

BISHOPS JOIN POPE *in worldwide prayer for* UKRAINE AND RUSSIA



SPRINGFIELD MASS OF CONSECRATION—Fr. Patrick Nwokoye, Bishop Emeritus John Leibrecht, and Fr. Scott Sunnenberg posed for a photo Fri., March 25, the Solemnity of the Annunciation of Our Lord celebrated by Bp. Leibrecht in St. Agnes Cathedral, Springfield. The bishop was joined by many area clergy, religious, and faithful that joined the Holy Father and the bishops of the world in consecrating Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

(The Mirror)



UNITING IN PRAYER—With an estimated 575 in attendance, many area clergy, including Fr. Thomaz Wilk and Fr. Mitchell Wilk, joined Bp. Edward M. Rice in the liturgy on March 25, the Solemnity of the Annunciation of Our Lord, during which Russia and Ukraine were consecrated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. (The Mirror)

Washington

Bishops in the US took part in Pope Francis' invitation to join him in a moment of prayer, consecrating Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary March 25, entrusting the people of both countries to the care and protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Bishop Edward M. Rice celebrated Mass in Notre Dame Regional High School, Cape Girardeau, while Bp. Emeritus John J. Leibrecht celebrated Mass in St. Agnes Cathedral, Springfield. Both liturgies were school Masses with students participating with the music, readings, and prayer petitions.

"Friends, we are all deeply disturbed by the war in Ukraine, and the unconscionable attacks on innocent men, women, and children in their homes and neighborhoods," said Los Angeles Abp. José H. Gomez, president of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops, in a video message.

"In this time when our world is weighed down under the shadow of war, I invite you to enter into this solemn moment of prayer with the Holy Father," the archbishop said.

"Together with him, let us ask our Blessed Mother to turn her eyes of mercy toward all her children. Let us ask her to intercede with her son, to deliver her children from evil and grant us peace."

Father John Broussard, of the Fathers of Mercy and rector of the National Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help in Wisconsin, explained what consecration means in a March 18 statement.

"To consecrate something is the act of setting it apart for our Lord and, furthermore, to consecrate it to our Blessed Mother is to deliberately put that intention into her hands," he said.

Apostolic Nuncio conveys request

On Thu., March 17, Abp. Jose H. Gomez received an urgent missive from His Excellency, Christophe Pierre, Apostolic Nuncio to the US, informing the US Bishops that His Holiness, Pope Francis, would consecrate Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary on the Solemnity of the Annunciation, Fri., March 25. In that same missive, His Holiness invited, "Each Bishop...together with his priests, to

join in this act of consecration...at an hour corresponding to 5 p.m. Rome time."

Uniting the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau with the Holy Father and bishops worldwide, The Act of Consecration of Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary took place on March 25, the Solemnity of the Annunciation of Our Lord. The Prayer of Consecration was prayed following the prayer after Communion.

***Bishop Emeritus John Leibrecht celebrated Mass at 10 a.m. with a packed congregation on Fri., March 25, in St. Agnes Cathedral, Springfield.** The liturgy was Live-streamed.

***Bishop Edward Rice celebrated Mass at 10:15 a.m. on Fri., March 25, with an estimated 575 in Notre Dame Regional High School, Cape Girardeau.** This liturgy was Livestreamed to the school's Facebook page as well as the Facebook page for the Diocese: @DioceseofSpringfieldCapeGirardeau.

"Let us continue to pray, to the intercession of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, for peace throughout the world," said Bp. Edward M. Rice. ©CNS ©TM

SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION CONSECRATION OF RUSSIA AND UKRAINE TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

MARCH 25, 2022 — THE MOST REV. EDWARD RICE
Notre Dame Regional High School, Cape Girardeau, MO

On May 13, 1917, the Blessed Mother appeared to three children in Fatima, Portugal. Two of the children died young but one of the children lived on into adulthood, Sister Lucia, who died at the age of 97 in 2005. Prior to the Blessed mother's visit, an Angel appeared to them three times: In his first visit, the angel told the children, "Fear not. I am the angel of peace. Pray with me." And then he taught them the following prayer: "My God, I believe, I adore, I trust, and I love Thee. I ask pardon for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not trust, and do not love Thee." I typically pray that prayer each time I visit the Blessed Sacrament.

On the next visit, the angel told them, "Pray a great deal...Offer up prayers and sacrifices to the Most High." And when Lucia asked how to offer sacrifices, the angel said, "Make everything you do a sacrifice and offer it as an act of reparation for the sins by which God is offended, for the conversion of sinners. Bring peace to your country in this way."

On the third visit, some six months before the Blessed Mother appeared, the angel taught the children to offer themselves with Jesus to the Father in the Holy Eucharist, something we are invited to do at every Mass! When the priest says, "The Lord be with you - and

ANNUNCIATION // Continued pg. 10



The next issue of **The Mirror** will be **April 15, 2022**. Sign up to receive the diocesan newspaper via Email in digital format: Contact Debbie Thompson at (417) 866-0841, or Email: dthompson@dioscg.org.





COME, AND
YOU WILL SEE
Bp. Edward M. Rice

Immerse yourself in all that is holy during Holy Week

“I have risen, and I am with you still. The Lord is truly risen, to Him be glory and power for all the ages of eternity.”

That is the antiphon from the Mass during the day for the Sunday of the resurrection. On Easter morning, the Gospel, according to John, will speak of “the stone removed from the tomb,” the details of the burial cloths, the disciples running to the tomb, and the one who had arrived at the tomb first, who went in... “he saw and believed.”

Of course, a lot has to happen before we get to that point. We must walk with Our Lord through the beautiful liturgies of Holy Week. I’m always struck by the first Gospel of Palm Sunday. As Jesus enters the city of Jerusalem, the crowds will cry out, “Hosanna to the Son of David; Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.” And I am struck by how fickle the human heart can be because within a couple of days, those same people will cry out “Let Him be crucified.” It is a great study of the human heart! Let us be there and own our personal infidelity!

CHRISM MASS

In an article from *Extension Magazine*, there is an interview with a seminarian from a Diocese in Puerto Rico. In his pastoral training, the young man came to understand that “A priest without his people is not a priest.” That is a beautiful insight as we celebrate the Chrism Masses. All the priests of the Diocese of Springfield – Cape Girardeau, in St. Mary Cathedral, in Cape Girardeau, On Mon., April 11, and in St. Agnes Cathedral, Springfield, the next night, Tue., April 12, will renew their commitment to minister to the people of God. Then, we will bless the sacred oils, oil of the sick, oil of baptism, and the sacred chrism, to be used for the sacramental life of our people throughout the diocese.



Without the people, there would be no need for such oils. Without the people, there would be no sacramental life to celebrate. How true, “A priest without his people is not a priest.” I invite everyone, especially those coming into the Church this Easter, to make a point to come and celebrate in this beautiful liturgy with our priests.

SACRED TRIDUUM

Technically, Lent ends with the Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Holy Thursday, April 14 this year. At that point, we enter into the Sacred Triduum (Three Days) of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil. On Holy Thursday, we hear the words of Our Lord who gives us the new commandment, the *Mandatum*, to love one another, symbolized by the washing of feet. We celebrate the institution of the priesthood and of the Eucharist. Typically, our churches are open late for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, reserved in a temporary location. I invite everyone, especially those coming into the Church this Easter, to make a point to be with us to celebrate this beautiful moment.

Whose heart is not moved at the Good Friday service when each member gathered is invited to come up and give reverence to the Cross of Christ? I always find that to be so touching. I have the privilege from my chair to watch as one by one people come up to bow, to genuflect, to touch or to kiss the Cross of Christ. But I’m always sort of sad as well

because I know there are some people, maybe lifelong Catholics, who have never taken the time to come to that ceremony. If Holy Week is to be truly holy, we must allow these ceremonies to interrupt our daily schedule. Let us clear our calendars and make a point to participate in all that this week offers us.

And what can be said of the Easter Vigil? It is the ultimate, the apex of all of our liturgical celebrations. It is from the Easter Vigil that our

liturgical life flows. We will bless the Easter candle and proclaim that “by his glorious and holy wounds, may Christ the Lord guard and protect us ... Followed by the threefold proclamation, “The light of Christ.” We will sing the Easter proclamation and immerse ourselves in the great Scriptural stories that define our salvation history. And at the Easter vigil, we have the first proclamation of the resurrection of Christ. Here, people will be baptized and be received into the Church with the fullness of the sacraments. I invite everyone to make a point to be with us to celebrate the resurrection of Christ at the Easter Vigil!

LET THE WEEK DISRUPT YOUR LIVES

During recent gatherings with our youth in Carthage and in Cape Girardeau, I invited them to participate in these sacred days. As I’ve said many times before, just because we call the week “Holy Week,” doesn’t mean it will be. Unfortunately, it can be a week just like any other week if we ignore these beautiful rituals. I encourage everyone to allow these days to disrupt your daily lives: turn off the computer, turn off the television, and make a commitment to walk with Jesus during the Triduum. If you do, on Easter morning when you hear the Gospel of John you too will “see and believe.” In anticipation, I wish all of you a Blessed Easter Season! ©TM



For BISHOP EDWARD M. RICE

- PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 10**
8:30 a.m. Mass of the Lord’s Passion - St. Mary Cathedral
- MONDAY, APRIL 11**
7:00 p.m. Chrism Mass - St. Mary Cathedral
- TUESDAY, APRIL 12**
7:00 p.m. Chrism Mass - St. Agnes Cathedral
- HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 14**
7:00 p.m. Mass of the Lord’s Supper - St. Agnes Cathedral
- GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 15**
7:00 p.m. The Lord’s Passion - St. Agnes Cathedral
The Catholic Center Closed
- HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 16**
7:30 p.m. Easter Vigil - St. Agnes Cathedral
- EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 17**
8:00 a.m. Mass of the Lord’s Resurrection - St. Agnes Cathedral
- EASTER MONDAY, APRIL 18**
The Catholic Center Closed

*For BISHOP EMERITUS
JOHN LEIBRECHT*

- MONDAY, APRIL 11**
7:00 p.m. Chrism Mass - St. Mary Cathedral
- TUESDAY, APRIL 12**
7:00 p.m. Chrism Mass - St. Agnes Cathedral
- EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 17**
9:00 a.m. Immaculate Conception- Springfield



SR. CLARE SIA helps a woman and child in war-torn Ukraine. (The Mirror)

GoFundMe helps congregation in Ukraine help refugees

Mountain View, MO

The Daughters of St. Francis of Assisi Congregation, the sisters serving in Mercy Mountain View, MO, was originally founded in 1894, in Budapest, Hungary, with most of their communities located in Europe; including a community in Ukraine. Sr. Clare Sia has started a GoFundMe page to raise money to support the religious community in Ukraine. The Ukraine community, in addition to their sisters in Slovakia, have opened their house for refugees, mothers with children, and the elderly. But they need additional help obtaining supplies to support the refugees.

“We are a religious community of the Daughters of St. Francis of Assisi. Most of our communities are in Europe, for instance, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, Albania, and Ukraine,” said Sr. Clare Sia. “Recently, our (Ukrainian) Sisters have taken in the refugees and sheltered them in our convents.



We wanted to help our sisters to tend to their needs. However, we are unable to do so. Therefore, we humbly reach out to you for your help. Together we can help our sisters in taking care of these brothers and sisters from Ukraine.”

“We are working to support our sisters in Kyiv, (Ukraine), Cracow (Poland), and Slovakia to provide hygiene items, water, carrying cases, and medications to those impacted by the war,” said Sr. Loretta Matas DSF, superior of the congregation’s American Region. “We are all working together, sisters, brothers, and priests in these areas. With the invasion of Russia and the war, our sisters in Ukraine are without any source of income. They have remained in Ukraine to help those in need, especially women, children, and the elderly.”

“Items can be purchased if there is money available, they are shipped in by train from surrounding countries. Our Slovakian congregation has set up care packages to send to those serving refugees,” Sr. Matas said. “They are dividing items received into smaller care packages. Not everyone wants to leave their country (Ukraine) and they need supplies too.”

