



With the Love of a Shepherd



New priests urged to follow example of Good Shepherd

By Denis Grasska

SAN DIEGO — On June 24, during a Mass at St. Therese of Carmel Parish, Bishop Robert W. McElroy ordained four local men to the priesthood.

David Exner, Corey Tufford and Derek Twilliger were ordained for ministry in the Diocese of San Diego, and Glenn Baaten as a priest for the Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of St. Peter. Established by Pope Benedict XVI, the ordinariate is essentially a diocese for former Anglicans throughout the United States who wish to be fully Catholic while retaining their Anglican traditions and liturgical practices.

"In today's liturgy, four separate lives converge in service to the Church through ordained priesthood," Bishop McElroy said in his homily, noting the unique paths that had led each of the men to their priestly vocations.

The bishop said that "the prism for that convergence" could be seen in the image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd, and he shared "three dimensions of the love of the Shepherd" that might serve as a challenge and a source of consolation for them at the start of their ministry.

The first dimension, the bishop said, is composed of the "countless, unimaginable graces and joys" that mark the priestly life.

"Every new priest is ordained with expectations about how the priesthood will unfold in his life ... but priesthood itself is rooted in a surrender to the God who constantly amazes and who unveils wonders which are beyond all of our preconceptions," Bishop McElroy said.

The second dimension, the bishop said, is the call "to become sojourners for the Lord." He explained that the shepherd is "a wanderer," who is constantly leading his sheep toward nourishment and safety and who at times must be willing to leave the rest of his flock to seek out the one sheep who has gone astray.

DENIS GRASSKA

BLESSING FOR A BISHOP: Newly-ordained Father Derek Twilliger gives a priestly blessing to Bishop Robert W. McElroy at the conclusion of the ordination Mass June 24 at St. Therese of Carmel Parish.

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San Diego Catholics Are Seeing 'Green'

SAN DIEGO — Last summer, in his encyclical "Laudato Si," Pope Francis called for greater respect for God's creation and "care for our common home."

Since the encyclical's publication on June 18 of last year, that call has resounded around the globe, and San Diegans are responding in a big way.

Several successful initiatives are currently underway to increase energy efficiency at local parishes, schools and diocesan institutions.

San Diegans also recently benefited from the fact that Dr. Veerabhadran Ramanathan, dubbed "the pope's climate scientist" for his work as a member of the Vatican Pontifical

Academy of Sciences, is a Distinguished Professor of Atmospheric and Climate Sciences at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California, San Diego. The Diocese of San Diego co-sponsored an "An Evening with Dr. Ramanathan" on April 15 at St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral in collaboration with California Interfaith Power and Light.

"Climate change has become a huge moral and ethical problem affecting everyone, but particularly the poor all over the world," Ramanathan told *The Southern Cross*.

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Bishop Responds to U.S. Supreme Court Decisions

SAN DIEGO — Bishop Robert W. McElroy issued the following statement on June 28 concerning separate recent decisions by the U.S. Supreme Court:

"A series of decisions by the Supreme Court this week striking down abortion statutes in Texas, Mississippi and Wisconsin is another sign of the failure of our national legal and political system to protect human life at its most vulnerable. It is also an ominous signal that even the most modest legal steps to protect the life of the unborn are likely to be blocked by a judicial philosophy and political culture which effectively annihilate the human identity of the unborn child while pretending to accord presumptive recognition to the stark reality which both morality and science attest — that a preborn child is indeed a human life.

"Let us pray and work together to create a society in which children in the womb might be accorded the most fundamental human right of life which is the heritage of us all."

The Southern Cross

McWeeney, Zondler Ordained to Transitional Diaconate

By Denis Grasska

OCEANSIDE — Two local men are now just one step away from ordination to the priesthood.

Nathan McWeeney and William Zondler, II, were ordained to the transitional diaconate June 18 at St. Margaret Parish in Oceanside. Bishop Robert W. McElroy presided over the liturgy.

For Deacons McWeeney and Zondler, unlike the five local men who were ordained as permanent deacons on June 3, the diaconate does not represent a lifelong vocation but rather the penultimate step toward priesthood. They will be ordained as priests of the Diocese of San Diego next summer.

Though it is for him only a temporary phase, Deacon McWeeney said his diaconal ordination still marks the beginning of “a lifelong commitment.” At the ordination Mass, the 30-year-old publicly promised to lead a life of celibacy, simplicity and obedience to the bishop of San Diego. Though he had already been living in such a way as a seminarian, he said, ordination required him to “say yes to living this way of life most permanently.”

Deacon McWeeney, who was ordained to the transitional diaconate at his home parish, noted that the word “deacon” is derived from a Greek word meaning “servant.” Though a transitional deacon, he said, “I certainly don’t want to become a transitional servant. I want to keep the identity of servant alive in my understanding of priesthood as I transition forth.”

He told *The Southern Cross* that a priest recently explained to him that becoming a transitional deacon is like receiving one’s learner’s permit.

“When you have your permit, you have limitations on your driving,” he said. “You’re still learning. You’re given some major responsibility, but the larger responsibility will come after you gain a certain amount of experience and after you prove your ability.”

While recognizing that he is not yet a



PATH TO PRIESTHOOD: William Zondler II (left) and Nathan McWeeney (right) are seen June 18 during their ordination to the transitional diaconate.

priest, Deacon Zondler cannot help feeling that his ordination to the transitional diaconate is “like a culmination.”

“Yes, I will still have one more year in seminary; yes, I am not yet a priest,” said Deacon Zondler, 29. “[But] I will be serving at the parish level in a way unlike anything I’ve experienced before. I will start preaching, start baptizing, and perhaps even preside at marriages.”

“It is exciting to begin the next chapter of my life in the Church, to finally start to put into practice all that I’ve learned in seminary, and to begin to learn what it means and what it is to be a priest on a deeper experiential level,” he said. “It seems this transitional year is largely about adjusting to a shift in the manner of participating at Mass.”

“No amount of classes on preaching can prepare you to go from not preaching to preaching almost every day,” said Deacon Zondler. “The only real way to make that

jump is to do it.”

Reflecting on his future ordination to the priesthood, Deacon McWeeney said it will mean “a change in identity.”

“I’ll still be a human being, and I’ll still be a man; I’ll still be Nathan,” he said. “But I’ll have an additional dimension of identity integrated into who I am. I’ll be a priest.”

As a priest, he said, he will be called to “continue Christ’s one sacrifice on behalf of the people.”

“I find the responsibility frightening, to be honest,” he said. “But I’m saying yes to this calling, and with my yes has come a lot of peace and joy.”

Deacon Zondler said that, as he looks ahead to his priestly ordination, he is excited about the opportunity to learn through firsthand experience what it means to be a priest.

“To celebrate Mass, to preach, to hear confessions, to be present to the people of God and serve them in their moments of

Local Preparations Underway for Encuentro

By Aida Bustos

PASTORAL CENTER — Latinos represent the emerging majority of the Catholic Church in the United States. In fact, Hispanics constitute about 60 percent of all Catholics under age 18 in the United States.

What are their priorities in the Church? How can the Church better engage them, particularly young people? How do you engage and serve those who live on the margins of society?

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) is leading a four-year, bilingual process of ecclesial reflection and action centered on those questions called the Fifth National Encuentro of Hispanic/Latino Ministry. “Encuentro” means the action of meeting in the Spanish language.

Previous Encuentros “have been a watershed experience that has significantly changed the way in which the Church responds to the Latino presence, and the way in which Latinos respond to the Church,” according to the USCCB.

Nationwide, the Encuentro process involves 14 episcopal regions, 175 dioceses, 42 Catholic national organizations, 14

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greatest joy and in their moments of greatest sorrow — to encounter Jesus in the people of God and bring them Jesus sacramentally, to point to Him concretely in people’s daily lives — all of this is a gift far greater than I could have expected or asked for,” he said. “There is so much ahead of me that is mystery, and I am excited to see all the surprises that God has in store.”

The Southern Cross

Supreme Court Strikes Down Texas Abortion Regulations

By Carol Zimmermann

WASHINGTON — In a 5-3 vote June 27, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down restrictions on Texas abortion clinics that required them to comply with standards of ambulatory surgical centers and required their doctors to have admitting privileges at local hospitals.

The case, *Whole Woman’s Health v. Hellerstedt*, challenged a 2013 state law, H.B. 2, placing the requirements on the state’s abortion clinics. Opponents of the law claimed the requirements were aimed at closing abortion clinics. But the state and many pro-life advocates maintained that the law protected women’s health.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and other religious groups submitted a joint friend of the court brief in the case supporting the Texas law, which was similar to other state laws regulating abortion clinics across the country.

Justice Stephen Breyer, who wrote the opinion, said the restrictions on the clinics “provide few if any health benefits for women, pose a substantial obstacle to women seeking abortions and constitute an ‘undue burden’ on their constitutional right to do so.”

Reaction to the court’s ruling was immediate. Those in favor of the regulations said the court’s opinion put women at risk and

those opposed to the state law called it a major victory.

“The court has rejected a common-sense law protecting women from abortion facilities that put profits above patient safety,” said Deirdre McQuade, assistant director for pro-life communications at the USCCB’s Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities.

She said the Texas law “simply required abortion facilities to meet the same health and safety standards as other ambulatory surgical centers.”

McQuade, in a statement issued after the ruling, also said: “Abortion claims the lives of unborn children, and too often endangers their mothers as well.

This ruling contradicts the consensus among medical groups that such measures protect women’s lives.”

Jocelyn Floyd, an attorney with the Thomas More Society, a national public interest law firm based in Chicago that also filed a friend of the court brief in this case, disagreed with the court’s view that the clinic regulations were “unnecessary.”

Here in Illinois, she said: “We’ve seen all too well what disastrous consequences come from holding abortion providers to lower standards than other medical providers — contamination, dirty facilities, patient injury, and even death.”

Dissenting votes in the case were

from Chief Justice John Roberts and Justices Clarence Thomas and Samuel Alito Jr.

Thomas wrote that the court’s decision “simultaneously transformed judicially created rights like the right to abortion into preferred constitutional rights, while disfavoring many of the rights actually enumerated in the Constitution.” He added that the Constitution “renounces the notion that some constitutional rights are more equal than others. ... A law either infringes a constitutional right, or not; there is no room for the judiciary to invent tolerable degrees of encroachment.”

Catholic News Service

A Team with 'Faith'

Special-needs child was honorary player on girls softball team

By Denis Grasska

CHULA VISTA — For four years now, the varsity girls softball team at Mater Dei Catholic High School has reserved its number-one jersey and a spot in the dugout for an honorary player.

That honorary player is always a young girl with special needs. Past participants have included those braving serious heart-related issues and such challenges as cerebral palsy and Down syndrome.

Last fall, Honorary Player Program Coordinator Lynn Flanagan and Team Captain Kellie White were volunteering with the Special Olympics when they separately met the 8-year-old girl who would go on to serve as the team's most recent honorary player: Faith Lee.

"Faith is the most vibrant little girl I have ever met," said Coach Mike Centrullo, for whom the honorary player program has been the realization of a long-held dream. "Her message is to live every day with excitement, enthusiasm and a smile."

Faith, who recently celebrated her ninth birthday, has Down syndrome and mosaic Turner Syndrome. During the softball season, which began in mid-February and concluded in late May, she attended most home games as well as two playoff games. She threw out the first pitch and, at the conclusion of each game, joined her teammates in giving high-fives to members of the opposing team. She even received a few softball lessons of her own from Centrullo after team practices.

Faith's mother, Esther Lee, said that she and her husband felt the program would be "a new experience for Faith" and wanted their daughter "to have fun with the high school girls."

"She was always excited to go to the games and see the girls," said Lee. "Faith felt very special to wear the number-one uniform and throw out the opening pitch at the beginning of the game. She was proud to be part of the team."

White, who graduated from Mater Dei Catholic this year, told *The Southern Cross* that she hopes Faith ended the season with the knowledge that "she gained 15 sisters who will constantly and always support her and have her back."

But it wasn't just Faith who benefited from her participation.

White said having Faith on the team was "one of the biggest blessings that could've happened to our program."

"She is such a blessing," she said. "She finds the light in every dark situation, and that is something I have learned from her."

Flanagan echoed that sentiment, saying that "a genuine love of life" was "the most significant gift Faith bestowed upon the players."



HONORARY PLAYER: Faith Lee, who served as an honorary player on the Mater Dei Catholic varsity girls softball team, is seen with Team Captain Kellie White.

Since Centrullo started it four years ago, the honorary player program has become an essential part of the "overall experience of being on his team," Flanagan said. Through the program, special-needs children and their families are afforded "a unique experience," while the softball team members are taught not to take their own abilities for granted.

"The purpose of this program is to enrich the lives of special-needs children by placing them in an environment in which they may not normally find themselves," Centrullo explained. "The genesis has been and always will be to create a distraction for them from the trials and tribulations they may be experiencing in their life."

Even after a new child is selected for the role of honorary player, those who held the position in the past are considered to be members of the Mater Dei Catholic softball family for life. They are always welcome to wear their team jersey

and watch the game from the dugout as often as their health and their parents' often hectic schedules permit.

"It is our goal for this to be a lifelong commitment, and we invite and encourage these honorary players to come back, year after year," Centrullo said.

The search for the 2017 season's honorary player has already begun, and there is hope that Mater Dei Catholic's other female varsity teams might also be able to welcome special-needs children as honorary players next year.

Those who know a special-needs child who should be considered for the program are invited to contact Lynn Flanagan at flanagan.lynn@gmail.com. Coaches of female varsity sports teams throughout San Diego County who are interested in adopting a similar program are also invited to contact Flanagan.

The Southern Cross

Agency: Bishops Don't Have Standing to Object to Abortion Mandate

SACRAMENTO — After almost two years of little or no activity, the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has ruled that the bishops of California and others filing complaints do not have standing to object to a California agency mandating that religious organizations and individuals pay for all abortions in their managed health care plans.

"When California — without public hearings or sufficient notification — defined abortion as a basic health care service two years ago, it became absolutely necessary to file this complaint," explained Edward "Ned" Dolejsi, executive director of the California Catholic Conference. "Forcing organizations and individuals to violate their religious convictions is a threat to fundamental human liberties. To do so without due process disdains honest public discourse. Taking two years to decide a simple question of standing is an appalling delay of basic justice that has placed those who

do not wish to pay for all abortions in their privately purchased health care plan in an untenable position."

The bishops of California said in their complaint that, when the California Department of Managed Health Care required insurance companies under their jurisdiction to cover abortion, it was a violation of the civil rights for those who could no longer purchase abortion-free health insurance plans as described by the federal Weldon Amendment.

The Weldon Amendment is designed to protect religious conscience rights in the health care environment. Violation of its provision mandates that the federal government withhold all funding from a state — something that most observers believe is not only impractical but wrong. Catholic organizations have been advocating for years for more effective consequences and for a private right of action in such cases. The denial of standing by the OCR — part of a federal agency that promotes abortion services — high-

lights the need for a right of private action in the courts.

"The First Amendment clearly disallows impeding the free exercise of religion," said Dolejsi. "Forcing a faith-based organization that objects to abortion to pay for one clearly impedes that right. It is clearly discrimination and the California Catholic Conference will continue to advocate for relief."

"Catholic beliefs about life and human dignity animate and shape our Catholic ministries," explained Bishop Robert W. McElroy, president of the California Catholic Conference's Institutional Concerns Committee, when the complaint was filed. "It's why we oppose abortion, but it is also why Catholic schools provide education, Catholic hospitals care for the poor and vulnerable, and why Catholic social services provide assistance to people and families in need. It goes to the core of our moral beliefs."

The Southern Cross

Briefs

Board Will Help Remove Negligent Bishops

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis will set up a panel of legal experts to help him in deciding whether to remove a religious superior or bishop from office for failing to protect minors and vulnerable adults from sex abuse. Vatican offices will continue to investigate claims of negligence on the part of bishops, ordinaries or religious superiors under their jurisdiction. But the pope — who makes the final decision about a bishop's removal from office — will now be assisted by a papally appointed "college of jurists," according to procedures that take effect Sept. 5. In an apostolic letter given "motu proprio" (on his own initiative), dated June 4, the pope reaffirmed that bishops of a diocese or eparchy and those responsible for other kinds of particular Churches can be "legitimately removed" for negligence. In order for it to be grounds for removal, such negligence — either through omission or commission — will have had to cause "serious harm to others," including individuals or a community, the letter said, and "the harm can be physical, moral, spiritual" or to property.

People Encouraged to Pray for Religious Freedom

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The theme for the 2016 Fortnight for Freedom, "Witnesses to Freedom," unfolded as 1,500 people spent part of their July 4 holiday in Washington attending the observance's closing Mass and venerating the relics of two English saints martyred in 1535 for their Catholic faith. The Mass and veneration took place at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. After the Mass, people waited in a long line to kneel and pray before the relics of St. John Fisher and St. Thomas More displayed near the altar. Welcoming the congregation, Msgr. Walter Rossi, the shrine's rector, said those filling what is the largest Catholic church in North America offered "testimony that the freedom to live our lives according to our faith is fundamental to the life of believers." The U.S. Catholic Church's fifth annual Fortnight for Freedom closing Mass included the participation of three of the petitioners in a recent Supreme Court case challenging the federal contraceptive mandate.

New Archbishop



Archbishop Francisco Moreno Barrón will be installed on Aug. 11 as the new archbishop of Tijuana.

His new archdiocese serves Catholics in the Tijuana, Tecate and Rosarito Beach metropolitan area, which has a fast-growing population of between 1.5 to 2 million residents. The archdiocese has 100 parishes and around 200 priests.

Archbishop Barrón, 61, previously served as bishop of the Diocese of Tlaxcala. A native of Guanajuato state, he's served in a variety of Church posts since being ordained to the priesthood in 1979. These include serving as president of the Episcopal Commission for Youth Ministry from 2003 to 2006.

The archbishop said he looks forward to working with Bishop Robert W. McElroy, as they tackle the challenges and enjoy the blessings of living on the border.



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PUBLISHER: Bishop Robert W. McElroy MANAGING EDITOR: Father Charles L. Fuld ASSISTANT EDITOR: Denis Grasska STAFF WRITER: Aida Bustos

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(ISSN 0745-0257) is published monthly by the Roman Catholic Diocese of San Diego, 3888 Paducah Dr., San Diego, CA 92117-5349 for \$15 per year. Periodicals Postage Paid at San Diego, CA.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *The Southern Cross*, P.O. Box 81869, San Diego, CA 92138-1869.

Peace in a War Zone

It may sound like an oxymoron, but Father Michael A. Mikstay says some of the most peaceful moments of his military chaplaincy have been spent in a war zone.

Knowing that he is bringing peace, comfort and pastoral care to the men and women serving their country in a combat zone has given the long-serving Navy chaplain an enormous sense of serenity that mutes the danger, chaos, calamity, casualties and atrocities he has also seen in war.

"There are obviously times when, just like anyone else, we are full of fear for our lives, we're full of concern that we may not make it back," Father Mikstay told *Catholic News Service* as he reflected on his last deployment to Iraq in 2013.

