:03 p.m. local time. But around 5 p.m., there was an announcement that the launch might not happen. Weather, especially strong winds, gave the launch only a 30-percent chance of happening.

There was a 30-minute window for any launch to occur, but at 6:25 p.m. the launch was scrubbed. They would try again the next evening. The Dec. 4 launch also was scrubbed because of weather. Ditto the next day’s attempt. Finally, at 4:44 p.m. Dec. 6, the rocket successfully took off from Cape Canaveral, Florida.

Catholic News Service

What Are You Reading?



COURTESY OF ANGELA BROSZ

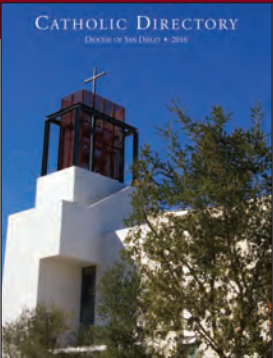
Angela Brosz is seen reading *The Southern Cross* three days before Christmas on a rainy day in San Francisco.

Send us a photo of you or your family posing with *The Southern Cross* during your travels, and you might be included in a future issue.

High-resolution photos accompanied by captions explaining who is in the photo, where the photo was taken and when it was taken can be e-mailed to dgrasska@sdccatholic.org.

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Consecrated to the Lord

The Year of Consecrated Life, announced by Pope Francis, began Nov. 30, 2014, and will conclude on Feb. 2, 2016.

To commemorate the Year of Consecrated Life, *The Southern Cross* has published photos and information provided by the various communities of men and women religious who are present and active in the Diocese of San Diego.

The following is the final installment of that series.

Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM)

Louis Florent Gillet, CSSR, and Theresa Maxis, a former member of the Oblate Sisters of Providence in Baltimore, founded the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary on Nov. 10, 1845, in Monroe, Mich.

Urged by the love of God, the sisters choose to work with others to build a culture of peace and right relationship among themselves, with the Church and the whole world. The community is committed to bringing about the dream of God through respect for, the nurturing of, and promoting liberation and well-being of all persons and of all of nature as God's good creation. Urged by the love of God to respond to the most serious needs of our time, they pursue justice, peace and sustainable ways of life.

The community of more than 375 vowed sisters and 125 associates minister in education, pastoral care, spiritual development, social services, mental and

physical health care, and social justice throughout the United States, Canada, Puerto Rico, Mexico and Sudan. From their earliest and continued ministries in education to their growing commitment to sustainability, they adapt their ministries to changing times.

In San Diego, members of the congregation have served at Our Mother of Confidence Parish and at the University of San Diego.

Sisters of St. Louis (SSL)

The Institute of the Sisters of St. Louis (SSL) was founded in France in 1842. Its founder, Abbe Louis Marie Eugene Bautain, was guided by Christ's dream, "Ut Sint Unum" ["May they be one"]. Abbe Bautain's vision of one world, healed, unified and transformed, continues to inspire all the sisters today.

As women of prayer, faithful to the vision of their founder, the sisters dedicate themselves to bringing about unity and healing in a broken world. They live God's love for the whole of creation as they respond to the needs of the contemporary world.

Over the years, the sisters' ministries have evolved. While still in many areas of education, they have also expanded to education in a broader sense. Some of the sisters work with immigrant populations, helping them with literacy, citizenship processes, skills for life and religious instruction. Some work to combat the trafficking of women and children, staffing and coordinating safe houses, and providing education and awareness.

Some work with women trying to make a life for themselves after years of incarceration. Some companion people on their spiritual journeys. They provide tutoring for those who are struggling, counseling for those who are seeking, comfort for those who are grieving. And there are also many sisters whose ministry at this stage is prayer and presence.

Sister Breege Boyle, the last Sister of St. Louis living and working in the Diocese of San Diego, recently retired after 15 years as associate director of the diocesan Office for Schools. She also has been an advocate and support for Mary's Guest House in Chula Vista as they minister to women in need.

Sisters of Providence of St. Mary-of-the-Woods, Ind. (SP)

The Sisters of Providence of St. Mary-of-the-Woods, Ind., are a congregation of Catholic women religious who minister throughout the United States, in Taiwan and China. St. Mother Theodore Guerin founded the Sisters of Providence in 1840. The congregation has a mission of being God's providence in the world by committing to performing works of love, mercy and justice in service among God's people wherever the need is greatest.

Where once their ministry focused exclusively on education, today the sisters teach or serve in school administration and work in diocesan administration, social services, counseling and health care as nurses, physicians' assistants and hospital chaplains. A focused ministry for the congregation is ecology with its White Violet Center for Eco-Justice, which exists to foster a way of living that recognizes the interdependence of all creation.

After an extraordinary journey from France in 1840, St. Mother Theodore arrived in the dense forest of Indiana, where she established a motherhouse and novitiate and a school for young women and girls. Today, that school in the wilderness has flourished for 175 years as St. Mary-of-the-Woods College. St. Mother Theodore was canonized a saint in Rome in October 2006, becoming the eighth American saint. She remains a woman for our times who inspires people today with her faith, love and courage.

St. Mother Theodore continues to be a mentor for people because she was a business woman, a pharmacist, an educator, a leader and a strong, faith-filled woman. Today, her spiritual daughters continue her legacy with ministry to women caught in human trafficking, those struggling in immigration or in prison, and families caught in poverty. Her feast day is celebrated Oct. 3.

The Sisters of Providence came to the state of California in the 1920s and staffed schools in the dioceses of Los Angeles, San Francisco and later Orange. Today, Sister Jeanette Lucinio is the only member of the congregation ever to serve in the Diocese of San Diego. She has been director of the diocesan Office for Women Religious for nine years.

The Daughters of Divine Charity (FDC)

Founded in 1868 in Vienna, Austria, by the Servant of God Mother Franziska Lechner, the Daughters of Divine Charity's charism is to make God's love visible in the world.

They first came to North America in

Retreat Center

Ash Wednesday Mini-Retreat: Mary the Sorrowful Mother of Jesus

Feb. 10, 8:30am – 3pm

With Fr. Michael Dallmeir, OFM, celebrant and Pat Julian, presenter

Mary's 'yes' included the birth of Jesus His life, passion and death. Today we will spend time with her at the Old Mission San Luis Rey. We will enter into her experience and remember her sorrows as she watched people distort Jesus' message of radical love, mercy and forgiveness. Fee per person: \$25 light lunch included.

The Gospel of Luke

With Fr. Michael Guinan, OFM

Wednesdays, 9:15-11:45am: Feb. 3-March 16 (No class on Feb. 10th, Ash Wednesday)

Luke is the gospel of the Sunday Lectionary for this year. The great Italian poet, Dante, called Luke the "scribe of the gentleness of Jesus," and it truly contains many of the most beloved stories in the New Testament.

Who should come? People of all Christian Faiths seeking a Scripture Class that:

- Feeds the fire of love for the Word of God that cannot be extinguished
- Illustrates a scholarly approach to study of the Word
- Provides a deeper understanding of the Book of Luke

This course can be transferred for credit toward the Certificate from the San Diego Diocesan Institute; it can also meet renewal credit hours (15) for catechists and teachers in the Diocese.

Fee per person: \$90 for 6 all classes

**For more information call
the Retreat Office (760) 757-3659
or visit www.sanluisrey.org**

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1913 and began their ministry in the Diocese of San Diego in 1947. Founding Bishop Charles F. Buddy requested sisters to staff schools that had grown significantly in population, including St. Charles Academy. Based on their efforts at St. Charles, Bishop Buddy requested more sisters to staff other schools in the diocese. The province was able to grant his request to teach at St. Joseph Parish in Fontana, a city in the northernmost region of the diocese at that time. St. Joseph Academy was started in 1948 with additional sisters who came from the east to the missions of California.

In the late 1950s, the sisters from St. Charles traveled to do catechetical work at St. Therese, a new parish that was being built on chaparral-covered hillsides amongst newly constructed neighborhoods in the San Carlos and Allied Gardens sections of the city. The parish built a school and convent and the Daughters of Divine Charity began those ministries at St. Therese Parish and Academy which continue to this day.

The Daughters of Divine Charity accepted ministry in Resurrection Parish in Fontana and taught in the academy there from 1962 until 1975.

Good Shepherd Parish in Mira Mesa was established in 1970. The Daughters of Divine Charity were there from the start doing catechetical ministry. In subsequent years, they did youth ministry and RCIA.

Daughters of Divine Charity also taught at Aquinas High School in San Bernardino and did pastoral and catechetical ministry at St. Elizabeth Seton Parish in Carlsbad.

At present, Daughters of Divine Charity Sisters Janet Marich and Maria Olivete Alcântara Brandão serve at St. Therese Parish in the academy, in catechetical ministry and in pastoral ministry. They facilitate a prayer group in the convent and visit the sick and homebound.

The Southern Cross



SISTER BREEGE BOYLE, SSL



SISTER JEANETTE LUCINIO, SP



SISTER ANGELA MERAM, IHM



SISTER MARIA OLIVETE
ALCÂNTARA BRANDÃO, FDC



SISTER JANET MARICH, FDC

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Father Joe's Villages

WYD 2016

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PREP IN SAN DIEGO**

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13541 Stoney Creek Rd, San Diego
Dates: 3rd Wednesday, January-April, 7:30-8:30pm

More info: www.AbbaFatherInstitute.org/WYD-2016-San-Diego

► BRENNAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

She joined the CRS staff in 2004

She joined the CRS staff in 2004, first working in the media department of the South Asia Bureau in New Delhi, India, dealing with such issues as education for girls and women, human trafficking and tsunami disaster relief. She has been in her current job for two years.

In the course of her work with CRS, Brennan has traveled to such places as the Central African Republic, Ukraine, the Gaza Strip and Nepal. Because of the magnitude of the Syrian refugee crisis, which began in 2011, it has occupied much of her time since 2012. She has met and interviewed many Syrian refugees in settlements in Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey.

"It's just deadly inside Syria, which is why we're finding people coming up on the shores of Europe," Brennan said. "Life is essentially paralyzed in many parts of Syria."

She said that about 11 million people have been uprooted by the violence in Syria — 7 million internally displaced and another 4 million who have fled to neighboring countries. Meanwhile, she said, refugee camps only have the capacity to shelter about 30 percent of the total number of refugees.

CRS is focusing its efforts on assisting the most vulnerable members of the refugee population, those who are living outside of the camps in urban areas in the countries bordering Syria.

Media images of the Syrian conflict often include "bombed-out buildings" and "men with guns," Brennan said, but her experience

among the refugees has given her a different perspective.

Brennan told *The Southern Cross* about her encounter with a woman named Zahaya in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley. Zahaya had fled her Syrian homeland two weeks earlier and was living with her husband and son in a makeshift tent outside the refugee camps, in an area where migrant workers live.

As Brennan interviewed her, Zahaya spoke of the ordeal her family had experienced in their flight from Syria. Her family had been turned away at the border three times because they did not have the necessary papers. Asked by border guards for proof that her son was in fact her child, Zahaya did not have a birth certificate or photo to produce because it had all been lost when her house was destroyed.

"She said, 'It's so humiliating,'" Brennan recalled, "and 'humiliation' was the first word I learned in Arabic."

For people like Zahaya, the greatest loss is the loss of identity, the loss of the people they once were and the lives they once lived, Brennan said. They feel the need to explain that they didn't always live like this, that they once had a nice middle-class home with a garden, she said. The fact that they no longer have any tangible evidence of that former life in the form of photos causes them distress.

Brennan said, "It's so important for people to know that you see them as they see themselves and that the madness swirling around them doesn't define them."

As Brennan and Zahaya stepped out of the tent after their meeting, Zahaya spotted a yellow flower sprouting from the ground. She ran to it, plucked it and explained that this was one of the types of flowers that grew in her garden in Syria. Handing the flower to Brennan,

'Fair Trade School'



PAMELA BARCLAY

St. Martin of Tours Academy in La Mesa has been officially designated a "Fair Trade School" as part of a national initiative by Fair Trade Campaigns to engage K-12 students in issues of global poverty. Fair trade is an economic system that ensures consumers that the products they buy were grown, harvested, crafted and traded in ways that improve lives and protect the environment.

Fair Trade Campaigns officially recognizes U.S. schools that are committed to educating students about the issues of fair trade and sourcing fair trade products. The St. Martin of Tours Academy Fair Trade Campaign, one of more than 200 active campaigns nationwide, was created to build the awareness and availability of fair trade in the school community. Ongoing fair trade education and promotion is a priority, and fair trade curriculum and fundraisers are incorporated each year.

Pictured is the fifth-grade class with the Fair Trade Committee (Anne Pacheco, Toni Dimuzio, Nan Soto, Tracy Giordano, Isabella Giordano, Zachary Crockett, Alicia Crockett, Presley McMahon, Cory McMahon and Diane Hartley).

For more information, visit www.FairTradeCampaigns.org.

Zahaya thanked her for treating her with such dignity and said, "Please remember me. Please remember what it means to be Syrian."

Brennan told *The Southern Cross* that she still has the stem of that flower and hopes to see Zahaya again someday.

Of her work in the humanitarian field, Brennan said it makes her feel "grateful" for what she has, "responsible" for sharing the sto-

ries she has heard, but also "very hopeful" because "you see the best of humanity in these kind of worst circumstances."

"People are so hopeful in these backdrops, when they've lost everything," Brennan said. "It's in our DNA to be hopeful. So, if someone like Zahaya is hopeful in a tent with nothing ... who am I not to be hopeful?"

The Southern Cross

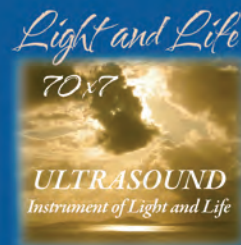
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Briefs

Jan. 22 Is a Day of Prayer, Penance

WASHINGTON — For Catholics in the United States, Jan. 22 is a day of penance and prayer in commemoration of the *Roe v. Wade* decision issued by the U.S. Supreme Court on that date in 1973. The 7-2 court decision established a constitutional right to abortion. The *General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, no. 373, states: "In all the dioceses of the United States of America, Jan. 22 ... shall be observed as a particular day of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion, and of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life."

