Bl. Óscar Romero

San Salvador, El Salvador—On May 23, before an approximate crowd of 300,000 people, Angelo Cardinal Amato beatified the martyred Salvadoran Archbishop Óscar Romero. Beatification is the last step before canonization. To achieve reception into the Church’s canon of saints, Romero must have a miracle attributed to his intercession.

Ceremonies started Friday evening, May 22, with a torchlight procession through the streets of San Salvador, the capital of El Salvador, and a Mass celebrated by Cardinal Joseph Church, Cotati, was generally pleased with the beatification of his homeland’s first saint. “As a native of El Salvador,” said Father, “I hope that Bl. Romero’s intercession brings unity and peace to El Salvador.”

Andrew Pacheco Ordained a Transitional Deacon

Vatican City (CNA/EWTN News)—George Cardinal Pell, prefect of the Vatican’s Secretariat for the Economy, spoke in May on issues surrounding the family and the upcoming Synod of Bishops, saying a synod is unable to change Church teaching.

The Pontiff was speaking at a catechetical reflection on marriage and family at his weekly General Audience on January 7, His Holiness said, “I am afraid that if the Lord does not grant us this honor, Salvadoran rightists murdered His Lordship while he celebrated Mass at a hospital chapel in San Salvador. During his General Audience on January 7, His Holiness quoted words Romero had spoken at the funeral Mass of a priest assassinated by Salvadoran death squads: ‘We must all be willing to die for our faith even if the Lord does not grant us this honor.’

Andrew Pacheco Ordained to the Transitional Diaconate

Catholic Herald (UK)—His Honess Pope Francis has called for equal pay for women, calling the difference in income between men and women a “pure scandal.”

Speaking on the subject of family dissolution, the Pope said, “The Christian seed of radical equality between men and women must bring new fruits,” in our time. Arguing that “the witness of the social dignity of marriage shall become persuasive,” the Pope said that “as Christians, we must become more demanding in this regard: for example, [by] supporting with decision the right to equal retribution for equal work; disparity is a pure scandal.”

However, he added, we must also recognize “the maternity of women and the paternity of men as a perennially valid treasure for the benefit of children.”

Speaking about the crisis of marriage, Pope Francis said, “Today, society is confronted with fewer marriages.

“In many countries, separation of couples is increasing, while the number of children is decreasing.

“These broken marriage bonds affect the youngest of all, as they come to view marriage as something temporary.

“Perhaps there is a fear of failure which prevents men and women from trusting in Christ’s promise of grace in marriage and in the family.”
Hacer el Bien por la Razón Correcta

El día de su elección, en marzo de 2015, el Papa Francisco, hablaba sobre el camino, construir y profesar. Respecto a la elección, dijo: "Podemos caminar cuanto queramos, podemos edificar muchas cosas, pero si no confesamos a Jesucristo, algo no funciona. Acabaremos siendo una ONG asistencial, pero no la Iglesia, la Esposa del Señor. Cuando no se confiesa a Jesucristo, se viene a la memoria de Dios. Cuando no se confiesa al Señor, se confiesa la mundanidad del diablo, la mundanidad del demoñio Estas son palabras muy energéticas y desafiante que hay que tomar en serio. Están tomando el sentido de Acción Católica y nos llevan hacia los interrogantes esenciales. ¿Qué quiere decir que una escuela sea una escuela católica? ¿Qué quiere decir que un hospital sea un hospital católico? ¿Qué quiere decir que una buena institución de caridad sea una caridad católica? Los Obispos de California están considerando la emisión del decretum respecto a las escuelas católicas, como punto de partida de que no nos desviemos de la misión establecida para el funcionamiento de la escuela.

Según el vocabulario del borrador –el cual aprovecho aquí para tomar la libertad de modificar– se señala que el fin sobrealado de nuestras escuelas católicas es el de educar y prestar formación en la fe y la moral, de manera adecuada para los futuros dirigentes de la Iglesia. Sin duda alguna, estos dirigentes prestarán sus talentos al servicio de la Iglesia. Pero, también estarán bien coteados como dirigentes del mundo de la sociedad. De esta manera, el impacto de la Iglesia Católica se extenderá mucho más allá de las fronteras de nuestra parroquia.

Si, nuestras escuelas católicas tienen el deber de bien educar en las ciencias seglares. Y sin embargo, como lo declara el Papa Francisco: Si no confesamos a Jesucristo, algo no funciona. Queda claro que bien educar, aún sin el contenido religioso, es una meta admirable. Esta meta es consistente con el reino de Dios. Una escuela pública podrá ser muy buena y tener maestros excelentes, con un amor genuino hacia los niños a quienes están prestando sus servicios, y esto es consistente con el reino. Pero, quema esta representando a la ONG asistencial, a lo que se refiere el Papa Francisco. Se lleva a cabo un trabajo muy bien hecho, pero no es el trabajo de la Iglesia, la Esposa del Señor (Ef 5:30-31; San Agustín, En in Ps. 74:4-10 P 36, 948 – 949). Estos mismos conceptos se aplican a las obras de caridad católicas, así como a los hospitales católicos. Efectuando obras de caridad u obras de sanación, son actos buenos y nobles, y éstas son plenamente consistentes con el reino de Dios, por supuesto, siempre y cuando sean consistentes con la enseñanza de la Iglesia.

Hay que estar seguros de que estas obras buenas y nobles también estén contribuyendo a la construcción del reino de Dios, lo cual requiere tanto de una oración intensa así como de un examen diario con reflexión. La misión es una evangelización que atiende a otros hacia una relación personal con Jesús.

El Venerable Arzobispo Mons. Fulton J. Sheen, en su retiro para sacerdotes declaraba: – El fundamento de nuestro compromiso hacia el mundo es la Eucaristía...Nuestra sociología, nuestro desarrollo, nuestro servicio social es una filosofía. Dentro de su orden natural no está relacionado con lo divino.

A pesar de todo lo que hagamos, motivados por una caridad excelente, si no profesamos a Jesucristo, algo no funciona. Quizá seamos una ONG asistencial, pero no

Beans and Tacos and First Holy Communion, Oh My!

by Mrs. Mara Russo

“Moooooommm! Mama! Mommmme!” (It is an unsual rule in every child’s handbook that if a parent doesn’t respond within an eighth of a nanosecond to the first call, the child should then repeat in varying versions the parent’s name, and do so in increasingly irritating tones, until said parent either begins to switch uncontrollably over to “ignore” mode.)

The crisis was this: As my darling son was putting on his shoes, he became apparent that the growth hormone fairy had had a bit too much to drink, came staggering into our house, stumbled into John David’s room, and showered all over him the contents of her stomach. In turn, this resulted in feet that were now clearly at least a half size too big for the shoes that fit him a week before. He feitfully claimed that he needed new shoes.

Did I mention this was 10 minutes before we were supposed to leave the house for this boy’s first Holy Communion? My kids have impeccable timing.

I calmly but urgently explained that we had no time to go to the store. He would just have to force his feet into the shoes, and he could put on his flip-flops after Mass. He could even offer up the discomfort for the holy souls in Purgatory! ( Aren’t mothers helpful? )

My cherub-faced little boy looked at me like I’d slaughtered a newborn calf right in front of him.

“But Mom!, he howled, these shoes are squeezing the beans right out of my tacos!”

My, what a vivid image. No one wants to look at, much less eat tacos with beans squishing out all over God’s creation.

We made it to his first Communion, and although there was some grimacing during the processional, any evidence of discomfort was replaced by the most beautiful smile after receiving Our Lord in the holy Eucharist for the first time!

John David had looked forward to this day for months. He absolutely could not wait. Yet for a few moments, it seemed that a minor miracle (maybe not so minor in his mind!) would steal the joy of the day.

However he pushed through the pain. By doing this, by ignoring the throbbing in his feet, and focusing on Who he was about to receive, it led him to a place of indescribable joy.

Doesn’t that sum up life? How often do our problems and obstacles become the only thing we see, in turn appearing insurmountable? In John 16:21 Our Lord says, “Whenever a woman gives birth to the child, she no longer remembers the anguish because of the joy that a child has been born into the world.”

As a mother of six, I think the part about the mother “no longer remembering the anguishes” involved some hyperbole (a woman who has been in labor will sooner forget how to breathe than the pain of childbirth), I have to agree with the main point. In the Book of Wisdom, Chapter 3, we are also reminded our sufferings are minor compared to the blessings we will receive!

After Mass, we went to the restaurant of his choice to celebrate. He had trouble deciding where to go, but he did know two things for certain: 1) He would be the only child in the place wearing a suit and tie and flip-flops; and 2) he most decidedly did not want tacos.

Mara Russo is an only slightly insane wife, mother of six, and youth retreat leader.
June 3, 1865, a day that will live in... obscurity?

As a nation, we remember Pearl Harbor, D-Day, V-E Day, V-J Day, and a host of other dates. But the date on which June 2, 1865, a day that will live in... obscurity?

As a nation, we remember Pearl Harbor, D-Day, V-E Day, V-J Day, and a host of other dates. But the date on which June 2, 1865, a day that will live in... obscurity?

As a nation, we remember Pearl Harbor, D-Day, V-E Day, V-J Day, and a host of other dates. But the date on which June 2, 1865, a day that will live in... obscurity?

As a nation, we remember Pearl Harbor, D-Day, V-E Day, V-J Day, and a host of other dates. But the date on which...
The Sacred Heart
by Ward Pettbone

It is a vivid image: A flaming heart encircled by thorns, pierced and bleeding, crowned by a cross. This heart has loved us more than we can ever know and asks us only to accept its love. This is the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the heart pierced by a lance on Calvary. The Catechism tells us “only the heart of Christ who knows the depths of His Father’s love could reveal to us the abyss of His mercy in so simple and beautiful a way” (1439).

At its core, devotion to the Sacred Heart is devotion to Jesus, the Incarnation of the love of God the Father. He is the union of the two hearts in one person, the heart of a divine锭—His heart was fully divine: He had a human heart that pumped human blood. He was fully human: He had a human heart that was full of love for all mankind. The wound in His physical heart reminds us of the invisible wound He suffered on the cross, the wound to the love that drove all His actions and words. It is through the Sacred Heart that we draw closer to the heart of Christ who knows the depths of His Father’s love.

He did during His earthly life. The wound to the love that drove all His actions and words to flourished during His earthly life. The wound to the love that drove all His actions and words to flourish.

For centuries after St. Gertrude’s vision, the devotion spread, but remained private and individual. It was not until St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, VHM, began seeing visions of the Sacred Heart that the public devotion began to flourish.

Born in 1647, Margaret made a vow to the Blessed Virgin to consecrate herself to religious life when she was 13. By age 17, however, she had begun to turn away from this vocation. One evening, on the way home from a ball, she had a vision of Jesus. He asked why she was delaying, especially after so many demonstrations of His love. Shortly after, she entered the Visitatin convent at Paray and pronounced her final vows 18 months later.

St. Margaret Mary began having visions of the Sacred Heart, including one on the feast of St. John, much like the vision of St. Gertrude, in which Jesus permitted Margaret Mary to rest her head on His heart and told Her that He had chosen her to share the message of His love with the whole world. He requested this devotion: frequent Communion, especially on First Fridays, the observance of the Holy Hour, and a feast of reparation after Corpus Christi.

A few days later, she shared all of this with her confessor, Fr. Claude de la Colombière. He, in turn, consecrated himself to the Sacred Heart and spared no effort in propagating the devotion throughout France and England. Pope Benedict XV canonized St. Margaret Mary in 1920. Her feast day is October 16 (observed on October 17 by the Order of the Visitaton of Holy Mary).

On the Feast of the Sacred Heart, by reciting publicly the Act of Reparation (Jesus dulcissimus), the faithful can gain a plenary indulgence. All other recitations gain a partial indulgence. Jesus’ promise to those who consecrate themselves to His Sacred Heart and make reparations is among other things, that He will give them all the graces necessary in their state of life, He will comfort them in all their afflictions, and He will be their secure refuge during life, and above all, in death.

Since 1850, many groups, congregations, and even countries have been consecrated to the Sacred Heart. In 1875, the consecration was made throughout the Catholic world, and in 1899, Pope Leo XIII extended this consecration to the entire human race in the “great act” of his pontificate.
Christian Printer Wins in Court

Lexington, Kentucky (WOG Blog)—A Kentucky court ruled Monday that a Lexington printer cannot be forced to print messages that conflict with his religious beliefs.

According to Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF), a non-profit legal organization dedicated to fighting for religious freedom, the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Human Rights Commission ruled last year that Blaine Adamson of Hands On Originals (HO) must print messages that conflict with his Faith on shirts that customers order.

ADF attorneys representing Adamson appealed the ruling to the Fayette Circuit Court, which has now reversed the commission's decision.

The court concluded that Adamson did not violate the law by declining to print shirts promoting the Lexington Pride Festival, hosted by the Gay and Lesbian Services Organization (GLSO). Adamson regularly does business with and employs people who identify as homosexual, so his decision was based solely on his constitutionally protected freedom to decline to convey a message with which he disagrees, not on any characteristic of the customer.

"In short, HOO's declination to print the shirts was based upon the message of GLSO and the Pride Festival and not on the sexual orientation of its representatives or members," the court wrote in its decision. "In point of fact, there is nothing in the record before the Commission that the sexual orientation of any individual that had contact with HOO was ever divulged or played any part in this case."

The commission's ruling had the potential to override the conscience rights of all Lexington-area printers regardless of their views, as a GLSO representative admitted at a public hearing.

"in point of fact, there is nothing in the record before the Commission that the sexual orientation of any individual that had contact with HOO was ever divulged or played any part in this case."

The court reversed the commission's decision.

Although Adamson declined to print the shirts he nevertheless offered to put the GLSO in touch with another printer that would produce the shirts for the same fee. Unsatisfied, the GLSO filed a complaint with the commission and eventually recovered the shirts for free from another printer, so it had no problem obtaining its desired goods and services.

The Wisdom of the Saints

I tell you that you must purify your soul from all inclination to venial sin. That is to say, you must not voluntarily retain any deliberate intention of permitting yourself to commit any venial sin whatever. Examine from time to time what are the dominant passions of your soul, and having ascertained this, mold your life, so that in thought, word, and deed, you may as far as possible counteract them.

We must not judge things according to our own liking, but according to that of God. This is a great secret. If we are holy according to our own will, we will never be truly holy. We must be so according to God's will.

Anxiety proceeds from an inordinate desire to be freed from a present evil or to acquire a hoped for good. Yet there is nothing that tends more to increase evil and prevent enjoyment of the good than to be disturbed and anxious.

Bl. Francisca de Paula De Jesus (inha China)
Pope Says Man and Woman Complete Each Other

Vatican City (CNA/EWTN News)—In his General Audience of April 22, Pope Francis said marriage is a vocation all believers are called to defend, specifically in terms of the complementarity of the union between a man and a woman.

In the account of creation, “man appears for a moment without woman, free and master, but he is alone. He feels alone,” the Pope told attendees.

“God Himself recognizes that this reality is not good, that there is a lack of fullness and of communion, and because of this decides to create woman,” Francis said, explaining that when the woman is finally presented to the man, “the man recognizes that this creature, and only she, is part of him.”

Man doesn’t see woman as a mere replica or reflection of himself, the Pope noted, but immediately recognizes her as someone reciprocal and complimentary to him.

“The woman, he said, “is not a ‘replica’ of the man; she comes directly from the creative act of God. The image of the ‘rib’ does not in any way express inferiority or subordination, but on the contrary, [it shows] that man and woman are of the same substance and are complementary.”

The Pope said the complementarity between men and women is frequently threatened by sexist attitudes. He noted how the female body is often and wrongly used out to be only an object and instrument for man’s pleasure and commoditized in the current media culture.