To make a donation, visit their GoFundMe page at: [Fundraiser by Sr-Clare Sia : Help Our Sisters in Ukraine \(gofundme.com\)](#). Donations may also be sent by check to: The Daughters of St. Francis of Assisi, Ukraine Donations, 507 N. Prairie St., Lacon, IL 61540. **For more information, you may watch their video at: <https://fb.watch/bMhu8Y0ZCM/>.** ©TM

Upcoming Lenten Penance Services

Date	Time	Parish
4/5	7:00PM	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, SPRINGFIELD
	6:30PM	ST. LAWRENCE, MONNET
	6:00PM	ST. EUSTACHIUS, PORTAGEVILLE
4/6	6:30PM	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, JACKSON
	5-7PM	ST. MICHAEL, FREDERICKTOWN
4/7	7:00PM	SACRED HEART, SPRINGFIELD
	6:30PM	HOLY TRINITY, VERONA
	6:30PM	SACRED HEART, WEBB CITY
	6:00PM	ST. FRANCIS XAVIER, SIKESTON
4/10	5:00PM	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, NEW MADRID

Weekly through Lent

TUESDAYS @ 6PM – ST. CATHERINE, PIEDMONT
WEDNESDAYS @ 6:30-7:30PM – “THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU”
CAPE GIRARDEAU: ST. JOHN NEWMAN CHAPEL SEMO,
ST. MARY CATHEDRAL, ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
FRIDAYS @ 6-7PM – ST. JOHN, LEOPOLD

CHECK WITH THE LOCAL PASTOR FOR ADDITIONAL TIMES:
GUARDIAN ANGEL, ORAN, ST. JOSEPH, ADVANCE,
ST. AMBROSE, CHAFFEE



ANOTHER WALK THROUGH: ‘WALKING TOGETHER’ by Bishop Emeritus John J. Leibrecht

Bishop John Leibrecht recently celebrated his 37th anniversary of his episcopal consecration, which was on Dec. 12, 1984. Before his retirement as the fifth Bishop of the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau, he wrote a standing column in *The Mirror* entitled, “Walking Together.” At the end of each article, Bp. Leibrecht would normally share a funny story referencing his travels to the schools, or time with friends, family, or other bishops. *The Mirror* has decided to share a few of these in an ongoing series entitled, “Another walk through: ‘Walking Together.’” We hope you enjoy them.

April 11, 1986 Last weekend I spent a very enjoyable Saturday and Sunday at Our Lady of the Lake Parish in Branson. After the last Mass on Sunday, I visited the CCD classes. One of the first graders, I was told, when asked some weeks ago what he was going to give up for Lent, responded: “My little brother!” This story about a first grader reminded me of another story which a priest classmate recently told me regarding a visit he made to the first graders in his parish. This classmate of mine has, with the advance of years, become rather rotund around the middle. A little girl inquired: “My mommy is going to make a baby, are you going to have a baby?”

May 2, 1986 When I was visiting a kindergarten recently at St. Vincent de Paul’s Parish in Cape Girardeau, a little boy joyfully exclaimed as I entered the room: “Hi, Bishop Library!”

May 9, 1986 Last weekend I had the joy of celebrating Mass with the parishioners

of St. Joseph the Worker in Ozark, Sacred Heart in Salem, Christ the King in Bunker, St. Jude at Montauk, and St. Joseph in White Church. Quite a full weekend, but a very happy one. St. Joseph in White Church is marking its 100th anniversary. A special word of congratulations to them. The people at every parish were a delight! At Bunker, a lady came up to me after Mass and said: “Bishop, every Catholic family without exception in the parish contributes to the Diocesan Development Fund. But we do even better than 100%, because I contribute too, ... and I’m Presbyterian.”

May 16, 1986 The new Activity Center at Sacred Heart Parish in Poplar Bluff has each room named for someone who is a part of the history of the parish. Monsignor Joseph Huels, a former pastor, who, in thanking the parish for naming one of the meeting rooms in his honor, said: “I am deeply grateful for this room named in my memory. I’d like to point out, however, I’m still living.”



MONK

Cistercian



A small, self-supporting community in the Ozark foothills of Missouri. Available for retreats and periods of discernment. Assumption Abbey RR 5 Box 1056, Ava, MO 65608 (417) 683-5110 www.assumptionabbey.org assumptionabbey@gmail.com



LENTEN FRIDAY FISH FRIES

Billings—The St. Joseph Men's Club **Lenten Fish Fry** will be held on Fri., April 1, 5-7 p.m. in the parish hall located at 320 NW Washington Ave. Fried fish, grilled cheese, French fries, coleslaw, vegetables, brown beans, cornbread, dessert, and a drink. Cost: \$10 for adults; \$5 for children under age 11. Dine-in and carry-out available. Entertainment will be provided. Proceeds to benefit St. Joseph Men's Club charities.

Cape Girardeau—The Knights of Columbus #1111 **Lenten Fish Fry Fridays** will be held each Friday through April 8, 4:30-7 p.m., at the KC Hall located at 318 S. Spanish. Fried fish, hush puppies, French fries, old fashioned slaw, sliced bread, and a dessert. Cost: \$13 adults, \$6 for children, ages 5-12. Dine-in or drive-thru available.

Cape Girardeau—St. Vincent Men's Association will have a **Catfish Dinner** every Friday during Lent through April 8, 5-7 p.m. Catfish, cole slaw, hush puppies, side dishes, dessert, and drink. Cost: \$13 adults, \$7 children, children age 7 and younger eat free. Carry-out is available.

Fredericktown—St. Michael the Archangel Parish will have a **Fish Fry** on Sat, April 8, 4-7 p.m., at the St. Michael Auditorium Church located at 304 W Main. Fried fish, French fries, hush puppies, coleslaw, baked beans, green beans, macaroni & cheese, and dessert. Cost: \$15 adults, \$7 for children.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AROUND THE DIOCESE



OPEN FACULTY POSITION

Notre Dame Regional High School, Cape Girardeau, seeks applicants for an open Multimedia/Communications position for the upcoming 2022-23 school year. **Interested candidates should send their resume, cover letter, and list of references to Paul Unterreiner at paulunterreiner@notredamecape.org.** Applicants should be committed individuals that can teach Journalism, Yearbook, and Video Broadcasting. Other responsibilities include coordinating and supervising Livestreams and working with Notre Dame's Webpage and social media platforms. Notre Dame is a Roman Catholic school in the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau, so preference would be given to active Catholics in good standing.



FULL-TIME TEACHING POSITION

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School in Cape Girardeau seeks a full-time 6th grade teacher for the 2022-2023 school year. Applicants should hold appropriate teaching certification. **Applications may be found at dioscg.org or by Emailing kglastetter@svcape.edu or calling the school office at (573) 334-9594.**

FULL-TIME TEACHING POSITION

St. Denis Catholic School in Benton has a full-time teaching position for 3rd/4th grade for the 2022-2023 school year. Teaching applications are available <https://stdenisbenton.eduk12.net/> under Forms & Documents. **Applications may be dropped off at school or Emailed to melinda@stdenisbenton.eduk12.net.** Write "application" in the subject line.

PRINCIPAL SOUGHT FOR NEW MADRID

Immaculate Conception Catholic School, in New Madrid, MO, seeks a Principal for the 2022-2023 academic year. **For more information, please contact Fr. Dominic Ibok, ibokaugustine@yahoo.co.uk.** Immaculate Conception School is home to 50 students, Pre-K through eighth grade.

FULL-TIME TEACHING POSITION

St. Augustine Catholic School is seeking a full-time 4th Grade Teacher for the 2022-23 school year. Applicant must be a practicing Catholic, possess an appropriate certification, and hold a Bachelor's degree. Previous teaching experience at the elementary level is preferred. **Applications are available on the school Website, www.stakelso.eduk12.net.** Applications may be submitted in person, through USPS, or Online to Mrs. Katie Hendricks, physical address: St. Augustine School, 231 S. Messmer St., Kelso, MO. Mail to PO Box 97, Kelso, MO 63758. Email to khendricks@stakelso.eduk12.net.

Gainesville—St. William Mission Church will have a **Fish Fry** on Fri., April 8, 4-6 p.m. Fish, fries, green beans, coleslaw, homemade dessert, and drink for \$10. Dine-in or carry-out.

Glennonville—The Knights of Columbus will have a **Fish Fry** every Friday through April 08, 4:30-7 p.m. Cost: \$15 adults, \$8 for children, children under age 6 eat free.

Jackson—The Knights of Columbus #6405 will have a **Lenten Fish Fry** each Friday through April 8, 4:30-7:30 p.m., in the Lower KC Hall. Fried fish, fried chicken, fries, hushpuppies, baked beans, slaw, and mac & cheese. Cost is \$13 per person. Dine-in or carry-out available. For additional information, call Dave, (573) 243-5464.

Joplin—The Knights of Columbus, Fr. Harter Council #979 will have a **Lenten Fish Fry** each Friday through April 8, 5-7 p.m., in Our Lady's Hall at St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church located at 812 Pearl St. Dine-in or carry-out available. Cost: \$10 for adults, \$5 for children, \$30 for family, and children age 4 and under eat free. Stay and attend Stations of the Cross at 7 p.m.

Marshfield—The Knights of Columbus # 10844 will have a **Fish Fry** on Fri., April 01, 5-7 p.m. at Holy Trinity Catholic Church located at 515 E Washington St. Fried or baked catfish, French fries, hush puppies, green beans, cole slaw, and a tasty dessert. Cost: \$10 adults, \$6 children ages 6-12 and under age 5 eat free. Dine in and carry out available.

Mount Vernon—The Knights of Columbus with the Parish Council of Catholic Women will have a **Drive-Thru Fish Fry** each Friday during Lent through April

8, 5-6:30 p.m., at St. Susanne Parish located at 700 W. Sloan St. Fish, Fries, baked beans, hush puppies, and dessert for \$10.

Nixa—The Knights of Columbus **Drive-Thru Fish Fry** will be held every Friday during Lent through April 8, 4:30-7 p.m., at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church located at 844 S. Gregg Rd. Fried fish, French fries, hush puppies, coleslaw, and dessert. Cost: \$12 adults, \$6 for children under age 6, \$40 for family of 4.

Ozark—The Knights of Columbus will have a **Fish Fry** every Friday during Lent through April 8, 4:30-7 p.m., in the Divine Mercy Parish Hall at St. Joseph the Worker Church. Fried cod or catfish, hush puppies, fried okra, and the Knight's famous potato chips, for \$10. Dine-in or carry-out.

Poplar Bluff—The Knights of Columbus will have a **Fish Fry** every Friday during Lent through April 8, 4-7 p.m., in the Knights Hall located at 2280 Grand Ave.

Scott City—Knights of Columbus **Lenten Fish Fries** will continue each Friday through April 8, 4:30-7 p.m. Menu includes fish, chicken, shrimp, homemade slaw, baked beans, potato wedges, mac & cheese, and hush puppies. Prices: \$13, \$7 for children, ages 10 yrs. and under; dine-in or carry-out available.

Sikeston—The Knights of Columbus will have a **Fish Fry** on Fri., April 8, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and 4-7 p.m. at the KC Hall located on E. Tanner St. Catfish and all the trimmings, including dessert. Tickets are \$15.

Springfield—St. Elizabeth Ann Seton will have a **Lenten Friday Fish Fry** every Friday during Lent through April 8, 3:30-7 p.m. Dine-in or drive-thru. Each Friday a different group sponsors the dinner.



NEW PERMANENT DEACON CANDIDATES FOR DIOCESE—On Sat., March 19, Bishop Rice greeted the new Permanent Deacon Aspirant Class for the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau. They are Kevin Haverly, of SS Peter and Paul Parish, Pulaskifield; Mike Wilson and Steve Redding, of Sacred Heart Parish, Webb City; and Howard Mohn, of Holy Trinity Parish, Marshfield. These men are engaged in the study program available in our sister Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph for five years. Deacon Dan Vaughn, of Branson and Forsyth is walking with the men throughout their study and discernment. *Please keep this group and their families in prayer.* (The Mirror)

PROJECT ANDREW DINNER

Is He Calling
You?
Matthew
4:19



Any young man interested in learning
about the priesthood is invited to join us for
a dinner with Bishop Rice

SUNDAY, MAY 1, 2022
6:00 p.m.