Banquet Benefits Trafficking Victims

SAN DIEGO — Children of the Immaculate Heart, which was founded to serve survivors of human trafficking, will hold its third annual dinner/gala on Friday, Feb. 5, at Our Mother of Confidence Parish. Father Ed Benioff, vicar of new evangelization for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and pastor of Good Shepherd Parish in Beverly Hills, will celebrate Mass at 5:30 p.m. with Father Paul Check, executive director of Courage International, serving as homilist. Following the Mass, doors open for a social hour at 6:15 p.m., with the banquet beginning at 7 p.m. Father Check will deliver the keynote address; Grace Williams, founder and executive director of Children of the Immaculate Heart, will speak about the apostolate; and Chris Check, president of Catholic Answers, will serve as master of ceremonies. There is no charge to attend, but donations will be accepted at the event. A silent auction will be held to raise funds for a residential treatment center for female minors. *RSVP by Friday, Jan. 29, to camillemica.cih@gmail.com or (281) 832-5369.*

Biblical Studies Conference Coming to San Diego

SAN DIEGO — The 13th Annual West Coast Biblical Studies Conference will be



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hosted at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish in San Diego on Jan. 29-30. Featuring Scott Hahn, John Bergsma, Michael Barber and John Kincaid, the conference will focus on "The Bible, the Family, and the New Evangelization." *Registration is \$50 at www.jpccatholic.com. Space is limited.*

Anglicans, Catholics to Gather for Dialogue

SAN DIEGO — The Anglican/Roman Catholic "Day of Dialogue" will take place on Saturday, Jan. 23, at St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral. This year's topic is "The Call and the Journey: The Invitation to Christ." The presenters will be Chris O'Donnell, director of catechetical ministry at San Rafael Catholic Church, and Rev. Simon Mainwaring, rector of St. Andrew's by the Sea Episcopal Church. The day will begin with Morning Prayer at 9:30 a.m. and conclude with lunch at noon. The cost is \$25 per person. *Registration will begin at 9 a.m. and may be taken at the door or sent with name, address, phone number, e-mail address and a \$25 check to: Msgr. Dennis Mikulanis, 17252 Bernardo Center Dr., San Diego, CA 92128.*

Gala to Support Catholic Education

ESCONDIDO — St. Mary School in Escondido will hold its annual gala on Saturday, Feb. 6, at the California Center for the Arts, Escondido. The theme is "Opening Day at the Races!" The event will feature music, food, and silent and live auctions, as well as the opportunity to meet this year's guests of honor: Emmy Award-winning news anchor Kimberly Hunt and her husband, former Charger and current sports radio host Billy Ray Smith. Proceeds from the gala will benefit "the Four T's" — teachers, tools, training and technology — at St. Mary School. *For more information or to make a donation, call (760) 504-9169 or e-mail Gala@stmesc.org.*

'BeYOUtiful'



COURTESY OF THE ACADEMY OF OUR LADY OF PEACE

The Academy of Our Lady of Peace held its second annual BeYOUTiful Conference Dec. 12.

More than 200 middle school girls from more than 50 public and private schools throughout San Diego were invited to the OLP campus to learn about the importance of building and maintaining self-confidence. The girls joined current OLP students for a morning of workshops focused on boosting self-confidence and learning how to be a leader among their peers. The day also featured a presentation by guest speaker Jess Hopkins, a twice-certified life coach, on how to create positive self-esteem.

The BeYOUTiful Project is an initiative created by students at OLP in an effort to empower younger girls to rise to their full potential. Through group mentoring and activity workshops, the BeYOUTiful Project serves to empower young women, providing them with the tools and motivation necessary to live confidently through their own beauty.

"As the only all-girls school in San Diego County, OLP educates the next generation of women leaders and innovators each day," said Head of School Lauren Lek. "These young women have taken the opportunity to welcome a younger generation of girls to campus to boost self-confidence. In just one morning together, the day energizes the entire group of attendees, creating a ripple effect in our larger community."

More than 75 OLP students from all grade levels spent months planning for the conference and also participated in the event as activity leaders, group leaders, and production team leaders.

The day's workshop stations included: assembling a magazine collage to raise awareness about defeating negativity, creating a bill of rights to acknowledge priorities, taking photos using positive hashtags, encouraging self-expression through "Just Dance," and making beaded keychains to highlight positive qualities. In addition to the stations, guest speaker Hopkins coached participants on the importance of recognizing self-worth and using it as a tool to embrace the beauty within each of them.

Opening Mass
Friday 7:00 pm

***It is not necessary to be registered in order to attend the opening Mass.*



Archbishop Julian Charles Porteous of Hobart, Australia will celebrate the opening Mass.

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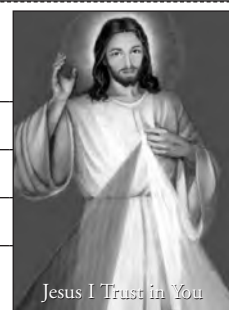
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Jesus I Trust in You

Bishop Emeritus to Preside at Goretti Mass

SAN DIEGO — An evening celebrating purity and chastity is held on the first Friday of each month at Our Lady of the Rosary Church. The St. Maria Goretti Mass is preceded by confession and adoration, and is followed by a speaker and fellowship. The evening begins at 5:30 p.m., with Mass at 6:30 p.m., and concludes at 8:30 p.m. Bishop Robert H. Brom, bishop emeritus of San Diego, will celebrate the Mass on Friday, Feb. 5. After the 6:30 p.m. Mass, there will be veneration of a first-class relic of St. Maria Goretti (7:30 p.m.), dinner and fellowship in the hall (7:40 p.m.), a talk by Bishop Brom on "Lent, Year of Mercy and Chastity" (8 p.m.), a Q-and-A with Bishop Brom (8:45 p.m.) and a rosary procession around the downtown area (9:15 p.m.).

Elizabeth Hospice Hosting Volunteer Training

ESCONDIDO — The Elizabeth Hospice will host its next volunteer training on Saturdays, Feb. 13, 20, 27, from 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., at The Elizabeth Hospice administrative building located at 500 La Terraza Blvd., Suite 130, Escondido. Volunteer training is free and open to the public and participants must attend all three days. Bilingual (Spanish-speaking) volunteers and veterans are needed, along with licensed massage therapists and people who can sew for the hospice's Cuddle Bear program. Other needs include volunteers who can assist with complementary therapies such as pet therapy and music support. Volunteer opportunities exist throughout San Diego County and the Inland Empire and volunteers can choose to serve in the surrounding area where they reside. Professional staff at The Elizabeth Hospice teach the comprehensive training classes, addressing issues such as the volunteer role in hospice care, working with nonverbal patients, cultural diversity, complementary therapies and active listening. *To ensure a place in the volunteer training, contact the Volunteer Department at (800) 797-2050 by Monday, Feb. 8. Another volunteer training will be offered in May 2016.*

Evangelization Group Takes to the Streets

SAN DIEGO — St. Paul Street Evangelization is a grassroots, nonprofit organization dedicated to responding to the mandate of Jesus to preach the Gospel to all nations by taking the Catholic faith to the streets. The organization, which does this in a non-confrontational way, sees itself as responding to Christ's call to evangelize. This mandate, the group says, was reiterated by the Second Vatican Council, which urged all the baptized to bring the Gospel to a culture that has largely reverted to paganism. As an on-the-street Catholic evangelization organization, St. Paul Street Evangelization provides an avenue for Catholics to share the person of Jesus Christ and the truth and beauty of the Catholic faith with the culture. *For more information, visit www.StreetEvangelization.com, or contact (619) 515-3267 or scb@procopio.com.*

Spiritual Exercises Offered for Men, Women

SAN DIEGO — Silent Ignatian Retreats preached by the priests of Miles Christi will be offered for both women and men. Retreats for women will take place Jan. 22-24 and Feb. 19-21 in Temecula, as well as March 23-27 (Holy Week) in Rancho Palos Verdes. Men will be able to attend a retreat Feb. 26-28 or March 23-27 (Holy Week) in Oceanside. Each retreat includes spiritual talks, Eucharistic adoration and daily Mass. *For information about the men's Exercises, contact californiamen@spiritualexercises.net or (661) 284-5970; for the women's Exercises, contact california@spiritualexercises.net or (858) 263-5113.*

Fellows Programs Applications Available

SACRAMENTO — Applications for the nationally recognized Capital Fellows Programs administered by the Center for California Studies at California State University, Sacramento, are currently available. These fellowships offer the opportunity to work for 10-11 months as a full-time paid staff member in the California State Assembly, California State Senate, California Executive Branch or the California Judiciary. Fellows participate in policymak-

Ready to Walk?



The fourth annual San Diego Walk for Life (www.sandiegowalkforlife.org) will take place on Saturday, Jan. 23, in Balboa Park.

ing, program development and implementation and gain firsthand experience in governance and leadership. Prospective Capital Fellows must have a bachelor's degree (in any major) by Sept. 1, 2016, and a demonstrated interest in state government and public service. Applicants may apply to one or more of the programs that meet their interests and qualifications. Recent graduates, graduate, postgraduate and mid-career applicants are welcome to apply. The application deadline for all four fellowships is Monday, Feb. 8. *For more information, visit www.csus.edu/calst/programs, call (916) 278-6906 or e-mail calstudies@csus.edu.*

Encinitas Parish to Host Documentary Screening

ENCINITAS — A free screening of "The Blood and the Rose," an award-winning, feature-length documentary on the apparitions of Our Lady of Guadalupe, will be presented at 6 p.m., Jan. 29, in the church hall at St. John the Evangelist Parish in Encinitas. Event organizers say the film is not suitable for young children. Refreshments will be served. *For more information, visit www.thegorettigroup.org or call (619) 702-7009.*

Prague, Divine Mercy & Medjugorje or Pilgrimage to Italy w/Bishop Blaire

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Catholic Schools: An Education in Francis' Mercy

By John Galvan

"Mercy is the force that reawakens us to new life and instills in us the courage to look to the future with hope" ("Misericordiae Vultus," 10).

To each of us who have been forever impacted by the extraordinary power of Catholic schools, this excerpt from Pope Francis' Bull of Indiction of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy is resoundingly familiar. We know what this "future with hope" means firsthand. As we celebrate Catholic Schools Week (Jan. 31-Feb. 6, 2016) in this Jubilee Year of Mercy (Dec. 8, 2015-Nov. 20, 2016), there is a poignant crossroad where our popular pope's challenge to be merciful meets beautifully with what has always been our Catholic school mission.

At a recent leadership meeting with our Catholic elementary school principals, a "think-mapping" exercise uncovered a direct answer to an important question: What do you see unfailingly as the value added to a Catholic school education? What our principals shared is consistent with research on a national level, and their insights create a compelling case for Catholic schools. Their top-10 list offers a true marker of our achievement:

1) Catholic schools lead students to the person of Jesus Christ. Research shows that Catholic school students are more likely to pray daily, attend church more often into their young adulthood, retain a Catholic identity as an adult, and donate more to the Church. This is especially true for the mil-

lennial generation (born after 1982) where individuals are nearly eight times more likely to attend Mass one or more times per week than those adults who did not attend a Catholic school.

2) Catholic schools graduate 99 percent of their high school students on time. Some 85.7 percent of these Catholic school graduates attend four-year colleges and universities, compared to 62.1 percent from other religious schools, 56.1 percent from other private schools, and 39.5 percent from public schools.

3) Catholic schools not only generate extraordinarily high graduation rates at the high school level for Latino/Hispanic and African-American students, but these same students demonstrate higher academic achievement than students from similar backgrounds in public schools, and they are more likely to graduate from college than their public school peers. In California, a Latino/Hispanic or African-American student is 42 percent more likely to graduate from high school and 2.5 times more likely to graduate from college if he or she attends a Catholic school. The more economically disadvantaged and more at-risk a student, the greater the relative achievement gains in Catholic schools.

4) Catholic schools develop critical thinking and analytical skills in students, where morals and values are taught and reinforced. In addition to acquiring meaningful 21st-cen-

tury learning skills, a Catholic student's self-understanding as a responsible member of a communal body is paramount to the ethos of Catholic education. With the National Catholic Education Association (NCEA) Convention & Expo coming to San Diego this March, our Catholic school teachers will further their professional development to guide our students deeper into these same relevant and globally competitive skills.

5) Catholic schools prepare students for both "Heaven and Harvard." To be clear, Catholic education is about "Catholic" education. The mission of Catholic schools has always been the mission of the Church in the broader sense of the term, that is to say, with a primary focus on educating and forming Catholic leaders, both formal and informal, for the Church and for society.

6) Catholic schools promote and produce more vocations. Women who have attended a Catholic primary school are three times more likely than those who did not to consider entering religious life. Men who have attended a Catholic secondary school are more than six times as likely to consider a vocation as those who did not.

7) Catholic schools promote Christian community. A faith-based orientation builds coherence and integration within school community. Catholic schools embody a positive, affirming school culture that is centered in a religious and values-based mission shared by all of the stakeholders, thus creating a very

real sense of community and family. The Sacred Congregation for Catholic Education affirms, "Society can take note from the Catholic school that it is possible to create true communities out of a common effort for the common good."

8) Catholic schools provide students with the opportunity to develop and exercise leadership at every level and in every community from their Local Church, neighborhood, school, and place of employment to positions of prominence and influence in business, industry, science, the arts, education, medicine, government, jurisprudence, and entertainment. Particularly for girls, Catholic school culture permeates and shapes students' leadership actions, dialogue, and their perceived opportunities to learn about and practice leadership.

9) Catholic schools in the State of California educate more than 200,000 students in grades K-12 each year, saving the state more than \$2 billion in educational costs annually. On a national scale, Catholic schools save American taxpayers more than \$24 billion each year.

But back to mercy. Here is where the crossroad of our Jubilee Year and Catholic schools meets most profoundly:

10) Catholic school students in San Diego and Imperial counties respectively give more than 100,000 hours of varying forms of service annually to our local, regional, national

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and international communities, based on the minimum service requirements of our schools. Knowing that a vast number of our students go above and beyond the mere “requirement,” Christ’s kingdom of justice, love and peace is alive and well in our schools. As adults, studies show that these same students tend to be more civically engaged, more tolerant for diverse views, and more committed to service well into their lives.

Yes, our Catholic school students are our “future with hope,” even as they are making an impact today. Catholic schools are precisely where “mercy” has always been taught and lived, but what can we attribute to this success? An integral piece of the Catholic school mission is to educate the whole person, and the whole person is inextricably linked to other persons. Once again, Pope Francis states perfectly, if not poetically, the intended outcome of our Catholic school purpose:

“School [is] a journey that enables you to learn three languages that a mature person should know how to express: the language of the mind, the language of the heart and the language of the hands. Harmoniously though, that is, to think what you feel and what you do; to feel deeply what you think and what you do; and to do well what you think and what you feel. Three languages, together in harmony!”

We invite you to celebrate, visit and rediscover the Catholic schools of San Diego and Imperial counties.

The Southern Cross

John Galvan is director of the diocesan Office for Schools.



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EVANGELY AND GERRIT WARD

► SHOP

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Fair trade is about empowerment, not charity

culture, most people have no idea where their stuff comes from. Sometimes, if they did, they wouldn't be so happy about the purchase."

Doing good by purchasing fair trade does not place a substantial financial burden on the consumer either, Gerrit said, noting that fair trade certified items often do not cost much more than non-fair-trade alternatives, and sometimes cost the same or less.

"Every item here has a story," said Evangely, who revealed that she has had customers reduced to tears and ask to hug her after hearing stories about some of the items on sale at the shop.

"We get excited about sharing," she said of herself and Gerrit. "Even if people don't buy ... I love sharing and, with my ministry background" — she currently works at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Barrio Logan

and for the pro-life organization Life Perspectives — "it allows me the opportunity to say, 'Hey, do you know who made this? Do you know you're helping them?'"