"But at the same time, it's knowing that what we do there is paramount for the spiritual needs for those marines, or any of the services present, that helps us push through that fear."

Military men and women in a combat zone suffer if they're not prepared spiritually and knowing that he is able to bring those kinds of provisions to them gives him an inner peace in a place that is anything but serene.

There is no glory in a war zone, said Father Mikstay, who currently serves as a chaplain at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, and though his role in combat reinforces that he is serving where he is most needed, there is still no mistaking the fact that "war is hell."

Catholic News Service

That's 'Amoris'!

"Keep an open mind. Don't get bogged down in your own limited ideas and opinions, but be prepared to change or expand them. The combination of two different ways of thinking can lead to a synthesis that enriches both. The unity that we seek is not uniformity, but a 'unity in diversity,' or 'reconciled diversity.' Fraternal communion is enriched by respect and appreciation for differences within an overall perspective that advances the common good" [139].

— From Pope Francis' recent apostolic exhortation, *"Amoris Laetitia"* ("The Joy of Love")



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COURTESY OF KATHY CAZIN AND THERESA COGGESHALL

Kathy and Robert Cazin (top) pose with a copy of *The Southern Cross* during a recent visit to Canyonlands National Park in Utah.

Pilgrims from St. Therese of Carmel Parish in Carmel Valley (bottom), joined by their pastor Father Nicholas Dempsey, pose with a copy of *The Southern Cross* on April 10 in the Pura Chapel (or Capella della Pura) in the Santa Maria Novella Basilica in Florence, Italy.

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 can be e-mailed to dgrasska@sdccatholic.org.

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► GREEN

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Many parishes are installing solar power systems

Devastation of the environment “will negatively impact generations of unborn people and catastrophically impact the poorest 3 billion who have no access to energy to cope with climate-related disasters,” he said. “[The] faith community is uniquely positioned to talk to people about the moral and ethical nature of the problem.”

Late last year, the Diocesan Finance Council recommended that all parishes install solar power systems and proposed an approval process with the diocese that included using approved vendors. Bishop Robert W. McElroy greenlit both recommendations.

The move toward solar power was well timed so that the projects could take place before scheduled San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) rates and rules changes that would make such projects more expensive.

Mark A. Fisher, chief financial officer in the diocesan Office for Finance and Accounting, is spearheading the solar power initiative.

He told *The Southern Cross* that more than 50 locations are currently in the process of getting bids or working on their solar power purchase agreements. He added that the diocesan Pastoral Center and several schools and parishes have already signed their agreements and are preparing for con-

struction to begin this summer.

Fisher said environmental stewardship is an area that the Catholic community should care about and sees the solar initiative as playing a role in that trend.

“God gave us the wonderful gifts of clean air, clean water, fruit from the land’s harvests and nourishment from the sea,” he said. “Our call is to honor God for these many blessings by being good stewards of our planet.”

In 2014, the Diocese of San Diego partnered with SDG&E and the sustainability firm REV (formerly True Market Solutions) on the Stewardship & Sustainability Circle program. Some 10 Catholic schools and parishes, including St. Columba and St. Rita schools, participated in a six-month pilot program from November 2014 through May 2015.

“As the San Diego Diocese Sustainability Circle was ending, Pope Francis presented his encyclical to the world,” said Elliot Hoffman, founder and CEO of REV. “Hopefully, the diocese, the pope and other global spiritual leaders will continue as catalysts for everyone to engage in these critically important issues and together make big positive changes happen.”

Through monthly workshops, individual coaching, on-site assessments and idea exchange, schools and parishes participating in the Stewardship & Sustainability Circle program were guided in the creation of individually customized action plans to reduce waste and energy use, change behavior and address their needs for more sustainable, resource-efficient operations.

“It is challenging to get people, including myself, out of bad habits, such as not recy-

cling,” said Rose Navarro-Anderson, principal of St. Columba. But, she said, “Our school has become more conscious of the value of recycling, conserving energy and composting.”

St. Columba School, one of the participants in the Stewardship & Sustainability Circle program, recently completed a lighting retrofit, replacing its fluorescent lights with new LED bulbs to save energy and reduce the school’s carbon footprint.

In addition to the lighting retrofit, old computers have been replaced with newer, more energy-efficient ones, students have been encouraged to bring refillable water bottles to school, and produce from the school garden has been donated to Catholic Charities. The diocese also has approved the parish’s request to install a solar power system.

St. Rita School was another participant in the Stewardship & Sustainability Circle program.

“This process opens your eyes to a world of opportunity,” said Gina Olsen, principal of St. Rita School, as she reflected on her school’s sustainability action plan.

Olsen said they immediately focused on energy usage and found instant savings in their electricity bill. They started a focused recycling program, teaching the students where the various recyclables were to be placed and even taking a field trip to the city landfill. Sunshade window covers were installed, and hundreds of dollars will be saved annually through reducing the amount of lawn watering.

A Green Apple Day of Service, sponsored by the San Diego Chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council, funded by donations, and supported by volunteers to improve

school communities, was held April 9 at St. Rita School. Parent volunteers and 25 Green Building Council volunteers and the Urban Corps came together to plant shrubs, build garden boxes, cut asphalt, plant trees, hang privacy screening, and plant security-enhancing bushes. All costs were underwritten by Kitchell Construction with donations from TreeSanDiego, Jimbos, and RCP.

The school also has taken the opportunity to work with Absolutely Electric on a discounted LED lighting retrofit to save money and energy.

“The pope’s encyclical ‘Laudato Si’” calls on each human to do their part to address the environmental problems of the world,” Olsen said. “He calls on each of us to be good stewards of the earth. Additionally, good stewardship is good business. Recycling, reducing and re-purposing saves money and resources. In difficult economic times, stewardship and sustainability practices make sense.”

Dee Davis, REV coach, played a pivotal role in the Green Apple Day of Service at St. Rita’s, becoming aware of the school’s need through the REV Sustainability Circle program.

“As I think about all of the many ‘green’ initiatives that have been employed here in the diocese,” said Damian Esparza, director of stewardship for the Diocese of San Diego, “I take great pride in the fact that our Local Church is not sitting on the margins. Rome may be far away geographically, but we’ve heard the Holy Father’s call in *Laudato Si’*, we’re actively involved, and we’re doing our part to advance his vision for our world. I know that we will see even more of that in the years ahead.”

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Karen Jeanne Walther

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Judith Schuck

Karen Marie Seeker

Helen Stejskal

Mary Raynald Szyszka

JuneMarie Tacheny

Jane Thibault

Mary Bernard Unpingco

Kathy Van Hulst

Lucy Vehige

Mary Delbert Weisense

Mary Jo Welter

Marie Williams

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Guadalupe Zozaya

Pauline Zweber

70 YEARS

DeMontfort Berchtold

Carine Dirks

Therese Even

Mary Noel Ewald

Mary Briant Foley

M. Berenice Hartke

Judith Marie Jung

Joan Emily Kaul

Alene Kuhn

Mary Niva Langreck

Karen Lay

Philip Marie Link

Sharon Rempe

M. Luella Zollar

75 YEARS

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Elizabeth Nabholz

Mary Leonelle Schiferl

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Augustinian Priest Ordained at St. Patrick Church

By Denis Grasska

SAN DIEGO — Carlos Medina, a member of the Order of St. Augustine, was ordained to the priesthood on June 11 at St. Patrick Church in North Park.

Bishop Robert Prevost of the Diocese of Chiclayo, Peru, who is also an Augustinian, was the ordaining prelate. Some 28 concelebrating priests, all Augustinians except one, were in attendance. They were joined by many of their fellow Augustinians, including brothers, brothers in formation, pre-novices and a transitional deacon.

"A priest is called to serve the Church in various ways, particularly in presiding over the liturgy, and he is called to proclaim the Gospel to the world in word and deed," said Father Medina, 30, explaining the responsibilities he has inherited through ordination. "I also see the priest as the one who calls the community to share their gifts."

Born in Colombia, Father Medina immigrated to the United States with his family when he was 13 years old. The Medinas settled in the Bay Area, becoming members of St. Bonaventure Parish in Concord, California.

Father Medina grew up in a home where the Catholic faith

was devoutly practiced and the notion of a religious vocation was not a foreign one. His parents met through a young adult group at their parish, he has an uncle who is a Dominican priest, and one of his great-aunts became a Dominican sister.

Before discerning his own call to religious life, Father Medina was in college studying philosophy and aspiring to become a professor someday.

"During many conversations about my future, my father persuaded me to dedicate my life to the service of others," recalled Father Medina, who has been appointed associate pastor of St. Patrick Parish in North Park. "He had in mind some kind of public service in government or politics, but in my mind ... the most essential kind of service that people can receive and anyone can provide is the proclamation of the Gospel and the celebration of the sacraments."

He entered the Augustinian pre-novitiate program in 2008, attracted by "the sense of unity amidst diversity" that he saw among the friars. After a few years of religious life as an Augustinian brother, he felt confident that God was calling him to a priestly vocation.

The Southern Cross



ORDINATION: Augustinian Father Carlos Medina (left) is seen outside St. Patrick Church June 11 with Augustinian Father Kevin Mullins, prior provincial, and Bishop Robert Prevost.

Poland or Bust! San Diego Bishop Headed to World Youth Day

By Denis Grasska

SAN DIEGO — He's packing his bags and getting ready to go.

Bishop Robert W. McElroy will be among the approximately 2 million people expected to attend World Youth Day, July 25-31, in Kraków, Poland.

"World Youth Day ... has become a truly international event in which young people from all over the world come together to celebrate their faith, to celebrate their unity with the Holy Father ... and to be catechized more deeply in their faith," the bishop said.

Initiated by St. John Paul II, World Youth Day is specifically intended for ages 16-35, but

is open to all ages. The schedule includes a series of Masses, prayer services, and catechesis. A highlight will be the appearance of Pope Francis, who will arrive on July 28 and celebrate the closing Mass on July 31.

Bishop McElroy told *The Southern Cross* that "a significant number of young people from the Diocese of San Diego" — an estimated 200 — will be attending the international gathering.

Several local parishes, including St. Gregory the Great, Mission San Luis Rey and St. John of the Cross, as well as St. Augustine High School are sponsoring groups. Other local Catholics will travel in smaller groups or make arrangements through a travel agency.

Bishop McElroy will not be traveling with any particular group of San Diegans. But he has arranged to celebrate Mass July 27 at St. Nicholas Church in Kraków for pilgrims from the dioceses of San Diego and San Jose.

For Bishop McElroy, this will be his second time participating in World Youth Day. At the suggestion of youth and young adult groups in the Archdiocese of San Francisco, where he was then serving as auxiliary bishop, he attended the 2013 gathering, which was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

During that earlier gathering, Bishop McElroy said, he experienced "a palpable sense of joy," "an immense sense of energy," and, at

the sight of so many young Catholics on fire for their faith, "a renewed sense of hope in the future of the Church."

He expects that San Diego pilgrims will have a similar experience in Kraków this month.

"People speak of 'mountaintop experiences,' meaning those times in religious life when there's a very focused concentration on an experience of faith, which is akin to going to the mountaintop with Jesus," the bishop said. "I think this will be, for many of our young people, a mountaintop experience which remains with them and nourishes them for the rest of their lives."

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COURTESY OF THE GIRL SCOUT CAMP FIRE CATHOLIC COMMITTEE OF THE DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO

EMBLEMS: Girl Scouts and Heritage Girls pose with Father Alex De Paulis and their Scout leaders on May 25 after an annual Mass and religious emblem ceremony celebrated at Mission San Diego de Alcalá.

Girl Scouts Receive Religious Emblems at Mission San Diego

SAN DIEGO — The Girl Scout Camp Fire Catholic Committee of the Diocese of San Diego held its annual Mass and religious emblem ceremony May 25 at Mission San Diego de Alcalá.

Scout Chaplain Father Alex De Paulis celebrated Mass and presented awards to 39 Girl Scouts and Heritage Girls, along with two adults. The Scouts in attendance represented 15 different parishes.

Prior to the Mass, in honor of the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy announced by Pope Francis, everyone gath-

ered outside the mission church as a special welcoming prayer was read and Father De Paulis explained the symbolic significance of the "Holy Doors" that have been opened at various churches throughout the world in honor of the Year of Mercy. Mission San Diego is one of seven parishes in the Diocese of San Diego that have been designated as pilgrimage churches, which Catholics can visit during this Jubilee Year and pass through Holy Doors to experience God's mercy.

In his homily, Father De Paulis praised

Catholic Youth



COURTESY OF MATT WILLIAMSON

The Federation of North American Explorers (FNE) is an international, Catholic faith-based youth movement that is recognized by the Holy See as an association of the faithful of pontifical right and which aspires to form youth into strong, responsible, holy men and women, and which employs many of the principles developed by Lord Baden Powell, the founder of the Scouting movement. Members of the El Camino Real Group of the FNE, along with their leaders, from St. Margaret Parish in Oceanside recently visited the Holy Door at St. Thomas More Church as part of their annual weekend retreat.

the girls, their program moderators and parents for their commitment to learning more about their faith and putting it into practice through their actions. He compared the earning of the various medals, beginning with the God Is Love medal, to their faith journey as Catholics, noting how each medal represents a progression toward a fuller understanding of their faith.

The Girl Scout Camp Fire Catholic Committee's religious recognition programs are administered by the diocese, under the auspices of the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry, allowing young people to explore and become more involved in their Catholic faith. The programs are designed to support and complement the catechetical efforts of Catholic parishes and schools.

The God Is Love medal, a new medal program that focuses on God's love for the world, was awarded this year to Marian Lopez. Seventeen local girls received the Family of God medal, which supplements sacramental preparation for First Communion; six received the I Live My Faith medal, which explores the role of God and religion in daily life; nine received

Mary, the First Disciple medals, which required reflection on the life of Mary; and six received Spirit Alive medals, after completing a program that augments their preparation for the sacrament of confirmation.

Adult recognition medals for active leadership with Catholic youth include the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton medal, which was bestowed upon Anna Malone, and the St. Anne medal, which was received by Paula Saenz-Ancheta.

Father Alex De Paulis presented awards to 39 Girl Scouts and Heritage Girls, along with two adults.

A reception for recipients and family members followed the Mass.

The National Catholic Committee for Girl Scouts and Camp Fire is a management committee of the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry and is composed of 14 regional representatives. Each diocese designates a liaison who serves as the local contact for Girl Scouts, Camp Fire, Heritage Girls, and Catholic Daughters of America interested in participating in the medal program and earning the religious medals as well as patch and adult programs.

For more information, contact Kim Brower at kimbrower@cox.net or Yoli McGalliard at yolimcg@yahoo.com. Adult moderator training is usually held twice a year.

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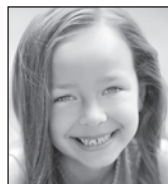
'Southern Cross,'
Directory Honored

ST. LOUIS — *The Southern Cross* was among the award winners at the annual Catholic Media Conference, which was held June 1-3 in St. Louis, Mo. In the Catholic Press Awards competition, the newspaper won an honorable mention in the category of "General Excellence" (Non-Weekly Diocesan Newspaper, Circulation of 25,001 or more). The contest judges said, "*The Southern Cross* is a very nice paper with a great Spanish language section. The variety of article topics were not only interesting, they covered stories that you do not often see in religious publications. Well done!" The Diocese of San Diego's Catholic Directory, a collaboration between *The Southern Cross* and the Office of the Chancellor, won second place in its category in the CPA Book Awards. Also, an article that appeared last October in *The Southern Cross*' annual mission supplement was among the winners in this year's Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Awards, which are sponsored by the Pontifical Mission

Societies in the United States and were presented June 2 at the conference.

'Catholic Night'
Returning to Petco Park

SAN DIEGO — The second annual Catholic Night at Petco will take place on Friday, Aug. 5, at Petco Park. The 7:40 p.m. game will pit the San Diego Padres against the Philadelphia Phillies. Tickets are available through padres.com/events; the password is MERCY. Prices range from \$17-\$27.50. Attendees are encouraged to wear white shirts in a display of Catholic pride.

Local Girl Makes
Theatrical Debut

EL CAJON — Madison O'Donovan, a member of Our Lady of Grace Parish, is excited to have the lead role in "Ruthless! The Musical." It will be playing

at the MOXIE Theatre through Sunday, Aug. 7. In her theatrical debut, Madison plays talented 8-year-old Tina Denmark, will do whatever it takes to get the lead in the school play. The show spoofs Broadway

Science Project



Kylie Konyn (pictured), a seventh-grader at St. Joseph Academy, won fourth place in the State Junior Division of Mammalian Biology at the 65th Annual California State Science Fair, held May 24 at the California Science Center in Los Angeles.

Kylie, whose parents own and operate a dairy farm in Escondido, titled her project "How Now Black and White Cow." She also went on to receive Junior Champion Jersey, Senior Champion Jersey, Champion Jersey, First Place Intermediate Showmanship and Overall Best of Show at the 2016 San Diego County Fair.

The following has been announced
by the Office of the Bishop:

With permission from his superior, **Father Jon Kirby, SVD**, has been appointed pastor of Blessed Sacrament Parish, effective July 1.

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musicals as well as films like “The Bad Seed” and “All About Eve,” and it takes the- atregeers into the world of child actors, stage mothers, fame and unbridled ambi- tion. “I would love for people to come and see the show,” said Madison, who will be entering the second grade this fall. “It’s very entertaining and I love it when I see all the happy faces in the audience.” General admission tickets are \$30. *For more informa- tion, tickets and show times, call (858) 598-7620 or visit* www.moxietheatre.com.

Parishes to Host Talks on Human Trafficking

SAN DIEGO — Human trafficking, often referred to as the modern-day slave trade, is a \$32-billion-a-year global industry and San Diego ranks ninth nationwide in top destina- tion areas for trafficking. Presentations on the important issue and how to address it will be held at two local parishes: 6:30-7:30 p.m., Thursday, July 21, at Mary Star of the Sea Parish in La Jolla, and 7-8:30 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 9, at St. Gregory the Great Parish. A Q&A from the audience will fol- low both presentations. Refreshments will be served and donations accepted for Children of the Immaculate Heart, a Catholic apostolate that helps female traf- ficking victims. *For more information, call (619) 431-5537 or visit* www.children oftheimmaculateheart.org.

Obituary



SAN DIEGO — Deacon Jack Corrao, a retired dea- con of the Diocese of San Diego, died June 2. Born June 10, 1922, in San Diego, Deacon Corrao grew up in Little Italy. After graduating from San Diego High School, he served for two years in the Army during World War II. When he left the military, he met his future bride, Helen. They were married at Our Lady of the Rosary Church in 1948 and subsequently blessed with five children and seven grandchildren. Deacon Corrao held numerous positions at Convair over his 30- year employment. His career culminated as master scheduler, overseeing large projects. Deacon Corrao was ordained to the perma- nent diaconate on June 16, 1979, and exer- cised his ministry at Our Lady of the Rosary and St. Vincent de Paul parishes. He loved family life and enjoyed gardening, cooking, and participation in several men’s organiza- tions. The rosary and funeral Mass were held June 11 at St. Vincent de Paul Parish.