While God initially placed His full confidence in Adam and Eve, the devil is the one who sowed seeds of suspicion and distrust in their hearts, leading them to disobey God and destroy the initial harmony of their relation-ship, he said.

“All of this has increased distrust and the difficulty of a full alliance between man and woman, who are capable of an intimate relationship of communion and respect for differences,” the Pope continued.

Rather than being lived as a reciprocal union, marriage today has been marred by an “epidemic of distrust, of skepticism, and even of hostility,” he said.

At the same time, because of contraception, the procreative aspect of marriage has been “devalued, which is always a great loss for everyone. How important it is to revalue marriage and the family!”

When a stable and procreatively “fruitful” union between a man and a woman is lacking or under-appreciated, it is the young who suffer most, Francis observed.

Despite all of our sins and weaknesses, our vocation “is to care for the covenant of marriage,” which constitutes “a vital and energizing vocation, through which we cooperate with our heavenly Father, Who Himself always cares for and protects this great gift.”

Pope Francis then turned to God’s mercy, saying that the image of the Father’s tenderness toward a sinful couple “leaves us open-mouthed with wonder” at how He safeguards His creation.

This image, he said, should inspire all believers to make a commitment to defend the vocation of marriage and to protect the sacred union that God willed for men and women.

Francis concluded his address by praying that Mary’s example would teach all men and women of today to obey and be strengthened by the first harmony with which they were created and loved by God.

A wedding lasts for a day; a marriage is meant for a lifetime
— Author unknown

Child abuse reporting
If you or someone you know has been the harmed by sexual misconduct by clergy, or a church employee or volunteer, please contact Julie Sparacio, Director, Child and Youth Protection, for support and assistance. She can be reached at 707-566-3309 or jsparacio@srdiocese.org

Child abuse reporting
If you or someone you know has been the harmed by sexual misconduct by clergy, or a church employee or volunteer, please contact Julie Sparacio, Director, Child and Youth Protection, for support and assistance. She can be reached at 707-566-3309 or jsparacio@srdiocese.org

Pope Canonizes Four New Saints

Vatican City (CNA/EWTN News)—Pope Francis canonized the Church's four newest saints on May 14, praising their loving witness to Jesus Christ's Resurrection.

He said, “This is the secret of the saints: abiding in Christ, joined to Him like branches to the vine, in order to bear much fruit.”

The four newest saints showed how “to abide in God and in His love, and thus to proclaim by our words and our lives the Resurrection of Jesus, to live in unity with one another and with charity towards all,” the Pontiff said in his May 17 homily.

The Pope's words came during the canonization Mass of St. Jeanne Emilie de Villeneuve, St. Maria Cristina Brando, St. Mariam Baouardy, and St. Marie Alphonse Danil Ghattas in St. Peter's Square, the latter two from what used to be called Palestine.

These women—two Palestinians, a Frenchwoman, and an Italian—offered a "luminous example" challenging the lives of Christians, he said.

The Palestinians are the first natives of the Holy Land canonized in modern times.
Catholicism's Man-Sized Crisis

Matthew James Christoff is, in some ways, like a modern-day St. John the Baptist, an urgent voice crying out in the wilderness. Christoff wants the world to know the Catholic Church has a man problem. Actually, not just a problem, but a crisis. The Catholic convert from Minnesota’s Twin Cities founded an apostolate called the New Evangelization Project to help men lead fulfilling lives. The crisis is one becoming less the future of the Catholic Church is at stake, he says.

The father of four's journey into the Catholic men's movement began with a cancer diagnosis and a “very long search for God.” A spark lit in him during and after his illness that led him to an encounter with Jesus Christ. He entered the Catholic Church in 2008, then discovered what he calls the “man crisis.” Millions of American men have left the faith or drifted into a mediocre spiritual life. Catholic World Report spoke with Christoff about his research and his plans to combat the crisis.

For more on the emerging Catholic men's movement, see CWR’s feature on the subject, “Created for Greatness.”

CWR: What first got you interested in the issue of the “man crisis” in the Catholic Church?

Christoff: About a year or two after my conversion, I was blessed to have a number of very strong, courageous Catholic men take me under their wings. We started to have these men’s nights where we’d light a fire and a smoke some (cigars they would, at least), drink some Scotch, grill some meat, and then talk about Christ. This kind of morphed into a meeting with Bishop Lee Piché [auxiliary bishop of the Diocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis]. We said, “Bishop, why are there so many casual Catholic men? Men have to fulfill their role in the faith, they don’t know Jesus.”

About five years ago, a group of priests and laymen started Catholic Man Night. It’s a pretty simple model, based on Acts 2:42 (“and they held steadfastly to the Apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers”).

We really focus on catechesis on Jesus and we have developed 35 different topics that help men meet Jesus (with more being developed). The topics are rigorously researched, with many references to Scripture and the Catechism. Ultimately we need each man to be able to make the clear case for why he follows Jesus Christ.

CWR: What is just the Catholic man crisis?

Christoff: Some 11-15 million adult men in the United States were raised Catholic but left the faith. Men are under-represented in the Church versus the general population and men are only about one-third of weekly Mass attendees. Up to 90 percent of catechism activities are led by women, so the face of the Church in the average parish has become more feminine. Some 60 percent of Catholic men are “casual Catholics”; they don’t know the faith and don’t practice the faith. The trouble is that men are becoming less passionate about being Catholic.

Only about one in five priests said they would never leave the Church. Today, only 40 percent say they would never leave the Church. Four of 10 men don’t believe Catholicism has any more truth than any other religion. Catholic men are dramatically less passionate about their faith than our Evangelical Christian brothers. So it’s not that Catholicity is not appealing to men —there is something missing from how the Catholic Church is evangelizing men. If we wish to have a New Evangelization, there must be a New Evangelization, creating generations of Catholic men who are on fire for Jesus Christ and Holy Mother Church.

CWR: Did the depth of the man crisis surprise you?

Christoff: If you look at the 70-plus interviews I’ve done on our website, every single person has confirmed that there is a Catholic “man crisis.” At the Twin Cities Catholic men's conference this past weekend, I asked 1,300 men to raise their hands if they didn’t consider themselves a Catholic man. Ninety-five percent of the men raised their hands. The Church, from the Pope to the parish, needs to come to grips with the Catholic man crisis and begin more aggressively to evangelize men. Ultimately the crisis has a huge negative impact on the Church, on women, and on greater society. You’ve got to make the case that you don’t change the case for why it’s important, and you’ve got to make the case that there are some clear and simple things we can do about it.

CWR: What worries you most about the man crisis?

Christoff: Catholic men are failing to pass along the faith to their children. The single biggest influence on if the children remain in the faith is the father. A father who practices his faith and lovingly professes his faith to his children influences the children to remain in the faith. So if your father is not active in the faith, chances are you won’t be active. The faith lives of women are very important and women have been doing a heroic job, but it is not enough, as the results show. Men are essential for the successful passing on the Catholic faith and, sadly, many Catholic men are failing.

If you look at 18- to 29-year-old Catholics, 25 years ago if you would have asked them, “Are you certain you’re going to Catholic Church” about 40 percent said yes. That’s bad news, because 60 percent said they wouldn’t stay Catholic. Twenty-five years later, the number is only 18 percent. This is a massive disaster. It’s one that’s going to play out in the coming decades. This die is cast in some sense, without a really dramatic pouring out of the Holy Spirit.

CWR: You have written that the Synod on the Family that met in Rome last October had some shocking omissions. Why?

Christoff: There is only one sentence (in the synod report) that talks about married life, that remains marital and it charities men for not being good fathers. There’s no feedback on what men should be doing, to encourage them. The synod by and large focused on dysfunctional families, families that have been divorced or have left the faith, and those with same-sex attraction. There’s almost nothing on the family in the pew that is thriving, that remains marital and were married in the Catholic Church, and nothing about the importance and role of Catholic men. These intact and faithful families make up 40 percent of families and there’s literally nothing of encouragement or help to them. If we don’t get our core and get them strong, there’s not going to be a core. And research is showing if you don’t get the men, you don’t get the children.

CWR: What is the focus of your research?

Christoff: There are three things I’ve done in the last year and a half. One is to assemble statistics about the Catholic man crisis where I could find them. The second is to interview 70-plus leaders to get very clear thoughts and feedback from experts who have been evangelizing men for a long time. The third piece of research was a 2,000-man survey of Catholic men. It’s perhaps the largest survey of Catholic men in recent memory. A thousand questions differentiated each of men’s responses from every age group. The survey was designed to get practicing Catholic men to tell how their priests can more effectively evangelize men.

Only one in five priests are rated as being highly effective at evangelizing men, and that’s shocking. Those priests that are rated as effective at evangelizing men have a powerful effect on the faith lives of their men. Their men pray more, they go to Mass more, they go to confession more, they are more active in the parish and they have more and deeper fellowships with other Catholic men. The exact opposite is true when priests are not rated effective. Men pray less, they go to confession less, they go to Mass less, and they’re less active in the parish.

CWR: Were there any particular surprises in your research?

Christoff: One of the key findings that really shocked me was the large numbers of practicing Catholic men who lack fraternity. Only about one in five practicing Catholic men feels like they have strong bonds of brotherhood in their parishes. That is shocking to me. The fact is that we haven’t cultivated a spirit of brotherhood and fraternity. Fraternity is critical, for when you have high levels of fraternity and brotherhood in parishes, men begin to view their role as fathering or mentoring young men, and they’re more active in their parishes. There are large numbers of Catholic men who are hungry and will respond if their priest specifically and systematically evangelizes them. Many priests haven’t yet made the active evangelization and catechesis of men a personal priority.

CWR: Where do Catholic men stand on their faith?

Christoff: There are four kinds of Catholic men. One in three baptized Catholic men have left the Faith—they are the Catholic Quitters. Of those who remain in the faith, 50 to 60 percent of Catholic men are casual Catholics; they don’t know the faith and they don’t practice the Faith. There are practicing Catholics, who make up some 30 to 40 percent of Catholic men. They kind of know the Faith and they are showing up pretty regularly. But they don’t really have a deep enough knowledge and conversion experience in Christ to say, “I’m going to be passionate about evangelization.” The last group is “Committed Catholic Men,” who make up about 10 percent of Catholic men. They know the Faith, they practice the Faith, and they have had a conversion in Christ to the point they are passionate about evangelization. Evangelization, that’s the acid test.

CWR: So what needs to be done to turn the issue around?

Christoff: Most Catholic men don’t know what it means to be Catholic and they don’t know what it means to be a man. Catholic men need not be left out and committed to some basic practices of the faith, to be Committed Catholic Men. Men respond to challenge and Catholic men need to be challenged to step up to the vocation of Catholic manhood. We need to start with the basics of Catholic manhood. There are some basic practices of a Committed Catholic Man. They’re pretty simple. They’re daily, weekly, and monthly practices.

Daily, a Committed Catholic Man needs to pray, including with his family, and needs to have an examination of conscience at the end of the day. On a weekly basis, a Committed Catholic Man needs to lead his family to Mass and keep the Sabbath.

A Committed Catholic Man reads Scripture with family and performs acts of mercy. Monthly at a minimum, a Committed Catholic Man goes to confession. Consecration is key. Only two percent of Catholic men go to confession on a monthly basis. Seventy-five percent of Catholic men rarely if ever go to confession.

Lastly, Committed Catholic Men gather with other Catholic men in their parish at least monthly to build those critical bonds of brotherhood. Catholic fraternity is key; as Proverbs says, “Iron sharpens iron.”

CWR: Tell us about your efforts to evangelize men using the Mass.

Christoff: The New Evangelization interviews and other research confirm that large numbers of men don’t understand the Mass. About 50 percent of Catholic men don’t think they get anything out of the Mass and are bored.

The Mass is a great miracle and blessing that has been given us by Jesus Christ. The Mass has profound masculine aspects that can have a transforming effect on men. We need to return to the basics: the Mass and men. Bishops and priests need to call and challenge all Catholic men to develop a new and profound understanding of the Mass. When this occurs, men will gather to accept an outpouring of the Holy Spirit and there will be a powerful gains in the New Evangelization. The Church, women, children and our broken culture need enlivened Catholic men.

CWR: What role should priests play in evangelizing men in their parishes?

Christoff: Our research shows that priests can have a powerful impact on the faith lives of Catholic men. Priests need to lead, but priests can’t do it alone. Priests need to make a firm commitment to evangelize men in their parishes by calling a group of 12 Committed Catholic Men together to pray and lead the evangelization of young men in the parish. It is not complicated. What’s needed is for the priest to have a parish routine of gathering men together on at least a monthly basis, modeled on Acts 2:42—to pray, to receive the sacraments, to meet Jesus and understand the faith, and for fellowship and the sacraments.

CWR: With so many challenges facing men in the Church, are you still optimistic?

Christoff: I am absolutely optimistic and have great hope in Christ; our King is the Victor. The truth of Jesus Christ, if it is preached, always has an impact. We know that when we preach it and evangelize men, tremendous things happen.

This article appears courtesy of Catholic World Report
**Vatican Recognizes Martyrdoms of Priest, Lay Catechist in Communist Laos**

Vatican City (CNA/EWTN News)—During a private audience on May 5, Pope Francis advanced the causes of canonization of 12 potential saints, two of whom Laotian communist revolutionaries martyred in 1960.

The audience with Angelo Cardinal Amato also formally approved the canonization of Bl. Junipero Serra – which had already been scheduled for Sept. 23.

The two martyrs recognized were the Servants of God Mario Borzaga and Paul Thoj Xyooj, who were killed in odium fidei (in hatred of the Faith) in April 1960.

Born in Italy in 1932, Fr. Borzaga joined the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate at the age of 20, and was ordained a priest at 25. In 1957 he was sent as one of the first Italian missionaries to the Oblate mission in Laos, where the Pathet Lao communist revolutionaries backed by North Vietnam, had begun a civil war four years earlier.

Fr. Borzaga spent the first year of his missionary life studying the Lao language. His diary, “To be a Happy Man,” describes the difficulty of the mission, which was aggravated by the Pathet Lao.

A Hmong group from Pha Xoua asked him to visit their own village in 1960.

He set out April 25 on a three day mountain trek for the village, where he was to spend two weeks. He was joined by Paul Thoj Xyooj, a young lay catechist. The two vanished after a day of working with the sick and were never found, despite various searches.

Testimonies gathered since their disappearance confirm that the two were killed by the Pathet Lao.

The Pathet Lao defeated the royalist forces in 1975, and Laos has been a communist state ever since. Foreign missionaries were expelled or fled that year, and now fewer than two percent of Laotians are Christian.

**Pope Francis: Encounter Islam With the Whole Truth**

Pope Francis also acknowledged the heroic virtue of seven Servants of God. Three were laypersons: Juliette Colbert de Falletti di Barolo, a widow who went on to found the Daughters of Jesus the Good Shepherd; and Sergio and Domenica Bernardini, a married couple and parents who died in 1966 and 1971, respectively.

The others Servants of God whose heroic virtues were recognized were Jacinto Vera y Duran, bishop of Montevideo from 1589-1881, Antonio Antic, a Croatian priest of the Order of Friars Minor; Maria Brigida Postorino, Italian foundress of the Daughters of Mary Immaculate; and Maria Rafka Jesus Hostia, a Spanish professed nun of the Order of Capuchin Poor Clares.

**Vatican Recognizes Martyrdoms of Priest, Lay Catechist in Communist Laos**

**Pope Francis: Encounter Islam With the Whole Truth**

Vatican City (CNA/EWTN News)—Speaking to the bishops of the west African nation of Benin, Pope Francis encouraged their formation of youth through education, emphasizing particularly the importance of intercultural and interreligious encounter.