Evangely and Gerrit believe that, even now, five years in, they are still creating a market for fair trade products in San Diego. But, as she continues to spread the fair trade message, Evangely is convinced that supporting it is a no-brainer.

"Why should people buy fair trade?" she asked rhetorically. "Because we all need to ensure that artisans and farmers are being treated justly, that they have opportunities."

"It's not charity to buy fair trade," she added. "You're not giving them a donation [that is] only going to last so long and it's gone. You're empowering them, you're giving them that opportunity for self-sustainability."

Around the World Gifts is located at 2627 Congress St. in San Diego. The Wards are currently seeking volunteers who can assist in the gift shop or with marketing. For more information about the shop or volunteer opportunities, call (619) 302-8849 or e-mail evangely@atwgifts.com.

The Southern Cross

Petition Drive



Good Shepherd Parish in Mira Mesa was one of many parishes in the Diocese of San Diego that participated in gathering signatures to qualify an initiative that would have overturned AB2X15, the bill allowing assisted suicide in California.

There were more than 1,000 signatures gathered at Good Shepherd over two weekends with assistance from the Knights of Columbus, the Culture of Life Group, and additional volunteers. Pictured (from left) are Good Shepherd signature-gatherers Pacifico Jun Deynata, Reynaldo Abrenica, Carlos Bituin, Virginia Abrenica, Victor Veneracion, Patti Larsen, Rick Larsen, Arnelio Gallardo, Pete Porter and Renato Del Rosario.

It is estimated that just under 17,000 signatures were gathered in parishes throughout the Diocese of San Diego. Bishop Robert W. McElroy has expressed sincere gratitude for the efforts of the many parish-based volunteers who worked to overturn the "End of Life Option Act," which legalized suicide in California. The bishop was pleased with the number of signatures gathered in our diocese.

On Jan. 7, it was determined that the total number of raw signatures gathered throughout California, approximately 300,000, fell short of the 500,000 raw signatures needed to qualify the initiative. Dr. Mark Hoffman, the proponent of the referendum, stated, "It does not appear that we will have sufficient signatures. We had a very narrow window of time to gather the required number of petitions. However, even if we have failed to qualify the referendum for the next general election ballot [November 2016], our work to oppose this law will not be over. We will explore other options, including legal action to protect vulnerable seniors, the infirm and the disabled from being pressured to end their lives prematurely because others consider them to be a burden or might benefit financially from their death. We believe that every life is valuable and is entitled to protection."

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

New church is 'one more milestone' for parish

serious illness, she said, church members brought soup to her house.

Parishioners were afraid that they would lose those close friendships when they moved into the parish hall. In fact, the opposite occurred. The congregation grew, from fewer than 100 members when the parish was established to about 580 when they gathered at the mall to several thousand today.

"We have always been a welcoming community," said Parks, who served on the church's Interior Design Team, which worked for more than 10 years to develop a vision for the main hall. The team, in collaboration with a consultant, hired renowned artists to design works of liturgical art specific to the space.

"There is such warmth and joy here," concurred Phil Goscienski, who with his wife Pat co-chaired that team.

One of the guiding principles of the design team was transparency.

Parks cited the sex abuse scandal that had rocked the Catholic Church years earlier.

"We wanted people to see how we really are," she said. "We are not hiding anything. We wanted windows open so people could look in and come in."

Zecchetto, the architect, said most important to him was to create a place where fellowship could blossom.

"How do you do that?" he asked. "I wanted to achieve two things: The human connection and the exaltation of the divine."

"The human part comes together in a kind of basket under wooden skies where people can gather and the divine is the light."

He also wanted his design to reflect "a certain humbleness and honesty about the times."

The humbleness comes from using basic building elements, such as concrete and travertine, instead of costly, traditional materials. He also wanted to foster a sense of community by making the church, Daily Chapel and Memorial Garden welcoming gathering spaces.

All told, he worked for about 25 years on St. Thomas More, under different pastors, with different goals, and in a different site. Having sufficient funds was always a challenge, he said, "so we started with the parish hall."

The build-out journey took about 10 years. It was a complicated process guided by Father Ratajczak and supported by parish member Brian Leahy, the director of construction; Chris Smith, the director of Stewardship and Development; and the Building Construction and Interior Design teams.

"When I started I was a young man, and look at me now," the architect joked, then reflected on the milestone.

"To get a building of this quality is so unlikely," he said. "But things fell into place. ... I'm happy that this fantastic group came together. The artists, the contractors, the priests, the demands, the discussions, the organizing — all of that worked out. Many times it does not."

The church was constructed during a two-year period by San Diego-based T.B. Penick & Sons, Inc. The church and a new building that will house parish offices, to be built by the end of 2016, will cost an estimated \$13.5 million, Father Ratajczak said.



NEW CHURCH: A wooden "Tower of Light" tops the newly dedicated St. Thomas More Church in Oceanside.

Those funds were raised in a capital campaign that began 10 years ago.

Some artwork for the church is to be completed in the coming months, and some landscaping has yet to be installed in the adjacent Memorial Garden.

At the conclusion of the dedication Mass, Father Ratajczak mixed caution with joy.

"We need to remember that this grand accomplishment is not an end in itself, but it is a means to an end."

"This magnificent building is meant to

help us better worship our God and to strengthen us in our efforts as we reach out in loving service, in the name of Jesus, to the world around us.

"If we fail to do this, we have built to no avail! The building, as beautiful as it is, becomes meaningless."

"So, yes, we have arrived, not in a sense of completion, but as one more milestone along our faith journey as St. Thomas More Catholic Church."

The Southern Cross

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► **BENEDICTUS**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Past guest speakers include Philip Rivers

personal testimony delivered by a guest speaker, who is invited to reflect on — as Emerson puts it — “where they were before they met Christ, what it was like when they met Christ, and what they’re doing with that now.”

Guest speakers have included such notables as San Diego Chargers quarterback Philip Rivers, former San Diego Padres pitcher Trevor Hoffman, former Major League first baseman Mike Sweeney, and the late Bishop Cirilo Flores.

Emerson said that, on average, about 75 to 100 men attend the typical breakfast, though there were about 125 when Bishop Flores spoke and almost 685 when Rivers

shared his testimony.

“Men need that,” Emerson said of what Benedictus offers. “They’re starving out there and I really find that Benedictus is, in a small way, feeding the men.”

At times, Emerson said, men show up at a Benedictus breakfast with a look on their faces that suggests they might rather be playing golf or finishing some project around the house. But, by the end of the breakfast, that changes.

“I try to stand at the door and say good-bye to each and every man,” he said, “and you can just see they’re on fire.”

It is rarely the same group of men who attends each breakfast, said Emerson, and there is no official membership roster. He feels that men appreciate not having to sign up for anything, but knowing that they can “just show up, and share a meal, and share a good time.”

Benedictus was founded in 1994 by the late Deacon Ken Finn and his wife, Marie. Its first prayer breakfast was held on Dec. 3, 1994.



MEN'S MINISTRY: *Benedictus' board of directors is seen praying over guest speaker Father Lauro Minimo.*

In the beginning, Benedictus breakfasts were held at a succession of local restaurants. But, as one of his first changes upon taking over as president about a year and a half ago, Emerson decided to relocate the events to a parish. They moved first to the church hall at Resurrection Parish in Escondido and, about a year later, to their current location — the Holy Family Center at St. Michael Parish in Poway.

Another of Emerson's changes was to begin promoting Benedictus as not only “a ministry to Catholic men,” but also for “fathers and sons.” Bringing fathers and sons together in a Christian setting allows them to catch up on each other's lives, he said, and as a result they are “reintroduced” to one another.

The outreach to “fathers and sons” is part of a larger effort to attract younger men to Benedictus breakfasts. Emerson has reached out to John Paul the Great Catholic University and the diocesan Office for Young Adult Ministry as part of this initiative, and he invited an 18-year-old as guest speaker at a recent breakfast.

“I think it's really important for guys to hear what other men are going through, even young guys,” Emerson said, adding, “I don't want it to be an older guys' ministry.”

When the Finns founded Benedictus, they took inspiration from the women's ministry Magnificat, which also holds quarterly prayer meals. At the time of Benedictus' founding, Deacon Finn was serving as spiritual director for the North County San Diego chapter of Magnificat,

and his wife was its coordinator.

Just as Magnificat is named after Mary's song of thanksgiving during her visit to her cousin Elizabeth, Benedictus takes its name from Zechariah's expression of thanks at the circumcision of his son, St. John the Baptist.

But unlike Magnificat, which has grown into an international ministry since its founding in 1981 in the Archdiocese of New Orleans, Benedictus has remained San Diego-based so far. Emerson would like to see that change.

“My idea is to spread this nationally,” he said. “There's no reason why not.”

His goal is to have at least three chapters in San Diego, each of which would hold three breakfasts of their own each year and then come together for an annual diocesan-wide breakfast with members of all three chapters. He eventually hopes to expand even further to Orange and Riverside counties and beyond.

In the meantime, he is hoping to find more men to serve as parish representatives for Benedictus.

“I really have a passion for this ministry because I think it's so important,” Emerson said. “It just asks them to come and share a meal. We're not ... selling anything; there's not anything that they have to do when they leave, the next day or anything like that. We just try to fill them up with the Spirit.”

For more information, visit www.benedictus-sd.org or contact Emerson at (760) 703-9407.

The Southern Cross

Praise and Worship

More than 80 catechetical leaders, representing 38 parish communities throughout the diocese, gathered at the diocesan Pastoral Center Dec. 3 for a Bilingual Advent Morning of Praise and Worship with Pedro Rubalcava.

The event was co-sponsored by the diocesan Office for Evangelization and Catechetical Ministry and RCL Benziger. Attendees brought non-perishable items and warm blankets that were donated to Casa de los Pobres in Tijuana.

A similar event, a Bilingual Advent Evening of Worship (also with Rubalcava), was held Dec. 1 at St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Imperial and was attended by about 65 catechetical leaders.

Pictured, attendees at the Dec. 3 event pose for a group photo with Rubalcava and Marioly Galván, director of the Evangelization and Catechetical Ministry Office.

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Member All Hallows Catholic Church

From the Printed Page to the Airwaves

Former 'Southern Cross' editor finds new calling as Catholic radio host

By Denis Grasska

SAN DIEGO — A former editor of *The Southern Cross* has found a different medium for spreading the Gospel message.

Cy Kellett, who served as editor of the diocesan newspaper for a decade, is now the host of “The Bright Side with Cy Kellett,” which can be heard weekdays from 9-10 a.m. on Immaculate Heart Radio (KCEO AM 1000).

The show, which debuted Jan. 18, presents the news of the week with commentary from a Catholic perspective. Kellett’s previous program, “The Cy Kellett Show,” had been broadcast on Sunday evenings since last March.

In an interview with his former publication, Kellett spoke passionately about radio and its potential for evangelization.

Noting that people have been inaccurately predicting the demise of radio for decades, he described it as “a persistent and weirdly intimate medium” and “a perfect place to be sharing the Gospel.”

Kellett said “one of the most beautiful things” about Catholicism is that it is “communal” and “conversational.”

“We’re not just saved out of our sins, but we’re saved into a community,” he said.

Though he believes his time at *The Southern Cross* prepared him for his current work, Kellett sees the two types of Catholic media as having distinct roles. While newspapers primarily serve as a source of information and catechesis for practicing

Catholics, he said, radio functions as “more of an evangelizing tool.”

Potential listeners might simply stumble upon Catholic radio programs while sitting in their cars and flipping through the stations, he said, and those programs have to be welcoming even to those with no idea “what Catholics are all about.”

With his show, Kellett said, his goal is simple: to share the Good News.

“That’s it,” he said. “Nothing else.”

Kellett said no topic is off-limits on his show, and any issue on which the Church might take a position is fair game. Recurring subjects have included science and technology, social trends, and Pope Francis.

‘The Bright Side with Cy Kellett’ can be heard weekdays from 9–10 a.m. on Immaculate Heart Radio (KCEO AM 1000)

As a radio host, Kellett said, he feels “an enormous responsibility,” not only to the teachings of the Church that he loves, but also to his listeners.

Immaculate Heart Radio is 100-percent listener-supported, and many of the financial donations could be considered “sacrificial,” he said. As a result, he feels an obliga-



CY KELLETT

tion to provide a substantive program that is worthy of their support.

He also strives to be always respectful of others’ views, sharing his own perspective while recognizing that there are many issues on which Catholics are permitted to disagree with one another while remaining in communion with the Church.

“I do feel very sensitive about trying to be creative, and interesting, and engaging without every trying to make it about my agenda,” but rather “about our shared Catholic life and faith,” he said.

In addition to his duties as host of his own show, Kellett also currently serves as community relations officer for Immaculate Heart Radio, a position he has held for almost four years. He frequently travels to dioceses with Immaculate Heart Radio stations, including San Diego, Orange, Los Angeles and Las Vegas, and gives a brief talk about the radio network during weekend Masses.

He has also served as a guest host on other Immaculate Heart Radio programs. He has filled in on all of the network’s shows, except “Heart to Heart with Mother

Miriam,” as well as substituting for host Patrick Coffin on “Catholic Answers Live.”

The product of a large Catholic family, Kellett “got hooked” on Catholic theology during his college years. He graduated from Boston College with a bachelor’s degree in theology and “the sense that the moral life, the spiritual life, the Incarnation — these are all real things, they’re not just stories to comfort us.”

He later taught at a Catholic school and joined the Catholic Worker Movement in Boston. After earning a master’s degree in literature from the University of Massachusetts, he returned to San Diego, where he worked for 12 years on the staff of *The Southern Cross*, first as a staff writer and then as editor.

Asked to identify the most rewarding aspect of his work on the radio, Kellett quipped, “I’m actually hoping to find that out in the next life. But for now, some people just like to talk, and to get to do it on the radio and to talk about Jesus — I mean, what more could you ask for?”

The Southern Cross

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The Events of the Passion, Resurrection Can Be Experienced in Daily Life



The Passion and the Cross
By Ronald Rolheiser
Franciscan Media (Cincinnati,
Ohio, 2015)
128 pp.

Reviewed by Father Charles L. Fuld

With the Christmas season over and our attention shifting toward the challenges of the Jubilee Year of Mercy called for by Pope Francis, Oblate Father Ronald Rolheiser's *The Passion and the Cross* is most timely. It's as though he presents us with another set of "holy doors" and helps us to push through them to better understand our Catholic faith.

What did the Passion mean to Jesus and the people of His time — and what should it mean for us today? And similarly, what did the cross and the Resurrection mean then — and what could it mean to you and me? To answer these questions, Father Rolheiser reaches into his vast experience and presents his readers with something they can readily use.

