Diocesan Educators Gather to Form Catholic Identity

Santa Rosa—On August 28, as they have for a number of years, Catholic teachers from around the diocese gathered at Cardinal Newman High School for a diocesan in-service day. Once again the theme was Catholic identity and how to better express that on our parochial campuses.

Approximately 300 attendees came from parishes as far away as Ukiah and St. Helena, representing 15 schools.

The annual event opened as always with a Mass celebrat-ed by Bishop Robert F. Vasa. The Divine Liturgy was con-celebrated by CNHS chaplain Fr. S. Moses Brown, CNHS theology teacher Fr. Abel Mena, and Fr. Jaime Robledo, a professor at St. Patrick Seminary in Menlo Park who gave the day’s second talk.

In his homily, His Excellency encouraged teachers to make three words the foundation of their work and to remember three saints: St. Augustine, whose feast it was; St. Monica, whose feast fell the day before; and St. Ambrose, Augustine’s teacher.

The three words were influence, responsibility, and prayer. Teachers, he noted, are among the top five most influen-tial of professions. He said, “you touch the lives of young people in ways that others don’t.”

And because you are so influential—particularly in a Catholic school regarding the Catholic faith—that carries with it a tremendous responsibility. You cannot have the influence and eschew the responsibility.

And because of that responsibility, “in order to meet—even remotely, adequately—the weight of that respon-sibility, you have to form your Catholic identity. How do you do that?”

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Pope Reforms Annulment Process

Vatican City (Vatican Radio)—Pope Francis issued two apostolic letters motu proprio (i.e., “on his own initiative;” these types of documents have the full force of law) on September 8, by which he introduced reforms to the legal structures of the Church that deal with questions of marital nullity. One of the motu proprios, known by its Latin title, Mitis Iudex Dominus Iesus (“The Lord Jesus, Clement Judge”) reforms the Code of Canon Law (CIC) governing the Latin Church, while the other, Mitis et Misericors Iesus (“Clement and Merciful Jesus”) reforms the Code of Canon Law for Oriental Churches (CCEO). The changes become effective on December 8, 2015.

In comments published in the National Catholic Register, well-respected Catholic apologist and blogger Jimmy Aikin wrote, “He did so out of a desire to make the annulment process more efficient. In many parts of the world, the process has been notoriously slow and difficult. In some countries, it could be practically impossible to get a Church court to even hear one’s case, and if they did take it, it could take many years to get a ruling. “The new documents seek to make the annulment process more accessible and less time-consuming. “They do not require the process to be free of charge (dioceses need to pay the people who work on these cases, and in some cases that means paying a fee to partially cover the costs), but the procedural norms attached to the documents do call for the costs to be minimized.” Among the major changes, as listed in the introduction to Mitis Iudex Dominus Iesus, are as follows:

(see Annulment Process, p. 23)

Fr. Devereaux Honored for Promoting Affordable Housing, Social Justice

by NCC Staff

On August 20 at the Vintners Inn in Santa Rosa, the Rev. Dr. Sir Thomas Devereaux a Michigan native who has served here all his priest-life, received recogni-tion for 47 years of social ministry within diocese and the Bay Area.

The evening was hosted by EAH, a non-profit housing corpora-tion based in Marin. Its (see Fr. Devereaux Honored, p. 10)

A Short Report from the World Meeting of Families

by Brian O’Neel

Philadelphia—I write this on the eve of the Pope’s coming to the United States. People here are very excited about his arrival. “Get your Pope on!” proclaimed the marquee of a nursery. The band that performed at the fall festival at the Methodist church next to where my family lives played an original song. Its lyrics were in total: “The Pope, the Pope, the Pope is coming to town.” People are selling “Pope on a rope” soaps. (No, I didn’t buy one.) They’re also selling Francis bobblehead dolls. (Of course I bought one! Are you kidding?) Every newspaper has wall-to-wall coverage of the papal visit.

Valley Fire Devastates Lives, Not Hope or Faith

Special to NCC by Rich Lamm

The news of another fire in the county left me frustrated, but not surprised.

Lake County had just gotten over two horrendous fires, the Rocky and Jerusalem Fires. Both had scorched thousands of acres and displaced hundreds of people.

Once these fires were contained there was a glimmer of hope that the fire season in Lake County was over, which is why the news of a new fire on Cobb Mountain pushed a sigh out of my chest with the words, “Not again.” The optimist in me thought it would be contained quickly, but the realist knew that the dry conditions and high winds were going to push the fire.

Unfortunately the latter came true.

The fire in Cobb, quickly named the Valley Fire, spread at an incredible rate. As the winds grew stronger, the blue skies over Cobb, Kelseyville, and Lakeport quickly darkened with a twilight of brownish-orange plumes
It’s About Family

As the World Meeting of Families just concluded in Philadelphia, it is good for each of us to reflect upon the importance of striving to live a faith filled family life. The catechesis on the family Pope Francis has given at his weekly audiences, his visit to the East Coast to participate in the World Meeting of Families, and the upcoming Synod on the Family are all signs to us of the centrality of the family.

I can assure you my family would never qualify as the Family of the Year. And yet in the context of family, I was provided an environment that aided me to hear and respond to God’s call to become a priest. It is because of this setting that I am sometimes tempted to respond to the question about “my” vocation by simply saying, “I did not choose it, it chose me.”

While that may sound a little too passive, it conveys the truth.

I recall very early in my religious upbringing the utilization of a post-Communion prayer in the old Missals. I later discovered it was a variation on a section of Psalm 116: “How shall I repay the Lord for all that He has given to me? I will take up the cup of salvation and I will call upon the name of the Lord. My vows to the Lord I will fulfill in the presence of all His people; in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem.”

Even as a very young child in third and fourth grade I can recall saying this prayer every day after Holy Communion with reverence and devotion. The gift of Our Lord’s Body and Blood I received in Eucharist called forth from me a response of gratitude. What return could I make to the Lord for the greatness of the gift of Himself which He had so generously and mercifully given to me?

That question remained with me from those early years onward. “What return could I make to the Lord?” “What return should I make to the Lord?”

The blessing for me was that I was a part of a family for whom these questions, while never openly spoken, were an ever-present part of the backdrop of life. Faith in my family of origin was very much an integral part of life. Thus, it is, I believe, the foundation for the family life of my children.

Composing the family, he wrote that lesson of Nazareth tells us something about the importance of family life, its harmony of love, its simplicity and austere beauty, its sacred and inviolable character; it may teach us how sweet and irreplaceable is its training, how fundamental and incomparable its role on the social plane. ❖

Bad Break for Baker from Colorado Court

Denver (CNA/EWTN News)—A Colorado baker has lamented the Colorado Court of Appeals’ ruling handed down August 13 that he illegally discriminated when he declined to make a wedding cake for a same-sex couple.

Jack Phillips of Masterpiece Cakeshop said he believes the ruling means the Court created an exception to the First Amendment that wrongly affects his family-run bakery. “You’re entitled to believe, but not entitled to act on those beliefs,” he said in a statement.

“You’re not free if your beliefs are confined to your mind,” Phillips objected. “What makes America unique is our freedom to peacefully live out these beliefs.”

He had appealed the decision of Colorado’s Civil Rights Commission that he violated the state’s anti-discrimination law when he declined to create a wedding cake for a same-sex couple.

In 2012, he had declined a request from two men who wanted him to bake a cake for a same-sex wedding reception. Phillips said making the cake would violate his religious beliefs. In response, the two men filed a legal complaint against him.

The Commission ordered Phillips and his staff to undergo anti-discrimination training and to submit quarterly reports on how he is changing company policies.

The unanimous ruling from the Colorado Court of Appeals (see Bad Break p. 8)
On August 15, the Feast of Our Lady of Assumption Body and Soul, catechists gathered from around the diocese to grow in their faith and learn how to even further improve their catechetical skills. The day started with the holy sacrifice of the Mass celebrated by Bishop Robert F. Vasa. In his homily, His Grace noted, "We celebrate today the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and she is the forerunner. Where she has gone, we hope to follow. As she has been assumed body and soul in to heaven, so we hope one day likewise with her to be in heaven both body and soul."

"And that's a great hope, something wonderful to look forward to. And it is in that spirit towards which we work both for ourselves and the young people who come to you in catechetical programs.

"It's not only to get them through the regimen of receiving the various sacraments, but to prepare them, rather, for eternal life, to prepare to live in this world with their hearts set on the world to come."

After that, catechists broke out into the first of two breakout sessions. Giving these were John Golten, director of the diocesan Office of Marriage and Family Life, Fr. John Boettcher, director of the diocesan Office of Spirituality and the New Evangelization, the Marian Sisters of Santa Rosa, and Dr. Mark Brumley, president of Ignatius Press and teacher for our diocesan candidates.