San Diego Priest to Deliver Keynote



SAN DIEGO — Father Giles Conwill, a priest of the Diocese of San Diego, will deliver a keynote address at the Joint Conference of the National Black Sisters Conference, the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus, the National Black Seminarians

Association, and the National Association of Black Catholic Deacons. The confer- ence will take place from July 24-28 at the San Diego Marriott Mission Valley. Father Conwill will deliver his speech July 25 on the topic of “Black Eschatology.” Eschatology is the branch of theology deal- ing with such subjects as death, judgment, heaven and hell. Father Conwill was ordained a priest for the Diocese of San Diego in 1973 and has served in parishes in San Diego, Washington DC, and Atlanta, and at various universities. *For more information, contact Deacon Marvin Threatt at* threatts@cox.net, (619) 670-8339 (home) or (619) 335-6591 (cell).

At Age 97, Priest Is Still Sharing Wisdom



SAN DIEGO — Father Richard Hopkins, a retired priest of the Diocese of Billings, Mont., celebrated his 97th birthday May 26 with a party at Our Mother of Confidence Parish. He has been part of the parish community since 1993, serving as a priest in residence. Originally, he would come to San Diego for the winter. But as his age advanced and traveling became more difficult, he decided to remain in San Diego permanently. Even at age 97, Father Hopkins concelebrates Masses at Our Mother of Confidence, delivers homilies for daily Mass, hears confessions, and communicates regularly with homebound parishioners. Father Hopkins said prayer has been an impor- tant part of his life. To those who would grow in holiness, he encourages Scripture study, developing a devotion to the Blessed Sacrament and the Mass, and fre- quent confession.

Noah Homes Raises \$163,000

SAN DIEGO — More than 500 people attended Noah Homes’ annual Summerfest outdoor concert and fundrais- er June 25, raising \$163,000 for adults with developmental disabilities. Festivities held at Noah Homes in Spring Valley included music by Ron’s Garage, a BBQ by members of the Nice Guys, beer tast- ings by JNS Brewing and Jamul Brewing, lawn games, and an auction. Noah Homes currently operates eight homes with a total of 70 residents and is working to build two of the first memory care homes in the nation specifically for adults with developmental disabilities through a \$6.7- million capital campaign. With construc- tion of the two homes set to be complete by the end of the year, fundraising focused on furnishings and the purchase of two new vehicles to transport the 20 additional residents. *For volunteer opportu- nities, or to make a donation, visit* www.noahhomes.org.

Autographed Guitar



COURTESY OF SCHOOL OF THE MADELEINE

Country music star Tim McGraw’s new song, “Humble and Kind,” encourages lis- teners to show kindness and compassion through small acts that, in turn, make a large impact.

Scholastic Book Clubs recently held a contest inviting entrants to write a three- or four-line stanza which might inspire others to act humbly, kindly and compassion- ately.

As part of their poetry unit, all sixth-grade literature students at the School of the Madeleine were invited to write a poem for the contest. Sixth-grader Sean McDermott’s entry was selected as one of 10 winning poems nationwide. He won a guitar autographed by McGraw, and his teacher, Marissa Gonzalez, will receive a signed photo of McGraw.

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► PRIESTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Priesthood includes both joys and hardships

“You must love like such a shepherd,” he said. “You must become a sojourner who journeys with your people into their greatest struggles, their most intense suffering, their times of feeling utterly lost.”

“The act of accompaniment itself,” the bishop said, will be the “truest gift” the new priests can offer.

The third dimension, he said, is “the call to witness to the sufferings of Jesus Christ.” The priest must be ever mindful of the sufferings of Jesus, which are “the most vivid testimony of God’s love and mercy,” but he must also be “constantly sensitive and attentive to the sufferings of his people.”

“The priesthood is a life filled with immense joys but it also has great moments of hardship and struggle,” said Bishop McElroy. “Both the joys and the hardships are essential to any priest who seeks to be an icon of Jesus Christ, whose disciples we are, for a true shepherd can only understand the pain of his people if he shares in it and shares also in the mercy of God, which brings constant hope amidst even the greatest suffering.”

The bishop concluded his homily by praying that, for Fathers Exner, Tufford, Twilliger and Baaten, the Good Shepherd might be “your model, your guide and your constant grace.”

The following are profiles of the new priests.

Father David Exner

Growing up in an evangelical Protestant home, David Exner was taught that his relationship with Jesus was “the single most important thing” in life.

Explaining that it was the sacraments that attracted him to Catholicism, he mused, “I guess it was only natural that, later on, that desire for closeness with Christ in the sacraments would draw me closer to the altar.”

The first inkling that he might be called to the priesthood came after college during his five years of service in the U.S. Marine Corps. While stationed in Fallujah, Iraq, he asked the Catholic chaplain a question about prayer. Though Exner only wanted to know how to listen better in prayer and had no real interest in the priesthood, the priest misinterpreted his question as a query about discerning a priestly vocation.

“After that conversation, every time I tried to pray for the next several months, God would very gently ask what I would do if He was calling me to be a priest,” recalled Father Exner, 33. “So, I actually got the answer to my question — just not in the way I expected — and I discovered who God created me to be in the process.”

For Father Exner, priesthood is “not a job, but a calling.”

“The priesthood is not first what a man does, but who a man is,” he explained. “The priest is a spiritual father to God’s children, a man of prayer and service who makes Jesus Christ present to others in his life.”

Father Exner, who has been appointed



associate pastor of St. Michael Parish in Poyay, admitted to feeling anxious as the date of his ordination approached, seeing himself as “utterly inadequate and incapable” of the great calling he has received.

“However,” he said, “I’ve come to realize that that is the whole point: I can’t do any of this on my own, but Jesus can. So, I just need to be faithful, be present, and then get out of the way when He starts doing stuff.”

Father Corey Tufford

By the time he entered high school, Corey Tufford already aspired “to do something great” with his life.

Back then, he imagined himself becoming a wealthy architect with a beautiful wife and an expensive car. But instead of achieving greatness through the acquisition of material wealth, he ultimately found it in “offering myself as a sacrifice for the good and healing of others.”

Tufford, who was not even baptized at the time, felt drawn to Catholicism during his years at St. Augustine High School. And it was during a weekend retreat in 2004, as he was preparing to receive the sacraments of initiation, that he first considered a priestly vocation.

“I remember simply looking up after Mass had been celebrated and seeing Father Bill Springer purifying the chalice and paten,” said Tufford, 27. “At that moment, the thought ‘What about priesthood?’ entered my heart.”

He continued to discern his vocation throughout high school and as a member of the priestly discernment program at Franciscan University of Steubenville.

“The ministry of the priest is a mission to communicate the love of God to every person he encounters,” he said, describing this as “a weighty reality” but one that the Holy Spirit provides the grace to accomplish.

Father Tufford, who has been appointed associate pastor of St. Pius X Parish in Chula Vista for the summer, is scheduled to return

to Rome to complete a licentiate in Biblical Theology at the Pontifical Gregorian University.

Though he says, “Wherever there are people, I will be happy to serve as their priest,” he expresses particular interest in being part of the Church’s outreach toward the growing number of young adults who identify as “non-religious.”

“As a priest, I hope to be a bridge for men and women, leading them to Jesus,” he said. “Simply put, I want others to know Jesus and His Church, and the true fulfillment and true joy they offer — fulfillment and joy the world can never offer.”

Father Derek Twilliger

After many years trying to convince himself that “the perfect job and Ms. Right were both out there somewhere,” Derek Twilliger finally said yes to God’s invitation to priestly ministry.

“I did not heed this voice for quite some time,” admitted Father Twilliger, 45, who doesn’t recall a specific moment when he felt called to the priesthood but rather “a calling that grew over time.”

He first heard that call during his high school years, when his brother spent some time in the seminary and he had the opportunity to meet other seminarians.

“I was able to identify with many of them,” he recalled, “and that was when I thought of the possibility of becoming a priest.”

Father Twilliger, who was a member of his



high school youth group as a teenager, became actively involved in Church ministry after graduation. He served in youth ministry, both as a volunteer and as a member of the parish staff, and also as a catechist, lector and extraordinary minister of Holy Communion.

“As I went further in ministry, I began to hear the voice of the Lord calling louder,” said Father Twilliger, who noted that his interactions with many “good and holy priests” over the years had helped to make the priesthood “an attractive option for a vocation.”

“A priest is supposed to be the face of Christ to the people of the Church,” he said. “His life should mirror Jesus, the Eternal High Priest, so that when people see the priest, they see Christ. He is called to lead and sanctify the people he is called to serve.”

Father Twilliger, who has been appointed associate pastor of St. Mark Parish in San Marcos, said, “The primary joys [of priesthood] for me will be forming relationships



ORDINATION: 1) Retired Bishop Robert H. Brom and Bishop Steven Lopes watch as Bishop Robert W. McElroy presides over the ordination Mass June 24 at St. Therese of Carmel Church; 2) David Exner kneels before Bishop McElroy, promising his obedience; 3) the four candidates for priesthood prostrate themselves during the singing of the Litany of the Saints; 4) Corey Tufford is ordained to the priesthood through the laying on of hands and the prayer of ordination; 5) priests of the Diocese of San Diego bless their new brother priests; 6) Bishop McElroy anoints the hands of one of the newly ordained; 7) from left, Glenn Baaten, David Exner, Corey Tufford and Derek Twilliger are applauded by the congregation; and 8) the newly ordained are applauded by bishops and priests as they exit the church at the conclusion of the Mass.

with the families and people of the parish where I am assigned. Also, bringing the sacraments to the people will be a primary joy. The major challenge I see will be not having enough time to do everything I will want to do.”

Father Glenn Baaten

Glenn Baaten’s path to the Catholic priesthood is very different from that of the three men who were ordained alongside him at St. Therese of Carmel Parish. He is the married father of two

grown children and is a soon-to-be grandfather. He credits his wife of 33 years, Cathy, with playing an invaluable role on his path of discernment.

“I can truly say that my faith journey has certainly been just that, a journey,” said Father Baaten, 58, the newly appointed pastor of St. Augustine of Canterbury Parish in Carlsbad. The parish is not part of the Diocese of San Diego, but rather the Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of St. Peter, and his flock is composed of former Anglicans



like himself.

Father Baaten did not grow up in a home where the faith was fervently practiced. Later, as a teenager, he felt drawn to the “dynamic expression” of the faith that he saw in Charismatic Christianity. He later joined the Episcopal Church and then the Presbyterian Church, where he was ordained a pastor, but ultimately left both denominations after encountering theology that he considered to be at odds with “the ageless teaching of the Church.”

He joined the traditional Anglican Church of North

America and was ordained an Anglican priest. But he and his wife ultimately decided to “become visible members of the Roman Catholic Church.”

“We were confirmed and received into the Roman Catholic Church on Christmas Eve 2013,” he said. “We were finally home.”

Though he was resigned to being a member of the Catholic laity, his ministry experience and the retirement of Father George Ortiz-Guzman, his predecessor as pastor of St. Augustine of Canterbury Parish, provided the opportunity to serve as a pastor

once again.

He was ordained a transitional deacon in the Catholic Church on May 31 by Bishop Steven Lopes of the Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of St. Peter. Bishop Lopes also was in attendance at his priestly ordination on June 24.

“I thank God for all the years He has allowed me to serve His Church,” said Father Baaten, “as a Presbyterian pastor, an Anglican priest and now, most especially, as one serving the fullness of the Church as a Roman Catholic priest.”

The Southern Cross

PHOTOS BY DENIS GRASSIA

Retired Priests Receive Care and Support Through the Annual Catholic Appeal

By Thom Hiatt

SAN DIEGO — When a diocesan priest is ordained, he makes a lifelong commitment to serve the needs of the faithful of the diocese, typically serving 40 to 45 years. In return, the diocese makes a commitment to the priest to provide for his basic well-being during his lifetime, including retirement.

Everyone is aware of the need to appropriately provide for the spiritual, material and medical needs of their senior years. Priests have the same concerns. The local Catholic community plays an important part in adding to their sense of security about their senior years.

The normal retirement age for a priest in the Diocese of San Diego is age 75. Retirement costs, including insurance, health care, prescription drugs, skilled nursing care, and housing and sustenance continue to escalate. At present, one-third of the diocesan priests are retired. Two retired bishops — Bishop Robert H. Brom and Auxiliary Bishop Gilbert E. Chavez — and 58 retired priests rely on the generous support of local Catholics to sustain them in their senior years. As age and physical ability permit, they continue to live a life of prayer and sacramental participation and to witness to the love of God.

The Annual Catholic Appeal supports care of retired priests so that they can live in dignity, free of anxiety about their means of support. This includes providing health and auto insurance, and nursing care at Nazareth House San Diego if needed, as well as supplementing their pension and expenses for them to attend the Annual Convocation of Priests.

Father Edward “Ned” Brockhaus is one of the diocese’s retired priests. He has served the diocese for the last 55 years, most recently as pastor at Holy Family Parish. Currently, he works with retired priests to help keep them active and healthy.

“I help them to be involved in the parishes, and also to plan different activities to keep them close to one another and enjoying life,” said Father Brockhaus. “Sometimes, we go to the ballgames or to the race track.”

There is also an annual golf tournament in which many retired priests participate. A free dinner follows. Retired priests appreciate these social opportunities.

Some retired priests live alone in their own houses, condominiums or apartments. Other priests who may need some extra assistance stay at Nazareth House, a retirement home adjacent to Mission San Diego



THOM HIATT/FAITH IN MARKETING

PRIESTS FOREVER: Retired priests, including Bishop Robert H. Brom (right), are seen at a luncheon last December at Nazareth House.

de Alcalá. Regardless of their residence, it’s important for them to get out and be active in the community.

One gathering that the retired priests look forward to each year is the multi-day Convocation of Priests, usually held near Temecula. The convocation is an opportunity for priests of all ages to share in prayer, presentations, socializing and fraternity. With funds from the ACA, the diocese pays the cost for retired priests to attend.

In 1966, Msgr. Michael Gallagher was

ordained in Ireland for the Diocese of San Diego. He is the former pastor of Our Lady of Grace Parish in El Cajon, and he is recently retired.

“God has been very good to me, in taking care of me as a priest,” said Msgr. Gallagher. “His graces and His strength have enabled me to persevere in the vocation that He’s called me to. And I give thanks to God for that.”

The Southern Cross

► ENCuentRO

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

National conference to be held in 2018

lay ecclesial movements, 1 million pastoral leaders and 5,000 parishes.

At its core, the Encuentro process is a consultation of Latino Catholics in their parishes to discern their needs and to develop best practices to meet those needs. Since January, a national team has been developing the framework to do that.

Locally, the Diocese of San Diego has

formed a team to lead the Encuentro process, which includes the directors and leadership of the Offices for Evangelization and Catechetical Ministry, Communication, Cultural Diversity, Marriage and Family Life, Permanent Diaconate, Social Ministry, Youth Ministry, and Young Adult Ministry, as well as Father Emilio Magaña, Deacons Juan Faus and José Luis Medina, two staff members from the University of San Diego, and retired Auxiliary Bishop Gilbert E. Chávez. Also participating are two locally based leaders of Catholic Relief Services and two retired Catholic leaders, Enrique Méndez and Sister Gloria Galván, who par-

ticipated in the Third Encuentro process in 1982 to 1985.

They will introduce the process to leaders of parishes with Spanish-language Masses and ecclesial movements across the diocese and train them how to carry out the consultation. The trainings will start in the fall.

These leaders will then lead the consultations at their parishes next January to June. The diocese will review and disseminate these findings in the following six months.

The diocese’s findings will be reviewed at the regional level in 2018. Some 3,000 local and regional leaders will then meet at a national conference in September of that

year in Texas.

The USCCB leadership will evaluate the Encuentro’s findings in 2019 and develop resources to carry out the recommendations that they articulate. These will be rolled out by the dioceses and archdioceses, starting in January 2020.

The consultations will be done in both languages because second- and third-generation Latinos are more likely to only speak English.

More information about the V Encuentro can be found in Spanish and English at www.vencuentro.org.

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Pala Mission Celebrates Its 'Great History of Faith' with Bicentennial Mass

By Aida Bustos

PALA — On June 13, 1816, a Franciscan priest founded a small mission to minister to the Indians who lived in the village located here. Two hundred years later, it's the only mission in California still serving them.

Bishop Robert W. McElroy celebrated Mission San Antonio de Pala's bicentennial in an outdoor Mass on June 5, noting this legacy.

"I want to thank all the tribes — the La Jolla, Rincon, Pala, Pauma and Pechanga — that have been a part of this great history of faith taking place in this beautiful valley between these mountains that God has created."

An overflow crowd of Native Americans, Latinos, Filipinos and whites sat on plastic chairs in front of the mission's iconic bell tower under a bright sun for the event. The bishop delivered his message in English sprinkled with Spanish, accompanied by a choir singing traditional Luiseño songs.

"It is so appropriate that this anniversary should be celebrated with the theme of Corpus Christi. What has been continuous for 200 years in this place?" the bishop asked. "It is not a building, it is not any person, it is not even the founders. It is rather that in this place, the Mass, the Eucharist, the body and blood of Jesus Christ have been present, sustaining the communities who live in this place and surrounding communities for 200 years."

The mission is an "asistencia," or support parish for Mission San Luis Rey de Francia, some 20 miles away. The history of the mission reveals the shifting entities that have claimed the land. The Franciscans built the

mission under Spanish rule, which gave way to Mexican control, then to private ownership. The Landmarks Club of Southern California bought the mission in 1902 and returned ownership to the Catholic Church the following year.

In 1948, the Sons of the Sacred Heart, missionaries from Italy known as the Comboni Fathers, took over the mission.

Juan Aguilera said the Combonis attracted people to the mission's celebrations from as far away as Arizona and New Mexico.

"They worked very hard on behalf of the community," said Aguilera. "And they attracted many, many people to come visit us."

He and his wife, originally from Mexicali, have been parishioners at the mission for 35 years, and raised their family there. His grandson had been baptized there weeks before the bicentennial celebration.

The Combonis left the mission in 1991, when the Diocese of San Diego took over its administration. Today, the mission includes the church and the San Juan Diego Center, where Spanish-language Masses are held on Sundays, and conferences and meetings year-round.

The mission is the home parish of Sister Mary Yarger, 67, whose great-grandparents were buried in its cemetery and whose parents were married by the Combonis. A member of the Sisters of the Precious Blood, she lives in Pala and commutes daily to Riverside, where she is the principal of Sherman Indian High School.

She was one of the organizers of a colorful procession after the Mass. It was led by a group



AIDA BUSTOS

PROCESSION: Bishop Robert W. McElroy stops at the first of three makeshift altars for a Benediction on June 5 near Mission San Antonio de Pala.

of men and women on horseback hoisting the papal flag. They were followed by Mexican Indian dancers, then by children who carried the cross, candles and torches, and by girls in their Sunday best who dropped flower petals along the way. A canopy that covered the Blessed Sacrament followed, guarded by the Knights of Columbus.

Groups of faithful of the five reservations that form the mission parish followed — Pala, Pauma, Pechanga, La Jolla and Rincon — each under its own colorful banner bearing their patron saint. Each reservation has its own tiny chapel that is part of the parish.