“Another important challenge you face is that of living with youth and education … this effort should continue without abatement for the integral formation, both human and spiritual, of the younger generations is important for the future of the society to which they can make a valuable contribution, notably in terms of solidarity, of justice, and of respect for the other,” Pope Francis said April 27 to the bishops from Benin, who were in Rome for their ad limina visit.

“It is necessary,” he immediately continued, “to promote in your country – without of course renouncing any of the Truth as revealed by the Lord – the encounter between cultures and dialogue between religions, especially with Islam. It is well known that Benin offers an example of harmony between the religions present in her territory.

It is however wise to be vigilant, considering the current world climate, in order to conserve this fragile heritage.”

Benin is bordered by Togo, Burkina Faso, Niger, and Nigeria where the radical Islamist group Boko Haram has killed more than 15,500 in attacks since 2012.

According to a 2007 estimate, 43 percent of Beninese are Christian, and 24 percent are Muslim. Another 26 percent practice Vodun or other indigenous religions, and seven percent are irreligious. Pope Francis mentioned he is “particularly pleased that an international colloquium on interreligious dialogue has been held [in Benin] … which was widely appreciated.”

“It is imperative that the Church in Benin resists and defeats the winds to the contrary that are rising throughout the world and do not fail to blow upon you, too. I know that you are vigilant in the face of numerous ideological and media attacks. The spirit of secularization is at work in your country, too.” Only a faith profoundly rooted in the heart of the faithful and lived in a concrete way, will enable you to face this.”
Catholic Schools News

Catholic School High School Athletes Honored

On May 7, the Press Democrat newspaper released its 2015 All-Empire athletes of the year, and 10 students at Catholic schools were recognized. The honorees for scholar athletes were:

Hannah Sarlatte, St. Vincent High School
Joseph Wertz, St. Vincent High School
Alex Garcia, Archbishop Hanna High School
Julia Bertolero, Cardinal Newman High School
James (Gunnar) Walker, Cardinal Newman High School

The honorees for athletes were:

Hannah Sarlatte, St. Vincent High School
George Sammon, St. Vincent High School
Armani Perry, Archbishop Hanna High School
Megan McConnell, Cardinal Newman High School
Michael Klee, Cardinal Newman High School

Sarlatte was one of only seven students to qualify for both lists, and the only Catholic school student to do so. According to the Press Democrat (PD), she “has combined exemplary school work with an outstanding sports career. She’s achieved All-Empire recognition as both a softball and volleyball player, three times as a softball player and this year in volleyball. She was the St. Vincent nominee for The Press Democrat’s Youth Services Award for physical education and athletics. She has worked as a volunteer you coach, a parish ministry volunteer, and as a Girl Scout Brownie troop leader. She has a 4.212 overall GPA at St. Vincent and is still deciding among a number of colleges that have accepted her application.”

Additionally, Connor Rubattino, Cardinal Newman’s 6’3” junior who scored an average of 18.3 points per game for his school’s basketball squad, was named All-Empire Player of the Year for large school boys basketball. In his three years at Newman, he has accumulated over 1,000 points, putting the school record of 1,565 points within reach.

Moreover, he plays football for the Cardinals and has a 4.0 GPA. The PD also honored Kylie Kiech, the most dominant player on the area’s most dominant team. Under her leadership and that of 2014 Coach of the Year Monica Mertle, Newman’s lady hoopers went undefeated. According to the PD, “Kiech averaged 12 points, seven rebounds, and six assists. Good stuff, right? It’s even better when you consider that Kiech played in less than half the game in 11 of the team’s 16 league and league tournament games.”

“Kylie Kiech was the straw that stirred the drink on the best team north of the Golden Gate,’ said Sonoma Valley head coach Sil Coccia.

“A Cardinal Newman head coach Monica Mertle what Kiech means to that team and she talks about four years, not one. "She has carried this program on her back for four years,' Mertle said. ‘Her leadership has been fantastic those four years.' "In four short years, Kiech has had a major hand in making Cardinal Newman girls basketball winners. Not only winners, but dominant winners.

"It would not have happened without her,' Mertle said"

The 2015 Coach of the Year was Newman’s Tom Bonfigli. Said the PD, "No large school basketball coach in the Redwood Empire has won 30 games in a season except Cardinal Newman’s Tom Bonfigli — and he’s done it four times. "The Cardinals went 30-4 this season and 11-2 in the North Bay League to grab a share of the title. Cardinal Newman lost in the NorCal regional semifinal.

"In 33 years at the helm of the Cardinal Newman boys basketball program, Bonfigli has led the team to a 703-266 record, has been named the Cal-Hi Sports Coach of the Year twice, won two NorCal championships, two North Coast Section championships, and fourteen league championships.”

Newman’s frosh tennis star Alejandro Osaba Serrano took second at the NCS tennis Singles, although he won the NBL singles tourney, and Tom Bronfman and Connerly Gschwend won first in doubles for the NCS.

Last but not least, Archbishop Hanna High School’s Armani Perry was chosen the All-Empire Small-School Boys Basketball Player of the Year.

On April 24, Bishop Robert F. Vasa conferred confirmation at St. Eugene Cathedral. Correspondent Catherine Buse reports that through “hard work and prayer the students were prepared for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in their souls.” Cathedral rector Fr. Frank Epperson interviewed each confirmand to test their knowledge of the Faith and their desire for the sacrament. During the interview students spoke about their prayer life and patron saint as well. "As a parish community we were proud to present our young people to the bishop for the sacrament," reported Buse. "Through the gifts of the Holy Spirit may these dear souls lead lives of holiness and lead others to Jesus!"

SVES Students Win Awards at Science Fair

On May 2, fifth through seventh graders at St. Vincent de Paul School gathered to compete in the Sonoma County Science Challenge held at St. Vincent High School. SVES’s future scientists and engineers placed in 10 of the 12 categories, including five events in first place.

Player of the Year

Said the PD, "Despite missing the early part of this past season following knee surgery, the 6-foot Perry finished the year strong and led Hanna to the NCS Division 6 championship game and the second round of the CIF state tournament. "The senior scored 40 points in the NCS title game despite playing about half the game because of foul trouble before fouling out with four minutes to play. St. Bernard’s took its first lead in the final minute and won 70-66. "The senior cager’s hope is to play at the junior college level for two seasons and then transfer to play for a university. Furthermore Hanna coach Courtney Jackson won All-Empire Small-School Coach of the Year. And Hanna senior Alexis Magana made first team for small schools soccer.

Cardinal Newman Tops on the Diamond

On May 22, Cardinal Newman High School’s baseball team took the North Bay League (NBL) championship behind a 2-0 shutout of Casa Grande High School by Cal Calmar (see School News, p. 15)

6/8 Bl. Mariam Thresia Chiramel Mankidiyan, forerunner of Mother Teresa and a female Padre Pio

NORTH COAST CATHOLIC / JUNE 2015 / www.srdioce.se.org 9
Happy Fathers’ Day!

Father’s Day and Your Priest: How Can You Appreciate Your Spiritual Father?

by Matthew Canter

When it comes to appreciating fathers, most of us are good at recognizing our dads in June. Our familial love is best manifest in the time and concern we show to them. Unfortunately, when it comes to our priests, we often fail to acknowledge just how important they are to us and to the parish family. These men strive to be spiritual fathers to our families each and every day and likely do so without much gratitude from us.

Beyond the Mass, a priest administers the inner-workings of his parishes and schools, visits the sick, and advises the catechesis for the parish. His service is nearly 24/7, as he is largely on-call throughout the week, day and night. Because his dress identifies him as “man of the cloth,” a priest can be approached by strangers as well as parishioners at any point in time, moments of anger, despair, need, and love. His life is a constant ministry of service to others.

Just as your own father sacrifices for you, your parish priest also gives his life up for you. By the grace of his ordination, he is called to ‘guide and defend the Church with strength and prudence as a father and pastor, with gratuitous love for all and a preferential love for the poor, the sick, and the needy.” This grace impels him to proclaim the Gospel to all, to be the model for his flock, to go before it on the way of sanctification by identifying himself in the Eucharist with Christ the priest and victim, not fearing to give his life for his sheep” (CCC 1586).

This Father’s Day, take time to recognize the selfless deeds of service by your parish priest. Here are some suggestions on how to better appreciate and perhaps help your local clergy:

- Thank him. Many times his acts of service go unspoken and unnoticed. Thank your priest for his vocation and dedication to his ministry.
- Pray for him. Just as we need prayers from our priests, so they also need our prayers. By the very nature of their vocation, priests are always a prime target of the evil one. Priests are vulnerable to spiritual attack because they are often overworked, solitary, and tired. Pray for your priest daily.
- Work with him. Many parishes are led by a one-man band. Often one priest is responsible for two, if not three churches in his parish. Lighten his burden by volunteering to teach RCIA or help engaged couples by becoming a mentor in your parish’s spiritual life and aid your priest by working with him to build up Christ’s Church.
- Love him. Continue the traditions of inviting your priest to your family gatherings like dinner, sporting events, or receptions. Include them in your life beyond the weekend Mass. Perhaps the best way to appreciate your priest is to utilize what he offers: attend daily Mass, go to confession, or get your home, car, barn, or livestock blessed.
- Priests are men who have chosen to give away their whole selves for each one of us. They are, by example, a reminder of Christ being with us.
- Think today of how you can appreciate and help your local priest this Father’s Day.

Editorial: Is the Catholic Church Losing the Numbers Game?

by Mark Brumley

In the American religious landscape, who’s ahead, and who’s behind?

A recent poll from the Pew Research Center on Religion & Public Life found the percentage of Americans who identify as Christians declined from 78.4 percent in 2007 to 76.6 percent in 2014. Mainline Protestants and Catholics contributed most to the decline: Mainline Protestants fell from 31.8 percent to 14.7 percent, while Catholics dropped from 23.9 percent to 20.8 percent. Meanwhile, the category of “unaffiliated” grew from 16.1 percent to 22.8 percent. Those identifying as “nothing in particular” represented more than half of the category.

Some commentators are unmoved. The shift here really is behind? Of course, we mustn’t assume we can safely shake the dust behind? We just have to make sure that in the interest of bigger numbers to come. Some even hope for a new Christendom. Others expect Christians to become a “creative minority.”

While it can be helpful to extrapolate and to analyze trends, in the end, we must remain faithful to the mission, regardless of the numbers or the trends.

Fidelity to the mission can inspire change and adaptation so the Church can reach more people and God can be glorified. But fidelity also rightly resists change and adaptation when to alter things amounts to infidelity: What looks like “success” in terms of numbers can be “failure” in terms of the gospel.

“Woe to you when all men speak well of you,” Jesus said (Luke 6:26). A mark of false messiahs is their power to deceive the masses and even, if it were possible, the elect (cf. Matt 24:24).

So whether the numbers are up or down, we must be faithful. Fidelity to Christ is the primary goal. Indeed, it’s at the heart of why we evangelized to begin with.

“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations” (Matt 28:19) is a command of the Lord. We make disciples because we love Him—and if we love Him, we keep His commandments. This, of course, is not an argument against doing our best “to win the world for Christ and his Church” through adaptation and change, including cultural engagement.

We just have to make sure that in the interest of bigger numbers, we don’t wind up winning the Church for the world.

Mark Brumley is the president of Ignatius Press and the author of “The Seven Deadly Sins of Catholic Apologetics.”

Prices starting at $2,499 – with Airfare Included in this price from anywhere in the USA

Several trips to different destinations: the Holy Land; Italy; France, Portugal, & Spain; Poland; Lourdes, & Fatima; Ireland & Scotland; England; Austria, Germany, & Switzerland; Greece & Turkey; El Camino de Santiago; Viking Cruises; Caribbean Cruises; Budapest; Prague; Our Lady of Guadalupe; Domestic Destinations; etc...

We also specialize in custom trips for Bishops, Priests, and Deacons.

call us 24/7
508-340-9370
855-842-8001
www.proximotravel.com
anthony@proximotravel.com
Carmela Manago
Executive Director

For advertising information, please contact Patty Brooks
sradas@sonic.net ❖ (714) 323-9972

10 NORTH COAST CATHOLIC / JUNE 2015 / www.srdovecees.org
St. Jose Anchieta, founder of Brazilian letters
**News Briefs**

**Diocese**

**Fr. Peries injured in car accident**

In early April, Fr. Angelo Peries, pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Calistoga, was returning home from having performed some baptisms at St. John the Baptist Church in Healdsburg.

Along the way, he was involved in a car accident that totaled his car and put him in the hospital for several days.

Father continues to recover from his injuries and is in rehabilitation. Those who wish to write him may do so to his attention at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 901 Washington St., Calistoga, CA 94515.

**As previously reported …**

As previously reported in North Coast Catholic, Christ the King Church in McKinleyville celebrates its forty-fifth anniversary on Sunday, June 7 starting with the 9:30am Mass. A reception will follow in the Education Center from 10:30am-3:00pm. Parishioners will also celebrate their pastor, Fr. Michael Cloney, and his forty-seventh anniversary of his ordination.

**New group in Arcata**

Beginning in July, St. Mary Church in Arcata will have a new prayer group. Initially it will meet once-per-month for an hour on a day yet to be determined. The type of prayer will vary, but could include meditation, the Rosary, Taize, Lectio Divina, as well as others. Most notably, the prayer will take place in the presence of the exposed Blessed Sacrament.

Organizers are hoping it will be a “house of prayer,” to pray together for the parish, the Church, Pope Francis, and our world.

For more information, call the parish office at 707-822-7696 and leave your name.

**Come one, come all**

On June 13 at the Citrus Fair Grounds, St. Peter Church of Cloverdale is hosting Gusto, a wine tasting event featuring several local wineries. Attendees can expect great wine, a live band, food, photo booth, and many other activities to keep the party fun.

The event will also feature dancing with a live band, and the all-inclusive cost for the evening will be $35 per person or $60 per couple. Tickets can be purchased over the phone at 707-894-2535 or at the parish office Tuesday thru Friday 9am-1pm. Gusto is a celebration of the area’s wine and a fundraiser that assists the parish, which has existed here since 1917.

**Volunteer needed**

Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Windsor needs someone to pick up, transport, deliver, and then store pastries to all teens. For more information, call 707-837-9306 or Nancy Carey at 707-526-4476.

Also, the parish wants to remind people that its Youth Group meets on Sundays from 6:30-8:00pm and is open to all teens. For more information, check out the group’s Facebook page at facebook.com/olgwindsorg.

Finally, both the church’s Knights of Columbus Council 1446 and The Madonna Sodality are looking for men and women, respectively. For information on the Knights, call Bob Nickel at 707-481-2267. For information on the Sodality, phone Cary DeMerritt at 707-433-8962.

**Napa conference calls men to holiness**

Catholic men from as far away as Bakkersfield came to Napa on Saturday, April 25, to learn more about to be good father, husbands, and role models in a society that desperately needs their witness.

With roughly 200 attendees, the tenth annual Napa Valley Catholic Men’s Conference drew a wide array of people, plus five priests, who were on hand to hear confessions.

One of the most compelling speakers was Br. André Marie, a native of Louisiana who is now a Benedictine in New Hampshire.

For instance, speaking of the need for self-knowledge, he said, “If you don’t know yourself, you will be a bad husband. Listen to your wife as the head does the heart. She can help you with authentic self-knowledge, even if she does it in the most wounding way (which she shouldn’t do, and neither should you).”

He also encouraged men to “make yourself vulnerable by embracing your inadequacy. Then you will become invulnerable, because then you will open yourself up to God’s grace.”