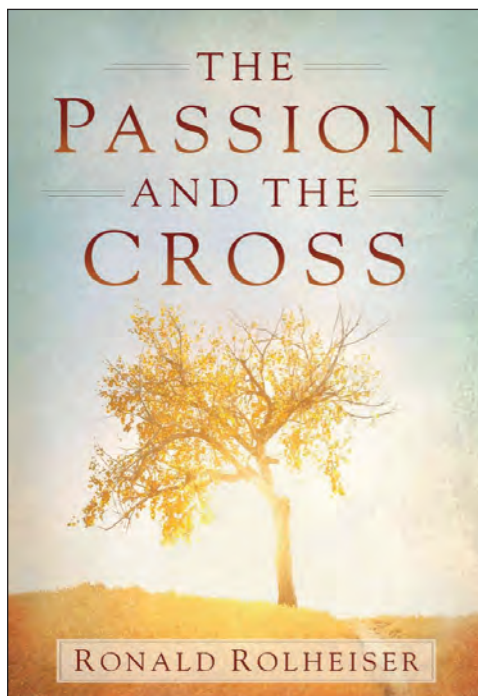
We all know that these events occurred more than 2,000 years ago; what we may not appreciate is that we can — and, hopefully, do — experience these events in our daily lives as a loving God tells us, "Don't be afraid."

"How many times," Father Rolheiser asks, "have we said, 'My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?' or have asked, 'Can we continue to have faith in God when every feeling inside of me suggests that God has abandoned me?'" He asks, "Why must we face humiliation, pain, and death in this life?" In answer, Father Rolheiser submits that ours is a redeeming God and not a reassuring God — because, in the end, He promises that for suffering that we experience there will be redemption, vindication and eternal life.

Just as Jesus entered the final days of His earthly life already accepting how it would end, He calls us to do the same. Father Rolheiser writes, "At the end of our lives, how will we die? Will our hearts be angry, charging, unforgiving and bitter at the unfairness of life? Or will our hearts be forgiving, grateful, empathic and warm, as was that of Jesus when He said to His Father, 'Not My will be done?'" We face that choice daily in our countless encounters with others — with families, our colleagues, our friends and with society at large, Father Rolheiser points out.

In the last chapter of his book, Father Rolheiser gives us a memorable insight into the resurrection of Jesus. He presents this as not just a one-time event in the history of the world, but also as a promise that all things can be made new again for all of us. Father Rolheiser contends that, by this act, God has shown that "all things can always become new again, that nothing is irrevocable, no betrayal is final, no sin is unforgivable, that there isn't any loss that can't be redeemed and ... that we can truly begin each day afresh."

One more point caught my attention in this last chapter. It has to do with the concept of "familiarity" and how familiarity can become "a cancer" based on the idea that somehow we've figured out all the answers we need. Father Rolheiser writes, "Familiarity breeds contempt. Nothing robs us of joy more



than that, and nothing destroys our marriages, families, communities and friendships more than contemptuousness that is born of familiarity. The Resurrection tells us that familiarity is an illusion — the greatest of all illusions ... it invites us to look at all things familiar until they look unfamiliar again, because in the end, a startling, delightful surprise is hidden in all that is familiar." That includes how we can love one another and the immensity of God's love.

Father Rolheiser ends his book with the magnificent image of Michelangelo's Pieta: that of a woman holding a dead body in her arms; but, instead of loud cries of grief and rage, you can't help but hear her gentle voice clearly and confidently saying, "Don't be afraid. It's all right. Everything is and will be all right!"

The Southern Cross

Father Charles L. Fuld is the managing editor of
The Southern Cross.

Christmas Artwork



Veronica McKinney (left), a seventh-grader at Good Shepherd School in Mira Mesa, and Taryn Lukasik (right), a fifth-grader at St. Pius X School in Chula Vista, were among the 24 winners of the annual Christmas Artwork Contest sponsored by the national office of the Missionary Childhood Association.

Veronica and her mother, Teresa McKinney, were honored to attend an awards presentation and Mass Dec. 4 at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.

McKinney wrote an account of the experience she had with her daughter and shared it with the diocesan Office for the Missions. During the awards presentation, she said, Oblate Father Andrew Small, national director of the Pontifical Mission Societies, praised the students for the faith reflected in the artwork and encouraged them to continue as young missionaries. The children and their families then enjoyed a lunch and a tour of the church.

McKinney, who was also able to visit important national and historic sites with her daughter, wrote, "Veronica felt blessed to have these amazing, memorable experiences and is grateful for her Good Shepherd School teachers, who enter the students' work in the MCA contest and other contests."

The winning artworks, selected from among thousands of entries, were displayed until the feast of the Epiphany in the Memorial Hall of the Lower Crypt of the basilica.

For more information or to see the artwork, visit www.mcakids.org.



Produced by the Office for Social Ministry
of the Diocese of San Diego with hosts:
Kent Peters, Linda Arreola, and Deacon Jim Walsh



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Bear Shatters Glass in DiCaprio's Latest

NEW YORK — The following are capsule reviews of movies recently reviewed by Catholic News Service.

"The Revenant"

(Fox) A wilderness survival drama, directed and co-written by Alejandro Inarritu, based on the life of Hugh Glass (Leonardo DiCaprio), an explorer and fur trader in the American West of the 1820s. On an expedition up the Missouri River led by a military captain (Domhnall Gleeson), Glass is attacked by a grizzly bear. Lying near death, Glass is powerless to prevent the murder of his son by a fellow hunter (Tom Hardy), who abandons him in the wilderness. Glass refuses to succumb, crawls out of the grave, and embarks on a 200-mile odyssey through vast uncharted lands to avenge his son's murder and bring the killer to justice. For adults with stomachs strong enough to endure many squeamish moments, rewards await: a powerful film with timely messages about good versus evil, and of redemption versus revenge. Bloody violence and gore, several disturbing images, a sexual assault, and frequent rough language. *CNS classification — limited adult audience. MPAA rating — R.*

"Star Wars: The Force Awakens"

(Disney) After a 10-year hiatus, the iconic science-fiction franchise is rejuvenated courtesy of a lucid plot, abundant humor and the introduction of two dynamic new heroes: a young scavenger (Daisy Ridley) and a disaffected foot soldier (John Boyega).

Together, they help Han Solo (Harrison Ford) and General Leia (Carrie Fisher) battle a fascistic army (commanded by Andy Serkis). Much stylized fantasy violence. *CNS classification — adults and adolescents. MPAA rating — PG-13.*

"The Hateful Eight"

(Weinstein) A sprawling, occasionally comic, hugely self-indulgent and long (183 minutes, including an intermission) vengeance tale best enjoyed only by Quentin Tarantino's most ardent fans. When the characters, trapped in a rustic Wyoming hostelry in a blizzard, finish some of the dullest dialogue ever put on celluloid, they usually spring into unexpectedly grotesque violence only because Tarantino evidently finds it amusing. Extended bloody gun and knife violence, frequent crude racist banter, and pervasive rough language. *CNS classification — limited adult audience. MPAA rating — R.*

Catholic News Service

It Stinks!

The following films have been classified "morally offensive" by the USCCB:



"Sisters"
(Universal)



WIDE AWAKE: Adam Driver, who plays villain Kylo Ren, stars in a scene from the movie "Star Wars: The Force Awakens."

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Three years ago, while on a 10-week sabbatical in the Holy Land, our small group of 14 ecumenically-minded Christians found ourselves in a kibbutz gift shop on the shore of the Sea of Galilee. I was wearing a polo shirt from St. Andrew's Benedictine Abbey and, while we were browsing through the quality items there, a young Jewish woman approached me and asked who I was and what was a Benedictine abbey. First, I explained what an abbey was, and then I told her that we were in the Galilee area from the Tantur Ecumenical Institute near Jerusalem. I explained to her that our purpose of being there was to learn and know more about the Holy Land and its people, Jews and Muslims, and to engage in dialogue with them. With a quizzical expression, she said: "Why would you want to do that?" Somewhat taken aback by the question (but with new insight as to why peace is so elusive in that tortured part of the world), I replied: "What we don't know, we fear; what we fear, we fight; what we fight, we hate." She looked at me and simply said, "Oh," and walked away. Hopefully, she learned something from that brief encounter.



Msgr. Dennis L. Mikulanis

Over the past few months, we have been subjected to a great deal of fear caused by Islamic extremists who have taken it upon themselves to force their interpretation of Islam on an otherwise open and trusting world. At the root of this grief caused by fanatics in Lebanon, Paris and San Bernardino is a

Rejecting the Rhetoric of Intolerance

distorted idea of Islam that is being propagated by the adherents of ISIS who currently have a stranglehold on a large part of Syria and Iraq. Consequently, increasing rhetoric is being spewed forth lumping all of Islam and every Muslim into the same stewpot of hatred. Such vitriol is neither fair nor honest because the vast majority of Muslims decry the distortion of their faith being perpetrated by misguided zealots. People ask, "Why don't Muslim leaders come out and condemn such atrocities?" They do, but often the press doesn't report them.

Dr. Sayyid M. Syeed of the Islamic Society of North America recently sent a letter to the Catholics of the United States through the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in which he plainly states: "We reject those interpretations and that understanding of our Scriptures that set us up against each other and misdirect our energies and God given resources. ... Our Just and Merciful God has made it a religious obligation for us (Quran 22:40) to protect and respect all churches, synagogues, places of worship where His holy name is mentioned and where His servants worship Him in different languages and in different styles and in different traditions." Furthermore, he stated: "We stand shoulder to shoulder together to rejoice in the spirit of brotherhood and sisterhood at a time when a wave of hate and bigotry is spreading around us, at a time when some misguided ... are desecrating and destroying mosques, churches and syna-

gogues. ... They are dividing the human family in the name of religion and filling this planet with hate and intolerance."

Sadly, too many of our own Catholic people willingly give in to the rhetoric of intolerance as they close their ears and their hearts to the teachings of the Church over the past 50 years since the promulgation of "Nostra Aetate" of Vatican II and the clear, consistent calls for dialogue and understanding preached by Pope St. John Paul II, Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis. In a letter issued by the USCCB on Dec. 14, 2015, the bishops of the United States tell us: "When we fail to see the difference between our enemies and people of good will, we lose a part of who we are as a people of faith. Policies of fear and inflammatory rhetoric will only offer extremists fertile soil and pave the way toward a divisive, fearful future. As Pope Francis reminded us in his speech to Congress: 'The yardstick by which we measure others is the yardstick by which time will measure us.'"

It is time we Catholics put aside personal prejudice and embraced what the Church calls for in our relations with people of other faiths. If we want to be taken seriously, then we mustn't forget the most basic syllogism of logic: a universal can be applied to a particular but a particular cannot be applied to a universal.

What we don't know, we fear; what we fear, we fight; what we fight, we hate.

The Southern Cross

Msgr. Dennis L. Mikulanis is Vicar for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs for the Diocese of San Diego.

Dear Father: Patience Empowers Us to Endure Frustrations

When I read this question, I realized how pertinent it is. In my experience as a confessor, impatience is the most confessed sin by adults.



Father John Mayo

Being impatient is a state to which we become addicted. When we experience a situation or see a person, we might feel irritation and anger bubble up from our gut. With these feelings come words of blaming the person or situation verbally or nonverbally. While it feels right and proper at the moment, we know at the end of the day we

will feel guilty and empty about it.

Patience is the virtue that empowers us to endure an indifferent, ungrateful or contemptible situation with a calm refusal of bitterness and condemnation. We delay judgments in the hope that the person or situation will change to be more Christlike.

Beginning the journey from impatience begins by realizing that, morally, emotions are neither good nor evil. They're a gift given to us by God to help us to act or not to act toward a good (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1762-1767). The sin, then, isn't the fact that we have a feeling of irritation or anger, but in what we do with these emotions.

In speaking about the addiction of impatience, we spoke of its automatic nature. I feel irritation or anger, so I begin to blame

and shame. We need to insert ourselves into this machine and stop it from moving so quickly from feeling to action. Why is this person or situation making me impatient?

Perhaps the situation is as simple as waiting in line or in the car for the light to change. At that moment, I focus on my need to get going, that I need to be somewhere or that my purchase is much more important and simple than those in front of me. Realizing I am putting myself first, something that I shouldn't do and Christ calls me not to do, helps slow or stops that process toward impatience.

Another reason we may be impatient is we don't see another's struggle. Someone may be working on something we find very easy to do, but they find it very challenging. Our reaction may be to judge them or to just do it ourselves, regardless

of how it makes them feel. Realizing that another is struggling, resisting the assumption that they are not trying their best, and allowing them to try can help us be more patient here.

In this moment of examining ourselves and our emotions, we also need to call upon the Holy Spirit's guidance. We need His help to realize what is going on inside of us and how we can positively confront it. Also, taking time to ask God daily for patience and reflecting on the Gospels can greatly help us in our journey toward patience.

Father Mayo is pastor of Holy Rosary Parish in Warrenton, Mo. The preceding perspective piece first appeared in the Dec. 14-20, 2015, issue of The St. Louis Review, newspaper of the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

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Bernadeane Carr, S.T.L.
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C220 Intro to New Testament (30 hrs)

John Vignol, M.A.
Thursdays, Jan 21 – April 21, 2016
(no class March 24 nor March 31)
6:30 – 9 pm
Diocesan Pastoral Center

S215 Sacraments of Vocation & Healing (15 hrs)

Rev. Bruce Orsburn, S.T.L.
Thursdays, Jan 28 – Feb 25, 2016
6 – 9 pm
Diocesan Pastoral Center

S290iv Christian Anthropology (15 hrs)

Rev. Bernardo Lara, M.A.
Mondays, Feb 1 – March 14, 2016
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6:30 – 9 pm
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Pope Francis, Dorothy Day and the Catholic Worker

In his address to the U.S. Congress, the first ever by the Holy See, Pope Francis underscored the personal contributions of four Americans to the common good: Abraham Lincoln, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., Thomas Merton, and Dorothy Day and the Catholic Worker. The latter was once referred to by Catholic historian David J. O'Brien, writing in *Commonweal*, as "the most significant, interesting and influential figure in the history of American Catholicism," as *Time* magazine reminded readers recently.

Tom Reifer

Yet most Catholics in the U.S. and around the world probably know little of the life and work of Dorothy Day. Day was a New York City native, active in movements for peace and social justice, but was attracted to the Church and converted to Catholicism. She yearned to combine her activism with her Catholicism and, after praying, a Catholic Frenchman named Peter Maurin, who had taken his vows as a Christian brother in 1895, appeared on her doorstep. Peter "lived what he believed," Dorothy said, calling him "a 'St. Francis of modern times,'" "loved all, saw all others around them as God saw them," and taught Dorothy the centrality of "putting the Beatitudes into effect, of following up on the works of mercy," embracing voluntary poverty, seeing Christ in all, especially the poor, and serving them through Houses of Hospitality. Above all, though, as

Dorothy put it, Peter's greatest gift was in "seeing Christ in others, loving the Christ you saw in others."