The bishop and the mission's pastor, Father Reynaldo Manahan, stopped at three "ramadas," or makeshift altars, for a

Benediction. They walked about a third of a mile, first on a paved road then on a dirt one lined by the back yards of houses. Afterward, the families gathered in front of the bell tower for a fiesta, with food and entertainment.

The bishop honored the bond between the native culture and the Catholic faith in his closing remarks.

"We pray that this community will be a vital force proclaiming the Gospel for two more centuries to come ... And it will be a place where working for the poor and the marginalized will not be an afterthought but will be at the heart of this community ... Let us give thanks, especially for the Indian peoples who have been a blessing to the Church and to this mission."

The Southern Cross



Fr. Tom Herbst, ofm is Back for the Summer!
The Many parts of the Body: Belief and Spirituality in Different Christian Denominations
Tuesdays, July 5-Aug. 30. 9:30-11:30am (July 19th only-1:30-3:30pm) and same class again 7-9pm
 The Christian faith is like a bright jewel with many facets; each reflecting a unique perspective of light. Each denomination seeks the truth and conversely, runs the risk of being blinded by its perception and interpretation of the light. This course will look at many of the denominations that together, form the vast global community of Christian faith. **Fee per person for all 9 sessions: \$90**

A Road Well-Travelled: Spirituality and Aging
Thursday, July 21, 7-9pm

Life can be understood in terms of journey, and the relationship between aging and spirituality. Another way of looking at this personal pilgrimage, is to examine the Exodus event and the insights of St. Paul. From there we will be able to map a journey both arduous and exhilarating. **Fee per person: \$20**

Francis and the Buddha: A Dialogue of Discovery
Thursday, August 11, 7-9pm

Imagine a meeting of St. Francis of Assisi and the Buddha, perhaps in a forest clearing on a bright day in early autumn. What might each have to say to the other: Would there be laughter, some knowing nods, possibly one or two bemused "scratching of heads?" Let us find out. **Fee per person: \$20**

Divine Mercy: Scriptural Roots
Wednesday, August 24, 7-9pm

Pope Francis proclaimed this the Year of Mercy. What does this mean? We will explore some of the many facets of Divine Mercy found in scripture that serve as a foundation for this great virtue. Covering both Testaments, the implications are enormous. Mercy makes a difference in how we interact in a variety of social, pastoral, and familial (to name a few) situations in our lives. **Fee per person: \$20**

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COURTESY OF THE CATHOLIC COMMITTEE ON SCOUTING

SCOUTS: Catholic Boy Scouts, their adult leaders, pastors and others pose for a group photo June 8 at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish in Rancho Penasquitos.

Bishop Presents Religious Emblems to Local Boy Scouts

RANCHO PENASQUITOS — Catholic Boy Scouts from throughout the Diocese of San Diego came together June 8 at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish in Rancho Penasquitos.

Bishop Robert W. McElroy presided over a concelebrated Mass and, at the conclusion of the liturgy, joined Boy Scout Chaplain Father Alex De Paulis in presenting the Scouts with the religious emblems they had earned.

The annual Catholic Committee on Scouting Emblem Recognition Mass recognized 151 local Boy Scouts who had spent an entire year learning more about their faith through an emblem recognition program. In addition, special awards were handed out to adults who have had an impact on the Catholic Scouting program.

Four different emblems are available to Catholic youth registered in the Boy Scouts. For Cub Scouts, there is the Light of Christ emblem, which emphasizes a personal relationship with Jesus, and the Parvuli Dei emblem, focusing on awareness of God's presence in daily life. Boy Scouts can earn the Ad Altare Dei emblem, which promotes a fully Christian way of life with an emphasis on the seven sacraments, and the Pope Pius XII emblem, which is for Scouts who have learned about life choices, ministries in the Church, and current issues facing the Church and society.

Seven Boy Scouts, who previously earned all four of the religious emblems and have continued to be actively involved in their communities, were recipients of the El Camino de los

Fieles ("The Path of the Faithful") Award. These included: Keefe Carter and Angelo Cervantes of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Ramona; James Callahan, Phillip Callahan and Dominic Catanzaro of St. Brigid Parish; Peter Neill of St. Gabriel Parish; and Connor Sullivan of San Rafael Parish.

Pope Paul VI National Quality Catholic Unit Awards were given to Cub Pack 721 (Mission San Luis Rey de Francia), Cub Pack 170 (St. Mary Magdalene Parish), Cub Pack 810 (St. Rose of Lima Parish), and Boy Scout Troop 748 (St. Patrick Parish, Carlsbad) in recognition of their adult training, leadership, service to the

community, promotion of religious emblems, and great program for their Scouting youth.

The Bronze Pelican is a diocesan award presented to adult leaders for contributions to the programs of the Catholic Committee on Scouting. This year's recipients included: Anna Malone (St. Patrick Parish, San Diego), Sergio Oliveros (St. Rose of Lima Parish), Father Bruce Orsborn (Blessed Sacrament Parish) and Kathleen Ritz (St. Martin of Tours Parish).

The St. George Emblem is awarded by the National Catholic Committee on Scouting to recognize adults for contributions to the spiritual development of Catholic youth through

Scouting. This year, the emblem was presented to Evette Callahan (St. Brigid Parish) and Father Bill Rowland (St. Patrick Parish, Carlsbad).

The Catholic Committee on Scouting provides numerous Scout activities throughout the year, including a Cub Scout retreat, a Boy Scout retreat, a Mission tour, and a five-mile hike in Old Town.

For more information or to register for the upcoming July 30 training for adults who would like to be involved with the religious emblem program, visit <http://ccsbsa.weebly.com>.

The Southern Cross

Upcoming Day of Recollection Inspired by Year of Mercy

SAN DIEGO — In honor of the Jubilee Year of Mercy announced by Pope Francis, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Diocesan Council of San Diego and the diocesan Office for Social Ministry will be co-hosting a special day of recollection.

The event, titled "Celebrating the Year of Mercy in the Vincentian Way: A Day of Recollection with Father Greg Adolf," will be held on Saturday, Aug. 20, at Mission San Diego de Alcalá. It will begin with registration at 8:30 a.m. and conclude at 2:30 p.m. The day will include a continental breakfast, presentations, Mass, lunch and more. All are invited, and there is no fee to attend.

Father Adolf is the pastor of St. Andrew the Apostle Parish in Sierra Vista, Arizona, in the

Diocese of Tucson. He is a spiritual advisor with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and is active in retreat ministry, through which he leads participants into a deeper experience of prayer and missional service.

This will be Father Adolf's fourth visit to the Diocese of San Diego, where he is expected to share his experience of Vincentian service and invite attendees to see Christ's face in the poor and marginalized.

Members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul are men and women who strive to grow spiritually by offering service to individuals in need. Members come from all walks of life, but are united by the belief that their blessings are to be shared with their brothers and sisters in need.

Vincentians organize themselves into small working groups, known as "conferences," which are the first line of action. Each conference works closely with the local parish to meet the needs of the community. The ministry is

financed by charitable donations from local parishioners and others. Over the past several years, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul has helped hundreds of people with rent, utilities, food, clothing and more.

"Requests for assistance have doubled in the last year," said Judy Marquie, president of the Society's Santa Sophia Conference. "As recognition of the Society grows, so do the requests for help. Of the 99 parishes in San Diego and Imperial counties, we have 11 conferences. ... Our goal is to increase this number to 20 over the next five years. Our day of recollection will give anyone attending a better understanding of who we are and what we do."

Registration for the day of recollection is required by Saturday, Aug. 13. Seating is limited.

For more information or to register, contact Maria Valencia at mvalencia@sdccatholic.org or (858) 490-8323.

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Center Has 50-Year Legacy of Outreach to Those with Developmental Disabilities

SAN DIEGO — St. Madeleine Sophie's Center is a non-denominational, charitable organization in El Cajon that provides a day training program for adults with developmental disabilities.

However, it has a rich history intertwined with the Society of the Sacred Heart.

In 1958, Convent of the Sacred Heart High School was established by the Society of the Sacred Heart through the generous contributions of buildings and property by the Diocese of San Diego. In the early 1960s, a parent of a student wanted instruction for her daughter who had a developmental disability. A Sunday school was created with the Sacred Heart sisters as the teachers.

This year, the center is celebrating its 50th anniversary in a number of different ways.

In 1964, the superior general of the Society of the Sacred Heart asked that, for the centenary of the death of its foundress, St. Madeleine Sophie Barat, each province in the world do something beneficial for the marginalized.

To honor this request, the sisters in San Diego purchased more land and made a full school, naming it St. Madeleine Sophie's School for Exceptional Children in 1966. Several years later, the Lanterman Acts

required that children with developmental disabilities be integrated into the public school system. With the needs of children with developmental disabilities being met by public schools, St. Madeleine's transitioned into a day program for adults with developmental disabilities.

Madeleine Sophie Barat was born Dec. 12, 1779, in Joigny, France. Through the tutelage of her brother, she was more educated than the average young girl in late 18th-century France. When the French Revolution happened, the "old order" was shattered and created a new age, which opened more opportunities for women. In Paris, she consecrated her life to a new religious congregation whose end would be to glorify the Heart of Jesus, known in French as "Religieuses du Sacré-Coeur de Jésus," or in English as the Society of the Sacred Heart.

At the age of 23, Mother Barat was elected superior general. The aim of the Society was carried out by the four means found in the Constitutions: education in private schools, education of poor children, retreats, and being religious. Though the Society was based in Paris, it reached all across the world, bringing education and the Spirit of God from West to East, with 105 houses founded in many countries.

Madeleine Sophie Barat passed away on May 25, 1865. She was beatified by Pope Pius X in 1908 and canonized by Pope Pius XI in 1925. Her feast day is May 25. When the school for children with developmental disabilities was founded, it seemed appro-



READY TO SERVE: Students Kelley Grant and Heidi Karcher prepare one of the more than 250 meals served daily to staff and students at St. Madeleine Sophie's Center.

priate to name it after a woman who deeply cared for those who were marginalized in society.

St. Madeleine Sophie's Center has attained numerous successes in its 50 years. Its seven departments include: activity center, adult development center, behavior modification, senior program, nonpublic school (transition program), senior program, and supported employment. Students are assigned to a department according to their level of ability and supervision needs. Some of the activities in which students participate include: aquatics and fitness, community outings, culinary arts training, dance and music, discussion groups, performing arts program, reading, social and daily living skills, Sophie's gallery art program, Sophie's garden, speech therapy, swim team, vocational training, volunteering in the community, and yoga.

This year, the center is celebrating its 50th anniversary in a number of different ways. It

has begun a capital campaign to raise much-needed funds to undergo comprehensive campus renovations to better accommodate the increasing needs of its students, as well as the community at large which utilizes the facilities. Renovations include building a new aquatics complex and a new dedicated senior center, and installing a solar energy system. The progress has been bolstered by the donation of a \$1 million gift (pledged over five years) by The Kraemer-Kleinbub Family.

Additionally, the center honored St. Madeleine Sophie Barat and everyone who has supported the center over the past 50 years with an anniversary birthday party on the feast day of St. Madeleine, May 25. More than 250 people came to the campus for the event. Donors, community members and elected officials joined staff and students to honor the center's history and fundraise for its future.

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IN LOVING Memory

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Josephine Pellegrino	Our Lady of the Rosary	5/24/2016
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The Answer: A 'Change Your Heart' Parenting Book

By Ann Marie Hassett
Springtime Publishing
(Beaverton, Oregon, 2004)

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Reviewed by Father Charles L. Fuld

A video of a 3-year-old boy arguing with his mother over some cupcakes went viral on the Internet recently. There he is, defiantly standing in front of his mom, unabashedly reacting to her every word with, "Linda, listen. Linda, listen, listen ..." She replies over and over again, "No, you listen to me. No cupcakes for you today." Even so, he stands his ground with, "No, Linda, listen to me."

My first impression was, "What a bratty child!" But as I thought about his actions, I could only wonder where his words and his posturing came from. Who would talk to his mom (Linda) like that? Where had he learned this? I have no way of knowing for sure, but I suspect that he was emulating his dad in one of their mom-and-dad arguments that he had managed to witness.

I came across this video around the same time I was reading Ann

Marie Hassett's *The Answer: A "Change of Heart" Parenting Book*, which recounts how Hassett and her husband managed to change the behavior of their children by first looking at their own behavior. After all, children pay attention not only to what parents say to them, but what they do — as well as their overall attitudes — be it positive or negative.

From the outset, Hassett and her husband wanted the best for their kids — each in their own way. She had rules and held the kids to them; he, when he around, was more of an enabler. The result was that the parents often disagreed — sometimes in front of the kids — and, from those times, the kids learned how to take advantage of these disagreements to get their own way. Things got even more frantic when the family moved and the parents' time was split between the demands of their new jobs and the arrival of another child. All of that meant diminished time with mom and dad for the older kids — and they showed their resentment in many different ways.

Hassett's first approach was to try to change her children, making them more like herself, but that didn't work. As she soon discovered, she said, "Some of our children were like me and others like my husband."

She concluded, "I believe that the parent whose personality relates best to the child would be most effective to model a new behavior" — one on which, hopefully, both parents could agree.

Hassett also learned that "kids become what you notice about them" and that, "if you notice only bad behavior, kids will continue to exhibit that behavior in order to get attention." So, the parents learned to take note of things done correctly, including acts of kindness to one another. They also learned to say "please" and "thank you" to their children, a seemingly small thing, and yet the effects of this more positive atmosphere were

soon noticeable.

Learning to pray together, to pay attention to one another, and to show kindness and respect to one another and to strangers, Hassett admits, "worked better than the yelling and mumbling used to do."

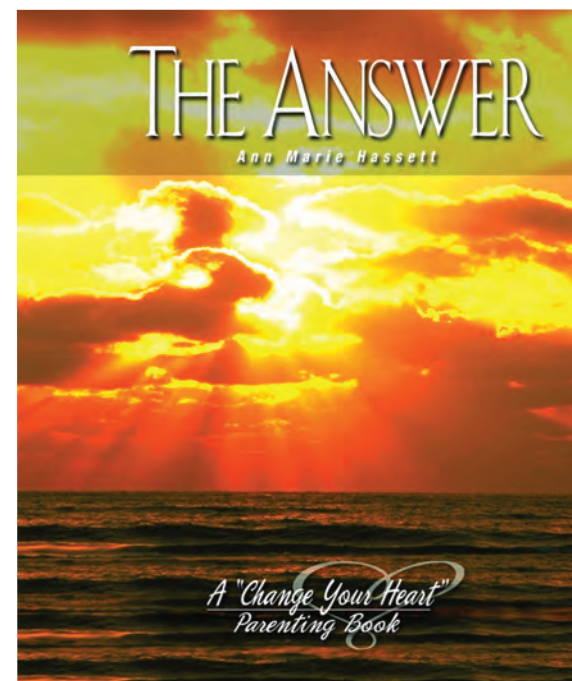
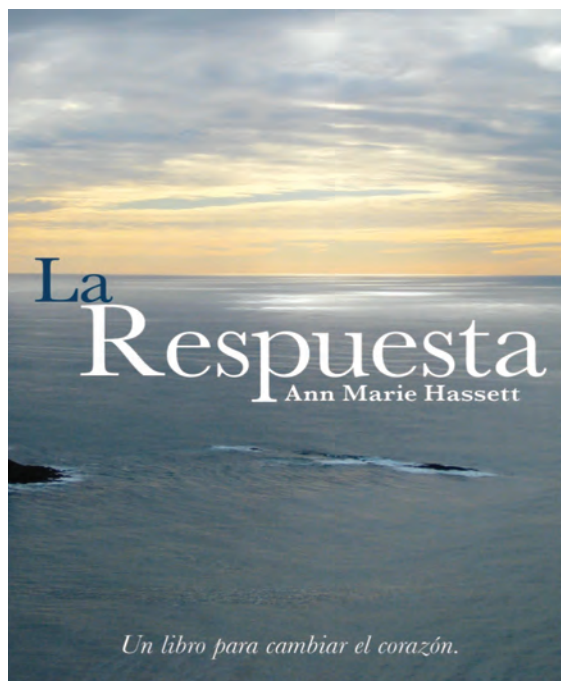
In his review of this book, Jesuit Father Frank Morris wrote: "*The Answer* offers the possibility of being read on multiple levels. It can be read 1) from the perspective of a wife and her children and her husband, 2) from the ability to relate to other people and 3) from the spirituality in one's life." Personally, I think he hit the nail on the head. As I read Hassett's book, I came to understand that it applied not just to how we

deal with our kids, but how we deal with each other as husbands and wives, brothers and sisters, members of families often far removed, people with whom we work and others in our community. It is the difference between a positive and a negative attitude, between following the Commandment that Christ gave us — to love one another as He loves us — and just going through the motions in this very busy and troubled world.

The book is also available in Spanish.

For more information, visit www.springtimepublishing.com.

The Southern Cross



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The following is the latest installment in a new series that seeks to introduce our readers to the real people and the real stories behind the advertisements that appear in our paper.

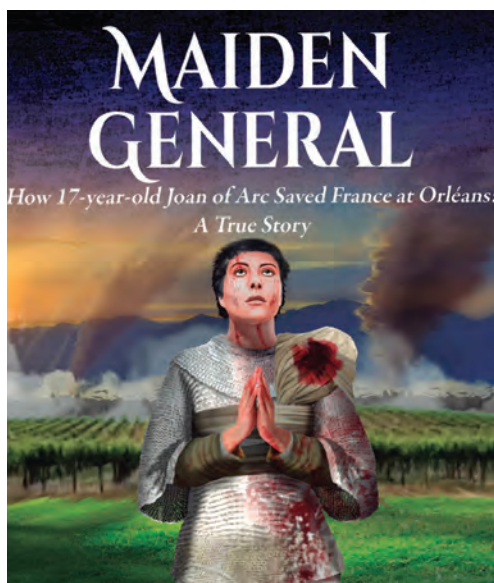
Mike MacCarthy is the author of the new historical novel *Maiden General: How 17-Year-Old Joan of Arc Saved France at Orléans — A True Story*. For more information about him and his novel, visit www.mikemacCarthy.com or e-mail him at mmwritessan.rr.com.

The Southern Cross: What inspired you to write *Maiden General*?

Mike MacCarthy: I have noticed that most of us have someone we look to for inspiration. For me, St. Joan has been that person since I was nine.

During the 1940s and 1950s, the medical world knew little about asthma, so I spent at least a month each year in a hospital and even longer at home in bed struggling to breathe. To relax, I painted with water colors, read, and listened to the radio a lot. My bed stayed cluttered with small horses and soldiers from all kinds of battles, mostly from the Middle Ages. One day, I asked my dad why his younger sister was named Joan. He then handed me a book about St. Joan and I was hooked.

