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ALMOST THERE: Pope Francis rides with pilgrims in the popemobile as he arrives for a prayer vigil as part of World Youth Day at the Field of Mercy in Krakow, Poland, July 30.

Don't Tuck Life Away, Pope Tells Young People

By Junno Arocho Esteves

KRAKOW, Poland — Take risks and do not let life's obstacles get in the way of encountering the true joy and life that Jesus can give, Pope Francis told more than 1 million young people.

"Don't be afraid to say 'yes' to Him with all your heart, to respond generously and to follow Him," the pope told pilgrims at the closing Mass

July 31 for World Youth Day. "Don't let your soul grow numb, but aim for the goal of a beautiful love which also demands sacrifice."

"When it comes to Jesus, we cannot sit around waiting with arms folded; He offers us life. We can't respond by thinking about it or 'texting' a few words," he told the young people, thousands of whom had spent the night camping at an area

dubbed the Field of Mercy.

The lack of sleep and morning heat seemed to have little impact as the young men and women energetically waved their flags and ran as close as possible to the popemobile to greet Pope Francis.

In his homily, the pope reflected on the Gospel story of Zacchaeus, a reviled tax collector who,

SEE YOUTH, PAGE 12

Local Fitness Program Has Unique Spiritual Component

By Denis Grasska

SAN DIEGO — When most people train for a half marathon, they focus primarily on preparing themselves physically for the challenge.

But for members of Team Race for the Chaste, a fitness program sponsored by the San Diego-based chastity organization The Goretti Group, their training has a decidedly spiritual dimension as well.

"And that's very unique," said Coach Paul Greer.

"By doing what we're doing, we are celebrating Christ," he said.

"We're celebrating the gift He's given us all, which is the gift of our physical bodies, the gift of health, the gift of our faith, and we come together in a community that we call Race for the Chaste."

An eight-week training program began on June 11 and, through it, team members are preparing themselves to participate in the America's Finest City Half Marathon & 5K on Sunday, Aug. 21.

While "the physical dimension" of the training is obviously impor-

SEE RACE, PAGE 8

U.S. Bishops Call for National Day of Prayer

WASHINGTON — In light of recent incidents of violence and racial tension in communities across the United States, the president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has invited all dioceses across the country to unite in a Day of Prayer for Peace in Our Communities. He has also appointed a special task force.

On July 8, in his initial and immediate response to the racially-related shootings in Baton Rouge, Minneapolis and Dallas, Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, noted the need to look at ways the Catholic Church can walk with and help these suffering communities.

The Day of Prayer for Peace in Our Communities will be celebrated on the feast of St. Peter Claver, Sept. 9, and will serve as a focal point for the work of the task force. The purpose of the task force is to help bishops engage the challenging problems by gathering and disseminating supportive resources and "best practices"; actively listening to the concerns of members in troubled communities and law enforcement; and building strong relationships to help prevent and resolve conflicts. The task force will conclude its work with a report to the November General Assembly.

U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops

ACA in Action: Prison Ministry Is Transforming Lives

By Thom Hiatt

SAN DIEGO — Supported by the 2016 Annual Catholic Appeal, the diocesan Office for Restorative Justice provides pastoral outreach at local prisons and engages volunteers and parishes in answering Jesus' call to care through its prison ministry program.

As part of the program, the Diocese of San Diego supports 12 chaplains to celebrate Mass, administer the sacraments, and visit inmates individually. The ministry also provides assistance to almost 400 Catholic volunteers to conduct Scripture, prayer and discussion services.

Fourteen years ago, while attending Mass at St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Jennie B. Hansbrough met Freda Young, who at the time was a volunteer for the prison ministry. The two new acquaintances soon got to talking about the ministry and, a short while later, Hansbrough accepted Young's invitation to help.

For her first visit to the local juvenile detention center, she tagged along with Young.

"Once I got into the room, and I looked at these young kids' faces, I thought to myself how good God was and how God loved them unconditionally," said Hansbrough. "It really impressed me so much [that I thought to myself], 'I really want to do this!'"

Deacon Jim Walsh directs the Restorative Justice Program for the Diocese of San Diego. He said, "Approximately 27,000 inmates at more than two dozen facilities in San Diego and Imperial counties have access to these powerful, spiritual gatherings."

Male and female inmates of all ages and backgrounds are serving time for causing so many different harms.



PRISON MINISTRY: Claudia, a former inmate at Las Colinas Women's Detention Facility, is a beneficiary of the Diocese of San Diego's prison ministry program.

"Many of them are hungry to deepen their relationship with God," said Deacon Walsh. "Our facilitators are the conduits or channels of the Holy Spirit."

One former inmate at Las Colinas Women's Detention Facility is Claudia. She was arrested for burglary crimes that stemmed from a drug addiction which began at age 15.

"There is hope. When I was in jail, I would go to church," said Claudia, a mother of twin boys.

At the detention facility, Mass was celebrated in a bungalow.

"It really touched me there that I really,

really need God, and I have to have faith. I have my boys," added Claudia.

Since moving back home from the detention facility, Claudia now supports her twin boys who are active at church, part of the choir, and serving during other Masses. The boys also attended the Steubenville San Diego youth conference this summer, where their very excited mother, Claudia, was a registered volunteer.

Deacon Walsh said, "The diocesan prison ministry transforms lives on a person-to-person level. It is possible thanks to your support of the Annual Catholic Appeal."

The Southern Cross

Replica of Infant of Prague Finds Home in La Jolla

By Aída Bustos

LA JOLLA — Our times call for extraordinary devotion.

A handful of parishioners at Mary, Star of the Sea Catholic Church dedicated themselves to providing that devotion for all believers in the region.

They organized a campaign to bring to the parish an official replica of the statue of the Holy Infant Jesus of Prague.

Their efforts culminated in a bilingual enthronement Mass on July 16, with Bishop Robert W. McElroy presiding and the parish's pastor, Father Jim Rafferty, and Barnabite Father Joseph Tabigue of Our Lady of the Rosary Parish concelebrating.

"Our culture so needs this now," said Marie Hemming, who led the effort to bring the icon to the parish. "We have so many people who are wounded, not only physically but psychologically, emotionally and spiritually."

The origins of the Holy Infant statue stretch back to the Middle Ages in Europe. At one point, St. Teresa of Ávila is believed to have possessed it. In the early 17th century, the statue was given to the Discalced Carmelite friars and placed in the monastery of Our Lady of Victory in Prague, where special devotions to the Infant Jesus were held daily.

The statue was damaged when the monastery was plundered during a period of war, however, and lost for seven years. The priest who found it reported hearing a voice that said, "The more you honor Me, the more I will bless you," according to writings at the time.

The statue was restored and has been housed at Our Lady of Victory Church

SEE PRAGUE, PAGE 6

Religious Sister Planted Seeds for Vocations

By Aída Bustos

PASTORAL CENTER — "Do you sleep with your habit?" "Are you going to get married?" "Are you going to have kids?"

Sister Aurora López-Ornelas is going to miss those questions.

In June, she ended her six-year tenure as the director of the diocesan Office for Vocations. In that role, she traveled tirelessly across San Diego and Imperial counties, inviting Catholic school students and parishioners to consider a life-long commitment as priests and consecrated religious.

Sister López-Ornelas, 48, is a member of the Sister Servants of the Blessed Sacrament, a religious community founded in Guadalajara, Mexico, in 1904 and devoted to the adoration of the Eucharist and the Catholic education of children and youth.

Her new assignment is to be the master of novices at the order's convent in the San Fernando Valley, where she will help develop the next generation of religious women.

María Olivia "Marioly" Galván, director of the diocesan Office for Evangelization and Catechetical Ministry, said Sister López-Ornelas' presence had a great impact. "She delivered a message of love that, through priestly and religious vocations, children and young people could follow a

path to serve God and fulfill their mission in the world," Galván said.

Interviewed on her final day in her office, Sister López-Ornelas reflected on her work at the schools and offered some parting thoughts for school parents.

Her conversations with students often started with questions about her habit. She would tell them that, like a bride's dress, it was a symbol that she was committed to God, and no, she did not wear it to bed.

Most students told her that they "planned to get married and have kids."

She said that was normal.

"We are raised to be in an intimate relationship with someone," she said.

"I would tell them that it was the same in a religious life," she said. "I would tell them that Jesus was my husband and that all of them were my spiritual children."

"Why do you think I get up at 5:30 a.m. every day?" she would ask them. "Because I



SISTER AURORA LÓPEZ-ORNELAS

have to pray for all my children."

Sister López-Ornelas joined her order in 1984 in Jalisco state, where she grew up in the city of Arandas, about two hours east of Guadalajara. After initial training there, she was sent to Los Angeles to learn English and continue her religious studies.

In the ensuing years, she taught elementary to high school students in Sacramento, Los Angeles and in Calexico, where she worked two different stints at Our Lady of Guadalupe Academy.

Despite that foundation of teaching, she found the job of promoting vocations challenging — personally and intellectually.

"I had to muster the courage to speak before large groups, to get out of my comfort zone," she said. "I had to learn to deliver my message to groups of all sizes. I did not know I could it."

The position helped Sister López-Ornelas grow spiritually, as well.

"My job helped to strengthen my vocation, to love it and to value it," she said. "Thus I was able to invite others to follow that path."

What came out of all those talks she gave in formal and informal settings?

She said she's never measured her work in numbers, if so "I would have been disap-

pointed long ago."

She cited the biblical parable of the sower who threw his seeds along a path in good soil and on rocks to see what would take root.

"I spoke to anyone I could about vocations because I knew that seed would grow sooner or later," she said.

She knows of various young women who attended retreats she organized for the diocese and decided to join religious orders.

For now, her position will not be filled, she said. Father Lauro Minimo, newly assigned to the diocesan Office for Priestly Vocations, said he will promote the priesthood and consecrated life as he visits schools.

Sister López-Ornelas said parents can play a crucial role in promoting vocations as an option for their children.

"Parents should be generous and, when their children tell them that they want to live a religious life, they should let them."

The Southern Cross

Bishop Makes Recommendations on State Ballot Measures

SAN DIEGO — *Bishop Robert W. McElroy on July 14 issued the following statement about Props. 62 and 66, which deal with the state's death penalty:*

This fall, voters in California will be asked to decide on two propositions regarding the death penalty. Proposition 62, which would eliminate the death penalty in California, and Proposition 66, which would expedite the death penalty process and make it easier to carry out executions.

The Catholic Bishops of California are strongly united in opposing the death penalty and are urging voters to join us in supporting Proposition 62 and opposing Proposition 66.

I am proud to lend my voice to this effort.

State-sponsored killing perpetuates the very cycle of violence that it professes to end. It applies the ultimate sanction of death in a manner that is racially and economically biased. Most chillingly of all, in recent years, more than 100 individuals on death row in the United States have been released from prison because they were innocent of the crime for which they were convicted; thus, even here in America, the death penalty inevitably brings with it the reality of killing innocent people.

It is for these reasons that Pope Francis has called upon the world to recognize that the death penalty “is an offense against the inviolability of life and the dignity of the human person which contradicts God’s plan for man and society. ... It does not render justice to the victims but rather fosters vengeance.”

For us as Catholics, there could be few greater contradictions to God’s mercy than to have California reaffirm or even increase the use of the death penalty in this Year of Mercy. It is essential that we, as a society, follow the counsel of Pope Francis to guarantee vigorously the security of our



PRISON VISIT: Bishop Robert W. McElroy (center) is seen outside San Quentin State prison during a 2013 pastoral visit. Also pictured, Sacramento Bishop Jaime Soto (left) and San Francisco Auxiliary Bishop William J. Justice (right).

citizens, but to do so in a manner designed to foster respect for human life rather than to undercut it.

In November, as we come to the end of the Year of Mercy pro-

claimed by Pope Francis, I urge Californians to embrace both justice and mercy to support Prop. 62 and oppose Prop. 66.

The Southern Cross

Building ‘Miracles’ in Tijuana, One House at a Time

By Aída Bustos

TIJUANA — The modest house has a living room, kitchen, two bedrooms and a bath, all snugly laid out in 440 square feet. Its significance, however, is far from modest.

The house was built by hands of diverse economic levels, cultures and languages but united by the same faith that says brothers and sisters support one another.

The Zúñiga family moved into that house in a neighborhood called El Florido, on Tijuana’s east side, the culmination of a project that began in San Diego. The parishioners of St. Martin of Tours Parish had raised the funds to build the house and around 60 of them had traveled to the site to help build it.

The house is one of 235 built by the nonprofit organization Build a Miracle that does much more than construct houses for impoverished families. Since opening in 2001, the organization has invested in those families for the long-term, transforming their lives as well as their neighborhoods.

The organization gives scholarships to the children who move into those houses so they can attend school and college. In addition, it built a neighborhood community center where residents can learn basic educational skills as well as vocational ones, like sewing, baking and cosmetology.

Residents are not the only ones who benefit from this project.

“You look at that place and it looks like a hopeless life,” said Jerry Crouch, a parishioner who coordinated the construction of the house. “And then you meet the people of the community and see that they have hope. Their spirit is enriching.”

The Zúñiga family always wanted to have a good house but it was beyond their means. Eloy Zúñiga, 34, worked virtually around the clock as a public transit worker. Along with his wife, he has a 5-year-old son and a 10-month-old baby.

He had scraped together enough money to buy a small plot of land in the neighborhood, one of the city’s most impoverished, but he did not have enough to build a house. As a result,

the family lived like so many others in that area, in an improvised structure built with pieces of wood, with a tarp as cover and no floor nor running water.

That’s when St. Martin of Tours Parish entered the picture.

The founders of Build a Miracle, Chris and Julianne North, had spoken to the parishioners there last year, explaining how they could help one family to have their own house. The parishioners were excited at the prospect of doing something tangible to help a poor family.

They began to raise funds last fall. They needed \$10,000 to construct the house, and \$3,000 to buy furniture. They reached their goal by Christmas.

The funds cover the cost of the materials and for a professional construction crew in Tijuana to build the basic structure of the house. Parish members then step in to finish the house, working alongside the family that is going to live there and neighborhood volunteers. Parishioners, including entire families, signed up to work on the house monthly, over the course of three Saturdays, starting in January.

The parishioners poured cement, hung drywall, installed insulation and painted. During breaks, they ate together as their kids played.

“Once you get involved, it feels very natural to do it,” said Crouch. “Many of the people who went the first time returned for the other build dates.”

He said it was important for the parish to participate in this project.

“First, as Christians, we should be helping people who need it, especially if we’re able to.”

He said that the young people who participated were able to see “how fortunate they are to live where they do and to have the opportunities given to them.”

He said many people in the parish want to help but don’t know what to do. This project gave them a way to do so — by either donating money or volunteering to help in the con-

struction — and to see virtually immediately the impact of that support.

The house the parishioners built for the Zúñigas transformed the family’s life. They had lived in one room, with a bed in one corner and a stove in the other. Both of the kids slept with their parents.

In the new house, their 5-year-old has his own bedroom as does the couple; and they have a bathroom with running water. Along with donating the furniture, the parishioners gave the family bedding, towels, window coverings and clothes for the kids.

In late July, Carmen Zúñiga, Eloy’s wife, wrote to the parishioners to update them since that day in March when they moved in to their new house.

“We thank God for having sent to us the angels that you are,” she began. “My son tells me how precious our house is.”

Her husband was about to take an exam to finish his elementary school education at the nearby community center. And the baby “has started to crawl and says ‘mamá’ and ‘papá.’”

The family was planning his baptism in November and hoped that the parishioners could attend.

“We are so happy,” she concluded. “I don’t have the words to express our gratitude.”

Build a Miracle requires each family that receives a house to own their own land, agree to work 500 hours of community service in their neighborhood and be committed to having their children finish school.

For Eloy Zúñiga, this is more than fair. He first met the organization’s representatives when he pitched in to build a house in the neighborhood.

“There are so many families here like mine,” he said. “Here, it’s about getting to work, about helping one another.”

For more information, visit www.buildamiracle.net or call (619) 993-9976.

The Southern Cross

Briefs

Kolkata Gears up for Celebrations

KOLKATA, India (CNS) — A group of young independent photographers are busy clicking away, taking photos of the “City of Joy.” Their photos, part of the crowdsourced “Sainthood Project,” will be displayed in several locations in Rome in early September, to coincide with the canonization of Blessed Teresa of Kolkata. The photographers are volunteers, trying to highlight aspects of the young Mother Teresa, who founded the Missionaries of Charity to serve the “poorest of the poor” in India. The young people are funding their own travel to Rome to participate in the ceremony and exhibit the photographs in open-air galleries. “This is our tribute to Mother,” said Srijita Deb Burman, 25, a business professional.

Pope Appoints Panel to Study Women Deacons

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis has appointed six men and six women to a commission to study the issue of women deacons, particularly their ministry in the early Church. The pope set up the commis-

sion at the request of the International Union of Superiors General, the organization for the leaders of women’s religious orders around the world. Meeting the group in May, Pope Francis said that while his understanding was that the women described as deacons in the New Testament were not ordained as male deacons are today, “it would be useful for the Church to clarify this question.”

