

CHURCH TODAY

Volume LII, No. 9

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Serving the Diocese of Alexandria, Louisiana Since 1970

September 27, 2021

Students help with hurricane relief effort

In an effort to support those affected by Hurricane Ida, St. Joseph School in Plaquemine collected donations from the surrounding community and school families. They collected for a week, items that included diapers, canned goods, water, cleaning supplies, and clothes. They also raised a total of \$1,425.00 with two out-of-uniform days. All items and money collected was sent to Holy Family Catholic Church and St. Anthony of Padua Church in Luling, LA. We pray for all those affected by Hurricane Ida. See another photo on page 13.



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An introduction to the annulment process

For decades, we as a Church have struggled with confusion, misinformation, and even fear regarding the annulment process. See pages 6-7 for clarification and an introduction to the annulment process.

Louisiana Catholics reach out to help those hit hard by Hurricane Ida

Church parishes around the state, including from our own diocese, gathered food and supplies to help our neighbors in southeast Louisiana. See inside this issue for more information.

New global initiative seeks to 'unlock' Catechism of the Catholic Church

Real + True seeks to present the catechism and modernize the way church teaching is presented to a digital age. See page 21 for more information on this new endeavor.

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National effort to overcome polarization and division

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has launched a new initiative inspired by *Fratelli Tutti* to address polarization in society. In response to the call of Pope Francis to build “a better kind of politics, one truly at the service of the common good,” (*Fratelli Tutti*, no. 154), *Civilize It: A Better Kind of Politics* asks Catholics to pledge charity, clarity, and creativity to promote the common good.

Civilize It: A Better Kind of Politics is a nonpartisan initiative from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops that seeks to assist Catholics to counter polarization and division in Church and society by following the example of the Good Samaritan, who challenges us to “become neighbors to all” (*Fratelli Tutti*, no. 80). Building off the successful 2019/2020

campaign of the same name, *Civilize It: A Better Kind of Politics* seeks to engage individuals, families, and communities in dialogue and bridgebuilding in pursuit of the common good beyond election season.

Along with a pledge to charity, clarity, and creativity, additional materials, including an examination of conscience,

individual and communal reflection guides, action steps, and more, are available to empower individuals, families, and communities to be bridgebuilders across perspectives.

Catholics are invited to pledge charity, clarity, and creativity to promote the common good at civilizeit.org.



A BETTER KIND OF POLITICS

Civilize It

5 Tips from Pope Francis for “a better kind of politics”

- We are a human family. We must recover “the sense of belonging to a single human family.”
- We must commit to approaching others with love.
- We must identify common values based on truth.
- We must learn how to unmask the various ways that the truth is manipulated.
- We must get comfortable with being a polyhedron.

Learn more at usccb.org.



HURRICANE RELIEF EFFORTS. St. Joseph Church in St. Joseph, La. collected supplies to bring to St. Charles Parish in south Louisiana which was heavily impacted by Hurricane Ida. Thanks to everyone for the generosity. We are called to put our charity into action and so many people need help.



SACRED HEART SCHOOL HURRICANE COLLECTION. Mrs. Katie Freeman and the Sacred Heart School Jr. Beta Club sponsored a Hurricane Relief Drive of food, water, and essential items for our neighbors in southeast Louisiana. Mrs. Freeman delivered the collected items to St. Michael’s Episcopal Church in Pineville where they were distributed to the Alexandria Mega Shelter. Thank you to all who donated!

A prayer to avert storms and hurricanes

Father, all the elements of nature obey your command.
Calm the storms and hurricanes that threaten us, and turn our fear of your power into praise of your goodness.
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Bridge over troubled waters: Papal trip tests limits of being a 'pontifex'

By Junno Arocho Esteves
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- On paper, Pope Francis' apostolic visit to Hungary and Slovakia was pretty standard as papal trips go: outdoor Masses, meeting with dignitaries, visiting poor and marginalized populations and of course, answering questions from journalists aboard the papal flight.

Nevertheless, issues such as vaccine skepticism, migration, same-sex "marriage," and denying Communion to Catholics who publicly support abortion attracted worldwide attention to what was believed to be a low-key trip.

The Catholic Church has not been spared the effects of the increased polarization on the issues plaguing the world, a reality Pope Francis showed he was keenly aware of in his first two speeches in Budapest.

During his meeting with Hungary's Ecumenical Council of Churches, the pope used the country's famed Széchenyi Chain Bridge, which links the eastern and western sides of Budapest along the Danube River, as a metaphor for how the church should maneuver in an increasingly divided world.

"The bridge does not fuse those two parts together, but rather holds them together. That is how it should be with us, too," the pope told the ecumenical gathering Sept. 12.

"A bridge unites. In this sense, it reminds us of the concept, so fundamental in Scripture, of covenant. The God of the covenant asks us not to yield to separatism or partisan interests. He does not want us to ally ourselves with some at the expense of others. Rather, he wants individuals and communities to be bridges of fellowship with all," he added.

He doubled down on the metaphor when speaking to the country's bishops, urging the church in Hungary to "be a builder of bridges and an advocate of dialogue."

The word "pontifex" means



PAPAL TRIP. Pope Francis arrives in procession to celebrate Mass on the fields outside the Basilica of Our Lady of Seven Sorrows in Slovakia, Sept. 15, 2021. The pope's Sept. 12-15 visit to Slovakia and Budapest, while seemingly low-key, waded into issues that have divided the world and the Catholic Church. (CNS photo/Paul Haring)

pontiff, but it also means "bridge-builder" and, throughout his visit, Pope Francis tried to put his words into practice in the hopes of showing that differences of opinions on hot-button issues do not preclude dialogue and engagement.

Among the many issues that put his skills to the test was his meeting with the Hungarian leadership, including Viktor Orbán, the country's outspoken prime minister who stands at odds with the pope's views on immigration.

However, while media reports leading up to the meeting envisioned a contentious tête-à-tête on immigration, the pope deflated those expectations and said the discussions revolved around common ground issues.

Specifically, the pope praised Hungary's environmental policies as well as government subsidies to encourage families to

have more children.

Speaking to journalists aboard the papal flight back to Rome Sept. 15, the pope also said he spoke mainly with Hungarian President János Áder, while Orbán and Deputy Prime Minister Zsolt Semjén occasionally "added some specifics."

"On migration, nothing, no. We didn't talk about it," he said. "It was a good climate. And it lasted quite a bit, I think 35-40 minutes."

In a Sept. 13 interview with Hungary's Kossuth Radio, Semjén said the pope "was delighted that the number of abortions dropped, while the number of marriages increased in Hungary."

He also said the pope was told that Hungary was "under attack from Brussels," the administrative center of the European Union, because of the country's family policies, which

some believe are discriminatory against migrants and same-sex couples.

"His Holiness said that 'family is a father, a mother, a child, period,'" Semjén said.

Wading into another contentious issue for Catholics, that of same-sex "marriage," Pope Francis attempted once again to try to steer the conversation from a "pro or con" objective to a common ground perspective.

The pope said the Catholic Church could not expand the definition of marriage to include same-sex couples because "marriage is a sacrament" and "the church does not have the power to change the sacraments as the Lord instituted them."

While marriage as a sacrament is exclusive to a man and woman, couples -- both heterosexual and homosexual -- who cannot be married in the church and wish to live together

have recourse to civil unions that protect their rights, he said.

Nevertheless, the pope also said the absolute certainty of the church's stance does not give it or its members free license to condemn people who are in same-sex relationships.

"They are our brothers and sisters; we have to accompany them," the pope said. "Many, many people of homosexual orientation approach the sacrament of penance and approach to ask for advice from priests, and the church helps them to move forward in their lives."

But, he added, "not with the sacrament of marriage."

Pope Francis also tried to bring some perspective into the highly divisive issue of COVID-19 vaccinations.

While expressing consternation about arguments opposed to it due to humanity's "history of friendship with vaccines," the pope tried to understand why there are doubts, positing that the uncertainty of the pandemic, the broad selection of vaccines and even "the reputation of some vaccines that are not suitable or are a little more than distilled water" as the cause of skepticism.

Nevertheless, the pope said so-called vaccine "deniers" should not be met with hostility over their views. Instead, he emphasized the need "to clarify; clarify and talk serenely about this."

While divisive issues continue to shake both the unity of the world and of the universal church, Pope Francis' visits to Hungary and Slovakia aimed to show that a bridge is only as good as the chain that holds it together.

"The bridge has yet another lesson to teach us," the pope told members of the ecumenical council. "It is supported by great chains made up of many rings. We are those rings, and each of us is essential to the chain."

"We can no longer live apart, without making an effort to know one another, prey to suspicion and conflict," he said.

May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.

Psalm 128: 5 | Responsorial Psalm for October 3

Our Lady of the Rosary,

pray for us

Running to each other in need

By Laura Kelly Fanucci
Catholic News Service

I once heard God's option for the poor and vulnerable explained like this:

Picture a parent who has two children. One gets hurt. The parent turns and runs to help the child crying out in pain. There is no less love for the other child; both are beloved. But instinct and wisdom compel the parent's care and concern toward the one in greatest need.

When I became a mother myself, I felt this change in my bones: how the cells in my body turned me toward a newborn's wails, a baby's cries, a toddler's tantrums or a child's injuries.

I did not love my other children any ounce less when I focused on the one who needed me most. I would have given my life for any and all of them in a moment's notice.

But I knew -- in body, heart



and soul -- how I had to care for the one who cried out.

As my children grew, a remarkable thing happened. While I comforted one in my lap, I would watch their siblings learn to come over and join the moment of care. First a toddler's token pat on the baby's back, then an older brother running to the freezer for an ice pack for a younger brother's bruised knee or skinned elbow.

They were learning the option for the poor, too.

Make no mistake; I am raising humans, not angels. In a family of five kids, sibling squabbles erupt all day. Most of the time their apologies and care are parent-prompted, begrudging, even bitter.

But once in a rare blooming moment, I watch a tender shoot of genuine comfort rise up. An older brother hugging a younger one, whispering comfort through wails.

The smallest miracle of compassion. The willingness of the unhurt to suffer with the hurt.

I have seen this wonder flash before my own eyes enough times to know we can do it. We become humans at our best when we care in genuine ways for those who suffer. Beyond mere pity, compassion means a willingness to sit down and draw near to the weeping, the wailing or the wanting.

To drop whatever we were doing and rush to the ones in need.

Scripture tells us that God has particular care for the poor -- not an exclusionary affection, but a focused concern like a parent running to a child who is sick or hurt, the one in greatest need.