Soon, in the heart of the Great Depression, the Catholic Worker movement was born. The Catholic Workers saw themselves as part of the mystical body of Christ, called to do the works of mercy, feeding the hungry, housing the homeless, tending the sick, visiting those imprisoned. Simultaneously, inspired by the Gospels, especially Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, the followers of Day work for the common good and for a world in which it is easier to do good than evil.

Though many movements have come and gone, the Catholic Worker has somehow endured. Perhaps it is the unique combination of carrying out the works of mercy as part of the larger putting into practice of the social teachings that are such a rich part of the Catholic intellectual and spiritual tradition. Embracing voluntary poverty while aiding the poor, the Catholic Workers at one and the same time work tirelessly for peace and social justice, aiming to harness human love, compassion and creativity toward helping other human beings, especially the poor, in whose lives Christ can be seen, as Pope Francis stated in his recent trip to New York City.

Born in New York, with a mission and a newspaper, other Catholic Workers have started up across the United States, and indeed around the globe, with Southern California hosting many, perhaps most notably the Los Angeles Catholic Worker, along with our own San Diego Catholic Worker. The San Diego Catholic Worker goes back to the 1980s and has had various incarnations. For many years, it had a house, providing housing

to the downtrodden, which became the center of its meetings and from where it organized its efforts to carry out the works of mercy. Its mission today includes clothing distribution for the poor, a soup kitchen every Friday in San Diego, and ongoing efforts to support those in need and working for positive social change in Southern California, across the border in Tijuana, and across the world. This involves working for social justice, the rights of workers, immigrants and for peace.

Day, currently being considered for canonization by the Catholic Church, had this to say in her autobiography, *The Long Loneliness*, citing the words of the famous priest in Fyodor Dostoevsky's *Brothers Karamazov*, whose Christ-like teachings were a model for Dorothy and the Catholic Worker movement: "The most significant thing about The Catholic Worker is poverty ... community, others say. We are not alone any more. But the final word is love. At times it has been, in the words of Father Zossima, a harsh & dreadful thing, and our very faith in love has been tried through fire. We cannot love God unless we love each other, and to love we must know each other ... We have all known the long loneliness and we have learned that the only solution is love and that love comes with community. It all happened while we sat there talking, and it is still going on."

The Southern Cross

Tom Reifer is an associate professor of Sociology at the University of San Diego and serves on the board of the San Diego Catholic Worker.

When I was a high school senior, I began dating my future wife, Arnell. Arnell's mother had been a lapsed Latter-Day Saint, and her father had been a lapsed Catholic. Arnell wanted to learn about the Latter-Day Saints and Catholicism to decide whether to become a Latter-Day Saint or, hopefully, a Catholic, so we could share our faith. We turned to the Knights of Columbus for help.

Dr. David Sanderlin

I used many Catholic sources to teach Arnell about Catholicism, including pamphlet no. 20 in a series of 57 evangelizing pamphlets published by the Knights of Columbus during the 1950s and early 1960s. The pamphlets covered the Catholic

The Knights of Columbus and the New Evangelization

Church as the One True Church, the apostolic succession, and other topics that reflected the traditional Catholic evangelization of the times. The Knights addressed the pamphlets to their fellow lapsed Catholics and non-Catholics in obedience to Christ's command to "make disciples of all nations" (Matt 19-20).

The pamphlets worked well. A few years later, Arnell became a Catholic, and Arnell and I married in the Catholic Church.

The Knights of Columbus have been lay leaders in Catholic evangelization since their foundation in 1882, and they are lay leaders in today's new evangelization that St. Pope John Paul II envisioned and promoted during

the closing decades of the 20th century. Supreme Knight Carl Anderson observes in "Accepting the Mission" that St. John Paul seems to be speaking directly to the Knights of Columbus when he urges all Catholic lay persons to participate in the new evangelization. Anderson notes that "there is no lay organization in the countries where the Knights of Columbus work that surpasses us in terms of charity, promotion of vocations and evangelization."

Today's new evangelization centers on Jesus Christ. We lay Catholics are called to bear witness to Jesus by loving one another as much as possible as Jesus loves us. Then our fellow Americans will know that we are disciples of Jesus by our increasingly Christ-like love for one another. St. John Paul calls us lay Catholics in his apostolic exhortation "Christifideles Laici" to make our daily conduct "a shining and convincing testimony to the Gospel."

The Knights of Columbus are "a shining and convincing testimony to the Gospel," partly with their charitable works. The Knights donated more than \$167.5 million for charitable activities and projects during 2012, and they volunteered more than 70 million hours of their time for charitable works.

Traditional Catholic evangelization also is Christ-centered. The evangelizing pamphlet no. 20 that I used for Arnell calls us lay Catholics to be "transformed into the likeness of Christ" so that we "begin to think like Christ, love like Christ, and live like Christ."

Today's new evangelization emphasizes "re-evangelization" more than the traditional Catholic evangelization has done. We

churchgoing lay Catholics are called not only to go outward to help evangelize lapsed Catholics and non-Catholics, but also to turn inward to "re-evangelize" ourselves, as St. John Paul puts it in his encyclical "Redemptio Missio." To re-evangelize ourselves, we follow Jesus with an increasingly Christ-like love and other Christian virtues so that we live the Catholic faith in our everyday life. We are not likely to inspire others to live the Catholic faith if we do not live the Catholic faith ourselves.

We married lay Catholics are called to bear witness to Jesus in our everyday marriage and family life with an increasingly Christ-like love for our spouse, family, neighbors and God. Also, we Catholic parents are called to bear witness to Jesus for our children. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops emphasizes that parents need to be the first evangelizers of their children. Parents need to show their children by example how to live a good, loving, Christ-like life. American humorist Henry Wheeler Shaw puts it bluntly, "To bring up a child in the way he should go, travel that way yourself once in a while."

We Catholics can be grateful to the Knights of Columbus for their charitable works, promotion of Catholic vocations, championing of Catholic marriage and the family, and leadership in today's new evangelization. Supreme Knight Carl Anderson emphasizes in "The New Evangelization" that "the example of each brother Knight is vital to the new evangelization."

The Southern Cross

Dr. David Sanderlin is a Catholic author whose latest book, *The Christian Way to Be Happily Married*, was selected "Book of the Month" by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). Dr. Sanderlin and his wife, Arnell, are members of St. Luke Parish in El Cajon.

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Spring Forward

"A Morning of Prayer to Refresh the Soul" with Father Michael Murphy, 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Jan. 23, at the Holy Family Center, St. Michael Parish, Poway. Cost: \$20.

Leadership In-Services

- "Making It Mandatory Doesn't Make It Meaningful: Rethinking Parent Sessions" with Kevin Staszko, 9:15 a.m.-noon, Thursday, Jan. 28, at the diocesan Pastoral Center.
- "Generation Z-Ready" with Frank Mercadante, 9:15 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 11, at the diocesan Pastoral

Center. Lunch included.

- "Leading with Joy: Making Sure That the Good News We Proclaim Is Truly Good News" with Dr. Joe Paprocki, 9:15 a.m.-noon, Thursday, March 3, at the diocesan Pastoral Center.

Rite of Election Meetings

For RCIA coordinators

- 10-10:45 a.m., Tuesday, Feb. 2, at the diocesan Pastoral Center.
- 10-11 a.m., Tuesday, Feb. 9, at St. Anthony of Padua Parish, Imperial

"From the Transfiguration to the Resurrection"

With Bernadeane Carr. 6:30-9 p.m., Monday, March 7, at the diocesan Pastoral Center. Cost: \$15.

Curriculum Day

9 a.m.-2 p.m., Thursday, April 7, at the diocesan Pastoral Center. No cost.

PARISH EVENTS

Silent Eucharistic Adoration
In the Blessed Sacrament chapel at St. Mary Star of the Sea Parish in Oceanside. Monday to Friday, from the end of the 8 a.m. Mass until 5 p.m. Open on Tuesdays until 7 p.m. Enter by the stairs at back of the church. Knock and the door will be opened.

Devotions
At St. Patrick Parish, San Diego: first Fridays, exposition after 8 a.m. Mass; first Saturdays, Fatima devotion after 8 a.m. Mass; every Tuesday, prayer hour for peace, 5 p.m. For information, call (619) 295-2157.

Men’s Fellowship
7 p.m., last Tuesday of the month, in the church hall at St. Gregory the Great Parish, Scripps Ranch

Women’s Friendship
7 p.m., third Monday of the month, in the Trinity Room at St. Gregory the Great Parish, Scripps Ranch

‘Beloved’
St. Thomas More Parish in Oceanside is presenting a 12-session marriage series for both married and engaged couples. 7-9 p.m., Wednesdays (except Ash Wednesday), in the lower level of the parish center. For information, visit www.stmoside.org or call (760) 758-4100, ext. 110.

Healing Masses
• 6:30 p.m., Feb. 1, at St. Patrick Parish in Carlsbad. Celebrant: Father Mike Barry. For information, call (760) 724-4046.
• 7 p.m., Feb. 8, at St. Therese of Carmel Parish. Praise-and-worship at 6:30 p.m. Celebrant: Father Lawrence Ainoko Agi. For information, call (858) 481-3232.

Documentary Screening
A free screening of “The Blood and the Rose,” an award-winning, feature-length documentary on the apparitions of Our Lady of Guadalupe, will be presented at 6 p.m., Jan. 29, in the church hall at St. John the Evangelist Parish in Encinitas. Not suitable for young children. Refreshments served.

PARISH EVENTS

Ignatian Weekend Retreats
• Jan. 29-31 at Prince of Peace Abbey. Presented by A Faith That Does Justice, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church. Cost: \$230, single room; \$200/person, double room. For information/registration, call (619) 233-3838.
• March 4 (7- 9 p.m.) and March 5 (10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Mass at 5 p.m.) in the church hall at St. Luke Parish. Retreat leader: Jesuit Father Peter W. Gyves. Cost: \$30. For more information, call (619) 442-1697.

Choir Concert
The St. Therese of Carmel Church Choir will present the Durufle Requiem at 3 p.m., Palm Sunday, March 20. The concert is free and open to all. For information, visit www.stsd.org.

‘Glory Immersion’
An evening in God’s Presence with music, prayers, Scripture, words of comfort and encouragement, healing and fellowship. 7-8:30 p.m., Jan. 26, St. Timothy Parish, Escondido. For information, call (760) 741-1134.

GROUPS

Pro-Life Rosary
Join other pro-life advocates in saying the Rosary for Life, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Thursdays, outside Planned Parenthood (at the corner of Mission and Center City Parkway in Escondido). For more information, e-mail Karen Baker at bunsneverinn@cox.net.

Dinner/Gala
Children of the Immaculate Heart (CIH) will hold its annual dinner/gala Feb. 5 at Our Mother of Confidence Parish. CIH was founded to serve those vulnerable to human trafficking. Schedule: Mass, 5:30 p.m.; social hour, 6:15 p.m.; and banquet at 7 p.m. There is no charge to attend, but donations are accepted. A silent auction will be held to raise funds for a residential treatment center for female minors. RSVP by Jan. 29 at camillemica.cih@gmail.com or (281) 832-5369.

GROUPS

Lecture
“Treasuring Heaven = Treasure on Earth.” Franciscan Father Joseph Chinnici, president and rector of the Franciscan School of Theology, will consider the wealthy option in the vision of Francis of Assisi. 7 p.m., Feb. 11. Free. For information, visit www.fst.edu or contact.dfoley@fst.edu.

Charity Luncheon
Father Joe’s Villages Ladies Guild (formerly St. Vincent de Paul Villages Ladies Guild) will hold a charity luncheon and silent auction, “Ooh-La-La Paris,” at 10:45 a.m., Feb. 16, at the Sheraton Mission Valley. Proceeds benefit children at Father Joe’s Villages. Cost: \$55 with free validated parking. For reservations/donations, call (858) 453-7016 or (858) 453-9640, or e-mail janebargrove67@gmail.com or kristikeith@mac.com.

Laughlin Getaway
Feb. 21-23. Sponsored by St. Martin of Tours Women’s Club, La Mesa. Cost: \$140/person in double; \$170 single at Riverside Resort Hotel. Call (619) 889-2854.

San Diego Catholic Adult Community
Offers activities and a social network for single, married, divorced and widowed adults, including young adults (20s and 30s), adult community (35 and older) and active seniors (60s and older). Ministry funded by Our Mother of Confidence, St. Brigid and St. Therese of Carmel parishes. All are welcome. Visit www.sandiegocac.org.

iHunger
iHunger, a Saturday morning gathering for Catholic men, is held on the lower level of St. Thomas More Church in Oceanside. In these informal sessions, issues facing Catholic men will be discussed in light of the teachings of the Catholic faith and the wisdom of the saints. Event includes breakfast. For information, contact Deacon John Fredette at (760) 758-4100, ext. 132.

St. Maria Goretti Mass
An evening celebrating purity and chastity is held on the first Friday of the month at Our Lady of the Rosary Church. Includes confession, adoration, Mass, speaker and

GROUPS

fellowship. 5:30-8:30 p.m. (Mass, 6:30 p.m.). For information, visit www.thegoret-tigroup.org or call (619) 702-7009.

Pro-Life Prayer Group
Helpers of God’s Precious Infants is looking for people to join in prayer in front of abortion clinics. Please help save lives. Contact Luis at (619) 300-5563 or visit helperssd.org.

Marriage Encounter
Renew your relationship with a Marriage Encounter Weekend, Jan. 29-31. Register at www.wume-sandiego.org. For information, call (866) 473-7730.

Support Group for Separated/Divorced
A support group for anyone suffering from the pain and loss associated with a separation or divorce meets at 10:15 a.m., Sundays, at the St. James Catholic Church — Ministry Center in Solana Beach. For information, contact (760) 533-1520, (760) 814-8604 or fugrant@gmail.com.

Healing After Divorce
New Paths, a free support group for the separated and divorced, will meet on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m., Feb. 9-May 3, in the Sacred Heart Parish Ministry Center in Coronado. For information, call (619) 435-6136 or visit www.sacredheartcor.org/content/new-paths-separated-and-divorced.

Council of Catholic Women
• The Diocesan Council of Catholic Women will meet at 10:30 a.m., Jan. 27, at Santa Sophia Parish in Spring Valley. All women of the diocese are invited to attend.
• The Oceanside Deanery Council of Catholic Women will host a meeting and luncheon on Feb. 17 at Mission San Luis

GROUPS

Rey, Oceanside. RSVP by Feb. 12 to (760) 757-0882. Cost: \$5.

Light Weigh
“Light Weigh One King” (www.lightweigh.com) is a 12-week Catholic Bible study/video series/weight-loss program to participants attain peace with food. Classes are held from 2-3:30 p.m., Wednesdays, in the St. Dominic Room at St. Timothy Parish in Escondido. A new session began Jan. 6. For information, call (760) 644-2934.

‘Love Our Priests’
The prayer group welcomes Father Jacob Bertrand on Jan. 30 to celebrate Mass and then share his vocation story at a potluck lunch. Event begins with 10 a.m. Mass at Ascension Parish in Tierrasanta. Bring a friend and dish to share. For information, call (858) 560-7132 or e-mail jeanlaskey@hotmail.com.