St. Vincent de Paul Parish

1913 Ritter Drive, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

RSVP by email to Fr. Alex Sutachan at
fatheralex@svparish.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Belleville, IL—The National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows, in collaboration with King's House Retreat Center, will offer a **Couples Retreat** entitled, "Lazarus, Come Forth: Our Path to a Better Future," Fri., April 29-Sun., May 01, at the Shrine Visitors Center and Guesthouse. Facilitating this retreat are Fr. Mark Dean, OMI, Fr. Sal Gonzalez, OMI, and Scott & Karen Seaborn. Cost is \$350 per couple, lodging & meals included. Pre-registration is required. Information and registration at <https://snows.org/couples-retreat/> or call the Shrine (618) 394-6281.

Belleville, IL—The National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows will offer a five-part **Scripture Study Series** entitled, "Religions in America," on the following Saturdays: April 2 and April 9. This program will be held at the Shrine Visitor Center; presenter is Mark Etling, PhD. Fee is \$50 for the series or \$10 for an individual session. Pre-registration is required. For information and registration, go to <https://snows.org/ministries/spiritual-programs/> or call the Shrine, (618) 394-6281.

Billings—St. Joseph Catholic Church will pray the Stations of the Cross every Friday evening during Lent at 7 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

Cape Girardeau—Skin Cancer is the most common form of cancer in the United States, affecting millions every year. Saint Francis Healthcare System will offer **free skin cancer screenings**, Sat., April 09, 8 a.m.-noon at Cape Radiation Oncology, located at Entrance 6 of Saint Francis Medical Center. An appointment is required. To schedule call (573) 331-5784.

Glennon—St. Anthony Parish will have its **Annual Spring Dinner**, Sun., May 01, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., in the parish hall. Menu includes kettle beef, dumplings, dressing, all the trimmings, dessert, and drink. Cost: \$14 adults, \$8 children, ages 6-12 and no cost for children under age 5.

Lamar—The American Red Cross is teaming up with Mayor Mike Hull to host the **2nd Lamar Mayor's Blood Drive**, Mon., April 11, at the First Baptist Church, located at 1301 E 6th St. Donors can make an appointment by downloading the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org, or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767), using Keyword LAMAR.

Lebanon—St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church, located at 345 Grand Ave. will have its annual **Rummage Sale**, Fri., June 3, 7 a.m.-3 p.m., and Sat., June 4, 7 a.m.-noon. Clothes, household items, books, toys, décor, and much more.

Marshfield—Holy Trinity Parish Council of Catholic Women will have a **Rummage Sale**, Thu., May 05, 7 a.m.-5 p.m.; Fri., May 06, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; and Sat., May 07, 8-11 a.m.

Donations of clean & working household items, jewelry, clothing, toys, outdoor items, holiday décor, antiques & furniture are appreciated and will be accepted on Mon, May 02, and Tue., May 03, at the parish hall behind church. Proceeds benefit PCCW supported charities.

Scott City—St. Joseph Catholic Church will have a **Spring Dinner** on Sun., April 10, 10:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Menu is buffet style: fried chicken, chicken & dressing, green beans, corn, slaw, dessert, and drink. Cost is \$12 adults; \$6 children, ages 5-12; and free for children under age 5. Dine in or carry-out available. The Council of Catholic Women will be selling crafts, religious articles, breads, and sweets at the Country Store and Bakery Shop.

Sikeston—St. Francis Xavier Parish will hold a **Lenten Bible Study** every Thursday during Lent, 1:30 p.m., in the St. Joseph Meeting Room located at 245 W Front St. The focus is on St. Teresa of Avila's Nine Grades of Prayer. All are invited to attend. For more information, please contact the parish office at (573) 471-2447.

Springfield—Beginning Experience will hold a **Beginning Experience Weekend**, Fri., April 29 -Sun., May 01, at Maranatha Retreat Center, Everton, MO. This Recovery Retreat is for those divorced, separated, and widowed and will be presented by a team of people who "have been there" and who are willing to share their experience to help others. Founded in the Catholic church and rooted in Christian tradition, the ministry's open, ecumenical spirit serves those of all faiths. Join us for this quiet, reflective, & spiritual weekend designed to be a time of closure on the past and renewed hope for the future. Cost is \$110 for double occupancy, \$165 for single occupancy (if available), and includes lodging & meals; scholarships and transportation is available. For information, call Diane, (417) 859-0175 or (870) 688-8829; Barb, (417) 827-3641, or Donna, (417) 529-1085.

Springfield—Knights of Columbus Council #13681 of Immaculate Parish is having a travel-related fundraiser and all proceeds will be used for funding the Knights supported charities. Tickets are available until Sun., May 08. For more information, contact Craig Henley, Grand Knight 1368knights@gmail.com or (573) 999-3930.

Springfield—Perpetual Adoration, in Holy Trinity Parish has an urgent need for Adorers on Tuesdays at 4 a.m., Fridays at 5 p.m., Saturdays at 3 p.m., and Sundays at 5 p.m. Substitutes are needed for all hours. For more information, or to sign up, please contact Marilyn Gibson at (417) 224-4043.

Parishes and organizations are invited to submit notices of future events to be printed in the announcements. They will be printed on a space-available basis. There is no fee.



The Mirror: Newspaper of the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau USPS Publication 117-330 **Publisher:** The Most Rev. Edward Rice **Editor:** Leslie A. Eidson

Circulation/Advertising: Debbie Thompson, dthompson@dioscg.org Communication Specialist: Paula Wright, pwright@dioscg.org

Published every other week at 601 S. Jefferson, Springfield, MO 65806-3143.

Address all communications to 601 S. Jefferson, Springfield, MO 65806-3107; Telephone (417) 866-0841; Email dthompson@dioscg.org

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *The Mirror*, 601 S. Jefferson, Springfield, MO 65806-3107. When giving change of address, state both old and new address, also old and new parish.

Periodicals postage paid at Springfield, MO, and additional mailing offices. Vol. LVII No. 25 April 1, 2022 Single copy price, \$0.50 Subscription: \$14 per year.

Digital subscriptions available as an option to USPS delivery with paid subscription. For more information, contact dthompson@dioscg.org.

Copyright © 2022, *The Mirror*, CNA, USCCB, The Vatican, as noted. *The Mirror* OnLine: www.dioscg.org

"Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau" @DioSCG DioSCG

How a saint became part of the tax code, — forever changing U.S. philanthropy —

This tax season, Americans have an unexpected figure to thank for one of their most-used deductions. She wasn't an accountant, a lawyer or even a politician, but an actual saint.

St. Katharine Drexel is well known for being a trailblazing figure in the early 20th century, championing the needs of Native Americans and Black Americans, but few know she may have the most lasting impact on philanthropy of any American in U.S. history.

Her unexpected role in the U.S. tax code began at the outbreak of World War I in 1913, which spurred the creation of the federal income tax.

But by 1917, the tax became a graduated one, sending Mother Katharine's tax bills skyrocketing and potentially endangering the charitable work of her religious order, the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament. The sisters are based in Bensalem, Pennsylvania.

By 1924, Mother Katharine and her influential family successfully lobbied Congress for what later became known as the "Philadelphia nun provision." Under the provision, anyone who had given 90% of their income to the charity for the previous 10 years was exempt from income taxes.

It was a distinction that described only one U.S. citizen at the time — Mother Katharine, said Seth Smith, an assistant clinical professor of history at The Catholic University of America in Washington.

Phil Brach, vice president of college relations at Belmont Abbey College in North Carolina, said the "Philadelphia nun provision" goes to the heart of what set Mother Katharine apart from her better-known philanthropic contemporaries such as John D. Rockefeller and Andrew Carnegie.

"What made her unique is the order of magnitude," said Brach, who has taught courses on philanthropy for Catholic University in Washington. "There were years where the amount she gave was almost equal to the combined amount of all the collections

and all the parishes in the entire country."

Mother Drexel's giving mostly benefited Black Catholics and Native American Catholics at a time when racial prejudice ran high and those communities struggled with crippling poverty and lack of access to quality education. Her order built schools and churches across the American South and established what is now Xavier University of Louisiana, the nation's only historically Black Catholic college.

Mother Drexel also was a staunch supporter of the Josephites throughout her life, purchasing land for the religious order to build many of their parishes and schools.

St. Katharine's family, the Drexels of Philadelphia, was one of the wealthiest families in America. An heiress to a banking fortune who chose religious life, she devoted her wealth to Blacks and Native Americans served by her religious order and to other people in need. She gave approximately \$20 million dollars over her lifetime.

Brach said few have been able to match the sheer scope of Mother Drexel's giving then or now. For example, he cited the Giving Pledge — a well-received philanthropic campaign spearheaded by billionaires Bill Gates and Warren Buffet. The Giving Pledge encourages wealthy people to donate at least 50% of their wealth to charitable causes, but that's a far cry from Mother Drexel's 90% of her wealth.

"There is a reason she's the patron saint of philanthropy," Brach told The Josephite Harvest, the magazine of the Josephites, known formally as St. Joseph's Society of the Sacred Heart.

According to "Sharing the Bread in Service: Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament 1891-1991 — Volume 1," the "Philadelphia



▲ **ST. KATHERINE DREXEL**—This likeness of St. Katharine Drexel is seen at the Katharine Drexel Shrine in Bensalem, Pa. The saint, who founded the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, helped lobby Congress in 1924 to make an federal income tax deduction for charitable giving part of the U.S. tax code. (CNS photo/The Crosiers)

nun provision" was essential to the operation of the order in the years after it became part of the law.

"The exemption was really important because the sisters were responsible for basically taking care of 15,000 dependents annually. They had over 300 employees or teachers," Smith said. "They also contributed annually over \$50,000 to support Black and Native American children in schools outside of their own."

"Frankly, the church historically has fallen short, with Black Americans to the South, but the greatest legacy of Catholic support is in those schools," Smith said.

According to "Sharing the Bread," allies of Mother Katharine urged her to seek a refund for almost \$800,000 — the equivalent of about \$13 million in today's money — that she had paid the government before the provision took effect, but Mother Katharine declined,

worried that it would exacerbate anti-Catholic prejudices at the time.

While the provision was enacted without controversy in 1924, Smith said opposition to the exemption grew in 1933 during the height of the Great Depression. Only after lobbying from influential U.S. bishops, did the provision survive the challenge.

The charitable exemption continued to support the work of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament until Mother Drexel's death in 1955.

The "Philadelphia nun provision" was eventually written out of the tax code in 1969, but Mother Katharine's influence on U.S. philanthropy can't be understated, Branch said.

"The official language may be out of the code, but in general, it is the genesis of the charitable deduction that still exists," he said. ©CNS

Ozark MAILING Service, LLC
COMPLETE LINE OF MAILING SERVICES
LASER PRINTING INSERTING
BARCODING NCOA PROCESSING
INKJET ADDRESSING METERING
(417) 866-6100 2804 N. Oak Grove Ave.
Springfield, MO 65803



A SPECIAL LENTEN DINNER & CHARITY FUNDRAISER
SALUTING THE COURAGE & DEDICATION of the JOPLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT
Especially Honoring the Bravery and Sacrifice of
Corporal Benjamin Cooper Officer Jake Reed Officer Rick Hirshey
Captain William Davis

APRIL 8
5-7 PM
ST. MARY PARISH CENTER
3035 S. CENTRAL CITY RD
JOPLIN, MO

Lenten Dinner Menu Baked Tilapia Fillet – Vegetable Stew – Cheesy Potatoes – Green Beans – Cole Slaw – Rolls and Butter – Grilled Cheese Sandwiches – Assorted Desserts Coffee, Tea and Soft Drinks
Adults - \$10 | Children - \$6 (Under 5 Free) | Families - \$25



Feeding the Hungry during Lent 2022

SAT., MARCH 5, 2022—Associate pastor Fr. Brian Straus and several Confirmation candidates packed over 200 to-go lunches for St. Peter the Apostle Outreach House in Joplin, MO. (Submitted photo)



St. Joseph celebration benefits homeless ministry

ST. JOSEPH BRUNCH & AUCTION—Surrounded by PSR students of St. Joseph Parish in Advance, MO, Fr. Glenn Eftink blessed the St. Joseph's Table in the parish hall. The parish celebrated St. Joseph's feast day on Sun., March 20, with a brunch, silent auction, and St. Joseph's Table on which parishioners placed fruits, breads, and other foods. All of the proceeds from the silent auction and foods from the table were donated to The Amen Center in Delta, MO, which houses homeless persons in the area. Over \$2,300 was raised from the silent auction with items donated from local businesses and individuals. (Submitted photo)



DRURY HOTELS

The Extras Aren't Extra!