We know that Christ would -- and did -- give his life for all of us. But we also believe that God draws close to the brokenhearted (Ps 34:18-19). The Lord hears the cries of the poor (Jb 34:28). The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob is the God of the widow, the orphan and the foreigner: all those left behind on society's edges, all the forgotten and forsaken (Ex 22:21-23).

Recent weeks have brought deep suffering around the world, from Afghanistan to Haiti and everywhere that COVID-19 continues to ravage. We can feel overwhelmed by such staggering threats, grief and pain beyond our control.

But when we picture God as a loving parent, hearing the cries of those in need and coming to their help, we can also remember God's joy when we learn to follow and do the same.

Our prayers, almsgiving and efforts to help those in poverty or pain may feel like a mere pat on the back. Yet each time we reach out, we are growing in our understanding of the mystery of God's option for the poor.

Sometimes we are the ones suffering; sometimes we are the ones drawing near in compassion.

We are all God's beloved children. Love compels us toward each other.

Fanucci is a writer, speaker, and author of several books including "Everyday Sacrament: The Messy Grace of Parenting." Her work can be found at laurakellyfanucci.com.

Did God 'require' sacrifice of Jesus? / Continuing disruption at Mass

Q. I wonder about Jesus being a "sacrifice" for the expiation of sins. Why did God the Father "require" that Christ be a "sacrifice" for the forgiveness of sins of mankind? (Louisville, Kentucky)

A. I don't believe that God the Father "required" that Jesus die such a gruesome death to redeem us from our sins. But your question reflects a theological debate that has gone on for centuries.

On one side is the 11th-century thinker St. Anselm, who championed what was known as "satisfaction" theology. Anselm believed that Christ's sacrificial death was necessary to free mankind from sin and that the blood of Jesus was "payment" for that sin.

But isn't God all-powerful and couldn't he have done anything he wanted to? He could certainly have acted, as the father of the prodigal son did in



Question Corner

By Father Kenneth Doyle
Catholic News Service

the Gospel, by simply forgiving humanity outright and restoring us to his good graces.

In contrast to Anselm, I prefer to side with St. Thomas Aquinas. Aquinas said that while any manner God chose would have sufficed for our salvation, the passion of Christ was the perfect means because "man knows thereby how much God loves him and is thereby stirred to love him in return" (Summa III, 46, art. 3). So, to my way of thinking, we are in no way compelled to believe that God deliberately willed the suffering of his son.

Q. For more than 10 years, a member of my parish has been disrupting Mass on a regular basis. She will sit in the pew rocking back and forth, throwing her arms toward heaven and calling out in a loud voice -- sometimes "Papa" and sometimes just a guttural scream.

At Communion time, she will sometimes come up to the altar before anyone else has been directed to leave the pews. She has a faraway look in her eyes and physically resists if anyone tries to have her move on.

Our current pastor has told her that she is no longer welcome, so she now waits until has begun

Mass before appearing and taking her place. What can we as a parish church do? (Richmond, Virginia)

A. The first step, of course, would be for your pastor to take the woman aside and have a quiet conversation with her. This conversation would highlight the fact that, in fairness to other parishioners, a church needs to be a quiet place where people can pray peacefully. I am going to assume that your pastor has already tried this approach without success.

Some dioceses have written policies for approaching such situations. The Diocese of Stockton in California, for example, says on its website that "in event that an individual should cause a disturbance during the liturgy, it is the responsibility of the usher(s) to escort the individual outside the church if the individual is willing to go. Otherwise, the usher

should call the police and ask that the individual be removed from private property."

It's important to know that churches are private property and church officials are entitled to extend or withdraw the invitation to enter their premises as they see fit. Simply because a church's services are open to the public does not mean that a parish is legally bound to admit someone who disrupts those services.

Involving the police seems the wisest and safest approach, especially since in many jurisdictions law enforcement is allowed not only to remove such individuals but to bring them to a local hospital for evaluation.

Questions may be sent to Father Kenneth Doyle at askfatherdoyle@gmail.com and 30 Columbia Circle Dr., Albany, New York 12203



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Vatican releases guidance for dioceses to begin synodal path

By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- The Vatican has issued the preparatory document and a "handbook" for dioceses as part of the global church's preparation for the 2023 assembly of the Synod of Bishops, discussing the theme, "For a synodal church: communion, participation and mission."

"Pope Francis invites the entire church to reflect on a theme that is decisive for its life and mission: 'It is precisely this path of synodality which God expects of the church of the third millennium,'" the new document said.

As such, the preparatory document and its questions are "at the service of the synodal journey, especially as a tool to facilitate the first phase of listening to and consulting the people of God in the particular churches in the hope of helping to set in motion the ideas, energy and creativity of all those who will take part in the journey, and to make it easier to share the fruits of their efforts," it said.

"The purpose of this synod is not to produce more documents. Rather, it is intended to inspire people to dream about the church we are called to be, to make people's hopes flourish, to stimulate trust, to bind up wounds, to weave new and deeper relationships, to learn from one another, to build bridges, to enlighten minds, warm hearts, and restore strength to our hands for our common mission," the preparatory document said.

The handbook or "vademecum" offers guidelines for bishops and those helping facilitate the synodal process locally on how they can best listen to and consult with Catholics and the wider community, particularly those on the margins of society, as well as Christians and non-Christians.

The materials were released Sept. 7 at a news conference at the Vatican and online in English and Spanish at the synod's official



OFFICIAL LOGO FOR THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS. Originally scheduled for 2022, the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops will take place in October 2023 to allow for broader consultation at the diocesan, national, and regional levels. (CNS photo/courtesy Synod of Bishops)

website: synod.va/en.html and synod.va/es.html.

Pope Francis is scheduled to formally open the synod process at the Vatican Oct. 9-10, and the bishop of every diocese should open the process in his diocese Oct. 17. The diocesan phase runs until April.

The materials present a number of questions to help prompt reflection, input and ideas from as many people as possible.

The questions fall under 10 general themes, and people can address what is most pertinent to their situation and "share with honesty and openness about their real-life experiences, and to reflect together on what the Holy Spirit might be revealing through what they share with one another," the document said.

Some suggested questions include: "To whom does our particular church 'need to listen to'" and "how are the laity, especially young people and women, listened to? How do we integrate the contribution of consecrated men and women? What space is there for the voice of minorities, the discarded, and

to offer "correct communication" of what the synod and synodality are about, including not painting it as "a parliament" or as different sides playing against each other "in which the one who has more strength influences or subjugates the other."

When asked about the possibility of allowing women to vote in a Synod of Bishops, Cardinal Grech said he felt troubled by so much focus being on "the vote," saying "it is not the vote that matters."

What matters is the larger process that involves the entire people of God coming together to find common ground, which is not easy, he said. "So perhaps we have to insist more on how we can dialogue, converse, discern together in order to possibly reach this harmony," find consensus and not depend so much on the votes cast during the later phase of a synod.

Xaviere Missionary Sister Nathalie Becquart, one of two undersecretaries to the Synod of Bishops, will be the first woman with a right to vote at a meeting of the Synod of Bishops. In March, when she was appointed, Cardinal Grech said permitting her to vote in a synod was "a major milestone" and was something that should not be limited to just this one institution or just to voting rights.

Myriam Wijlens, a canon lawyer and Synod of Bishops consultor, told reporters that women need to "present themselves" and speak up "courageously" during this consultation phase. It will also be important to listen to what women from non-Western cultures are saying, she added.

The handbook said even though dioceses will be asked to spend six months doing extensive outreach and consultation with as many people as possible, the synodal process "is not a mechanical data-gathering exercise or a series of meetings and debates."

"Synodal listening is oriented toward discernment," in which people listen to each other, to their

faith tradition and to "the signs of the times in order to discern what God is saying to all of us," it said.

Widespread participation is an important part of the diocesan process, the document said, with no one being excluded. "We must personally reach out to the peripheries, to those who have left the church, those who rarely or never practice their faith, those who experience poverty or marginalization, refugees, the excluded, the voiceless, etc."

This will require creativity, especially in parts of the world where restrictions aimed at curbing the spread of COVID-19 are still in place, it added.

All the feedback that is generated throughout the listening process should be gathered into a "synthesis" after each gathering, followed by a "synthesis" to be written for each diocese and ultimately for each bishops' conference.

Bishops' conferences and the synods of the Eastern Churches will provide a synthesis of all the local feedback to the Synod of Bishops, and all of that material will be the basis for the writing of two working documents. Bishops and auditors will then gather with Pope Francis at the assembly of the Synod of Bishops in Rome in October 2023 to speak and listen to one another on the basis of the process that began at the local level.

The handbook said the synthesis "does not only report common trends and points of convergence, but also highlights those points that strike a chord, inspire an original point of view, or open a new horizon. The synthesis should pay special attention to the voices of those who are not often heard and integrate what we could call the 'minority report,'" it said.

Bishops have an important role throughout the synodal process as "pastors, teachers and priests of sacred worship," the handbook said. "Their charism of discernment calls them to be authentic guardians, interpreters, and witnesses to the faith of the church."

You're invited to join us at the table.

To see available Mass times near you, visit www.masstimes.org.

Things to know about annulments

For decades, we as a Church have struggled with confusion, misinformation and even fear regarding the annulment process, which can truly be a catalyst for healing and closure. Many myths have arisen concerning annulments over the years. Part of the confusion surrounds the very word “annulment.” We tend to think in secular terms, and as Webster’s Dictionary defines, “to annul” can mean “to declare or make legally invalid or void; to reduce to nothing; obliterate.”

Church annulments cannot be confused with civil annulments, which are solely based on legal facts. Rather a Church annulment seeks to determine the validity or non-validity of a marriage sacramentally and spiritually. We embrace the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony as one of the Seven Sacraments of our Church; other Christian faiths do not necessarily view Marriage as a Sacrament; but as a Sacrament of the Church we believe Holy Matrimony to be ordained by God, with the grace of the Sacrament uniting the couple in a true sacramental and spiritual bond.

But what if there is some situation, or attitude, or other issue, through human frailty and error which impedes the grace of the Sacrament? This is precisely what the annulment process seeks to determine: was this marriage truly Sacramental or was there something that blocked the fullness of the grace



ANNULMENTS. For questions or more information about the annulment process, please contact the Diocesan Tribunal at 318-445-2401.

of the Sacrament? “To annul” a marriage in the Catholic Church is not to “obliterate” the existence of the marriage but to show cause that the marriage was not necessarily Sacramental.

As flawed human beings we are totally reliant on the mercy and grace of God. We make mistakes. Circumstances arise from the past. Good faith is breached. Relationship break down. Divorce is a reality.