St. Paul Street Evangelization
Do you love Jesus and His Church? Join St. Paul Street Evangelization in sharing the faith in an easy, nonconfrontational manner. For information, visit www.StreetEvangelization.com, or contact (619) 515-3267 or scb@procopia.com.

Serra Club North Coast
Join with the Serra Club to encourage religious vocations through hospitality, prayer and fellowship. Breakfast meetings are on the second Saturday and fourth Tuesdays after 8 a.m. Mass at St. Patrick Parish in Carlsbad. For information, call (626) 543-0057.

WORKSHOPS, RETREATS AND CONFERENCES

Conference
The 13th Annual West Coast Biblical Studies Conference will be hosted at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish in San Diego on Jan. 29-30. Featuring Scott Hahn, John Bergsma, Michael Barber and John Kincaid, the conference will focus on “The Bible, the Family, and the New Evangelization.” Registration is \$50 at www.jpccatholic.com. Space is limited.

Logos Bible Study
Dr. Bill Creasy will lead a verse-by-verse study of John’s Gospel, Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m., Jan. 12–March 30, at Our Mother of Confidence Parish. Cost: \$85/quarter (10 weeks). Register at the door or at www.logosbiblestudy.com/classes.html.

Spiritual Exercises
Silent Ignatian Retreats preached by the Priests of Miles Christi. For women: Jan. 22-24 and Feb. 19-21 in Temecula, and March 23-27 in Rancho Palos Verdes. For men: Feb. 26-28 and March 23-27 in Oceanside. Includes spiritual talks, Eucharistic adoration and daily Mass. For the men’s Exercises, contact californiamen@spiritualexercises.net or (661) 284-5970; for the women’s Exercises, contact california@spiritualexercises.net or (858) 263-5113.

Prayers Answered

Thank you for answering my prayers, Sacred Heart of Jesus and St. Jude!

-ALH

BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Bulletin Board is a free service of *The Southern Cross* newspaper.
- **All announcements appear on a space-permitting basis.**
- Announcements (30 words maximum) can be e-mailed to dgrasska@diocese-sdiego.org. Those intended to appear in a particular month’s issue should be received — at the very latest — by noon on the first Thursday of that month.

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

A listing of services provided by businesses and professionals in the San Diego area. Also see your 2015 Catholic Directory Yellow Pages

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Dr. Diana Greg, Ph.D.
8950 Villa La Jolla Dr, Ste B208
La Jolla, CA 92037
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To be included in this Professional Directory, contact Donna Lightsey at (858) 490-8266 or dlightsey@sdccatholic.org.

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APPEAL WEEKEND

Feb 6 & 7, 2016

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**2016 ANNUAL
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DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO

**2016 LLAMADO
CATÓLICO ANUAL**
DIÓCESIS DE SAN DIEGO

Niñas triunfan contra viento y marea

Coro graba un dulce disco de cantos para niños

Por Aída Bustos

NATIONAL CITY – Las 12 niñas del coro de la parroquia San Antonio de Padua parecen ser adolescentes típicas, su pelo largo en trenzas o colas de caballo, sonriendo tímidamente.

Sin embargo, su historia es lejos de típica.

Las niñas aprendieron, practicaron y se sacrificaron por un año para producir un disco de canciones en español para acompañar la enseñanza de catequesis.

Una vez que lo terminaron lo tuvieron que rehacer todo de nuevo. El productor que había prometido mucho había entregado casi nada.

Tras otro año de ensayar, sacrificar y hasta sudar, el coro finalmente tiene su CD – y la comunidad de fe una alegre banda sonora para acompañar la Catequesis Familiar.

Los dos hombres responsables de esta historia recientemente contaron esta odisea, a veces sonriendo, a veces frunciendo el ceño.

El Padre Emmet Farrell, en aquel entonces pastor de la parroquia San Antonio, siempre tuvo la

VEA CORO, PÁGINA 6



CORO: El director José Luis Sevilla y el coro Pequeños Servidores de Dios cantan en la misa de los sábados a las 5 de la tarde en su parroquia San Antonio de Padua. En esta imagen están con él, izquierda a derecha, Marla López, Andrea Luna, Evelyn Márquez, Michelle Cruz y Margaret Sevilla. El grupo de 12 niñas se preparó por dos años para grabar un disco de cantos en español para niños.

AIDA BUSTOS

Regocijo tras 30 años de espera

Impresionante iglesia diseñada por chileno abre sus puertas

Por Aída Bustos

OCEANSIDE – La conexión de lo humano y la exaltación de lo divino.

El arquitecto Renzo Zecchetto, un inmigrante de Chile, aseguró que esos dos conceptos inspiraron su diseño de la impresionante iglesia St. Thomas More Catholic Church, la cual fue dedicada el pasado 16 de diciembre en una misa especial.

La inauguración se dio unos 30 años después de que se formara su congregación en lo que entonces era una zona rural. A través de los años, los parroquianos se reunieron en hogares particulares, en una preparatoria, en la capilla de una funeraria, en un centro comercial, y desde el 2001, en un salón parroquial construido en un terreno

de seis acres adquirido para albergar la futura iglesia.

La iglesia es una imponente estructura moderna de 23,400 pies cuadrados con una torre de madera de 86 pies ubicada sobre la esquina de Melrose South y Cannon Road. Servirá a mil familias de Vista, Oceanside, Carlsbad, Encinitas, San Marcos y Fallbrook.

Su sala principal es un espacio tanto imponente como sencillo con paredes de piedra travertino, paneles de madera de cerezo y ventanas de piso a techo en varios lados de la estructura. Las bancas, con una capacidad de mil personas, forman un semicírculo alrededor del altar.

Zecchetto, quien trabajó en este proyecto por 25 años, y más de una docena de diseñadores y artistas asistieron la dedicación, presidida por el Obispo Robert McElroy.

VEA IGLESIA, PÁGINAS 4-5



IGLESIA: El arquitecto de la parroquia St. Thomas More en Oceanside utilizó la geografía del lugar para diseñar una “iglesia de estos tiempos y no del pasado”.

La 'Historia de las Tres Ciudades' nos acerca más a Dios



Por Padre Bernardo Lara

De un modo u otro, todos estamos familiarizados con la fábula infantil de "Los Tres Cochinitos".

Sabemos que eran tres cochinitos hermanos que construían sus propias casas utilizando diferentes materiales. Uno construyó su casa de paja, otro de madera y el tercero de ladrillo.

Un día el lobo feroz los vio y los persiguió con toda la intención de comérselos. Para protegerse los cochinitos se metieron a sus respectivas casas.

Como ya sabemos, el lobo llegó a la casita de paja, "sopló y sopló" y la derrumbó. Lo mismo pasó con la casa de madera. Sin embargo, no pudo derrumbar la casa construida con ladrillo.

Como en toda fábula, en ésta se pueden encontrar un número de enseñanzas o moralejas.

Pues bien, el primer domingo de este nuevo año celebramos la fiesta de la Epifanía. Esta fiesta nos relata la "Historia de Las Tres Ciudades", la cual nos ofrece un número de mensajes para el año que comienza y la continuación del Año de la Misericordia.

La primera ciudad en este cuento es desconocida, solo sabemos que era "del oriente" de Jerusalén (Mt. 2:1). Esta es la región de donde provenían los reyes magos. En este relato se menciona que los magos debieron dejar el lugar donde vivían en busca de algo mejor, siguiendo la estrella de Belén.

Si algo he aprendido de mis conversaciones con inmigrantes es que nadie deja la ciudad donde vive si no es por una razón grave. Quizá muchos literalmente tuvieron que dejar la ciudad que los vio nacer en busca de mejores condiciones de vida.

Quizá nosotros tenemos la bendición de permanecer en nuestras tierras, sin embargo también tenemos nuestros problemas que tenemos que dejar atrás en busca del Hijo de Dios. Ese problema económico, esa falta de trabajo, ese problema con la familia, esa adicción a las drogas o el alcohol es nuestra ciudad del Medio Oriente, la cual debemos dejar atrás mientras seguimos la estrella que nos indica el nacimiento de nuestro redentor.

La segunda ciudad es Jerusalén. Esta era el centro espiritual para el judaísmo y fue aquí donde primero llegaron los magos, según cuenta el Evangelio (Mt. 2:1). Sin embargo, aun con su peso tan importante en la fe judía, en Jerusalén necesitaron de unos magos foráneos para avisar que el Hijo de Dios estaba por nacer.

Muchas veces somos nosotros esa Jerusalén que necesita se le recuerde que hay que salir a la búsqueda de Jesús. No queremos escuchar o nos acostumbramos a los milagros de Dios en la vida diaria e ignoramos esa estrella que nos lleva a adorar a Jesús.

Otras veces, somos nosotros los foráneos que vamos a recordarles a los demás a que sigan la estrella.

Eso es evangelización.

La tercer ciudad de esta historia es Belén, la ciudad de la cual salió el gran Rey David. Y es esta misma ciudad la que vio nacer al hijo de Dios en medio de animales y en un ambiente pobre.

Es esta ciudad de Belén la que conectó a Dios con el hombre, a lo eterno con lo temporal, al rico y al pobre, al rey y al pastor, al santo y al pecador.

Así, la Iglesia Católica está llamada a reflejar esa conexión entre los hombres por medio de la cual se forma una gran familia y nos hace más activos en nuestro papel como hijos de Dios. Los magos del oriente le ofrecieron al niño Jesús oro, incienso y mirra. En este año 2016, un buen regalo que podemos dar (en recomendación del Papa Francisco) es misericordia. Aceptar la misericordia de Dios e irradiar misericordia hacia nuestro prójimo.

Este es el cuento de "Las Tres Ciudades" que nos sigue llenando de enseñanzas para llegar a la santidad. La decisión ahora es de cada uno de nosotros. Y colorín colorado, este cuento... no ha terminado, ya que "su reino, no tendrá fin".

El padre Bernardo Lara es vicario de las parroquias en Brawley y Westmorland en el Valle Imperial. Se puede contactar en fatherbernardolara@gmail.com.



MAESTROS: Once catequistas recientemente se graduaron de un curso para formar catequistas en la diócesis. Ellos son, primera fila de izquierda a derecha, César Varela, Susana Varela, Vicente Leal, Leticia Trent, Elizabeth Pastrana, María Olga Zúñiga, María Valencia; segunda fila, Linda Arreola, Claudia Drachenberg, María Elena Amaro, Ascensión Olivas, Eneida Scoby y Blanca Rodríguez.

Se Preparan para Capacitar a Nueva Generación de Catequistas

Maestros experimentados se gradúan de curso intenso

Por Aída Bustos

CENTRO PASTORAL – La comunidad latina necesita más personas preparadas no solamente para enseñar catecismo sino también para ser líderes parroquiales.

La Diócesis de San Diego tiene un programa que enfrenta estos retos directamente.

Se trata de un Curso de Formación de Formadores de Catequistas en el cual participaron 11 veteranos de la enseñanza de catequesis en el que aprendieron cómo preparar a la nueva generación de catequistas.

Estos individuos tenían en promedio 15 años de experiencia y educación religiosa de nivel alto, según Leticia Trent, una de las catequistas que participó en el curso.

"Es una gran responsabilidad", aseguró. "Siempre he creído que uno se tiene que preparar lo mejor posible".

Trent ha enseñado catecismo a niños durante 15 años en la iglesia Santísima Trinidad en la ciudad de El Cajon.

La diócesis ofreció el curso por primera vez después de varios años porque los formadores ya están empezando a jubilarse, aumentando la necesidad en las parroquias, dijo Trent.

Invitaron a catequistas experimentados a solicitar su participación en el curso; un proceso que incluyó entregar una carta de apoyo de su párroco y entrevista con la directora de la Oficina de Evangelización y Catequesis, María Galván.

"La formación adecuada de formador es necesaria para poder otorgarle la certificación estatal", comentó Galván.

Un total de 11 personas fueron seleccionadas para participar en el programa, el cual consistió de 12 clases semanales de 2.5 horas cada una, por un total de 48 horas. Al graduarse, los participantes recibieron la designación "Master Catequist".

Durante las clases, Vicente Leal y Linda Arreola, instructores de la Oficina de Evangelización y Catequesis, capacitaron a los participantes para preparar a adultos a enseñar la catequesis. Además, los estudiantes recibieron capacitación en liderazgo y como hablar en público, entre otros temas.

El curso terminó en noviembre y se planea ofrecerlo de nuevo este año.

Desde entonces, algunos de los graduados se han unido al equipo de formadores latinos que están disponibles para proveer instrucción a la parroquia que solicite capacitación de catequistas mientras otros han continuado con sus estudios religiosos.

"Nuestros catequistas tienen un gran anhelo de enseñar y de continuar preparándose", aseguró Trent. "Muchos vienen de pueblos pequeños y no han tenido la oportunidad de hacerlo de forma formal".

Para más información puede comunicarse con Marioly Galván, directora de la Oficina de Evangelización y Ministerio Catequético, a: mgalvan@sdccatholic.org.

The Southern Cross

El Papa prepara su viaje a México en febrero

Visitará comunidades marginadas a lo largo del país, inclusive en la frontera

CIUDAD DEL VATICANO — El papa Francisco visitará algunas de las comunidades más marginadas de México cuando visite en febrero y procurará llevarle esperanza a un país que sufre profundamente por el crimen, la corrupción y la desigualdad.

El Vaticano anunció detalles sobre el viaje del Papa a México del 12 al 17 de febrero, durante el cual visitará seis ciudades incluyendo dos en el estado Chiapas y -- cruzando desde El Paso, Texas -- Ciudad Juárez, la cual hace apenas cinco años se consideraba la “capital mundial del asesinato” por los carteles de la droga se disputaban el corredor del narcotráfico.

El Papa dijo en noviembre que quería visitar ciudades donde nunca fueron San Juan Pablo II y el Papa Benedicto XVI. Pero él dijo que viajará a la Ciudad de México para orar en la Basílica de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe.

“Si no fuese por Nuestra Señora no iría”, él había dicho ante reporteros.

El Papa llegará a la Ciudad de México y celebrará Misa en la basílica el segundo día de su viaje.

Durante los próximos cuatro días él visitará un hospital pediátrico en la capital, así como familias y comunidades indígenas en Chiapas, que cautivó la atención mundial con su rebelión zapatista durante la década de 1990.

Él visitará a jóvenes y a religiosos en Morelia, celebrará Misa en la frontera mexicana-estadounidense en Ciudad Juárez y visitará su infame prisión estatal Cereso, donde por lo menos 20 personas fueron asesinadas durante los disturbios de 2009 activados por



POBREZA: Un excusado improvisado es visto en un vecindario de bajos ingresos en Ciudad Juárez. El Papa Francisco visitará esa ciudad fronteriza durante su viaje el 12 a 17 de febrero a México.

pandillas rivales entre los presos.