Bishops: Biden Provides ‘Counter-Witness’

WASHINGTON (CNS) — By officiating at a same-sex wedding, Vice President Joe Biden as a prominent Catholic politician has created confusion over Church teaching on marriage and “the corresponding moral obligations of Catholics,” three U.S. bishops said Aug. 5. Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, was joined by two USCCB chairmen in writing a blog post about Biden presiding at a same-sex wedding of two longtime White House aides Aug. 1. In the vice president’s actions, the prelates said, “What we see is a counter-witness.” In their blog post, the USCCB leaders said that “faithful witness can be challenging ... but it is also the joy and responsibility of all Catholics, especially those who have embraced positions of leadership and public service.”

In Memoriam



The staff at Corpus Christi Parish worked tirelessly to support the family of San Diego Police Officer Jonathan De Guzman, who was killed in the line of duty. The parish held two viewings, Aug. 2 and 3, and a funeral Mass on Aug. 4, attended by more than 1,000 people.

Staff members worked to meet the diverse requests from the San Diego Police Officers Association and from the family, which requested privacy.

Father Efrain Bautista (pictured), pastor of Corpus Christi, answered questions from the news media that converged on the parish at all hours while the staff members and volunteers from the Knights of Columbus assisted the visiting police officers and friends and family of the De Guzmans.

Father Bautista said that those who dedicated several hours to helping with the funeral services included Don Beckman, Margaret McLaughlin, Jim Hardy, Glenda O’Grady, Gabe Arias, Suzanne Auditor, Ashley Cueva and Peter Luciano.



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Touring Statue

She has already inspired millions, and millions more still come to see her.

The International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima has attracted countless pilgrims over the decades, and from July 24-31, 12 sites across the Archdiocese of Detroit hosted the world-famous statue that continues to inspire hope for the world.

Statue custodian Patrick Sabat, who is traveling with the statue on its national tour organized by the World Apostolate of Fatima, has had a front-row seat to the spiritual, emotional impact Mary has on the faithful who come to pray for her intercession.

"It's so overwhelming to see the happiness people have about seeing the statue," said Sabat, who's been the statue's full-time custodian since 2008. "They're moved to go to confession for the first time in a long time. I met a guy who had shoulder pain for years,

carried the statue in 2009 when the statue was in the Archdiocese of Detroit; I met him years later, and he said his shoulder doesn't hurt anymore."

Touring with the apostolate, Sabat has countless stories of conversion, revivals of faith and relationships mended from the people who have venerated the statue that was built in 1946 and blessed by the bishop of Fatima, Portugal, on Oct. 13, 1947, 30 years after the "Great Miracle of the Sun" in Fatima, Portugal.

According to documented accounts, on that day, torrential rains stopped, the clouds broke and the sun appeared in the sky, as predicted by the three Portuguese shepherd children to whom Mary appeared in 1917. The children reported she appeared to them six times between May 13 and Oct. 13 of that year.

Catholic News Service

That's 'Amoris'!

"Words should be carefully chosen so as not to offend, especially when discussing difficult issues. Making a point should never involve venting anger and inflicting hurt. A patronizing tone only serves to hurt, ridicule, accuse and offend others. Many disagreements between couples are not about important things. Mostly, they are about trivial matters. What alters the mood, however, is the way things are said or the attitude with which they are said" [104].

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



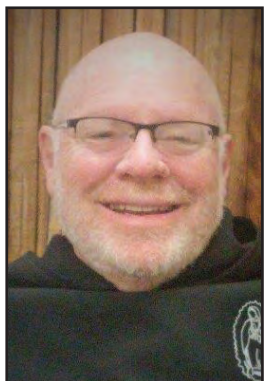
What Are You Reading?



(Top) Ken Heath, his wife Barbara, and Franciscan Father Garrett Edmund pose with a copy of *The Southern Cross* at the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in America, which is located in Washington D.C. The Heaths are members of Mission San Luis Rey Parish.

(Bottom) Birk and Katie Zeunges and their children — Claire, Karl, Paul, Catherine, Thomas and Joseph — pose with a copy of *The Southern Cross* at Yellowstone National Park, with the Lower Falls in the background. The Zeunges family attends Mass at St. Anne Parish.

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.



Healing Beyond A Broken Heart - Learn Practical Tools For Dealing With Grief

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With Br. Kevin Dismas Moshier, fsp

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Brother Kevin Dismas Moshier, fsp is a Friar of the Sick Poor of Los Angeles CA. He has served as an Inter Faith Chaplain with a background in Palliative Care and a certification as a Grief Recovery Specialist at Los Angeles County/ University of Southern California Medical Center. Currently serves as the Guest Outreach Coordinator at the Brother Benno Foundation. Prior to Religious life he was married for thirty-one years, and has three grown children, and seven grandchildren.

Fee per person: \$80 for 8 classes

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Retrouvaille Is 'Like a Miracle' for Hurting Couples, Priest Says

By Denis Grasska

SAN DIEGO — There are “a lot of hurting couples” in the world, says Father Jim Boyd.

But the Retrouvaille program (from a French word meaning “rediscovery”) has a strong track record of helping couples in troubled marriages and even those who have already separated or divorced.

The problem, Father Boyd said, is that many couples are completely unaware that this remedy is even available to them.

“You could save marriages with this,” Father Boyd said of the program, which includes a weekend experience followed by 12 post-weekend follow-up sessions over the subsequent three months.

From June 17-19, Father Boyd and a married couple from Toledo, Ohio, led a Retrouvaille formation weekend in Trinidad. Nine couples who had previously gone through the Retrouvaille program

were trained to serve as presenters at future weekends.

Father Boyd, who had facilitated a formation weekend in Canada four months earlier, marveled at how easily the program translates across cultures and how the program in Trinidad is practically identical to the one offered in the United States.

“The program’s the same,” he said. “It has the same effect no matter where you go, whatever the culture is.”

Father Boyd’s affiliation with Retrouvaille began in 1997 when, during his first weekend home after 26 years as a chaplain in the U.S. Navy, he agreed to assist a priest friend by hearing confessions at a Retrouvaille weekend.

As he listened to the three couples who shared their stories that weekend, he said, he noticed the contrast between “the terrible troubles” they described in their talks and how “happily married” they were now.



RETROUVAILLE: Father James Boyd (front row, left) is seen with other participants in a Retrouvaille formation weekend, held June 17-19, in Trinidad.

He said it was “like a miracle” how those marriages had been transformed through the program. After learning more about it, he discovered that such stories are common.

“You see people happy now; previously,

they were in misery,” Father Boyd said. “This is what we need in the Church.”

For more information, visit www.retrouvaille.org.

The Southern Cross

► PRAGUE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

The statue is 23 inches high and wears a jeweled crown

since 1741, drawing devotees worldwide ever since.

One of them is Susan Hauck, who lives in Vancouver, Canada, and has dedicated the last 18 years to taking official replicas of the statue to churches worldwide. She donated the statue to Mary, Star of the Sea and was on hand for the enthronement Mass.

“I became a devotee because all of my prayers were answered when I was younger,” she said after the Mass as she distributed prayer cards to those angling to get a closer look at the statue.

“I told the Holy Infant Jesus of Prague, ‘I will become a missionary for you.’”

Hauck said she had been in Prague 39 times, each time obtaining a replica of the statue from its home church to take to an interested parish in Latin America, the United States or her native Philippines.

The statue brought to the parish is 23 inches high, made out of ceramic, and wears a jeweled crown. His right hand is raised in a blessing and the left holds an orb topped by a cross. For the Mass, the infant wore a red robe adorned with

sparkling jewels, one of several Hauck made for it.

The relic statue is housed in a specially built cabinet in a side chapel of the parish. The Mass officially launched the Society of the Holy Infant of Jesus at the church. Its members organize novena prayers every Monday after the 8 a.m. Mass and rosary.

“We are hoping that those who need healing will come,” said Hemmings, who directs the society. “We pray for healing and for unity, which are so needed now.”

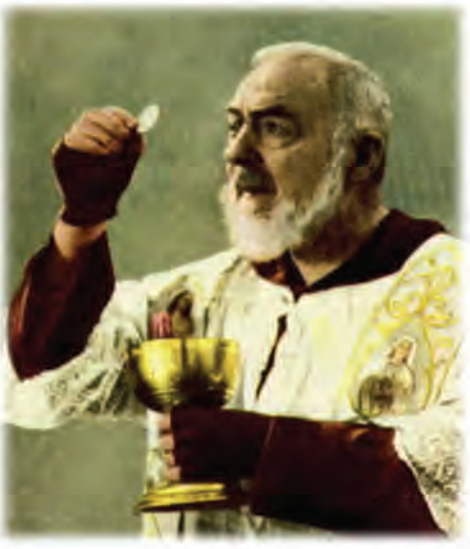
For more information about the Holy Infant Jesus of Prague, call (858) 926-6169, e-mail holyinfantjesusop@gmail.com or visit www.facebook.com/societyoftheholyninfantjesusofpraguelajolla.

The Southern Cross



**Mass
&
Celebration**

In honor of the Feast Day of
St. Pio of Pietrleina



“When Padre Pio celebrated Holy Mass, he relived the mystery of Calvary with such intensity so as to edify the faith and devotion of all. Moreover, the stigmata, which God gave to him, showed how closely he was conformed to the Crucified Jesus.”
— Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

Date:
Sunday, September 25, 2016

Place:
Santa Sophia Catholic Church
9800 San Juan Street
Spring Valley, CA 91977

Event Schedule

3:00 – 5:00 PM	Priests available for Confessions Anonymous ONLY – NO face to face
3:15 PM	New DVD — P Pio Made Saints Prepared with posters by: Fr. Louis M. Solcia & Company
4:00 – 5:00 PM	Holy Hour with Rosary & Benediction – Fr. Louis M. Solcia, C.R.S.P.
5:15 PM	Holy Mass – Most Reverend Gilbert Chavez Auxiliary Bishop of San Diego – presiding
Following Mass	Indoor Procession & Blessing with Relic of St. Pio

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The Seven Corporal Works of Mercy

Part V: Visiting the Sick

By James Aitchison

In honor of the Jubilee Year of Mercy (Dec. 8, 2015–Nov. 20, 2016) announced by Pope Francis, *The Southern Cross* has been reflecting each month on one of the seven corporal works of mercy. As Catholics, we are called to be ambassadors of God's mercy in the world. In all cases, the first step is to reach out to those in need, and this month's focus is on "visiting the sick."

We all know what it feels like to be sick, either at home or in a hospital. But, sadly, the sick among us are often forgotten or avoided, deprived of their basic human need of friendship. In an article published last June in *The Wall Street Journal*, Susan Pinker wrote, "Loneliness is a key predictor of depression, chronic illness and premature death; and with its rate increasing from about 14 percent in the 1970s to more than 40 percent among middle-aged and older adults today, it is a serious health concern." The medical profession agrees that there is no substitute for nurturing, human interaction, and if love and caring were a medication, they would prescribe it.

Another way of phrasing "visiting the sick" might be "comforting the sick." This comfort is in no way to be assumed automatic in the United States where, according to U.S. Census Data, there are approximately 33 million people who do not have medical insurance and have to rely on hospital emergency rooms for medical care. We must heighten our awareness of the need for a stronger "safety net" for the poor and the homeless in our communities.

Comforting the sick also includes caring for the frail, aged and terminally ill. Jan Jones, RN, BSN, is president and CEO of The Elizabeth Hospice, the longest-running, nonprofit hospice and palliative care provider in San Diego County and the Inland Empire. She stresses the importance of keeping compassion at the forefront of their work.

"We encourage family and friends to reach out to neighbors to check on their elderly loved one if they are geographically unable," Jones said, "and, although it may be difficult, to engage with the seriously ill and to cherish each moment for as long as life lasts."

Through performing this fifth work of mercy, we receive immeasurable gifts including friendship along with opportunities to grow in the virtue of compassion; yet, visiting the homebound, elderly, disabled, and the chronically and terminally ill is no easy task.

"Trying to do this corporal work of mercy on a regular basis can take us right out of our comfort zones," said Linda Schmetzer Cronin, a minister to the homebound from All Hallows Parish in La Jolla.

But, she said, "The beauty of this work of mercy is that training and preparation are relatively simple. The biggest cost is our time. Armed with a pyx, the Gospel and the Our Father, we can bring the Eucharist to those unable to get to Mass."

Speaking to priests during a spiritual retreat on June 2, Pope Francis explained, "The works of mercy are endless, but each bears the stamp of a particular face, a per-



COURTESY OF THE ELIZABETH HOSPICE

sonal history. They are much more than the lists of seven corporal and seven spiritual works of mercy. Those lists are like the raw material — the material of life itself — that, worked and shaped by the hands of mercy, turns into an individual artistic creation."

Always a great way to employ the hands of mercy is to get involved by volunteering to assist or to start a compassionate ministry in your local parish and to support the work of well-established groups such as the Visiting Nurse Association, Nazareth House San Diego, Meals on Wheels, or The Elizabeth Hospice, which provides a volunteer framework through which we can all participate in their mission.

"In addition to support from charitable donations," Jones said, "volunteers, who give of their time, talent and treasure in touching the lives of patients in our community, are invaluable in carrying out our

nonprofit mission."

Many are giving blood, taking time on a Saturday to visit an elderly neighbor, or offering to give caregivers of chronically ill family members a relaxing break. Others are thinking outside the box and calling Bingo at a nursing home, preparing meals for a parish family with a sick loved one, or making get-well cards. For those of us who struggle to find the right thing to say, our presence and prayers at a sick friend's bedside are often enough.

This jubilee year is the perfect time to reflect on the distinction between merely going to see the sick out of obligation versus being fully engaged, listening empathetically and having meaningful conversations. If every one of us were to practice just one work of mercy each day, we could change neighborhoods and nations.

The Southern Cross



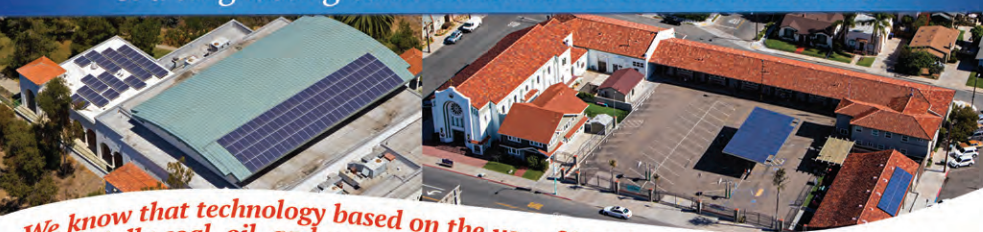
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► RACE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The program has been a vehicle for evangelization

tant, Race for the Chaste is also about helping participants work on their “spiritual endurance and perseverance in our everyday relationship with Christ,” said Greer, who is also a coach with the San Diego Track Club.

Team Race for the Chaste trains as a group on Tuesdays and Saturdays in Balboa Park. Each training session opens and closes in prayer and includes a meditation in which participants reflect on a Scripture passage and how it speaks to them. Team members wear T-shirts featuring a special Race for the Chaste logo and the words “Glorify God in your body.”

As beings composed of both bodies and souls, Greer noted, there is “a lot of correla-

tion between our physical selves and our spiritual selves.” When exercising with a spiritual mindset, he said, one can express gratitude for the ability to run or even walk, something that is “not to be taken lightly”; make time for prayer in the silence and solitude experienced while running; and discover that physical exhaustion — just like any other struggle in one’s life — presents an opportunity to ask God for the strength to continue.

Race for the Chaste’s holistic approach is especially appropriate, he said, considering the fact that The Goretti Group promotes chastity.

“When it comes to chastity, that’s a physical struggle in many ways,” said Greer, “and it’s also a spiritual struggle.”

Greer said Team Race for the Chaste is a community of likeminded Catholics who find strength in numbers, both in preparing for the challenge of a half marathon and in living the chaste lifestyle to which they are

called.

He said he also sees the program as a way to develop the leadership skills of participants. By allowing a different person to lead the prayers, meditations and exercises at the bi-weekly trainings, he said, he hopes to help them “come out of themselves a little bit” and answer the call to become Catholic leaders in their communities.

Race for the Chaste has also been a vehicle for evangelization. Although team members are not preaching the Gospel in Balboa Park, said Greer, they are there “in a very public place,” visibly praying and meditating in their team T-shirts and always ready to answer questions from inquisitive passersby.

“Our community comes together in friendship,” Greer said, “and ... we send the message out that being chaste is the right thing to do, being chaste is what Christ calls us to do every day of our lives.”

This year marks the return of Race for the

Chaste after a four-year hiatus. The program was piloted in 2007, and the first race was held in conjunction with the 2009 Rock ‘n’ Roll Marathon. Race for the Chaste continued as an annual tradition through 2012.

It was the brainchild of Angela Santero, the founder of The Goretti Group, who brought Greer on board as coach. She said the idea was inspired by her own experience of “the spiritual benefits of exercise” and her conviction that “it could benefit many more souls.”

By participating in the America’s Finest City Half Marathon & 5K, Santero said, team members will come together as a community “to be joyful witnesses to pure love in the public square” and to remind themselves “that Christ calls us to run the spiritual race and to fight the fight, so that as St. Paul writes, we may one day receive the crown of victory.”