Free Hot Breakfast • Free 5:30 Kickback*
Free Wifi • 100% Satisfaction Guaranteed

Over 140 Hotels in 21 States!

DruryHotels.com | 1-800-DRURYINN



2022 DIOCESAN DEVELOPMENT FUND

One Church, East to West

COMMUNITIES ON A

MISSION

DDF SUNDAY

MAY 1, 2022

SAVE THE DATE



2022 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

for Funding Church Ministries

WWW.DIOSCG.ORG





PLANNING TEAM—The Worldwide Marriage Encounter planning team from Kansas City included Fr. Ron Will, Richard Lorenz, Wendy Lorenz, Maggie Harris, Brad Harris, Karen Mead, and Kevin Mead. A local WME weekend was held in Carthage, MO, March 18-20. (Submitted photo)



RICHER RELATIONSHIPS—Greg and Mayela Hilton, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Springfield; Jody and Mike Stahl, Our Lady of the Lake Parish, Branson, and Lynn and Tony Melendez, Our Lady of the Lake Parish, Branson, were three of several couples that experienced the recent WME weekend held in Carthage, MO. (Submitted photo)

Worldwide Marriage Encounter held in Carthage

“Uncover the secrets to a lasting, supportive, transformational marriage!” and “Live your best life in love,” are the lines that grab your attention.

According to its Website, for more than 50 years, Worldwide Marriage Encounter has helped over 3.5 million couples in almost 100 countries unlock the power of their relationships with new ways to do the “I do.” The Marriage Encounter experience helps couples listen, share, and connect more deeply. The WME team from Kansas City helped couple-participants do just that during a local weekend held March 18-20 at the Congregation of the Mother of the

Redeemer facilities in Carthage, MO. Long-term relationships have inevitable moments of boredom, isolation, and distraction as everyday life can bear down on families. Led by three couples and a priest, the weekend provided men and women the opportunity to strengthen their relationship through dialogue and listening in order to deepen their bond for a richer, fuller, sacramental life together, providing tools to keep nurturing the love between them. With no group discussion, it was a moment away from the grind to focus on just one another. Can’t find a weekend? There are virtual formats available. **For more information, consult <https://wwme.org>.** ©TM



SUPERHEROES & MOVIE CHARACTERS—Ten of the pre-k students dressed as superheroes or movie characters. They included Tuck McClard, Brooks Curry, Leelynn Schaefer, Jameson Levan, Clara Vetter, Gibson Curry, Mae Roper, Lane Seyer, Case Taylor, and Tennyson VanGennip. (Submitted photo)



BOOK CHARACTERS—Elaina Hahn (Junie B. Jones), Dylan Levan (Jaws), and Sadler Mattingly (GI Joe) all dressed as favorite book characters, while Mrs. Sandi Hulshof was a superhero. (Submitted photo)

Beta Week & Pi Day celebrated at Guardian Angel School

Oran, MO

Beta week encompassed many fun things to do for the Guardian Angel students in Oran the week of March 14-18. The theme for the week was “We Over Me”.

Beta Club promotes the development of student leaders by striving for academic achievement, good character, leadership, and service to others.

On Monday, students and staff were encouraged to dress as a superhero or a favorite character from a movie or book. The theme was “Show Good Character.” Many students, as well as teachers, had creative outfits. It was also Pi (3.14) day, but the festivities of it were postponed until March 15. In the afternoon, the Beta members spring cleaned the playground.

Everyone at the school wore red and white, the school colors, to show their school pride on Tuesday for “Take Pride” day. The students were homework free this day and enjoyed an extra recess in the afternoon. The Pi Day celebration included students reciting from memory as many digits of pi as they could remember. The winner was Cooper Bryant, 2nd place was Ava Forehand, and

3rd place was Cora Woods. After reciting pi, everyone enjoyed eating pie. The choices were all very delicious. The events of Wednesday included twin day, crazy hair day, and playing bingo, with the theme of “Multiply Your Reach” Some students had both a twin and wore crazy hair while others chose to do only one of them. The older children helped the younger children with their bingo cards and some also gave their bingo prize choice to the younger child. On Thursday, several students sported some creative hats as well as wore green for St. Patrick’s Day, on this “Watch Us Serve Day.” The Beta members had researched and printed games from the computer that they could play with the younger grades. They were serving others by reading to the lower grades and practicing math facts or number recognition. The week ended with a field trip for the Beta members and everyone having a dress-down day. This day’s theme was “Finish the Job.” The field trip took the students to Cape Girardeau where they toured River City Biologicals, swam at the Aquatic Center, and then had lunch at Pizza Hut. ©TM

GUARDIAN ANGEL SCHOOL DAY AT THE LANES

With ice closing out Catholic Schools Week, Jan. 30 to Feb. 4, the annual bowling trip for students in Guardian Angel School in Oran, was postponed until Fri., March 11. Already a half day of school, due to the end of third quarter, bowling was held in West Park Lanes, Cape Girardeau. This trip is a favorite for the students. They get to bowl two games and buy snacks at the snack bar. ©TM



▲ **UPPER CLASSMEN (AND WOMEN)**—Guardian Angel Catholic School eighth graders Ryder Siebert, Ava Forehand, Cora Woods, Cooper Bryant, and Reid Hobbs enjoyed their last year of bowling for Catholic Schools Week with Guardian Angel School, in Oran. (*The Mirror*)

are you Truly Happy?

Discover the true happiness of being known intimately and loved unconditionally in the heart of Christ.

Join us for this special 3-night event beginning Divine Mercy Sunday.

Sunday, April 24-Tuesday, April 26
6:30-8:30 p.m. • Three-night ticket: \$25/person

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Church
2200 W. Republic Rd. • Springfield, MO

Questions? Call 417-887-6472.

Recommended for ages 12 and older.



Scan this code to purchase tickets with your smartphone.
Or, visit bit.ly/parishmissionseas

STEUBENVILLE
PARISH MISSIONS
An outreach of Franciscan University of Steubenville.



FONDO DE DESARROLLO DIOCESANO 2022

Una Iglesia, De Este A Oeste
COMUNIDADES EN UNA MISIÓN

DDF DOMINGO
1 DE MAYO DE, 2022

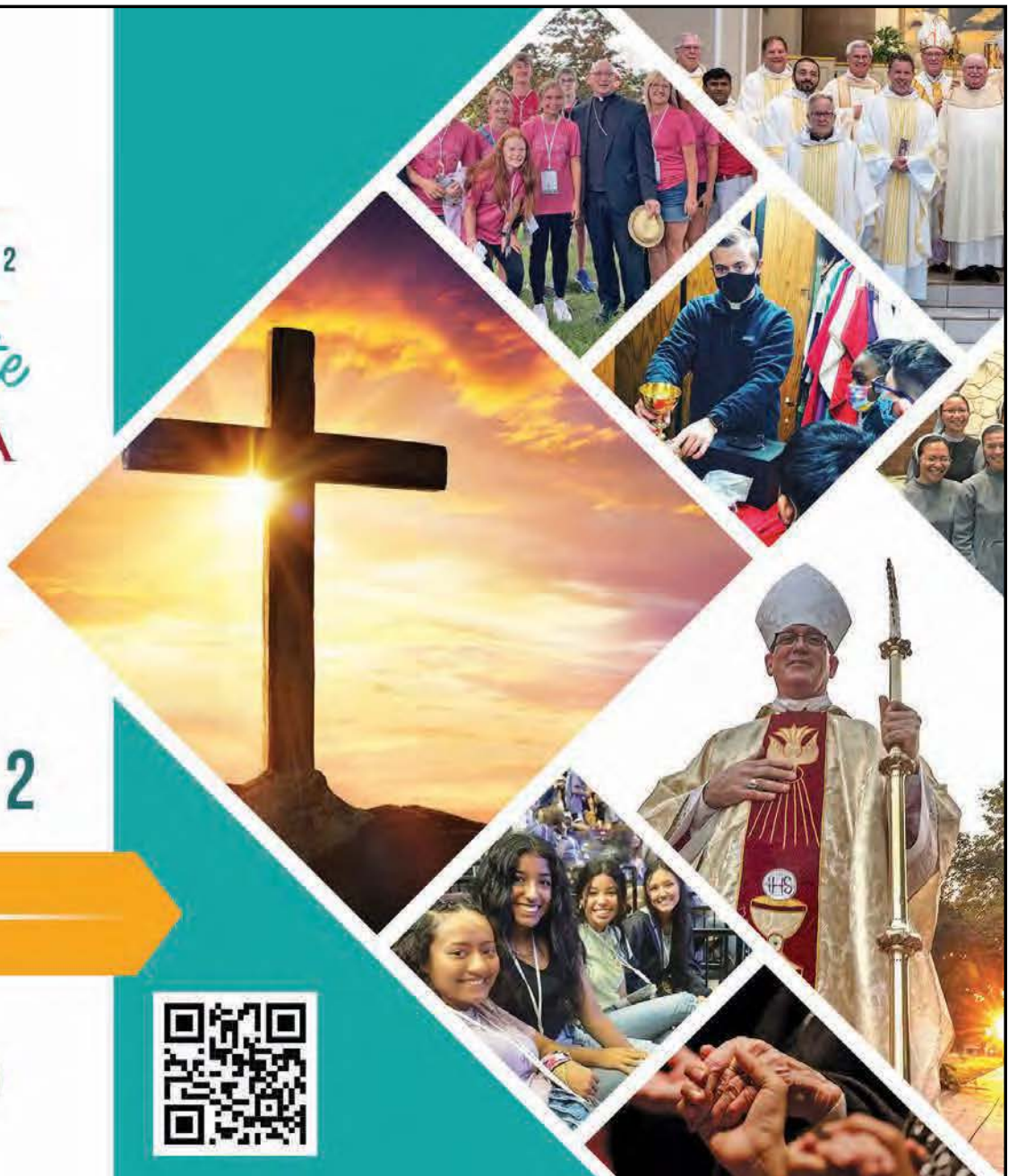
—RESERVA LA FECHA—

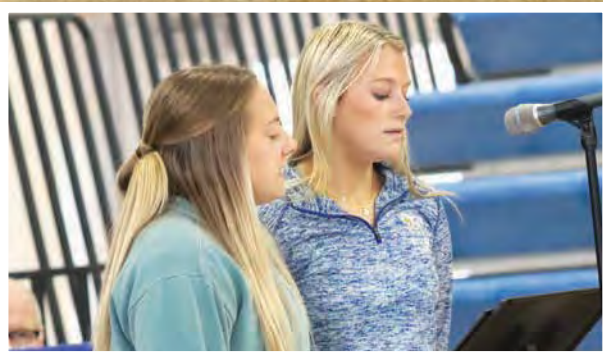
2022
OBISPO
ANUAL
FINANCIERO



para los
ministerios
de la Iglesia

WWW.DIOSCG.ORG





CANTORS—Notre Dame students Isabel Knaup and Paige Campbell were the cantors during the liturgy March 25 with Bp. Edward M. Rice. *(The Mirror)*



COMMUNION—A Notre Dame Regional High School student received Communion from Deacon Rob Huff, diocesan Superintendent of Catholic Schools. *(The Mirror)*



CROSSBEARER—Michael Eftink carried the cross during the procession into Mass on March 25 in Notre Dame Regional High School. *(The Mirror)*



TAPESTRY OF ANNUNCIATION—Bishop Emeritus John Leibrecht spoke from the altar of St. Agnes Cathedral Parish, Springfield, upon which was a tapestry of Gabriel announcing to Mary that she carries the Son of God. Friday, March 25, the Church celebrated the Solemnity of the Annunciation of Our Lord. The cathedral was standing-room-only as after the prayer following Communion, Bp. Leibrecht joined the Holy Father and bishops world-wide in asking for Our Lady's intercession for peace, particularly thoughtful of Russia and Ukraine. *(The Mirror)*

ANNUNCIATION // Continued from pg. 1

with your spirit. Lift up your hearts" – at that moment, we offer ourselves with Jesus to the Father in the Holy Eucharist. And at this third visit, the three children received Holy Communion from the hands of the angel!