“Estamos seguros que la presencia del Santo Padre nos confirmará en la fe, la esperanza y la caridad, ayudará a la Iglesia a seguir adelante en la misión permanente”, dijo la Conferencia Episcopal Mexicana en un comunicado del 12 de diciembre, “y alentará a creyentes y no creyentes a comprometernos en la construcción de un México justo, solidario, reconciliado y en paz”.

Padre Oscar Enríquez, sacerdote parroquial y director del Centro de Derechos Humanos Del Norte en Ciudad Juárez, dijo

que Juárez es a menudo visto como ejemplo de superación de la violencia extrema. “El Papa siempre busca las periferias. Juárez es la periferia de México y es un lugar por el cual pasan los migrantes”.

Padre Patricio Madrigal, pastor de la parroquia Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe en la ciudad Nueva Italia en Michoacán, dijo que al visitar Morelia el Papa “quiere estar más cerca de una zona abatida por la violencia. Él quiere traer consuelo y también intimidad”.

La reunión del Papa con jóvenes y religiosos en Morelia es importante, dijo el

Padre Madrigal, ya que la Iglesia ahí trabaja para mantener a los niños fuera de los carteles y proveerles a los sacerdotes apoyo y “fortalecernos en la fe y en nuestro trabajo atendiendo a las víctimas de la violencia”. Los sacerdotes de la región Tierra Caliente le habían prestado apoyo moral y espiritual a vigilantes que se armaban para expulsar un cartel narco en el 2013.

El Padre Madrigal dijo que el Papa Francisco “quiere darle a los jóvenes un mensaje de esperanza y de que se mantengan lejos de la tentación de la violencia”.

Servicio Noticioso Católico

CRS aumenta la Ayuda a Refugiados en Europa

BALTIMORE, Maryland – Los Servicios de Asistencia Católica (CRS, por sus siglas en inglés) ampliarán su respuesta a la crisis de refugiados en Europa en los próximos meses para satisfacer las necesidades de cientos de miles de refugiados en tránsito, así como de migrantes económicos.

Debido al comienzo del invierno y al constante cambio en la dinámica de la crisis, CRS se enfocará en proveer alojamiento, ropa calentita y otros artículos de asistencia durante emergencias, así como servicios de información y traducción.

Más de 750,000 refugiados y migrantes económicos han llegado a Europa durante el último año. Estos se han visto obligados a dejar sus hogares debido a una combinación de guerra, pobreza e inesta-

bilidad política.

El flujo continuo de gente que ingresa a Europa continúa sin cesar desde el pasado verano, arribando en promedio unas 6,500 personas por día. Más de la mitad de estas personas huyen de la guerra en Siria. El segundo grupo en relevancia proviene de Afganistán.

“A pesar del invierno y las bajas temperaturas, especialmente en los mares del Mediterráneo, no se ha disminuido mucho el flujo (de migrantes), y el incremento del frío solo esta agravando la pésima situación de estas personas”, explicó Marc D’Silva, representante de CRS para Bosnia y Herzegovina, quien se encarga de supervisar la respuesta de refugiados en Grecia y los países balcánicos.

CRS ha contribuido más de 6



DESESPERADOS: Una refugiada de Siria carga su niño en una cobija térmica mientras espera apoyo en la isla griega de Lesbos. Varios miles de refugiados y migrantes llegan a Europa cada día.

millones de dólares a la crisis desde que esta inició, y planea contribuir unos 4.3 millones de dólares adicionales durante el invierno. A la fecha, CRS ha ayudado a más de 70,000 refugiados y migrantes económicos en Grecia,

Macedonia, Serbia y Croacia.

La organización esta pidiendo tu ayuda para poder dar una mejor respuesta a la crisis. Puedes donar por teléfono al (877) 435-7277 de 5 a.m. a 8 p.m. hora del Pacífico; o enviar tu cheque o money order a:

Catholic Relief Services, P.O. Box 17090, Baltimore, MD 21297-0303.

Para mayor información visite el sitio de internet: www.crsespanol.org/

Servicio Noticioso Católico



IMPRESIONANTE: El arquitecto Renzo Zecchetto diseñó el Crucifijo de diez pies utilizando madera de cedro del Líbano. El escultor Lynn Kircher elaboró el cuerpo de bronce y acero. El arquitecto quiso abrir parte de la cruz para “que tomará luz por todos lados”, haciéndola tridimensional. La sala principal, en la imagen superior, tiene una forma moderna de un semicírculo y utiliza dos materiales básicos, piedra travertino y madera de cerezo.



► IGLESIA

CONTINUACIÓN DE PÁGINA 1

El edificio utiliza la luz natural para crear un templo que cambia a lo largo del día

“La gloria de este momento no es el hecho que se completó este edificio”, dijo el Obispo durante la celebración. “Es testimonio de la verdadera comunidad de fe que existe aquí”.

La misa incluyó la bendición de la pila de bautismo, hecha de bronce y olivino; la consagración del altar, una estructura de olivino de 12,000 libras; y la iluminación del altar y la iglesia. El Obispo también dedicó la pequeña capilla a un lado del santuario que se utilizará para la misa diaria y los funerales.

El arquitecto dijo que lo más importante para él era crear un espacio donde su pudiera consolidar el sentido de hermandad entre los parroquianos.

“¿Cómo se materializa eso? Yo quise recordar dos cosas que se pueden ver en la arquitectura: La conexión de lo humano y la exaltación de lo divino.

“La parte humana es una especie de cesto debajo de los cielos de madera donde se reúne toda la gente y lo divino es la luz”.

De hecho, la luz natural es el elemento más importante en el edificio.

Lo particular de esta iglesia es que está orientada al oeste y por lo tanto recibe una luz muy fuerte que no se puede meter de forma directa por ventanas porque iba crear “un problema tremendo”, explicó el arquitecto.

Su respuesta fue diseñar un edificio no tradicional cuyos ángulos permiten que la luz primero golpee un muro, rebote hacia otro y después bañe el interior con luz natural.

“La luz da la idea que está presente algo intangible, que es

la idea de Dios.”

La luz natural ilumina ciertas partes del interior a medida que avanza el día. Alrededor de las 3:30 p.m., por ejemplo, ilumina al Crucifijo de diez pies situado a un lado del altar, creando una imagen y sombra dramáticas.

El arquitecto diseñó la cruz, hecha de cedro del Líbano; y el cuerpo fue elaborado de bronce y acero por el escultor Lynn Kircher, de Colorado.

“Yo propuse que si dejábamos vacía la parte donde estaba el cuerpo iba entrar la luz por detrás e iba a darle más volumen, para reforzar la escultura que él hizo”, el arquitecto aseguró.

¿Cuáles tendencias influyen el trabajo del arquitecto?

“Mis valores, que no son de los Estados Unidos”, respondió.

Zecchetto se crio en Santiago, hijo de inmigrantes a Chile de Italia. Llegó a los Estados Unidos a la edad de 24 años.

“En España y en Latinoamérica la simpleza y la austeridad son virtudes”, aseguró. “Eso traigo de mi cultura; donde las cosas simples y los materiales, como el concreto, son humildes pero tienen fuerza como la piedra y no son tan caros o fatuosos”.

El arquitecto de 60 años, con oficinas en Santa Monica, también diseñó la Iglesia Católica de la Natividad en Rancho Santa Fe, su primer proyecto religioso.

Acepta que no todos les gustará la nueva iglesia, preferiendo algo más tradicional.

“La gente sabrá que esta parroquia es de estos tiempos y no del pasado”, afirmó.

En su totalidad, Zecchetto trabajó en el proyecto St.



RENZO ZECCHETTO

Thomas More alrededor de 25 años, bajo diferentes pastores, con distintas metas, inclusive en un sitio distinto. El no tener suficientes fondos siempre fue una preocupación, dijo, “por eso construimos el salón parroquial primero”.

“Cuando empecé era un hombre joven y mírame ahora”, bromeó.

El proyecto de desarrollar la iglesia tomó diez años y construirla dos. El reverendo Mike Ratajczak, el padre de la parroquia, lideró el proyecto todo ese tiempo.

Un grupo de feligreses, algunos miembros de la congregación desde sus primeros años, formaron un equipo que desarrolló la visión del interior. Ellos invitaron a escultores y otros artistas que presentaran ideas para obras dentro del templo. Un tapiz gigante con la imagen de Santo Tomás -- de colores café y pasteles y tejido en Bélgica -- es una de las obras principales seleccionadas, además del Crucifijo.

La alegría del padre Ratajczak era palpable cuando tomó la palabra por primera vez durante la misa de dedicación.

“¡Sí! ¡Hemos llegado!”

La iglesia y un edificio de oficinas bajo construcción costarán un total de \$13.5 millones de dólares, los cuales han sido recaudados durante diez años.

Al terminar la misa, el padre Ratajczak reflejó sobre lo que se había cumplido y lo que faltaba por hacer.

“Necesitamos recordar que este gran logro no es un final, más bien nos ofrece un camino.

“El propósito de este edificio magnífico es ayudarnos a venerar a nuestro Dios y a fortalecer nuestros esfuerzos para servir con cariño, en el nombre de Jesús, al mundo alrededor de nosotros.

“Si fallamos en hacerlo, ¡hemos construido para nada! El edificio, tan hermoso que está, no tiene sentido.

“Sí, finalmente hemos llegados a nuestro hogar, pero no hemos completado nuestra misión. Esto es solamente un paso más en nuestro camino como la Iglesia St. Thomas More”.

The Southern Cross

► CORO

CONTINUACIÓN DE PÁGINA 1

Grupo nunca se dio por vencido para compartir los mensajes de Dios

idea de hacer algo para los niños.

Quería proveer cantos apropiados para ellos “porque lo que hacemos en Catequesis Familiar, más que una clase de maestro a estudiante, es tener una celebración con un mensaje espiritual. Queríamos algo con lo que se pudieran mover”.

El problema era que no había estos cantos en español.

Contactó a un miembro de su iglesia que tocaba la guitarra y tenía un coro, José Luis Sevilla, y le preguntó si pudiera grabar un disco de cantos para niños.

Sevilla aceptó el reto y se movilizó.

El inmigrante de Michoacán y su esposa Avigay habían sido catequistas en la parroquia por décadas y se entregó al proyecto.

Sevilla compuso siete cantos originales e identificó 17 canciones tradicionales más de Latinoamérica para el disco y trabajó el libro con las letras de las canciones.

Y, por supuesto, hizo una convocatoria para niñas que quisieran formar el coro. Tras varias juntas se formó el grupo, a quien el director denominó “Pequeños Servidores de Dios”.

Con la meta de elaborar el disco, se pusieron a trabajar.

Las prácticas eran una vez a la semana excepto cuando se había programado una grabación. Entonces, practicaban tres veces a la semana.

El Padre Emmet a menudo iba a los ensayos.

“Yo pensaba que no podía hacerlo”, el padre le admitió a Sevilla.

“Qué sincero”, le respondió, sonriendo.

Llegó el momento de grabar los cantos.

Contrataron a un ingeniero de grabación de audio que les fue recomendado y la Diócesis les prestó la capilla del Centro Pastoral para la grabación. Se reunió un pequeño ejército de técnicos, músicos y el coro y grabaron los 24 cantos durante todo un día.

Como prueba de la disciplina de las niñas, el coro logró grabar todos los cantos en un día cuando le habían advertido a Sevilla que tomaría varias días para hacerlo.

El Padre Emmet pagó alrededor de \$5,000 de su propio bolsillo para la producción, confiado en las futuras ventas.

El ingeniero les dijo que dentro de dos semanas tendrían la grabación maestra para hacer el CD. Las semanas pasaron y nada. Luego un mes, y otro y otro.

Pasaría todo un año antes de que el ingeniero les entregara la grabación.

“Estaba muy, muy pobre. Era algo casero”, recordó Sevilla. “Nos desanimó tanto.”

Tal vez hubo “malos entendidos”, dijo el Padre Emmet, pero la realidad es que después de toda la inversión de tiempo y dinero, no tenían nada en las manos.

“Ese fue el primer capítulo”, dijo Sevilla, pero no resultó ser el último.

Pasaron ocho meses. Las niñas continuaron cantando, amenizando la misa de los sábados en la tarde en la parroquia.



FAMILIA MUSICAL: De izquierda a derecha, Ashley Law, José Luis Sevilla, Ivanette Pérez, Margaret Sevilla, Andrea Luna, Marla López, Evelyn Márquez, Michelle Cruz, Emily Jaime, Ambar González, Judith Morales. El director José Sevilla y el músico de piano William Youngling las acompañan. Roxana Lizárraga y Dania Castillo estuvieron ausentes.

“Yo dejé todo en la manos de Dios”, dijo el director.

El ahora jubilado Padre Emmet lo contactó de nuevo. Tenía que seguir adelante el proyecto, le aseguró.

Se les recomendó otro ingeniero de grabación, Francisco Alonso, que pudiera producir el disco, mezclando las voces y varios instrumentos.

A primera vista no pareciera que pudiera hacerlo. Trabajaba desde su garaje en casa.

“El sabiendo lo que le habían hecho al padre, se puso en un plan para ayudarnos”, aseguró Sevilla. “Abrió su corazón para servirnos”.

El garaje en realidad era un estudio sofisticado y desde ahí comenzó de nuevo la labor de grabar el CD. Sábado tras sábado, las 12 niñas grabaron los 24 cantos ahí, inclusive en el calor del verano.

“Estaban sudando”, dijo Sevilla. “A veces una niña se desinflaba y teníamos que volverla a animar y levantarla”.

Descansaban en un parque cercano y luego regresaban al garaje.

Después de grabar las voces de las niñas vino la tarea laboriosa de grabar los varios instrumentos. Sevilla tocó la guitarra; un estudiante de la Universidad Estatal de San Diego, William Youngling, tocó el piano, su hijo Luis Manuel Sevilla tocó el teclado; y un hombre que conoció en el trabajo, Narciso Guzmán, otro voluntario en la iglesia, apoyó en el instrumento de bajo.

Brian Avey, un músico de la Oficina de Liturgia del Centro Pastoral de San Diego, ayudó a revisar la escritura musical para la elaboración de libro de música.

“Fue una tarea muy bonita en que todos convivimos y seguimos adelante, seguimos adelante”, dijo Sevilla.

El tiempo no solamente había creado un coro que cantaba bien, había fomentado una comunidad de niñas, padres y músicos.

“Los papas se han convencido de que sus niñas han ido creciendo dentro de un ambi-

ente limpio, sano, blanco,” dijo Sevilla. “No quieren que se salgan de ahí”.

Los cantos son una mezcla de composiciones originales y tradicionales de Latinoamérica. Sevilla trabajó con el ingeniero de grabación para ponerle “saborcito” de música de Sinaloa y hasta de Perú, país que inspiró el proyecto. Utilizaron instrumentos nativos de Perú. El resultado son canciones pegajosas que invitan a los que los

escuchan a cantar con ellos mientras celebran el poder de Dios.

Las familias del coro se reunieron para un convivio en la casa de Sevilla días antes de Navidad. El ingeniero llegó de sorpresa trayendo una caja.