In his opening talk, Fr. Boettcher said, "The word of God is fruitful because God created all things and the word of God is the brilliance of the Father's glory. When we get a handle on that, then everything flows out of that. If you have the word of God, you have the whole universe in your pocket. If you know Him, you know what He will create. ... there's a relative degree of perfection that we can have. It's completeness. It's like we're all there. And so may you have that. But there are absolutely ... forever, but for now you are. You're there. You have a full deck to play with. You have all the members. Nothing's missing. You're complete. You've got the full set of what you need. That's the fullness that you are. And Paul [proclaims] that kind of fullness. Just like a little thimble can be and a large wine cask be full. They're both full, 100 percent, and so maybe you're the wine cask and maybe you're the thimble, but you'll be full the more you ask, and it doesn't mean God isn't going to expand that little thimble, and then it's going to feel quite empty, right? That's the principle here. God is at work in us to do much more than we can ask or imagine."

Golten spoke on using the Catechism in catechesis, and he started by recapping why there has been so much confusion about Church teaching in the years since the Second Vatican Council, and said "My contention is this: If you want to understand what the Church wanted to do with Vatican II, read the writings of the popes since Vatican II, of Paul VI, of St. John Paul, of Benedict, and now Francis. Because they're following the thread of the authentic interpretation of Vatican II in their writings. And many of their writings are on moral subjects, OK? And they hinged on moral subjects because there was enormous confusion in the Church about what was true anymore."

The Ordinary Synod on the Family was the subject of Dr. Brumley's talk. He said, "Because the family is so rudimentary and foundational to the mission of Church," Pope Francis determined "that there be some kind of consultation" about the family. He then looked at the challenges facing family, discussed the family's vocation or calling, and delved into what is the mission of the family.

He urged his listeners to "Talk with your priest to pray for upcoming Synod and" study the issues surrounding it. He also encouraged them to "Look at the reality of family today. Look at the reality of Christ" relative to the "beauty and dignity of the family." The Church is "confronting the situation facing today's family" with an eye on the Lord Jesus to renew their commitment to family founded upon marriage between a man and a woman."

The Marian Sisters spoke about mercy, and how the greatest way to access Christ's mercy for the catechists' students was to encourage and facilitate regular confession.

Mother Teresa Criste recounted how a friend of hers from eastern Washington state told her that her family would go to confession every third Saturday. It was a big deal for them. Not only did they get healing from the wounds and effects of their sins, but they would celebrate by going out for ice cream afterward. In this way, confession became a "routine and a way of life and not just an event." The Church says we have to go once a year, "but that's not sufficient. If a child gets a concussion or a sprained wrist, you run to the emergency room." Sin is at least as serious for the soul.

It is especially important for teens, the Sisters said, because "who you are at age 14-15 predicts who you will be as an adult. This matters right now, what you're doing right now, because sin develops at this age in a very communal way." In other words, because the effects of sin are so great at this age, the means needed to countermand these effects need to be equally great. And nothing is greater than confession.

"Think about the [pressure] for mortal sin a teenager faces today. They need the sacrament so much.

Sin leads to "four ruptures: rupture with God, rupture with ourselves, rupture with others—because sin [isn't just personal]; the Bible shows us it's communal—and sin even leads to a rupture with creation. Someone living in habitual sin doesn't treat creation well.

"If you tell students, 'You're going into the confessional, and Jesus heals you through the person of the priest, and that rupture is restored, you should see them come out.'

You can be restored. They "can be restored, but it has to be a routine. It can't be just an event."

The day's keynote speaker was Dr. Pia de Solenni, a diocesan native who St. John Paul II personally recognized for her contributions toward developing an authentic feminism based in Christ. She told NCC she was "glad to be back, and it's really exciting to see all the good things happening in this diocese and all the great initiatives."

Speaking on the beatitudes which came from Our Lord's Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5, de Solenni started by showing how the beginning of that Sermon was that we all be part of a big, divine family. And if God is our Father, then Jesus is, by "divine filiation," our Brother.

"What I'm proposing to you is, take the context of Jesus being the big brother. He's telling you [in the Sermon] how to get back home, how to get back to the beginning, how to get back to the start of Genesis. That's what He's doing. He's the big brother, and He is leading the way.

"It's a very important part of our spirituality to develop and bring into the concept we have of Christ. Because if we just think of Jesus as Our Lord and Savior, sometimes there's the element of love, sometimes there isn't the element of love. If you think of Jesus as your brother—again, we're building on this family image, this family reality; it's not an image, it's a reality—then there is love.

"And it's much easier to begin to really rest in the idea of the love of God the Father. Now the Beatitudes are then (see Catechists Gather, p. 8)
As one wag put it, "It's not the Blizzard of 2015: It's Pope Francis!"

Of course, some may have taken papal fervor a little too far. One bar sent out the following notice: "Are you an avid drinker looking for exciting beer and cocktails? A reluctant local stuck in the city during the Papal visit? A traveling pilgrim looking for grace? Or just somebody looking for a good time?"

"Well, stop by [Nameless] Pub ... Wednesday through Sunday. Sept 23-27 and we'll baptize you with beer!"

Many parishes have a Francis cutout standing in the narthex, and people pose with going into and out of Mass. The same cutout is in the convention center. The streets of “Center City” (what they call downtown Philadelphia) have bright yellow, blue, green, and neon pink banners, all of them featuring various Francis quotes and pictures of him that make his smile seem like the biggest in the world. If they could find a way to harness its power, they could light up the entire Sahara. And yet the cutout makes the Pope look like he's thinking, 'Take the darn selfie, and let me be. I have better things to do. '

The cutout makes the Pope look like he's thinking, 'Take the darn selfie, and let me be. I have better things to do.'

"I'm standing. Can you see me waving my arm? Well look over here. You mean which lamppost? The one over here. By where I'm standing. Can you see me waving my arm?"

"No, I'm the one standing in the purple shirt by the lamppost. What do any of us know? She may be right. We are not his eyes—that I didn't share my thought: 'There are a lot of people in the diocese who would disagree with you. ' But in any case, Monsignor, I'll close with this."

St. Anna Schäffer: October 5

❖

10/6 St. Bruno the Carthusian
Ask IPS: How Much Space Should I Give My Young Adult?

by William McKenna, MS

Q: My daughter has just started college. I want to give her space. I also want to support her if she needs me. What’s the best way for a parent to strike that balance with a young adult?

A: Let me first assure you that your dilemma is completely normal and that every family goes through this period of uncertainty. Indeed psychology has developed a method of predicting certain times that a family will experience significant change to its unity that will cause tension. This method is known as the family life cycle. You and your family are currently within the cycle where one of the issues (not surprisingly) is transitioning to adult-to-adult relationships between grown children and their parents. This time is not only a transition for you, but for your child as well. It seems to me that one of the best ways for you to strike that balance with your daughter is to become aware of your interactions and notice changes in communication. Recognizing and identifying with what your daughter is experiencing and what she needs will help you respond appropriately.

At the same time, knowing your reaction to the change is also important so you can gauge the level of transition you experience. Do the best you can to allow her to make some small mistakes so she can learn that the road of life is not always smoothly paved. Nonetheless always be ready to listen to her on the phone when she calls home homesick, sad, crying, or absolutely elated about the new friends that she is making.

Most importantly, you need to convey you will always be there to love her whenever she needs you. If she knows she can turn to you in a time of need, then no matter what happens, your relationship with her will always be a solid one. Also, expressing how you are feeling about the transition can be helpful for your daughter in experiencing shared adult experiences.

Finally, I fall back on something my father told me as I was leaving for undergrad at Belmont Abbey College. He looked at me and said, “You’ve been a good boy, and I know you’ll be a good man. We want you to know that we are proud of you and will always be in your corner.” The heart of his message was I could tackle life on my own, but I could always turn to them if I needed them. Messages like that really stick with your children (that message was said to me now a number of years ago). May God bless your family and please be assured of my prayers for you all.

❖

Mr. McKenna is clinical extern at the IPS Center for Psychological Services. Have a practical question related to psychology and faith? Write to askips@ipsciences.edu

Teaching God’s Plan for a Joy-Filled Marriage

If you have experienced the beauty of Natural Family Planning—and would love other couples to see how it really is a joyful and better way of living God’s plan for a happy marriage—then consider becoming an NFP teacher.

Sponsored by the Archdiocese of San Francisco’s Family Life Office and CCL chapters of the San Francisco Bay Area, St. Dominic Church in San Francisco will host a teacher training November 13-15, 2015. The seminar is free and includes childcare and meals. For more information, visit http://tinyurl.com/oomdtv2.