Like young Joan, I lived on a small farm and was laughed at for my Catholic faith and lack of worldly sophistication. I read that she had been visited by Michael the Archangel when she was 12 and told that God had a plan for her, but that she should



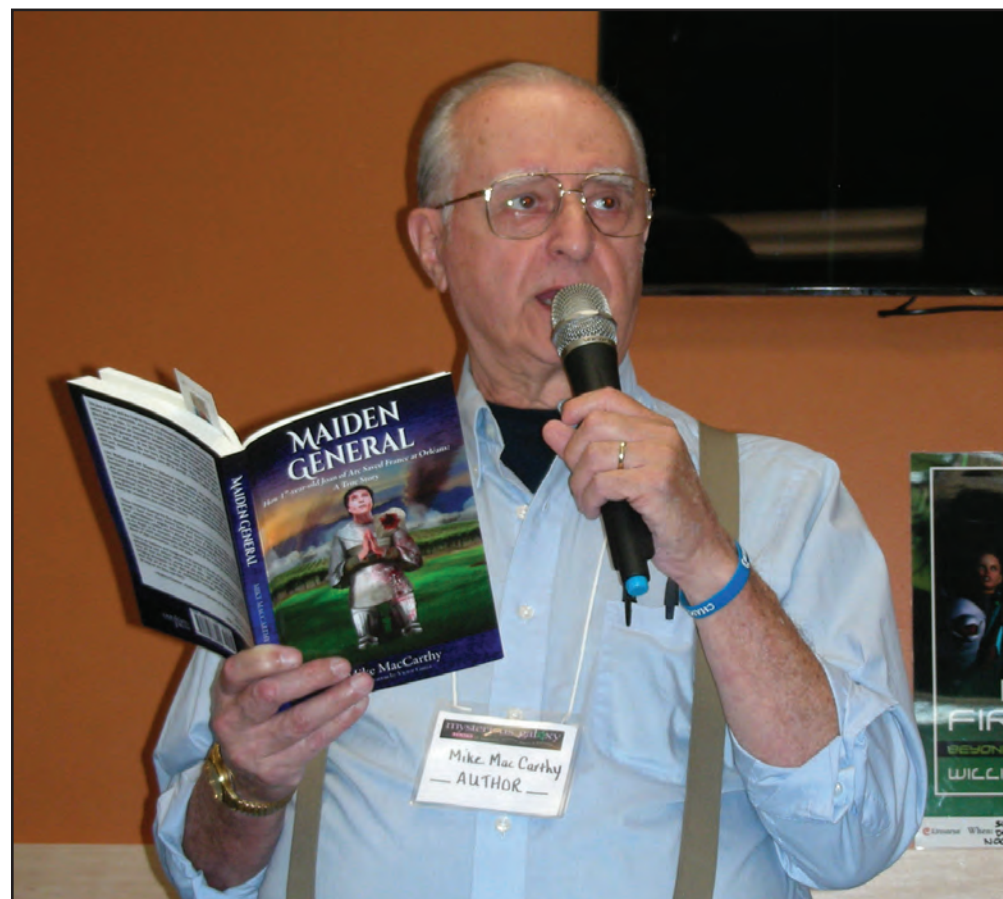
begin by working on her prayer life. I too wanted to say "yes" to God.

From then on, I read every book and story about her life that I could find in my small-town library. I kept reading and also going to movies about her well into my 50s until I saw how most of the books, movies, plays and TV mini-series about her were laced with inaccuracies and outright falsehoods. Finally, about 10 years ago, I decided it was time to set the record straight and write a book about Joan's early public life based on published facts.

SC: Can you give us a synopsis of the plot?

MacCarthy: In 1425, prayerful and humble Jehanne d'Arc begins receiving individual and private visits from Ss. Michael, Catherine and Margaret. These "divine guests" bring personal messages from God: "For the good of France," they tell her, "you must lead the defeat of the English at Orléans and then escort the crown prince, 22-year-old Charles VII, to Reims for his coronation."

The 12-year-old girl has grown up in a small village in the Lorraine Valley of north-



MIKE MACCARTHY

eastern France, where she lives on a farm with her parents and older brothers. She cannot read, write, or ride a horse and knows nothing of war — and neither does her family or neighbors. Nonetheless, she tells St. Michael she will accept her assignment for God.

I am proud to say that *Maiden General* is a family-friendly book while also a fun read, containing maps and illustrations that more fully assist the reader in visualizing the action. It's the kind of book that I believe belongs on the required reading list of all Catholic schools as well as in the libraries of our public schools.

SC: Why did you choose to tell St. Joan's story as a historical novel?

MacCarthy: I had originally written the book as nonfiction, but that genre limits plot and character development because,

unless someone was present during a conversation and took notes or recorded it, that dialogue cannot be included. So I made the decision to re-write my book about St. Joan in the spring of 2010. By July 2010, cutbacks at the daily newspaper for which I then worked forced me into a sudden unemployed status. I prayed about it then, and it seemed that God was sending me a message. While sending out hundreds of new job applications and cover letters, I also felt God calling me to concentrate on finishing the book. I completed my re-writes by the early spring of 2015.

SC: What prompted you to advertise in *The Southern Cross*?

MacCarthy: My wife and I have been practicing Catholics in San Diego County for over 40 years and have been involved with various ministries. With few exceptions, the people with whom we serve are regular readers of *The Southern Cross*. We see it in their homes, and we hear them talk about it at our various meetings, retreats and prayer sessions. For me, it was a logical decision to advertise my historical novel about St. Joan of Arc in *The Southern Cross*. Its readership represents the demographics I am most anxious to reach.

The Southern Cross



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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Just the thought of summer fast approaching might bring thoughts of rest and relaxation to mind. We may recall the lazy days of summer during our youth. Summer may also mean anticipated excitement and adventure — exploring new places or trying new things.

Some families plan escapes to beaches and paradise vacations, while others may stay home and plan day trips to fun spots, the local library, or parks and recreation centers. Anything out of the ordinary can be a very welcome change.

Donna-Marie Cooper O'Boyle

The realization that summer is just around the corner can cause moms to feel a bit (or a lot!) nervous too. They might not want to let go of their semi-structured schedule for the more relaxed bedlam, craziness, and insane structure of summertime.

One thing we can count on — the schedule will usually change quite dramatically. But there's no need to fear. Let's take the stress out of summer right now by pausing to plan a strategy.

Summertime can certainly be a time of well-deserved rest and also a welcome change of scenery. While making plans for our families this summer, let's not forget about prayer because a change in schedule once we hit summertime and an eagerness to "get away from it all" could cause us to lose touch with our spiritual needs. We don't want to inadvertently let our prayer life go on vacation!

Recently, on a radio show I suggested that we should actually write down the intention to "pray." We can do that on a dry-erase board, chalkboard, or in our tablet. I suggested that in order to make family prayer happen throughout summertime, we have to carve out time for it — we need to make time to be with our Creator! Sure, all kinds of inconvenient stuff happens in the heart of the family, but God knows what we are all about. He knows we can't drop to our knees to pray when we are taking care of a pressing need with the children. He also knows that we are a work in progress! When our planned prayer time gets sabotaged or rearranged, let's just try again — let's make it work! But, we shouldn't beat ourselves up when our efforts might fail. If we have tried our very best, God will surely reward us for making sure that we are training our children to develop a beautiful

relationship with Him.

So, add "prayer" to your "to-do" list and teach the kids to do the same. Do that soon! We want to establish solid prayer habits.

Prayer Strategies

A key strategy to help us remain prayerful this summer is to begin each day with prayer — no matter what. This simple suggestion may seem like a no-brainer to a praying individual. However, the busyness of mornings and preparations for summer outings of even the well-intentioned "pray-ers" can cause prayer time to become lost in the commotion.

Getting on our knees when we face each new day and giving it right over to the Lord will indeed start the day off with the proper disposition and it only takes a few minutes of our time. Mothers should teach their children to do the same — to greet Our Lord first thing in the morning. A morning offering in our own words or a more formal version and a prayer to our Guardian Angel at the breakfast table works very well with our captive hungry "audience"! We can offer our hearts to God all throughout our days as well. Teaching our children to begin their days with prayer is an invaluable lesson that will surely remain with them as they grow older and begin to navigate life on their own.

Making time to come together as a family to offer our hearts to God is indispensable and will be etched on your children's hearts forever. No family should be too busy to pray together. We can easily slip meaningful prayer into mealtimes to keep our family focused on prayer throughout the day. St. John Paul II emphasized the importance of family prayer frequently. He said, "Prayer increases the strength and spiritual unity of the family, helping the family to partake of God's own 'strength' ("Gratissimam Sane," Letter to Families, 1994).

When making plans for family trips, perhaps we can think about including shrines, basilicas, and holy places in our trips. It's a win-win situation! When researching places of interest for our family this summer, we can utilize the many Catholic magazines, newspapers, and websites that often highlight

interesting places for pilgrimages and visits. We can attempt to attain that healthy balance of nourishment for our family's spiritual life as well as fun and enjoyment for relaxation and entertainment of our senses.

Summer travel affords us many opportunities for prayer — perhaps more than we might imagine. Prayers such as the rosary can be said in common in the family vehicle en route to a vacation spot or while traveling to the beach, park, or picnic area for day trips. Each child can voice a prayer of petition about something that is close to their hearts as well as offer prayers of thanksgiving for God's gifts — including family time together. Take time to name the wonderful gifts in your lives. Naturally, we will also want to ask our good Lord for His protection over our family as we travel.

Why not teach the kids about the saints this summer? A saint a week! My book, *Catholic Saints Prayer Book* (32 saints) has been re-released in paperback and is just the right size to toss into the beach bag.

Turning the Negative Around

Summer doesn't automatically translate into bliss. Annoyances and inconveniences can crop up at any time. However, the traffic jams, whiny children, bug bites, sunburn, or unexpected delays and mishaps can be turned around and used for good. We have a perfect opportunity to "offer it up" to God and ask Him to use a small sacrifice or inconvenience on our part for the good of others, rather than allowing the situation to cause us to become annoyed or angry. Let's keep our cool and turn to prayer. We can ask our Lord to use our sufferings for the souls in purgatory so that perhaps they can get to Heaven a little faster.

Servant of God Father John A. Hardon, S.J., the late world-renowned theologian and author (and my former spiritual director), said in his book *Theology of Prayer* (The Daughters of St. Paul, 1979), "When I suffer prayerfully, I recognize that God is behind the suffering and I humble my head in faith

... when I suffer prayerfully, I trust that God has reasons for permitting what I endure and that in His own time and way, the experience now suffered will eventually somehow be a source of grace."

These "offering it up" prayer times are not only spiritually enriching and gifts for the recipient, they also become beautiful teachable moments, pointing our children to patience and thinking of others during trials, helping them turn to prayer rather than allow a negative situation to get the best of them.

Whatever way your family plans might unfold for this summer, be sure to have fun, enjoy, and offer your joyful heart to the Lord! Your example of prayer throughout the summer days will inspire your family and those that God puts in your midst.

Have a happy and holy summer!

Prayer from St. John Paul II for families:

Lord God, from You every family in Heaven and on earth takes its name. Father, You are love and life. Through Your Son, Jesus Christ, born of woman, and through the Holy Spirit, the fountain of divine charity, grant that every family on earth may become for each successive generation a true shrine of life and love. Grant that Your grace may guide the thoughts and actions of husbands and wives for the good of their families and of all the families in the world. Grant that the young may find in the family solid support for their human dignity and for their growth in truth and love. Grant that love, strengthened by the grace of the sacrament of marriage, may prove mightier than all the weaknesses and trials through which our families sometimes pass. Through the intercession of the Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that the Church may fruitfully carry out her worldwide mission in the family and through the family. We ask this of You, Who is life, truth and love with the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen

Donna-Marie Cooper O'Boyle is an EWTN television host, speaker, and author of numerous books. Visit her online at www.donnacooperoboyle.com. The preceding article first appeared on Catholic World Report (www.catholicworldreport.com.)

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Father Thomas Byles was 42 when he boarded the Titanic with his second-class ticket and portable altar stone. He had made arrangements with Captain Edward Smith to secure space on the ocean liner to celebrate Mass. Even on vacation a priest is never off duty, he knew, but the Catholic convert would have it no other way.



Christina Capecchi

He saw his faith as “a wonderfully great gift,” he once wrote to his brother, William, “a truly marvelous and altogether supernatural support.”

It was William who had prompted Father Byles’ cross-Atlantic trip, asking his oldest brother to come to New York to marry him.

The British priest had served a decade of priestly ministry and was well loved by his small rural parish, St. Helen’s, where folks helped pay for his Titanic ticket. It cost 13 pounds.

He boarded on Wednesday, April 10, 1912 — three days after Easter Sunday — sized up the ship, then wrote to his parish housekeeper while the Titanic was anchored at Cherbourg, France: “Everything so far has gone very well, except that I have somehow managed to lose my umbrella.” He wondered when he would next be able to celebrate Mass and promised to write again as soon as he arrived in New York.

Clad in his Roman collar, the priest with

Comfort the Shipwrecked: Titanic Priest a Model of Mercy

the gentle, scholarly look — glasses, a strong nose and firm jawline — became a familiar sight throughout the week. Father Byles spent most of Saturday, travel day four, hearing confessions. On the fifth day, he celebrated Mass in the second-class lounge and again in the designated third-class space. It was Divine Mercy Sunday. He preached about the prospect of “spiritual shipwreck,” urging the Catholics to seek a spiritual lifeboat in the form of prayer and the sacraments.

At 11:40 that night, Father Byles was on the deck clutching his breviary and praying Night Prayer when the Titanic struck the iceberg.

He packed a lifetime of priestly ministry into the next three hours, performing the most intense mix of corporal and spiritual works of mercy he had ever done — a model for all in this Year of Mercy.

Once he recognized the gravity of the situation, he headed down to the steerage to help third-class women and children onto the deck and into the lifeboats. “Be calm, my good people,” he was heard saying.

Father Byles met the haunting sights, sounds and smells with an otherworldly peace. “A few around us became very excited,” Ellen Mocklare, a young Irish woman, later told reporters, “and then it was that the priest again raised his hand and instantly they were calm once more. The passengers

were immediately impressed by the absolute self-control of the priest.”

Survivors said Father Byles was offered a lifeboat twice but refused it, determined to minister to passengers in their hour of greatest need, even though it would cost him his life. He heard confessions, gave absolution, offered blessings and led prayers, including the Hail Mary, whose back-and-forth recitation provided a steady measure amid chaos. The words “Holy Mary” rang out loud and clear.

As 2:20 a.m. neared, more than 100 people were trapped on the stern, raising perilously high, Father Byles among

them. They knelt before him in an act of contrition, and he granted them general absolution.

As Ellen Mocklare was carried away on a lifeboat, she could hear the priest’s voice and murmured responses to his prayers. “They then became fainter and fainter, until I could only hear the strains of ‘Nearer, My God, To Thee’ and the screams of the people left behind.”

“There let the way appear, steps unto heaven,” the old hymn goes. “All that Thou sendest me, in mercy given. Angels to beckon me nearer, my God, to Thee.”

Christina Capecchi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minn., and editor of SisterStory.org.

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With Benedictine Father Stephanos Pedrano. 9:30 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Aug. 20, at the diocesan Pastoral Center. No cost.

RCIA Workshop

6-9 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 25, at the diocesan Pastoral Center. No cost.

Leadership In-Service

“Paying Attention to God: Prayer in Religious Education” with Victor Valenzuela. 9 a.m.-noon, Wednesday, Aug. 31, at the diocesan Pastoral Center. No cost.

Leadership In-Service

“Safe Environment and Mandated Reporting” with Rodrigo Valdivia, JCL. 9 a.m.-noon, Tuesday, Sept. 13, at the diocesan Pastoral Center. No cost.

Commissioning Mass/Mercy Presentation

Commissioning Mass for ecclesial ministers and a Year of Mercy presentation with Bishop Robert W. McElroy. 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 20, at St. Jude Shrine of the West Parish. No cost; lunch included. Parish leadership is encouraged to attend.

Basic Catechist Formation

48-hour course grants California Catechist Certification. Cost: \$75/student. Upcoming course offered at St. Peter Parish, Fallbrook, starting on Tuesday, Sept. 20. To register, contact Lisa Vaca at (858) 490-8230 or lvaca@sdccatholic.org.

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE

For more information, call (858) 490-8295.

Relationship Skills Workshops

Deacon Ralph and Peggy Skiano are presenting Relationship Skills Workshops at 7 p.m., every Wednesday, at the diocesan Pastoral Center, 3888 Paducah Drive, from June 1-Aug. 31. You can attend one workshop, several, or all of them. Upcoming workshops include: Personality Differences (July 13), Childhood Issues and Emotional Baggage (July 20), Handling Anger Constructively (July 27), Speaking the Truth in Love (Aug. 3), How to Fight Fair: Conflict Resolution (Aug. 10), Feelings and the Hurt Spiral (Aug. 17), Forgiveness and Repair (Aug. 24) and Rebuilding Trust (Aug. 31).

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Courage

Personal/group ministry to those with same-sex attraction. Group meetings: 7 p.m., every other Saturday evening, at St. John the Evangelist Parish, San Diego. Chaplain: Father Richard Huston. Call (858) 271-0207 (office) or (858) 578-5764 (private).

Encourage

Personal/group ministry to families and friends of those with same-sex attraction. This ministry adheres to Church teaching on homosexuality and offers support through prayer, counseling and fellowship. Meetings: 9 a.m., one Saturday morning each month, at Good Shepherd Parish in San Diego. Chaplain: Father Richard Huston. Call (858) 271-0207 (office) or (858) 578-5764 (private).



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Fr. Greg Adolf is the pastor of St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church in Sierra Vista, Arizona, Diocese of Tucson. He is a Spiritual Advisor with the Society.

He is active in retreat ministry, leading participants into a deeper experience of prayer and missional service.

In this visit, his 4th in the Diocese of San Diego, Fr. Greg shares his experiences of Vincentian service to meet the needs of our neighbors. He invites us to see Christ's face in the poor and marginalized!

In response to the 2015 visit, Paul Marquie from Santa Sophia Parish remarked: "What a dynamic speaker and motivator! Fr. Greg reaffirmed my commitment in serving the poor and needy in my community."

No fee. Complimentary breakfast & lunch. Limited seating.
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Diocesan Marriage Prep Reflects Pope's Recommendations

By Peggy Skiano

"Amoris Laetitia" offers much food for thought and many challenges to grow in how we respond to the needs of the engaged and married couples in our diocese. Pope Francis expressed his purpose in writing the apostolic exhortation, saying, "This exhortation is especially timely in this Jubilee Year of Mercy. First, because it represents an invitation to Christian families to value the gifts of marriage and the family, and to persevere in a love strengthened by the virtues of generosity, commitment, fidelity and patience. Second, because it seeks to encourage everyone to be a sign of mercy and closeness wherever family life remains imperfect or lacks peace and joy ... It is my hope that, in reading this text, all will feel called to love and cherish family life" [5].

Although I found the sections on the scriptural foundation of marriage, marriage in the teaching of the Church, the challenges presented by the cultures around the world, St. Paul's description of love and the chapter on parenting very meaningful, Chapter Six on pastoral perspectives captured my attention as the director of the diocesan Office for Marriage and Family Life who is responsible for the 1,300 couples who come to the Church in our diocese for marriage preparation each year. Pope Francis wrote, "The complexity of today's society and the challenges faced by the family require a greater effort on the part of the whole Christian community in preparing those who are about to be married" [206].