Some confusion also arises over the issue of divorce. The truth is that divorce itself does not affect or alter a person’s status in the Catholic Church. Although it has been a widespread misconception for years, it is a myth that a divorced Catholic is “excommunicated,” that is, not able to receive the sacraments within the Church. The issue is when a divorced Catholic seeks to attempt another marriage without the benefit of an annulment.

Marriage is considered a promise for life. Some believe that annulments are only needed by Catholics; but it makes no difference whether that promise was made in a Catholic ceremony or not. Then why would an annulment be necessary for non-Catholics? If a Catholic seeking to marry a divorced non-

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*Community of Elijah the Prophet and St. Mary of Jesus Crucified
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Catholic, an annulment of the non-Catholic marriage would precede a marriage in the Catholic Church. Perhaps someone is seeking full communion in the Catholic Church, yet is divorced and remarried. No one, no matter what their religious affiliation or membership, is considered free to contract another marriage if they were married previously. Every prior marriage must be investigated and annulled before a person can enter a new marriage. It is a myth that no annulment is required if a person wasn’t married in a Catholic ceremony.

An annulment in the Catholic Church deals only with the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony, and not the legal, historical or emotional truth of marriage, nor does an annulment have any effect on the children born of the marriage. An annulment states that the sacrament was never present in the marriage, not that the marriage never took place. An ecclesiastical annulment is concerned only with the

spouses, and not the children. An annulment has no effect at all on the legitimacy of children, or other arrangements regarding children, such as custody or support. These are all concerns of the civil law, and an ecclesiastical annulment has absolutely no effects under civil law. It is a myth that an annulment means that the marriage never happened or that somehow children born of the marriage are declared “illegitimate.”

Many who have gone through an annulment have found peace and insight into themselves and their marriages. It is a myth that the only concern of the Church is legalism, but through the Tribunal process the Church invites divorced Catholics, and others, to find healing, forgiveness, new joy and empowerment to live the Faith. The annulment process is fundamentally about our spiritual walk with Christ. For questions or more information, please contact the Diocesan Tribunal at 318-445-2401.

An introduction to the annulment process

What is an annulment?

The term “annulment” refers to an official declaration by the Tribunal of the Catholic Church that what appeared to be a marriage was, in fact, not a sacramental marriage. Such declarations are made after an extensive investigation of the marriage by judges in the Tribunal. The investigation must focus on ground of nullity which are recognized by the Church and which can be proven as existing from the very beginning of the marriage.

It is important to denote that an annulment does not deny that an actual marriage existed, nor does it imply that the marriage was entered into with ill will or moral fault. It means that the marriage fell short of at least one of the essential elements for a binding sacramental union. The purpose of this process is not to find fault in either party. Whereas, a civil divorce dissolves the legal bond existing in marriage, an annulment is the recognition that a valid sacramental bond was never entered into by one or both parties (as understood in Canon 1055 of the Code of Canon Law).

Are there any civil effects on an annulment?

In the United States, a Church Declaration of Nullity of Marriage has NO civil effect, whatsoever. Church law specifically states that children born of a marriage that has been declared null REMAIN legitimate. An annulment does not have an affect in civil matters. For this reason, no case is accepted by the Tribunal until all civil matters (child custody, property, etc.) are finalized. These issues are under the jurisdiction of the civil courts. The purpose of the annulment procedure is to serve one’s conscience and to reconcile persons to full sacramental participation in the Catholic Church.

A note about confidentiality

Statements made by the two parties may be revealed to each other according to the directions issued by the Judge.

The testimony of witnesses is safeguarded with anonymity. Only the Petitioner, Respondent, and the Tribunal staff have access to the case material. Otherwise, the information is strictly confidential.

How long does the annulment process take?

Since no two cases are alike, the time can vary from case to case. The cooperation of the Petitioner, Respondent, and witnesses and the quality of their testimony, as well as the caseload of the Tribunal, have a significant effect on the length of time. There is no way that any member of the Tribunal staff can predict when a case will be finished. With the timely cooperation of all involved in the case, the process could take as little as six (6) months.

The steps of the annulment process:

1. Complete and submit the Basic Data Form, which is located on the diocesan website at www.diocesealex.org.
2. Complete the online Assessment of Previous Marital Consent, which is located on the diocesan website.
3. Submit an official marriage license application, which can be obtained from the Clerk of Court’s Office where the marriage occurred. (If this is not the first marriage for either party, all marriage license applications must be submitted.)
4. Submit Final Divorce Decrees from all of your previous marriages.
5. Submit current copies of baptismal certificates with all notations from the Church of Baptism.
6. Request two individual that are not related to you and have known you well to submit a handwritten character reference. In a short paragraph, each character reference should state that you are an honest and trustworthy person and that your sworn testimony about the marriage in question should be considered truthful. These individuals should mail these

letters directly to the Tribunal office. Make sure they include your complete name.

Once all of the above information has been submitted, and only then, will your case be officially opened. The first step that occurs once your case is opened is to notify your former spouse by mail; this person is referred to as the Respondent. Your former spouse will be sent a copy of your completed Basic Data Form by Priority Mail and asked if they would like to participate in the case. Church law demands that the former spouse be offered equal opportunity to share their perspective of the marriage in question. The Respondent can not stop the process, but we have to ensure they know about the annulment process and that their rights are protected. If they choose not to participate or respond, your case will continue to proceed without interruption.

After the level of participation of the Respondent has been determined and your file has been reviewed, you will be called to set up a meeting with the Tribunal officials for the purposes of hearing your story. This is your opportunity to provide your narrative about the marriage you have petitioned to be annulled. You are also requested to bring at least one witness to the interview who has knowledge about the marriage in question at the time of the wedding. If your former spouse also wishes to have a meeting with the Tribunal staff, a separate meeting time will be scheduled.

Following the interviews, and once all the data has been reviewed, the Judge in your case will render a decision. Subsequently, you will be notified by Priority Mail the final decree, “Decree of Effectiveness.” This is the document that the priest will need for any new marriage in the Catholic Church. It is also important to note that our Diocesan Policy does not allow a clergyman to discuss marriage plans, dates or preparation until a “Decree of Effectiveness” has been issued.



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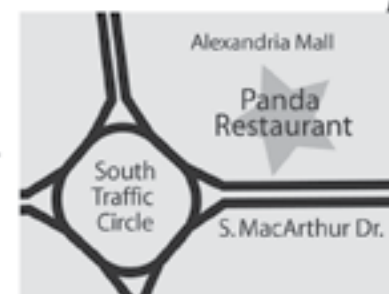
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For more information about the annulment process,
please visit www.diocesealex.org.

Gift of Life Banquet ‘shows God’s faithfulness to this ministry’

By Bob Tompkins

Abby Johnson, a former director of a Planned Parenthood clinic, spoke passionately about her conversion to being a prominent advocate for life at the Cenla Pregnancy Center’s Gift of Life Banquet on Sept. 14 at the Alexandria Riverfront Centre.

A record crowd of 879 people attended the event, which attracted a little more than 200 at the CPC’s last fundraising banquet at the OLPS Divine Providence Center in 2019. Last year’s banquet was cancelled because of the pandemic.

Helping Hands Ministry was the presenting sponsor, and there were more than 40 sponsors altogether.

A client of the Cenla Pregnancy Center spoke to the crowd of her crisis pregnancy and her appreciation of the attention and care and love she received within the past year — and continues to receive — from the CPC staff. Handicapped Southern gospel artist Ben Waites of Nashville also provided some entertainment and testimony.

Johnson, 40, more than lived up to her role as the featured speaker. She spoke of growing up as a Southern Baptist in New Roads, Louisiana, and she told of the turning point in her life as the director of a Planned Parenthood clinic in Bryant, Texas.

It was September 26, 2009, when for the first time she assisted with an ultrasound-guided abortion. The mother was 13 weeks into a pregnancy, and as Johnson looked at the ultrasound, “I thought, this really looks like a baby, not tissue or waste.” She went on to watch in horror as the



GIFT OF LIFE BANQUET. Abby Johnson, who grew up in New Roads, La., speaks with banquet attendees at the book signing table after giving an impassioned talk to a crowd of almost 900 at this year’s Gift of Life Banquet, benefiting the Cenla Pregnancy Center.

suction tube went into the side of the fetus, “and he jumped, flailing his arms and legs as if trying to get away.”

“The worst part later was knowing that when I could’ve done something to intervene, I just watched.”

A convert to Catholicism with her husband in 2012, Johnson said she was not alone in her lack of action then to stop an abortion. “If the Church was really serious about eliminating the evil of abortion, we could have already done it. I can’t end abortion alone. The Cenla Pregnancy Center can’t end abortion by themselves.

“It’s going to take the entire Body of Christ,” she asserted, prompting applause from the crowd.

“When we sing ‘God Bless America,’ do you think God is going to bless a nation that takes

a million lives every year, 3,000 every day?”

“These are our brothers and sisters in Christ, and we must fight for them!”

Johnson encouraged everyone to be “bold, courageous,

vigilant and vocal” in our defense of life. “If we are brave, not only will we build a culture of life but we will build the Kingdom of God.”

Claire Lemoine, executive director of the Cenla Pregnancy Center, was pleased with the banquet.

“This banquet has shown God’s faithfulness to this ministry,” she said. “A team of dedicated, passionate people pushed through challenging times to orchestrate a night which allowed almost 900 people to hear a message of utmost importance. Everyone (there) heard the powerful message of God’s mercy and the lies and evil of the abortion industry.

“We pray people took this message home and allowed it to sink into their hearts,” Lemoine continued. “When hearts are transformed and convicted in the truth, people act. People want to make a change and want to be part of building God’s kingdom. This night gave them that opportunity.”

The Pregnancy Center offers ultrasounds, prenatal counseling, and maternal child care education along with follow-up for women who have had an abortion.

The Cenla Pregnancy Center is a non-profit organization that serves Central Louisiana and the surrounding communities. Offering a variety of professional services, the Center’s doors are open to everyone, their services are free, and their professionals are kind and knowledgeable. Visit www.cenlapc.com for more information.

A message from the Diocese of Alexandria’s Safe Environment Program

If you have reason to believe that a child is being abused or neglected and that the abuse is by a parent or caretaker, please call: Louisiana Child Abuse / Neglect Hotline at 1-855-4LA-KIDS (855-452-5437).

If suspected abuse is related to a diocesan/church/school program, or if abuse occurred by anyone acting in Church services, a report also should be made to the diocesan victim assistance coordinator, Dr. Lee Kneipp at 318-542-9805.