❖

Bl. Columba Marmion, OSB: October 3
America, the Beautiful

So I’m safely back in Pennsylvania. It was a wild ride: Traffic jams from three semi-truck fires and evidence of a fourth. Cruising a deserted stretch of old Route 66 (I saw the cool, ghostly part; much of it is a tourist trap). A car whose radiator thermometer broke in the high desert on a 100+ degree day in which took almost 24 hours to repair and cost $1,100, thank you very much. But it did give me an excuse to visit the London Bridge in Lake Havasu, Arizona, and and see No Escape, a great movie.

The Grand Canyon really is everything they say it is (although how come no one said anything about the $30 entrance fee?). The Arizona desert east of Flagstaff: Peaceful and beautiful. Albuquerque at night was special, as was Navajo-language radio playing Country oldies, but the crafty Texas highway patrolman was not. Although he was very nice and lenient. Oh, and his state is very big. Very, very big. And long. And it has lots... and lots... and lots... and lots of windmills.

The most affecting thing was being in Gulfport, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, the Carolinas (North Carolina has the most beautiful on and off ramps), and Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains, at sunset, no less.

We have an amazing nation, folks, and I encourage you to get on the road and see it. ❖

Brian O'Neil is interim Communications director for the Diocese of Santa Rosa, California

Pope Francis: Be Transformed by Mary

Vatican City (CNA/EWTN News)—On the feast of the Assumption of Mary, Pope Francis said faith is the defining virtue of her greatness and the mysterious way she was taken into heaven is a foreshadowing of what awaits each of us.

The devestation is still wholly evident. Sometimes it's most evident where it's not, namely in the mile upon mile of empty lots where stately oceanfront mansions - some dating from the Civil War - had once stood. The only thing standing on them now are "For Sale" signs that will never come down. Experience and insurance rates make that a near certainty. Many residents reportedly resented commemorating the anniversary because it dredged up emotions and memories they hadn't dealt with in the last decade.

Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, the Carolinas (North Carolina has the most beautiful on and off ramps), and Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains, at sunset, no less.

We have an amazing nation, folks, and I encourage you to get on the road and see it. ❖

"The Gospel also shows us the true reason for Mary's greatness and her blessedness: it is faith," the Pope told pilgrims gathered in St. Peter's Square for his August 15 Angelus address, marking the Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary.

"Faith, he said, "is the heart of Mary's entire story; she knew - and she said it - that throughout history weighs the violence of the overbearing, the pride of the rich, the arrogance of the proud." Yet she still believed and proclaimed "that God does not leave his children alone, humble and poor, but sustains them with merciful care, casting down the mighty from their thrones, scattering the proud in the conceit of their hearts."

Dogmatically defined in 1950, the Assumption of the Virgin Mary's body and soul into heaven is celebrated August 15 every year, and is one of the most important Marian feast days in the Catholic Church. ❖

Dear Aunt Bea

I am already dreading Thanksgiving. Last year my son brought his girlfriend home with him. They live in another state and were appalled when I showed the girlfriend her room for the next four nights. It was on the other end of the hallway from our sons room. (He is 24 and she is 22.) My son lectured me about his being an adult, able to make his own decisions, etc.

We raised him in a Catholic home. This meant Mass every Sunday, Catholic schools, and even having him serve as an altar boy for a couple of years! What happened? Where did we go wrong? I am getting myself for another battle this year. Help!

— Sad Parent

Dear Sad:

What a heart-rending situation. The devil loves conflict and division and the fear these engender, doesn't he? It takes us away from the love and peace and harmony we have in Christ Jesus. And that is his goal. As our first pope wrote, Satan "goes about like a raging lion seeking to devour whom he may" (1 Pet 5:8).

'This is just another example of that, and believe me, your experience is not unique. Parents have had your situation since at least the 1960s and have asked themselves the same questions you do.

So first of all, don't be too hard on yourself. Remember your son was not just raised by two good, loving parents whenever the first concern was the salvation of his soul and who did everything to help that happen. He was also raised by a very dysfunctional culture that says many sins aren't sins. In fact, they are perfectly fine and normal, we're told, even virtuous. "If it feels good, do it."

The reasons why some kids grow up to be devout and faithful Catholics and others don't are too numerous and complex to go into here. Suffice it to say, keep praying and keep setting a good example for your son. Ask for the prayers of St. Monica, whose son—St. Augustine—lived with a woman and fathered a child out of wedlock. He initially rejected Christianity in part because of its teachings on sexuality. In fact, one of his most famous prayers was, "Lord, grant me chastity and continence … but not yet!"

Regardless of what has led to this point, you're still his parent. You will always be. You will always need to set the example. Part of setting that example is not allowing him and his lover to share a room while in your home. Make this very clear before he comes. In this way he will be prepared and can thus make other arrangements if he—as the adult he claims to be—feels your rules too burdensome. This leaves little to argue about as you have made your position clear, and he has an out. The important thing is: Don't give in to emotional blackmail. He may "hate" you for a while or even cut off communication for a time, but stand your ground. You are in the right.

The Bible warns us when we choose Christ over the world, it may cause problems within the family unit (Luke 12:53). You are living this. It is not easy to be a Catholic today. We are called to constantly go against the culture. This is very tiring, indeed.

So keep your strength by staying close to the sacraments, especially the Holy Eucharist, as this food of Christ will give you the strength you need for this battle and for the many to likely come in the future.

Finally offer up your sufferings and the pain in your soul just as St. Monica did for Augustine. Show your son nothing but love, and ask God in the confessional for forgiveness for all the times when you weren't as loving as Christ with your son as you should have been. Encourage your wife to do the same.

Bottom line: You are the leader of your family. Lead. Your son may externally curse you for it, but it's what God demands of you and of us all. I am praying for you. ❖

Letters Policy

Email: dioceseofsantarosa@yahoo.com
Write: Letters to the Editor
North Coast Catholic
985 Airway Ct.,
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Name, hometown, and daytime phone number for verification required. Short letters only, no more than 150 words. Letters may be edited for clarity or space.

NOTE: Views of correspondents do not necessarily reflect those of this publication.

Second Collection for October

October 17-18 – World Mission Sunday

Learning to Love

In Washington, DC, in 1994 Bl. Mother Teresa said we fight abortion by teaching the mother what love really means: "to be willing to give until it hurts.... So the mother who is thinking of abortion should be helped to love that, is to give until it hurts, plans, or her free time, to respect the life of her child."

Catholic French philosopher Gustave Thibon has said the true God transforms violence into suffering, while the false god transforms suffering into violence. The woman tempted to have an abortion will transform her suffering into violence unless she allows love to transform her, and make her willing to give herself away.

The Eucharist gives both the lesson and the power. Mom is to say, "This is my body, my blood, my life, given up for you my child." ❖

Second Collection for October

October 17-18 – World Mission Sunday

Celebrating the Joy of St. Teresa in Style

October 15 is the Feast of St. Teresa of Ávila, OCD, founder of the Order of Discalced Carmelites, Church reformer, and the first female Church Doctor. She also helped popularize devotion to St. Joseph.

Under the leadership of Fr. Loren Allen, the church dedicated to her in Bodega will celebrate the five-hundredth anniversary of her birth on the Vigil of the Feast, Wednesday, October 14, starting at 5:45pm.

The evening starts with a prayer service of First Vespers, followed by a lecture from Fr. David Anderson, pastor of St. Peter Byzantine Catholic Church in Ukiah and a noted Church history expert. Fr. Anderson has met with the Pope, and he will speak on the fascinating figure of St. Teresa, on whom he is an expert. The evening will culminate with a simple reception.

The following weekend, the parish will have a guest preacher, Fr. Augustine Thompson, OP, who is an expert in medieval and Renaissance Church history. He will preach at all the Masses at both St. Teresa and St. Philip Church in Occidental. His topic will be the spirituality and significance of St. Teresa of Ávila, who certainly deserves to be better known and loved for what an amazing woman she was.

Fr. Thompson teaches Church history at the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology in Berkeley and is former professor of Christian history at leading institutions such as the University of Oregon, Eugene, and the University of Virginia, Charlottesville. He has also authored many books on Church history, including an acclaimed recent biography of St. Francis of Assisi.

“We are deeply honored and most fortunate to have two such distinguished scholars and popular speakers for the celebration of this five-hundredth anniversary year of the birth of St. Teresa,” said Fr. Allen. ❖

Please do not miss this opportunity. If your name is Teresa, Therese, etc., what better way to celebrate your name day? Regardless, you will fall in love with this incredible lady, and she will lead you closer to Christ.

Bravo to Fr. Allen for doing this. ~ Editor

St. Teresa of Ávila, OCD: October 15

CALENDAR

October 8
History of the Criminal Justice System in California Including the Death Penalty
6:30pm
Presented by Mike Mullins, former Sonoma County Prosecutor and D.A., now Dean of Empire College School of Law.
Location: St. Leo Church, Benzerger Room
For more information, call 707-996-8422.