**Job Announcement**

**Catholic Charities** has an opening for a full time data entry specialist. It also needs a parish connections coordinator to work in its Parish Liaison Network.

Visit www.scccharities.org for more information and an application.

Catholic Charities Holds Wellness Clinic

Santa Rosa—On May 22, Catholic Charities hosted what the Press Democrat called Sonoma County’s “most robust single day of service for the homeless, offering preventative medical care, housing leads, and other help including haircuts, legal counseling, and enrollment in county welfare programs.”

Jennielynn Holmes, CC’s director for Shelter and Housing, said she got the idea after learning of a similar program in San Francisco.

“So often, when we think of homeless people, we think they just need a meal and a bed, but really, they need real wellness opportunities, too, and access to health care,” Holmes said. “We’ve realized that not only is poor health a cause of homelessness, but homelessness also exacerbates people’s serious health issues, so we’re trying to break that cycle.”

Attendees had access to things such as flu shots, HIV testing, psychological care, and food.

**California**

**Assisted suicide bill may have stalled**

Sacramento—SB 128, a bill to legalize assisted suicide, may be on life support. Sponsored by Napa State Sen. Lois Wolk (D) and co-authored by freshman State Sen. Mark McGuire (D) from Healdsburg, SB 128 was making its way unimpeded through the state Senate along party lines. It has so far passed over both committees before which it has come and has done so with no Republicans voting for it and no Democrats voting against it. Committees are stacked five to two in favor of the Democrats, who have a near super majority in both houses of California’s Legislature.

It is still waiting a hearing in the Appropriations Committee, however. There, three Democrats support the measure, and all three of the committee’s Republicans voted against it. However, the rest of the committee’s Democrats have not declared a position.

Furthermore, sources say the bill currently does not have enough votes to make it out of the Senate.

Please pray and fast for the intention of this bill’s defeat.

**National**

A sweet deal for the Church

Philadelphia (CNA/EWTN News)—As the City of Brotherly Love prepares to host the next World Meeting of Families— and Pope Francis’ first papal visit to America—a restaurant has come up with a tasty fundraiser to benefit planning efforts.

Beginning in April, Potbelly Sandwich Shop’s three Philadelphia locations will sell a custom shake dubbed the #PopelInPhilly—a shortbread cookie and vanilla ice-cream concoction—for $3.90, with 30 cents of each sale being donated to the World Meeting of Families preparations.

 Held every three years, the event was established by Pope St. John Paul II in 1994 with the Year of the Family, aimed at strengthening family bonds around the world. The #PopelInPhilly shake will be available at Potbelly’s Philadelphia-area locations until September 30, shortly after the conclusion of the World Meeting of Families

**Priests ask Synod to uphold doctrine on divorce, remarried**

Washington, DC (CNA/EWTN News)—Last month, roughly 500 priests from the United Kingdom drew up, signed, and sent to the Fathers of the upcoming Ordinary Synod of Bishops on the Family a petition asking them to uphold the Church’s 2,000-year-old teachings on marital chastity and requiring divorced and civilly remarried people to have their marriages regularized before being admitted to the sacraments.

**Explore the FUTURE you Deserve**

What is new at Cardinal Newman?

• 1:1 Technology Program: Putting powerful technology into the hands of students to increase productivity, engagement, communication, collaboration and limitless possibilities for creativity.

• New Science Building & implementation of STEM Education: New state-of-the-art Biology, Chemistry and Physics classrooms to support new courses in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.

• Cardinal Newman Academic Support Center: Opening in August 2015 to support all students in becoming successful learners.

Contact the Admission Office to request a tour.

www.cardinalnewman.org

**Cardinal Newman**

New accepting applications for the 2015-16 school year

Patrick Fisch
Director of Admissions
707-546-6470 ext. 120

6/9 BL Anna Maria Taiji, patroness of wives, mothers, and victims of domestic abuse

NORTH COAST CATHOLIC / JUNE 2015 / www.srdiocese.org 11
In May, nearly 1,000 United States priests made this petition their own by signing their own. The statement’s wording is identical the English version, and urges the Synod Fathers to issue a “clear and firm” proclamation of Church teaching on marriage and sexuality.

The organization Credo Priests has been circulating the petition and collecting online signatures, which are verified as American Catholic clergy before appearing on the site. Sensing confusion among the laity after last year’s Synod, the signatory priests said they wished to “re-state our unwavering fidelity to the traditional doctrines regarding marriage and the true meaning of human sexuality, founded on the Word of God and taught by the Church’s Magisterium for two millennia.”

UCLA: More troubling news for Pill users

Los Angeles (CNA/EWTN News)—Adding to recent controversies surrounding various forms of birth control, a new study out of the University of California, Los Angeles suggests the birth control pill may thin areas in a woman’s brain and affect their function.

Published in April in the journal Human Brain Mapping, the study measured cortical thickness in the brains of 90 women — 44 of whom were using oral contraceptives, and 46 of whom were naturally cycling.

Only women using the combination form of oral contraceptives were used in the study — it did not measure women using progestrone-only or other forms of oral contraceptives. The research found that oral contraceptive use was significantly associated with a thinning in two areas of the brain: the lateral orbitofrontal cortex and the posterior cingulate cortex.

The lateral orbitofrontal cortex is involved in emotion regulation and response to rewards, while the posterior cingulate cortex regulates inward-directed thought, such as recalling personal memories or planning for the future.

Although the study only measured brain structure, the findings suggest that there could be possible effects on behavior.

“Some women experience negative emotional side effects from taking oral contraceptive pills, although the scientific findings investigating that have been mixed,” Nicole Petersen, a neuroscientist at UCLA and the study’s lead author, told The Huffington Post. “So it’s possible that this change in the lateral orbitofrontal cortex may be related to the emotional changes that some women experience when using birth control pills.”

Because the study is one of the first of its kind, as far as measuring effects of the birth control pill on brain structure, it’s difficult for scientists to draw any definite conclusions at this point.

House of Representatives Passes pro-life bill

Washington, DC (CNA/EWTN News)—Two years after abortionist Kermit Gosnell was convicted of committing three first-degree murders at his abortion clinic, the United States House of Representatives passed a bill Wednesday that effectively bans abortions after 20 weeks of pregnancy.

“This bill is about protecting pain-capable babies and their mothers from the tragedy … of late-term abortion-on-demand,” Rep. Trent Franks (R-Arizona), the bill’s author, stated May 13 to reporters outside the US Capitol. “It is not a Republican issue or a Democratic issue,” he added. “This is a test of our own humanity and who we are as human family.”

The bill bans abortions after 20 weeks of pregnancy except in cases of rape, incest, or the life of the mother, “excluding psychological or emotional conditions.” For an abortion to be obtained in cases of rape or incest, the offense must be reported to the proper authorities when a minor seeks an abortion.

The bill comes just one week after a report in Newsweek about a study published in the New England Journal of Medicine that “looked at nearly 5,000 babies born before 27 weeks of gestation. It found that a significant number of babies who were born at 22 weeks … survived after being medically treated in a hospital.”

“Currently, the standard age of viability — the age when the fetus is able to live outside of the womb — is 24 weeks in the US and used by a number of states to determine at what point in a woman’s pregnancy they will prohibit abortion…,” Dr. Edward Bell, a pediatrics professor at the University of Iowa, told The New York Times that he considers 22 weeks the new standard of viability and that “these babies deserve a chance.” Around 5,000 babies are born at 22 weeks in the United States each year.”

The bill passed by a margin of 242-184, largely along party lines. Four Republicans voted against it, and four Democrats supported it. Local congressmen Reps. Mike Thompson (D-Napa) and Jared Huffman (D-San Rafael) voted against the measure.

International

Nigerian bishop: Rosary will bring down Boko Haram

Rome (CNA/EWTN News)—A bishop from Nigeria says he has seen Christ in a vision and now knows that the Rosary is the key to ridding the country of the Islamist terrorist organization Boko Haram.

Bishop Oliver Dashe Doeme says he is being driven by a God-given mandate to lead others in praying the Rosary until the extremist group disappears.

“Toward the end of last year I was in my chapel before the Blessed Sacrament… praying the Rosary, and then suddenly the Lord appeared,” Bishop Dashe told CNA April 18. In the vision, the prelate said, Jesus didn’t say anything at first, but extended a sword toward him, and he in turn reached out for it.

“As soon as I received the sword, it turned into a Rosary,” the bishop said, adding that Jesus then told him three times: “Boko Haram is gone.”

“I didn’t need any prophet to give me the explanation,” he said. “It was clear that with the Rosary, we would be able to expel Boko Haram.”

To avoid looking like a crazy man or a fool, the bishop said he didn’t want to tell anyone. However, he “felt that the Holy Spirit was pushing him to do so.”

He first told the priests of his diocese. Then he told participants in the April 17-19 #WeAreN2015 congress in Madrid, Spain. The event was sponsored by the Spanish Catholic sister groups hazteoir.org and CitizenGo to gather ideas on how to preserve the Christian presence in nations where they are most persecuted.

Bishop Dashe leads the Diocese of Mai-duguri, in northeastern Nigeria’s Borno State. There were around 125,000 Catholics under his guidance.

After a surge in violence from the Islamist extremist group called Boko Haram, today “there are only 50 to 60 thousand left,” he said.

Most of those who fled sought safer areas in other parts of Nigeria, he said. Some of the same families are now returning home as armed forces from Nigeria, Chad, and Cameroon liberate their homes.

First Kenyan beatification

Nyeri, Kenya—On May 24, Polycarp Cardinal Pengo, primate of the Church in Tanzania, elevated a religious Sister to the altars when on behalf of His Holiness Pope Francis he beatified Ven. Sr. Irene “Nyaatha” Stefani, MC, a member of the Consolata Missionary Sisters.

Born in Anfo, Brescia, Lombardy, Italy, Stefani entered the Consolata Missionary Sisters in 1911 and became a professor member of that order in 1914 just prior to the beginning of World War I.

Shortly thereafter, her order sent her to Africa. There she served as a nurse in Gikondi, Kenya, and became well known and well regarded among the people that she served. This earned her the nickname “Nyaatha,” which means “a person of mercy.”

Bishop Dashe leads the Diocese of Maiduguri, in northeastern Nigeria’s Borno State.
The team attempted to modify the gene responsible for β-thalassæmia, a potentially fatal blood disorder, using a gene-editing technique known as CRISPR/Cas9. The researchers say their results reveal serious obstacles to using the method in medical applications.

"I believe this is the first report of CRISPR/Cas9 applied to human pre-implantation embryos and as such the study is a landmark, as well as a cautionary tale," says George Daley, a stem-cell biologist at Harvard Medical School in Boston. "Their study should be a stern warning to any practitioner who thinks the technology is ready for testing to eradicate disease genes."

Some say that gene editing in embryos could have a bright future because it could eradicate devastating genetic diseases before a baby is born. Others say such work crosses an ethical line. Researchers warned in Nature in March that because the genetic changes to embryos, known as germline modification, are heritable, they could have an unpredictable effect on future generations. Researchers have also expressed concerns that any gene-editing research on human embryos could be a slippery slope towards unsafe or unethical uses of the technique.

The paper by Huang’s team looks set to reignite the debate on human-embryo editing—and there are reports that other groups in China are also experimenting on human embryos. Pope to send ‘missionaries of mercy’ to post-abortive mothers Vatican City—According to UPI, "Pope Francis will send ‘missionaries of mercy’ to absolve women for having abortions during a Holy Year of Mercy beginning in December."

The article noted the Pope is not changing the Church’s stance on abortion being a mortal sin. Also unchanged is that anyone who procures an abortion, commits an abortion, or materially cooperates in the procuring of an abortion incurs latae sententiae — effectively, automatic — excommunication.

What is different is that His Holiness is sending out priests specifically to look for those who have had abortions and to extend God’s mercy to them by the forgiveness of this sin, which the Church teaches is the murder of a human person, albeit unborn. Pontifical Academy for Life president Archbishop Rino Fisichella "said the move is a concrete sign that a priest must be a man of mercy and close to all. “The ‘missionaries of mercy’ priests will be chosen on their ability to preach well, particularly on the theme of mercy. They must also be ‘good confessors’ that must not make the confessional feel like ‘a torture chamber,’ as Francis put it. “Patience and ‘an understanding of human fragility’ are expected of the chosen priests, according to Fisichella."

Although this begs the question of whether the Pope and Archbishop Fisichella believe there are many priests who are not “understanding of human fragility” or who do not show patience or who make the “confessional feel like ‘a torture chamber,’” the move has received a positive reception. The Holy Father’s move indirectly echoes the sentiment expressed 20 years ago in his predecessor Pope St. John Paul II’s encyclical Evangelium Vitae, no. 58: "It is true that the decision to have an abortion is often tragic and painful for the mother, insofar as the decision to rid herself of the fruit of conception is not made for purely selfish reasons or out of convenience. . . ."

There is no word yet on whether there these

Famed Vietnamese bishop, defender of religious liberty dies Saigon/Ho Chi Minh City (AsiaNews/EDAM) — Vietnam’s Catholic Church is mourning the death of Bishop Nicholas Huynh Van Nghi, retired bishop of Phan Thiet, Binh Thuan province, southern Vietnam.

Local sources said the prelate died peacefully on May 6 at the age of 88 after spending a lifetime fighting for the freedom of the Church against abuses and violations by Vietnam’s Communist authorities. He passed away at the diocese where he served as the first bishop and retired in 2005.

For many faithful and experts in the history of Vietnam-ese Catholicism, Bishop Van Nghi will be remembered as “a model bishop” whose “absolute faith” in the Vatican and the Pope was the cornerstone of his episcopal mission. He remained faithful despite adversities and harassment during the troubled history of the Catholic Church in the past 40 years.

Born in 1927 in a parish in what was then called Saigon, now Ho Chi Minh City, he entered the seminary of the southern metropolis early on in his life.

In 1950, he travelled to France to further his education at the Major Seminary of Issy-les-Moulineaux, where he received a doctorate in theology.

Ordained into the priesthood in 1953 at Notre-Dame Cathedral in Paris, he returned to Vietnam to teach theology and work in the two most important parishes of Saigon. In July 1974, he was appointed auxiliary bishop to the Diocese of Saigon, capital of South Vietnam.

A short time later, on March 19, 1975, when the Republic of Vietnam was collapsing under the blows from the Vietcong and regular North Vietnamese units, Bl. Paul VI appointed him apostolic administrator of Phan Thiet, a newly established diocese.

From the beginning, local Catholics appreciated the simplicity, clarity, and rigor of his pastoral ministry, which enabled him to tackle even the most complex and troubled situations.

Chinese genetically modify human embryos Beijing (Nature.com)—Chinese scientists have reported the first ever editing of human embryos genomes. This confirms widespread rumors that such experiments had been conducted—rumors that started a high-profile debate in March about such work’s ethical implications.

The scientists, led by Junjiu Huang, a gene-function researcher at Sun Yat-sen University in Guangzhou, China, defended their work saying they had only used “non-viable” embryos, which cannot result in a live birth, obtained from local fertility clinics. The team attempted to modify the gene responsible for

Holy Family Catholic Church

The Foundation for a Strong Community

Dedicated to the advancement of our religion through education, community outreach, and other beneficial activities to the community.

Mass Times:
Saturday 5:15 PM English
7:00 PM Spanish
Sunday 9:00 AM English
11:00 AM Bi-lingual
Monday - Wednesday 8:00 AM English

We need your time, talents and treasure to build God’s newest church in the valley!