For more information on Race for the Chaste, visit www.thegorettigroup.com.

The Southern Cross

Piazza Acknowledges His Catholic Faith at Hall of Fame Induction

COOPERSTOWN, N.Y. — Mike Piazza, the superstar catcher inducted July 24 into the National Baseball Hall of Fame, gave credit to his Catholic faith for his success during his induction speech.

“My mother gave me the greatest gift a mother can give a child. She gave me the gift of my Catholic faith. This has had a profound impact on my career and it has given me patience, compassion and hope,” Piazza said.

“Above all, my religion is a source of personal strength, not a reason to impose your will or put down those who are different,” he said. “My belief in God has driven me since my childhood and formed my core values of hard work, faith and belief in yourself.”

He added, “It means feeling a need to

give back to your teammates, to your community, to your children. Nobody on this stage with me who has shared this incredible honor got here without teammates, community support, and mentors. We all have a responsibility to future generations.”

Piazza, 47, toiled 16 seasons behind the plate, principally for the New York Mets and Los Angeles Dodgers, with one year each for the San Diego Padres and Oakland A’s at the end of his career. Piazza



MIKE PIAZZA

CNS PHOTO/JACK SMITH, EPA

also spent one week with the Florida Marlins between his tenures in Los Angeles and New York.

He hit .308 over his career with 427 home runs — including 396 as a catcher, the most all time by a catcher.

“I have been devoted to this great game of baseball and it is a worthy cause. We players share our love of baseball with millions of fans. That love bridges generations, impacts lives and helps heal wounds,” Piazza said.

Catholic News Service

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Trisha Brereton, Executive Director
m 619-318-2586

e trisha@interfaithshelter.org
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Laura Quirch, ISN Vice Chair & St. Therese Parishioner



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Late Priest Was 'Social Warrior'

By Aída Bustos

SAN DIEGO — Father Henry Rodríguez rushed to Scripps Mercy Hospital the night of July 28 knowing that a police officer had been gravely wounded.

As the Catholic chaplain for the police department, it was his role to accompany him and his family. When Officer Jonathan De Guzman succumbed, Father Rodríguez turned his attention to his colleagues, ministering to them all night long, recalled Police Sgt. Edward Zwibel.

"He did that for us at the sacrifice of his own health," said the sergeant, who said Father Rodríguez told him he had been fighting the flu.

It's now known that his condition was far worse. His family took him to the hospital days later, on Aug. 3, and he died before dawn the next day, of pneumonia, at age 61.

News of his death stunned the region. For years, he was one of the local Catholic Church's most recognizable community leaders, literally pounding the pavement to press for social justice on issues such as public safety, immigration and a living wage.

Henry Rodríguez Jr., was born in National City and grew up in Southcrest, a low-income neighborhood of African American and Latino homes. His family attended St. Jude Shrine of the West Parish, where he served as an altar boy.

After a stint volunteering at Sharp Hospital as a young man, he decided to devote his life to serving others, friends say.

He was ordained for the Diocese of San Diego on July 12, 1986. "Father Henry," as he became known, served as associate pastor at St. Rose of Lima Parish in Chula Vista from 1986 to 1989. Then he returned to his home parish of St. Jude's, serving first as associate pastor from 1989 to 1997, alongside Father Ned Brockhaus, then taking over as pastor in 1997. He would remain there



FATHER HENRY RODRÍGUEZ

until December 2005.

Afterward, he filled in at parishes across the diocese, particularly those that served Latino congregations. In recent years, he also served as chaplain for San Diego Hospice and Scripps Mercy Hospital.

On July 1, Father Henry had started a new assignment as pastor at St. John the Evangelist Parish in Hillcrest.

Father John Dolan, the diocese's Vicar for Clergy, said it was at St. Jude's where Father Henry first engaged the San Diego Police Department. The numerous liquor stores in the area were magnets for drug-dealing, fueling neighborhood crime.

Father Henry brought together police officials and residents to tackle that problem, he said, beginning a partnership he would nurture for the rest of his days to improve community life.

During that period, Father Henry became the department's Catholic chaplain, a volunteer position he would keep until his death.

Father Henry became a leading force in the San Diego Organizing Project, an inter-

Celebrating 50 Years



SISTER ROSE PACATTE, PSP

Sister Patricia Shaules (pictured, right), originally of Holy Family Parish in Linda Vista, celebrated her Golden Jubilee of religious profession July 2 at the Provincial House of the Daughters of St. Paul in Boston. Her mother, Alma Shaules Church (pictured, left), and one of her sisters, Sylvia Shaules, flew in from San Diego for the event. About her 50th jubilee, Sister Shaules said, "I am so grateful for my vocation as a Daughter of St. Paul. I feel very blessed. And if I lived multiple lives, I would be a Daughter of St. Paul in every one of them."

faith coalition that works to empower residents to tackle neighborhood problems. In addition to tending to the day-to-day demands of his parish, he helped to organize community meetings, attended public hearings and led marches.

"He was a social warrior who took to the streets with his congregation when necessary," said Christian Ramírez, director of

human rights at Alliance San Diego. "And he offered hope from the pulpit when it was most needed."

Father Henry was survived by his mother, Jennie Rodríguez; his siblings, Jennie Rodríguez, Gloria Taylor, Linda Rodríguez and Jess Rodríguez; and nieces and nephews.

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Briefs

Assistant Editor Receives Journalism Honors

SAN DIEGO — Denis Grasska, assistant editor of *The Southern Cross*, was among the winners in the 2016 Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ) San Diego Area Journalism Awards Contest. The awards banquet was held July 21 at the Kona Kai Resort & Spa on Shelter Island. Grasska won the James Julian Memorial Award for best community service story; the winning article was a profile of the housebuilding charity Build a Miracle. This marked the sixth time that Grasska has won the James Julian Memorial Award, having previously done so in 2006, 2007, 2009, 2011 and 2015. This year, Grasska also received a third-place award in the Arts/Entertainment category for an article about actor Jason Segel.

Parent/Child Retreats to Promote Chastity

SAN DIEGO — The Goretti Group along with The Nativity School are sponsoring Father/Son and Mother/Daughter Chastity Luncheon retreats on Saturday, Oct. 22. The retreats will take place simultaneously but separately, from noon-6 p.m., at The Nativity School, 6309 El Apajo Road, Rancho Santa Fe, 92067. The retreats are geared toward middle school children, ages 11 years and older, but also appropriate for high school youth. *Register in advance at www.thegoretti.org for \$35 per person or \$70 per pair.*

Stellar Solar Completes Installation at San Rafael

RANCHO BERNARDO — Stellar Solar, one of California's leading commercial and residential solar installers since 1998, has completed nearly all of a planned 125.5kW installation at San Rafael Parish in Rancho Bernardo, pending inspections and certifica-

tion. The photovoltaic solar energy system uses (408) LG 315-watt modules, complemented by SolarEdge monitors and inverters; it is scheduled to be operational by mid-August. Most notably, the job features four separate installations across the church campus, including the parish hall, church, rectory and pastoral center. Msgr. Dennis L. Mikulanic, pastor, sees the project as "an important example we can set: to be good stewards of God's earth." By deploying rooftop solar on four buildings, the parish's annual bill is expected to shrink by almost 75 percent, to less than \$25,000.

California Bishops Support Proposition 57

SACRAMENTO — The California Catholic Conference (CCC) of Bishops has declared its support for Proposition 57: The Public Safety and Rehabilitation Act, identifying it as a balanced approach to the criminal justice system that would advance the well-being of residents and communities by re-focusing on rehabilitation, treatment and education programs. In addition, the initiative would place the decision to try juveniles as adults into the hands of the juvenile court and would offer a chance at parole for non-violent offenders.

Obituary

SAN DIEGO — Father Italo De Pra, a retired priest from the Archdiocese of Portland living in San Diego, died June 30. Born April 12, 1923, in Puos D'Alpago (Belluno-Italy), Father De Pra was ordained for the Salesians of St. John Bosco on July 2, 1951. He ministered in the Diocese of San Diego from 1971-1973 as a priest in residence at Holy Spirit Parish. He returned to the Archdiocese of Portland but then relocated to Chula Vista, where he lived in retirement. He became a naturalized citizen of the United States on March 19, 1984, and he moved into a senior facility in Chula Vista in 2005. His funeral Mass was celebrated July 8 at St. Rose of Lima Parish in Chula Vista.

Essay Contest Winner



COURTESY OF THE FLYING LEATHERNECK HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

The Flying Leatherneck Historical Foundation, in collaboration with the Character Development Center of the University of San Diego, has selected Rory Yoakum, a St. Vincent de Paul School student as its first-place winner, middle school division, in its first annual "Honor, Courage and Commitment" Essay Contest.

The eighth-grade student was recognized at the Foundation's Annual Gala in May, where former California Gov. Pete Wilson was guest of honor. Rory (pictured with Gov. Wilson) won with her essay titled "The Few, The Proud." The essay focused on the importance of the virtues in her own life and notes that "it is not just the big things that make an impact" and that "I can be heroic."

The contest was designed to encourage middle school and high school students in San Diego and Imperial counties to develop and improve their thinking and writing skills as they address core values of society and the U.S. Marine Corps: honor, courage, commitment. Students were asked to reflect on what role those virtues play in their own lives.

Burial immediately followed at Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery and Mausoleum.

'Friends of the Poor' to Sponsor Walk/Run

CHULA VISTA — The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, a nonprofit organization that helps those living in poverty, will sponsor its annual "Friends of the Poor" Walk/Run to benefit those in need in the local community. Seven parishes in the Diocese of San Diego will be participating in walks this year: Santa Sophia Parish (joined by St. Luke and St. Pius X parishes) on Oct. 1 [contact (619) 957-9056]; St. John the Evangelist Parish, Encinitas, also on Oct. 1 [contact (760) 700-4718]; Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish, San Ysidro, on Sept. 24 [contact (619) 948-7395]; and St. Stephen Parish on Sept. 10 [contact (760) 749-1883]. The events are held near Sept. 27, the feast day of St. Vincent de Paul. *For more information or to make a pledge, visit www.fopwalk.org.*

Oceanside Resident Attends Forum

OCEANSIDE — After an extensive application process, Nicole Lovell was selected to attend the GIVEN Catholic Young Women's Leadership Forum in Washington, D.C., from June 7-12. Lovell, 27, received a full scholarship to attend. The Forum, which provides a platform for what St. John Paul II called "the feminine genius," brought together 300 young women from every state in the country. Before each woman was selected to attend, she had to complete a lengthy application, including her proposed action plan, her own personal inspiration towards the "new evangelization" which will be implemented in her local community, parish or diocese by April 2017. Lovell recently relocated to Oceanside from Chesapeake, Va., and she hopes to carry out her action plan in the Diocese of San Diego. "I hope to expose Catholic teenagers to the rich beauty of the Church's teachings on human sexuality through a fun, informative, diocesan-wide retreat," she said. "I want them to leave feeling excited about living chaste lives."



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

Bishop Robert W. McElroy has accepted the request from **Father Brian Corcoran**, pastor of St. John the Evangelist Parish, Encinitas, for retirement status, effective Sept. 1.

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➤ YOUTH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

World Youth Day to be held in Panama in 2019

due to his short height, climbed a sycamore tree to see Jesus.

The obstacles Zacchaeus faced — including his short stature — the pope said, can also “say something to us.”

“Even today, we can risk not getting close to Jesus because we don’t feel big enough, because we don’t think ourselves worthy. This is a great temptation; it has to do not only with self-esteem, but with faith itself,” he said.

By not accepting themselves and their limitations, Christians deny their “real stature” as children of God and see themselves as unworthy of God’s love.

Another obstacle, the pope continued, is the “paralysis of shame,” one that Zacchaeus overcame by climbing the sycamore tree at “the risk of appearing completely ridiculous.”

Pope Francis encouraged the young men and women to not be ashamed in bringing “everything to the Lord in confession, especially your weaknesses, your struggles and your sins.”

Zacchaeus’ final obstacle, he noted, did not come from within but from the “grumbling of the crowd” who first blocked him and then criticized him” for being a sinner.

God challenges Christians to be more powerful than evil by loving everyone and to risk being ridiculed for believing “in the gentle and unassuming power of mercy,” he said.

As He did with Zacchaeus, Jesus looks beyond appearances and faults to the heart — something young people are called to imitate, the pope said.

Before concluding the Mass with the recitation of the Angelus prayer, the pope said he was “happy to announce that the next World Youth Day — after the two that will be held on the diocesan level — will take



place in 2019 in Panama.”

Natalie Ibarra, youth minister at Mission San Luis Rey Parish, led a group of 26 pilgrims who began fundraising for their trip in December 2014.

Bibi Hernandez, a 20-year-old pilgrim who traveled with Ibarra’s group, described World Youth Day as “a life-changing experience.”

“It really opened my eyes to all the beauty God created around the world and in people,” Hernandez said. “Every corner you turned to [in Krakow], you would see nothing but the image of God captured within someone’s smile.”

Daniel Gonzalez, 17, was also among the pilgrims from Mission San Luis Rey.

“World Youth Day is when I felt how much God loves me and how much I love Him ... I felt so much love [that] I wanted to share it with everyone,” Gonzalez said.

For Bob Schimpf, who leads the La Jolla-based youth ministry The Gathering, this was his sixth World Youth Day. His group, which included 10 teens and seven adults, had a more eventful journey than most: They were in Munich on July 22, the night that a gunman’s shooting rampage made international news. As Schimpf explained in an interview with *Aleteia.org*, the group heard gunshots and had to make the decision whether to proceed to World Youth Day.



PILGRIMAGE: (Top) Some of the 26 pilgrims from Mission San Luis Rey Parish are seen in Krakow; (bottom) Bishop Robert W. McElroy is seen in Krakow with a group of local pilgrims that included Luke Maxwell (second from right) of www.ucantberased.com and Miles Christi Father Martin Latiff.

“In the end, we decided we must finish what we started,” he told *Aleteia*. “Fear could not win.”

Pamela Poe, coordinator of youth ministry at St. Gregory the Great Parish, led a group of five young adults that joined a larger group of English-speaking pilgrims organized through JMJ Youth Pilgrimages.

“I hope that the members of my group returned home with the knowledge that our Church is real, young, alive and that they play a pivotal role in the life of our Church, that they are saints-in-the-making right now,” said Poe.

Adam Guzzardo, 18, and Daniel Witham, 19, were part of the group from St. Gregory the Great Parish. Guzzardo said it was “wonderful and humbling” to meet so many fellow Catholics from other countries. Witham said he hopes that his own faith was strengthened by “the powerful witness of the Polish Church” and “meeting young people who also believe faith is important.”

Augustinian Father Kirk Davis led a group of current students and recent graduates of St. Augustine High School, the Academy of Our Lady of Peace and Cathedral

Catholic High School.

“Before departing, we spoke with our group a couple of times about the idea of ‘pilgrimage,’ as opposed to ‘vacation,’” Father Davis said. “It was very exciting for me to watch the group grow and evolve in kindness and attentiveness to each other as we made our way across Europe.”

He added, “My hope is that each pilgrim was able to encounter God in his or own personal way along the journey. I know I certainly did.”

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Bishop Celebrates Commissioning Mass for World Youth Day Pilgrims

By Denis Grasska

PASTORAL CENTER — A special World Youth Day Commissioning Mass was celebrated July 12 at the diocesan Pastoral Center.

About 150 people, including youth and young adults who would be attending the July 25-31 international youth event in Krakow, Poland, gathered for the liturgy celebrated by Bishop Robert W. McElroy. A reception, featuring a performance of traditional Polish dancing by Polonez San Diego, immediately followed.

The event was co-sponsored by the diocesan Office for Young Adult Ministry and the Office for Youth Ministry.

Patrick Rivera, director of the Office for Young Adult Ministry, told *The Southern Cross* that the purpose of the event could be summarized in one word: "community."

"The World Youth Day Commissioning Mass," he said, "was organized to bring the pilgrims together with their families here in San Diego, hoping that they may know ... that we are first a family of believers in the Diocese of San Diego under Bishop Robert McElroy and that, as diocesan offices, we will be journeying with them in prayer."

By attending Mass with fellow pilgrims from various parishes, he said, they were reminded that they would not be traveling alone. At the same time, he added, the bishop's presence served as a reminder that he too would be traveling to Poland for World Youth Day events and would even be celebrating Mass for pilgrims from the dioceses of San Diego and San Jose on July 27 at St. Nicholas Church in Krakow.

Gerardo Rojas, director of the Office for Youth Ministry, echoed Rivera's sentiments about community.

Bringing together local World Youth Day pilgrims was "significant because of our call to proclaim the Good News as a community in our diocese," Rojas said. "By beginning this pilgrimage as a community, we remind ourselves that this mission is entrusted to all of us."

A Mass was the perfect send-off for the pilgrims because, "at the center of our faith, there must be an intimate friendship with Jesus," Rojas said, and the Eucharist "calls us to intimacy with Christ and empowers us to share the Good News in our lives."

Rojas said the inclusion of the Polish dancers at the reception provided an opportu-

nity for the diocese "to bring a taste of Poland to our pilgrims and their families before their departure" and to show "our solidarity not just with our pilgrims, but also the host country that will be welcoming them."