After those three visits of the angel, on May 13, 1917, the children saw the Mother of God for the first time. She told the children, "I am from heaven." And she promised that they, too, would go to heaven.

It was on the July 13 apparition that the Blessed Mother showed them a vision of hell, foretold World War I, and said that Russia would spread atheistic materialism throughout the world. It was then that she begged the children to pray and offer sacrifices for the conversion of Russia. The vision of hell lasted but an instant, "you have seen Hell where the souls of poor sinners go, the Blessed Mother said. To save them, God wishes to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart."

And then came the warning: *"If people do not cease offending God, a worse war will break out, with famine and persecutions of the Church and the Holy Father. To prevent this, I shall come to ask for the consecration of Russia to my Immaculate Heart and the communion of reparation on the first Saturdays. If my requests are headed, Russia will be converted, and there will be peace; if not, she will spread her errors throughout the world, causing wars and persecution of the Church. The good will be martyred; the Holy Father will have much to suffer, various nations will be annihilated. In the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph. The Holy Father will consecrate Russia to me,*

and she shall be converted, and a period of peace will be granted to the world."

And so, that brings us here today. We, here at Notre Dame, Cape Girardeau, along with Bishop Leibrecht in St. Agnes Cathedral in Springfield, are united with the Holy Father as he, in Rome, will offer up the same prayer of consecration. The request of Our Lady to consecrate Russia to her Immaculate Heart was fulfilled by Pope St. John Paul II on March 25, 1984. But today, given the circumstances in Ukraine, through total consecration to Mary, we accept her spiritual motherhood for each of us, asking her to draw us closer to her son, especially at the foot of the cross.

We are invited to abandon ourselves to Mary so as to be drawn closer to her Son. In consecrating Russian and the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, we ask for her motherly care. Consecrating ourselves and the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary means returning to the foot of the Cross. And at the foot of the cross, we raise our eyes to see the pierced heart of the Savior, the highest form of love, the source of merciful love.

Pope St. John Paul II had as his motto "Totus Tuus, O Maria," Totally Yours O Mary." Let that be said of each of us as well. Let us give to Mary our body and soul, our material and spiritual possessions, placing ourselves totally in her hands. And what will happen after this consecration of Russia? Well, we have no idea how the hand of Our Lady will guide the events to come, but we do know what we should do—we should pray—pray the rosary—go to confession—place ourselves continually at the foot of the cross. And let us remember the hopeful words of Our Lady, "In the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph." ©TM

Pope consecrates Ukraine, Russia to Mary

Vatican City

As Russia's violent month-long invasion continued to devastate Ukraine, Pope Francis laid the fates of both countries at the feet of Mary in the hopes that peace would finally reign.

"Mother of God and our mother, to your Immaculate Heart we solemnly entrust and consecrate ourselves, the Church, and all humanity, especially Russia and Ukraine," the pope said



Pope Francis (CNS photo)

March 25, pronouncing the Act of Consecration after leading a Lenten penance service in St. Peter's Basilica. Praying before a statue of Mary that was loaned by the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima at San Vittoriano on the outskirts of Rome, the pope pleaded with Mary to "accept this act that we carry out with confidence and love. Grant that war may end, and peace spread throughout the world."

Sitting in front of the statue, which was placed before the steps of the main altar on a red platform and adorned with white roses, the pope proclaimed the act of consecration. During the prayer, the pope paused at several moments to gaze at the statue of Mary before continuing to recite the prayer.

"To you we consecrate the future of the whole human family, the needs and expectations of every people, the anxieties and hopes of the world," he prayed. ©CNS

A STUDY OF 'CHRIST IN LIMBO'

By Shemaiah Gonzalez

Christ stands in an open doorway leading to some sort of liminal space. A portal between this world and another. The heavy wooden door, once concealed within a rock, has been thrust open. Satan lies, squashed underneath.

Within this other world are the faces of many. Huddled together, squished inside. These faces appear forlorn, fatigued, as if they have languished so long, they had begun to wonder if anyone would remember them.

Benvenuto di Giovanni's painting "Christ in Limbo" captures the split second before these faces realize who is standing before them. Who has come to save them and all of humanity. The Messiah.

THE ARTIST

The son of a bricklayer, Benvenuto di Giovanni, born in 1436, lived and worked in Siena, Italy, his entire life.

Di Giovanni mainly worked in choral miniatures, pavement designs and frescos and was probably trained in Vecchietta's Sienese workshop. At age 17, he contributed artwork for the Siena baptistry.

When di Giovanni was 30 he married Jacopa di Tommaso de Cetona. They had seven children and operated a vineyard together. Di Giovanni also served two terms in public office during their marriage. Their son, Girolamo, followed in his father's footsteps and also became a painter. Girolamo's work is much influenced by his father's and is often mistaken for such.

In the early 1480s, di Giovanni was commissioned to contribute art to the Siena Cathedral. The atmosphere was ripe for collaboration and inspiration. It was an exciting time as other artists such as Matteo di Giovanni, Francesco

di Giorgio Martini and Neroccio di Bartolomeo de' Landi worked in the cathedral too. The artists shared ideas, collaborated and peeked around one another's shoulders as they adorned one of the most beautiful cathedrals in the world.

During this time, di Giovanni's

style shifted tremendously. He began to use more vivid colors and play with light sources in his

paintings. Working with other artists improved his ability to manipulate space on the canvas to give a scene more depth. It was a period of intense artistic growth. "Christ in Limbo," painted in 1491, is from that period of growth.

This painting illustrates the story of Christ's descent into limbo, a theological concept different from that of purgatory, with which it is often confused. Limbo was a transitory state, where souls of those purified from sin, from before the birth of the Messiah, awaited Christ's ascension to join him in glory. It was never officially a

doctrine of the Church.

From limbo, according to useum.org, Christ was said to rescue the pious figures of the Old Testament. Traditionally in limbo scenes, there is a bearded man who represents Adam or, symbolically, the whole of humanity. Here in di Giovanni's painting Christ holds Adam with his left hand. Eve

stands next to Adam. Another man clings to Christ's right hand. The viewer is reminded of the thief crucified on the right of Christ who recognized him as the Messiah. "Jesus, remember me when you come into Your kingdom," the thief had called out. Jesus answered, "Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise."

The rich, bright colors inside contrast with the browns and grays of the landscape outside. Christ is painted in full 3D dimensionality, while the others appear flat, as if their faces have been pressed up against the door for an eternity.

The painting is small, about 17 inches by 18 inches. It was most likely placed in a monk's cell for personal devotion. And now, we too can kneel before the painting and ask God to show us what we need to see.

Where is your eye

drawn? Where does this painting take your imagination? Who are you in the painting? If Christ was standing before you, what would you say? ©CNS

Gonzalez is a freelance writer. Her website is www.shemaiahgonzalez.com.

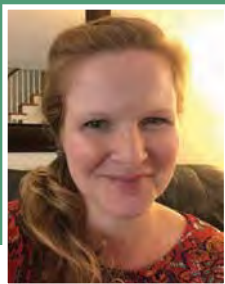
CHRIST IN LIMBO—The 15th-century painting by Benvenuto di Giovanni titled "Christ in Limbo." (CNS photo/Samuel H. Kress Collection via National Gallery of Art)

**Where is your eye drawn?
Who are you in the painting?**

Your LOCAL source for all things Catholic!

DeSales Catholic Bookstore

Open Tuesday-Saturday 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. & Wed. 7 p.m.
Closed Sunday & Monday
 210-J West Sunshine, Springfield, MO 65807 | Phone: (417) 831-4630, (800) 365-5170
 Email: catholicbookstore@sbcglobal.net | www.desalescatholicbookstore.com



By
Cassandra
Palmer

(CNS photo/courtesy Cassandra Palmer)

As we approach Holy Week and look forward to the promise of Easter joy, we may look back on the last month or so and reflect on how the Lord has been present to us this Lent. Have we personally succeeded or struggled to meet our expectations for prayer, fasting, and giving?

Before anyone gets caught up in self-criticism over perceived failures, perhaps there is a more compassionate measure of our Lenten journey: focusing on the love that has been shared this season. Have you taken stock in the love you have experienced this Lent?

I am friends with a married couple that I deeply admire. They are among the people that come to mind whenever I think of “squad goals”—role models in my own vocational living. Since they were married long before I met them, I got to hear stories and memories from their marriage prep and wedding.

One profound story was about a ceremonial washing of feet that they included in their nuptial Mass, in which the groom and bride took turns washing one another’s feet as a public sign of their self-giving and service.

SYMBOLS OF LOVE & SERVICE

The act of washing the bare foot of their beloved was symbolic of commitment to imitating Christ in their married life. I remember this about them every year during the foot washing at the Holy Thursday Mass, thinking of their example of Christ-like humility and devotion.

Years later when I got married, their wedding gift to me and my husband was a beautiful glass bowl and pitcher with a framed drawing of foot washing, to

serve as a daily reminder to us of the theology behind our wedding vows.

No matter which vocation we are each called to live in our communities, when we respond faithfully and selflessly, we are reflecting the love of God to our world.

In this way we may relate to each element of the passion of Christ during Holy Week, and we also may reflect on where we can see a similar love in people living out their vocations faithfully and totally in love.

LOVE & ACTION

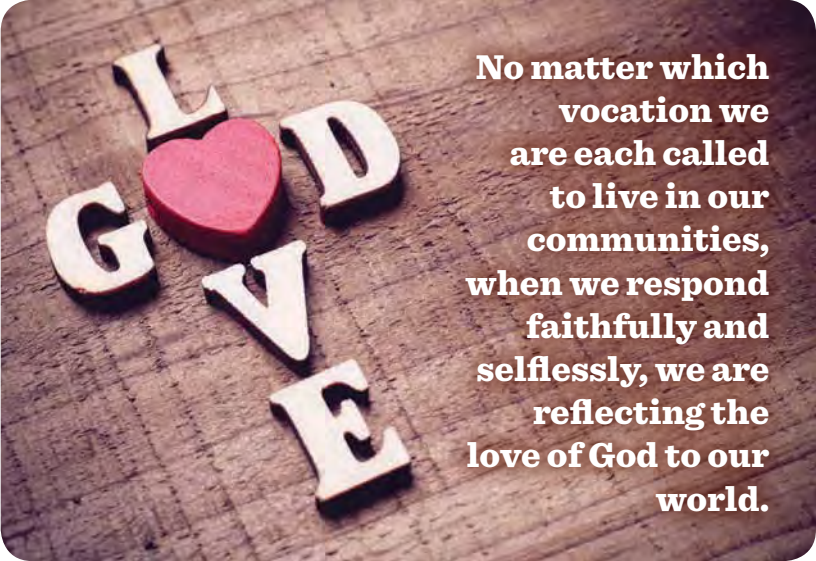
Lately, when I seek out time in prayer and reflection, my mind gravitates to the simple and repetitive words of my favorite Taizé hymn, “*Ubi Caritas*.” The words of the song in its entirety are “*Ubi caritas, et amor, ubi caritas, Deus ibi est.*” “Where there is love and charity, God is there.”

The simplicity of this song reminds me that God’s presence is not complicated, either. Scripture assures us that “God is love” (1 Jn 4:8). Whenever we act in love, we enter into a life of communion with Christ.

As boundless as God is, the love that has been demonstrated in our communities is limitless in variety. Have you seen love in action lately?