Pastor/Administrator: Fr. Frederick K.A. Kututbei
101 Antonina Ave, American Canyon, CA 94503
707-645-9331 707-731-1637 (FAX)
www.holyfamilycatholicchurch-amc.org

6/10 Bl. Edward Poppe, amazing youth catechist and priest ◆ 6/10 Bl. Eustachius Kugler, a religious who stood up to the Nazis and Americans

NORTH COAST CATHOLIC / JUNE 2015 / www.srdiocese.org 13
Pope Francis to Star Athletes: Don’t Forget to Go to Mass

Vatican City (CNA/EWTN News)—On May 7 Pope Francis demonstrated his keen interest in uniting sports with faith, telling members of Italy’s Lazio soccer club not to let training or competitions trump the spiritual essentials.

“Sometimes it happens that a guy or a girl, due to training and competitions, forgets about Mass and catechesis … this is not a good sign; it means we have lost the scale of values,” the Pope told members of Italian sports club Lazio during his weekly General Audience.

He spoke to the club on the second of three days meeting with different sports teams and associations, which have become a regular occurrence since his pontificate began.

The Pope met with United States basketball team the Harlem Globetrotters during the General Audience. Between snapping pictures and teaching the Pope how to spin the ball on his finger, the team gave him a jersey with the name “Pope Francis” along with the number 90.

Francis said that despite the many commitments related to sports, “we must also not neglect studies, friendship, service to the poor.”

He noted there are many “beautiful examples” of athletes, including famous champions, who continued to practice their faith and serve others despite a rigid schedule.

An example would be famed Puerto Rican American baseball player Roberto Clemente, who was known as much for his good works as his great play.

Francis’ pontificate has proven that for the Pope, athletics are not a mere leisure or recreational activity, but also as an active means of evangelization.

In his Audience, Pope Francis said that true sport always “encourages the building of a more fraternal and supportive world, helping to overcome situations of injustice and social and human distress.”
and some outstanding defensive play by Luc DeLorenzo. Casa had won 15 straight.

According to Press Democrat correspondent Howard Senzell, "Newman scored in the third inning when Colin Iimm's routine fly ball to center field was dropped with Kyle Fistolera and Alex Roeser on the bases." Newman lost in the first round of the North Coast Section tournament.

Justin-Siena Runs Circles Around Track Opponents

The Napa Valley Register reports, "The Justin-Siena track and field team had a strong showing in the Marin County Athletic League Championships at Redwood High in Larkspur on May 14 and 16. "With the top six finishers in each event qualifying, the Braves will have 16 athletes in the CIF North Coast Section Class A Championships on Saturday at Montgomery High in Santa Rosa. "Dena Prince led the team by advancing in all four of her events, breaking school records along the way. The junior took first place in both the 100-meter hurdles, with a new school record time of 16.00 seconds, and the 300 hurdles, bettering her own school record with a time of 47.61. She also came in fifth in the high jump at 4 feet, 10 inches, and was on the third-place girls 4x100 relay team (51.49) with junior Khiley Jackson and freshmen Kendall Martin and Anna Zheng. "Also breaking records was Isabella de Bruin, who took first place in the girls pole vault with a new MCAL meet record of 11 feet. The junior holds both the school and league record with a vault of 11 feet, 4.5 inches, set earlier this year in dual-meet competition. Junior Grace Avellar also qualified in the pole vault, with a fourth-place height of 9 feet."

Lady Crusaders Vying for Top Seed

From the Eureka Times Standard we learn, that one of the teams to "have a first-round bye in the [Humboldt] county [softball] tournament is Little 4 champion St. Bernard’s, which lost only once in its 12-game league schedule. "The Lady Crusaders (11-1 Little 4, 16-6 overall), who last won the league title back in 2011 en route to an NCS championship, enter tournament play on a five-game winning streak after a sweep on the road against South Fork to close the regular season. "St. Bernard's is vying for a high seed in the section playoffs. According to MaxPreps, St. Bernard's is competing for the top seed in Division V with Clear Lake and St. Joseph Notre Dame out

Stanford Researcher: Porn, Video Game Addiction Leading to “Masculinity crisis”

Palo Alto (Independent, UK)—A leading psychologist warns young men are facing a crisis of masculinity due to excessive use of video games and pornography.

The warnings made by psychologist and professor emeritus at Stanford University Dr. Philip Zimbardo form a major part of his latest book, "Man (Dis)Connected." In an interview on the BBC World Service’s Weekend program, Zimbardo spoke about the results of his study, an in-depth look into the lives of 20,000 young men and their relationships with video games and pornography.

He said, "Our focus is on young men who play videogames to excess, and do it in isolation. They are alone in their room."

"Now with freely available pornography, which is unique in history, they are combining playing video games, and as a break, watching on average two hours of pornography a week."

Zimbardo says there is a "crisis" amongst young men, a high number of whom are experiencing a "new form of addiction" to excessive use of pornography and video games.

Giving an example of the mindset of someone who is gaming and pornography-addicted, a young man says, "When I’m in class, I’ll wish I was playing World of Warcraft. When I’m with a girl, I’ll wish I was watching pornography, because I’ll never get rejected."

Zimbardo claims that this relatively new phenomenon is affecting the minds of young men. "Citing the research he and his team conducted, he says, "It begins to change brain function. It begins to change the reward center of the brain and produces a kind of excitement and addiction."

"What I’m saying is boys’ brains are becoming digitally rewired."

Religious Leaders Urge Conscience Protections in Recognizing Marriage

Washington DC (CNA/EWTN News)—More than 30 religious leaders from around the United States, including four Catholic bishops, have joined together to call on their country to preserve the "unique meaning of marriage" and to renew respect for religious freedom.

"For many people, accepting a redefinition of marriage would be to act against their conscience and to deny their religious beliefs and moral convictions," the April 23 open letter said. "No person or community, including religious organizations and individuals of faith, should be forced to accept this redefinition."

A legal redefinition of marriage would have "serious consequences, especially for religious freedom," the religious leaders warned. Such a change would affect every law involving marital status and require other relationships to be treated "as if they were the same as the marital relationship of a man and a woman."

The letter emphasized the need for government protection for those with different views of marriage so that these people may "express their beliefs and convictions without fear of intimidation, marginalization or unwarranted charges that their values imply hostility, animosity or hatred of others."

The letter was signed by 35 religious leaders from Catholic, Protestant, Orthodox Christian, Mormon, and Islamic associations, churches, and confessions.

What Happens When Beautiful Street Art Meets a Rome Ghetto?

Rome (CNA)—Recently street artists from 10 countries gathered in Rome and created an outdoor art exhibit designed to place beauty at the center of an impoverished neighborhood.

"We are in a new paradise, in which we have contributed with beauty, with art to make solidarity (and) close-ness coexist amongst those and people who society marginalizes," Emmanuele Emanuele, president of the RomaFoundation, told CNA. "The foundation hopes to uplift the Big City Life project: a large, outdoor, art

He also mentioned the growing problem of a disputed phenomenon called "porn-induced erectile dysfunction," or PIED, saying, "Young boys who should be virile are now having a problem [with ED]."

"You have this paradox. They’re watching exciting video games that should [get them aroused, but they can’t get aroused]."

In his opinion, the solution is to accept that the problem is serious. Parents must become aware of the number of hours a child is spending alone in their room playing games and watching porn at the expense of other activities.

The recognition of same-sex civil partnerships and of "gay marriage," especially when combined with strict anti-discrimination laws, has caused legal conflicts for religious individuals and organizations.

Some religious adoption agencies have shut down because they would only place children in homes with a mother and a father and thus could not comply with laws requiring them to place children with same sex couples.

Individuals involved in the wedding industry, such as photographers and cake makers, have faced lawsuits for refusing to serve a same sex ceremony on religious grounds.

Some state officials, like judges, also face professional penalties if they act on moral reservations about witnessing same sex legal unions.

The religious leaders’ open letter said that marriage is "the foundation of the family where children are raised by a mother and a father together."

The state has a "compelling interest" in maintaining marriage "because it has a compelling interest in the well-being of children," they said.

"The religious leaders’ open letter said that marriage is "the foundation of the family where children are raised by a mother and a father together."

The state has a "compelling interest" in maintaining marriage "because it has a compelling interest in the well-being of children," they said.

"The religious leaders’ open letter said that marriage is "the foundation of the family where children are raised by a mother and a father together."

Individuals involved in the wedding industry, such as photographers and cake makers, have faced lawsuits for refusing to serve a same sex ceremony on religious grounds.

Some state officials, like judges, also face professional penalties if they act on moral reservations about witnessing same sex legal unions.

The religious leaders’ open letter said that marriage is "the foundation of the family where children are raised by a mother and a father together."

The state has a "compelling interest" in maintaining marriage "because it has a compelling interest in the well-being of children," they said.

"The religious leaders’ open letter said that marriage is "the foundation of the family where children are raised by a mother and a father together."

Individuals involved in the wedding industry, such as photographers and cake makers, have faced lawsuits for refusing to serve a same sex ceremony on religious grounds.

Some state officials, like judges, also face professional penalties if they act on moral reservations about witnessing same sex legal unions.

The religious leaders’ open letter said that marriage is "the foundation of the family where children are raised by a mother and a father together."

The state has a "compelling interest" in maintaining marriage "because it has a compelling interest in the well-being of children," they said.

"The religious leaders’ open letter said that marriage is "the foundation of the family where children are raised by a mother and a father together."

The state has a "compelling interest" in maintaining marriage "because it has a compelling interest in the well-being of children," they said.
Titanic Priest Could be on Path to Sainthood

London (CNA/EWTN News)—When the Titanic began to sink on April 15, 1912, Fr. Thomas Byles had two opportunities to board a lifeboat.

But he forewent those opportunities, according to passengers aboard the sinking ocean liner, in order to hear confessions and offer consolation and prayers with those who were trapped aboard.

Newly elected Pope Francis, in a meeting with the head of Sweden’s Lutheran church.

Once beatified, another miracle due to the intercession of Fr. Byles would need to be approved, for him to be declared a saint.

"We hope people around the world will pray to him if they are in need and, if a miracle occurs, then beatification and then canonization can go forward," Fr. Smith said.

Pope to Lutherans: In Christian Unity, Don’t be Afraid of the Tough Issues

Vatican City (CNA/EWTN News)—Christians in pursuit of unity should not be afraid to broach potential areas of disagreement such as marriage, family, and sexuality, Pope Francis said in a meeting with the head of Sweden’s Lutheran church.

"All Catholic faithful" are invited "to take up, recognize the signs of the times, the way of unity for overcoming divisions among Christians," the Pontiff said during the private audience with Lutheran Archbishop of Uppsala Antje Jackelen.

"The Mass was that of Low Sunday, what we now call Divine Mercy Sunday, the first Sunday after Easter. "Be calm, my good people," he said, and then he went about the steerage giving absolution and blessings..."

Mocklare continued: "A few around us became very excited, and then it was that the priest again raised his hand and instantly they were calm once more. The passengers were immediately impressed by the absolute self-control of the priest."

She recounted that a sailor "warned the priest of his danger and begged him to board a boat." Although the sailor was anxious to help him, the priest twice refused to leave.

"Fr. Byles could have been saved, but he would not leave while one (passenger) was left, and the sailors' entreaties were not heeded," Mocklare recounted. "After I got in the boat, which was the last one to leave, and we were slowly going further away from the ship, I could hear distinctly the voice of the priest and the responses to his prayers."

More than a century later, Fr. Graham Smith – the current priest at Fr. Byles former parish of St. Helen's – is the promoter for opening his cause for beatification.

In a statement to the BBC, Fr. Smith said he would pursue the canonization of his predecessor, whom he considers to be "an extraordinary man who gave his life for others."

Fr. Smith said that in the local community, "We are hoping and praying that he will be recognized as one of the saints within our canon."

The canonization process first requires that the person in question be found to have lived the Christian virtues to a heroic degree. A miracle attributed to the intercession of the individual must then be approved, for the title of "Blessed" to be bestowed.

"We hope people around the world will pray to him if they are in need and, if a miracle occurs, then beatification and then canonization can go forward," Fr. Smith said.

Credit Jimmy via Flickr CNA

Pope Francis also warned against the avoidance of relevant issues today in the name of ecumenism.

"It would be a shame if, in these important matters, new denominational differences were strengthened."

In the area of promoting unity of Catholics and Lutherans, such as in "visible unity in faith" and sacramental life, there is still much to be done, the pope said.

However "We can be certain that the Spirit Paraclete will always be light and strength for spiritual ecumenism and theological dialogue."

The pontiff also acknowledged the upcoming anniversary of the Protestant Revolt on Halloween 2017, as well as the joint document "From Conflict to Communion," published by the Lutheran-Catholic commission for unity.

He expressed his hope that this initiative would encourage further steps toward unity, with God's help, "and our collaboration with Him and one another."

Born in Germany, Jackelen is the first female head of the Lutheran Communion in Sweden and the nation's first foreign ordinary since the 12th century.
This Month in History...

50 years ago
On Pentecost Sunday, June 6, Santa Rosa’s Holy Spirit Church celebrated its first anniversary. Bishop Leo T. Maher marked the occasion by dedicating the parish’s new church and hall. Fr. Charles Sullivan, the first pastor, oversaw construction, which a newspaper article said was "set on a 10-acre site overlooking Rincon valley ... It was designed by Thomas Fruhitt, architect, with Todd Construction the contractor. Both are of Santa Rosa."

The same article noted that the reredos was designed by "Dolores Fruhitt, wife of the architect. It forms a field for the crucifixes by Will Forni, a local artist."

The parish served 225 families at the time. Fr. Sullivan had plans for a school, which the Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose would have served.

30 years ago
Twenty new master catechists were certified during the concluding Mass of a catechist retreat held at Bishop's Ranch in Healdsburg. Their training was directed by then diocesan Director of Religious Education Sr. Katherine "Kit" Gray, CSJ. Sr. Kit was most recently appointed director of Mission Integration and Ongoing Formation for Christ Cathedral, domus for the Diocese of Orange.

Forty-five sophomores at Cardinal Newman High School completed 847 laps at a Jog for Life on the Santa Rosa Junior College track. Mike Pink won $50 for completing the greatest number of laps (36). Troy Hampton brought in the largest number of donations. The total raised was "approximately $5,000."

Superintendent of Schools St. Ann Patricia O’Connor, CSJ, gave the diocesan teacher of the year award to Ursuline High School teacher Barbara Johannes. Her colleagues described her as an inspirational leader who exemplifies the ideals of a Catholic educator.

The Redwood Crozier ran an article on Napa’s St. Apollinaris Church youth group. The article largely focused on youth minister Bob Biale, whose remarkable career to that point was recounted. As youth minister, he led a group of 20 people to Rome for the very first World Youth Day in 1984. He now runs Robert Biale Vineyards.

Diocesan Catholics Show Support for SF Archbishop

On May 16, nearly 2,000 gathered in San Francisco across from the Ferry Building to support the City’s beloved Archdiocese of San Francisco. Observers noticed a few protestors carrying rainbow flags, but these were overpowered by a sea of men, women, husbands, wives, and children all wearing blue as a sign of solidarity with his Excellency.

Archbishop Cordileone sported a San Diego Chargers hat, a "shout out" to his roots as a San Diegan, and a sporty windbreaker jacket from Our Lady of Loreto Church in Novato, the archdiocese’s most northerly parish. Catholic children ran around the park and playground for nearly two hours before His Grace showed up to shake hands, accept pats on the back, and share personal blessings on any and all who asked.

While surrounded by the crowd a man laid a dove on the archbishop’s shoulder. It quickly climbed to his head and posed for pictures taken by hundreds of cameras.

"We have not given sufficient energy to the 'grown-up' People of God."