October 10
XLT/CATHOLIC
2-8pm
This semi-annual event features speakers, prayer, music, and eucharistic adoration.
Location: St. John the Baptist Church
208 Matheson St., Healdsburg, CA 95448
For more information, e-mail dsryouth@srdiocese.org

October 10
Santa Rosa Catholic Men’s Conference
11:30am
Sign up: 8:30am
Start time: 9:00am
Cost: Pre-register at nccmc.net for $35 or pay at the door for $45.
Location: St. Eugene Cathedral, Msgr. Becker Center
2323 Montgomery Lane, Santa Rosa, CA 95405
Lead speaker: Dcn. Harold Burke-Sivers
Lunch provided by Pasta King and included in the cost.
Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

October 22
Pregnancy Care Center’s Harvest Banquet
6pm
Donations needed even if you can’t attend.
Visit www.TheGreatTurnAround.com or call 707-224-2345 for more information.

October 24
Denim & Diamonds Annual Wine Auction Fundraiser for St. Helena School
5pm
This major fundraiser for the school will feature a silent auction, wine tasting, games, a raffle, dinner, and live auction.
For more information, call 707-963-4677 or visit SHCSwineauction.com.

October 24-25
Crofters Boutique
This semi-annual event features speakers, prayer, music, and eucharistic adoration.
Location: St. John the Baptist Church
208 Matheson St., Healdsburg, CA 95448
For more information, e-mail: dsryouth@srdiocese.org

October 24
Denim & Diamonds Annual Wine Auction Fundraiser for St. Helena School
5pm
This major fundraiser for the school will feature a silent auction, wine tasting, games, a raffle, dinner, and live auction.
For more information, call 707-963-4677 or visit www.SHCswineauction.com.

October 24-25
Crofters Boutique
10/24: 10am-3pm, 10/25: 9am-2pm
Get your Christmas shopping done early! Featuring handmade crochet and knitted items, jewelry, arts and crafts, glass, glassware, tote bags, specialty items and much more.
Join us for food, music and fun.
Location: St. Joseph Church parish hall
150 St Joseph Way, Cotati, California 94931
For more information, call Georgette Parry at 707-795-5852.

November 20-22
Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend
Location: Vallombrosa Center
250 Oak Grove Ave., Menlo Park, CA 94025
Scripture says married men and women “shall live as one.” How often, though, do you and your spouse find yourselves living as two? The Marriage Encounter weekend can help your marriage get back to basics in this complicated day and age. Space is limited.
For more information, log onto www.sanfranciscowwme.org or call Paul or Yvonne at 650-366-7093.

Upcoming Catholic Cursillo dates:
For more information, call Debbie Simonson at 707-763-7165.

Free Health and Wellness Family Event
Sponsored by Binational Health Week Campaign
Cost: Free
The health fair will feature health screenings; bone marrow, diabetes, and blood pressure testing; checks, and other beneficial medical testing and procedures.
Location: St. Sebastian Church Parish Hall 7985 Covent Lp., Sebastopol, California 95472
For more information, contact Edie Urteaga at ediemichel73@gmail.com or 707-849-8889.

NORTH COAST CATHOLIC / OCTOBER 2015 / www.srdiocese.org
Schaumburg, Illinois (National Catholic Register)— There is an apparent resolution in the dispute between retailer Office Depot and a woman who sought to order printing of pro-life flyers for distribution at her Catholic parish.

The Internet was aflutter after news broke that Office Depot had refused to make copies of a pro-life flyer for a customer. Maria Goldstein had used the store’s website to order 500 copies of flyers containing “Quick Facts on Planned Parenthood,” as well as a prayer by Fr. Frank Pavone, national director of Priests for Life, titled “Prayer for the Conversion of Planned Parenthood.” The flyers were to announce Priests for Life’s Prayer Campaign for the Conversion of Planned Parenthood, which initially ran September 12-20, then resumes this month from October 10-18.

A store employee refused to print the order on the grounds that it discriminated against people who support abortion rights. Goldstein turned to the Chicago-based Thomas More Society, which sent a warning letter to Office Depot and brought the story to the media’s attention.

Popular blogger Elizabeth Scalia, writing at Aleteia, likened the Office Depot case to the case of the Colorado baker who was ordered to bake a wedding cake for a same-sex couple. Maria Goldstein had used the store’s website printing of pro-life flyers for distribution at her Catholic parish. One could make a distinction between cake baking and flyer printing, if only because one (the baker) is a case involving prohibitive religious liberty, whereas the Office Depot case speaks of a corporate culture unwilling to accommodate people of the pro-life persuasion.

On September 11, though, the two sides seemed to reach some level of détente. Office Depot began the day with a letter to Goldstein’s Thomas More lawyer explaining why its employee—following company-established protocols—refused the order. First, there were concerns the prayer was copied-righted. The company does not knowingly print copyrighted material.

Employees gave Goldstein the option of using the store’s self-service copy machine, but she refused. The company also took issue with the assertion that the flyer was merely religious and not inflammatory—such material is against company policy—since it contained language such as that which calls those who procure or provide abortions as “evil” and advocated for the closure of the “death camps in our midst.” This “type of language led to the decision to refuse” Mrs. Goldstein’s request.

Furthermore, the company said policy “first prohibits the copying of ‘graphic material,’ which can include descriptions of dead or dismembered bodies. The second provision prohibits the copying of ‘hate material’ that advocates for the persecution of groups of people, regardless of the reason.”

Office Depot concluded “the language at issue would violate Office Depot’s policy regardless of the content surrounding it. The fact that the flyer was related to your client’s beliefs—whether based in religion or not—did not bear in the decision. Thus, Office Depot’s actions violated no laws.”

Later in the day, however, the company released a statement that read in part, “Upon a more detailed review, we have determined that the content of Ms. Goldstein’s flyer is not a clear violation of the company’s policy.

“We sincerely apologize to Ms. Goldstein for her experience, and our initial reaction was not at all related to her religious beliefs,” said the statement. “We invite her to return to Office Depot if she still wishes to print the flyer.”

Tom Olp, Thomas More Society attorney observed, “We are grateful that Office Depot has apologized for discriminating against Maria Goldstein based on the content of her flyers. This situation is a reminder that religious liberty is increasingly under attack today, but it is a fundamental American right that every one of us should value and defend.”

Said Maria Goldstein, “Thanks to the help of the Thomas More Society, I was able to stand up for my rights as a Christian, and I hope other people are empowered to stand up for their religious freedom, as well. I am grateful that God has used this situation to unite countless people in prayer for the conversion of Planned Parenthood.”

Office Depot, Pro-Life Customer Reach Resolution

(Catechists Gather, cont. from page 3) considered the Magna Carta, the life plan for Christians.”

Pope Benedict, she noted, called the Beatitudes a “road map to heaven.” He told us to “remember the Ten Commandments, yes, but also memorize the Beatitudes.”

In his second talk Fr. Boettcher spoke about “earned grace” under the wider umbrella of mercy. And mercy is a particular expression of grace, but like it says here (in Scripture), “God has loved us and has been merciful, but that’s grace. It’s not works. That, to me, is an extremely important part of our understanding of what is grace. If you don’t understand grace, you can’t get mercy, either. I don’t think. Forgiveness just doesn’t make sense.”

Dr. Galt’s afternoon topic was the RCIA, and he said the candidates are “waiting for us to accept them in. So they’re developing a sense of the Church, if that makes sense. St. John Paul used to talk of the ‘consciousness’ of the Church. We are our brothers’ keepers. I am responsible for you. You are responsible for me. And there’s no getting away from that. Justice demands that. Love demands that.

“Love demands that we recognize in each other that we are made in the image and likeness of God, that we are persons, and that the Church exists to bring Communion among men, the fruit of which is peace. But that Community is based on love.”

Pope Francis’ challenge to us was Dr. Brunelly’s post-lunch subject. “Being in church no more makes you an engaged Christian,” he observed, “than being in a garage makes you a car. Being Christian is about conversion of heart, so the goal is conversion. So if somebody calling themselves a Christian can find no joy in the gospel, it’s a sign of disconnect. It’s very difficult to educate someone into conversion. Faith is taught not taught. It is more than just going through concrete terms, actions, and so on. This is a point Pope Francis emphasizes a great deal.

Francis writes, he says, that “The joy of the gospel fills the hearts of all who encounter Jesus. Have you encountered Jesus? We should expect there is a joy in knowing Jesus, in knowing the good news. Well, what is the good news? Salvation. God is love. Get back to God. Redemption. He paid the price on the cross. The way, the truth, and the life.”