Some of us have welcomed a stranger with a hospitable smile. Some of us have fervently prayed for peace in foreign countries, in a spirit of Christian unity and human solidarity. Some of us have tenderly cared for elderly and disabled loved ones.

Love is evident in the expectant mother who



sways through the aches of pregnancy. Love shines in the empathetic friend who quietly accompanies his grieving neighbor. Love is manifest in forgiveness and mercy.

This year, I allowed the words of “*Ubi Caritas*” to guide me in a Lenten journey of seeking God in the small things. As I tucked my children into bed each night, I sang “*Ubi Caritas*” as their lullaby, praying the words over them as we snuggled.

Soon, when we enter into the Easter season of new beginnings, I will continue to seek God in the smallest witnesses of everyday love. ©CNS

Cassandra Palmer lives with her husband and children in Baltimore, where she is director of religious education at Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church. She holds a master’s degree in church ministries from the Ecumenical Institute at St. Mary Seminary, and a bachelor’s degree in theology from Mount Saint Mary’s University.

**LENTEN
FASTING &
ABSTINENCE**



How do we fast?

When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal.

Am I excused from fasting and abstinence?

Those that are excused from fast and abstinence outside the age limits include the physically or mentally ill including individuals suffering from chronic illnesses such as diabetes. Also excluded are pregnant or nursing women.

For more information on fasting and abstinence, visit usccb.org.

Fasting	Abstinence
Ash Wednesday Good Friday	Every Friday during Lent
Ages 18-59	Ages 14+



Peter's denial of Christ

PASSION PETER DENIAL—This is a Good Friday illustration photo of wood, nails and a crown of thorns. In the passion narrative, we hear of the agony in the garden, the arrest and trial of Jesus, and his scourging and crucifixion. (CNS photo/Nancy Wiechec)

By Paul Senz

Every year on Palm Sunday, we hear the narrative of the passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ. This year, we read from the Gospel of St. Luke. It is a story that is familiar to us.

As Catholics, we surround ourselves with depictions of the passion and death of Jesus. We hang crucifixes on our walls and on chains around our necks; we put crucifixes in the sanctuaries of our churches and on our altars; we ring our churches with the Stations of the Cross.

We hear of the entrance into Jerusalem, the Last Supper, the agony in the garden, the arrest and trial of Jesus, and his scourging and crucifixion. The proclamation of the passion narrative on Palm Sunday, and again (but from a different Gospel) on Good Friday, is an important way of entering into the suffering of Jesus as we prepare for the triduum.

One element of the passion narrative that does not get as much attention is St. Peter's threefold denial of Jesus.

The story is well known to us: During the Last Supper, shortly after breaking bread together when Our Lord instituted the Eucharist, Peter tells Jesus, "I am prepared to go to prison and to die with you," to which Jesus responds, "I tell you, Peter, before the cock crows this day, you will deny three times that you know me" (Lk 22:33-34).

His fidelity and ours

As the night went on, Peter's fidelity would be put to the test, as Jesus was betrayed, arrested, severely beaten, and put on trial. As Peter sat in the

courtyard of the house of the high priest, gathered with others around a fire, three of those near him insisted that they recognized him as a follower of Jesus.

Fearing for his life after seeing what had happened to Jesus, Peter stringently denied it each time.

And then we read one of the most gut-wrenching and heartbreaking passages in the Gospels: "And the Lord turned and looked at Peter; and Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, 'Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times.' He went out and began to weep bitterly" (Lk 22:61-62).

As happens so often with us, Peter immediately knew he had done something horribly wrong, realized his weakness had caused him to deny even knowing Our Lord and was overcome with remorse.

What a heart-rending thing: As Jesus is facing his trial and tremendous abuse, his closest and most trusted follower brazenly denies even knowing him.

Amid everything else going on, Jesus turns and looks at Peter, calling him out with a gaze. How Peter's heart must have broken! And how his guilt must have been even greater because of his brazenness earlier in the night, declaring his steadfastness and loyalty to Jesus.

Peter was never one to deny his unworthiness and his fallen nature. When Jesus first called him to be one of his apostles, after the miraculous catch of fish, Peter dropped to his knees at the feet of Jesus and said, "Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man" (Lk 5:8). We can almost hear Peter saying this again,

wracked with guilt after denying Jesus.

There may be a temptation to read into Peter's denial—his failure, his abandonment of Jesus—an implicit refutation of his importance and that of his successors. As Catholics, we recognize the primacy of Peter and his successors as an important part not only of the structure of our church, but of the very body that Christ left to safeguard and transmit the deposit of faith.

Endless mercy

It has nothing to do with the holiness of the man—it is all about Jesus' promise to his Church that Peter and his successors would be protected from teaching error, and his promise that the gates of hell will not prevail against it. Peter's failure does not affect this promise. In fact, it can serve as a reminder to us of why this promise was necessary in the first place.

Our Lord is loving and forgiving (Ps 86:5). After his resurrection, Jesus gave Peter a threefold chance to make amends for his threefold denial.

Three times, Our Lord asked him, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" to which Peter responded "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you" (Jn 21:15-17).

Jesus tells Peter to feed his sheep, reinforcing

the special privilege and responsibility that had been granted to Peter. God's mercy is endless, and Jesus makes all things new (Rv 21:5).

Salvation history is replete with

examples of God making a covenant with his people, only for those people to break the covenant through sin and disobedience.

God always responds with mercy, forming a new covenantal bond. The covenant in the blood of Christ is a "new and eternal covenant," one which we cannot definitively break. God's mercy is on full display.

Today we know that we can approach

God in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation and accept the forgiveness that he presents to us. In the same way, Our Lord presented his forgiveness to Peter on the seashore, and Peter chose to accept it. e. ©CNS

Senz is a freelance writer living in Oklahoma with his family.

As Jesus is facing his trial and tremendous abuse, his closest and most trusted follower brazenly denies even knowing him.

Tune in to local **Catholic Radio** around the Diocese

K232FF	94.3 FM	Cape Girardeau
KHJM	89.1 FM	Dexter & the Bootheel
KFSS	94.5 FM	Joplin
KQOH	91.9 FM	Springfield

Tune-in: Learn, Live, Grow, Be Inspired

Klueppel ‘Honorable Mention’
 for the 2022 MO Scholars 100

Cape Girardeau

High school senior Vincent Klueppel of Notre Dame Regional High School has received “Honorable Mention” for the 2022 Missouri Scholars 100, a statewide program that honors 100 of Missouri’s top academic students in the graduating class of 2022. The announcement was made by Tim Garner, principal, at Notre Dame Regional High School.

“The Missouri Scholars 100 Program is one of the most premier academic recognition programs in the country,” said Clark Mershon, Executive Director of the Missouri Association of Secondary School Principals. “It is truly a celebration of learning. Students who are selected to this program have taken a rigorous course of study and have maintained the highest academic standards. The Missouri Association of Secondary School Principals wants to celebrate the achievement and success of these students and their schools.”

Schools across Missouri were

invited to nominate candidates for this statewide recognition. The selection is based primarily on a formula using the student’s grade point average and ACT or SAT score. Each student nominated had first to meet criteria of an “Academic Decathlon,” which included 10 “events” designed to assure the academic strength of the student. The student must have a minimum GPA of 3.750, a minimum ACT score of 29 or a minimum SAT score of 1,600, be ranked in the upper 10 percent of the class and have taken high-level courses in mathematics, science, English, and foreign language. The student must also have excellent attendance, be an exemplary school citizen, and be involved in the school activity program.

The 2022 program is the 28th Annual Missouri Scholars 100 recognition. ©TM



FR. BALA CELEBRATES SILVER JUBILEE

SILVER JUBILEE (above)—Area clergy joined Bp. Edward Rice and Fr. Bala Swamy as the latter celebrated his 25th anniversary of ordination as a priest on March 10 in St. Denis Church, in Benton, MO. Father Swamy is also pastor of St. Lawrence Church in New Hamburg, MO. *(The Mirror)*



ROSARY BLESSED (left)—Bishop Edward Rice blessed a sterling silver rosary made by a parishioner. The rosary was presented to Fr. Swamy as a gift from the parish. *(The Mirror)*

CATHOLIC MEN’S CONFERENCE

A DAY OF INTELLECTUAL AND SPIRITUAL FORMATION FOR CATHOLIC MEN - SPONSORED BY:

SAT. APRIL 30, 2022

8 AM - 5 PM
 DRURY PLAZA HOTEL
 Cape Girardeau
 Conference Center

FEATURED SPEAKERS
HIS EXCELLENCY BISHOP EDWARD RICE
 Diocese of Springfield - Cape Girardeau

MICHAEL DAUHINAIS, PH.D.
 Fr. Matthew L. Lamb Professor of Catholic Theology
 Ave Maria University

TAYLOR O’NEILL, PH.D.
 Tutor
 Thomas Aquinas College

FR. CHARLES SAMSON, S.T.D.
 Assistant Professor of Biblical Theology
 Kenrick-Glennon Seminary

FR. DYLAN SCHRADER, PH.D.
 Pastor - St. Brendan Catholic Church
 Diocese of Jefferson City

QR CODE

REGISTRATION AND ATTENDANCE ARE FREE
 Scan QR CODE to register or contact gideon.barr.aics@gmail.com



CONFIRMATION HELD IN ST. MARY, PIERCE CITY

GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT—Bishop Edward M. Rice celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation in St. Mary Parish, Pierce City, along with Fr. Matthew Rehrauer, pastor. Those confirmed were: (front row) Emma Ruscha, Molly O’Hara, Maxwell Brown, Evelyn Eckhart, Dane Gibbs, Layla Jones, Marina Masri, Bronwyn Masri, Emerie Brown, (Father Rehrauer); (second row) August Brown, Sophia Brown, Hayden Kramer, Kallie Taylor, Cruz Torrez, Lincoln Jones, Margaret Jones, Paige Fenske, Brock Flehmer, Ava Elbert; (third row) Brock Kramer, Lawrence Witt, Addison Avondet, Olivia Elbert, Claudia Crowell, Dylan Fenske, Nolan Chapman, Luke Eaton, Clayton O’Hara, Adelyn Brown, Carder Eaton, (Bishop Edward Rice). Not pictured: Hailey Gripka. *(Submitted photo)*

IT IS EASTER: We share our joy and our hope

*Acts 10:34a, 37-43;
Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23;
Col 3:1-4;
John 20:1-9*

I grew up in a very Catholic and devoted family. I learned to love Jesus, our blessed Mother, the Holy Rosary, and the Church at a very early age. We did a lot of great things together and we enjoyed praying the Stations of the Cross with neighbors and friends. But nothing compares with the hope, the excitement, and the joy of Easter morning. I remember going to Mass with my brothers and sisters early in the morning, exactly at 5:30 a.m. And that is how it is depicted in John's Gospel: early in the morning, while it was still dark...

Early in my life I learned the transforming power of the Resurrection, the biggest event of humanity. I did not learn only to say Happy Easter, I learned the meaning of those words...He was risen for me too!

I was an altar server for many years in my home parish and listening to the Gospel that brought us the story of the Resurrection was overwhelming for me. "Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb." I remember helping the priest during Holy Week and preparing the Church for the most amazing moment of our life, Easter Sunday.

The stone was removed, and God transformed fear to peace, brothers into disciples, grief into joy, and work into mission. In the early morning, our identity, our mission, and our vocation changed forever! We became people of the



SCRIPTURE WISDOM

Fr. Francisco ('Paco') Gordillo

Resurrection; we became followers of the risen Lord. We became EASTER PEOPLE.

As Catholics, the Resurrection should mean everything to us. It is the fulfillment of God's promise of redemption and salvation for all of us. Everything Jesus did and said for us and to us made sense in our minds and hearts around the empty tomb on Easter Sunday. We must remember the words: "HE HAD TO RISE FROM THE DEAD," and we should be grateful because the tomb is empty. Let us rejoice and be glad.

One full of surprises

God loves to surprise us all the time. He surprised us with Jesus being born in a humble and simple way in Bethlehem from a young woman. An Angel announced his birth and an angel told us about his resurrection. And now He invites us to be surprised again as we embrace this morning with the joy of the Resurrection in our hearts. Imagine yourself walking with the disciples, early in the morning, and witnessing together that the stone had been removed. I believe we need this Easter morning in our faith and in our life.