20 years ago
Bishop G. Patrick Ziemann ordained 11 men to the permanent diaconate: Jim Hercher, Rodrigo Agudelo (†2007), Paul Bromham (†2010), Ken Manz (†2009), Harry Martin, Michael Simmons, Ev Woodruff, Tony Vegas, Steve Duncan, Thomas Silva, and John Gai.

Nancy Marsden, director of the Respect Life Office, reported that in part because of ail the calls made by the faithful to local legislators, a bill to legalize euthanasia/assisted suicide had essentially died in the state Assembly. Currently our own state senators are pushing an assisted suicide bill, SB 128. Will history repeat itself?

15 years ago
The Crozier reported how on May 22, Bishop Daniel Walsh was installed as fifth bishop of the Diocese of Santa Rosa.

10 years ago
Ned Dolejsi, executive director of the California Catholic Conference, reported that legislators repulsed an effort to legalize assisted suicide. One of the authors of the bill to legalize this form of death was then-Assemblywoman Patty Berg, a Democrat who represented the North Coast in the Assembly.

St. Joseph School in Cotati celebrated 50 years with a gala affair attended by alumni from across the nation. The school graduated its fiftieth class on June 4, 2005.

5 years ago
St. Apollinaris School celebrated its fiftieth anniversary with a celebration that included a special Mass, which was followed by a family barbecue. The event honored the Sisters of Mercy, including Sr. Marie McIntyre, the aforementioned Sr. Mary Corcoran, Sr. Carmel Molloy, Sr. Agnes Curran, and Sr. Birdie Flynn.

Many Santa Rosa faithful attended, including some religious from the Marian Sisters of Santa Rosa.

Diocesan Youth Minister Stephen Morris wrote this report.
Synod Watch: Four Times the Church has Held Her Ground on Communion for the Divorced and Remarried

by Mary Rezac (CNA/EWTN News)

The argument that divorced and civily remarried Catholics (i.e., those lacking annulments) be allowed to receive the Eucharist is likely to resurface at October’s Ordinary Synod on the Family.

And yet the debate surrounding this issue is 50 years old and is something kind of the Church has lovingly but resoundingly shut down four times.

1. 1965 and Vatican II: The argument for allowing Communion in certain circumstances to divorced and remarried Catholics can be traced back, at least in recent history, to the fourth session of the Second Vatican Council. Archbishop Elias Zoghby of Baalbek (12008), the patriarchal vicar of the Melkite Catholics in Egypt, proposed that the Eastern practice of tolerating remarriage in certain cases should be considered. Even though Zoghby triggered a swift and negative response, dissenters still use this instance as an example in their favor.

Shut it down: At the request of Bl. Pope Paul VI, all normal activities of the Council were suspended until the proposal was addressed. The Swiss theologian Charles Cardinal Jourvet (1975) was asked by the Holy Father to respond to Zoghby, and, citing Mark 10:2 and 1 Corinthians 7:10-11, he concluded “the teaching of the Catholic Church on the indissolubility of sacramental marriage is the very teaching of the Lord Jesus that has been revealed to us and has always been safeguarded and proclaimed in the Church . . . the Church has no authority to change what is of divine law.”

2. 1970s: Despite the Church’s response at the Second Vatican Council, the 1970s saw a barrage of publications from Catholic theologians and bishops advocating for a change in Church teaching, particularly in the United States and in Germany. In 1972, a study committee commissioned by the Catholic Theological Society of America issued an “Interim Pastoral Statement” on “The Problem of Second Marriages,” arguing that not only should the divorced and remarried be admitted back to the sacraments, but that the Church needed to rethink and redefine the very ideas of consummation and indissolubility.

That same year in Germany, several prominent bishops and theologians such as Schnackenburg, Ratzinger, Lehmann, and Böckle wrote volumes on the matter, arguing for leniency in certain circumstances similar to practices in the Orthodox Church (called oikonomia, which roughly translates to “stewardship” or “management of a household”).

Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger, now Pope emeritus Benedict XVI, officially retracted his support of communion for the divorced and remarried in a letter published in The Tablet in 1991, and has several times since voiced his support for Church teaching as expressed in Popemortation Familiaris Consortio.

Shut it down: The Church held a Synod on the Family in 1980, as divorces were on the rise throughout the world.

3. 1991: In 1980, as divorces were on the rise throughout the world, a study commission was formed to address the issue, which was published in 1991, and has several times since voiced his support for Church teaching as expressed in Popemortation Familiaris Consortio.

Shut it down: The Church held a Synod on the Family in 1980, as divorces were on the rise throughout the world.

1965 and Vatican II: The argument for allowing Communion in certain circumstances to divorced and remarried Catholics can be traced back, at least in recent history, to the fourth session of the Second Vatican Council. Archbishop Elias Zoghby of Baalbek (12008), the patriarchal vicar of the Melkite Catholics in Egypt, proposed that the Eastern practice of tolerating remarriage in certain cases should be considered. Even though Zoghby triggered a swift and negative response, dissenters still use this instance as an example in their favor.

Shut it down: At the request of Bl. Pope Paul VI, all normal activities of the Council were suspended until the proposal was addressed. The Swiss theologian Charles Cardinal Jourvet (1975) was asked by the Holy Father to respond to Zoghby, and, citing Mark 10:2 and 1 Corinthians 7:10-11, he concluded “the teaching of the Catholic Church on the indissolubility of sacramental marriage is the very teaching of the Lord Jesus that has been revealed to us and has always been safeguarded and proclaimed in the Church . . . the Church has no authority to change what is of divine law.”

2. 1970s: Despite the Church’s response at the Second Vatican Council, the 1970s saw a barrage of publications from Catholic theologians and bishops advocating for a change in Church teaching, particularly in the United States and in Germany. In 1972, a study committee commissioned by the Catholic Theological Society of America issued an “Interim Pastoral Statement” on “The Problem of Second Marriages,” arguing that not only should the divorced and remarried be admitted back to the sacraments, but that the Church needed to rethink and redefine the very ideas of consummation and indissolubility.

That same year in Germany, several prominent bishops and theologians such as Schnackenburg, Ratzinger, Lehmann, and Böckle wrote volumes on the matter, arguing for leniency in certain circumstances similar to practices in the Orthodox Church (called oikonomia, which roughly translates to “stewardship” or “management of a household”).

Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger, now Pope emeritus Benedict XVI, officially retracted his support of communion for the divorced and remarried in a letter published in The Tablet in 1991, and has several times since voiced his support for Church teaching as expressed in Popemortation Familiaris Consortio.

Shut it down: The Church held a Synod on the Family in 1980, as divorces were on the rise throughout the world.

The result of the 1980 Synod was St. John Paul’s 1981 apostolic exhortation Familiaris Consortio (“Of Family Partnership”), which contains beautiful reflections on the role of the family in God’s divine plan and section 84 specifically addresses this situation.

3. 1993: Three prominent German bishops, Oskar Saier, Walter Kasper, and Karl Lehmann, publish a letter on pastoral care for the divorced and remarried, essentially saying that while what Pope St. John Paul II said in Familiaris Consortio is very nice and generally true, it can’t possibly apply to every difficult situation.

These bishops then proposed their own guide for divorced and remarried Catholics to determine their worthiness for the sacraments, as guided by a pastor.

There were three conditions the German bishops laid out for the possibility of Communion: the individuals should be repentant for the failure of the first marriage; the second civil marriage has to “prove itself over time as stable;” and the “commitments assumed in the second marriage have to be accepted.”

Under these conditions, the bishops argued, civilly remarried people could in good conscience receive the Eucharist without the need to live constantly.

Shut it down: In 1994, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith under then-Cardinal Ratzinger issued an indirect response to the German bishops in the “Letter Concerning Communion,” which said Church teaching “cannot be modified for difficult situations.”

While it never mentioned the letter from the German bishops, it was clearly written in response to it. The Congregation’s letter cited passages from Scripture, Familiaris Consortio, and the Catechism of the Catholic Church to support Church teaching. It also addressed false notions of conscience that would allow individuals to determine for themselves whether or not their first marriage was valid.

4. 1994-2005: Literature published by various bishops and theologians still showed a tendency to stray from Pope St. John Paul II’s teaching in Familiaris Consortio, leading the Church to call for a Synod on the Eucharist in 2005, during which the issue was studied and addressed extensively.

Shut it down: Pope Benedict XVI issued a post-synodal apostolic exhortation called Sacramentum Caritatis, in which he confirmed Church doctrine and practice. He also called for a deeper theological understanding of the relationship between the sacrament of marriage and the sacrament of the Eucharist, and asked for better pastoral efforts in the area of marriage preparation for young people.

There are two important things to remember when considering this issue.

The first is that the pain and separation felt by divorced and remarried Catholics is real, and the exhortation of the recent popes to reach out to these people in the Church should be taken seriously by clergy and lay faithful alike.

The second thing to remember is that while the pain of the divorced and remarried is a serious issue, it is not the only important and pressing issue in the Church at the moment, with thousands of Christians fleeing homes or being slaughtered at the hands of Islamic extremists both in the Middle East and Africa.

Still because the issue continues to arise, the Synod Fathers will address it at the Ordinary Synod on the Family later this year, and Pope Francis will write an apostolic exhortation on the matter some time after that.

Let us continue to pray for all in Church leadership, and that those in authority have the courage to trust that the Holy Spirit will shut it down, as He has always done when erroneous proposals threaten Church doctrine and unity.

The result of the 1980 Synod was St. John Paul’s 1981 apostolic exhortation Familiaris Consortio (“Of Family Partnership”), which contains beautiful reflections on the role of the family in God’s divine plan and section 84 specifically addresses this situation.

3. 1993: Three prominent German bishops, Oskar Saier, Walter Kasper, and Karl Lehmann, publish a letter on pastoral care for the divorced and remarried, essentially saying that while what Pope St. John Paul II said in Familiaris Consortio is very nice and generally true, it can’t possibly apply to every difficult situation.

These bishops then proposed their own guide for divorced and remarried Catholics to determine their worthiness for the sacraments, as guided by a pastor.

There were three conditions the German bishops laid out for the possibility of Communion: the individuals should be repentant for the failure of the first marriage; the second civil marriage has to “prove itself over time as stable,” and the “commitments assumed in the second marriage have to be accepted.”

Under these conditions, the bishops argued, civilly remarried people could in good conscience receive the Eucharist without the need to live constantly.

Shut it down: In 1994, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith under then-Cardinal Ratzinger issued an indirect response to the German bishops in the “Letter Concerning Communion,” which said Church teaching “cannot be modified for difficult situations.”

While it never mentioned the letter from the German bishops, it was clearly written in response to it. The Congregation’s letter cited passages from Scripture, Familiaris Consortio, and the Catechism of the Catholic Church to support Church teaching. It also addressed false notions of conscience that would allow individuals to determine for themselves whether or not their first marriage was valid.

4. 1994-2005: Literature published by various bishops and theologians still showed a tendency to stray from Pope St. John Paul II’s teaching in Familiaris Consortio, leading the Church to call for a Synod on the Eucharist in 2005, during which the issue was studied and addressed extensively.

Shut it down: Pope Benedict XVI issued a post-synodal apostolic exhortation called Sacramentum Caritatis, in which he confirmed Church doctrine and practice. He also called for a deeper theological understanding of the relationship between the sacrament of marriage and the sacrament of the Eucharist, and asked for better pastoral efforts in the area of marriage preparation for young people.

There are two important things to remember when considering this issue.

The first is that the pain and separation felt by divorced and remarried Catholics is real, and the exhortation of the recent popes to reach out to these people in the Church should be taken seriously by clergy and lay faithful alike.

The second thing to remember is that while the pain of the divorced and remarried is a serious issue, it is not the only important and pressing issue in the Church at the moment, with thousands of Christians fleeing homes or being slaughtered at the hands of Islamic extremists both in the Middle East and Africa.

Still because the issue continues to arise, the Synod Fathers will address it at the Ordinary Synod on the Family later this year, and Pope Francis will write an apostolic exhortation on the matter some time after that.

Let us continue to pray for all in Church leadership, and that those in authority have the courage to trust that the Holy Spirit will shut it down, as He has always done when erroneous proposals threaten Church doctrine and unity.
La misión de ISIS - Convertir el mundo al Islám, advierte monja ortodoxa

Roma (ACI) — “El islám no es paz, por favor. Quien diga que el Estado Islámico (ISIS) no tiene conexión con el islam o algo como esto, miente,” advirtió la hermana Hatune Dogan, una religiosa siria ortodoxa que lidera una fundación dedicada a atender a los cristianos perseguidos en Medio Oriente.

En declaraciones a CBN News, la religiosa nacida en Turquía advirtió que “la misión de (Abu Bakr) Baghdadi, (líder) del ISIS, es convertir el mundo completamente a la religión islámica y traerlo a Dar Al Salam, como ellos lo llaman. Y el islám no es paz, por favor. Quien diga que ISIS no tiene conexión con el islam o algo como esto, miente. ISIS es islam; islám es ISIS.”

La hermana Dogan recordó que en Medio Oriente –especialmente en Irak y Siria- cientos de miles de cristianos han sido expulsados de sus casas, asesinados –fusilados, decapitados o crucificados-, o esclavizados. Las mujeres cristianas o yazidas capturadas son convertidas en esclavas sexuales.

“Ellos escogen a las más hermosas, incluso si tienen un niño pequeño, son vendidas entre ellos. Ellos (los yihadistas), no los llevan a otra religión, solo a los musulmanes sunitas,” señaló. “Hay unos 12.000 secuestrados en manos del ISIS – solo yazidis. Lo que sucede ahí, lo que estoy oyendo, es la más grande barbarie en la historia de la Tierra hasta hoy.”

La fundación de la hermana Dogan –con sede en Alemania– ayuda a personas pobres y perseguidas en 35 países, proveyéndoles comida, medicinas y ropa. Además, la religiosa viaja constantemente a Medio Oriente, donde la mayoría de la población es musulmana.

La monja recordó que no es extraña a la persecución islámica, pues siendo joven vivió las amenazas que musulmanes turcos lanzaban contra su familia y que los obligó a abandonar el país.

Finalmente, la hermana Dogan exhortó a Estados Unidos y a otras naciones occidentales a reaccionar y poner alto al ISIS para así detener “este desastre sobre la tierra.”

¿La táctica del demonio? Oponer a Jesús con “una Iglesia que no tiene conexión con el islam”

Sr. Hatune Dogan

Roma (ACI) — El diablo ataca a la humanidad haciéndole pensar que la TV es más fácil de manejar y además se mira juntos, internet es un instrumento que se puede usar “en la soledad,” donde frente al computador “se puede tener acceso a todo sin límite o control.”

Sin embargo, el sacerdote recordó que los fiades pueden combatir al diablo con los medios que le brinda la Iglesia. “Para darse cuenta de las tentaciones diarias, crecientes y dificultadas a causa del contexto social, y para superarlas, los medios son los que nos dejó Jesús, quien vino a salvarnos para estar con Él en el fondo simple prevenirlo, hasta la frecuencia en los sacramentos de la Eucaristía y la confesión.”

Papa Francisco cuestiona: ¿Bautizas a tu hijo y desapareces hasta su Primera Comunión?

Vaticano (ACI/EWTN Noticias) — Hay padres que luego de bautizar a sus hijos se desaparecen y no los vuelven a traer a la iglesia hasta su Primera Comunión, advirtió el Papa Francisco durante el encuentro con las familias en Ostia (Italia), al recordar que luego de este primer sacramento es importante llevarlos a las parroquias y continuar el acompañamiento en su camino de fe.

“Ser siempre cercanos al Señor, que ha dado la fe a estos niños. Y después vendrá la catequesis. Vendrá la Primera Comunión, la confirmación, pero siempre este camino. Que no sea: ‘Hago esto y después regreso seis años más tarde’. No, no… Siempre acercarse un poco, en el tiempo que tiene uno para hacerlo. Pero no alejarse, porque es mejor ser así de cercanos,” señaló el Papa durante el encuentro con el clérigo que concluyó su visita pastoral a Ostia.