For updated information, news articles, and documents regarding ongoing activity and planning for securing and maintaining a Safe Environment for all, visit www.diocesealex.org/our-faith/healing (visit www.diocesealex.org and look for “A Safe Environment For All” under the “Our Faith” tab). Here, you can find more information, as well as updates from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Also found on this page is the letter from Pope Francis to all Bishops in the United States regarding a meeting in February 2019 at the Vatican entitled “The Protection of Minors in the Church.”

WHAT TO DO IF YOU SUSPECT A CHILD IS BEING ABUSED:

If you have reason to believe that a child is being abused or neglected, and that the abuse is by a parent or caretaker, please first call the Louisiana Child Abuse / Neglect Hotline at 1-855-4LA-KIDS (855-452-5437) and/or your local law enforcement agency. If suspected abuse is related to a diocesan/church/school program, or if abuse occurred by anyone acting in Church services, a report should then also be made to the diocesan Victims Assistance Coordinator, Dr. Lee Kneipp, Clinical Psychologist at 318-542-9805.

Bishop's Invitational
GOLF TOURNAMENT



October 11, 2021

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Mrs. Barbara Rigby	\$100.00
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Mr. and Mrs. Robert O. Miller	\$200.00
Father Daniel Corkery Burse	
Mr. and Mrs. Gregory H. Normand	\$400.00
Lois Jeansonne Normand Burse	
Total	\$600.00

Prayer for Vocations

God our Father, we thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son's Kingdom as priests, deacons, religious, and consecrated persons. Send your Holy Spirit to help us respond generously and courageously to your call. May our community of faith support vocations of sacrificial love in our youth. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

A prayer card with this prayer can be downloaded and printed from foryourvocation.org

Prayer for Priests

Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of our priests. Through them, we experience your presence in the sacraments. Help our priests to be strong in their vocation. Set their souls on fire with love for your people. Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength they need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Inspire them with the vision of your Kingdom. Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel. Allow them to experience joy in their ministry. Help them to become instruments of your divine grace. We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest.
Amen.

**HOLY FATHER'S
PRAYER INTENTIONS
for October 2021**

Missionary Disciples -

We pray that every baptized person may be engaged in evangelization, available to the mission, by being witnesses of a life that has the flavor of the Gospel.

A Seminary Burse is an invested sum of money, the interest of which is used in perpetuity to help fund the education of men to the priesthood.

Contributions to any of the burses or to establish a new burse should be sent to the Chancery Office, Post Office Box 7417, Alexandria, LA 71306-0417.

-- Very Reverend Stephen Scott Chemino, Chairman

Parish Spotlight: Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church, Alexandria Established 1947

The parish of Our Lady of Prompt Succor in Alexandria was canonically erected by Bishop Charles P. Greco on March 1, 1947. Fr. Aloysius Olinger was appointed the first pastor. When the parish was formed there were 549 families registered.

Today, over 1700 families are registered. In the early days of the parish, Fr. Olinger resided at the St. Rita's rectory and had temporary offices in the home of Mrs. Jewell Casteix on Jackson Street. Weekday masses were offered in the Providence Academy chapel. Sunday masses were offered at Menard Memorial High School. Both schools were located on Elliot Street at that time. Baptisms, weddings and funerals were celebrated at the Cathedral.

On June 6, 1948, the first mass was offered in the new parish church - 15 months after the parish was formed. The first rectory was purchased from Mr. and Mrs. Louise L. Deville. In that same year a parish hall, an old Army building, was purchased from the War Assets Administration. The Catholic Daughters of America, Court Notre Dame No. 1452, furnished both buildings. Construction of a new parochial school began in February, 1949. The Sisters of Divine Providence were invited to staff the new school. The present rectory was completed in 1959.

In 1965, the former convent building on Chester Street was purchased by the parish and in



OUR LADY OF PROMPT SUCCOR CHURCH, ALEXANDRIA

1968, the former Providence Academy building was purchased to provide a site for the building of a new church.

The old church was remodeled and a new school wing, complete with kindergarten and science labs was added to the plant. A music room was added to the Madonna Complex. A new retirement home, Our Lady's Manor, was

sponsored by the parish through loans from the U.S. Housing and Urban Development Program. That structure was completed in November, 1983. A new church was built and dedicated by Bishop Lawrence P. Graves and Bishop Greco on January 7, 1976. Under Msgr. Steve Testa, property owned by the Phillips family was added to the parish plant providing



OUR LADY OF PROMPT SUCCOR SCHOOL, ALEXANDRIA

much needed playground space.

The house next door to the rectory was also purchased and turned into a youth center. Msgr. Testa established a parish council together with a capital fund campaign. With the monies collected, four new meeting rooms were added to the Madonna Complex and a central air and heating system was installed in the school. In 1993, Fr. Gerald Bordelon was assigned as pastor. A Life-Teen program was developed in the parish together with an

expanded youth ministry outreach. Under Fr. Dan O'Connor, new playground equipment was added as well as new classrooms. In April 2013, the \$2.2 million Divine Providence Center was dedicated. The facility has a large conference room that can accommodate up to 500 people, space for youth ministry offices and a commercial kitchen.

The school and parish have continued to grow together with many different ministries and events.



OUR LADY OF PROMPT SUCCOR SCHOOL, ALEXANDRIA. After many, many years of no air conditioning in the OLPS gym, our students have AC. The OLPS Home & School Association finished Fundraising for this project last spring. We are so happy to be able to use this gym for so much more now, than just P.E. With the new AC, it can be used all year round. We are so thankful to everyone who helped with this project.



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Responsorial Psalm
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Order of the Fleur de Lis investiture

Bishop Robert Marshall, along with Bishop Francis Malone of Shreveport, and Bishop Mark Spalding of Nashville were invested into the Order of the Fleur de Lis at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Memphis, TN on Aug. 28.

The Order of the Fleur de Lis encourages and recognizes leadership in living the values and principles of our Catholic faith in any one of the following: religion, family values, youth, aging, politics, patriotism, arts and sciences, education, philanthropy, public morality, management-labor, the media, or

medicine and jurisprudence.

Other Knight Commanders in the Diocese of Alexandria include Fr. James Ferguson, Dr. Walter Laborde, Grand Chancellor of Honor, Gus Agosto, and Patrick Moore.

Pictured with the bishops are new Commanders, from left to right: Harold "Jerry" Brecher (Alabama), Bishop Robert Marshall, Jr., Rennan Duffour (Louisiana), Bishop Francis Malone (Shreveport), Rodney Sandoz, II (Mississippi), Bishop J. Mark Spalding (Nashville), and Eric Pelton (Tennessee).



ST. JAMES MEMORIAL CHURCH, ALEXANDRIA. Bishop Robert Marshall gathered with the faithful of St. James Memorial Church in Alexandria on Sunday, Sept. 12.



OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH IN WINNFIELD, celebrated Catechetical Sunday on September 19. Father Wade DeCoste, pastor, had special blessings for the teachers, students and parents. **ABOVE:** Father Wade blessing the children of the parish. **LEFT:** Father Wade blessing the parents.



OUR LADY OF LOURDES, VIDALIA. Bishop Robert Marshall celebrated Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Vidalia on Sept. 19. Bishop extends a special thank you to Father Joseph Xavier, pastor, and to the parishioners of OLL-Vidalia for their warm welcome.

Upcoming VIRTUS Sessions

Thursday, October 14, 6:00 p.m.
St. Joseph Catholic Center, Alexandria

Thursday, October 21, 6:00 p.m.
St. Joseph Church (Church Hall), Marksville

Tuesday, October 26, 6:00 p.m.
Minor Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, Natchitoches

NOTE: Face masks MUST be worn during the entire session. The session typically lasts 2.5 to 3 hours. Seating will be one (1) person per table (spouses may sit together). A maximum of ONLY 15 adults will be allowed to attend each session. Minors are not allowed to attend because of the adult content of the videos and discussions.

To register, go to www.virtus.org. For more information, call 318-445-6424, ext. 213.

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Thank you for taking care of our clients.



On behalf of our board and clients' families, thank you for all that you did for 125 individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities during our evacuation from Hurricane Ida. The kindness shown to our clients is deeply appreciated. They truly enjoyed "summer camp" in Pineville! We are so grateful for your hospitality!

Bishop Robert W. Marshall, Jr.

Deacon Luke White & Maryhill Renewal Center Staff

Principal Chris Gatlin, students, staff, and families
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SCOUT SUNDAY. Bishop Robert Marshall celebrated the Scout Sunday Mass at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral. After Mass, the Catholic religious emblems were presented to the Cub Scouts who earned them. This photo was with all of the gathered scouts and leaders, many of whom came straight from a camp out. Thank you to Father Bill Gearheard who concelebrated, and to Father Steven Brandow, Deacon Bill Travis, and all who assisted with the awards presentation.



DEACON FORMATION. Candidates for the permanent diaconate, Doug Moreau, Fidel Andrate, and Ken Primeaux, listen carefully as Deacon Richard Mitchell instructs them on how to set the liturgical books used for Mass during their ongoing formation training. Candidates are scheduled to be ordained as permanent deacons in June 2022.

HURRICANE IDA SENDS SPECIAL NEEDS RESIDENTS TO MARYHILL. Members of the DOA ACTS Chapter preparing Maryhill for the Magnolia Group (New Orleans equivalent to our St Mary's Residential Training Center) evacuating from New Orleans due to Hurricane Ida.



ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL, PLAUCHEVILLE. In an effort to support those affected by Hurricane Ida, St. Joseph School in Plaquemine collected donations from the surrounding community and school families. They collected for a week, items that included diapers, canned goods, water, cleaning supplies, clothes, etc. They also raised a total of \$1,425.00 with two blue jean (out of uniform) days. All items and money collected was sent to Holy Family Catholic Church and St. Anthony of Padua Church in Luling, LA. We pray for all those affected by Hurricane Ida.



MAGNOLIA HOME RESIDENTS STAY AT MARYHILL AFTER HURRICANE. On Sunday, Sept. 5, Bishop Robert Marshall celebrated Mass at the Chapel at Maryhill Renewal Center for the residents of Magnolia Community Services in New Orleans. Magnolia operates twenty-three homes for adults with developmental disabilities. Their residents evacuated to Maryhill in anticipation of Hurricane Ida. As they wait for power and services to return to their campus, they have enjoyed the beautiful grounds of Maryhill. Many thanks to Deacon Luke White, the staff of Maryhill, and many volunteers who have helped our guests from Magnolia during their stay.

View more photos on the photo galleries at www.diocesealex.org.