Picking up where they left off, the Sisters encouraged us to “pursue the Beatitudes with the ‘go and make disciples of all nations, teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you’ command.”

“Have you encountered Jesus? We should expect there is a joy in knowing Jesus, in knowing the good news. Well, what is the good news? Salvation. God is love. Get back to God. Redemption. He paid the price on the cross. The way, the truth, and the life.”

Bl. Chiara Luce Badano: October 29

(Bad Break, cont. from page 2) Appeals said “discrimination on the basis of one’s opposition to same-sex marriage is discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.”

The ruling rejected Phillips’ stated willingness to serve gay and lesbian customers who requested birthday cakes, ice creams, and other “non-wedding cake products.”

Phillips has decided not to make any wedding cakes, his only legal option to continue his business without violating his beliefs. The average cost of a wedding cake is $450. This thus could represent a significant hit to his business’ bottom line.

Miracle of the Sun at Fatima: October 13

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I tend to have a rather dour view of the media. However I will give credit where such credit is due: When they latch onto a particular hook or angle, they will latch onto it with a sort of zealous fervor and focus that is quite fascinating. And frustrating. For example:

• 5 new ways Pope Francis is sticking it to the Christian right (Salon)
• Pope Francis draws criticism from some conservative Catholics... (Newday)
• Eight times Pope Francis riled conservatives in the Catholic Church (Washington Post)
• The Republican Party’s war with Pope Francis has finally started (The Week Magazine)
• Pope drawing criticism from US conservatives (San Angelo Standard Times)
• 5 Ways Pope Francis Has Shocked Conservative Christians (EcoWatch)
• Pope Francis agitates conservative US Catholics (USA Today)

There are numerous similar pieces, many of them inspired in large part by news this summer that Pope Francis’ popularity in the United States had faltered, dropping to 59 percent from a high of 76 percent in 2014....

CNN.com published a feature titled ‘The ‘Obamification’ of Pope Francis,” which contained some comments from [me]. Reporter John Blake contacted me, asking if I would talk with him. I agreed, and a few days later we spoke for roughly a half hour. Mr. Blake began by asking me if I had any questions. Yes, I had two.

First, I asked if he knew if any pieces had been written back in 2008 about “liberal reaction to Pope Benedict’s message” on this or that topic. Put another way, while there was plenty of liberal (and conservative) commentary on Benedict, were there any pieces that delved into real or possible liberal criticisms of Benedict? I noted I had done various searches and found nothing of the sort.

Secondly, I asked what he meant by “conservatives,” since there are at least three large but fairly distinct subgroups under this heading:

1. Libertarian and/or right-wing political conservatives: This would include many radio talk show hosts and others who have a fairly (or very) negative view of Francis due to his stances on economics and global warming.

2. Republicans: There is overlap with the first group, of course, but I specifically mentioned Jeb Bush, who had dismissed Francis’ take on economics, saying, “I don’t go to Mass for economic policy or for things in politics.” I noted that Bush apparently doesn’t grasp that Francis’ criticisms of capitalism are, in many respects, very much in keeping with his predecessors, even if they sometimes lack clarity and evenhandedness. Equally important, the belief the Church has nothing to say about economics is woefully lacking since economy is ultimately about relationships—personal, social, political, etc.—and the Church is an expert on humanity.

3. Orthodox Catholics: While I don’t care for the term “conservative” for this group, it’s widely used. Besides, it clearly is a key group that is being addressed in these various stories and reports.

I noted the criticisms made by the majority of #3 are far more informed than those made by groups #1 and #2, and also display a far more measured tone and careful approach.

And most of those criticisms are not about matters of faith and morals but about economics, social policy, and sexuality. Since everything is interrelated, concern for the protection of nature is also incompatible with the justification of abortion. How can we genuinely teach the importance of concern for other vulnerable beings, however troublesome or inconvenient they may be, if we fail to protect a human embryo, even when its presence is uncomfortable and creates difficulties? “If personal and social sensitivity towards the acceptance of the new life is lost, then other forms of acceptance that are valuable for society also wither away.” (Laudato Si’, no. 120, quoting Benedict XVI)

President Obama, I said, seems to epitomize the sort of secularist and utilitarian technocratic perspective Francis, Benedict, and John Paul have warned about in various ways. In Benedict’s words, “The State which would provide everything, absorbing everything into itself...”

Obama, of course, has never wavered in his support of abortion and of Planned Parenthood or in his apparent belief the State should make or be involved in every decision, big and small, for each American.

The real story in all of this is not only somewhat complicated (as it requires some study of the Church’s social doctrine and key theological principles) but it is far more interesting than “conservative Americans vs. liberal Pope”—an approach that grasps attention but provides little light.

Wouldn’t it be great if a major news outlet would really delve into these issues with a calm and measured approach, seeking to make careful distinctions and not (see Conservative Catholics, p. 10, www.srdiocese.org)
(Conservative Catholics, cont. from page 9)  
falling back on simplistic political savagery?
Yes, it would. But, as I suspected would be the case, it didn't happen. Unfortunately, Mr. Blake's piece toves together a wide range of opinions—many of them clearly fringe and extreme—and makes little or no sense. Worse, it gives the impression that those of us who do hold reasonable positions are somehow aligned with the nut jobs and the conspiracy theorists. Even worse, the resulting piece is as much of an apologia for Obama as it is for Francis, but in a crude, ham-fisted, and unfair way.

For instance, Blake used the following quote:

The Obamination of Pope Francis includes charges from conservative critics that he's either a socialist, the Antichrist, an illegitimately elected leader who wants to create a "New World Order" — or all of the above. Their anxiety was captured by the headline of one online column: "Pope Francis is the Catholic Church's Obama — God help us."

Ironically, the latter piece—written by Adam Shaw for FoxNews.com—is the sort of clueless rant one finds among the worst of group #1, and Shaw's failure to properly parse the Pope's remarks (the "free market" is obviously not the same things as "unfettered capital-ism") and make fair judgments about them (does Shaw really think the Pope talks "vaguely about the poor" in order "to be respected") is paralleled by Blake's own failure to skillfullly separate fact and fiction.

Mr. Blake gathers the extremes and presents them as part of the typical "conservative" perspective, which is sloppy, even very skewed. Also, it is needlessly sensa-tional:

In July, Jennifer LeClaire asked readers of Charisma magazine to Google the phrase "Is Pope Francis Anti-christ." The query produced 425,000 hits, she noted. (That number is now 440,000.) ...

"Could Francis be the final Pope before Christ's return?" LeClaire asked. "Could he be the AntiChrist? Is he the False Prophet? The chaffer continues...

Really? There's a "growing belief among some Catho lic"s that Francis is the antiChrist! (Do a search for "John Paul II" and "antiChrist." Yep.)

Linking the papacy to the antiChrist has been a popular and polemical parlor game since at least the Reformation.

Also a lot of kooks who say Reagan and one of the Bushes was/is the antiChrist. And, frankly, you can find a "Catholic" saying nearly anything if you do enough Google searches. (Come to think of it, there are some "Catholics" who insist that they are good Catholics despite supporting abortion, "gay marriage," and contracep-tion, and euthanasia. Some of them even hold public office!)

And why, oh why, is "Charisma" magazine being quoted in this regard? It might as well be called "Crazy" when it comes to the papacy and "Biblical prophecy"!

Speaking of prophecy, within a few days I fully expect to see this headline: "Pope Francis chastises andangers conservatives on papal visit."

The article ends, "As the Pope visits the United States, it's doubtful anyone will stand up and call him a social-ist or the AntiChrist. But among Pope dissenters, the chatter will continue."

Goodness. And we wonder why most people, including far too many Catholics, are completely clueless about what the Church really teaches, why it teaches it, what distinctions should be made and for what reason, and so forth?

No, I didn't expect a perfect or even balanced article. But I had hoped for something worthy of thoughtful readers, not merely empty clattering about fringe chatter-ing.

Carl E. Olson is editor of Catholic World Report and Ignatius Insight. (Abortion Announcements, cont. from page 9)  
Francis' decision, SSPX priests have had as much canoni-cal ability to hear confessions as does the laity.

Francis' concession is thus rather amazing. The ability to hear confessions in the Catholic Church is reserved solely to priests who can validly exercise the sacrament, and extending it to the priests of SSPX is, so far as I am aware, unprecedented. It would be somewhat similar to the President issuing an executive order temporarily permitting the Vice President to grant pardons. It's just not something that's done.

The More Forgiveness, the Better

As a pastoral matter, I actually find both of Francis' decisions encouraging. One of the Church's foremost animating principles is forgiveness, and anything that extends the legitimate scope of the Church's reconciliatory authority is good news. It will be wonderful if Catholics who have procured an abortion will feel encouraged to confess their sins because of Francis' new rule. It will also be great if the temporary restoration of SSPX's confes-sional abilities results in more absolutions.