El Santo Padre advirtió que luego del bautismo hay personas que dicen haber cumplido el hecho lo que debía hacer, ahora adiós... “¿Qué quiere decir esto? —preguntó el Papa-. No, no he bautizado, ahora me voy a casa y no nos veremos más, hasta la Primera Comunión...”

“Pero no”, exclamó Francisco, “es importante también caminar con el niño en este camino de la fe nueva y acercarse a la parroquia.” En ese sentido, se dirigió a un matrimonio que estaba presente. “¿Cuando tienen ustedes tiempo? Porque no siempre se tiene tanto tiempo con los niños. ¡Y ustedes, con cinco, no sé cómo hacen!” le dijo. “El Pontífice, que agradeció la presencia de los niños bautizados en Italia, afirmó que “es un paso precioso bautizarse” porque “se comienza la vida de la fe.”

En ese sentido, explicó que “en el bautismo les damos la luz de la fe. Por ello, al inicio del cristianismo, el bautismo se llamaba también ‘iluminación’ porque con este sacramento “el niño recibía del padre y de la madre la fe.”

“Y desde el momento en el que Jesús nos ha mandado bautizar hasta hoy se ha hecho una cadena. Uno bautiza al otro, al otro, al otro... Y estos niños, que han sido bautizados ahora, con el paso de los años se pondrán en su lugar y llevarán a sus hijos,” afirmó.

Por ello, recordó que “a todos aquellos que siempre exista esta transmisión de fe, de ‘la luz de la fe’. Francisco aseguró que esa es “la mejor herencia que podemos dar a los niños: la de la luz de la fe. Junto con el testimonio cristiano.”

Gobierno de Obama es “tercamente intransigente” contra libertad religiosa

Washington, DC (ACI/EWTN Noticias) — El reciente discurso en la Universidad de Notre Dame, de Carl Anderson, Caballero Supremo de los Caballeros de Colón, cuestionó las políticas del gobierno de Barack Obama después de que el presidente prometiera protecciones a la libertad de conciencia y los católicos sobre temas como el aborto.

“Si hay en el núcleo del entendimiento estadounidense de libertad un principio que no puede ser negociado, es el reconocer que la libertad es un regalo de la imagen divina en cada ser humano,” dijo Anderson.

El Centro para la Ética y Cultura de la Universidad de Notre Dame premió a los Caballeros de Colón el 26 de abril con el Evangelium Award, inspirado por la Encíclica Evangelium Vitae (1995) del Papa San Juan Pablo II, el cual reconoce a individuos y organizaciones que hayan defendido y prestado servicio a la santidad de la vida humana.

Anderson recibió la medalla como representante de la organización. El grupo ha prestado más de 664 mil horas de servicio, así como $1,400,000,000 US para caridad.

Obama aseguró que respetaríamos la libertad de conciencia de quienes se oponen al aborto y la anticoncepción. “…Estamos aún no se ha logrado,” dijo Anderson, señalando que el mandato abortista de HHS (Salud y Servicios Humanos) fue promulgado por Obama en 2011 después, con muy estrechas y pocas exenciones. “La Ley de Cuidados de Salud y su acompañante, el mandato HHS, significan que las instituciones católicas solo pueden permanecer libres en la medida en la que se ajusten al gobierno. Anderson recordó una encuesta recientemente realizada por Columbia-Marist — el 84 % de estadounidenses está a favor de que la ley se apague primeros tres meses de embarazo, y que se deben promover leyes que protejan tanto la vida de la madre como de su hijo.

El 60%, indicó, cree que el aborto es moralmente malo, “a pesar de la parcialidad de los medios de comunicación y la intransigencia judicial.”

“No, no… Siempre acercarse un poco, en el tiempo que tiene uno para hacerlo. Pero no alejarse, porque es mejor ser así de cercanos,” señaló el Papa durante el encuentro con el clérigo que concluyó su visita pastoral a Ostia.

El Santo Padre advirtió que luego del bautismo hay personas que dicen haber cumplido el hecho lo que debía hacer, ahora adiós... “¿Qué quiere decir esto? —preguntó el Papa-. No, no he bautizado, ahora me voy a casa y no nos veremos más, hasta la Primera Comunión...”

“Pero no”, exclamó Francisco, “es importante también caminar con el niño en este camino de la fe nueva y acercarse a la parroquia.” En ese sentido, se dirigió a un matrimonio que estaba presente. “¿Cuando tienen ustedes tiempo? Porque no siempre se tiene tanto tiempo con los niños. ¡Y ustedes, con cinco, no sé cómo hacen!” le dijo. “El Pontífice, que agradeció la presencia de los niños bautizados en Italia, afirmó que “es un paso precioso bautizarse” porque “se comienza la vida de la fe.”

En ese sentido, explicó que “en el bautismo les damos la luz de la fe. Por ello, al inicio del cristianismo, el bautismo se llamaba también ‘iluminación’ porque con este sacramento “el niño recibía del padre y de la madre la fe.”

“Y desde el momento en el que Jesús nos ha mandado bautizar hasta hoy se ha hecho una cadena. Uno bautiza al otro, al otro, al otro... Y estos niños, que han sido bautizados ahora, con el paso de los años se pondrán en su lugar y llevarán a sus hijos,” afirmó.

Por ello, recordó que “a todos aquellos que siempre exista esta transmisión de fe, de ‘la luz de la fe’. Francisco aseguró que esa es “la mejor herencia que podemos dar a los niños: la de la luz de la fe. Junto con el testimonio cristiano.”

Gobierno de Obama es “tercamente intransigente” contra libertad religiosa, criticaron

Carl Anderson

“Estas instituciones abrieron una ventana sobre la economía estadounidense de parte del gobierno por medio de reglamentos al estilo del mandato HHS, va más allá de lo que podríamos haber imaginado,” dijo, y señaló a Europa como ejemplo.

“En Europa, ¿qué decía?… que el espacio para la sociedad civil se está encogiendo, y el problema no es solamente político sino ideológico.

“Las personas de fe se enfrentan a una ideología basada en un falso concepto de ser personas,” señala.

“Esta ideología no entiende a la persona humana, no entiende ni al hombre ni a la mujer. Hace de... todos nosotros seres aislados, desconectados, viviendo para nosotros mismos,” una actitud que representa una “forma perversa de libertad personal”.

“Como ejemplo, indicó a la anticoncepción: la falsa idea de que la mujer es ‘libre’ del embarazo y que el hombre es ‘liberado’ de las responsabilidades de la pater-
Formerly Hostile Researcher Seeks to Clear the Record on Junípero Serra

Los Angeles (CNA/EWTN News)—California missionary Fr. Junípero Serra’s canonization is “long overdue,” says a university professor who once disapproved of the blessed’s legacy.

Now he says he’s concerned the priest’s history has been politicized and misrepresented.

“When he died, many [Indians] came to the mission for his burial. They openly wept. Others of his colleagues and even colonists, believed that he would be made a saint, because of the way he had lived his life, a self-effacing life of a martyr,” said archaeology professor Reuben Mendoza of California State University, Monterey Bay.

“Because of what he had achieved in his life, even then they had talked about his impending canonization,” Mendoza told CNA March 26.

Fr. Serra was born in 1713 on the Spanish island of Majorca in the Mediterranean. He left his position as a brilliant and acclaimed university professor to become a missionary to the New World, helping to convert many native Californians to Christianity and teaching them new technologies.

The priest’s mission work often took place despite a painful ulcerated leg Mendoza said was caused by a spider bite soon after his arrival in Mexico. He died in 1784 at age 71 because of the way he had lived his life, a self-effacing life of a martyr.

“Many of his contemporaries saw in him the model of a saint,” said Mendoza.

Mendoza learned from other researchers that Serra was “a very humble man and a man who had a great sense of humor.”

He said the “self-effacing” priest would sometimes insist on doing the work of young Indian boys who cleaned the halls and picked up the trash.

The priest’s sacrifices and “spiritual evangelization” led to the establishment of the missions that were “fundamental” to California’s history.

Mendoza lamented that “politics” had delayed the canonization.

“There has been a significant politicization of his canonization,” he said, pointing to opposition from those who feel that “the Church should not canonize a man who ultimately brought the missions to California and changed the lifestyles of native peoples.”

Mendoza rejected the possibility that native Californians could have avoided cultural change.

“As an anthropologist, I can tell you that all people change. There was already contact between other groups in the southwestern and northern Mexico that had already initiated that process of change and interaction and even conflict.”

Mendoza’s own view of Fr. Serra has changed from hostility to appreciation. While both of the professor’s parents had been devoted Catholics, his father “gradually soared on the Catholic faith” and “came to hate the Catholic Church for perceived wrongdoings.”

Mendoza had followed his father’s view and his initial research in archaeology, anthropology and history focused exclusively on Native Americans.

After the arrival of Spanish colonists, over 100,000 churches were built in a 150 year timespan in the New World.

“This is one of the greatest episodes of construction that the world has ever seen,” he said. “My eyes were pretty much closed to these churches.”

Mendoza still had a connection to Catholicism. He would sometimes feel moved to pray at the churches, preferring to say the Our Father in Náhuatl, the language of the Aztec people. His archaeological work in Mexico and California, as well as his marriage to a Catholic woman, helped him see the missionary work in California and Fr. Serra in a different light.

He learned of the stories of Catholic missionaries he described as “good guys.” He cited Fr. Felipe Arroyo de la Cuesta of the California mission San Juan Baptist, an early nineteenth century linguist who cared for native people and led a raid to bring back two young Indian girls who had been abducted from the mission.

“He led that raid with Indian warriors at his back,” Mendoza said.

The professor began to realize that while it is common to consider the missionaries’ impact on the Indians, it is far less common to consider the Indians’ impact on the missionaries.

“Here we see them literally becoming acculturated — learning the Indian languages, even doing their homilies.

(see Fr. Junípero Serra, p. 22)
**Obituaries**

Marilyn Lucey (Tobener) Dallara

Marilyn, a longtime, dedicated parishioner at St. Peter Church in Cloverdale, died March 21. Described as “the picture of a saint,” she always showed kindness, affection, and compassion. Her Funeral Mass took place on March 26 at her parish.

St. Celeste Dempsey, OSU

St. Celeste passed away April 29 in Santa Rosa, where she was born Vivian (Bonnie) Dempsey on April 5, 1932. She entered the Ursuline Sisters after graduating from their former high school here in town and made her profession on July 16, 1952. In 1969, after several teaching jobs, she returned to her hometown to serve as novice directress. Following this, her Order made her provincial superior of the Ursuline Western Province.

Several years later, she entered parish work at Mary, Star of the Sea Mission, Guayala, where she helped establish Good Buy Clothes. Her final stop was at Golden Living-Centered the Santa Rosa, where she enjoyed interacting with residents and staff. She was laid to rest May 8.

Luigi Sesto

Luigi Sesto died April 25. Born in Italy, Sesto emigrated in the early 1950s and eventually became an American citizen. He and his wife of 59 years Gloria had two children, and he supported the family with his work for United Fish & Poultry. Luigi was an avid outdoorsman until a 1980 spinal cord injury left him a paraplegic. Surprisingly this did not slow him down, and he remained active in many hobbies and endeavors. His Funeral Mass took place May 9 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, Rohnert Park.

**Prayer for the Recently Deceived**

(Eternal Father, I unite myself with the intentions and affections of Our Lady of Sorrows on Calvary, and I offer You the sacrifice Your beloved Son Jesus made of Himself on the cross and renew on this altar:

1. To adore You and give You the honor due You, confessing Your supreme dominion over all things and the absolute dependence of everything upon You, Who are our one and last end.
2. To thank You for innumerable blessings received.
3. To appease Your justice, irritated against us by so many sins, and to make satisfaction for them.
4. To implore grace and mercy for myself, for (name of the deceased), for all afflicted and sorrowing, for poor sinners, for all the world, and for the holy souls in purgatory.

**ANALYSIS: A Turning Point for Pope Francis?**

Rome (MondayVatican.com)—Pope Francis gave an important speech May 6 to the joint committee of the Council to her European Bishops’ Conferences (CCEE) and to the Conference of European Bishops’ Conferences (CEC). In it, he asked Christians not to be divided on ethical issues, and above all he said his categorical no to legislation restricting religious freedom.

Before the joint committee, Pope Francis explicitly mentioned the need of legislation that, “in the name of a badly interpreted principle of tolerance,” forbids citizens “to express freely and to practice peacefully their religious beliefs.”

In some ways these words represent a turning point for the pontificate. Step by step, Pope Francis is setting aside his earlier, more conciliatory attitude, and replacing it with precise and strong positions. If the Pope initially seemed to have opted for the line that the Church has no wish to shape the world, today’s stance shows his will to speak with clarity. These words lead us to conclude that “Phase 2” of this pontificate has begun, the phase of the commitment and clarity. The issue of religious freedom provided a first example.

In fact, Pope Francis has moved away from the earlier communication model of his pontificate. Some examples: he dedicated three consecutive general audiences to family, speaking out loud against gender ideology. Moreover thanks to his political instinct he came around to understanding the importance of the Holy See as an institution. Lastly, he has probably abandoned the revolutionary wish to change everything in short time – a wish that was his, but that was above all that of his electors. Finally, there is the May 6 speech to the representatives of European Churches.

As already mentioned, the speech dealt with important issues. Beyond the notion of religious freedom, Pope Francis also touched on ecumenism and underscored that “division among Christians damages the very holy cause of preaching the Gospel to every creature.” The Pope insisted on this damage is evident “when Churches and ecclesiastical communities in Europe present different visions about important anthropological and ethical issues.”

Early on in this pontificate, it seemed the idea of pursuing an ecumenical alliance around ethical issues had been abandoned in Pope Francis’ speeches. All too hurriedly the policy of pursuing non-negotiable values was dropped when the Nuncio was ruled out and was replaced by more attention to social issues. Even in the United States, it was widely thought that the struggle for religious freedom had come to an end – as if it was a concern only for conservatives who were out of step with the new era of Pope Francis.

But in fact in these recent speeches, the new Pope Francis takes on the same old battles. He just does so with a different tone, in keeping with his character.

It is yet to be determined exactly when Phase 2 of this pontificate began. However it seems ever clearer that those in the Vatican whose great concern is the human person are winning over Pope Francis’ heart.

This gentle counterrevolution needs to be documented because it shows a change that perhaps every pontificate has experienced. It can only be said of a few men that they were “born a pope.” All the other popes need time to understand the curial machine and its machinations, as well as the machinations of those who, from outside the Curia, are struggling to dismantle everything.

But there is no revolution in this Vatican, and a single anecdote can confirm this.

The only new body to arise out of the reform was the Secretariat for the Economy, 85 percent of whose current employees were taken from other economic bodies of the Holy See.

Commenting on this fact, a source involved in their selection stated, “[These people] were good and skilled. Why should we get rid of them?”

In fact all along Vatican employees have carried on their work with the usual rhythm, with no jolts, thus keeping the curial structure functioning.

His Holiness, on the other hand, has understood he needs the Curia to reform the Curia. So why did he mention the 15 maladies when before Christmas he last met its members? Everyone interpreted the speech as an accusation.

But interpretation of the speech shows another side of Bergoglio’s character: He never makes precise accusations.

He speaks in general terms. Pope Francis said those words, but if he had had no esteem of the curial chiefs, he would have fired them.

The risk of over-interpreting the Pope is ever present. But there is also another risk: That of not taking into consideration his gestures. In the end, there is the possibility of a hidden Magisterium on important topics – hidden because the media will continue to ignore the Pope’s voice when he speaks about it.