In his homily at the commissioning Mass, Bishop McElroy began by recalling the "prayers for the conversion of Russia" that were recited at the end of Mass during his childhood.

"When we said those prayers, we never really thought we'd live to see the day when that was true," he said.

The bishop then recounted his previous visit to Krakow in 1985.

"It was very oppressive," he said, noting that he was followed everywhere by the secret police. "Yet, when we went around on the streets of Krakow, the young people in particular were filled with a sense of faith, and joy, and a belief that they could change this world — and, in fact, they did."

Poland, he said, was where the end of communism began.

Noting that the United States had experienced "much darkness" in the preceding days, including the July 7 murders of five police officers in Dallas, the bishop said it is easy to accept the notion that one person cannot make a difference.

But instead of giving up, he encouraged them to take note of the large crowds of international pilgrims they would see at World Youth Day and "understand we're all one, we're all children of the same God, and together ... we can change the culture."

Though Rivera did not attend World Youth Day this year, he told *The Southern Cross* that he will never forget the experience of participating in the 2002 gathering in Toronto, Canada.

"I have often looked back at my own life and seen how Christ transformed me since that time as a young college student," he said. "Nearly a decade and a half later, I can pinpoint that World Youth Day as a decisive factor in leading me to where I am today."

"The level of encountering Christ one experiences at a World Youth Day does not merely end at the closing Mass," he said, "but continues to transform [attendees] throughout their lives. This has been true in my own life."

The Southern Cross



COMMISSIONING: (Top) Bishop Robert W. McElroy gives his final blessing at the end of the World Youth Day Commissioning Mass celebrated July 12 at the diocesan Pastoral Center; (bottom) Polonez San Diego performs traditional Polish dancing at the reception that followed Mass.



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Through His Work with Teens, Youth Minister Has Remained ‘Young at Heart’

By Denis Grasska

SAN DIEGO — At age 61, Norman Saucedo may qualify for the designation of senior citizen, but he sure doesn't feel like it.

"I'm young at heart and feel like that always," he said. "A few of my nieces call me a 'recycled teenager.'"

Perhaps it is his work with Catholic youth that has kept him so young.

"I see the Church very much alive in our young people," said Saucedo, who retired June 24 as youth minister and leader of the confirmation preparation program at St. Rita Parish. "They are the future of the Church."

**'We are God's eyes,
hands, voice, His
instruments to do His
will, not ours.'**

His involvement with youth ministry began with his son's confirmation classes. Saucedo's wife had accompanied their two daughters through sacramental preparation, and she told him that this time it was his turn.

"That was the beginning of God's unmistakable touch of grace coming over me," he said. "He was knocking at my heart and I didn't even know it."

Later, a newly appointed youth minister

at his home parish, St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Vista, invited him to lead the Rite of Christian Initiation of Children (RCIC). Despite the fact that the classes conflicted with "Monday Night Football," Saucedo accepted the invitation.

He continued to get more actively involved in youth ministry from 1996 through August 2008, when he was hired and served for two years as a part-time youth minister at the parish. Prior to that, he had been spending so much time around the church that many already believed him to be a staff member. When people asked, he would often joke, "Yes, I'm on God's staff."

In November 2010, after 30 years working for Cal-Trans, he retired so that he could devote himself full time to ministry.

In December 2011, he was invited to join the staff of All for God Catholic Youth Ministry. He accepted the offer and specifically requested the opportunity to work with inner-city youth. Saucedo, who was born and raised in Southeast San Diego, was placed in a ministry position at St. Rita Parish.

"St. Rita had not had a youth ministry program for a long time," he said. "The challenge was to build one from the ground up."

"What a blessing to give back to the community I grew up in," he added. "God had prepared me very well for the challenges that I was going to face. I wouldn't have had it any other way."

To connect with his teens, Saucedo



YOUNG AT HEART: Norman Saucedo and members of St. Rita Parish's youth group are seen at an event at Mission San Antonio de Pala in this file photo from 2013.

used social media, kept up on contemporary music and, above all, really listened to the youth.

"I encourage them to be the best version of themselves," he said. "I always let them know that when they are happy, I'm happy; when they are sad, I'm sad; when they are in pain, I'm in pain; when they cry, I cry with them."

Saucedo said it has been "an awesome ... responsibility" to serve as a role model for the youth. Seeing them grow up, get married, start families and attend Mass with

those families has been "such a blessing."

"When you run into their parents outside of the church and they share with you how highly their children think of you, that you have made an impact on their lives, on them personally, it is indeed humbling," he said. "I remind myself: We are God's eyes, hands, voice, His instruments to do His will, not ours. I only hope I have done that for the youth and their families that I have ministered to over the years."

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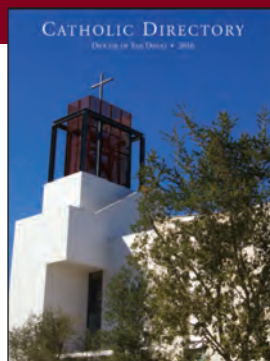
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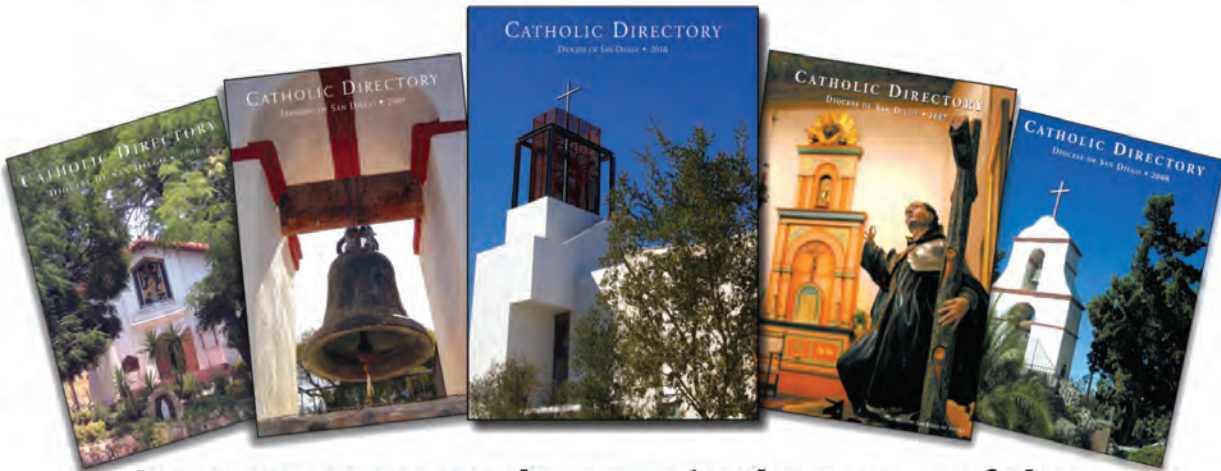
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Bishop McElroy Calls for a Practical 'Apology' to L.G.B.T. Catholics

By Kevin Clarke

The pope's call for Christians to offer an apology to gay and lesbian people, issued during his flight back to Rome from Armenia on June 26, was carefully welcomed by Bishop Robert McElroy of San Diego. "I think it opens up a very helpful pathway to dialogue and, hopefully, healing," he told *America* on June 28. Pope Francis, Bishop McElroy said, brings to this dialogue with L.G.B.T. Catholics who feel marginalized by or alienated from the Church a "renewed and deepened focus on the questions of accompaniment and the mercy of God for all of us."

"We all walk together in a life of virtue and discipleship," Bishop McElroy said, "and all of us fail at times."

He added: "We have to begin to incorporate that mercy into the depths of our hearts and souls in ways that are going to be uncomfortable for us We all need to be shown mercy; it is something that binds us together, not differentiates us."

"What we need to project in the life of the Church is 'You are part of us and we are part of you.' [L.G.B.T. Catholics] are part of our families."

That is not going to be an easy process, he

acknowledged. It is one that will require preparation and "a lot of discussion and accompaniment and reflection in the Church." In the past, he argues, diocesan and parish leaders have struggled with two tendencies regarding L.G.B.T. people: "whether you had to sacrifice fidelity to the teaching of the Church or sacrifice effective outreach to the L.G.B.T. community."

"My own view," the bishop said, "is that much of the destructive attitude of many Catholics to the gay and lesbian community is motivated by a failure to comprehend the totality of the Church's teaching on homosexuality."

That teaching includes the conviction that "moral sexual activity only takes place within the context of marriage between a man and a woman." But "that's not a teaching which applies just to gay men," Bishop McElroy said. "It is teaching across the board, and there is massive failure on that."

Bishop McElroy argues that all Christians are called to a life of virtue, in emulation of Christ. Chastity is among the virtues of that life — others include self-sacrifice, service and piety — and it is an important one, "but it does not have the uniquely pre-eminent role in

determining the character of a disciple of Christ, nor one's relationship with the Church" that some may believe, according to Bishop McElroy.

'We all walk together in a life of virtue and discipleship.'

Finally, and most poignantly in light of the recent attack in Orlando on a gay nightclub that claimed 49 lives, the totality of the Church's teaching includes the understanding that all Christians are "called to build a society in which people are not victimized or violence visited upon them or unjustly discriminated against because of their sexual orientation."

A practical expression of the apology encouraged by the pope, Bishop McElroy thought, might be a re-evaluation of the language the Church uses even in talking about L.G.B.T. Catholics. "We are not talking about some group or person who is the 'other,'" he said. "It has to be language that is inclusive, embracing, it has to be pastoral."

While the Catechism of the Catholic Church on homosexuality and other teaching on pastoral care for L.G.B.T. Catholics deplores violence or unjust discrimination against people who are gay or lesbian, it also describes homosexual acts as "intrinsically dis-

ordered." Bishop McElroy thinks that phrasing ought to be reconsidered.

"The word 'disordered' to most people is a psychological term," he explains. "In Catholic moral theology it is a philosophical term that is automatically misunderstood in our society as a psychological judgment." He thought the term is an example of "very destructive language that I think we should not use pastorally."

Another relatively easy step for most dioceses to take by way of institutional apology would be "to seek to collaborate with those in society who are working to banish discrimination and violence leveled against people because of their sexual orientation."

Some Church leaders may worry that the pope, in his recent comments on outreach and apology to gay and lesbian Catholics, may be moving too quickly, too far ahead of his flock. Bishop McElroy is not so sure, noting the many Catholic families he has met with have been longing to hear something positive about the Church and its pastoral relationship with L.G.B.T. Catholics. "When I go out and meet with laypeople," he said, "so many of them have family members, brothers and sisters and sons and daughters, mothers and fathers who are gay or lesbian For them it is a great and painful thing to feel excluded from the life of the Church, and for that element ... we are not moving fast enough."

The preceding article first appeared in the July 18-25 issue of America magazine, published by the Jesuits of the United States, and also can be found on the publication's Web site, www.americamagazine.org.

'There Are No Children of a Lesser God'

San Diego Bishop Robert W. McElroy spoke during a memorial service on July 9 for the victims of the shooting in Orlando. The evening gathering, held at St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral, brought together Latino community leaders, LGBT activists, the bishops of the local Catholic and Episcopal dioceses, and Mexican Consul-General Marcela Celorio. At the service, Bishop McElroy delivered the following statement, followed by a prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe:

"Our Lady of Guadalupe occupies a pivotal role in Hispanic spirituality and culture, and as we gather to mourn the Latino men and women whose precious lives were ended by cruelty, hatred and violence in Orlando, it is particularly appropriate that we point to the figure of Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, the Mother of the Lord, who symbolizes on so many levels the sadness of this night."

"In the Catholic tradition, Mary, as the Mother of Jesus, experienced seven profound sorrows, beginning with having to flee her homeland with her husband and son as refugees, and culminating in the profound suffering of watching as her son, Jesus, was tortured, crucified and buried."

"Over the past four weeks, I have no doubt that Our Lady of Guadalupe has wept for us all as a people, as our nation has experienced seven enormous sorrows that strike at the very heart of our peacefulness, our security, our identity, our unity."

— "The sorrow of 49 women and men, filled with grace, talent and hope, targeted and killed in Orlando because of a vile prejudice against their sexual orien-

tation.

— "The sorrow of their families and friends, who awoke to a horror of deep and unimaginable loss that will haunt them for the rest of their lives."

— "The sorrow of guns and violence continually pointing to our national inability to eradicate the brutal convulsions which tear at our nation's sense of safety and its social fabric."

— "The sorrow of the Muslim community, once again targeted not because of their religious beliefs, but by the distortion of those beliefs for the political gain which that distortion can bring."

— "The sorrow of young black men and their families and young people of color who must live in a world where racial prejudice ends the lives of even those who follow every rule."

— "The sorrow of police who are murdered because they are white or because they are blue, and the terrible toll that takes upon the families of all who dedicate their lives to enforcing justice in our nation."

— The sorrow of recognizing that these events are not random in our nation, but constitute a profound crisis of our national soul which calls us to choose between our unity and our prejudices, our hatreds and our peace."

"This terrible time of sorrow calls us to see one another as God sees us. There are no children of a lesser god and there are no lesser children of the one God who is the father of us all. Our failure to recognize this simple reality is the greatest sorrow of all."

The Southern Cross

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Gabriela Heintschel is director of admissions and recruitment at the Franciscan School of Theology. She recently spoke with *The Southern Cross* about the school, what it offers and why it advertises in San Diego's diocesan newspaper.

The Southern Cross: Can you tell us about the history of the Franciscan School of Theology?

Gabriela Heintschel: The Franciscan School of Theology (FST) was originally established at Mission Santa Barbara in 1854. In 1968, it moved to Berkeley, where it became a member of the Graduate Theological Union. It remained in Berkeley until 2013, when it moved to Mission San Luis Rey and affiliated with the University of San Diego. Educating students from Southern California and around the world, FST offers a Master of Theological Studies (MTS), a Master of Divinity (M.Div.), and other non-degree and continuing education opportunities.

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SC: What can you tell us about your students?

Heintschel: Our students are remarkable individuals who use their educational experience to serve throughout many sectors of society. A graduate from the class of 2016 earned her M.Div. so she could become a

hospital chaplain for children. Another 2016 graduate earned her MTS so she could pursue doctoral work in order to become a professor of theology. These individuals and more are dedicated to service in the Church, using their God-given gifts and theological education they've received at FST. Any of your readers who might be interested in enrolling can reach FST's Office of Admissions at www.fst.edu.

SC: Why did the school choose to advertise in *The Southern Cross*?

Heintschel: We advertise with *The Southern Cross* because the newspaper has served San Diego for more than 100 years. We not only want to support this wonderful publication, but want to share with its readers the local opportunity they have in pursuing graduate theology work in the Franciscan tradition.

The Southern Cross

Deacons for a Decade



The permanent diaconate Class of 2006 celebrated the 10-year anniversary of their ordination at a recent retreat. They are pictured with their wives, retired Bishop Robert H. Brom, and a copy of the June 2006 issue of *The Southern Cross* which featured coverage of their ordination.

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Churches Among Those Swept Up in 'Pokemon Go' Craze

By Jennifer Brinker

ST. LOUIS — Since its release in the United States July 6, Pokemon Go has quickly become a cultural phenomenon.

In the first week, the mobile game attracted nearly 21 million users, according to data from Survey Monkey, making it the most popular app in U.S. history.

As a result, the nature of the game is driving swarms of players to unsuspecting churches, businesses and other landmarks. But as it grows in popularity, priests, youth groups and others are quickly finding opportunities to evangelize to young people.

Pokemon Go uses augmented reality, a real-world environment that incorporates computer-generated elements, such as GPS data, sound and video. Users move around in the real world as they collect tiny virtual creatures called Pokemon — short for pocket monsters. The mobile app is based on the popular franchise that began with several Nintendo games in the 1990s.

Churches, businesses and other landmarks have been designated as PokeStops, where users collect resources needed to catch Pokemon; and Gyms, where competitions are held among the creatures.

Assumption Church in south St. Louis County began noticing an influx of visitors to the property July 11.

"On Monday night, we couldn't figure out why all these people were on our property," pastor Father Thomas Keller told the *St. Louis Review*, the archdiocesan newspaper. "We noticed people walking up, or in their car slowing down. By Tuesday, we figured out we had all these Pokemon stops. I talked to a nice couple pushing a baby carriage who explained everything to me."

The game especially has been attractive to young adults who grew up on Pokemon in the 1990s. Assumption's associate pastor Father David Miloscia, 29, was into Pokemon from the eighth grade to his sophomore year in high school. He geeked out with a group of five teenagers who visited the parish July 14 on their quest to catch

more characters.

Father Miloscia sees this latest trend in mobile gaming as an opportunity to connect with others. "I talked with some kids last night when they were on the parking lot," he said. "They were happy the Church was relating to them in this way."

He told the *St. Louis Review*, "The next thing is that personal interaction. For me, I just rely on the Holy Spirit to make an opening or say the right words."

Frequently, pastors and church employees have no warning that their church has become a Pokemon spot until the players come knocking.

Kevin Flynn, who works at the front desk at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Arlington, Virginia, noticed a large group of young men in their 20s hanging out in the parking lot with their phones in the air.