Louisiana Catholics reach out to help those hit hard by Hurricane Ida

By Christine Bordelon
Catholic News Service

LA PLACE, La. (CNS) -- The saying goes: "It takes a village to raise a child."

While it will take more than a village, including help from local, state and federal government agencies, to bring relief to southern Louisiana from the devastation left in the path of Hurricane Ida, Covington resident Betty-Ann Hickey recently learned that one person doing one small thing can have an impact.

Hickey, with her son James, her friend Tammy Morris and Morris' sons Kenneth and Matthew, traveled from St. Tammany Parish to help her friend Father David Ducote, pastor of St. Joan of Arc Church in LaPlace, an area that was heavily devastated during Ida.

"I have never done anything like this before," said Hickey, director of music at Most Holy Trinity Church in Covington and associate director of the Office of Worship for the Archdiocese of New Orleans. "A true friend means you will be there to help people when they need it."

Once the storm had passed, Hickey was posting on Facebook that she was OK to friends and family, since phones and emails weren't going through. While many were responding, it was a plea from Father Ducote about the need in his area for manpower to do clean up, remove trees, gut houses that impelled her to act.

"I didn't have any damage to my home, so once we got power back, I didn't want to sit around feeling sorry for myself,"



LOUISIANA CATHOLICS CLEAN UP FROM HURRICANE IDA DAMAGE. Father David Ducote, pastor at St. Joan of Arc Catholic parish in LaPlace, La., celebrates an outdoor Mass Sept. 9, at the home of Adam and Michelle Williams for approximately 35 storm-weary Catholics who needed a respite from cleaning up their homes from Hurricane Ida damage. (CNS photo/Christine Bordelon, Clarion Herald)

Hickey told the Clarion Herald, archdiocesan newspaper of New Orleans.

Her husband Dennis, who works for St. Tammany Parish and is a permanent deacon, was telling her daily how bad the damage was in the area.

"We who weren't badly affected have the responsibility to help," Hickey said. "Today, it's not us, but the next time, it might be. I would want someone to come help cut a tree off my house."

She and the Morrises gutted one house that day, helping a family stop mold from spreading further. The reaction to her efforts floored Hickey.

"I posted it on Facebook, and people started reaching out

and saying, 'If you do it again, we want to be part of it,'" Hickey said. "What started last week with me and a friend now has six Catholic parishes and over 50 volunteers (as of Sept. 8.)"

On Sept. 9, she took a crew carrying a truckload of supplies from her parish, Most Holy Trinity in Covington, to Lafitte to help.

Jeannie Callaway, administrative assistant to Father Jared Rodrigue, pastor of St. Luke the Evangelist Church in Slidell, is helping Hickey coordinate volunteers and get donations of supplies and money to the parishes and people who need it most.

Father Rodrigue traveled first Sept. 3 to Destrehan with several parishioners and \$3,000 in donations and helped with the relief effort of food coordinated by the local Knights of Columbus.

Then about 50 St. Luke parishioners helped Sept. 7 with manpower and donations in LaPlace, where they gutted houses and cut down trees (with the help of fraternity brothers with three chain saws) from a list compiled by St. Joan of Arc Church.

Beyond that, St. Luke has become a hub "of sorts" for all efforts archdiocese-wide, Father Rodrigue said.

The priest said the parish

put the word out about what's happening with New Orleans Archbishop Gregory M. Aymond and the local government in Slidell.

"We've canceled all events in our parish to respond to the needs. We haven't been affected too much, so we are helping others who need more."

St. Luke has established a website -- <https://saintlukeslidell.org/ida> -- where those who want to help can donate money or buy needed supplies that parishes in affected areas desperately need. In less than 24 hours when the site was established, \$5,600 and 80 items (tents, pressure washers, hoses, etc.) were donated.

"The hardest part we've found is getting manpower," Father Rodrigue said, especially now that people are returning to work.

"There is a lot of need," Callaway said. "We're trying to build a consensus of organizations." She has reached out to other local parishes, youth groups and high schools to find able bodies to help with cleanup in LaPlace and Lafitte.

St. Luke is working directly with Father Luke Nguyen, pastor of St. Anthony Church in Lafitte, where several Lafitte residents are being housed, to discover immediate needs.

"As people give us their needs, we are meeting their needs," Callaway said. "It's important."

"It is unfortunate that it takes a tragedy to see Catholic Church teaching in its essence -- to see faith in action," Father Rodrigue said. "Hopefully, those who have less damage are seeing they can be of service."

"There's great hope in knowing we are capable of giving time and resources and yet it poses a challenge in learning how to do this better and more often in the future, not just when a tragedy strikes," the priest added.

St. Luke's Good Sams (Samaritans) ministry that helps with emergency food and utility expenses has been distributing a lot of food and water to hurricane victims.

"We're kind of a jack-of-all-trades right now," director Sue Rotolo said. She mentioned how former St. Luke parishioners now

living in Georgia filled a U-Haul and their truck full of water, Gatorade, 5-gallon containers of gas and nonperishable food and delivered it to St. Luke to give out to those in need. They came full circle, she said, returning the help they received after Hurricane Katrina.

"They couldn't wait to get back to help," Rotolo said. "It truly is a beautiful thing. This may be hard to go through, but people pull through in this community. Everybody wants to help."

While working on houses in LaPlace, Hickey said New Orleans Archbishop Gregory M. Aymond told her how bad it was in Lafitte and how they could use anything sent to them.

When Hickey first went to Lafitte Sept. 8, she wasn't prepared for what she saw. People were living in cars or out in the open because their homes and cars were destroyed by floodwaters.

"There are so many houses still with water; some houses are not even accessible. There is so much water and mud in the yards," said Hickey, who helped serve 500 prepared meals from World Central Kitchen.

"It's great that these people sent the food, but you need people to serve the food," Hickey said. "I am going back to Lafitte where cleaning supplies of any kind (bleach, brooms, wipes, blankets, towels, sheets, rubber boots) are needed."

Hickey said she is inspired by her Catholic faith to help others.

"In all of this, I see the best of the church. When you read the Acts of the Apostles, the apostles were of one accord -- everyone cared for everyone. One who has more should care for one who has less. The church that Jesus founded is that you share what you have. ... If we believe in the mission of the church, we have a responsibility to be the hands and hearts of the Lord."

Hickey said her small volunteer effort has grown well beyond her expectations.

"I never imagined this," she said. "This proves to me that all it takes is initiative and a couple of phone numbers."

Heart of Saint Kateri Circle

Do you have a devotion to Saint Kateri Tekakwitha?

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The "Heart of Saint Kateri" Circle meets:

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Live-streamed Mass Schedule

Please continue to visit your church parish's Facebook page (you do not need a Facebook account, just click "not now" and view the content) or the diocesan website for updates. Please inquire directly to your church parish concerning their requirements and guidelines for attending Mass in-person.

Sunday

- 7:00 a.m. **Sacred Heart Church**, Moreauville KZLG-FM 95.5
- 8:00 a.m. **Sacred Heart Church**, Moreauville KLIL-FM 92.1
- 10:00 a.m. **Radio Maria** | www.radiomaria.us
(click the play button) or tune in on your radio in Alexandria: station 580 AM
or in Natchitoches: station 89.7 AM
- 9:00 a.m. **Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church**, Alexandria on Facebook or YouTube
St. Francis de Sales, Echo on Facebook
St. Francis Xavier Cathedral on Facebook
St. Edward the Confessor, Tallulah on Facebook
- 10:00 a.m. **Sacred Heart of Jesus**, Pineville on Facebook or YouTube
- 10:30 a.m. **St. Augustine Church**, Isle Brevelle on Facebook
Mary, Mother of Jesus Church, Woodworth on Facebook or YouTube
- 11:30 a.m. **Sacred Heart of Jesus**, Pineville on Facebook or YouTube

Monday - Friday

- 8:00 a.m. **Radio Maria** | www.radiomaria.us
(click the play button) or tune in on your radio in Alexandria: station 580 AM
or in Natchitoches: station 89.7 AM
- 9:00 a.m. **St. Edward the Confessor**, Tallulah on Facebook (Wednesdays),
(9:30 a.m. talk - aka "The CU Catecast"; Wed.)
- 5:30 p.m. **Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church**, Alexandria on Facebook or YouTube
St. Edward the Confessor, Tallulah on Facebook (Fridays)

Saturday

- 8:00 a.m. **Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church**, Alexandria on Facebook or YouTube
 - 4:00 p.m. **St. Rita Church**, Alexandria on Facebook or YouTube
 - Radio Maria** | www.radiomaria.us
(click the play button) or tune in on your radio in Alexandria: station 580 AM
or in Natchitoches: station 89.7 AM
 - 5:00 p.m. **St. Michael the Archangel**, Leesville on Facebook
- View recorded Mass on YouTube:**
St. Anthony of Padua Church, Natchitoches

Church parishes offer multiple ministry opportunities

Devotion to the Saints - Every Wednesday

All are invited to join Fr. Thomas Kennedy on Wednesday nights from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. in the Madonna Complex at Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church in Alexandria, for presentations on Devotion to the Saints. Register for this free series of classes by calling OLPS Church Office at 318-445-3693.

Outdoor Lighted Rosary, Marksville - every Thursday

St. Joseph Church in Marksville will have its weekly outdoor lighted rosary every Thursday through October, weather permitting. In case of inclement weather, the rosary is held in St. Joseph Church. The rosary begins at 7:00 p.m. in the parking lot next to the church hall. Participants may bring chairs to sit outside or remain in their vehicles. The lighted rosary is sponsored by St. Joseph Knights of Columbus Council #1217.

Grief Support Group, Pineville

Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Pineville will begin a Grief Support Group, every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Center. For more information, please contact the church office at 318-445-2497 or Robin Graham at 318-229-6466.

Tuesday Eucharistic Adoration, Marksville

St. Joseph Church in Marksville is holding a weekly Tuesday Eucharistic adoration from 6:30 - 7:00 p.m. in the church. Everyone is welcome. Please wear a face mask and practice social distancing during this time of prayer and worship.

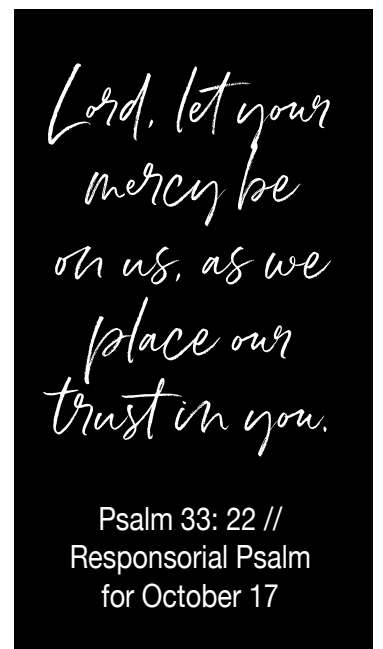
"let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works."