Nonetheless, it is a very unusual development. Francis may not "shut-up the Catholic world" with this, but he has definitely given it something to think about.

Daniel Payne is a senior contributor at 'The Federalist, in which this originally appeared.

(Fr. Devereaux Honored, cont. from p. 1)  
aim is to bring about social change through the creation of affordable housing opportunities for people. Currently they are in 50 of California's 58 counties and are in Hawaii, as well. They have put roughly 20,000 people into 9,000 housing units.

In her remarks to the roughly 35 attendees—who dined on mixed organic baby lettuce, grilled beef tenderloin roasted rainbow carrots, gourmet mushrooms, Point Reyes blue cheese mashed potatoes, and chocolate cake—EAH President Mary Murtaugh noted that "housing is a vehicle to change people's lives," and that Father was a champion for that cause.

"You never turned down a challenge," she told him in front of the gathering, calling him "a wonderful, unique person."

She recalled how in the 1990s, he led a large group to a city council meeting. Because there were so many people there advocating for affordable housing and the poor, it "changed the balance of the discussion." This didn't happen in just one city but in front of many city and county govern-ment bodies.

Indeed EAH Vice President Al Bonnet told NCC in an e-mail, Father "testified on behalf of large citizen groups for the development of two affordable housing developments — Riverfield (18 townhouses) in Healdsburg and Sonoma-Creekside (43 townhouses) in Santa Rosa. Without this testimony, neither property would have likely been built."

Well-known community and Latino activist George Ortiz said Devereaux was "always reaching out, always open-ing doors." Speaking directly to Father, he said, "You are a fighter for justice. You are a fighter for equality."

Mayor of Eureka Frank Jager, a Catholic who was one of two people to discover the corpse of Fr. Eric Freed on New Year's 2014, made the trip down from Humboldt County because the good Rev. Dr. Sir has the known his family since his ordination. In the early 1970s, Father served as parochial vicar at St. Bernard Church in Eureka under then-pastor Fr. Manuel J. Costa.

Jager recalled trips to Devereaux's cabin with his family. Father had lost a leg (showing his sense of humor, he even had a funeral for it) and wears a prosthesis. During trips to their host's getaway, Jager's youngest brother and young nephews would frequently prank the priest by pelting the prosthesis in the night. Then, when he woke up and realized what had happened, he would bellow, "Give me back my leg, you [kids]!"

On a more serious note, the mayor recounted how Fr. Devereaux got a half-way house for paroled men established against much opposition. He "resurrected" the Boys & Girls Club, and Jager called him an "adopted father" because after his own father died, this pastor of souls became a paternal figure and got his mom a job so she could support the family.

Another young man on whom the Padre made a huge impression was Juan Chavez, MPH. Juan and his family came here 11 years ago from the state of Michoacán look-ing for a better life, settling in Cleverdale, which Father pastored until his retirement. At first their housing cir-cumstances were desperate, just as they are for many immi-grants, documented or no, illegal or no.

Once Fr. Devereaux learned of the family's plight, he got them housing. As Juan grew, his friendship with the priest grew as well. It was he who convinced Chavez to attend college. He is now the first college graduate in the history of his extended family.

Juan said that if he had to choose the "perfect word to describe Father, it would be altruism."

Devereaux has long fought for the poor and racial justice, dating back to the early 1960s in Detroit. He attended semi-nary at the Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio. It was there at the end of his studies that he received the shock of his life.

The Josephinum was at the time a missionary seminary, meaning that those who graduated from there and received ordination went off to serve in a mission diocese.

The way it worked was that the apostolic delegate (the Pope's official representative—like an ambassador—to a nation with whom the Holy See does not have formal dipломatic ties) would send each ordinand a letter telling him where he was going.

During mail call, the soon-to-be Fr. Thomas Devereaux received a letter in which the bishop of Fairbanks, Alaska, told him he had been chosen for that diocese. For several days, he recalls, he prayed profusely for a change in plans.

It turns out he had nothing to worry about. It was all a prank, and the entire seminary up to the rector was in on it. Instead he was assigned to this diocese, where he has been ever since.

Always a lifelong learner, Devereaux received his Bachelor of Arts in philosophy from St. Mary's College in 1963 and a Bachelor of Sacred Theology from the Catholic University of America in 1968. In 1973, the Pontifical College Josephi-num conferred on him the degree of Master of Divinity. In 1985, he received a Doctorate of Ministry in ecumenical theology from the Graduate Theological Foundation. In 2007, he was awarded a Doctor of Philosophy in pastoral psychology from the Graduate Theological Foundation.

This man helped establish Catholic Charities in Hum-boldt, Del Norte, and northern Mendocino Counties. Thus it is not surprising that to this day, Father tirelessly sup-port causes related to social justice, housing equality, and ecumenism.

If you would like to be a servant of Christ by serving the poor through helping EAH Housing in some way, visit www.eahhousing.org.
Depressed Belgian Woman Gets Assist With Suicide

Brussels—In Belgium, a perfectly healthy woman decided to legally commit suicide after her daughter and husband died. The widow, Simona De Moor, was 85 years old and told the Australian TV show Dateline that five minutes after her daughter passed away from a heart attack she decided to kill herself in assisted suicide.

Before she died, she said, “I have no reason to live anymore, grief is unbearable pain. It’s driving me mad and I don’t want to go to a mad house, I want to die. Five minutes later I knew.”

Apparently, De Moor never considered assisted suicide before that moment but knew it was within reach because of Belgium’s liberal suicide laws. The Daily Mail reports she died on June 22nd with Dr. Marc Van Hoey, an infamous assisted suicide and euthanasia proponent in Belgium. He claims to have performed over 100 assisted suicides since 2012, many on patients who are merely depressed.

Journalist Brett Mason chronicled De Moor’s journey toward suicide and said, “It was, without question, the most difficult day I’ve had as a journalist. As a foreign correspondent, I’ve seen a lot of people dying. I’ve witnessed a lot of final moments. All of those people, I remember very clearly, didn’t want to die. They had something to live for, something they feared losing. What I struggled with most, was that despite being in near perfect physical health, Simona believed she had nothing and no one in her life worth living for.”

Editor’s note: It should be remembered that Belgium’s euthanasia laws started off as supposedly strict as those proposed for our state. They have consistently been liberalized so that now even children of 12 years can request euthanasia for themselves without parents’ permission if they so desire. Indeed, how many of us would make this choice on any given day if we could? Life stinks. It is, as we say in the prayer “Hail, Holy Queen,” “this valley of tears.”

And yet years down the road, don’t we find we’re stronger and better and happier people because of our experiences of suffering and that this is so because we’re wiser? Please pray a “Hail, Mary” or three or a Rosary that Gov. Brown vetoes this heinous legislation. Please pray the Holy Spirit inspires him—and that he cooperates with that grace-filled inspiration. God help us. ❖
Napa (Napa Valley Register)—Plans for a 13-bed respite care home intended to transition homeless patients from hospitals to homes are in doubt, amid neighbors’ worries and a looming vote of rejection from Napa city planners.

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Santa Rosa and Napa’s Gasser Foundation are seeking a group residential care permit for Project Nightingale, which would occupy a commercial building at 1950 Jefferson St. now occupied by a yoga studio.

But in late August, more than a dozen neighbors and other interested people spoke out to the city Planning Commission, warning a homeless care center—even one intended for those largely on bed rest—would become a magnet for substance abusers and loafers in a largely residential neighborhood with a nearby public school.

While planning commissioners did not immediately shoot down the respite care home, their 3-1 vote directed city staff to prepare a recommendation to deny a permit for Project Nightingale in a motion to be considered September 17.

Planners’ coolness toward the care facility appeared to stem as much from worries about whether the site, occupied by Bikram Yoga Napa Valley, would be roomy enough to be a round-the-clock home to clients recently released from hospitals after various types of operations.

“We are disappointed that we were unable to effectively communicate how the respite care center works in order to overcome the fears held by neighbors,” Gasser Foundation spokesman Joe Fischer said in a statement.

“Habledomains,” including meeting monthly expenses. However, she said, “with the right perspective, family is not fundamentally a ‘limitation,’ but an invitation for adventure.”

Zemborain said her trip has a “spiritual meaning.” The family hopes to strengthen personal encounters while moving away from a mindset of individualism that can make many families indifferent.

She sees the trip as an opportunity to let go of material possessions, because living in a camper means you have to save space. She also highlighted the opportunity to participate in the World Meeting of Families.

The family has documented their journey through a Twitter account, on Facebook, and with a blog.