"My daughter told me later that the chapel was listed as a Gym," said Flynn.

A Gym is a place where Pokemon players can come and train or do battle with other players. Some players prefer to visit the Gyms in the late evening when fewer people are playing. At least four vehicles were seen at St. Leo Church in Fairfax, Virginia, around 9 p.m. one evening engaged in a battle for the Gym located in the parish's prayer garden.

Many parishes are trying to figure out how to reach out to visiting gamers, while also standing firm about not trespassing overnight or catching Pokemon in the church. Seminarian John Paul Heisler described a group of players who came into Church of the Nativity in Burke, Virginia, during the 11 a.m. Mass one Sunday in search of a Pokemon. According to Heisler, players were oblivious to the sacredness of what was happening.

Father Patrick Posey, pastor of St. James Parish in Falls Church, Virginia, sent a letter informing parishioners about the six Pokemon stops on the church property. He welcomed players to visit the church but asked them to be respectful. He also encouraged players to celebrate the feast day of St.



ON THE HUNT: Alec Richardson, Brennan Moore, Adam Salman and Blake Koelz hunt Pokemon stops July 14 around the grounds of Assumption Church in St. Louis.

James with parishioners at their July 25 ice cream social.

"Hopefully, once a person finds the Pokemon, they will enter the church and find Christ," Father Posey told the *Arlington Catholic Herald*, diocesan newspaper. "Just to be clear, I do not believe there is anything wrong with playing Pokemon Go. However, I do think people are happy to search for Pokemon and reluctant to search for Christ because He calls us to give more of ourselves."

What should the Church's response be to Pokemon Go?

According to Julianne Stanz, director of the Department of New Evangelization, in the Diocese of Green Bay, Wisconsin, it should be go — as in "go and make disciples of all nations."

Stanz and members of her department created a Pokemon Go resource guide for parishes, "A Parish Primer: Responding to Parish Questions and Concerns."

The four-page guide gives a description of Pokemon Go, a definition of key words, the

history of Pokemon and an explanation why parishes should care about the game. The guide is available at www.gbdioc.org/images/Pokevangelization.pdf.

In an email to *The Compass*, Green Bay's diocesan newspaper, Stanz said the parish guide was created "in conjunction with a team of parish leaders skilled in evangelization outreach who are looking at using the technology as part of their ministry."

She added her department had received calls from parishes asking for information about the game.

Bishop David L. Ricken of Green Bay supports the evangelization department's initiative. In fact, he first led the Pokemon Go outreach on his Twitter account July 11. A second tweet followed on July 12.

Stanz said making parishes aware of why people are visiting their church location is the first step in understanding and responding to the Pokemon Go phenomenon.

Catholic News Service

Ashleigh Buyers and Sam Lucero contributed to this report.

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U.S. and Spanish Journalists Now Leading Vatican Press Office

By Junno Arocho Esteves

VATICAN CITY — Pope Francis named two experienced journalists — including its first female vice director — to lead the Vatican press office.

Greg Burke, a native of St. Louis, succeeds Italian Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, who retired after 10 years as head of the Vatican press office, the Vatican announced July 11. Spanish journalist Paloma Garcia Ovejero fills in Burke's spot as vice director, making her the first female to hold that position.

Burke served as special communications adviser in the Vatican's Secretariat of State starting in 2012 before he was named by Pope Francis as the vice director of the press office in December 2015.

A graduate of Columbia University's school of journalism, Burke spent 24 of his past 28 years based in Rome as a journalist — with the *National Catholic Register*, *Time* magazine and the *Fox News* network.

The middle child of six, Burke grew up in St. Louis Hills and went to Jesuit-run St. Louis University High School. He is a numerary member of Opus Dei.

Burke told *Catholic News Service* that he was excited for his new role as director of the press office. "I'm a little bit awed by it and just very thankful for the trust of the

pope," he said.

He also noted that in choosing an American and a Spanish journalist, the pope has made "an important sign of internationalization" in order to reach out to Catholics across the globe.

"The deputy director is a Spanish woman; so we have English and Spanish covered. English, I think, is important for the global audience and Spanish is certainly important for the Catholic audience. About half of the Catholic population worldwide speaks Spanish, so that's an important sign," he said.

Garcia Ovejero, who studied journalism in Spain and earned a master's degree in Management Strategies and Communications at New York University, worked as the Italy and Vatican correspondent for Spanish radio broadcaster *Cadena COPE*.

"For me it's an honor, it's a service and it's another way of serving the Church. But it is the same Church and, in some way, the same type of work: to proclaim the good news and to transmit faithfully and with dignity the pope's message," Garcia Ovejero told *CNS*.

The Spanish journalist downplayed her role as the first female vice director of the press office, saying that the first women who

Check Presentation



Eddie Preciado, program manager for Catholic Charities Guadalupe Men's Shelter, and Lupe Rodriguez, program manager for Catholic Charities House of Hope shelter, received a \$2,000 check from Imperial County Supervisor Ray Castillo.

The presentation was awarded to Catholic Charities homeless shelters at the Board of Supervisors meeting on June 21 and is part of the discretionary funds available from supervisors to award at their discretion.

Pictured left to right: Supervisor Ryan E. Kelley, District 4; Supervisor John Renison, District 1; Supervisor Michael W. Kelley, District 3; Chairman of the Board Jack Terrazas; Preciado; Supervisor Castillo, District 5; and Rodriguez.

served the Church "were the ones who found the empty tomb and proclaimed the resurrection to the apostles."

"I am in no way the first woman. The first woman above all in the Church, in the

Vatican and in the press office is the Virgin Mary," she told *CNS*.

Garcia Ovejero and Burke began their respective roles Aug. 1.

Catholic News Service

Moviegoers to Encounter Dragons and Starships at the Box Office

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

"Pete's Dragon"

(Disney) The classic boy-and-his-dog story assumes outsized proportions in this generally warmhearted fantasy adventure, a "reimagining" of the 1977 Disney musical. Orphaned

by a tragic accident, a toddler (Levi Alexander) wanders into a remote forest in the Pacific Northwest where he's raised by a friendly green dragon possessing the habits and charm of a basset hound. Six years on, the pair (its human half now played by Oakes Fegley) are discovered by a kindly forest ranger (Bryce Dallas Howard) and her sympathetic woodcarver father (Robert Redford),

who then try to keep a trigger-happy hunter (Karl Urban) from capturing the beast. Apparent premarital cohabitation, potentially frightening action sequences, and a handful of mild oaths. *CNS classification — adults and adolescents. MPAA rating — PG.*

"Star Trek Beyond"

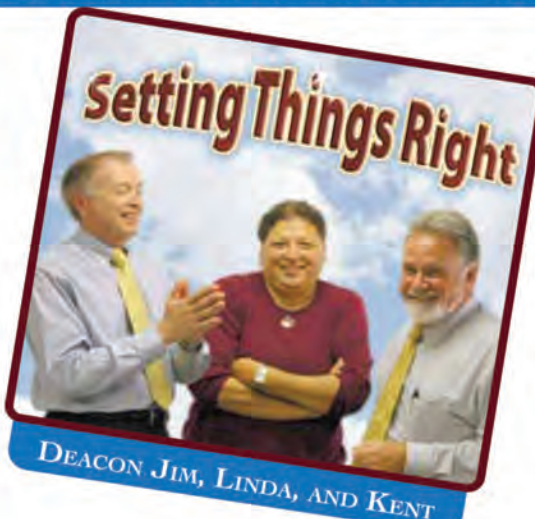
(Paramount) Capt. James T. Kirk (Chris

Pine) of the Starship Enterprise and his crew (including Zachary Quinto, Zoe Saldana and Karl Urban) respond to a distress call in a remote part of the galaxy. It's a trap set by a reptilian megalomaniac (Idris Elba) bent on the wholesale destruction of humanity through use of the ultimate weapon. The inclusion of a scene revealing that helmsman Sulu (John Cho) is gay — he's briefly shown with a male partner and a young daughter — sets the filmmakers at odds, however incidentally, with Christian values. Considerable mostly bloodless violence, including torture, a benign view of homosexual acts and a fleeting sexual reference. *CNS classification — limited adult audience. MPAA rating — PG-13.*



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SETTING THINGS RIGHT

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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My wife and I had a marriage that was “fine.” Little did I know that I would find out that “fine” is a dirty, four-letter word when it comes to marriage. When people would ask how things were going in my relationship with my wife Carly, I would tell them that everything was “fine.” Carly and I were a typical Christian couple going to

Seth Aichle

church on Sunday, working our jobs, and handing off the kids to one another. Days went by and then months with surface talk and shallow communication. We once had hopes and dreams for our marriage, but the days of having that newlywed fire were long gone. We were set in a routine with a busy schedule that kept us on the move, communicating with one another to just keep things going smoothly. Then everything

Marriage Encounter: The Spark to Ignite a Communication Fire

changed one Sunday at church.

As Mass was ending, a couple came up to the pulpit and began to speak. They talked about a weekend away together that rivaled their honeymoon. I thought to myself, I would love to get away with Carly. I was dreaming of no kids, no work and no chores for a weekend. Sign me up! They said they were part of a group called Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME). My wife grabbed a brochure. We went back home and back to our daily lives.

Months later, we needed a weekend away from the routine of life, something more than a vacation but something that could enrich our marriage. Then Carly remem-

bered the weekend. She signed us up and I was excited to get away. The weekend was incredible. Carly and I were able to get back on the same page and really spend quality time rediscovering our love for each other in a deeper way than we had ever experienced.

That weekend changed our marriage. We were able to share our hopes and dreams with each other, and suddenly our marriage was once again the priority in our daily routine. We were much more loving to one another and the weekend brought us that spark we were looking for and needed. The weekend enriched our communication with one another and gave us the opportunity to

really understand how much we loved each other, and that together we could have that marriage we dreamed about. Now, when people ask me how Carly and I are doing, I don't have to use that dirty, four-letter word — “fine.” Instead, I tell them about Worldwide Marriage Encounter and how their relationship deserves a weekend.

There are two upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends in San Diego this fall: Sept. 9-11 and Nov. 4-6. (Priests and religious are also invited to attend the weekends; it is an opportunity for them to learn to improve their relationships with the people they serve.) To register, visit wwme-sandiego.org or call (866) 473-7730. For Spanish Worldwide Marriage Encounter information, visit [Encuentro Matrimonial Mundial at \[encuentrosandiego.org\]\(http://encuentrosandiego.org\) or call \(760\) 936-9626.](http://encuentrosandiego.org)

The Southern Cross

Marriage Encounter: In Their Own Words



PHOTOS: MIKE AND NANCY RESINGER

Katie and Mark Inoue
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Dieter and Margit Dornisch
“We fell in love all over again.”



Dianne and Rajan Agarwal
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Judith and Mike Strauss
“We rediscovered our best friend and the spark that we didn’t know was missing.”

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Heads up, everyone! Grandparents’ Day is drawing near, specifically, Sunday, Sept. 11. So, if you are fortunate enough to have a grandparent or two — or if you are one yourself — don’t let the day go by unnoticed. My suggestion is that you put down this paper right now, find your calendar and mark it big and clear as something well worth celebrating!



Father Charles L. Fuld

So why the big fuss about grandparents? Because of all the love, faith and everyday help they give in raising kids and in keeping the family together, and because of their help in keeping us in the Church no matter what. They are the backup when parents

Get Ready for Grandparents’ Day

find themselves on overload; and they’re the ones to whom you (as a parent) can later on freely say, “Wow, this parenting thing ain’t easy, is it?” or “How did you manage to put up with all this stuff when we were kids?” It takes parenting to appreciate parenting. It is only later in life that we realize how important it is to remember the good times when we have to deal with the bad ones; and it’s only then that we appreciate how really important they have been in our hectic lives. Like all other blessings they are easy to take for granted.

A recent Pew study came out talking about the importance of all these things, but Grandma or Grandpa probably could have told you about all that years ago.

And yes, I know that grandparents have

a way of telling stories over and over again, but the wonder is that every once in a while one of the grandkids asks, “Grandpa tell me the story about ... It’s my favorite.” Those stories are precious too. I think of all the questions I never asked my parents and grandparents — stuff that’s lost now — like how they came to America, what was life like in those days, the obstacles they had to overcome, the help they got from one another, the places they lived and the work they did. I was too into myself then, but if I had it to do all over again, I’d climb on a knee and ask all kinds of questions — maybe even write down their answers or make a picture book for generations to come.

Pope Francis put it this way: “Children listen to their grandparents! I still treasure the words my grandmother wrote to me on the day of my ordination. In a society which

overlooks and even discards the elderly, may the Church acknowledge their contribution and gifts, and help them to foster a beautiful dialogue between the generations.”

One more suggestion: Break out that box of old photos and get Grandma and Grandpa to help you to write the names and dates on the back of each. I have some old family photos of my grandparents and their siblings, but have no idea of their names, where they lived, and whatever became of them. That kind of information should not be lost.

Maybe this year’s celebration won’t be as much fun as last year’s when they took you grandkids fishing or camping. Maybe they’ve gotten a lot older than those more adventurous years allowed. Your love for your grandparents doesn’t depend on just that, does it? That’s something they need to be reminded of as you wish them a “Very Happy Grandparents’ Day!”

The Southern Cross

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

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6:15 – 9 pm Diocesan Pastoral Center

C210 Intro to Old Testament (30 hrs)

John Vignol, M.A.

Thursdays, Sept 1 – Nov 17, 2016

6:30 – 9 pm

Diocesan Pastoral Center

S230 Ecumenism (15 hrs)

Msgr. Dennis Mikulanic, S.T.D.

Tuesdays, Sept 6 – Oct 4, 2016

6:30 – 9:30 pm

San Rafael, Rancho Bernardo

G140 Ecclesiology (30 hrs)

Bernadeane Carr, S.T.L.

Tuesdays, Sept 6 – Nov 15, 2016

6:15 – 9 pm

Diocesan Pastoral Center

G120 Intro to Christian Spirituality (30 hrs)

Christine Avella, M.A.

Tuesdays, Sept 13 – Nov 22, 2016

(no class October 11) 6:30 – 9:30 pm

St. Margaret, Oceanside

G130 Christology (30 hrs)

Bernadeane Carr, S.T.L.

Mondays, September 19 – Dec 5, 2016

(no class November 21) 6:30 – 9:15 pm

St. Charles, Imperial Beach

S860 Spiritual Direction (15 hrs)

Maria Arroyo, M.A.

Wednesdays, Sept 21 – Oct 26, 2016

6:30 – 9 pm

Diocesan Pastoral Center

C210 Intro to Old Testament (30 hrs)

Rev. Joseph Freeman, S.T.B. and Bernadeane Carr, S.T.L.

Wednesdays, Sept 21 – Dec 14, 2016

(no class October 12 nor November 23)

10 am – 12:45 pm

Diocesan Pastoral Center

S700 Liturgical Time: Year & Hours (15 hrs)

Clarissa Hutcheson, M.A.

Tuesdays, Sept 27 – Nov 1, 2016

6:30 – 9 pm

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C130 Early Church History (15 hrs)

S100 Faith Growth: Child/Adolescent (15 hrs)

S827 Christian Signs & Symbols (15 hrs)

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Benedictine Spirituality

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

RCIA Workshop

With Noreen McInnes and Sister Jeanette Lucinio. 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-Services

“Safe Environment and Mandated Reporting”

• With Rodrigo Valdivia. 9 a.m.-noon, Tuesday, Sept. 13, at the diocesan Pastoral Center. No cost.

• With Marioly Galvan and Gerardo Rojas. 6:30-9 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 15, at St. Anthony of Padua Parish, 210 W. 7th St., Imperial. No cost.

Commissioning Mass/Mercy Presentation

Commissioning Mass for ecclesial ministers and 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, 1129 S. 38th St., San Diego. No cost. Lunch included. Parish leadership is encouraged to attend.

“Designing Age Appropriate Retreats”

With Victor Valenzuela.

• 9 a.m.-noon, Thursday, Oct. 6, at the diocesan Pastoral Center. No cost.

• 6:30-9 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 6, at St. Anthony of Padua Parish, 210 W. 7th St., Imperial. No cost.

Basic Catechist Formation

48-hour course grants California Catechetical Certification. Cost: \$75/student. For registration forms, contact Lisa Vaca at (858) 490-8230 or lvaca@sdccatholic.org. Upcoming courses are offered at:

• St. Peter Parish, Fallbrook, starting on Tuesday, Sept. 20

• St. Joseph Cathedral, San Diego, starting on Saturday, Sept. 17

• St. Mary Parish, Escondido, fall 2016, start date to be determined

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: Feelings and the Hurt Spiral (Aug. 17), Forgiveness and Repair (Aug. 24) and Rebuilding Trust (Aug. 31).

SOCIAL MINISTRY

For more information, visit www.socialministriesandiego.org.

Mental Health Ministry Network

For information about the San Diego Diocesan Mental Health Ministry Network, visit www.socialministriesandiego.org.

Crime Victim or Family Member?

If you are in need of spiritual support and would like to give or receive support from other people like you in similar circumstances, please contact the diocesan Office for Social Ministry’s Restorative Justice Program at (858) 490-8375; en Español, (858) 490-8327; or e-mail jwalsb@diocese-sdiego.org.