11 hebrews 10: 24



Find additional resources at www.diocesealex.org/come-to-the-table, including:

- How to find a church parish near you
- How to find Mass times at churches near you
- Divorce and annulments in the Catholic Church



• September 30 - October 3
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Visit www.stmaryscottonport.com

A list of ACTS Retreat dates can be found at www.diocesealex.org/our-faith/acts/.

Spotlight on the Saints //

Saint Luke the evangelist was an early convert to Christianity after the death of Jesus, a disciple of Saint Paul, and the author of the Gospel of St. Luke and the Acts of the Apostles.

Believed to have been from a Greek, non-Jewish family, St. Luke is the only Gentile author of the Bible.

His symbol as an evangelist is a winged ox. He was a physician and an artist, and tradition says that he was the first painter of icons, and, specifically, that he was the painter of the very first icon, one of Our Lady.

His feast is celebrated on October 18 - a good day to read the Gospel of St. Luke or to pray one of the three beautiful canticles he preserved for us: the Magnificat (said by Our Lady), the Benedictus (said by Zechariah), and the Nunc Dimittis (said by Simeon at the Presentation).

St. Luke is the patron of physicians and surgeons, so pray for a doctor today!

Saint Luke
the evangelist

pray for us



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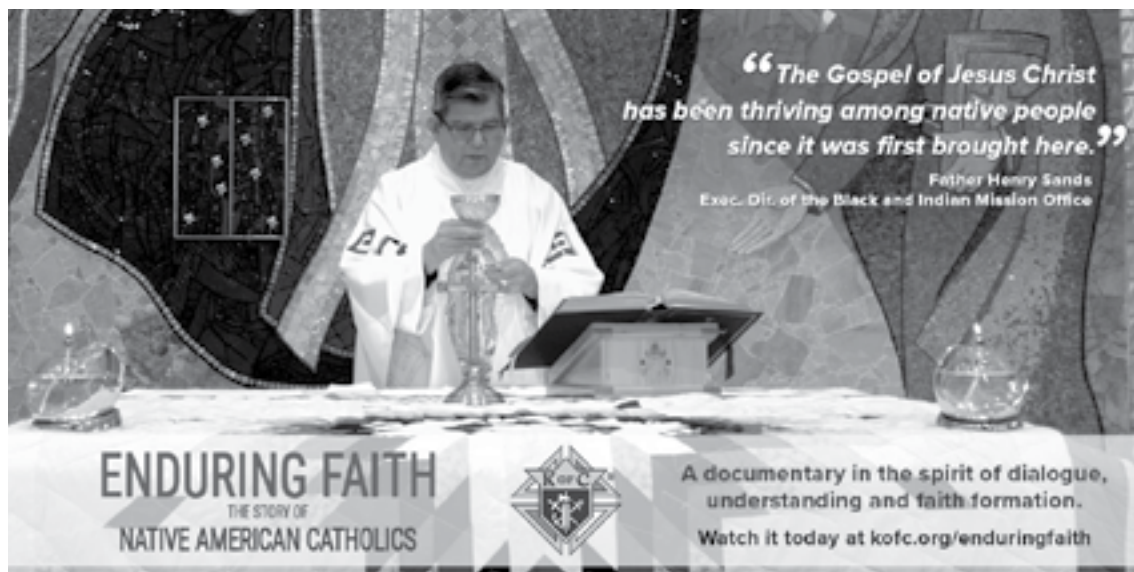
Enduring Faith - A new documentary from the Knights of Columbus

After a successful run on ABC channels throughout the U.S., *Enduring Faith*, a Knights of Columbus-produced documentary on the legacy of the Catholic faith among Indigenous communities in North America, is now available to all. It is available at kofc.org/enduringfaith.

As Catholics, we're called to build bridges, listen, and love -- firstly based on our relationship with Jesus. In all of these areas, Indigenous Catholics have an important lesson and message to share with the world.

Enduring Faith offers a missing piece to the greater story of Catholicism in North America and a beautiful example of how Christ reveals himself through the uniqueness of every culture.

It is impossible to understand what it means to be a Catholic in North America without a sincere appreciation for the Catholic tradition among to many native tribes. Few people realize that Indigenous communities



ENDURING FAITH. A new documentary film on the faith, perseverance, and inspiring example of Indigenous Peoples across North America.

throughout the continent were practicing their faith centuries before the founding of the United States.

Enduring Faith: The Story of Native American Catholics explores the rich legacy of

faith among Native Americans. Discover how in the 16th century, Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared to an Indigenous elder as a mestiza woman, and generated the largest conversion in world history. Hear the inspiring story of the first canonized Native American saint, St. Kateri Tekakwitha. Learn about a 20th century Lakota healer, Nicholas Black Elk, whose cause for canonization is currently open in Rome.

This film will inspire in viewers a deeper appreciation for the spiritual and cultural gifts

of Native American Catholics, a greater awareness of the wrongs inflicted upon them by the unjust policies of the British and American governments, and a sense of hope at how Native American Catholics continue to live out their faith in fully enculturated ways today. Above all, it offers a missing piece to the greater story of Catholicism in America and a beautiful example of how Christ reveals himself through the uniqueness of every culture.

The film can be viewed at

kofc.org/enduringfaith. Those who prefer to have and own their own DVD version of the documentary can purchase a copy at knightsgear.com.

A Fact and Discussion Guide can also be found at kofc.org/enduringfaith, which can be used as a guide for group meetings and family discussions.

Documentaries such as *Enduring Faith* provide a focal point around which we can speak about topics of importance to the lives of the faithful, the work of our Church in the world, and, most importantly, encourages persons to consider what they can do to better live their faith at home, work, or within their parish and community.

Pope Francis has repeatedly asked us to, "Go to the peripheries to help those in need." In response, the Knights of Columbus began a new initiative to get to know Native Americans and especially Native American Catholics better by cooperating on projects and seeking to learn more about their culture and history. A part of that movement, this film offers a contribution to what is often a missing piece in the tapestry of the story of Catholicism in America: the story of Native American Catholics.

Martha Neil Anthony



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All Hallows' Eve
11 October 31

*The Lord
has done
great things
for us;
we are
filled with joy.*

Psalm 126: 3
Responsorial Psalm
for October 24

Parenting, always a work in progress

By David Gibson
Catholic News Service

Parenthood always is a work in process. There always seems to be something more and something genuinely important for parents to consider in raising children.

Repeatedly, a parent quietly asks: "What am I? Who is this child of mine?"

I have been a parent for only 48 years. Do I still have lots to learn? Absolutely.

Just as parents of little children continue year by year to reassess their role and its scope, their own parents wrestle with similar challenges. Real life's unique complications leave parents of adult children, who often are grandparents too, asking what it truly means to take parenthood seriously at this point in life.

Long ago, these older parents were their children's first teachers, role models, companions, authority figures, decision-makers. Their children counted on them for so much!

Now they are parents of adult children, who may be parents themselves. How cautious are they about rushing in where angels fear to tread when witnessing an adult child's problems and major challenges?

Of course, many parents of adult children may be more than happy to exchange their long-ago roles for new roles that call for serving as models of support, encouragement and, certainly, commitment and love.

My conversations with other older parents indicate that their



relationships with adult children vary across the board. Their interactions reflect their unique personalities and backgrounds.

That means suggestions about how they might interact are only that, suggestions. Notably, however, Pope Francis has made quite a few suggestions for family members to draw upon in their relationships.

Older parents wondering how to keep faith alive in their relationships with adult children may derive inspiration from something Pope Francis wrote in 2016. "It is a profound spiritual experience to contemplate our loved ones with the eyes of God and to see Christ in them," he advised in the apostolic exhortation "The Joy of Love" ("Amoris Laetitia," No. 323). He added:

"This demands a freedom and openness which enable us to appreciate their dignity."

Does seeing others through God's eyes sound nearly impossible? Still, attempting to see others through God's eyes might jump-start an awareness that faith is meant not only to be heard but to be seen.

How will our faith become visible to others if our actions do not show that we respect them and recognize their dignity?

I ought to mention listening. Done well, listening to someone's most pressing concerns is a way to make faith visible.

Listening differs greatly from talking. Good listeners demonstrate that what others have to say should be heard.

Listening is "an act of love," Pope Francis said in 2019. "We are called to encounter others and to listen to their life stories, their cry for help."

But is listening a form of action or of passivity? Pope Francis commented:

"Having time for others, to

enter into dialogue, recognizing with a contemplative gaze the presence and action of God in their lives, to bear witness with actions more than with words to the new life of the Gospel is truly a service of love that changes reality."

It can be assumed that neither today's older parents nor their adult children possess immunity to life's difficulties, to times when health issues, financial difficulties or a big job change drain strength from their family.

Several of Pope Francis' observations in the 2018 apostolic exhortation "Rejoice and Be Glad" ("Gaudete et Exsultate") seem pertinent here. "Those who put their faith in God ... do not desert others in bad times; they accompany them in their anxiety and distress, even though doing so may not bring immediate satisfaction," he said (No. 112).

The pope remarked, too, that "it is not good when we look down on others like heartless judges, lording it over them and always trying to teach them lessons."

He recommended following this advice of St. John of the Cross: "Rejoice in the good of others as if it were your own" (No. 117).

Remember, Pope Francis urged, that "Christian joy is usually accompanied by a sense of humor." Furthermore, "ill humor is no sign of holiness" (No. 126).

I mentioned attentive listening as a skill for parents of adult children to consider keeping close at hand. Life experience can serve as an invaluable resource too.

If parents of adult children learned from experience that life can be hard, did they also experience tough time periods that turned out surprisingly well? Sharing such memories with adult children can be a way to bring the virtue of hope's strength into the real-life mix of family life.

If the adult children also are parents, this may be particularly valuable to them as they encounter each new and possibly turbulent stage of life that rises to the surface as their children explore what "growing up" means.

When shared honestly and with a dose of humility, the long view of life's nerve-racking moments can be a gift worth sharing with younger family members, one of many ways to allow faith to become visible in interactions across the generations.

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I love you, Lord, my strength.
Psalm 18: 2 // Responsorial Psalm for October 31

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Getting old is not a disease, it's a privilege, pope tells older priests



POPE FRANCIS. Pope Francis greets people during an encounter with the elderly in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican. Getting old isn't a disease, it's a privilege, Pope Francis told older priests in a written message.