I love Easter Sunday! We need the hope and the joy of Easter in our families, our communities, and our Diocese. We do not know what the disciples and friends of Jesus did between Friday and Saturday, but we know what happened on Sunday. Maybe they were afraid, terrified,

fearful, and hopeless. Maybe they were frustrated, confused, and panicking. I am sure many of us can relate to their thoughts, emotions, and feelings when we go through tough times in our lives. But the same risen Lord that brought them joy and strengthened their hope is with us this Easter Sunday.

Today, we celebrate Easter, and we celebrate that God is present in our lives and he can roll away the stones in our own lives. He can restore our faith, our hope, and our

strength. Jesus can bring light to the darkest spots in our lives: That is the miracle of Easter, that is the transforming power of the Resurrection.

John's experience was unique. John ran into the tomb with Peter; he got there first, he bent down, saw the burial clothes there but did not go in. We can approach with joy the celebrations of Easter. We must go in ... we must enter the experience of Easter so we can share with others and give testimony that in fact He is risen in our own lives.

We still have a lot of work to do. There is a powerful quote on Easter that says:

"The joyful news that He is risen does not change the contemporary world. Still before us lie work, discipline, sacrifice. But the fact of Easter gives us the spiritual power to do the work, accept the discipline, and make the sacrifice." - Henry Knox

Sherrill.

I believe Easter can empower us to embrace or to continue our Mission in the Church. We need help and we need every person and every sacrifice. We must continue building God's kingdom and we must encourage one another to run to experience the risen Lord. They need to "see," too, that the stone had been removed.

Now I recall the words of Pope Francis in 2019: "Easter is the feast of tombstones

taken away; rocks rolled aside. God takes away even the hardest stones against which our hopes and expectations crash: death, sin, fear, worldliness."

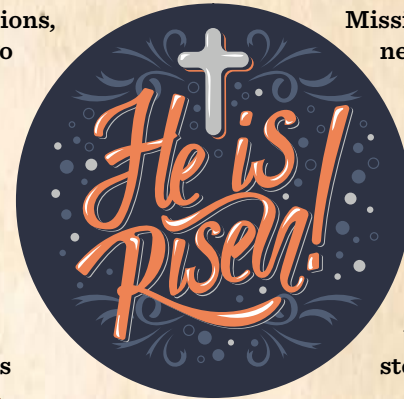
Easter enables us to face our fears, concerns, sins, frustrations, disappointments, and sufferings with faith, hope, peace, and joy.

Easter reminds us that only Jesus can roll away the stones in our lives. We can walk in faith and surrender ourselves to Him, trusting in His love but also His power in our lives.

We, too, can have a unique experience with the risen Lord. Like Pope Saint John Paul II said: "Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song."

Happy Easter! ©TM

Father Francisco "Paco" Gordillo is the pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Webb City, MO, and St. Ann Parish, Carthage, MO.



Easter reminds us that only Jesus can roll away the stones in our lives.

Herman H. Lohmeyer Funeral Home

Locally-owned & operated ♦ Dedicated ♦ Caring ♦ Professional
Offices of the Catholic Cemeteries



Paul & Lynn Wunderlich
Tom Smith • Kent Franklin • Maddy Davis
Buddy Pilmore • Charlene Harris-Bengsch
Chuck Wooten • Harold Futrell
500 E. Walnut - Springfield, MO (417) 862-4433
www.hhlohmeier.com

Gorman-Scharpf Funeral Home, Inc.

Brentwood Chapel • University Chapel Crematory • Columbarium

Licensed funeral directors of distinction:

W. Bruce Howell

Heather K. Howell
Robert J. Lohmeyer
Angela N. Collins
Harley R. Williams
Andy D. Vowell
Barbara A. Hinds



Clint W. Mease
Don R. Lohmeyer
Nichole E. Bauer
Russell C. Allen
Avery A. Weeks
Dulci M. Lane

Locally owned and operated for over 50 years

1947 E. Seminole, Springfield MO 65804

(417) 886-9994 • fax (417) 886-9996, gormanscharpf@att.net



CORRECTION

In the March 18, 2022 edition of *The Mirror*, we mis-identified a person in a photo outline on p. 12. Below is the correct outline. *The Mirror* regrets this error and any confusion it may have caused.

GRANT FOR TECHNOLOGY-

St. Ambrose Catholic School Principal Laura Enderle recently accepted a \$2,500 check from the Bayer's "America's Farmers Grow Community" fund, thanks to Teresa Jansen. Enderle is pictured with Alphonse Jansen, Teresa Jansen, and their granddaughter, Emorie Jansen, during Catholic Schools Week. (Submitted photo)

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

Prayerfully reflect on the Cross of Calvary

Luke 19:28-40;

Is 50:4-7;

Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24;

Phil 2:6-11; Phil 2:8-9;

Lk 22:14-23:56 or Lk 23:1-49

The cross is the most prominent worldwide emblem of Christianity.

It is honored in our churches and homes. Sometimes the cross holds the pierced body of Jesus Christ—the cross of Calvary. Sometimes the cross is empty of the body—the cross of Easter resurrection. During Holy Week, we Catholics with all other Christians reflect on the cross with Jesus nailed to it.

In the Old Testament reading on Palm Sunday leading us into Holy Week, the prophet Isaiah looks to the future when God will call someone to a totally unexpected mission. This beloved servant will suffer, giving his “back to those who beat him,” not shielding his face from “buffets and spitting” of those intent on humiliating him.

The New Testament identifies Jesus of Nazareth as this suffering servant. St. Paul writes that though Jesus was “in the form of God,” he “emptied himself ... coming in human likeness ... obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross” (Phil 2:6-11). Paul envisions the cross as a sign of Christ’s love. “Christ loved us and handed himself over for us as a sacrificial offering to God” (Eph 5:1-2).



SCRIPTURE WISDOM

Bishop Emeritus
John J. Leibrecht

As Jesus endured the pain of the cross out of love for his Father and us, notice what he did: he thought about others. He asks his disciple John to take care of his mother Mary and asks her to trust John as her son. He tells one of the criminals crucified a few feet from him that, because of his repentance, he will join the Lord in paradise that very day. And Jesus seeks from his heavenly Father forgiveness for the soldiers who crucified him. Jesus seems to have eased his own pain by thinking of others around him, an example for us when we endure pain in life.

The cross is also a sign of glory. In The Liturgical Year, author Adrian Nocent says that John’s Gospel, like Paul’s Letter to the Philippians, depicts the cross as a sign of Christ’s glorification and exultation. Nocent writes: “The crucifixion is ... not a sign of death alone; it is also a sign of exultation to glory. If Jesus had simply died, history would only have witnessed one more person laid low. But Christ also rose from the dead; his resurrection is inseparable from his death and is the other side of it.”

Resurrection, which we will celebrate on Easter Sunday, is also the other side of our deaths.

Prior to Calvary’s cross, Jesus carried many crosses in the brief three years of his teachings and healings. For instance, he was often misunderstood, hurt by those who left him after being his followers for a while. He lived with disappointment over those more interested in his miracles than his teachings. He had to deal with serious threats from powerful authorities opposed to him.

As followers of Jesus, we expect crosses in our lives. “If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily,” Jesus said (Lk 9:23). Some of our crosses are light, some heavy. Some temporary, others enduring. Disappointments in oneself or others. Worries about loved ones. Physical limitations and illnesses, especially if life threatening. It is quite a challenge to retain a loving heart for others, as Jesus did, when crosses enter our lives.

From the cross, Jesus teaches us lessons for our lives. One is: never put a limit on how loving you can become. Jesus put no limit on his love. He gave his all, out of love for us, so that our sins could be forgiven. “No one has greater love than this,” Jesus said, “to lay down

one’s life for his friends” (Jn 15:18).

You and I are called our whole life long to become ever more loving men and women—of God and of neighbor. That includes the ones we already love the most, all who are a part of our lives in one way or another and, yes, the many beyond our daily contacts. We should never think: I am loving enough. With God’s help, we can indeed become more loving persons.

An accompanying lesson from Jesus on the cross is this: to become more loving, sacrifice may be necessary. To love God more faithfully requires sacrifice. To love others more deeply requires sacrifice. Love and sacrifice go together. We know that not only from the Lord on the cross, but from our own personal experience. The challenge is not to back away from sacrifice when opportunities for greater love present themselves.

Not only during Holy Week but beyond, take time to reflect prayerfully on the cross of Calvary—the crucifix. For doing so, the Lord will bring blessings to you and, through you, to many others. ©TM

Bishop Emeritus John J. Leibrecht is the retired Fifth Bishop of Springfield-Cape Girardeau. The first and only Bishop Emeritus of the diocese, Bp. Leibrecht lives in Springfield.

To Honor and Glorify Jesus Christ and Defend Innocent Life

2022 MIDWEST MARCH FOR LIFE



April 20,
2022



Missouri State Capitol
South Lawn, 204 W. Capitol Ave.
Jefferson City, MO

Wear RED for LIFE

MidWest For Life T-Shirts \$20

By K of C food area 8:30 am-1:00 pm

www.midwestmarchforlife.com (573)340-8444



Protecting God's Children® For Adults

**Live, in-person “Protecting God’s Children”
adult awareness training sessions are now available.**

New registrants are encouraged to take the live training, but the **online training will remain available as an alternative.**

Wed., June 1 5:30-8:30 p.m. St. Canera Parish, Neosho

Preregistration is necessary: If you are a new registrant please go to www.virtus.org and click on “first time registrant” on the left, and follow the prompts to register for Online training. Instructions for the registration process can also be found on the Child and Youth Protection Page of the diocesan Website.

www.dioscg.org/wp-content/uploads/How-to-Register-for-a-VIRTUS-withOnline-Option.pdf

Training sessions are for adults only. The link to updated schedules may be found at www.dioscg.org just above the events calendar.

Along with the VIRTUS “Protecting God’s Children” training for adults, before regularly engaging in activities involving minors and/or vulnerable adults, new volunteer or employees are also required to submit a current Background Disclosure and Authorization Form and the annual Code of Conduct, which are available on the VIRTUS Website and the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau Child and Youth Protection Webpage: www.dioscg.org/child-youth-protection/

For more information, please contact the Office of Child and Youth Protection, childandyouthprotection@dioscg.org; or Bill Holtmeyer, billholtmeyer@dioscg.org; or Rosie Francka rfrancka@dioscg.org, (417) 866-0841.

Sacred Heart Church to Build New Rectory/Education Center



PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS AT GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY—Pictured from left: Carole deRobertis, Holly McCleary, Tony Ferguson, Mary Snodgrass, Matt Brown, Deacon Joe Kurtenbach, Tom Miller, Erika Martin, and Sharon Long. (Submitted photo)

By Andrea Gómez Ferguson

Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Mountain Grove, Missouri has broken ground on a new rectory and education center next to their church at 302 E. State Street. This new, bigger building will occupy the same space as the old, small house that was used for the same purpose. It will be approximately 2400 square feet which will allow for five classrooms, two offices, a small kitchenette, a guest room, and storage facilities all under the expertise of Jim Berlin’s General Contracting. Fundraising began in early 2021 by the ladies of the Sacred

Heart Parish Council of Catholic Women with the generous help of all parishioners. Fundraising will continue and have included chili suppers and bingos, quilt raffles, Easter pie sales, spring and fall auctions, and game/drink booths in the MO Heritage Festival, Sue’s Flower Festival and Winterfest. This project is under the direction of the Parish Council led by Deacon Joe Kurtenbach. ©TM

Donated medical supplies headed to Europe for Ukraine

Springfield

Mercy Hospital Springfield donated approximately \$106,000 worth of medical supplies and an additional \$25,000 in cash to Convoy of Hope to aid Ukrainian refugees.

The Most Rev. Edward M. Rice, Bishop of Springfield-Cape Girardeau, blessed the items being shipped on March 31.