Friends/Family of Incarcerated

Ongoing support for the hidden victims of crime, sponsored by the diocesan Office for Social Ministry’s Restorative Justice Program. Call (858) 490-8375; en Español, (858) 490-8327; or e-mail jwalsb@diocese-sdiego.org.

Ministry to the Incarcerated

Catholic adults can serve on teams ministering to Catholic inmates in a variety of detention facilities. For information, visit www.diocese-sdiego.org/restore, e-mail jwalsb@diocese-sdiego.org or call (858) 490-8375.

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).

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. For information or to register, e-mail mvalencia@sdcatholic.org or (858) 490-8323.

PARISH EVENTS

Perpetual Adoration

24 hours daily (except during Sunday Mass) at St. John the Evangelist Parish, 1001 Encinitas Blvd., Encinitas. For information, call (760) 635-2573.

Healing Prayer

• At St. James Church, Solana Beach, Every Sunday after the 9 a.m. Mass, first Mondays from 9-10 a.m., second Tuesdays from 7-8 p.m., and third Saturdays after the 5 p.m. Mass. For information, call (888) 590-5095.

• At St. Therese of Carmel Parish (4355 Del Mar Trails Rd., San Diego 92130): first Sundays after 5:30 p.m. Mass; second Saturdays after 5:30 p.m. Mass; and second Sundays at 10 a.m.

• 6 p.m., every first Friday (after Benediction), at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish in Rancho Penasquitos. Led by Deacon Noel Rivera. For information, call (858) 484-1070.

Praise & Worship

A unique time in God's presence with praise, worship and healing. 7-8 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at St. James Church in Solana Beach. For information, call (888) 590-5095.

Summer Speaker Series

Ascension Parish (11292 Clairemont Mesa

PARISH EVENTS

Blvd, San Diego) has hosted a summer series of free talks by Catholic speakers. Each talk is at 7 p.m. The last talks in the series will be "The Galileo Affair" (Chris Check), Aug. 16, and "Why God Still Matters" (Karlo Broussard), Aug. 30.

"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.

Parish Fiesta

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish in Rancho Penasquitos will hold a fiesta from 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Aug. 27, with carnival games, bounce houses, craft beers, food, entertainment, and tours of the new church. For information, contact olmc.fiesta@gmail.com.

Sunday Talk Series

A series of talks will be held from 9:15-10:30 a.m., Sundays, in Santa Sophia Parish's Prendergast Hall. Topics: "Why You Can Trust the Gospels" with Jimmy Akin, Aug. 21; "The Eucharist: God's Extravagant Love Revealed" with Tim Staples, Sept. 18; "Heaven: A Destiny Worth Living For" with Karlo Broussard, Oct. 16; "The Eucharist" with Eddie Perez, Nov. 20; and "Christian Fatherhood" with Tim Staples, Dec. 11.

Dinner Show

An evening of fine food, cocktails, wine/beer and the music of Jerome Kern, Irving Berlin, Rodgers & Hart, Cole Porter and Gilbert & Sullivan. 6 p.m., Aug. 26, at Our Mother of Confidence Parish's Serra Hall. Cost: \$35/person. Funds raised will benefit the Music Ministry of Our Mother of Confidence Parish.

Learn Healing Prayer

Christian Healing Ministries' "School of Healing Prayer: Level 1" on DVD will be taught at St. Rose of Lima Parish on Wednesdays, starting Sept. 7, from 7-9 p.m. For information, call (619) 942-2051.

PARISH EVENTS

Glory Immersion

A unique time in God's presence with joyous music, prayers, Scripture, words of comfort, healing and fellowship. 7-8:30 p.m., Aug. 23, at St. Timothy Parish in Escondido. For information, call (760) 741-1134.

BBQ and Gymkhana

St. Pius X Parish in Jamul will host its annual Deep Pit BBQ & Gymkhana, Oct. 16. It will include a \$1,500 grand prize drawing, craft booths and a beer garden. For information, call (619) 669-0085.

Bake/Boutique Sale

Santa Sophia Parish in Spring Valley will hold a bake, craft, boutique sale, Oct. 29-30. Saturday, 2-6 p.m.; Sunday, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Cost: \$20 for one table, \$25 for one table and electrical, \$30 for two tables with \$5 extra for electrical. For information, call (619) 471-5837 or e-mail derunrun48@gmail.com.

'Adventures in Acts'

St. Thomas More Parish in Oceanside is sponsoring a 20-session morning Bible study, "Adventures in Acts," from Sept. 7-Feb. 22. Cost: \$35, including workbook; pre-registration required. For information, contact debbief@stmoside.org or (760) 758-4100, ext. 110.

'Matthew, the King and His Kingdom'

St. Thomas More Parish in Oceanside is sponsoring a 24-session evening Bible study, "Matthew, the King and His Kingdom," from Sept. 8-March 23. Cost: \$35, including study material; pre-registration required. For information, contact debbief@stmoside.org or (760) 758-4100, ext. 110.

GROUPS

40 Days for Life

Join the worldwide movement to protect mothers and babies through prayer, fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach.

GROUPS

Opening ceremony at 3 p.m., Sept. 25, at St. Kieran Parish in El Cajon. For information, e-mail 40dayselcajon@gmail.com or call (619) 647-5793 or (619) 445-3822.

Chastity Luncheons

Parent/child chastity luncheon retreats are being offered by The Goretti Group and The Nativity School, noon-6 p.m., Oct. 22, for ages 11 years and older. For information, visit www.thegorettigroup.com.

International Day of Peace

Third annual International Day of Peace celebration in La Mesa: Festivities start at 3:30 p.m. at Aztec Park (7945 Morocco Dr., La Mesa). Activities for children include making pinwheels for peace, peace bracelets, paper chains and more. At 4 p.m., representations of peace through words and song will begin. Several faiths will be represented. Sponsored by the Interfaith Council of La Mesa. For information, visit www.interfaithlamesa.org.

Religious Emblems

Adults who would like to moderate any of the five religious medal programs for Girl Scouts, Heritage Girls, Camp Fire and Catholic Daughters, must attend a moderator training, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Sept. 10, at the diocesan Pastoral Center. For information or to sign up, e-mail kimbrower@cox.net.

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.

'Faith Alive'

Charismatic prayer group meets from 7-8:30 p.m., every Tuesday, in the St. Benedict Room at St. Timothy Parish, Escondido. Bring a Bible.

Moms' Catholic Book Study

Meets every Wednesday during the school year, from 10 a.m.-noon, at St. Mary Magdalene Parish to discuss wonderful Catholic books. Don't need to be a mom to

GROUPS

attend; all are welcome. For information, visit <http://momscatholicbookstudy.weebly.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.thegorettigroup.org or call (619) 702-7009.

Council of Catholic Women

The Oceanside Council of Catholic Women will meet Sept. 14 at St. John the Evangelist Parish, 1001 Encinitas Blvd., Encinitas. Cost: \$5. RSVP to (760) 942-0059 or (760) 436-0151.

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.

Retrouvaille

Thousands of couples with troubled marriages or headed for divorce have overcome their problems by attending a Retrouvaille weekend. The next weekend will be Sept. 16-18. Space is limited. For information, call (951) 259-9474.

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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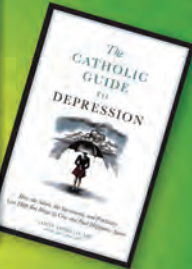
Faith in Healing a Half-day Conference

Offered by the San Diego Diocesan Mental Health Ministry Network and its 20 member parishes

Saturday, September 17, 2016, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Saint Michael Catholic Church
 15546 Pomerado Road • Poway, CA, 92064



Aaron Kheriaty, MD



Meet Keynote Speaker, Aaron Kheriaty, MD

Dr. Kheriaty is a UC Irvine Health psychiatrist who specializes in adult psychiatry services. His clinical interests include general adult psychiatry, medical ethics and psychiatry and spirituality. Copies of Dr. Kheriaty's book, "The Catholic Guide to Depression," will be available for sale.

Registration for this free workshop is required as seating is limited.

Register at:
SocialMinistrySanDiego.com

The registration deadline is Wednesday, September 14.

Conference Program

- Keynote Speaker Dr. Aaron Kheriaty
- Emcee: Deacon Jim Walsh, Associate Director of the Office for Social Ministry
- Panel presentation with mental health ministry network parish leaders
- Panel presentation with individuals with specific mental health challenges
- Closing remarks by Fr. John Dolan, Pastor of St. Michael Parish in Poway
- Book signing with Dr. Kheriaty

Register at: SocialMinistrySanDiego.com

Who should attend this free event?

- Those from outside the Diocese of San Diego are welcome
- Parish mental health ministry leaders and members
- Families and individuals experiencing mental health challenges
- Those who care for family members with challenges
- Priests, Deacons, and parish staff
- National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) members
- Mental health professionals
- Anyone interested in mental health ministry

Advancing the Network...

To date, 20 parishes belong to the San Diego Diocesan Mental Health Ministry Network. This workshop has been designed to both enrich the ministries in member parishes and provide an opportunity for those in non-network member parishes to learn more about the ministry and consider offering their experience, talents, and passion around the issue of mental health in the service of their own parishes. Join us for a half-day of developing "Faith in Healing."

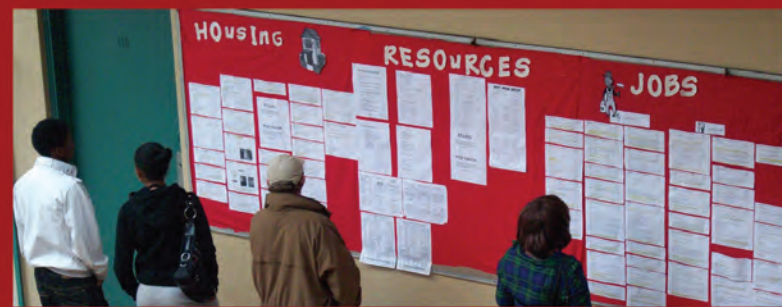


Todas las presentaciones de la conferencia serán traducidas simultáneamente al español.

For questions or more information, contact
Maria Valencia at 858-490-8323
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Dios llama a Un Legendario Defensor

‘El Padre Henry’ sirvió distintas comunidades durante 30 años

Por Aída Bustos

El Padre Henry Rodríguez se apresuró al Hospital Scripps Mercy la noche del 28 de julio sabiendo que un oficial de la policía había sido herido en el cumplimiento del deber.

El sacerdote era el capellán para el departamento de policía y era su papel acompañar a oficiales y sus familias enfrentando una crisis.

El Oficial Jonathan De Guzmán murió de sus heridas. El Padre Rodríguez a su vez se enfocó en sus compañeros de trabajo, apoyándolos toda la noche en el hospital, dijo el sargento de policía Edward Zwibel.

“Lo hizo por nosotros sacrificando su propia salud”, dijo el sargento. El Padre le dijo que sufría una gripa y todo lo que necesitaba era descanso.

Ahora se sabe que su condición era mucho más grave. Su familia lo llevó al hospital cinco días después, el 3 de agosto, y falleció el siguiente día de pulmonía. Tenía de 61 años.

La noticia estremeció a la región. Por años, él había sido uno de los más reconocidos líderes de la Iglesia Católica, caminando las calles en defensa de los marginados, exigiendo soluciones para mejorar sus vidas.

A medida que se corrió la vez de su muerte la gente que lo conocía empezó a compartir anécdotas personales de él y una foto en redes sociales.

“Era el hombre más bondadoso, con la paciencia de un santo. Podías ver que amaba la Iglesia y amaba trabajar por la gente. Realmente todos los vamos a echar



EN APOYO: En uno de sus últimos actos públicos, el Padre Henry Rodríguez acompañó al Obispo Robert McElroy en un servicio conmemorativo en julio para las víctimas de la balacera en Orlando.

de menos”, escribió una persona en Facebook.

Henry Rodriguez Jr., nació en National City y se crió en la vecindad popular de Southcrest, donde viven residentes afro-americanos y latinos. La familia iba a la

Misa dominical en la parroquia San Judas de Tadeo, donde sirvió como monagillo.

Después de servir como voluntario en el Hospital Sharp él decidió dedicar su vida al servicio de otros, según sus amigos.

Fue ordenado para la Diócesis de San

Diego el 12 de julio de 1986. “El Padre Henry,” como llegó a ser conocido, sirvió como pastor asociado en la parroquia Santa Rosa de Lima de Chula Vista de 1986 a 1989. Después regresó a su parroquia de

VEA PADRE HENRY, PÁGINAS 4-5

Obispo McElroy asegura que ‘No hay hijos de un Dios menor’

Habla en Histórico Servicio de Víctimas en Orlando

El Obispo de San Diego, Robert McElroy, habló durante un servicio conmemorativo sin precedentes el pasado 9 de julio para las víctimas del tiroteo en Orlando.

El servicio realizado en la Catedral de San Juan Episcopal reunió por primera ocasión a líderes latinos, activistas de la comunidad gay, obispos de las diócesis Católica y Episcopal, y la cónsul General de México, Marcela Celorio. Todos hicieron

un llamado a rechazar el odio y la violencia hacia personas basado en su orientación de género.

Algunos jóvenes presentaron fotografías y breves biografías de cada una de las 49 personas asesinadas en Orlando, muchos de ellos homosexuales latinos.

Durante el servicio el Obispo Mc Elroy dijo:

“La Virgen de Guadalupe ocupa un papel central en la cultura y la espiritualidad de los hispanos, y ahora que estamos reunidos para rendir luto a hombres y mujeres latinos quienes perdieron su vida debido a la crueldad, el odio y la violencia en Orlando, es particu-

larmente apropiado que apuntemos hacia la imagen de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, Madre del Señor, símbolo en tantos niveles de la tristeza de esta noche.

“En la tradición católica, María, como Madre de Jesús, vivió siete penas profundas, comenzando cuando tuvo que huir de su hogar con su esposo y su hijo como refugiados, y terminando con el sufrimiento de ver cómo su hijo era torturado, crucificado y enterrado.

“No tengo la menor duda de que durante las últimas cuatro semanas nuestra Virgen de

VEA OBISPO, PÁGINA 7



HOMENAJE: El Obispo de San Diego Robert McElroy habló el pasado 9 de julio en la Catedral de San Juan Episcopal en un histórico servicio conmemorativo organizado por la comunidad latina para las víctimas del tiroteo de Orlando.

El Sufrimiento Que Sentimos es una Oportunidad de Crecer



Por Padre Bernardo Lara

El último viernes de julio pasado, aproveché que era mi último día de vacaciones y tuve la bendición de ir a Tijuana a ver el juego de Xolos vs. Chivas. Aunque crecí en Tijuana, mi fidelidad por "el Rebaño Sagrado" ha sido por años, por lo que ahora me resulta difícil dejar ese amor a la camiseta para apoyar al "equipo local".

Como buen aficionado decidí irme con mi camiseta de las Chivas al Estadio Caliente. Cuando llegamos me di cuenta que estaba rodeado de aficionados de los Xolos. Si no viste el partido, te informo mi querido lector que los Xolos golearon a las Chivas por 4-0.

Usamos las virtudes de otros para crecer. Si es posible transferir sangre entonces es posible transferir sacrificios y oraciones. Es por eso que, a través del amor de Dios, el dolor se vuelve sacrificio.

Sin embargo, a pesar de que sí recibí mucha carrilla, admito que me divertí bromeando con la gente de ahí. Entre broma y broma, justo después que Xolos marcó su cuarto gol, un vecino en tono de broma me dice "¿adolorido?". Ciertamente fue algo doloroso ver el pésimo juego de las Chivas, incluso me recordaba el 7-0 de Chile contra México, pero fue un dolor sano, de broma pudiéramos decir.

Lamentablemente, la vida no siempre es así. La vida nos pone pruebas y dolores que muchas veces son agonizantes y pudiesen parecer intolerables. Tristemente hemos sido testigos de eso últimamente con el sin fin de violencia que se ve alrededor del mundo, entre ataques terroristas o peleas entre policías y civiles.

Sin embargo, el dolor nos ayuda a crecer.

El dolor nos ayuda a conocernos a nosotros, nuestras reacciones y comportamientos. El violín para que suene correctamente tiene que "sufrir" el estirar de las cuerdas.

Ahora, el sufrimiento lo podemos ofrecer como sacrificio siempre y cuando esté unido al amor de Dios. Así se vuelve de una carga a una bendición.

Espiritualmente podemos utilizar ese sufrimiento para pagar por nuestras deudas espirituales, o por las deudas de los demás. Vivimos en un mundo, tanto el físico como el espiritual, en el que crecemos y mejoramos al ayudar a otros.

Por ejemplo las frutas: muy pocos nos dedicamos a crecer las frutas que comemos. ¿Qué es lo que pasa en este mundo? Usamos los talentos de otros. Otros siembran y cosechan y así tenemos fruta. Así pasa en la vida espiritual.

Usamos las virtudes de otros para crecer. Si es posible transferir sangre entonces es posible transferir sacrificios y oraciones. Es por eso que, reitero, a través del amor de Dios, el dolor se vuelve sacrificio.