“Our trip is a lot like a trip of discovery,” she told The Associated Press by phone from Mexico. And what did he think the Pope would say if he found out they had traveled in an antiquated Volkswagen bus all the way from Buenos Aires to see him?

“Are you crazy?”

After Philadelphia, the Walkers want to visit New York. Then they hope to fly back to Argentina. As for Francisca? They can’t leave her behind, not after all this. She will be put on a ship to make the long journey back home. They reached the United States on August 30. On September 9, they visited EWTN’s studios in Birmingham, Alabama.

"We’re staying in families’ homes, we’re meeting people in the different places we pass through, sharing with them and the Meeting of Families has a bit of the same spirit.”

The journey has been humbling, Noel told CNN.

“We have learned how to ask for help,” she says. “We have learned how to be grateful, how to live with very little. And just to let go and not to try and always control everything.”

Asked by CNN what they would say or do if they were to come face to face with Pope Francis, Noel wants to give him a hug. Catire said he would like to thank him for increasing his hope in mankind.

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Diocesan Catholics Rally for Life

As part a nationwide rally against Planned Parenthood and the taxpayer dollars it receives, 50 people gathered in front of Napa’s Planned Parenthood facility on July 28. Nationally, the rally featured more than 13,000 people in 65 cities. Pro-lifers came to pray for mothers betrayed by Planned Parenthood, the doctors who perform the heinous crime of aborting their babies, the politicians and judges who allowed Planned Parenthood to convince them to trust it, only to have it then use tax money to pay for abortions, and business leaders who blindly donated money to what they believed to be health care for women in need.

On the same day in Eureka, parishioners from Sacred Heart and St. Bernard Churches also demonstrated for life. Angela Halliday reports that at "first the demonstration was centered around the intersection at the entrance to the Planned Parenthood facility. All four corners were packed with people of all ages: children, families, grandparents, other seniors, single men and women. They prayed the Rosary, sang songs, and talked with passersby."

Heavenly Father, we praise and thank You for inspiring and working through those who gave up their precious free time to publically witness for life. We ask that if it be Your holy will, change the hearts of Your children who may have witnessed these street defenders of the unborn. We especially pray for that "confused and angry man" and any who, seeing these witnesses, felt the sting of memories from their own abortions. Heal their hurting hearts, please, Adonai.

Have mercy on us who count ourselves as fully pro-life, Lord, for our actions, inactions, or decisions—even if done unwittingly—that have contributed to the loss of respect for life from conception to natural death, especially if we in our attitudes toward contraception—the parent of abortion—the poor, the condemned, or the otherwise vulnerable.

We ask all of these things in Your Holy Name. Amen.

Northern KoC Supports Pregnancy Care Center

North Coast Knights of Columbus councils raised $27,100 for the Pregnancy Care Center of the North Coast (PCC) to purchase an ultrasound machine for their new mobile medical unit. Eureka Council #1067, Fortuna Council #3103, and Arcata Council #2947 raised a total of $14,500, while the Supreme Council contributed $12,600 from their Culture of Life Fund.

The PCC will take the ultrasound machine and mobile medical unit to all areas of Humboldt County to offer pregnant women ultrasounds. The PCC offers compassion, direction and hope to those facing life decisions. All services are free and confidential and include: pregnancy testing, ultrasounds, accurate information on pregnancy options, assistance with maternity and baby clothing, and ongoing support.
Ukiah—Everest Vacation Bible School at St. Mary of the Angels Church in Ukiah this summer was truly a blessing! Not only did we have 120 children and about 50 youth (many 12- and 13-year-olds!) and adult staff attend, but many told us it was a powerful experience for them.

The theme of VBS was “God has the power,” and every day we learned something about this.

For example, throughout the week we learned about God's providential power, His ability to comfort, heal, forgive, and love us forever.

At the beginning and at the end of each day, we had a staff meeting with the crew and station leaders to discuss what we’ve seen, problems, etc. One day, a leader talked about a child in her crew who kept complaining he was bored, and Christ had given us a specific and important job.

We talked about planting the seed and possibly not being able to see any fruit, and his leader took on the challenge of being the best example she could be.

Apparently she did an incredible job. By Thursday, the boy was wanting to lead the group prayers, and when we had the Summit Celebration at the end of the day and Jesus (i.e., my co-director dressed as Jesus) walked in and started taking away our sins (chunks of ice), this youngster bowed his head and said to the rest of the crew, “We should pray!”

We were very blessed in so many ways, and God gave us several opportunities to practice forgiveness during the week (and before it, during set-up, which takes as long as the actual camp!). On Thursday, we learned “God has the power to forgive,” and somehow it seemed like we all needed a reminder, as several issues came up that day that caused hurt feelings and more, and thus required a great deal of understanding, patience, and forgiveness.

One of these involved an adult staff member. After we finished a discussion about this at the school door, and she left on Thursday evening, a homeless woman who witnessed the conversation said to me directly afterward, “I have never seen anyone talk to each other as nicely as you people talk to each other here.”

What a powerful God we serve. He uses our struggles as opportunities to witness and reach out to others, even when we don’t realize it!

And this may have only been the tip of the iceberg. Who knows how many other little miracles happened during Everest that we may never know about?!

We had a VBS Mass before the beginning of the school year to celebrate and remind our children and parishioners we can do anything through Him who gives us strength. It bears repeating: Our God is POWERFUL!

Ukiah VBS a Mountain Top Experience

by Micheila Myers, special to NCC

Married Couple Proposed for Beatification

Valletta, Malta (Times of Malta)—An inquiry has been launched into the lives of Henry and Inez Casolani for possible beatification in the wake of many miraculous results of prayers for their intercession.

For example, a premature baby who doctors said would not live has grown into a healthy boy.

Mr. Casolani is also being analyzed for the scientifically unexplainable instantaneous healing of macular degeneration.

The couple are also being considered for sainthood for their “united love towards God and living their lives according to the teachings of Christ.”

Mr. Casolani was born in Valletta on November 25, 1917, and died in 1999. He married Inez in April 1944 at his city’s St. Augustine Church. She died in 1992. They had only one child, Cecilia Mary, who became a Sister of St. Joseph of the Apparition.

During his life Mr. Casolani spontaneously turned towards the divine help while his wife gave private lessons to the poor and was active in the life of the parish community mostly through her spiritual readings. In her later years, among other ailments, Mrs. Casolani suffered from tinnitus, arthritis, shingles in the head, and severe heart trouble.

The archdiocesan investigatory tribunal will start to analyze the cause for beatification and canonization of the couple on October 3, a day before the start of the Ordinary Synod on the Family. Some 180 witnesses will appear before the tribunal with testimony. The body will also consider 80 declarations by people who have already died.

Staff from the Ukiah VBS.

Not Sad She Didn’t Abort Baby Conceived Via Rape at Age 12

(LifeNews.com)—Lianna Rebolledo was only 12 when she was brutally raped by two men near her home.

Doctors told her she was pregnant and advised her to have an abortion.

However Lianna decided to keep her baby after she asked the doctor if abortion would ease her pain, and he replied, “No.”

She said, “If abortion wasn’t going to heal anything, I didn’t see the point. I just knew that I had somebody inside my body. I never thought about who her biological father was. She was my kid. She was inside of me.”

Lianna, now a 35-year-old beautiful Latina woman, says she has no regrets about choosing life for her child and that her daughter has helped her overcome suicidal thoughts. She said, “It was really hard, but just to see that little person telling me how happy she was that I gave her life. When she said that—and she was only four years old when she told me, ‘Mommy, thank you for giving me life’—I realized that she was the one who gave me my life back.”

She concluded, “In my situation, two lives were saved. I saved my daughter’s life, but she saved my life. Even though [the rape] was a very hard moment, if I had to go through that [again] just to know and to love my daughter, I would go through that again. She’s always been there for me. She’s the only person who has shown me a real love. And I always will be grateful.”

To see her story on YouTube, http://tinyurl.com/o4278j. ❖

married couple proposed for beatification

Child & Youth Protection

If you or someone you know has been harmed by sexual misconduct by clergy, a Church employee, or volunteer, please contact:

Julie Sparacio, Director
Child and Youth Protection
707-566-3309
jsparacio@srdiocese.org
The Church the Bohemians Built

by Daniel Demers, special to NCC

It's a story that has become a legend.

Around 1910 or so a “prominent” guest at the Bohemian Club’s Grove in Monte Rio “was missed one Sunday morning at breakfast.” The members panicked, turning the camp upside down looking for the missing man.

“Very late in the morning, in the midst of their frantic search,” he suddenly appeared walking up the railroad tracks (now Highway 116/River Road). When asked where he had been, he simply stated, “I had to go to Mass.”

The nearest Catholic Church at the time was in Guerneville.