Francis has started now to speak in stronger terms, and this is really a “diplomacy of freedom.” This diplomacy is the direct consequence of the diplomacy of truth fostered under Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. This diplomacy is strong because the Pope feels free to speak, and to be misunderstood.

Mr. Andrea Gagliarducci is Vatican analyst for Catholic News Agency.

**COURAGE MEETING**

Friday Evenings 7:00-9:00pm.
Family Life Center
St. Eugene’s Cathedral
For persons seeking support in responding successfully to same-sex attraction in their lives
Sponsored by Courage Chapter
Diocese of Santa Rosa
www.couragec.org

NORTH COAST CATHOLIC / JUNE 2015 / www.srdiocese.org 21
Honolulu Bishop Returns Introduction Sacraments to “Proper Order”

Honolulu—Bishop Larry Silva of Honolulu has moved “to return the sacraments of initiation to their proper order in [his] diocese, that is: baptism, confirmation, and then First Holy Communion.”

A series of articles explaining the history of the sacraments, noting changes to the way children will prepare for these sacraments, and the importance of having comprehensive youth ministry programs in our parishes will be published in the next issues of Hawaii Catholic Herald.

In a letter to his flock, His Grace wrote, “Education plays a most important role in this process, so I invite you to be part of the process. The proposal to return the sacraments of initiation to their proper order has already been discussed with the Presbyteral Council and the Diocesan Pastoral Council. Both groups strongly favored the plan.

“If one looks at the Catechism of the Catholic Church, one notes that the first three sacraments are covered in the proper theological order. Our baptismal covenant with God is sealed in Confirmation; the two sacraments go together like Easter and Pentecost. Received third, the Holy Eucharist is then seen as the summit of initiation. The Holy Eucharist completes our Christian initiation” (CCC, no. 1322).

“Over the course of history in the Western (Latin) Church, great emphasis was placed on the importance of baptism soon after birth, opening the door of salvation to our youngest members. Unfortunately, delays started occurring with the reception of confirmation and First Holy Communion. Pope St. Pius X in 1910 addressed the problem of children receiving first holy communion at too late an age and directed that children be given holy Communion at the age of reason, that is, about age seven. This resulted, however, in the sacraments being given out of order. Current practice is like counting 1, 3, 2.

Some may point out that we have been doing what we are doing for 100 years, so why change now? The reason is simple: What we are doing is not working very well. Confirmation is often experienced more as a graduation from the Church than as a free gift of God’s grace.

“Pope Francis acknowledged this: ‘There was this experience: the sacrament of confirmation — what is this sacrament called? Confirmation? No! Its name has changed: the “sacrament of farewell.” They do this and then they leave the Church. … Many young people move off after receiving confirmation, the sacrament of farewell, of goodbye, as I said. It is an experience of failure, an experience that leaves emptiness and discourages us. Is this true or not?’ (September 22, 2013).


In this, His Excellency said, “It is important to retrace our steps along the path of historical development. We see the first references to the sacrament in the Acts of the Apostles when Peter and John pray that the Holy Spirit comes down upon the Samaritans. Though the Samaritans were baptized, they had not yet received the Holy Spirit. As the early Church grew, the sacraments of baptism and confirmation were celebrated in one continuous rite of initiation leading up to the admission and reception of the holy Eucharist. This is still the current practice in the Eastern Rites of the Church, where the faithful are fully initiated as infants.

After the fifth century, in the west with the principal of the bishop as the celebrant of confirmation, it became difficult for a bishop to travel to the parishes in his diocese to baptize and confirm all at once. Because of this, the separation between baptism, confirmation and the Eucharist grew. Infants were baptized and given Communion by the priest and later the bishop would come to administer confirmation. Over time, the infant reception of Communion ceased and confirmation received less attention.

“When the Middle Ages, admission to the Eucharist was held off until well after the age of discretion. While confirmation was conferred at the age of discretion, the Eucharist was delayed until the ages of 11 or 12. The order was restored. Interesting to note is in France, during the mid-1700s, it was decided by a local ordinary that young people be confirmed only after they had received first Eucharist. This was a shift as it was not for the practical reason of the lack of the availability of the bishop, but was rather based on adequate instruction. This spread to other dioceses in France. Rome, however, did not approve the practice and [Pope] Leo XIII in 1897 [reigned 1878-1903] called for the practice to end and the celebration of confirmation to be at the age of reason.

“The displacement of confirmation within the order of Christian initiation was unintentionally begun in 1910 when Pope St. Pius X lowered the age of first Communion to seven. He said nothing of confirmation in his letter Quam Singulari, but his main concern was that the children have all the resources they need to live a rich spiritual life in order to carry out their mission as Christians in the modern world.

“Thus, the custom began of receiving first Communion as a second grader and later receiving confirmation in middle or high school. This continues to be a recent practice in the life of the Church.

“In the reforms of the Second Vatican Council, Sacrosanctum Concilium—the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy—called for the rite of confirmation to be revised. Bl. Paul VI would clearly state in his apostolic constitution on the sacrament of confirmation that ‘The faithful are born anew by baptism, strengthened by the sacrament of confirmation, and finally are sustained by the food of eternal life in the Eucharist. By means of these sacraments of Christian initiation, they thus receive in increasing measure the treasures of divine life and advance towards the perfection of charity.’

“Hence we see the move towards the restoration of the order of the sacraments of initiation: baptism, confirmation and then Eucharist.”
Maggie Rei was born into a big Catholic family and has truly embraced her faith as a young adult. She participates in youth ministry at her parish, St. Rose Church. She received confirmed in 2013 and continues to be involved as a volunteer leader at St. Rose as well as acting as a Campus Ministry Class peer leader at Cardinal Newman High School, from which she matriculated this year.

The new graduate cites attending the National Catholic Youth Conference in 2011 and 2013 as highlights of her high school years. Maggie loves reading so much, she based her Community Based Service Learning project on teaching youngsters to love reading, too, and collected over 500 books for children.

She will continue her Catholic education at Loyola University Chicago and says, “It’s really important to me because of the community feeling and feeling comfortable living my faith in tandem with my education. I am drawn to Ignatian spirituality, so going to a Jesuit school is important to me as it will help me grow in all aspects. I am excited to see how faith is integrated in my education at a Jesuit university.”

Maggie also looks forward to being part of the Campus Ministry and Mass Choir at LUC.

Francis Rae, St. Vincent de Paul High School, ’15

Francis received the sacrament of confirmation at Our Lady of Loreto Church in Novato, where he was also a student in its grade school. For many youth, confirmation means graduation, graduation, that is, from having anything to do with their faith and the Church. Fortunately for Our Lady of Loreto, Francis continues to contribute by participating in choir and lectoring. Catholic school is an important part of Francis’ narrative. “It has given me an opportunity to not only express my faith in a safe environment, but it also encourages a life-long faith understanding.”

Francis likes asking the big questions, diving deeper in his knowledge of the Faith, and because of this he flourished in his Church history and morality classes. His Catholic school career has supported his individuality as a young Christian still learning my faith, letting me grow without boundaries.”

Friends and teachers love his smile that lights up the school, in and out of the classroom. Francis is a longtime swimmer, including four years on varsity for the school team. He also has been featured in his Church history and morality classes. His Catholic school career has supported his individuality as a young Christian still learning my faith, letting me grow without boundaries.”

Friends and teachers love his smile that lights up the school, in and out of the classroom. Francis is a longtime swimmer, including four years on varsity for the school team. He also has been featured in his Church history and morality classes. His Catholic school career has supported his individuality as a young Christian still learning my faith, letting me grow without boundaries.”

Elizabeth Bakh, Kolbe Academy-Trinity Prep ’15

Elizabeth Bakh is an inspiring example of a young person growing as a Catholic in the modern world. Bitty has excelled in her theology courses throughout her high school years. However, not only has she done well in studying the subjects covered in her courses, she has displayed a fervent desire to understand her faith on a deeper level and has made it a serious part of her intellectual development. She has also incorporated her understanding of the faith as part of her life outside the classroom through conversations and interactions with others.

She has followed the advice of St. Paul by growing beyond the faith of a child and maturing as a Catholic. In addition to her desire to learn her faith, Bitty has also strived to live her faith in our community. Despite the busy schedule of a college-bound high school senior who also holds down a job, Bitty has found time to participate in works of charity including: assisting with the pro-life entry in Napa’s Fourth of July parade, praying with her fellow students outside Planned Parenthood during the 40 Days of Life Campaign, making blankets for the homeless at Christmas time, and joining her fellow seniors on a mission trip to Gallup, New Mexico.

Bitty has done well making her faith a vibrant part of her life and sharing it with others. She will most certainly continue her faith journey as she begins the next phase of her education at UC Davis.

Fort Bragg Parish Gets New Hoops Court for Youth

Our Lady of Good Counsel Church of Fort Bragg has introduced another enrichment for its youth. Besides religious instruction, the parish is now providing music classes and basketball.

One night a week an enthusiastic group of boys and girls meets and learns the rigorous game. The court on which they play was built with a grant from the St. John Bosco Fund, and the equipment was supplied by the parish Knights of Columbus, plus a generous donation from an anonymous donor.

The lessons learned in physical agility, teamwork, and sheer grace of movement are lessons that will assist them in other areas of life for life.

Kolbe Academy-Trinity Prep senior Elizabeth “Bitty” Bakh is an inspiring example of a young person growing as a Catholic in the modern world. Bitty has excelled in her theology courses throughout her high school years. However, not only has she done well in studying the subjects covered in her courses, she has displayed a fervent desire to understand her faith on a deeper level and has made it a serious part of her intellectual development. She has also incorporated her understanding of the faith as part of her life outside the classroom through conversations and interactions with others.

She has followed the advice of St. Paul by growing beyond the faith of a child and maturing as a Catholic. In addition to her desire to learn her faith, Bitty has also strived to live her faith in our community. Despite the busy schedule of a college-bound high school senior who also holds down a job, Bitty has found time to participate in works of charity including: assisting with the pro-life entry in Napa’s Fourth of July parade, praying with her fellow students outside Planned Parenthood during the 40 Days of Life Campaign, making blankets for the homeless at Christmas time, and joining her fellow seniors on a mission trip to Gallup, New Mexico.

Bitty has done well making her faith a vibrant part of her life and sharing it with others. She will most certainly continue her faith journey as she begins the next phase of her education at UC Davis.

Fort Bragg Parish Gets New Hoops Court for Youth

Our Lady of Good Counsel Church of Fort Bragg has introduced another enrichment for its youth. Besides religious instruction, the parish is now providing music classes and basketball.

One night a week an enthusiastic group of boys and girls meets and learns the rigorous game. The court on which they play was built with a grant from the St. John Bosco Fund, and the equipment was supplied by the parish Knights of Columbus, plus a generous donation from an anonymous donor.

The lessons learned in physical agility, teamwork, and sheer grace of movement are lessons that will assist them in other areas of life for life.
Adultos Formación de fe y Certificación 2015
Dos ubicaciones/lugares: Fort Bragg y Eureka

FORMACION CATEQUISTA BASICA
dirección: Our Lady of Good Counsel Church
255 S. Harold St., Fort Bragg, CA
Viernes: 6:30pm - 8:30pm

*Sábado: 9:00am - 3:00pm

❖ 28 y 29 de marzo 2015 Orientación, Introducción, Espiritualidad y metodología.
❖ 1 y 2 de mayo Credo I - IV
❖ 24 y 25 de julio Liturgia y Sacramentos I - IV
❖ 18 y 19 de septiembre La vida en Cristo, Formación de la Conciencia y La doctrina social católica.
❖ 23 y 24 de octubre La oración cristiana y observaciones.

FORMACION CATEQUISTA BASICA
dirección: St. Bernard Catholic School
222 Dollison St., School Library, Eureka, CA
Viernes: 6:30pm - 8:30pm

*Sábado: 9:00am - 3:00pm

❖ 1 y 2 de mayo Credo I - IV
❖ 24 y 25 de julio Liturgia y Sacramentos I - IV
❖ 18 y 19 de septiembre La vida en Cristo, Consciencia Form. y Cath. Social Teaching
❖ 23 y 24 de octubre Christian Prayer, Observation & make up

Almuerzo: 12pm - 1pm
(Por su propia cuenta o traiga su almuerzo)

❖ Catequista básico $100.00/persona para toda la serie.
❖ Incluye todas las clases y temas.
❖ Hay varios libros disponibles para comprar.
❖ Para aquellos interesados en ir a solamente una clase el costo es $20 por clase.
❖ Clase se puede utilizar para la recertificación del catequista.
❖ Aquellos que desean asistir y no están interesados en recibir una certificación de catequista son bienvenidos.
❖ Llene una solicitud para iniciar el proceso de certificación de catequista Básica.

Patrocinado por el Departamento de Educación Religiosa
Para más información o para registrarse, póngase en contacto con:
Carmen Aanenson
dre@srdiocese.org
(707) 566-3366 Fax (707) 542-9702
www.santarosacatholic.org

Almuerzo: 12pm - 1pm
(On your own or bring a bag lunch)

❖ Basic Catechist $100.00/person for entire program. Includes all classes/topics.
❖ There will be various books available to purchase. The class fee does not include the fee for these books.
❖ For those interested in dropping in $20/person/class.
❖ Class can be used as credit towards Catechist Recertification.
❖ Those who wish to attend and are not interested in receiving a California Basic Catechist Certificate are welcome.
❖ Complete an application to begin the California Basic Catechist Process.

Sponsored by the Diocese Department of Religious Education

To apply & for registrations, contact:
Carmen Aanenson
dre@srdiocese.org
(707) 566-3366 Fax (707) 542-9702
www.santarosacatholic.org

ANNUAL MINISTRY APPEAL
We are 172,000 Catholics. We are 45,000 families. We are 42 parishes. We are one diocese, one Church.

Your Gift Supports These Ministries:
CAMPUS NEWMAN CENTERS
Sonoma State Newman Center
Fr. Chinh Nguyen 794-7957
Humboldt State Newman Center
Fr. Gregory Villaescusa 822-6057
CHILD & YOUTH PROTECTION OFFICE
Julie Sparacio 566-3308
CLERGY FORMATION
Fr. Michaelraj Philominsamy 837-8962
COMMUNICATION
Brian O’Neel 566-3302
DEPARTMENT OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
Dr. John Collins 566-3311
DIACONATE
Diaconate Formation
Dcn. Peter Mathews 257-3064
Dcn. Gary Moore 539-3377
ECUMENICAL & INTERRELIGIOUS AFFAIRS
Fr. Thomas Davereau 542-6448
HISPANIC MINISTRY
Fr. Oscar Diaz 994-6618
MARIAN SISTERS OF SANTA ROSA
Mother Teresa Christe, MSSR 326-7593
NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRY
Fr. Gregory Villaescusa 570-582-4897
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Dennis Purificacion 566-3313
RESPECT LIFE
Dr. John Collins 566-3393
RESTORATIVE JUSTICE
Dcn. John Storm 544-9808
SEMINARIANS
Fr. Frank Epperson 542-6984
TRIBUNAL
Fr. Fergal McGuinness
Sr. Rose Mary Kuklok 566-3370
VOCATIONS
Fr. Raul Lemus 823-2208
YOUTH CAMPS/YOUTH MINISTRY
Stephen Morris 566-3343
DEVELOPMENT OFFICE
Debbie Drago 566-3344 ddrago@srdiocese.org
Renee Van Esso 566-3303 rvanesso@srdiocese.org

If you would like more information regarding a ministry department, please call 707-566-3300 and ask for that department.

5/20/2015
5/20/2015