No es que andemos buscando sufrimiento, pero si en la vida se te presenta, pues hay que al menos saber cómo utilizar esa oportunidad. La vida muchas veces es como un juego de domino: no tenemos control de las fichas que nos tocan en la repartición pero sí de cómo utilizarlas en nuestro juego.

Es lógico y normal que muchas personas se pregunten por qué hay tanta maldad en el mundo.

Hay que aclarar que ningún teólogo ni ninguna filosofía de vida auténtica, podría contestar esta pregunta en su totalidad. Lo que sí hay que entender es que gran parte de la maldad del ser humano nace por la separación del hombre y de Dios. El hombre es el que decide alejarse de Dios.

Pensemos, ¿qué es la oscuridad? La ausencia de luz. ¿Qué es la maldad? La ausencia del bien y donde está Dios, es el bien. Por lo tanto, al alejarnos de Dios muchas personas abren la puerta para la maldad. Casi cualquier acto de maldad que vemos en las noticias es el comportamiento contrario a lo que Dios quiere. Si la gente se acercara más a Dios, este sería un mundo mejor.

Sin embargo, no estamos solos y los católicos no creemos en un Dios ajeno a todo esto. Dios al venir a la tierra, nos demostró que sí se puede y que Él entiende perfectamente el dolor que estamos pasando. No podemos mirar al cielo y decir, "tú no sabes lo que yo sufro", "tú no tienes idea de lo que es esto".

Él vino primero, caminó primero y nos marcó el camino que debemos seguir. Nunca podremos ya decir "¿qué hice para merecer esto?"

Esto no es campaña a favor del sufrimiento o para aceptar lo que está pasando. Solo que si se nos presenta el sufrimiento en la vida, no tiene por qué dejarnos atascados y hundirnos pues como dijo Paulo Coelho en *Brida*: Lo que ahoga a alguien no es caerse al río, sino mantenerse sumergido en él.

El padre Bernardo Lara es vicario en las parroquias en Brawley y Westmorland en el Valle Imperial.

Se puede contactar en fatherbernardolara@gmail.com.

Celebremos el Día del Abuelo

Este año el Día de los Abuelos en Estados Unidos será el domingo, 11 de septiembre. Por lo tanto, si tienes la suerte de tener un abuelo o dos - o si usted mismo es abuelo - no dejes que el día pase desapercibido. Mi sugerencia es que anotes esta fecha en el calendario ahora mismo; márcalo grande y claro como algo digno de celebración.



Padre Charles L. Fuld

Se preguntaran, ¿Y por qué tanto alboroto por el Día de los Abuelos? Por todo el amor y fe que ellos nos brindan, por la ayuda diaria en la crianza de los hijos, por su esfuerzo en mantener a la familia unida, y por su insistencia en mantenernos dentro de la Iglesia. Ellos brindan el apoyo necesario cuando los padres no se dan abasto y ellos son a los que como padre podemos decir, "Esto de la crianza de los hijos no es fácil, ¿verdad?" o "¿Cómo lograste aguantar todo esto cuando éramos niños?"

Se necesita ser padre para apreciar el trabajo de ser padres. Es hasta más tarde en la vida, cuando tenemos que hacer frente a los malos tiempos, que nos damos cuenta de lo importante que es recordar los buenos tiempos; y es sólo hasta entonces que realmente apreciamos lo importante que han sido nuestros padres en nuestras agitadas vidas. Al igual que muchas otras bendiciones que son fáciles de dar por hecho.

Un estudio reciente habla sobre la importancia de todas esas cosas, pero seguramente el abuelo o la abuela te pudieron haber dicho eso hace muchos años.

Y sí, es cierto que los abuelos tienen una forma muy peculiar de contar las mismas historias una y otra vez, pero lo maravilloso es que cada por allá los nietos piden, "Abuelo cuéntame esa historia....es mi favorita". Esas historias son apreciadas.

Pienso en todas las preguntas que nunca le hice a mis abuelos, historias que ahora han quedado en el limbo, como cómo fue que llegaron a América, cómo era la vida en aquellos tiempos, cuáles fueron los obstáculos que tuvieron que sobrepasar, qué ayuda

recibieron de otros, dónde vivieron y en qué trabajaron. En ese entonces, me preocupaba demasiado por mi mismo, pero si tuviera la oportunidad de volver a hacerlo, les haría todo tipo de preguntas, quizá hasta escribiría las respuestas en un libro de recuerdos para poder pasarlo a las próximas generaciones.

El Papa Francisco dijo: "Los niños escuchan a sus abuelos. Yo todavía valoro las palabras que mi abuela me dijo en el día de mi ordenación. En una sociedad en la que no ponemos mucha atención a los ancianos, la Iglesia debe de reconocer su contribución (a nuestra sociedad) y regalos, y ayudarles a lograr un hermoso diálogo entre generaciones".

Otra sugerencia: saca las fotos antiguas y pídele a tus abuelos que te ayuden a escribir nombres y fechas al reverso. Yo tengo algunas fotos viejas de mis abuelos y sus hermanos, pero no tengo idea de cuáles eran sus nombres, dónde vivieron y qué fue de su vida. Ese tipo de información no debe perderse.

Probablemente la celebración de este año no es tan divertida como la del año pasado cuando se fueron de pesca o a acampar. Tal vez ya han envejecido mucho y los años aventureros han quedado atrás. Pero el amor a tus abuelos seguramente no depende de eso, y eso es algo que les debemos recordar al desearles un Feliz Día del Abuelo".

El Padre Charles Fuld es el editor de The Southern Cross.

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Sierva celebra las semillitas que plantó

Madre Aurora termina seis años promoviendo vocaciones religiosas

Por **Aída Bustos**

CENTRO PASTORAL – “¿Duerme con su hábito?”, “¿Se va a casar?”, “¿Va a tener hijos?”, esas son solamente tres de las preguntas que la Madre Aurora López-Ornelas, SJS, va a extrañar.

Tras seis años como directora de la oficina de las vocaciones al sacerdocio y a la vida consagrada de la Diócesis de San Diego la hermana terminó su mandato en junio. En ese papel viajó sin descanso a través de los Condados de San Diego e Imperial, invitando a los estudiantes de las escuelas católicas y a los feligreses a considerar un compromiso de por vida y trabajar en la Iglesia.

Madre Aurora, de 48 años de edad, es miembro de las Siervas del Santísimo Sacramento, una comunidad religiosa fundada en Guadalajara, México en el año 1904 dedicada a la adoración de la Santa Eucaristía y la educación cristiana de los niños y jóvenes. La comunidad trabaja en México, en otros países de América Latina y en los Estados Unidos, donde alrededor de 55 hermanas enseñan en las escuelas de California desde Sacramento hasta la frontera.

Su nueva asignatura es ser maestra de novicias en el convento de la orden en el Valle de San Fernando, cerca de Los Ángeles, donde ayudará a desarrollar una nueva generación de mujeres religiosas.

María Oliva “Marioly” Galván, directora de Evangelización y Catequesis de la diócesis, dijo que la presencia de la Madre Aurora tuvo un gran impacto en la comunidad.

“Su presencia en distintas parroquias y escuelas tuvo mucho impacto ya que llevaba un mensaje de amor, en el que se recuerda que niños y jóvenes pueden seguir el camino para servir a Dios y cumplir su misión en el mundo a través de las vocaciones sacerdotales y religiosas”.

Entrevistada durante su último día en su oficina, la Madre Aurora se puso a reflexionar sobre su trabajo en las escuelas –“Los niños me fascinan” - y ofreció algunas ideas de despedida para sus padres.

La Madre Aurora dice que la mayoría de los estudiantes le aseguraron que “pensaban casarse y tener hijos”, algo que asegura es



muy normal.

“Fuimos criados para dar vida y para estar en unión íntima con alguien. Pero no entienden que en la vida religiosa se hace lo mismo. Por ejemplo, les platicó que Jesús es mi esposo y que tengo muchos hijos, ustedes”, comentó la madre.

“¿Por qué me levanto a las 5:30 de la mañana para hacer oración?, les preguntaba”, contó la Madre Aurora. “Porque tengo que pedir por mis hijos”.

La Madre Aurora se unió a su congregación en 1984 en el estado de Jalisco, donde se crió en la ciudad de Arandas, localizada a dos horas de Guadalajara. Después de la formación inicial fue enviada a Los Ángeles para aprender inglés y continuar sus estudios religiosos.

En los años siguientes enseñó en primarias y secundarias en Sacramento, Los Ángeles y Calexico, donde trabajó en dos ocasiones diferentes en la Academia de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe.

A pesar de tener una base en la enseñanza encontró el trabajo de promoción de las vocaciones desafiante personal e intelectualmente.

“Tenía que ser valiente y hablar a grupos muy grandes, salir de mi zona de confort”,



INNOVADORA: El equipo de la parroquia Resurrección de Escondido ganó el primer lugar el 18 de enero en la categoría de jóvenes adultos en un torneo de fútbol en la preparatoria Mater Dei organizada por la Madre Aurora, quien los acompaña, además del Padre Pedro Rivera. En otro evento, la Madre Aurora acompañó a las hermanas Bernadette y Lupita, de las Trinitarias de María, en un retiro en el Centro Pastoral el 23 de enero.

dijo. “He podido dar el mensaje a los diferentes grupos, desde chiquitos a grandes. No sabía que lo podía hacer”.

El puesto también ayudó a la Madre Aurora a crecer espiritualmente.

“Me ayudó mucho a fortalecer mi propia vocación, amarla y valorarla e invitar a otros a que la sigan”.

Según sus colegas, la alegría por la vida que tiene la Madre Aurora - que refleja sobre su propio compromiso religioso - era una gran herramienta para inspirar a otros a considerar la vocación religiosa por sí mismos.

Bernadeane Carr, STL, directora del Instituto Diocesano, señaló que la Madre Aurora desarrolló formas muy atractivas para promover las vocaciones.

“Ella siempre estaba buscando nuevos enfoques para ayudar a la gente a aceptar el llamado de Dios”, dijo Carr.

La Madre Aurora organizó un torneo de fútbol anual en el que seminaristas juegan

contra adolescentes y adultos jóvenes de la comunidad. El evento denominado “Even in Heaven They Play Soccer” (Incluso en el Cielo se juega el fútbol), llevado a cabo en Mater Dei y Cathedral High School, llegó a contar con hasta 500 participantes por año. “Era un día de deporte muy divertido”, comentó la Madre Aurora. “Y rezábamos el Rosario en medio de los juegos y platicábamos de las vocaciones”.

La música fue otra vía por la que intentó hablar a los jóvenes sobre vocaciones.

La madre organizó “Java con Jesús”, donde sacerdotes tocaban música en vivo. Los jóvenes podían tomar café y comer galletas mientras escuchaban historias sobre la vida vocacional en medio de los números musicales.

¿Que salió de todas esas charlas que dio en contextos formales e informales?

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► **PADRE HENRY**

CONTINUACIÓN DE PÁGINA 1

‘Fue un líder espiritual
quien tomaba las calles
con su congregación’

San Judas, fungiendo primero como pastor asociado de 1989 a 1997 trabajando al lado del Padre Ned Brockhaus, luego tomó las riendas como el pastor hasta diciembre de 2005.

Posteriormente, él sirvió como suplente en las parroquias de la diócesis, particularmente en las que tenían congregaciones hispanas. También sirvió como capellán para Hospicio de San Diego y el Hospital Scripps Mercy.

El primero de julio, justo un mes antes de su muerte, el Padre Henry había comenzado una nueva asignatura: servir como el pastor de la parroquia San Juan el Evangelista en la vecindad de Hillcrest.

El Rev. John Dolan, encargado de los padres de la diócesis, habló en la Vigilia para el Padre en San Judas.

“Es difícil imaginar la pérdida del tremendo sacerdote quien sirvió a las almas de tantos fieles católicos, y a los corazones de miles en la ancha comunidad de San Diego.

“El Padre Henry echó su red – la red del Evangelio – para incluir a la gente de esta parroquia, los hombres y mujeres en la fuerza policíaca, los enfermos y moribundos en el hospital y hospicio, inmigrantes, miembros de la comunidad lesbiana y gay, y muchos más.

“El fue un tesoro para nuestra Iglesia y para nuestra comunidad extensa. Se le extrañará mucho”.

En los días después de la muerte del padre, el Reverendo Dolan contó que fue precisamente en la iglesia de San Judas donde el Padre Henry empezó a trabajar con el Departamento de Policía de San Diego. Las múltiples licorerías en la vecindad eran un magneto para el narcotráfico, generando aún más delincuencia.

El Padre Henry reunió a oficiales de la policía con miembros de su congregación para enfrentar el problema, comenzando una relación amistosa con las autoridades que él alimentaría el resto de su vida a favor de la comunidad.

Es durante ese tiempo que el padre comenzó a servir a la policía en un nivel personal. Se convirtió el capellán católico del departamento, un puesto voluntario que mantendría el resto de su vida.

El sargento Zwibel conoció al padre por más de 25 años. De hecho, él celebró su Misa de boda y mantuvieron una amistad estrecha. Él aseguró que el padre tenía el don de poder hablar con la gente de poder – sea jefes de policía, alcaldes y otros políticos – comprometiéndolos a ayudar a la comunidad.

El Padre Henry se convirtió en líder del San Diego Organizing Project, una coalición interreligiosa que trabaja para empoderar a los residentes para que resuelvan problemas de la comunidad. Además de atender las exigencias de la parroquia, el padre organizó juntas, asistió audiencias públicas y lideró marchas para provocar el



cambio.

“Fue un luchador social, quien tomaba las calles con su congregación cuando era necesario y daba esperanza desde el púlpito cuando era urgente hacerlo. Fue un hombre quien vivió su fe, dentro y fuera de la iglesia”, dijo Christian Ramírez, el director de Derechos Humanos para la organización Alliance San Diego.

Muchos de sus parroquianos eran inmigrantes latinos, y el Padre Henry luchó por ellos.

“Pocas eran las voces que denunciaban las políticas de control migratorio y fronterizo, durante muchos años. La comunidad migrante vio en el Padre Henry a un líder espiritual y comunitario, quien tenía la entereza para denunciar los abusos del poder del gobierno y la convicción de acompañar las luchas de las comunidades por reformar las políticas migratorias”, dijo Ramírez.

Dijo que siempre recordaría las celebraciones eucarísticas que se realizaban al pie del muro fronterizo con el padre.

“En un tiempo donde los muros, el racismo y la xenofobia dividen a nuestra comunidad, el padre Henry hizo de su fé en instrumento de justicia y con sus actos nos instó a no permitir que los muros nos dividan para siempre.”

Yolanda Minton experimentó el liderazgo del Padre Henry en forma personal. Él encabezó un comité en San Judas que la seleccionó como directora de la escuela ahí en septiembre del 1999. El comité incluía parroquianos y maestros que nunca habían tenido una voz en el proceso.

“El les dio poder a la gente”, ella aseguró. “Es lo que hacía”.

El Padre Henry luchó por años para mantener la escuela abierta y les dio un lugar a mucho estudiantes de bajos recursos a pesar que sus familias no podían costear la colegiatura, ella dijo. La directora permaneció 11 años en la escuela hasta que cerró sus puertas, víctima de presiones económicas.

Una de sus más gratas memorias del Padre Henry no fue en la escuela, sin embargo. Él corría maratones e inspiró a ella y su esposo a hacerse voluntarios en el Rock ‘N Roll Marathon por varios años para apoyar a los corredores.

“Era magnífico ver al Padre Henry correr. Le daba tanta alegría participar”, asguró,

comenzando a llorar.

Ramírez habló del reto que dejaba el Padre Henry.

“La única manera de honrar su legado es comprometernos a acompañar a las familias migrantes, a los refugiados, a las familias trabajadoras y de elevar nuestra voz cuando haya actos de injusticia.

“El Padre Henry nos instó a no perder la esperanza, en estos tiempos difíciles, cuando las flamas del racismo vuelven a aparecer, ahora más que nunca tenemos que preservar nuestra convicción, como lo hizo siempre el Padre Henry, de que otro mundo más justo y más humano es posible.”

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SERVIDOR PARA TODOS: En las fotos superiores, cientos de personas esperaron más de una hora para presentar sus respetos al Padre Henry Rodríguez en la vigilia de su misa funeral el 10 de agosto en la parroquia San Judas de Tadeo. En las imágenes del centro, el padre participó en la dedicación de un jardín en la parroquia Monte Carmelo de San Ysidro a los inmigrantes que habían perecido en el cruce fronterizo. Inmediatamente arriba, Yolanda Minton revisa un anuario de la escuela en San Judas donde ella sirvió por 11 años al lado del padre. El sacerdote siempre participaba en festivales comunitarios. Aquí se ve con el Alcalde de San Diego Kevin Faulconer y el Padre Gerardo Fernández, y en la otra imagen se ve con Ignacio de la Torre.

Divino Niño Jesús llega a San Diego

Instalan ícono de devoción en una parroquia en La Jolla

Por Aída Bustos

LA JOLLA – Nuestros tiempos requieren de una extraordinaria devoción.

Un grupo de parroquianos de la Iglesia Católica Mary, Star of the Sea se dedicaron a proveer esa devoción para todos los creyentes de la región.