*By Carol Glatz
Catholic News Service*

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Getting to be a ripe old age is a privilege, Pope Francis told older priests.

If facing an illness, that too, becomes a privilege in that one resembles Jesus, "who suffers, and one carries the cross, just like him," he said in a written letter.

"Pray for me as I am a little old and a little sick, but not a lot!" he added.

The letter was read aloud to priests from the northern Italian

region of Lombardy taking part in a "Day of Fraternity" Sept. 16 with their bishops in the town of Caravaggio.

A Mass was also celebrated the same day in the Sanctuary of Santa Maria della Fonte, and prayers were said for all the priests from the region who died of COVID-19. According to Vatican News, out of the nearly 300 priests who died in Italy, nearly a third were from Lombardy.

In his message, the pope greeted all older priests and said, "You are living a season -- old age -- that is not a disease, but a

privilege."

Addressing those priests who are ill, the pope recognized the communities who are "rooted in Christ" with their care for them.

"However, you are not just objects of assistance, but active protagonists in the community -- you are bearers of dreams, dreams full of memories, and for this reason (you are) so important for the younger generations because your dreams are their roots," he wrote.

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answers on pg 15

October 17
24 and 31, 2021

The Cross Word

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52			53			54		55		
56			57					58		
59			60					61		

Readings: Is 53:10-11; Heb 4:14-16; Mk 10:35-45 & Jer 31:7-9; Heb 5:1-6; Mk 10:46-52 & Deut 6:2-6; Heb 7:23-28; Mark 12:28-34

- ACROSS**
- 1 Central Daylight Time
 - 4 Fable writer
 - 9 Alphabet
 - 12 Popular pope name
 - 13 Pierced Jesus' side
 - 14 Card game
 - 15 Electroencephalograph
 - 16 Desert plants
 - 17 "Blessed is __ who believed"
 - 18 God's goodness
 - 20 (2 wds) "His" will shall be accomplished
 - 22 "I believe in __ God"
 - 24 Compass point
 - 25 Ready substitute
 - 29 Adam did with apple
 - 33 Spring flower
 - 34 Baseball stick
 - 36 ' __ the Lord, your God'
 - 37 Stockings' fabric
 - 39 Main protein of hair
 - 41 Toss, as in a ball
 - 43 Irritate
 - 44 Atop the kidneys
 - 48 'They departed in __'
 - 52 What a bill is
 - 53 Sports shoe projection
 - 55 Did in chair
- DOWN**
- 1 Fly
 - 2 "As the __ longs for flowing streams"
 - 3 Roman wool cloaks
 - 4 Jesus did, to heaven
 - 5 Government agency
 - 6 Faction
 - 7 Vows
 - 8 "Our great high __"
 - 9 Too
 - 10 Danish physicist
 - 11 Female college student
 - 19 " __ the sorrowful" Work of Mercy
 - 21 Foliage
 - 23 Move away
 - 25 "A high priest with out __"
 - 26 Attempt
 - 27 Be sick
 - 28 A Himalayan cow
 - 30 Dried cement is
 - 31 Thai
 - 32 European sea eagle
 - 35 __ Commandments
 - 38 Noncommissioned officer
 - 40 Wickerwork
 - 42 Tropical breeze
 - 44 Jewish calendar month (March)
 - 45 Male ruler of a duchy
 - 46 " __ the whirlwind"
 - 47 Dregs
 - 49 Eastern continent
 - 50 Full of zest
 - 51 Eye infection
 - 54 Gone by



HOLY CROSS, NATCHITOCHEES. Bishop Robert Marshall visited Holy Cross Church in Natchitoches to celebrate the parish feast day, the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Bishop visited with the students of Northwestern State University, who gathered at the Catholic Student Center, and with the FOCUS missionaries who minister among the students. Thank you to Father Jose Pallipurath and all of the parishioners for their warm welcome.



CABRINI SCHOOL THANK YOU CARDS. (ABOVE) Students at St. Frances Cabrini School create thank you cards during classes. The nearly 300 cards were created specifically for the frontline healthcare workers at our local hospitals. Some of the messages on the cards were personally from students, thanking the healthcare workers for caring for their loved ones who were in the hospital.



SAINT ANTHONY SCHOOL, BUNKIE. (ABOVE) St. Anthony School, Bunkie, cheerleaders and football team group photos for the 2021-2022 school year. Visit sasbunkie.com for more information this year's school and athletic events.

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Louisiana College: Catholic Student Organization, 318-447-2956

New global initiative seeks to ‘unlock’ Catechism of the Catholic Church

By Anna Capizzi Galvez
Catholic News Service



REAL + TRUE INITIATIVE. The global project “Real + True” aims to “unlock” the catechism and modernize the way church teaching is presented to a digital age. Launched Sept. 7, 2021, the initiative includes videos, social media content, and a podcast organized along the four pillars of the catechism. (CNS photo/Real + True)

WASHINGTON (CNS) — When is the last time you cracked open the Catechism of the Catholic Church? Odds are, it’s sitting on your bookshelf collecting dust.

A new global project, Real + True, seeks to “unlock” the catechism and modernize the way church teaching is presented to a digital age.

The catechism “is not just a technical book,” said Real + True co-founder Edmund Mitchell, “but it’s written to really change our relationship with Christ.”

Launched Sept. 7, the initiative includes videos, social media content and a podcast organized along the four pillars of the catechism. Each month a new unit will be released, with 12 units for each pillar, totaling 48 units.

Aimed at millennial and Generation Z audiences, the content is meant to supplement evangelization and catechesis efforts that already exist as well as be a resource to those seeking answers to questions online, said co-founder Edmundo Reyes.

The material is free and available on realtrue.org in English, Spanish, Portuguese and French.

Reyes said the inspiration for Real + True came six years ago in Portland, Oregon, when he encountered BibleProject, a nonprofit organization with a library of resources to help people read and understand the Bible.

While the organization isn’t Catholic, he was impressed

by their work, which he’d “never seen done in a church setting.” After learning about BibleProject’s creative process, he came back “with the hope of one day doing something similar with the church.”

When Reyes returned home, something unexpected happened. He started watching BibleProject’s videos on his phone and three of his children joined him.

“They kept saying, ‘let’s watch the next one, let’s watch the next one.’ And at the end my son said to me: ‘Dad, I feel I learned more about my faith from those videos than all my years of religious education,’” Reyes said.

“That moved me in two ways,” Reyes said. “One is a bit of sadness of like man, I’m letting my kid down here, but also a lot of hope that the message that we proclaim, the Gospel message, it’s truth and it’s beauty and it’s

attractive in itself. We just need to be able to communicate that message in a way that is relevant to them, in a way that they can understand it.”

The church is moving in the direction of an “evangelizing catechesis,” said Reyes, citing the example of Pope Francis instituting the ministry of the catechist in May and the Vatican updating the “Directory for Catechesis” June 2020. He sees Real + True as participating in that evangelizing catechesis.

Reyes quoted the catechism, which states: “Periods of renewal in the church are also intense moments of catechesis.” And with the 30th anniversary of the catechism next year, the time seemed ripe to launch the initiative.

Reyes described Real + True as a “passion project,” apart from his work as the director of the communications in the

Archdiocese of Detroit.

Co-founder Emily Mentock explained that the project’s goal of “unlocking the catechism for the modern world” means bringing the “content of the text into more digital media channels to better reach the audience that we’re after” — people that are not against the church but are curious and open to learning more about their faith.

Mentock, 29, said her own journey back to practicing Catholicism informed her work on Real + True. A pivotal step in her story was seeing a tweet quoting Bishop Robert E. Barron’s sermons podcast.

The tweet piqued her interest, so she started listening to the podcast and eventually “became compelled to go back to Mass and from there became compelled to actually read all the Gospels,” said Mentock, who works as associate director of digital strategy at the Archdiocese of Detroit.

That experience shaped “what I believe in and the ways we can use digital and social media channels as a tool to support that pathway back to Christ,” she said.

Each Real + True unit contains three videos — a proclamation video, an explanation video and a connection video — as well as a podcast that is geared toward formal and informal catechists.

Mitchell, 32, who worked in parish ministry for 10 years, said his training in a methodology of catechesis called, “the ecclesial method” by Msgr. Francis Kelly, influenced the approach to developing the structure and

scripts of the videos.

The first stage is preparation, he said, by “getting the attention of the heart of someone who isn’t yet ready to hear the catechesis.” The proclamation videos are meant to rouse “spiritual curiosity” and prep the person to have a “burning question on their heart” that connects to the section of the catechism the unit covers.

Then the explanation video goes deeper into the teaching and the connection video applies the material to everyday life. For creating the video topics, Mitchell said he was influenced by podcasts like “Radiolab” and “This American Life” that aren’t Christian but explore the phenomenology of the world.

Using the natural world as a vehicle for questions posed in the videos keeps the content relevant, especially for a global audience, since “the catechism is universal,” said Mitchell.

Funded by a grant from Our Sunday Visitor, the Real + True initiative is also seeking donations to translate content into more languages and produce videos at a faster pace.

“The work of evangelization online is significant and important, especially in a world so connected, which is what we saw in the pandemic,” said Reyes.

Isolation is one of the challenges the church faces today and the initiative organizers hope that by having “content that leads to Jesus,” young people can help “get connected spiritually,” then ideally continue a “journey of discipleship toward true community and communion,” he said.

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Catholic students in either junior high or high school, attending our Catholic schools or public schools will be considered. Help us to introduce some of our wonderful youth to the rest of our diocese! Once we receive your submission, we’ll contact you (the adult leader) to ensure that the youth nominated is a good fit to be featured in this Church Today spotlight.

Pilgrimage to France - October 1-11

France plus Fatima. The pilgrimage with Fr. Martin Laird to Lourdes, France has been rescheduled to October 1-11, 2021. In Lourdes, experience the Grotto and Way of the Cross, and visit the Basilica of St. Therese in Lisieux. In Paris, see Sacre Coeur and the Miraculous Medal Chapel, as well as cruise down the Seine River. PLUS: an extra day in Fatima for no extra cost! Request more information by calling 337-291-1933 or visit www.holytravels.org/materdolorosa.

Chef John Folse's 'FEAST FOR GOOD' - October 6

Please join St. Mary's Residential Training School and legendary Louisiana Chef John Folse at Feast for Good! Chef Folse will be back in Central Louisiana on October 6, 2021 at England Airpark Community Center to host a night of great food and entertainment in support of local children with developmental disabilities. Only 150 tickets are available. Visit www.feast4good.org to save your seat. The event will also be streamed on the St. Mary's Facebook page.