The exhortation goes on to elaborate on what is necessary to prepare a couple for marriage. The Holy Father says, "The

pastoral care of engaged and married couples should be centered on the marriage bond, assisting couples not only to deepen their love but also to overcome problems and difficulties. This involves not only helping them to accept the Church's teaching and to have recourse to her valuable resources, but also offering practical programs, sound advice, proven strategies and psychological guidance" [211].

In our diocese, many of his observations about what couples need have already been incorporated into our programs. To be married in the Church, an engaged couple is asked to attend two programs. The first is the PreCana program, which is a one-day program. The day begins with administering an inventory that will be scored and returned to both the couple and the priest. That inventory is meant to raise discussions in areas the couple has never addressed or about which they are in disagreement. Then the first presentation is done by a marriage and family therapist who explores some important skills needed to build a successful marriage. The rest of the PreCana day is spent exploring what marriage in the Church really means and how we are called by God to live our life together as spouses.

The PreCana program is followed by a second program: the Catholic Engaged Encounter Weekend; the six-week Evenings for the Engaged; or the one-day Awareness and Preparation for Remarriage program (for couples who are entering marriage a second time). Natural family planning classes are offered to help couples practice responsible parenthood while respecting the mean-

ing of their marriage and intimacy.

These programs are presented by married couples in our diocese who generously give of their time to assist us in our mission. During these programs, the couples talk more about the lived experience of marriage and faith in the family. The Holy Father stresses how important the Christian community is for preparing couples for marriage and perhaps more importantly to walk with the young married couples and to provide support and assistance as they face the challenges that their life together presents.

Pope Francis points out, "There are a number of legitimate ways to structure programs of marriage preparation, and each Church will discern how best to provide a suitable formation without distancing young people from the sacrament. They do not need to be taught the entire Catechism or overwhelmed with too much information. Here, too, it is not great knowledge, but rather the ability to feel and relish things interiorly that contents and satisfies the soul" [239].

His comments point out the limitations of immediate marriage preparation. The most important things we can accomplish in these programs are to give the engaged a new vision of what God intends for their marriage, to provide an example of married love through the witness of the couples who present the programs and to invite them to see that God is the source of their love and will be with them each day of their marriage.

The mission to promote and support marriage does not end with marriage preparation. Married couples need support in both good times and challenging times. The Marriage

and Family Life Office offers a free Relationship Skills Workshop twice a year to help strengthen couples. Many lay movements (such as Marriage Encounter, Retrouvaille, Couples for Christ, the Christian Family Movement and others) provide support for married couples in a variety of ways. And when marriage breaks down, we should provide compassionate programs that help people heal and discover God's will for their life. We are fortunate to have several parish-based groups for the divorced and Beginning Experience for the divorced and widowed to rebuild after the loss.

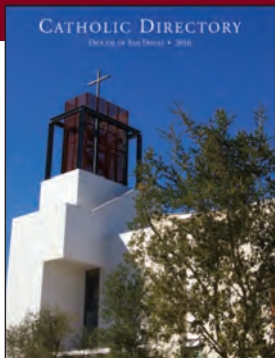
We will be hosting a day on Sept. 24 for anyone who is divorced with both practical and spiritual presentations. On Oct. 28, the Diocese of Orange is hosting a day to train leaders to develop programs in their own parishes to minister to those in troubled marriages and divorced Catholics.

Much more is needed in all of these areas. If you feel called to assist in any of these ministries at the diocesan level, call our office at (858) 490-8295. If you feel called to assist couples in your parish, talk to your pastor. There are many programs available for you to use, but the most important requirement is being someone who cares. Beyond that, check out the great articles and resources available at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Web site for marriage support, www.foryourmarriage.org.

The Southern Cross

Peggy Skiano is director of the diocesan Office for Marriage and Family Life.

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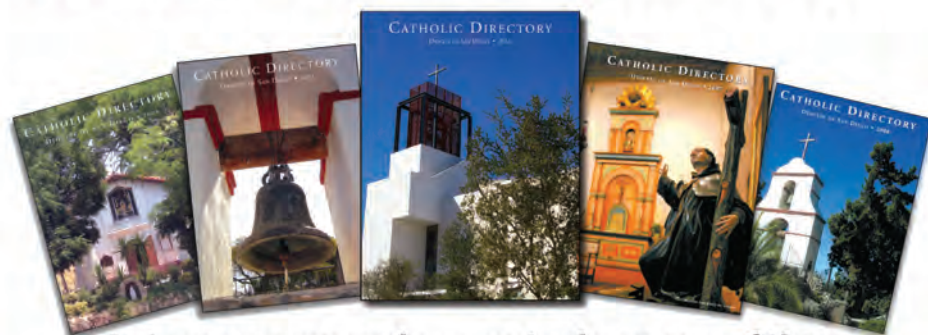
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YEAR OF MERCY

‘No Turning Back: A Witness to Mercy’

Presented by Father Donald Calloway, Sunday, Oct. 16, at St. Gregory the Great Parish, beginning with the 5 p.m. Mass.

Day of Recollection

“Celebrating the Year of Mercy in the Vincentian Way,” a day of recollection with Father Greg Adolf, will be held from 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Aug. 20, at Mission San Diego. No registration fee. RSVP by Aug. 13. For information or to register, e-mail mvalencia@sdcatholic.org or (858) 490-8323.

PARISH EVENTS

Healing Masses

• 7 p.m., every third Tuesday in English and every third Wednesday in Spanish, at St. Pius X Parish in Jamul. Celebrant: Father Higinio Garcia. For information, call (619) 669-0085.

• July 27 at St. James Parish, Solana Beach. Praise and testimony begins at 6:30 p.m., followed by Mass at 7 p.m. Celebrant: Father John Struzzo. For information, call (888) 590-5095.

Bilingual Installation Mass

An Infant Jesus of Prague official replica statue from Prague will be received during a bilingual Mass, 6 p.m., July 16, at Mary Star of the Sea Parish, 7669 Girard Ave., in La Jolla.

Gigantic Rummage Sale

7 a.m.-1 p.m., July 22-23, at in the parking lot at St. Pius X Parish in Chula Vista.

Summer Speaker Series

Ascension Parish (11292 Clairemont Mesa Blvd, San Diego) is hosting a summer series of free talks by Catholic speakers. Each talk is at 7 p.m. Schedule: “Understanding the Book of Revelation” (Jimmy Akin), July 19; “Apologetics for Chickens” (Patrick Coffin), Aug. 2; “The Galileo Affair” (Chris Check), Aug. 16; and “Why God Still Matters” (Karlo Broussard), Aug. 30.

PARISH EVENTS

Human Trafficking

Presentations on human trafficking

• 6:30-7:30 p.m., July 21, at Mary Star of the Sea Parish in La Jolla (7669 Girard Ave.). Presented by Grace Williams of Children of the Immaculate Heart, a Catholic apostolate in the Diocese of San Diego devoted to female victims of human trafficking.

• 7-8:30 p.m., Aug. 9, at St. Gregory the Great Parish (11451 Blue Cypress Dr.). Presented by San Diego County Deputy District Attorney Summer Stephan and Grace Williams.

• For information, call (619) 431-5537 or visit www.childrenoftheimmaculateheart.org.

“Letter to Women”

St. Mary Magdalene Parish will be offering an eight-week study of Pope John Paul II’s Letter to Women. The study begins Aug. 25, from 6:30-8 p.m. For information and meeting location, contact Diane Kenney at diane.kenney@att.net.

GROUPS

Mission Young Adults

Former members are invited to a 25-year reunion, Mass and reception, July 30, at Mission San Diego; family gathering, July 31, at Spreckels Park, Coronado. For information, contact Cynde at gynwallace@live.com.

Laughlin Getaway

Oct. 2-4, 2016. Sponsored by St. Martin of Tours Women’s Club, La Mesa. Cost: \$140/person in double or \$170 for single at Riverside Resort Hotel. For information, call (619) 889-2854 or (323) 632-6066.

“Love Our Priests”

The prayer group will gather for Mass at 10 a.m., Aug. 6, at Ascension Parish. Guest speaker: Dominican Father Luke Buckles on his conversion story, St. Joseph and the life of prayer. A potluck luncheon follows. For information, call (858) 560-7132.

GROUPS

North County Magnificat

“A Ministry to Catholic Women.” Next meeting is July 16 (Mass at 8 a.m.; breakfast 9 a.m.) at The Center (located on top of the Lexus dealership in Escondido). Personal testimony will be given by Heidi Hill. RSVP to (760) 505-6625 or visit www.magnificat-nsd.com.

Membership Luncheon

Father Joe’s Village Ladies Guild (formerly St. Vincent de Paul Ladies Guild) will host a free membership luncheon at 11 a.m., Sept. 12, at All Hallows Parish in La Jolla. The Ladies Guild has provided volunteer services for children at Father Joe’s Villages for 33 years. Contact (858) 483-7911 or jsbolts@san.rr.com.

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

Moms’ Catholic Book Study

Don’t need to be a mom to attend. All are welcome. Meet during the school year, every Wednesday from 10 a.m.-noon, at St. Mary Magdalene Parish and discuss Catholic books. For information, visit <http://momscatholicbookstudy.weebly.com>.

Bereavement Ministry

• The Bereavement Ministry of Mission San Diego de Alcalá offers three unique, compassionate groups to assist mourners through healing. For information, contact Dr. Roberta Flynn at drflynn@hotmail.com.

• The Bereavement Ministry of Mission San Diego is offering a “More Planning Your Future” workshop, 8-11 a.m., Aug. 13. Includes breakfast. A good-will offering will be accepted. For information or to register, e-mail drflynn@hotmail.com, call (619) 980-9244 or visit www.missionsandiego.org.

GROUPS

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.

Light Weigh

God has the answers for our weight, food struggle and all temptations! Light Weigh One King is starting a new session at 1 p.m., July 27, at St. Timothy Parish (Escondido) in the St. Dominic Room. Light Weigh One King is a 12-week Catholic Bible Study DVD program. For information, visit www.lightweigh.com; to join the group at St. Timothy’s, call (760) 644-2934 to order your program materials.

Retrouvaille

Thousands of couples headed for divorce have overcome their marriage problems through Retrouvaille. Next program: Sept. 16-18. Space limited. Call (951) 259-9474.

WORKSHOPS, RETREATS AND CONFERENCES

Discernment Weekend

Is God calling you to be an Augustinian? Find out Oct. 7-9 at an Augustinian discernment weekend. For information, contact Father Mark at mmenegatti@sahs.org.

WORKSHOPS, RETREATS AND CONFERENCES

Bible Study

Study the Acts of the Apostles. For information, contact eggrod0422@gmail.com or (818) 519-1769.

Widowed/Divorced/Separated

A healing weekend for widowed, divorced and separated persons will be held July 22-24 at Prince of Peace Abbey in Oceanside. For information, call (619) 895-3418 or (949) 466-4979.

Spiritual Exercises

Silent Ignatian Retreats preached by the priests of Miles Christi. For women: Aug. 5-7 and Sept. 9-11 in Rancho Palos Verdes. For men: Sept. 9-11 in Rancho Palos Verdes. Includes spiritual talks, Eucharistic adoration and daily Mass. For women’s Exercises, contact california@spiritualexercises.net or (858) 263-5113. For men’s Exercises, contact californiamen@spiritualexercises.net or (661) 284-5970.

Day Retreat on Divine Mercy

Father Richard Perozich and Deacon Patrick Byrne will be retreat speakers on aspects of the Divine Mercy, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., July 22, at Prince of Peace Benedictine Abbey in Oceanside. Cost: \$20; includes lunch. There will be confession, Mass, Divine Mercy chaplet and a Stations of the Cross garden walk. RSVP to (760) 440-9905 or jandonovan@cox.net.

St. Stephen’s Men’s Retreat

Sept. 2-4 at Vina de Lestonnac Retreat Center in Temecula. Keynote: Deacon Ralph Poyo. For information, call (760) 535-6992 or (760) 533-5099.

WORKSHOPS, RETREATS AND CONFERENCES

Pilgrimages

• Join Deacon Ron and Rac Arnold for PAX (Pacific Alaskan Xperience), a pilgrimage to Alaska, Sept. 24–Oct. 1, 2016. For information, contact (760) 500-3201 or sonraetoo@gmail.com.

• Pilgrimage to Greece and the Greek Isles in the footsteps of St. Paul, Oct. 17-28. For information, contact (760) 500-3201 or sonraetoo@gmail.com.

• Join Father Joseph Tabigue, pastor of Our Lady of the Rosary Parish, on a Divine Mercy Pilgrimage to Warsaw, Krakow, Prague and more. Nov. 7-17, 2016. Leaves from San Diego. For information, call (800) 908-2378.

• Join Father Emmet Farrell on a 12-day trip to Fatima, Portugal and the major sites of Spain. Includes round-trip ticket, 10 nights in a hotel, two meals each day, tour bus and Spanish-speaking guide, entrance to sites, most tips, and Mass. The trip will take place from June 6-17, 2017. For information, contact Father Farrell at (619) 419-8345 or elf620@yahoo.com.

Prayers Answered

Thank you for answering my prayers St. Jude!

-PAT C.

Prayers Answered

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

-ALH

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- **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.

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‘La Triste Cara de la Inmigración’

Víctimas de ‘La Bestia’ advierten de aún más tragedia en viaje el norte

Por Aída Bustos

LEMON GROVE – Los cinco hombres, cada uno con prótesis de pierna, subieron lentamente al altar. Se dieron vuelta para ver a la gente en la misa dominical de la parroquia San Juan de la Cruz.

Todos fueron víctimas de bestias mecánicas que destrozaron sus extremidades y de algunas humanas que los asaltaron, los maltrataron y los hicieron anhelar la muerte camino a los Estados Unidos desde su país natal de Honduras.

Milagrosamente habían sobrevivido, apoyados por algunas almas desconocidas que les extendieron una mano en su momento de crisis y por su fe. Ahora, los migrantes buscaban compartir su historia, asegurando que era posible evitar el trauma que ellos sufrieron.

“Hay cosas imposibles -- que me crezca mi brazo mutilado, mi pierna mutilada, mi otra mano. Eso es imposible”, dijo su líder, José Luis Hernández. “Pero hay cosas que sí son posibles. Por ejemplo, evitar más mutilados. Evitar más muertos. Evitar más desaparecidos. Evitar más mujeres violadas.

“Si nuestros gobernantes, junto con los de México y Estados Unidos, se preocupan para terminar el problema (de inmigración indocumentada) desde la raíz, entonces eso sí es posible, si hay voluntad política para hacerlo”.

Los cinco hombres perdieron sus extremidades en los trenes que mueven carga de Centro América a la frontera con Estados Unidos, conocidos como “La Bestia”. Después de largas estancias en hospitales en México, fueron deportados a su patria.

En la mayoría de los casos ahí terminaría su historia.



RESUELTOS: *Inmigrantes de Honduras que perdieron extremidades en su viaje al norte hablaron en la parroquia San Juan de la Cruz de Lemon Grove en junio sobre sus experiencias. De izquierda a derecha, José Alfredo Corea Santos, José Nian, Norman Saúl Varela, Omar Vega y José Luis Hernández.*

Lo inusual es que estos hombres han logrado llegar a los Estados Unidos. Detenidos inicialmente por las autoridades de Inmigración de este país, han recibido un permiso temporal para vivir aquí mientras se procesa su solicitud de asilo.

Buscan crear conciencia sobre “la triste cara de la inmigración”, aún en una región de migrantes. Luchan para desanimar a

otros que contemplan un viaje al norte. Además quieren sonar la alarma que la corrupción y el crimen organizado están forzando a cada vez más gente a abandonar su patria.

Los hondureños viven en un apartamento en Maryland, con otras siete víctimas del tren. Recientemente viajaron por autobús a San Diego para tratar de ayudar a seis de

sus compañeros que están en un centro de detención de Inmigración en Otay Mesa.

Los cinco migrantes no hablan inglés, no tienen medio de transporte y viven día a día de pequeños donativos. Aún así comenzaron a contactar a iglesias católicas en cuanto llegaron, solicitando poder hablar con sus parroquianos. También contactaron

VEA HONDUREÑOS, PÁGINAS 4-5

Obispo de SD insta el rechazo del prejuicio anti-gay

CENTRO PASTORAL – El Obispo Robert McElroy de San Diego aceptó participar en un homenaje organizado por la comunidad latina de San Diego el 9 de julio para las víctimas de la masacre en una discoteca de ambiente gay en la ciudad de Orlando.

Se unió a una gran variedad de líderes, funcionarios y activistas de la región que reconocieron la pérdida de vida dentro de la comunidad latina gay de esa ciudad en una balacera el 12 de junio.

El siguiente día, el obispo McElroy emitió la siguiente declaración:

“Una vez más nuestro país ha sido dividido por el odio y la violencia, en un evento asesino basado en una idea falsa de fe religiosa ampliada por nuestra cultura de las armas. La balacera en Orlando es una herida a la sociedad

entera, y esta vez la comunidad LGBT ha sido específicamente atacada y victimizada.

“Cuando enfrentamos tal matanza y sufrimiento humano es demasiado fácil buscar una solución que en sí tiene fundamento en el odio, el prejuicio y la recriminación.

“Sin embargo, nuestra fe católica exige que rechacemos ese camino y abracemos con aún más fuerza la solidaridad de toda la gente que se une como una familia de Dios que es el Padre de todos nosotros.

“Oramos por todas las víctimas en Orlando que fueron marcadas para morir sencillamente por su orientación sexual y estamos de duelo con sus familias y amistades.

“Esta tragedia es una llamada para que nosotros, los católicos, luchemos aún con más vigor el prejuicio anti-gay

que existe en nuestra comunidad católica y en nuestro país.

“Oramos por la comunidad musulmán de nuestro país que ha actuado con unanimidad para condenar este acto de violencia y para rechazar el odio basado en una distorsión de la fe musulmán.

“Oramos por los que dieron primeros auxilios, cuyo valor y sufrimiento son testigos del espíritu de sacrificio que ennoblece la sociedad americana.

“Y nos comprometemos a un camino que busca seguridad verdadera para nuestro país, no solamente en el esfuerzo para identificar aquellos que buscan hacernos daño, pero aún más importante, en construir una cultura que realmente es un ejemplo y fortalece la dignidad equitativa de cada mujer y hombre.”

The Southern Cross

Messi Nos Da a Entender que Si Fallas en Algo, Retírate



Por el Padre Bernardo Lara

Como un fiel seguidor del fútbol, debo admitir que siento que la copa

América Centenario llevada a cabo aquí en los Estados Unidos, no tuvo el éxito que se esperaba. Es cierto que a más de un mes, sigo agonizando el 7-0 de Chile en contra de México, pero creo yo que soy franco al decir que el torneo no “pegó” como se esperaba.

Sin embargo, la noticia que quedó marcada en los medios de comunicación nacionales e internacionales nació precisamente en la final de Chile vs. Argentina.