Organizaron una campaña para traer a la parroquia una réplica oficial de la estatua del Divino Niño Jesús de Praga, la cuál se cree que trae bendiciones y sanaciones milagrosas a quienes piden frente a ella.

Sus esfuerzos culminaron en una Misa bilingüe de entronización el 16 de julio, dirigida por el Obispo Robert McElroy y asistido por el párroco de la iglesia, Padre Jim Rafferty, y el Padre Joe Tabigue, CRSP, de Nuestra Señora del Rosario.

“Nuestra cultura necesita esto en estos momentos”, dijo Marie Hemming, quien dirigió los esfuerzos para traer este ícono a la parroquia. “Tenemos a muchas personas que están heridas, no solo físicamente, sino psicológica, emocional y espiritualmente”.

El origen de la Estatua del Divino Niño data de Europa en la Edad Media. Se cree que en algún momento estuvo en manos de Santa Teresa de Ávila. A principios del siglo 17, la estatua fue otorgada a los frailes de las Carmelitas Descalzas y fue colocada en el monasterio de Nuestra Señora de la Victoria en Praga, donde diariamente se llevaban a cabo devociones especiales al Niño Jesús.

La estatua fue dañada cuando el monasterio fue saqueado durante un periodo de guerra y se perdió durante siete años. Según las escrituras de esos tiempos, los sacerdotes que lo encontraron escucharon una voz que decía “entre más me honres, más te bendeciré”.

La estatua ha sido restaurada y colocada en la Iglesia de Nuestra Señora de la Victoria desde 1741, atrayendo a devotas de todo el mundo desde entonces.

Una de ellas es Susan Hauck, quien vive en Vancouver, Canadá, y quien se ha dedicado durante 18 años a llevar réplicas oficiales de la estatua a iglesias alrededor del mundo. Ella donó la estatua a Mary, Star of the Sea y se encontraba a la mano durante la Misa de entronización.

“Soy devota a Él porque todas mis oraciones fueron respondidas cuando estaba más joven”, comentó después de la Misa mientras distribuía tarjetas de oración a quienes buscaban acercarse a la estatua.

“Le dije al Divino Niño Jesús de Praga, ‘seré tu misionera’”.



PRESENTACION: *Los devotos al Divino Niño Jesús de Praga oran ante su estatua después de la Misa de entronización el 16 de julio en la parroquia Mary, Star of the Sea de La Jolla. Sus seguidores creen que trae bendiciones y sanaciones milagrosas a quienes piden frente a ella. Susan Hauck, izquierda, ha dedicado 18 años a llevar réplicas oficiales a iglesias alrededor del mundo. Mostró la estatua que trajo desde Praga a la parroquia de La Jolla.*



Hauck dijo que había estado en Praga en 39 ocasiones, cada vez adquiriendo una réplica de la estatua en la Iglesia de Nuestra Señora de la Victoria para llevarla a una parroquia interesada en Latinoamérica, Estados Unidos o su natal Filipinas.

Al inicio de la Misa, el Obispo McElroy dijo a la congregación que en dos ocasiones tuvo la oportunidad de visitar la Iglesia donde está la estatua original.

“Es un gran símbolo de la unidad de la Iglesia en el mundo porque va desde Praga, donde tiene una veneración especial, hasta la nueva tierra, aquí en las Américas, y en las Filipinas”.

La estatua traída a la parroquia mide 23 pulgadas de altura, es de cerámica y tiene una corona con joyas. Su mano

derecha está levantada otorgando una bendición y la izquierda sostiene una orbe con una cruz. Para la Misa, el Niño vistió una túnica roja adornada con pedrería, una de las tantas que Hauck ha confeccionado para Él.

“Cristo fue traído al mundo como uno de nosotros, vivió, murió y resucitó”, dijo el Obispo. “Es esta imagen del Niño Jesús la que tiene tal poder alrededor del mundo entero”.

La lectura del Evangelio, Lucas 10:38-42, habla sobre la visita de Jesús con sus discípulos a la casa de Martha y su hermana María cuando iban rumbo a Jerusalén. Mientras que Martha trabajaba duro para preparar la cena, María “se sentó a los pies de Jesús a escuchar su Palabra”.

“Martha verdaderamente se molestó por esto”, recordó el Obispo, tenía que hacer todo el trabajo ella sola y entonces se quejó con Nuestro Señor.

El Obispo dijo que era fácil que todos nos sintamos como Martha, agobiados por la demanda de la vida diaria. La respuesta del Señor para ella fue “María escogió lo mejor”.

“Estamos ignorando a Jesús en nuestro medio. Aquí nos están diciendo que nos detengamos y tomemos un tiempo para ver quién es Jesús y lo sigamos”, afirmó el Obispo.

La reliquia ha sido colocada en un gabinete especial en una capilla al costado de la parroquia. La Misa lanzó oficialmente la Sociedad del Divino Niño Jesús en la iglesia. Sus miembros organizan novenas cada lunes después de la misa y el rosario de las 8 a.m.

“Esperamos que todos aquellos que necesitan sanación vengan”, comentó Hemmings, quien guía la sociedad. “Oramos por sanación y por unidad, dos cosas que ahorita se necesitan tanto”.

Para más información sobre el Divino Niño Jesús de Praga comunicarse al (858) 926-6169, o por correo electrónico holyinfantjesusop@gmail.com y en Facebook en societyoftheholyinfantjesusofpraguelajolla.

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► MADRE AURORA

CONTINUACIÓN DE PÁGINA 3

Los padres tienen un papel importante en promover las vocaciones

Madre Aurora aseguró que nunca ha medido su trabajo en los números, de ser así “me hubiera decepcionado hace mucho tiempo”.

Citó una parábola bíblica de un sembrador que arroja sus semillas a lo largo de un camino en buena tierra y en las rocas para ver lo que se arraiga.

“A quién podía les hablaba de vocaciones porque sabía que esa semillita

iba a crecer tarde o temprano”.

Sin embargo, sí conoce de varias mujeres jóvenes que habían asistido a retiros que organizó con la diócesis y que habían decidido unirse a las órdenes religiosas, como las Hermanas Carmelitas del Sagrado Corazón de Los Ángeles, las Trinitarias y la suya.

Por ahora no se ha encontrado reemplazo para su posición. El Padre Lauro Minimo, recién asignado a la oficina de la diócesis de las Vocaciones Sacerdotales, dijo que promoverá el sacerdocio y la vida consagrada al visitar las escuelas.

La Madre Aurora se preocupa de que muchos sacerdotes, sobrecargados con las exigencias de su posición, no tienen el tiempo para desarrollar

un interés en las vocaciones entre sus feligreses.

Señaló que ahí es donde los padres pueden desempeñar un papel crucial en la promoción de las vocaciones como una opción para sus hijos, y aseguró que su madre siempre la animó a considerar una vida religiosa.

“Que los papás sean generosos y cuando sus hijos les digan que quieren estar en la vida religiosa o el sacerdocio, que los dejen”, dice.

Galván considera un privilegio haber trabajado con la Madre Aurora.

“Ante todo, la Hermana permitió ser un instrumento de Dios y sin lugar a duda ha dejado huella para futuras vocaciones en la Diócesis de San Diego”.

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► OBISPO

CONTINUACIÓN DE PÁGINA 1

‘Esta terrible etapa nos exige a que nos veamos una al otro como Dios nos ve’

Guadalupe ha llorado por todos nosotros como personas, mientras que nuestra nación vive siete grandes penas que golpean nuestra paz, nuestra seguridad, nuestra identidad y nuestra unidad.

- “La pena de 49 hombres y mujeres, llenos de gracia, talento y esperanza, seleccionados y asesinados en Orlando por un despreciable prejuicio en contra de su orientación sexual.
- “La pena de sus amigos y familiares, quienes despertaron a una dolorosa e imaginable pérdida que los perseguirá durante el resto de sus vidas.
- “La pena de pistolas y violencia que continuamente apuntan a nuestra inhabilidad nacional de erradicar las brutales convulsiones que rompen con el sentido de seguridad de nuestra nación.
- “La pena de la comunidad musulmana quien una vez más es atacada no por sus creencias religiosas, sino por la distorsión de esas creencias para las ventajas políticas que esa distorsión pueda traer.

- “La pena de jóvenes afroamericanos y sus familias que deben de vivir en un mundo donde el prejuicio racial termina con las vidas incluso de quienes siguen cada regla.
- “La pena de policías que son asesinados porque son blancos o porque visiten de azul, y el terrible daño ocasionado a las familias de quienes dedicaron sus vidas a hacer cumplir las leyes en nuestro país.

Apoyo a Familia de Oficial Caído



BONITA – El personal de Corpus Christi trabajó arduamente para apoyar a la familia del Oficial de la Policía de San Diego, Jonathan De Guzmán, quien falleció en el cumplimiento del deber. La Iglesia mantuvo dos días de velación, 2 y 3 de agosto; y una misa de funeral el 4 de agosto, a la cual acudieron más de mil personas. El personal de la parroquia hizo todo lo necesario para satisfacer los diversos requerimientos de la Asociación de Oficiales de la Policía de San Diego, así como de la familia del Oficial, quienes pidieron privacidad. El Padre Efraín Bautista respondió a las preguntas de los medios que se reunían en la parroquia a todas horas mientras que el personal de Corpus Christi y voluntarios de los Caballeros de Colón asistieron a los cientos de oficiales de policía que acudieron a la iglesia, al igual que amigos y familia del oficial De Guzmán. El personal de la parroquia incluyó Don Beckman, Margaret McLaughlin, Jim Hardy, Glenda O'Grady, Gabe Arias, Suzanne Auditor, Ashley Cueva y Peter Luciano

- “La pena de reconocer que estos eventos no fueron casualidad, sino que constituyen una profunda crisis en el alma de nuestra nación que nos lleva a elegir entre nuestra unidad y nuestros prejuicios, nuestros odios y nuestra paz.
- “Esta terrible etapa nos exige a que nos veamos uno al otro como Dios nos ve. No hay hijos de un Dios menor y no hay hijos menores del mismo Dios que es el padre de todos nosotros. Nuestra incapaci-

dad de reconocer esta simple realidad es la mayor pena de todas.

“Oremos esta noche en unidad con María, madre de penas y madre de Nuestro Señor:

Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe,
Ore para que nuestro país
Pueda construir esperanza en los cimientos de roca
Que seamos capaces de ver cada vida

como preciosa e igual a la nuestra

Que podamos eliminar las barreras de odio y las terribles heridas que estas producen

Que este ciclo de violencia nos lleve a un camino de compasión y mutuo acompañamiento

Ayúdenos, Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe
Ayúdenos a todos. Amen.

The Southern Cross

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Enseñando como Orar con Dulce Jiménez

Miércoles, 31 de agosto, de 6-9 p.m.
Centro Pastoral Diocesano
Gratuito

Taller de Ambiente Seguro y Reporte de Abuso

con Rodrigo Valdivia, JCL
Martes, 13 de septiembre, de 6:30 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, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Iglesia San Judas, 1129 S. 38th St., San Diego, CA 92113
Gratuito, incluye almuerzo
Liderazgo parroquial está invitado a asistir.

Diseñando Retiros apropiados para Programas de Formación de Fe con Victor Valenzuela

Miércoles, 5 de octubre, de 6:30-9 p.m.
Centro Pastoral Diocesano
Gratuito

Cursos Básicos de Formación para Ministros Parroquiales

El próximo curso será ofrecido en la siguiente iglesia:

- Cristo Rey, San Diego, comienza el 16 de agosto

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

INSTITUTO DIOCESANO

S710s La Eucaristía y el Domingo (15 hrs)

Dcno. Ricardo Elizondo, M.A.
los sábados, 27 agosto – 1 octubre 2016
(no habrá clase el 3 septiembre)
9 am – 12:30 pm para sesiones 1 a 3;
10:15 am – 12:30 pm para sesiones 4 y 5
St. Stephen, Valley Center

S250s Intro al Concilio Vaticano II (15 hrs)

Vicente Leal, M.A.
los miércoles, 31 agosto – 5 octubre
6:15 – 8:45 pm
St. Mary, Escondido

G130s Cristología (30 hrs)

Enedina Saucedo, D. Min.
los miércoles, 7 septiembre – 30 noviembre
(no habrá clase el 23 noviembre)

6:30 – 9 pm
St. James, Solana Beach

C220s Intro al Nuevo Testamento (30 hrs)

Vicente Leal, M.A.
los jueves, 8 septiembre – 1 diciembre
(no habrá clase el 24 noviembre)
6 – 8:30 pm
Our Lady of Guadalupe, San Diego

C220s Intro al Nuevo Testamento (30 hrs)

Enedina Saucedo, D.Min.
los viernes, 9 septiembre – 2 diciembre
(no habrá clase el 25 noviembre)
6:15 – 8:45 pm
St. Mary, Escondido

G130s Cristología (30 hrs)

Ernesto Amezcua, M.A.
los lunes, 12 septiembre – 14 noviembre
6:30 – 9:30 pm
St. Francis of Assisi, Vista

G200s Pastoral con Diversas Culturas (15 hrs)

Ricardo Marquez, Ph.D.
los lunes, 12 septiembre – 17 octubre
6:30 – 9 pm
Our Lady of Angels, San Diego

S200s Sacramentos de Iniciación (15 hrs)

Enedina Saucedo, D. Min.
los lunes, 12 septiembre – 17 octubre

6:30 – 9 pm
St. Mary Star of the Sea School, Oceanside

S250s Intro al Concilio Vaticano II (15 hrs)

Roberto Rojas, M.A.
los jueves, 29 septiembre – 10 noviembre
(no habrá clase el 20 octubre)
6:30 – 9 pm
St. Joseph Cathedral, San Diego

Cursos en línea:

C120s Iglesia Local (15 hrs)
C130s Iglesia Primitiva (15 hrs)
S827s Signos y Símbolos Cristianos (15 hrs)

Colegiatura (costo de textos es aparte):

15 horas: \$35 Oyentes \$55 Crédito/Desarrollo Ministerial
Grupos 4+ (por persona): \$45 Crédito/DM

30 Horas \$50 Oyentes \$75 Crédito/Desarrollo Ministerial

Grupos 4+ (por persona): \$60 Crédito/DM

Inscripción:

En línea: www.sdccatholic.org/sddiregister

Teléfono: 858-490-8212

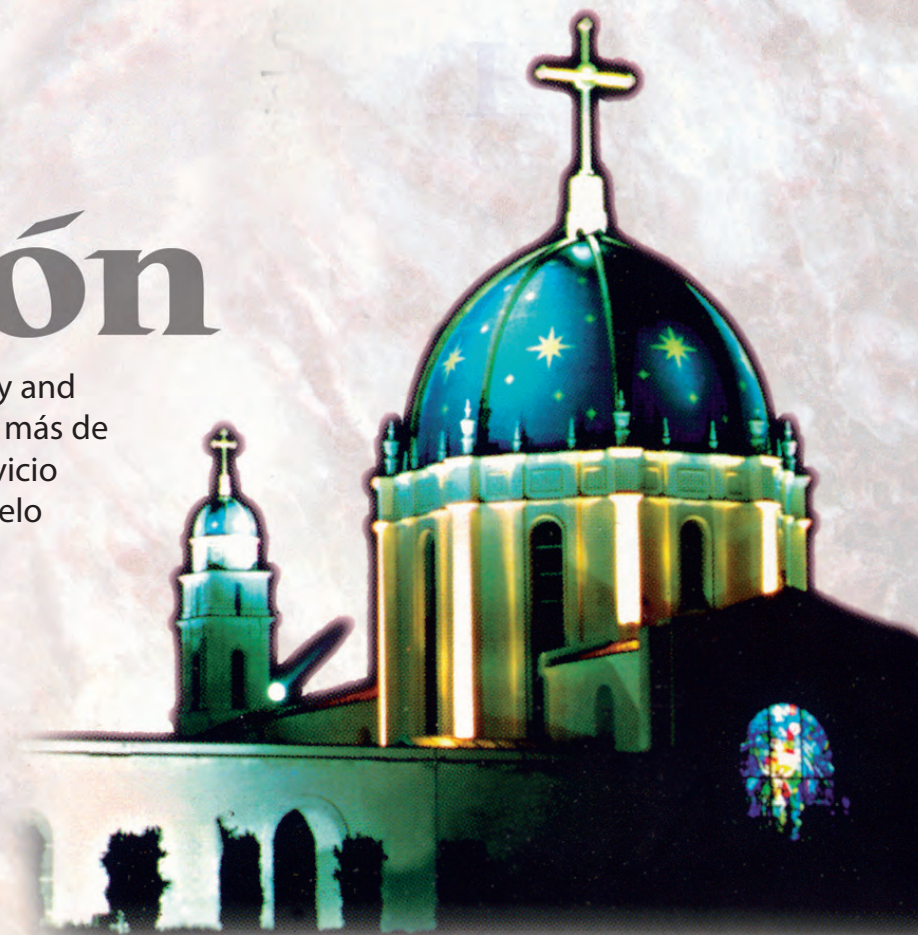
Correo Electrónico: danderson@sdccatholic.org

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