Marriage Help - Oct. 8-10

Retroville (pronounced retro-vi) has helped tens of thousands of couples at all stages of disillusionment or misery in their marriage. This program can help you, too. For confidential information or to register for the upcoming program, beginning with a weekend on October 8-10, call 985-232-5963 or email retrovibrcomcoor@gmail.com or visit www.helpourmarriage.com.

Discalced Carmelite Meeting - Oct. 9

The Order of Discalced Carmelites holds its monthly meeting at 9:00 a.m. every second Saturday, at Maryhill Renewal Center. Anyone is invited to attend morning prayer followed by Mass and then the meeting. If you are interested in Carmelite studies, please contact Mary Jo McCoy (318) 346-6860 or (318) 481-9638.

St Joseph School Fair - October 9-10

St. Joseph School in Plaquemine is having the regular school fair on Oct 9-10. Schedule of events is as follows:

Saturday, October 9

2:00 pm: Corn Hole tournament registration begins.

Tournament starts at 2:30.

4:00 pm: Holy Mass at Mater Dolorosa

Bingo, ticket booths, silent auction and games open

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5:30 pm: Fair royalty presentation

6:00 pm: Live music by Hot Sause Band

Festivities close at 11:00 pm

Sunday, October 10

9:00 am: Holy Mass

Bingo opens after Mass

10:00 am: Cochon de lait serving begins. \$9 each pre-purchased \$12 at the fair.

2:00 pm: Raffle drawing and close of the fair

Bishop's Annual Golf Tournament - October 11

The Bishop's Annual Golf Tournament is back! The tournament will be held Oct. 11 at Oakwing Golf Club, Alexandria. If you, your business, or your church parish would like to register a team, sign up as a sponsor, or simply make a donation, please contact Sandi Tarver at starver@diocesealex.org. Several sponsorship levels are available. The money raised from the tournament goes towards the Seminarian Education Fund.

Heart of St. Kateri Circle meeting October 14

The monthly meeting will be Oct. 14, at 5:30 p.m. at 2225 North Bolton Avenue, Alexandria. Anyone interested in Native American ministry, or is a Native American from any tribe we encourage you to join us. All are welcome no matter who you are for we are always happy to have visitors and new members. We pray, study and go over our outreach ministry. You are important to us. For more information, contact Scotty Durio at finance@tekconf.org.

Carmelite Silent Retreat - Nov. 12-14

The Carmelite Community of Alexandria will host a silent retreat Nov. 12-14 at Maryhill Renewal Center. Brother Joel Giallanza will present talks on St. John of the Cross, "The Process and The Promise." Please join us if you are wishing to deepen your prayer life. Contact Mary Jo McCoy at (318) 346-6860 or (318) 481-9638 OR Deacon William Travis at (318) 664-7069 or (318) 640-2827.

Religious Freedom Speaker - Oct. 19

104.3 The Bridge (radio station) will have a Pastors Appreciation Luncheon on Tuesday, Oct. 19 at the Community Center in Pineville from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Guest speaker is Michael P. Farris, president and CEO of Alliance Defending Freedom. Farris has specialized in constitutional appellate litigation in which he successfully argued *NIFLA v. Becerra*, resulting in a free speech victory for California's pro-life pregnancy centers. He also has substantial experience in international religious freedom advocacy. For more information contact Jeff Akin at jeff.akin@smgnational.com or call (318) 473-1043.

iGiveCatholic

Are you ready to be a part of #iGiveCatholic? It's a day to celebrate all the good going on in our communities! Mark your calendars for November 30!

Enduring Faith documentary

Enduring Faith - A documentary film on the faith, perseverance, and inspiring example of Indigenous Peoples across North America - available for all to watch at kofc.org/enduringfaith.

Indigenous communities across North America have a rich and vibrant testimony to share - both past and present - including the witness of their faith. Enduring Faith: The Story of Native American Catholics dives deep into the rich contribution of Native Americans in the tapestry of the Catholic faith. Produced by the Knights of Columbus as part of its Faith Formation and Native Solidarity initiatives, the 60-minute documentary offers a missing piece to the greater story of Catholicism on the continent and a beautiful example of how Christ reveals himself through the uniqueness of every culture. A must watch with the family, classroom, or faith group. Available to all at kofc.org/enduringfaith. Please spread the word. Know someone who could benefit from joining the Knights? Visit or share kofc.org/joinus for details.

Save the dates! - Tentative dates for conferences in 2022

- Beyond the Limits Jr. High Conference, Alexandria: March 5-6, 2022
- Genesis of Eve Women's Conference, Alexandria: May 13-15, 2022
- Steubenville South High School Youth Conference, Alexandria: June 24-26, 2022
- National Tekakwitha Conference, Alexandria: July 20-24, 2022

Church Today News Deadlines

October 25
Deadline for news:
Thursday, Oct. 14

November 29
Deadline for news:
Thursday, Nov. 18



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October 2021

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<p>SEPTEMBER 27</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. J. ANTONY</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Adoration 6:30-7:00 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville</p> <p>PRAY FOR DCN. E.J. BARRE</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Grief Support Group 6:00 p.m. Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Pineville</p> <p>Devotion to Saints Series 6:30-7:30 p.m. OLPS, Alexandria</p> <p>FEAST of SAINTS MICHAEL, GABRIEL and RAPHAEL, ARCHANGELS</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. S. BRANDOW</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Second Coming Series 6:00 p.m. Church of the Little Flower, Evergreen</p> <p>Outdoor Lighted Rosary 8:00 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. D. BRAQUET</p>	<p>OCTOBER 1</p> <p>FIRST FRIDAY</p> <p>PRAY FOR BISHOP R. MARSHALL</p>	<p>2</p> <p>MEMORIAL of the HOLY GUARDIAN ANGELS</p> <p>FIRST SATURDAY</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. J. BROCATO</p>	<p>3</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. S. CHEMINO</p>
<p>4</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. D. CORKERY</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Adoration 6:30-7:00 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. J. CUNNINGHAM</p>	<p>6</p> <p>John Folsie's Feast for Good England Airpark Community Center</p> <p>Grief Support Group 6:00 p.m. Sacred Heart of Jesus, Pineville</p> <p>Devotion to Saints Series 6:30-7:30 p.m. OLPS, Alexandria</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. W. DECOSTE</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Outdoor Lighted Rosary 7:00 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville</p> <p>FEAST of OUR LADY of the ROSARY</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. D. DEJESUS</p>	<p>8</p> <p>PRAY FOR DCN. LG DELOACH</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Discalced Carmelite Meeting 9:00 a.m. Maryhill Renewal Center</p> <p>St. Joseph School Fair, Plaucheville</p>	<p>10</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. J. DESIMONE</p>
<p>11</p> <p>Bishop's Golf Tournament 12:00 p.m. Oakwing Golf Course, Alexandria</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. A. DHARMARAJ</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Adoration 6:30-7:00 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville</p> <p>PRAY FOR DCN. D. DUBROC</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Grief Support Group 6:00 p.m. Sacred Heart of Jesus Church Community Center, Pineville</p> <p>Devotion to Saints Series 6:30-7:30 p.m. OLPS, Alexandria</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. D. DUCOTE</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Heart of Kateri Circle Meeting 5:30 p.m. Tekakwitha Conference Center, Alexandria</p> <p>Outdoor Lighted Rosary 7:00 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville</p> <p>PRAY FOR DCN. W. ENDRIS</p>	<p>15</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. P. FAULK</p>	<p>16</p> <p>PRAY FOR DCN. L. FELDKAMP</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Mass for Pope Francis' "a Synodal Church" 11:00 a.m. St. Francis Xavier Cathedral</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. J. FERGUSON</p>
<p>18</p> <p>White Mass honoring Medical Professionals 12:05 p.m. St. Francis Xavier Cathedral</p> <p>FEAST of SAINT LUKE</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. W. GEARHEARD</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Pastors Luncheon with Religious Freedom Speaker 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Community Center, Pineville</p> <p>Adoration 6:30-7:00 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. J. GOOTEE</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Grief Support Group 6:00 p.m. Sacred Heart of Jesus Church Community Center, Pineville</p> <p>Devotion to Saints Series 6:30-7:30 p.m. OLPS, Alexandria</p> <p>PRAY FOR DCN. S. GRAMIGNA</p>	<p>21</p> <p>VIRTUS Training 6:00 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville</p> <p>Outdoor Lighted Rosary 7:00 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. R. GREMILLION</p>	<p>22</p> <p>FEAST of POPE SAINT JOHN PAUL II</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. D. HART</p>	<p>23</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. J. HASIEBER</p>	<p>24</p> <p>PRAY FOR MSGR. R. HOPPE</p>
<p>25</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. R. HUMPHRIES</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Adoration 6:30-7:00 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville</p> <p>PRAY FOR H. IMAMSHAH</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Grief Support Group 6:00 p.m. Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Pineville</p> <p>Devotion to Saints Series 6:30-7:30 p.m. OLPS, Alexandria</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. R. JOHNSON</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Outdoor Lighted Rosary 7:00 p.m. St. Joseph Church, Marksville</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. T. KENNEDY</p>	<p>29</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. P. KULIGOWSKI</p>	<p>30</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. L. LAFLEUR</p>	<p>31</p> <p>ALL HALLOWS' EVE</p> <p>PRAY FOR FR. M. LAIRD</p>

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE CHRISTUS CABRINI BREAST HEALTH CENTER & CANCER CENTER

GLEAUX FOR GIRLS GLEAUX THE 5K

THE BREAST
RACE IN CENLA

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2021

SUPPORT BREAST CANCER AWARENESS

Race Headquarters

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Pink Toyota Raffle

Presented by Walker Toyota

Visit our website or Walker Toyota to purchase your \$15 Raffle Ticket today! The drawing will take place at closing ceremony on race day. You need not be present to win.

Pink Mower Raffle

Visit our website or PJ's Equipment to purchase your \$15 Raffle ticket for your chance to win a hot pink, 2021 HDE2255 Zero-Turn Bush Hog Mower. The drawing will take place at closing ceremony on race day. You need not be present to win.

Schedule of Events

- | | |
|--------|--|
| 6:00PM | Survivor Happy Hour
Registration Open / Festivities Begin
*Must have a race bib to participate |
| 7:30PM | Race Begins |
| 8:15PM | Closing Ceremony |
| 8:30PM | Post-Race Tailgate |

For more information, visit
www.christuscabrinifoundation.org/gleaux



CHRISTUS CABRINI
Foundation