Las niñas recibieron un gran regalo: El muy anhelado disco finalmente estaba en sus manos.

The Southern Cross

El disco está a la venta

El CD “Agua Viva”, con 24 cantos de evangelización para niños en español, fue grabado por el coro Pequeños Servidores de Dios y su director, José Luis Sevilla, de la parroquia San Antonio de Padua de National City.

El disco cuesta \$10 y trae un libro con las letras de las canciones. El libro con la música cuesta \$5. Se pueden adquirir contactando al Padre Emmet Farrell en el correo electrónico elf620@yahoo.com o al número de teléfono (619) 419-8345.



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Breves

Ofrecen Capacitación de Voluntarios en Hospicio

ESCONDIDO – El Hospicio Elizabeth ofrecerá su próxima capacitación de voluntarios los sábados 13, 20 y 27 de febrero de 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., en las oficinas administrativas del Hospicio Elizabeth ubicadas en 500 La Terraza Blvd., Suite 130, Escondido.

La capacitación para voluntarios es gratuita y abierta al público, los participantes deberán asistir los tres días. Se necesitan voluntarios bilingües (español) y veteranos de Guerra, así como terapias de masaje con licencia y personas que sepan coser para el programa de Cuddle Bear del hospicio.

También se necesitan voluntarios que puedan asistir con terapias complementarias como terapia de mascotas y apoyo musical. Existen oportunidades de voluntariado a lo largo del Condado de San Diego y en el Inland Empire, los voluntarios pueden escoger servir cerca de la zona donde residan. Personal capacitado del Hospicio Elizabeth capacitará sobre temas tales como trabajar con pacientes sin habla, diversidad cultural, terapias complementarias y escuchar abiertamente. *Para asegurar tu lugar en la capacitación para voluntarios contacta al Departamento de Voluntarios al (800)797-2050 antes del lunes 8 de febrero. Se ofrecerá otro curso para voluntarios en mayo.*

No Se Colectan Suficientes Firmas Sobre Ley

La Parroquia del Buen Pastor (Good Shepherd Parish) de Mira Mesa fue una de las muchas parroquias de la Diócesis de San Diego que participó en la colecta de firmas para una iniciativa que revocara la iniciativa de ley AB 128, la cual permite el suicidio asistido en California.

Se juntaron más de mil firmas en el Buen Pastor a lo largo de dos semanas con ayuda de los Caballeros de Colón, el Grupo Cultura de Vida y otros voluntarios.

Se calcula que se juntaron miles de firmas en parroquias a lo largo de la Diócesis de San Diego. El Obispo Robert W. McElroy ha expresado su sincero agradecimiento por los esfuerzos de varios voluntarios de las parroquias, quienes trabajaron para revocar el Acta de Terminación Opcional de la Vida, la cual legalizó el suicidio en California.

El 7 de enero, se determinó que las firmas recolectadas en California, alrededor de 300,000, no eran suficientes para calificar para la iniciativa, para la cual se requerían 500,000 firmas, según informó el Dr. Mark Hoffman, defensor del referéndum. “Nuestro trabajo de oposición a esta ley no terminará. Exploraremos otras opciones, incluyendo acciones legales para proteger a adultos mayores vulnerables, enfermos y discapacitados para que no sean presionados a terminar con sus vidas

anticipadamente solo porque otros los consideran una carga o porque se puedan ver beneficiados económicamente tras su muerte. Creemos que cada vida es valiosa y debe ser protegida”.

Gala en Apoyo de la Educación Católica

ESCONDIDO – El sábado 6 de febrero se llevará a cabo la Gala anual de la escuela St. Mary en Escondido. El evento se realizará en el Centro de Artes de California de Escondido. El tema es “¡Día de Apertura en las Carreras!” El evento contará con música, comidas, subastas, así como la oportunidad de conocer a los invitados de honor de este año: la periodista Kimberly Hunt, ganadora de un Emmy, y su esposo, ex jugador de los Chargers y personalidad de la radio, Billy Ray Smith. Lo recaudado en el evento será destinado a maestros, herramientas, capacitación y tecnología de la misma escuela. *Para mayor información o para hacer un donativo puede llamar al (760) 504-9169 o por correo electrónico a Gala@stmesc.org.*

Banquete beneficia víctimas de trata

SAN DIEGO – La organización Children of the Immaculate Heart (Niños del Inmaculado Corazón), que ayuda a los sobrevivientes de trata de personas, tendrá su tercer cena-gala anual el próximo viernes 5 de febrero, en la parroquia Our Mother of Confidence.

El Padre Ed Benioff, vicario de la nueva evangelización de la Arquidiócesis de Los Ángeles y pastor de la Parroquia Buen Pastor de Beverly Hills, celebrará una misa a las 5:30 p.m. La hora social comenzará a las 6:15 p.m., y el banquete a las 7 p.m.

La entrada es gratis pero se aceptarán donativos durante el evento. Se realizará una subasta para recaudar fondos para un centro residencial para niñas víctimas. *Las reservaciones deberán hacerse antes del 29 de enero a camillemica.cih@gmail.com o vía telefónica (281) 832-5369.*

Grupo de Evangelización Lleva Dios a las Calles

SAN DIEGO – St. Paul Street Evangelization es una organización no lucrativa dedicada a responder al mandato de Jesús de enseñar el Evangelio a todas las naciones llevando la fe católica a las calles. La organización responde de manera respetuosa al llamado de Cristo para evangelizar. Este mandato fue reiterado por el Concilio Vaticano II quienes pidieron a todos los bautizados llevar el Evangelio a una cultura que ha regresado al paganismo. Como parte de una organización católica de la calle, St. Paul Street Evangelization ofrece un camino para que los católicos compartan la persona de Jesucristo y la belleza de la fe católica con la cultura. *Para mayor información visite www.StreetEvangelization.com o comuníquese a (619) 515-3267 ó por correo electrónico scb@procopio.com.*

2,000 fieles asisten concierto de Valverde

SAN DIEGO – Alrededor de 2,000 personas asistieron un gran concierto de Martín Valverde en el hotel Town and Country el pasado 13 de diciembre. El evento fue organizado por Hombre Nuevo y apoyado por los grupos de Católicos de Conversión de cuatro parroquias, Holy Spirit y Nuestra Señora de los Ángeles en San Diego, Santa María en Escondido y Nuestra Señora del Perpetuo Socorro en Lakeside.

Movimiento de Cursillos tiene nuevo director

CHULA VISTA – Unas 250 personas asistieron el baile de colores del Movimiento de Cursillos de Cristiandad el pasado 5 de diciembre en la Quinta De Guadalupe. Se presentó el nuevo director laico del Movimiento, Ricardo del Rosario, y Cuca Angulo terminó su función de dos años como directora laica.

PRÓXIMOS EVENTOS

INSTITUTO DIOCESANO

S295s María, Madre de Dios y de la Iglesia (15 hrs)

Vicente Leal, M.A.
los miércoles, 20 enero – 3 marzo 2016
(no habrá clase el 10 febrero)
6:30 – 9 p.m.
Holy Spirit, San Diego

G140s Eclesiología (30 hrs)

Roberto Rojas, M.A.
los jueves, 21 enero – 28 abril 2016
(no clase 4 feb, 24 marzo, 31 marzo ni 21 abril)
6:30 – 9:15 pm
St. Joseph Cathedral

S960s Talentos de los Padres para una Familia Sana (15 hrs)

Ricardo Marquez, Ph.D.
los viernes, 22 enero – 26 febrero 2016
6:30 – 9 pm
Holy Trinity, El Cajon

G150s Intro a Liturgia y Sacramentos (30 hrs)

Vicente Leal, M.A.
los sábados, 23 enero – 23 abril 2016
(no habrá clase el 13 febrero, 27 febrero, 12 marzo, ni el 26 marzo)
Resurrection, Escondido

C200s Intro a Moralidad Cristiana (30 hrs)

Roberto Rojas, M.A.
los lunes, 25 enero – 9 mayo 2016
(no clase 15 febrero, 29 febrero, 21 marzo, ni 28 marzo)
6:30 – 9 pm
Our Lady of Angels, San Diego

G150s Intro a la Liturgia y Sacramentos (30 hrs)

Rev. Juan Castillo, CJM, M.A.
los lunes, 25 enero – 2 mayo 2016
(no clase 15 febrero, 21 marzo ni 28 marzo)
6:30 – 9 pm
St. Mary Star of the Sea School, Oceanside

S320s Los Libros Sapienciales (15 hrs)

Bernadeane Carr, S.T.L.
los lunes, 25 enero – 3 marzo 2016
(no habrá clase el 15 febrero)
6 – 8:30 p.m.
Resurrection, Escondido

C120s Iglesia Local (15 hrs)

Linda Arreola, M.A.
los miércoles, 27 enero – 9 marzo 2016
(no habrá clase el 10 febrero)a
6:30 – 9 p.m.
La Quinta de Guadalupe, Imperial Beach

C150s Historia de la Iglesia Moderna (15 hrs)

Ernesto Amezcua, M.A.
los lunes, 1 febrero – 7 marzo 2016
(no habrá clase el 15 febrero)
6:30 – 9:30 pm
St. Francis of Assisi, Vista

S352siv Evangelio de San Lucas (15 hrs)

Hna. Mónica del Hoyo, CVI, Dipl.
los lunes, 1 febrero – 14 marzo 2016
(no habrá clase el 15 febrero)
7 – 9:30 pm St. Anthony of Padua, Imperial

C110s Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica (15 hrs)

Hna. Gloria Galván, SFCC, Dipl.
los lunes, 8 febrero – 14 marzo 2016
6:30 – 9 pm
St. Peter the Apostle, Fallbrook

S200s Sacramentos de Iniciación (15 hrs)

Vicente Leal, M.A.
los martes, del 9 febrero al 15 marzo 2016
6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Our Lady of Mount Carmel, San Ysidro

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Reunión para Coordinadores de RICA

en Preparación para el Rito de Elección
Martes, 2 de febrero, 2016 de 10-10:45 a.m.
Centro Pastoral Diocesano

Preparando el Camino para el Liderazgo del Mañana

con Olivia Cornejo
Jueves, 4 de febrero, 2016 de 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Centro Pastoral Diocesano
Gratuito

Pilares Espirituales de la Catequesis

con Dr. Hosffman Ospino
Sábado, 13 de febrero, 2016 de 8:30 a.m.- 12:30 pm
Centro Pastoral Diocesano
Costo: \$15

Reunión para Formadores de Catequistas

con Padre Manuel Varela
Jueves, 3 de marzo, 2016 de 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Centro Pastoral Diocesano
Gratuito

Reflexión sobre la Eucaristía

con Eddie Pérez
Martes, 8 de marzo, 2016 de 6:30-8:30 pm
Centro Pastoral Diocesano
Gratuito

De la Transfiguración a la Resurrección

con Bernadeane Carr
Miércoles, 9 de marzo, 2016 de 6:30-9 pm
Centro Pastoral Diocesano
Costo: \$15

Día de Currículo

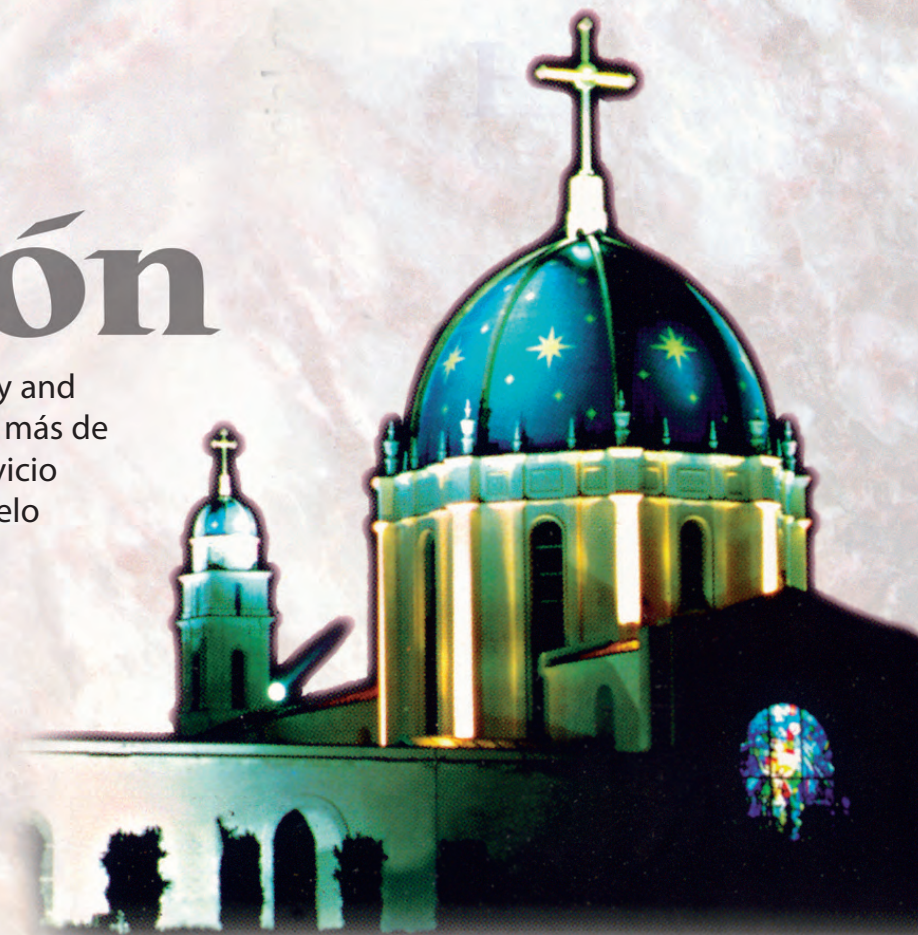
Jueves, 7 de abril, 2016 de 9 a.m.- 2 p.m.
Centro Pastoral Diocesano
Gratuito

Tradición

Dedicado en 1919, Holy Cross Cemetery and Mausoleum es un hermoso campo con más de cuarenta acres, un lugar no solo de servicio reverente a los difuntos, pero de consuelo espiritual para los que permanecen.

Santuario

Holy Cross no es una empresa comercial o cívica, sino una institución de la iglesia operada y mantenida como un encargo sagrado. El entierro se puede organizar como se desee, en tierra consagrada o en el mausoleo imperecedero, que es prueba solida contra el tiempo y los elementos.



Fe

Holy Cross responde a las inquietudes de las familias católicas para darle un lugar final de reposo a los difuntos, en tierra consagrada reservada exclusivamente para los creyentes y para sus familiares inmediatos.

Compromiso

Este es nuestro compromiso: mantener cada instalación con una anticipación inteligente para cada necesidad y deseo. Un santuario completo de tranquilo aislamiento, para la reflexión contemplativa, la meditación, las memorias inolvidables y para buscar la paz con uno mismo, con nuestro mundo y con nuestro Dios.

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diariamente para guiarle en su visita
personal de las instalaciones
de Holy Cross.**

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