Más en específico, hablamos del penal fallado de Messi y de su supuesto retiro de la selección Argentina. En lo personal, me considero un seguidor de Messi por su trabajo dentro y fuera de la cancha. En el ambiente futbolístico es notorio la agilidad que tiene para practicar ese deporte. No por nada ha ganado varios trofeos como premio a su desempeño.

Fuera de la cancha ha hecho más.

Ha ayudado a varios niños que necesitan algún tratamiento médico, así como ha fomentado el trabajo en equipo (en uno de sus discursos como mejor goleador mencionó como él quisiera trabajar para ser un “mejor equipo”, mientras que Ronaldo, en otro evento, expresó que “él” tiene que ser el mejor).

Por si fuera poco, Messi ha tenido algunas reuniones con el Papa Francisco para trabajar por el bien de la gente.

Sin embargo, aún con ese reconocimiento que le tengo al futbolista argentino, admito que no me gustó para nada su reacción de renunciar al equipo tras un fallo y no porque me duela ver a una Argentina sin Messi, sino por el mensaje que me da.

En mi opinión, esa supuesta renuncia es un truco publicitario (al menos espero). De ser así, fue una táctica brillante por como terminaron las cosas.

Recapitemos: para empezar, Messi, “la esperanza” de la selección, falló. Lo pusieron primero a tirar el penal para dar confianza al resto del equipo y falló. En las noticias hubiera sido sumamente criticado por fallar. En su natal Argentina probablemente hubiera sido abucheado. Pero al decir que renuncia, las cosas giraron.

De ser el malo del cuento, se convirtió en el mártir. Ahora, en vez de enfocarse en su fallo, la gente le está literalmente rogando para que no se vaya de la selección.

Es más, ¡nadie está hablando casi del campeón Chile sino de Messi!

Por eso digo que en mi opinión fue

una táctica publicitaria y de ser así, fue una idea brillante. Sin embargo, les decía, si es verdad que está renunciando, me da tristeza el mensaje que nos da. Básicamente Messi nos da a entender que si fallas en algo, retírate. No solo él, sino pareciera que es la mentalidad de hoy en día. Vemos también a David Cameron, el Primer Ministro de la Gran Bretaña, que dijo renunciar al saberse que el pueblo votó por salirse de la Unión Europea. El mensaje es igual, si no puedes renunciar.

Esta se me hace una muy lamentable enseñanza que nos dejan. Es el reflejo vivo de la mentalidad de hoy en día: “no trabajes duro”, “no te esfuerces”, “si te caes, no te levantes, mejor quítate del camino”.

Más aún esto refleja la mentalidad de muchos de ser “dios”, de ser ese poder supremo y perfecto. De ahí viene la enseñanza de “si no eres perfecto, no sirves para el trabajo”.

Qué triste que pensemos así porque entonces en la vida nos volvemos mediocres y no nos podemos desarrollar a tal punto de explotar nuestro potencial en todas las áreas.

Más que renunciar hay que aprender de esas caídas para levantarnos y dar un mejor esfuerzo. Hay que trabajar más duro, hay que vivir más duro, hay que ser más considerado de otros, hay que amar más duro. Muchos vivimos nada más a la mitad o menos de nuestro potencial. Pensamos que nuestra energía es como el dinero- con el dinero lo cuidamos y lo ahorramos porque una vez que se acaba, ya no hay más. Sin embargo, así no pasa con nuestras energías y nuestro potencial. Cuando amamos, nos regeneramos. Si nos fijamos, todo lo que ahorramos para nosotros mismos, lo terminamos echando a perder. La comida, si no compartimos, se echa a perder. La energía sexual, si no la compartimos con el esposo o la esposa, se vuelve lujuria. El dinero si no lo compartimos se nos vuelve en avaricia.

Hay que tener cuidado y no guardar, sino compartir- ya sea dinero o energías. La energía no se acaba como el dinero, mientras amemos se renueva y nos invita a seguir luchando.

Por eso hay muchos divorcios y familias separadas. Porque al igual que Messi nos enseñan que si no sirves para algo, renuncies. Sin embargo, el mensaje de Jesús es claro- vamos a tener errores, vamos a tener fallas, vamos a tener fracasos, vamos a tener problemas ya que encontraremos “tribulaciones en el mundo. Pero ánimo, yo he vencido al mundo”.

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



NUEVO ARZOBISPO: El Mons. Francisco Moreno Barrón, aquí en una función en Tlaxcala, tomará protesta en Tijuana el 11 de agosto.

Nombran Nuevo Arzobispo de Tijuana

Por Aída Bustos

TIJUANA - El Papa Francisco nombró al nuevo arzobispo de esta región, Mons. Francisco Moreno Barrón, que actualmente funge como el obispo de la Diócesis de Tlaxcala.

El Obispo que empezará sus funciones el 11 de agosto, reemplazará a Mons. Rafael Romo Muñoz, que se está retirando.

La Arquidiócesis de Tijuana sirve a católicos del área metropolitana que incluye los municipios de Tijuana, Tecate y Playas de Rosarito, la cual tiene un alto crecimiento, con una población entre 1.5 y 2 millones de residentes. La arquidiócesis tiene más de 100 parroquias y alrededor de 200 sacerdotes.

Mons. Moreno Barrón, de 61, es nativo del Estado de Guanajuato, y ha servido en diferentes puestos de la Iglesia desde que se ordenó como sacerdote en 1979.

Durante una entrevista, él dijo que está familiarizado con los problemas de inmigración dado que Tlaxcala es una de las rutas por las que viajan los residentes del sur de México y Centroamérica hacia la frontera con Estados Unidos.

Él dijo que respalda a los obispos de los Estados Unidos que han denunciado la retórica anti-inmigrante de Donald Trump, el candidato del Partido Republicano para la presidencia.

“Levantar muros no es cristiano porque atenta contra la humanidad”, dijo el Obispo Moreno Barrón, refiriéndose a la llamada de Trump de erigir un muro a lo largo de la frontera. “Es tiempo de construir relaciones fraternas más allá de odios y rencores”.

El corresponsal Mario Alberto Santillán colabora con esta noticia.

Equipo Local Comienza el Proceso del V Encuentro

Por Aída Bustos

CENTRO PASTORAL -- Los latinos representan la mayoría emergente de la Iglesia Católica en los Estados Unidos.

¿Cuáles son sus prioridades en la Iglesia? ¿Cómo puede la Iglesia atraerlos, especialmente a los jóvenes? ¿Cómo puede la Iglesia mejor servir a los que viven marginados?

La Conferencia Estadounidense de Obispos Católicos (USCCB, por sus siglas en inglés) lidera un proceso de reflexión y acción eclesial de cuatro años centrado en esas preguntas llamado el Quinto Encuentro Nacional de Ministerio Hispano/Latino.

Las ediciones anteriores de Encuentros “han sido un parteaguas que ha cambiado significativamente la manera en la que la Iglesia responde a la presencia latina, y a la manera en que los latinos responden ante la Iglesia” de acuerdo a la USCCB.

A nivel nacional, el proceso Encuentro involucra 14 regiones episcopales, 175 diócesis, 42 organizaciones católicas nacionales, 14 movimientos laicos, 1 millón de líderes pastorales y 5,000 parroquias.

En esencia, el proceso Encuentro es una consulta de latinos católicos y sus parroquias para discernir sus necesidades y desarrollar

mejores prácticas para satisfacer esas necesidades. Un equipo nacional ha estado desarrollando una estructura para hacerlo.

A nivel local, la Diócesis de San Diego formó un equipo para dirigir el proceso del Encuentro, el cual incluye a los directores y gerentes de casi todas las oficinas de la diócesis.

Ellos introducirán el tema del Encuentro a los líderes latinos de las parroquias que ofrecen misas en español y a los movimientos eclesiales y los entrenarán cómo llevar a cabo la consulta. Estas juntas por región de la diócesis empezarán en el otoño.

A la vez, estos líderes realizarán las consultas en sus parroquias de enero a junio del próximo año. La diócesis revisará los resultados en la segunda mitad del año.

Los resultados de la diócesis serán revisados a nivel regional en el 2018. Unos 3,000 líderes locales y regionales se reunirán en una conferencia nacional en septiembre de ese año en Texas.

Los líderes de USCCB evaluarán las conclusiones del Encuentro en 2019 y desarrollarán recursos para llevar a cabo las recomendaciones a partir de enero del 2020.

Para mayor información consulte la página, en inglés y en español, vencuentro.org.

The Southern Cross

Camino hacia los próximos 200 Años

Cinco tribus forman parte de parroquia singular en Pala

Por Aída Bustos

PALA - El 13 de junio de 1816, un padre franciscano fundó una pequeña misión para evangelizar a los indígenas que vivían aquí. Unos 200 años después es la única misión en California que todavía está a su servicio.

El Obispo Robert W. McElroy celebró el legado de la Misión de San Antonio de Pala en una misa al aire libre el 5 de junio en el marco del bicentenario.

“Quiero agradecer a todas las tribus - de La Jolla, Rincón, Pala, Pauma y Pechanga- que han sido parte de esta gran historia de fe que tuvo lugar en este hermoso valle entre estas montañas que Dios creó”.

Una rebotante concurrencia de indígenas, latinos, filipinos y blancos acudió la celebración, sentándose en sillas de plástico en frente de la icónica torre del campanario bajo un sol brillante. El obispo pronunció su mensaje en inglés con algunas frases en español, y fue acompañado por un coro que cantó canciones tradicionales luseñas.

“Es muy apropiado que este aniversario se celebre con el tema del Cuerpo de Cristo. ¿Que ha sido lo que mayor continuidad ha tenido este lugar?”, preguntó el obispo. “No es un edificio. No es una persona. No son ni siquiera los fundadores. Es más bien que en este lugar, la misa, la Eucaristía, el Cuerpo y la Sangre de Cristo han estado presentes, sosteniendo las comunidades que viven en este lugar y las comunidades de los alrededores por 200 años”.

La misión es una “asistencia” o un soporte parroquial para la Misión de San Luis Rey de Francia, que se localiza como a 20 millas de distancia. La historia de la misión revela el cambio de entidades que han reclamado su tierra. Los franciscanos construyeron bajo el dominio español; continuó bajo el control mexicano y después pasó a ser propiedad privada. El Club Landmarks adquirió la misión en 1902 y se la regresó a la Iglesia Católica el siguiente año.

En 1948, misioneros italianos de Los Hijos del Sagrado Corazón, conocidos como los Padres Combonis, se hicieron cargo de la misión.

Juan Aguilera dijo que los Combonis atra-



jeron a personas de todo el Sur de California, inclusive de Arizona y Nuevo México.

“Trabajaron muy duro en nombre de la comunidad”, dijo Aguilera. “Y atrajeron a muchas, muchísimas personas, a visitarnos”.

Él y su esposa, originarios de Mexicali, han sido feligreses de la misión por 35 años y criaron a su familia ahí. Su nieto fue bautizado en la misión unas semanas antes de la celebración bicentenario.

Los Combonis dejaron la misión en 1991, cuando la Diócesis de San Diego se hizo cargo de la administración. Ahora, la misión incluye la iglesia y el Centro de San Juan Diego, donde se ofrecen misas en español los domingos y conferencias y reuniones todo el año.

La misión es la parroquia de la Hermana Mary Yarger, de 67, cuyos bisabuelos fueron enterrados en su cementerio y cuyos padres fueron casados por los Combonis. Ella es un miembro de las Hermanas de la Preciosa Sangre y vive en Pala. Diariamente viaja a Riverside, donde es la directora de la preparatoria de Sherman Indian.

Ella fue una de las organizadoras de la



TRADICIÓN: Arriba, el Obispo Robert W. McElroy acompañó al párroco, Padre Reynaldo Manahan, en una procesión alrededor de la Misión San Antonio de Pala el 5 de junio. Después, feligreses de todas las edades participaron en una gran fiesta.

procesión colorida que tuvo lugar después de la misa. Fue liderada por un grupo de hombres y mujeres a caballo que izaban la bandera papal seguidos por danzantes indígenas mexicanos y niños que llevaban la cruz, velas y antorchas, y niñas vestidas en blanco arrojando pétalos por el camino. Luego siguió un toldo que cubría los sacramentos sagrados resguardado por Caballeros de Colón.

Un grupo de fieles de las cinco reservaciones que forman la parroquia de la misión fue a continuación - Pala, Pauma, Pechanga, La Jolla y Rincón - cada una bajo su propio estandarte colorido llevando a su santo patrón. Cada reservación tiene su propia capilla y forman parte de la parroquia.

El Obispo y el pastor de la misión, Padre Reynaldo Manahan, se pararon en las tres

ramadas, o altares improvisados, para dar su bendición. Caminaron como un tercio de milla, primero en un camino pavimentado y después de terracería. Al final, las familias se reunieron en frente del campanario para una fiesta con comida y entretenimiento.

El Obispo honró la unión entre la cultura nativa y la fe católica en sus palabras de clausura.

“Oremos para que esta comunidad tenga una fuerza vital para proclamar el Evangelio por dos siglos más...y para que sea un lugar donde el trabajar por los pobres y desafortunados no sea una idea tardía sino más bien algo de todos los días ... Demos gracias, especialmente a las personas indígenas quienes han sido una bendición para la Iglesia y esta misión”.

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► HONDUREÑOS

CONTINUACIÓN DE PÁGINA 1

Inmigrantes buscan prevenir aún más mutilaciones, muertes

a la organización Ángeles de la Frontera, dirigida por Enrique Morones, quien se comprometió a apoyarlos, particularmente a contactar a los medios para que pudieran contar su historia.

Entre misas en San Juan de la Cruz el 26 de junio, los hondureños hablaron de su pesadilla y las razones por las que viajaron a los Estados Unidos.

‘Ahora es peor’

En el 2006, José Luis Hernández decidió probar su suerte en el norte en busca de una mejor vida para su familia.

Tenía 17 años.

Salió de su hogar en El Progreso, una ciudad agrícola de unos 400,000 habitantes noroeste del país. Entró a México en Tapachula.

El calcula que había viajado en unos 15 trenes, y caminado milla tras milla, en los 20 días que le llevó llegar a Torreón rumbo a Juárez. Estaba agotado. Nunca había experimentado el calor del desierto. Justo afuera de Delicias, Chihuahua, se desmayó mientras estaba montado arriba del tren.

“Me caí. El tren me mutiló mi pierna, mi brazo y parte de una mano”, contó calmadamente. “Con un poco de suerte, me caí entrando a una ciudad. Muchos que se caen en parte del desierto no los atienden a tiempo, se desangran y mueren”.

Pasó los siguientes dos años en hospitales en México, y luego fue deportado.

“Y en Honduras, pues si antes era difícil la situación, ahora peor, con una discapacidad”.

Había tantas víctimas como ellos que formaron la Asociación de Retornados con Discapacidades para apoyarse uno a otro. Además, tenían otro propósito:

“Exigirle a nuestro gobierno que no solo se preocupe por las remesas que mandan los inmigrantes de acá sino que también vean las consecuencias de esas remesas.”

Explicó que la mitad de la economía se sostiene con las remesas que mandan los 2 millones de hondureños que viven en los Estados Unidos que al igual que ellos arriesgaron su vida para llegar.



ESPERANZADO: *José Nian tenía 19 años cuando se resbaló de un tren cerca de Orizaba y su pie cayó debajo de un vagón. Perdió su pierna pero logró sobrevivir. “El Señor me ayudó en ese momento”. Un día quisiera poder trabajar para abrir su propio negocio.*

Dijo que solo en Honduras hay más de 700 personas mutiladas por el tren. Existen más de 3,500 personas desaparecidas. En los últimos seis años han repatriado de México 362 cadáveres hondureños que han muerto en el camino.

Comprometidos a hacer algo para evitar esta situación, 17 miembros del grupo salieron de Honduras el 25 de febrero del año pasado camino a la capital estadounidense. Su meta es hablar con el presidente Obama.

“Otra vez sin papeles, solo tomamos nuestras prótesis, nuestras muletas, nuestras sillas de ruedas, con el propósito que el mundo conozca ‘la triste cara de la inmigración.”

‘Aquí te vas a morir’

Norman Saúl Varela le gusta bromear y pretender que es soltero cuando conoce a una mujer.

Las sonrisas ocultan recuerdos muy dolorosos.

Explicó que una serie de golpes lo dejó con ninguna otro opción que salir para el norte. Primero, la catástrofe Mitch desató inundaciones masivas en 1998 que cobró un sinnúmero de vidas y destruyó la agricultura de la región. Luego sus padres fallecieron el siguiente año.

Él, su esposa y niña vivían un en cuarto rentado. En el 2005, a la edad de 23, decidió salir a trabajar en los Estados Unidos para poder construir una casa para su familia.

Pero fue detectado cuatro veces por los agentes del Instituto Nacional de Migración en México.

“Yo continuaba porque era una necesidad”, aseguró.

El 29 de octubre 2005, a las 7:40 de la tarde, el tren ya tenía cuatro horas de estar parado en Villahermosa, Tabasco.

“De repente empezó la gente a gritar: ¡Viene policía! ¡Viene Migración! ¡Vienen ladrones! Y todo mundo empieza a correr, por un lado y otro. Yo no quise correr. Me quedé parado, pegado al tren”.

Llegó un agente de migración. Quiso abrazar a los cinco migrantes para detenerlos pero en vez de agarrar a Varela lo empujó y cayó bajo del tren. En ese momento el tren comenzó su marcha.

“En el acto el tren me pasó por mi pierna derecha. Y solo escuché el sonido y empezaron a pasar los vagones del tren. Y yo le gritaba a él que me ayudara, que me sacara, que parara el tren. Solo se rió y se fue corriendo, y me dejó abandonado”.

Una ambulancia lo llevó a un hospital en Tabasco, donde le amputaron la pierna. De ahí, agentes de migración lo trasladaron a otro hospital y luego a un centro de detención.

“Me dejaron en un patio como un animal, pero un animal que le faltaba una pierna”.

Todo lo que traía puesto era una bata que le dieron en el hospital, ni siquiera ropa interior. “Ni vendas en mi mutilación, solo hilos”.

Una joven detenida le dio ropa interior y una otra le regaló una falda.

Habían pasado 11 días de su accidente y su pierna se había empezado a infectar. Rogaba para que le dieran medicina.

Dijo que el director se rehusó.

“Le dije al director, ‘¿Porqué no me matas? Matenme.”

Representantes de Derechos Humanos lo visitaron y le dijeron que tenía que firmar algunas formas. Se rehusó.

Finalmente, una pareja de abogados llegó al centro y vieron lo que le estaba pasando. Le ofrecieron representarlo si quería presentar una queja.

El Instituto de Migración luego lo deportó.

“Cuando me deportaron me fueron a tirar a Talismán, en la frontera de Guatemala-México. Sin muletas, sin vestido, sin nada, desnudo, me fueron a tirar”.

Le tomó 11 días regresar a su país.

“Caminaba con las tres extremidades, saltando a ratos, y a ratos arrastrándome. La gente se asustaba, y corría”.

Cuando finalmente tocó territorio hondureño, en Agua Caliente, buscó un policía para pedirle ayuda para tomar un camión a El Progreso.

“‘Si no te mató el tren, aquí te vas a morir’, me dijo. Mis propias autoridades de mi país. Que triste yo estaba.”