The idea started with Alex Limonchenko, a Mercy respiratory therapist. Originally from Ukraine, Limonchenko came to the US when he was 18. While he is

now an America citizen, his sister is still in the war-torn country, helping refugees get to safety from her church in the central Ukraine.

“I know what she’s going through and it’s hard to watch it all on the news,” Limonchenko said. “I thought, ‘I work for a mission-driven ministry,’ and I wondered how we could be part of a concrete effort to help my homeland.”

He contacted local Mercy leaders, who reached out to Mercy’s strategic supply chain. They worked with Convoy of Hope on identifying the most-needed medical and surgical supplies, which are now packed and ready to be shipped. ©TM



DONATED MEDICAL SUPPLIES—Mercy’s Alex Limonchenko, Bishop Edward M. Rice, Bill Hennessey, Vice President of Mission for Mercy Springfield Communities as well as personnel from Convoy of Hope were on hand for the blessing of donated medical supplies heading to Europe on April 1 for Ukraine. (Photo by Sonya Kullmann/The Mirror)



SENIOR GARNERS 8 GOLD AND 1 SILVER

MEDALIST—Cassie Moses, a Senior in Springfield Catholic High School, recently competed in the 2022 Speedo Regional Championships in Columbia, MO. She came home with 8 Gold Medals and 1 Silver, and “high point” status among all swimmers (male and female)! Moses currently swims for Springfield Aquatics and has already signed to swim for North Carolina State next year. In April, Moses will swim in the International Trials Team Competition in Greensboro, NC! Good luck! (Submitted photo)

REGISTRATION is open!

CAMP Re-NEW-All

SIGN-UP today!

https://dioscg.formstack.com/forms/camp_re_new_all

*Note: time changed since first published

SATURDAY
APRIL 9,
2022
9 A.M.

Catholic Charities
of Southern Missouri
Reaching Out. Providing Hope. Changing Lives.

JOIN US VIRTUALLY FOR

BISHOP'S PRAYER

FOR CATHOLIC CHARITIES
OF SOUTHERN MISSOURI

Live from St. Mary of the Annunciation Cathedral,
Cape Girardeau

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CCSOMO](https://www.facebook.com/ccsomo)



#ListeningChurch

SYNOD CONSULTATION MEETING DATES & LOCATIONS

MON., APRIL 4

6:30 pm St. Vincent de Paul Parish – Cape Girardeau

TUE., APRIL 5

6:30 pm St. Francis de Sales Parish – Lebanon

WED., APRIL 6

6:15 pm St. Vincent de Paul Parish – Cape Girardeau

FRI., APRIL 8

7:30 pm St. Francis of Assisi Parish – Nixa

SAT., APRIL 9

9:00 am St. Vincent de Paul Parish – Cape Girardeau

11:00 am St. Benedict Parish – Doniphan

6:30 pm St. John Parish – Leopold

6:30 pm St. Anthony Parish – Glennon

MON., APRIL 18

6:00 pm Sacred Heart Parish – Poplar Bluff

WED., APRIL 20

10:00 am Sacred Heart Parish – Conway

6:30 pm St. Ann Parish – Malden

THU., APRIL 21

6:30 pm St. Ann Parish – Malden

SAT., APRIL 23

5:30 pm Sacred Heart Parish – Conway

SUN., APRIL 24

9:00 am St. Agnes Cathedral – Springfield

11:45 am St. Joseph Parish – Billings

TUE., APRIL 26

5:00 pm St. William Parish – Buffalo

6:00 pm St. Joseph Parish – White Church

6:30 pm Sacred Heart Parish – Dexter

WED., APRIL 27

6:00 pm Holy Trinity Parish – Aurora

6:30 pm St. Teresa Parish – Glennonville

THU., APRIL 28

6:30 pm St. Teresa Parish – Glennonville

SAT., APRIL 30

9:00 am St. Edward Parish – Cassville

10:00 am St. William Parish – Buffalo

TUE., MAY 3

6:00 pm Holy Family Parish – Shell Knob

6:30 pm St. Mary Parish – Joplin

THU., MAY 5

6:30 pm St. Peter the Apostle Parish – Joplin

FRI., MAY 6

6:30 pm St. Francis of Assisi Parish – Nixa

Session for Teens & Young Adults

*Please RSVP for pizza order

THU., MAY 12

6:00 pm St. Mary Parish – West Plains

SAT., MAY 14

11:00 am St. Canera Parish – Neosho

5:00 pm St. Joseph Parish – Billings

SUN., MAY 15

11:00 am St. Francis of Assisi Parish – Nixa

6:00 pm St. Canera Parish – Neosho

THU., MAY 19

12:00 pm Sacred Heart Parish – Thayer

SAT., MAY 21

7:00 pm St. Francis of Assisi Parish – Nixa

For more info, scan the QR code or check the website at <https://dioscg.org/synod-on-synodality-2021-2023/>



We are the Light of the World

63rd (DCCW) Diocese of Springfield - Cape Girardeau
2022 Annual Spring Assembly—April 22 - 23, 2022
DRURY PLAZA HOTEL Cape Girardeau Conference Center



SCHEDULE

Friday, April 22

8 - 9:30 am

Registration and browse time
Grab bags, vendors, and
purse silent auction.

9:30 - 10 am

Divine Mercy: Becca Kern

10 - 11 am

Speaker: Donna Cori Gibson

11 - 11:30 am

Break and Browse

11:30 am - 12:30 pm

Lunch

12:45 - 1:20 pm

Welcome and introductions, opening prayer

1:20 - 2:20 pm

Keynote Speaker: Donna Cori Gibson

2:20 - 3:00 pm

Leadership Commission Speaker:

Rev. William W. Hennecke, Jr.

3 - 3:30 pm

Break and Browse

3:30 - 4:15 pm

Bishop Edward M. Rice

4:30 pm

Drive to St. Mary Cathedral –

("Direction at the bottom")

5 pm

Mass with Bishop Rice and attending priests

6:30 pm

Bishop's blessing before banquet

7:15 pm

Cash bar available, purse auction closes.

7:30 pm

Presentation of Our Lady Of Good Council Award

7:30 pm

Banquet Entertainment:

"To Be Announced"

8:30 pm

Closing prayer by Bishop Edward M. Rice

Saturday, April 23

7:15 am

Rosary and Meditation: Becca Kern

7:30 - 8 am

Registration and Browse.

8 am

Grab bags, Vendors.

8:15 - 9 am

Morning opening prayer: Becca Kern

9 - 9:45 am

Spirituality Commission Speaker:

Rev. Joseph Kelly

9:45 am - 10:15 am

Service Commission Speaker:

Sister Sharon Miller

10:15 - 11 am

Break - Last chance to buy tickets and

11 - 11:30 am

visit Vendors.

11:30 am

Province Director: Rita Lueckenotte

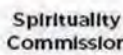
Drawings

Closing prayer and adjournment.

*Direction to The Cathedral of St. Mary of the Annunciation -
615 William Street from the Drury Plaza Hotel Cape Girardeau
Conference Center - "Exit Drury Center onto William Street
Stay on William Street going east to the Cathedral.



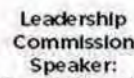
Keynote Speaker:
Donna Cori Gibson



**Spirituality
Commission
Speaker:**
Fr. Joseph Kelly



**Service
Commission
Speaker:**
Sr. Sharon
Miller



**Leadership
Commission
Speaker:**
Rev. William W.
Hennecke, Jr.

REGISTRATION

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Parish: _____

___ Complete Assembly **\$50** if mailed **by March 20**
(Includes luncheon, Friday all day, banquet & Saturday)

___ Complete Assembly **\$60** if mailed **AFTER March 20**
(Includes luncheon, Friday all day, banquet & Saturday)

___ I am **ONLY** attending Banquet Friday evening **\$35**

___ I am a First Time Attendee to the Spring Assembly

Please make checks payable to "DCCW"

Nancy Slezak,
3660 S. Cox Ave #1107,
Springfield, MO 65807

Deadline for making Hotel Reservations is: **March 20, 2022**

Please call:

DRURY PLAZA HOTEL

Cape Girardeau Conference Center

3351 Percy Drive, Cape Girardeau, MO - 573-334-7151

\$104 room rate, choice of Single King Bed Deluxe or

double Queen Deluxe or, two room suite, 2 queen beds;

reserved on a first serve basis with the hotel.

Mention DCCW for this rate.

Protecting Catholic Families Since 1882.

Trust a Catholic company to protect your Catholic family.



LIFE INSURANCE • DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE • LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE • RETIREMENT ANNUITIES



SPINELLI AGENCY George Spinelli
General Agent
636-390-2525
george.spinelli@kofc.org



MAHON AGENCY John A. Mahon
General Agent
855-356-4849
john.mahon@kofc.org



Darrell Hinkebein, LUTCF, FICF MDRT
Field Agent
417-827-4949
darrell.hinkebein@kofc.org



Scott Hinkebein, FIC, MDRT, Court of the Table
Field Agent
417-827-0303
scott.hinkebein@kofc.org



Jim LePage
Field Agent
417-827-9659
jim.lepage@kofc.org



Vance Todt, FICF
Field Agent
573-475-0969
vance.todt@kofc.org



This could be you!
Field Agent
Contact us for career opportunities!



Loy Shrum, FICF
Field Agent
573-382-0952
loy.shrum@kofc.org



Luke Henry, FSCP, FICF MAHON AGENCY
Assistant General Agent
913-568-6518
luke.henry@kofc.org



Joe Pehar SPINELLI AGENCY
Assistant General Agent
314-220-9146
joe.pehar@kofc.org



**Knights of
Columbus®**



To Protect and Heal

THE DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD-CAPE GIRARDEAU

and its Affiliates promote a zero-tolerance policy regarding sexual misconduct and are committed to creating and maintaining a safe environment for all of God’s people, one that is free from any form of sexual misconduct, which is antithetical to the teachings of the Catholic Church.



HOW WE PROTECT AND HEAL

Foster and maintain an atmosphere of trust and safety in its ministry to all minors and adults. We have a responsibility to provide a safe environment and actively protect minors and adults from all forms of abuse and are expected to uphold and maintain the highest standard of professional, ministerial, and moral behavior. Committed to this effort, the diocese pledges to work toward healing and reconciliation for those who have been injured and harmed physically, sexually, emotionally, and spiritually through the sexual misconduct by clergy and any other diocesan personnel.

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

Any behavior of a sexual nature that occurs between diocesan personnel and a minor or an adult, which includes: sexual abuse, enticement, exploitation, and any other such behavior, or the appearance of any such behavior, whether in-person, verbal, written, or through the use of technology or other media, that is defined by and contrary to the moral teachings, doctrines, and Canon Law of the Catholic Church; and/or unlawful as described by local, state, and federal laws.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Diocesan personnel who regularly engage in activities involving minors or vulnerable adults are required to attend and complete the designated safe environment training. Clergy, employees, catechetical leaders, and other volunteers may be required to read monthly training bulletins, and/or complete other relevant training when assigned and/or requested by their supervisor or by the diocese. Diocesan personnel are required to annually review The Code of Conduct for Clergy, Employees and Adult Volunteers as part of their ongoing training.

BACKGROUND SCREENING

All diocesan personnel over the age of 18 must complete, sign, and submit Background Disclosure and Authorization. The diocese will conduct a national and local criminal background screening of all diocesan personnel. Random and periodic rescreening will be conducted on all diocesan personnel. Thorough reference checks should also be conducted for potential diocesan personnel.

TO REPORT ABUSE:

- ▶ Any known or suspected **ABUSE OR NEGLECT OF A MINOR** must first be immediately reported to the Missouri Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline at 800-392-3738.
- ▶ Any known or suspected **ABUSE OR NEGLECT OF AN ADULT** must first be immediately reported to the Missouri Adult Abuse and Neglect Hotline at 800-392-0210.
- ▶ In situations of immediate danger, call 911.

This policy applies to all diocesan personnel, including clergy, seminarians, consecrated religious, diocesan, parish and school employees, and all adult volunteers. Any violation of this policy will be grounds for discipline up to and including termination.

ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE of SPRINGFIELD-CAPE GIRARDEAU

Office of Child and Youth Protection