Conoció un chofer de camión que le ofreció llevarlo, inclusive le dio una taza de café y pan dulce, el único alimento que había tenido en días.

Lo estaba esperando su familia, siete meses después de haber salido.

“Mi tia se puso a llorar cuando me vio. Mi

esposa no podía verme. Mis hijos se asustaron”.

A través de su iglesia conoció a miembros de la asociación de discapitados, algunos quienes llegarían a salir con él de nuevo a los Estados Unidos.

‘Quería morirme’

A pesar de sus pasajes de pesadilla, los hombres enfrentaron el reto más grande de su vida una vez que lograron cruzar la frontera de Estados Unidos y fueron detenidos por agentes del Servicio de Migración y Aduanas (ICE).

“Nunca había querido morirme en un lugar como aquí en Estados Unidos”, aseguró Varela.

Los hombres llegaron a Piedras Negras, Coahuila, y se dirigieron al cruce en Eagle Pass, Texas. Su plan era solicitar una visa especial para poder compartir su experiencia devastadora, inclusive con el presidente Obama.

Una vez que lograron cruzar la frontera, los agentes de ICE los llevaron a una oficina, donde permancieron por 10 horas, dijo Varela. Luego los desparramaron en varios centros de detención en el sur de Texas.

En el centro de detención una noche, los agentes pusieron tres hombres a la vez en contenedores fríos de concreto, sin ventanas, de metro y medio por dos metros cuadrados, que le llamaban “La hielera”.

“Cierran las puertas. Nosotros pedíamos oxígeno porque se nos acaba el oxígeno adentro”, dijo Varela. Los agentes no hacían nada, dijo, solo golpeaban la puerta fuertemente de vez en cuando.

“Llegó un momento cuando nos agarramos todos de las manos – somos hombres, padres, hermanos, vecinos -- y nos mirábamos el rostro y lo primero que mirábamos eran lágrimas. Nos mirábamos con cadenas. Nos preguntamos, ‘¿Porqué



ACTIVISTAS: *El grupo de hondureños hablan en parroquias y otros centros comunitarios, en cualquier lugar que les abren la puerta -- para crear conciencia de la difícil situación en su país y lo que puede pasar en el viaje al norte.*

‘La fe que tenemos’

Hernández dijo que solo en Honduras salen cada año 74,000 personas que intentan cruzar México para llegar a los Estados Unidos. No solamente están tratando de escapar la pobreza extrema.

“Están huyendo la corrupción que estamos viviendo, el crimen organizado. Es como una persecución que se le está dando a los ciudadanos. Salen huyendo de nuestro

país, la mayoría jóvenes. Es una inmigración forzada para poder vivir un día más”.

José Alfredo Corea Santos, otro de los hondureños, cree que de alguna manera podrán llegar a hablar con el presidente Obama.

“Yo se que Dios nos va a abrir las puertas y nos va a recibir. Esa es la fe que tenemos. Solo Dios sabe lo que va pasar”.

The Southern Cross

Discapacitados buscan apoyo

Un grupo de hondureños que viaja en los Estados Unidos, miembros de la Asociación de Retornados con Discapacidades, buscan oportunidades para hablar frente grupos interesados en la inmigración de Latinoamérica además de donativos para continuar esta labor.

 Contáctelos a través de la organización Ángeles de la Frontera, en (619) 487-0249 o *info@borderangels.org*.

Con el amor de un pastor

Instan a los nuevos sacerdotes seguir ejemplo del Buen Pastor

Por Denis Grasska

SAN DIEGO – “Una vida llena de inmensa alegría pero también grandes momentos difíciles y de lucha” le espera a los cuatro sacerdotes recién ordenados.

Eso les dijo el Obispo de San Diego a los hombres en su misa de ordenación, celebrada el 24 de junio en la parroquia de Santa Teresa del Carmel.

David Exner, Corey Tufford y Derek Twilliger fueron ordenados para la Diócesis de San Diego y Glenn Baaten como sacerdote para el Ordinariato de la Catedral de San Pedro.

El Obispo habló de lo que les espera a los sacerdotes.

“Cada nuevo sacerdote es ordenado con expectativas acerca de cómo el sacerdocio se desarrollará en su vida...pero el sacerdocio en sí tiene sus raíces en su rendición a Dios, quien constantemente asombra y quien revela maravillas que están más allá de todas nuestras preconcepciones”, dijo el obispo McElroy.

Dijo que cada sacerdote nuevo es un pastor, que constantemente dirige sus ovejas hacia su sustento y seguridad, y quien a veces tiene que estar dispuesto a dejar a su rebaño para buscar a la oveja extraviada.

“Deben de amar tal como un pastor”, dijo. “Tienen que convertirse en peregrinos que caminan con su gente en sus grandes luchas, en su más intenso sufrimiento, en los momentos en que se sienten perdidos”.

“El sacerdocio es una vida llena con inmensas alegrías pero también tiene sus momentos de dificultad y de lucha”, continuó el Obispo. “Tanto las alegrías como las dificultades son esenciales para cualquier sacerdote que busca ser un ícono de Jesucristo, de quien somos discípulos; un verdadero pastor sólo puede entender el dolor de su gente si él lo comparte con ellos y comparte también la misericordia de Dios, que trae esperanza constante, incluso en los momentos de más sufrimiento”.

El Obispo concluyó su homilía rezando por los padres Exner, Tufford, Twilliger y Baaten, “que El Buen Pastor sea su modelo, su guía y su gracia contante”.

Los siguientes son perfiles de los nuevos sacerdotes:

Padre David Exner

David Exner creció en un hogar evangélico protestante y aprendió de temprana edad que su relación con Jesús era “lo más importante” en su vida. Él explica que lo que lo atrajo al catolicismo fueron los sacramentos, y reflexiona, “Creo que era natural, que el deseo de estar cerca de Cristo en los sacramentos me acercará al altar”.

El primer indicio que lo llamó al sacerdocio se produjo después de la universidad, durante los cinco años que sirvió con los Marines. Cuando se encontraba en Fallujah, Irak, le preguntó al capellán católico una pregunta sobre orar. Aunque Exner solo quería saber cómo escuchar durante oración y no tenía interés en el sacerdocio, el padre malinterpretó su pregunta como una consulta para descubrir si tenía vocación sacerdotal.

“Después de esa conversación, cada vez que traté de orar en los siguientes meses, Dios de manera muy ligera me preguntaba qué haría yo si Él me llamaba para ser sacerdote”, dijo. “Así que conseguí la respuesta a mi pregunta - nada más que no de la manera que esperaba- y descubrí que Dios me creó para estar en este proceso”.

El padre Exner, de 33 años, ha sido nombrado vicario de la parroquia de San Miguel en Poway. Ve el sacerdocio “no como un trabajo, sino una vocación”.



PASTORES: Los sacerdotes Scott Herrera, Ignatius Campo y José Luis Muro, izquierda a derecha, le dieron la bendición a los candidatos durante la misa de ordenación: Glenn Baaten, David Exner, Corey Tufford y Derek Twilliger.

“El sacerdocio no es lo que hace al hombre, sino lo que el hombre es,” explicó. “El sacerdote es un padre espiritual para los hijos de Dios, un hombre de oración y servicio que acerca a otros a Jesucristo”.

Padre Corey Tufford

Desde el momento que entró a la preparatoria, Corey Tufford estaba inspirado “a hacer algo importante” con su vida.

En aquel entonces, se imaginó a sí mismo como un arquitecto rico con una esposa bella y un automóvil de lujo. Pero en lugar de alcanzar la grandeza por medio de bienes materiales, él la encontró “ofreciéndome como sacrificio para el bien y la sanación de otros”.

Tufford, que ni siquiera estaba bautizado, se sintió atraído por el catolicismo durante sus años en la preparatoria de St. Augustine. Y fue durante un retiro de fin de semana del 2004, cuando se preparaba a recibir el sacramento de iniciación, que consideró por primera vez la vocación sacerdotal.

“Recuerdo que simplemente miré hacia arriba después de la misa que se celebró y vi al padre Bill Springer purificando la cáliz y la patena”, dijo Tufford. “En ese momento, la idea de ¿Qué tal el sacerdocio? entró en mi corazón”.

El padre Tufford, de 27 años, quien ha sido nombrado vicario de la parroquia de San Pio X en Chula Vista para el verano, planea regresar a Roma y completar una licenciatura en Teología Bíblica en Universidad Pontificia Gregoriana.

El expresó un interés particular en ser parte del área de difusión de la Iglesia hacia el creciente número de jóvenes adultos que se identifican como “no religiosos”.

Padre Derek Twilliger

Después de muchos años tratándose de convencerse de que “el trabajo perfecto y la mujer perfecta estaban justo afuera en alguna parte”, Derek Twilliger finalmente aceptó la invitación de Dios para el ministerio sacerdotal.

“No le hice caso a esa voz por un largo tiempo”, admitió el padre Twilliger, 45, quién no recuerda el momento especí-

fico en que sintió la llamada sacerdotal, sino más bien fue “una llamada que creció con el tiempo”.

Él la escuchó por primera vez durante sus años de preparatoria, cuando su hermano pasó un tiempo en el seminario y él tuvo la oportunidad de conocer seminaristas.

“Puede identificarme con muchos de ellos” recordó, “y fue entonces cuando pensé en la posibilidad de llegar a ser sacerdote”.

El padre Twilliger se involucró activamente con el ministerio de su iglesia después de su graduación. Sirvió con el ministerio juvenil como voluntario e incluso trabajó en el personal de la parroquia.

“A medida que avancé en el ministerio, empecé a oír la voz del Señor llamándome más fuerte”, dijo el padre Twilliger.

El padre Twilliger, quien ha sido nombrado vicario de la parroquia San Marcos en San Marcos, dijo, “La principal alegría de ser sacerdote para mí será poder formar amistades con la gente de mi iglesia”.

Padre Glenn Baaten

El camino del padre Glenn Baaten hacia el sacerdocio católico es muy diferente de los otros tres hombres que fueron ordenados con él.

Él es el padre de dos hijos adultos y pronto será abuelo. Le da crédito a su esposa por 33 años, Cathy, por jugar un papel inestimable en su recorrido de discernimiento.

“Puedo decir honestamente que mi viaje de fe ha sido solamente eso, un viaje”, dijo el padre Baaten, 58, recién nombrado pastor de la parroquia de San Agustín de Canterbury en Carlsbad.

La parroquia no es parte de la Diócesis de San Diego, sino más bien del Ordinariato Personal de la Catedral de San Pedro, y su rebaño se compone de ex anglicanos como él.

Establecido por el Papa Benedicto XVI, el ordinariato es esencialmente una diócesis para ex anglicanos a lo largo de los Estados Unidos que desean ser totalmente católicos pero quieren conservar sus tradiciones anglicanas y sus prácticas litúrgicas.

Baaten no creció en un hogar donde la fe era practicada



fervientemente.

Después, cuando era adolescente, se sintió atraído a la “expresión dinámica” del cristianismo carismático. Después, se unió a la Iglesia Episcopal y luego a la Iglesia Presbiteriana, donde se ordenó como pastor, pero dejó ambas creencias después de encontrarse con la teología que el consideró es contraria a “la enseñanza eterna de la Iglesia”.

Baaten se unió a la Iglesia Anglicana tradicional de Norteamérica y fue ordenado sacerdote anglicano. Pero al final, él y su esposa decidieron “convertirse en miembros visibles de la Iglesia Católica”.

Aunque se había resignado a ser miembro del laicado católico, su experiencia ministerial y la jubilación del Padre George Ortiz-Guzmán, su predecesor en la parroquia San Agustín de Canterbury, le dio la oportunidad de servir como pastor una vez más.

The Southern Cross



RITO: Los nuevos sacerdotes, de izquierda a derecha, Derek Twilliger, Corey Tufford, David Exner y Glenn Baaten. Se postran en el suelo boca abajo en un momento del rito de ordenación.

PRÓXIMOS EVENTOS

MINISTERIO DE EVANGELIZACIÓN Y CATEQUESIS

Para más información, llamen al (858) 490-8232 o ltrent@sdccatholic.org

La Biblia y la Santa Misa

con el Padre Patricio Murphy

Miércoles del 3 al 14 de septiembre de 6:30pm-8:30pm
No habrá clase el 31 de agosto

Holy Trinity, 405 Ballard St., El Cajon, CA 92020

Costo: \$35.00, incluye materiales y certificado. Favor de traer su Biblia

Curso de Educación Especial

con Nicole Espinoza, MA

Sábados, 20 y 27 de agosto, y 3 de septiembre de 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Centro Pastoral Diocesano

Costo: \$45

Enseñando como Orar

con Dulce Jiménez

Miércoles, 31 de agosto, 2016 de 6:00 p.m.- 9 p.m.

Centro Pastoral Diocesano

Gratuito

Taller de Ambiente Seguro y Reporte de Abuso

con Rodrigo Valdivia, JCL

Martes, 13 de septiembre, 2016 de 6:30 p.m.-9 p.m.

Centro Pastoral Diocesano

Gratuito

Misa de Comisión para Ministros Eclesiales y Presentación sobre el Año de la Misericordia

por el Sr. Obispo Robert McElroy

Martes, 20 de septiembre, 2016 de 10:00 am-2:00 pm

Iglesia
San Judas, 1129 S. 38th St., San Diego, CA 92113

Gratuito, incluye almuerzo

Liderazgo parroquial está invitado a asistir.

Cursos Básicos de Formación para Ministros Parroquiales

Los próximos cursos serán ofrecidos en las siguientes iglesias:

- San Juan Evangelista, Encinitas, comienza el 19 de julio
- Misión San Luis Rey de Francia, Oceanside, comienza el 3 de agosto
- Catedral San José, San Diego, comienza el 6 de agosto

Para más información, por favor llame a Leticia Trent al 858-490-8230 o ltrent@sdccatholic.org

INSTITUTO DIOCESANO

S270s La Teología del Matrimonio (15 hrs)

Antonio Morales, M.A.

los lunes, 25 julio – 29 agosto 2016

6:30 – 9 pm

Our Lady of Angels, San Diego

C120s Iglesia Local (15 hrs)

Linda Arreola, M.A.

los jueves, 4 agosto – 8 septiembre 2016

6:15 – 8:45 pm

St. Mary, Escondido

Para inscribirse: www.sdccatholic.org/SDDIRegister; email: danderson@sdccatholic.org, o tel 858-490-8212

COSTO

Curso de 15 horas:

\$50 Crédito/Desarrollo Ministerial

\$30 Oyentes grupos de 4+: \$40 Crédito/DM

Breves

Obispo impugna fallo sobre el aborto

CENTRO PASTORAL – El Obispo Robert McElroy, de la Diócesis de San Diego, emitió una declaración sobre el fallo el 27 de junio de la Corte Suprema de los Estados Unidos que anula las restricciones del aborto en tres estados.

“Una serie de decisiones de la Corte Suprema anulando leyes que restringen el aborto en Texas, Mississippi y Wisconsin son otra señal del fracaso de nuestros sistemas legales y políticos de proteger la más vulnerable vida humana. Además, es una señal ominosa que aún los pasos más modestos para proteger la vida de los no nacidos probablemente serán bloqueados por una filosofía judicial y una cultura política que efectivamente aniquilan la identidad humana del no nacido mientras pretende dar reconocimiento a la marcada realidad de lo que la moralidad y ciencia ates-

tiguan – que un bebé que no ha nacido es ciertamente una vida humana.

“Oremos y trabajemos juntos para crear una sociedad en la cual niños en el útero reciban el derecho de vida más fundamental que es la herencia de todos nosotros”.

Se planea viaje a Portugal, España

Está invitado a viajar con el Padre Emilio Farrell por 12 días a Fátima, Portugal y los sitios más importantes de España, del 6 a 17 de junio del 2017.

El viaje incluye pasaje en avión ida y vuelta, 10 noches en hotel, dos comidas cada día, viajes por camión de lujo con guía en español, Misas en fechas importantes, entrada a los lugares visitados y la mayoría de las propinas.

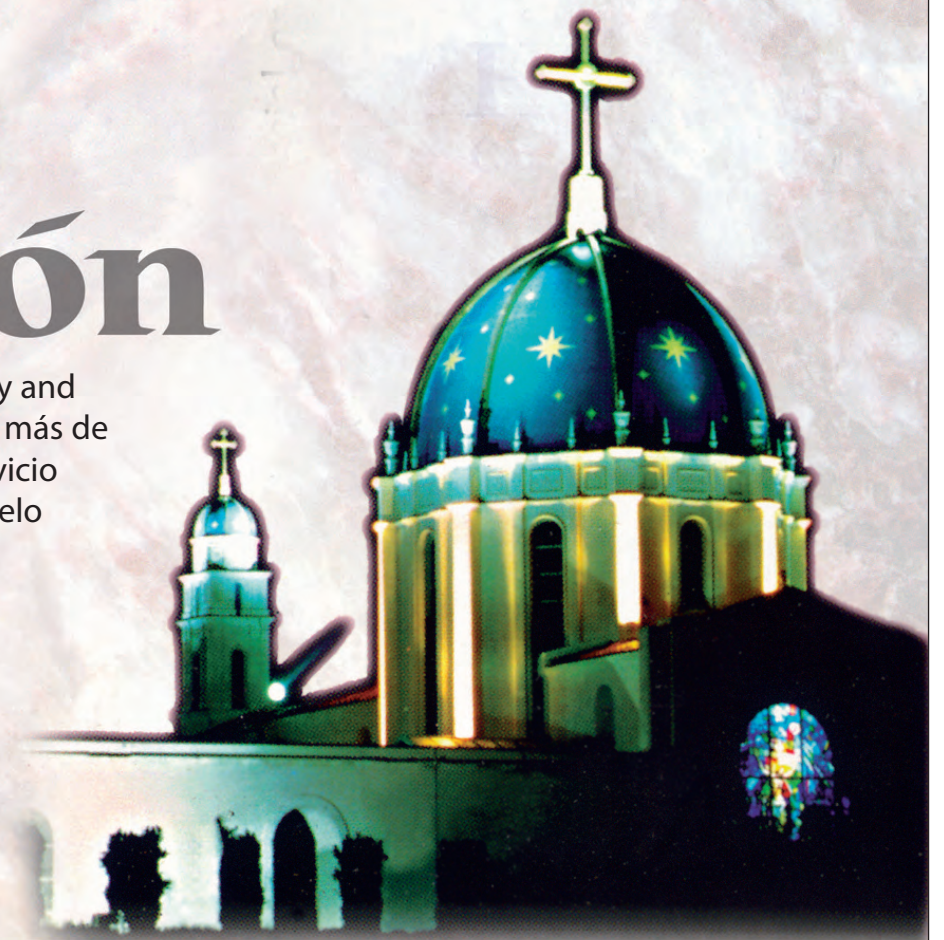
Un folleto del viaje está disponible en las parroquias. Llame al (619) 419-8345 o correo electrónico elf620@yahoo.com para mayores informes.

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.

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

HOLY CROSS

Catholic Cemetery and Mausoleum

4470 Hilltop Drive • San Diego 92102

619 264 3127