Within a few weeks a delegation of Bohemians called upon the Archbishop Patrick Riordan of San Francisco (1884-1914) seeking his support to build a church in Monte Rio (Sonoma County was a part of the San Francisco archdiocese until 1962). The Bohemians, prominent personalities in San Francisco, got the archbishop’s immediate attention and within a short while a church was under construction.

Land upon which St. Catherine now sits was donated by Hugh and Mary Breen in 1910. Breen’s father Hugh Sr., emigrated from Ireland in 1822. He and his wife Catherine settled in Sonoma County along the Russian River in the 1860s. The two died in the 1890s and are buried in the family cemetery next to St. Catherine Church. The cemetery containing twelve graves is part of the church property. The Breen’s children continued on in Monte Rio and became prominent citizens and parishioners.

As part of the land donation arrangement, the Breen’s specified that the church would be named after St. Catherine of Siena, OP, in honor of Catherine Breen’s patroness and namesake.

St. Catherine was a fourteenth-century woman—one of 25 children (Editor’s note: born to Giacomo and Lapa di Benincasa. No, that is not a typo) who became a lay cooperator in the Dominican Order of Sisters dedicating her life to helping the ill and poor. She began having visions of Christ when she was five. She became a lay cooper in the Dominican Order of the papal Order of Sisters, dedicating her life to helping the ill and poor. She also acted in various diplomatic roles for two popes and wrote a number of religious letters that are considered “great works” of early Tuscan literature. The letters and other literary works established her as a noted Catholic philosopher and theologian. She died in Rome in 1380 at 33-years-old and received canonization a saint in 1461.

Then-San Francisco auxiliary Bishop Edward J. Hanna dedicated St. Catherine Church in August 1912 (Editor’s note: Hanna succeeded Riordan in 1913 as archbishop upon the latter’s death and served until retiring in 1935). The cozy little structure was built at a cost of $3,000 ($75,000 in 2015 values). Constructed entirely of redwood, the church, was not wired for electricity until 1948.

The church celebrates the holy sacrifice of the Mass each Saturday at 4pm and is part of the Guerneville parish, which includes St. Elizabeth Church in Guerneville and St. Coleman Mission in Casadero.

For over 100 years, well-known entertainers with national and international reputations—members and guests of the Bohemian Club—have put on an annual benefit show at the Monte Rio Amphitheatre. One-third of the proceeds of the charitable show go to St. Catherine to help finance the church’s ongoing needs so members and guests of the Bohemian Club don’t have to walk to Guerneville to attend weekly Mass.

In 2014, St. Catherine’s received $9,500 from the Bohemian variety show.

First South African Beatified

Thohoyandou, South Africa (AFP)—South African school teacher Benedict Daswa, who was bludgeoned to death for resisting witchcraft, received beatification on September 13, becoming the first person from the southern African region to be elevated to the altars.

Beatification is the last step before canonization, and he received this distinction through an apostolic letter read on behalf of Pope Francis by Angelo Cardinal Amato, prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints, to some 30,000 people during Mass in Thohoyandou, Thohoyandou, South Africa.

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Obituaries

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

Dr. Chester L. Dangremond, DDS

Dr. Chester L. Dangremond, DDS, 92, passed away at his Oakmont home on August 22. A dentist, he had a Santa Rosa practice for 20 years. Said one former patient, “Dr. Dangremond was a wonderful, caring professional and I was privileged to know his family, too. He so skillfully straightened my crooked front teeth, changing my life.”

In 1942, Chet enlisted in the Navy Air Corps and graduated from the Naval Air Station in Pensacola in 1945. Following his military service, he attended Western Michigan and Northwestern Universities.

Memorial services took place September 12 at St. Peter Church in Santa Rosa.

Holy Spirit Church, Santa Rosa

Louise S. Fishel: died August 8, age 103; memorial service September 26

Holy Spirit Church, Santa Rosa


Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Windsor

Mary D. Souza: died August 5, age 94; liturgy service, August 24

St. Eugene Cathedral, Santa Rosa

Isabel Santa Nave: died August 6, age 50
Emil DeMartini: died August 10, age 99
William David Del Valle: August 13, age 84
Gina Bernini Bernaboni: August 17, age 88
Joseph Anthony Scalisi: August 17, age 94
Florence May (née Smith) Whiftield: died August 22, age 97; funeral Mass August 28

St. James Church, Petaluma

Brendan M. Ducousso: died August 8, age 38; memorial Mass August 29

St. John the Baptist Church, Napa

Lionel Zamora: died July 28, age 63; funeral Mass August 10
Alfredo Corpus: died August 21, age 52; funeral Mass August 26
Marcellina Hurtado: died August 28, age 90; funeral Mass August 31
Rita Calderoni: died August 30, age 82; funeral Mass September 4

St. Mary of the Angels Church, Ukiah

Patricia Ann (née Vaughan) Johnson: died August 22, age 82; funeral Mass August 28

St. Peter Church, Cloverdale

Marjorie (née McNeill) Dogali: died August 11, age 95; funeral Mass August 24

Would you like to memorialize your recently deceased loved one in the pages of North Coast Catholic? Doing so is free. Merely send in the form used above the name of the parish they attended, name and maiden name (if applicable), date of death, age, and date of interment, and whether it was a funeral or memorial Mass or service or graveside service to diocesesofsantarosa@yahoo.com or mail them to NCC Obituaries, PO Box 1297, Santa Rosa, CA 95402.

Works of Mercy: Eternal Thresholds

by Deacon Harry Martin

The angels watched. They beheld the casket with the body, the empty, former shell of the soul they were escorting across the eternal threshold. They watched and saw the souls of those coming into the church for this leave taking. They saw the strong soul winds buffet each as they walked the shadowed valley. They saw, in each heart, a longing for a sure place of hope, peace, of mercy. The angels sought to help each one present to see this eternal threshold as a place and time when the mercy of He Who conquered sin and death could be realized.

Who would help the angels in these works of mercy? Recognizing the need of the human soul for God’s divine mercy, Pope Francis has proclaimed the coming year an Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy.

“Mercy: the bridge that connects God and man,” he wrote, “opening our hearts to the hope of being loved forever despite our sinfulness…. For this reason I have proclaimed a special time for the Church, a time when the witness of believers might grow stronger and more effective” (Misericordiae Vultus, motu proprio, Pope Francis, nos. 2-3).

The funeral rites are a familiar part of parish life. Burying the dead, caring for the bereaved are sacred works of the Church but now are often viewed as the work for the professionals. Valued and respected hospice care, funeral homes, mental health, grief support groups have often secularized what was once a dynamic role of the faithful. This Jubilee of Mercy brings us opportunities to experience and share God’s mercy as we renew these sacred works.

Looking afresh at these practices of the faithful begun with the death and burial of Christ, we can help the angels in their tasks at these mercy moments. Early on in the Church the spiritual and corporal works of mercy were integral teachings and practices. And it is very significant that many of these works are shared at the thresholds of eternity.

The seventh corporal work of mercy is to bury the dead. As we attend and share the prayerful work of the funeral rites, we help at these portals of eternity. And at these thresholds the seven spiritual works of mercy offer genuine steps to eternal peace. These stepping stones of mercy are:

- To pray for the living and the dead
- Comfort the sorrowful
- Counsel the doubtful
- Instruct/correct the sinner
- Bear wrongs patiently
- Forgive injuries

It is an extraordinary funeral where these works of mercy are not needed. It is at these eternal leave-takings that opportunities abound for us to receive and share with:

- Those devout in their faith, the celebration of our resurrection hope in Christ.
- Those not living their baptismal graces, a beginning of mercy-filled steps to return home.
- And for the unbeliever, a caring welcome to grow in discovering the mercies of God of which we all need.

The angels seek our help for those who have crossed over and for those who mourn. And they seek us to prepare our eternal legacy and arrangements that together we may be a people of mercy now and for all eternity.

To learn about mercy-works of consolation and bereavement care rooted in our Catholic faith for your parish or to learn more about making your own final arrangements contact: Catholic Cemeteries, Diocese of Santa Rosa, 707-546-6290 or email Dcn. Harry Martin at: har-ry.dscem@sbglobal.net

BVM Sisters Celebrates Diamond Jubilee

Two Sisters of Charity, BVM, with ties to the Diocese of Santa Rosa celebrated 75 years in religious life this fall. They are among 26 diamond jubilarians who gathered in the Mount Carmel Motherhouse Chapel in Dubuque, Iowa, on September 6, 2015, for a Mass of thanksgiving. This year the group also included sisters celebrating 74, 73, and 70 years.

St. Jean Margaret Black, BVM

Sr. Jean Margaret was born in Holbrook, Iowa. She entered the BVM congregation on February 2, 1945, and professed first vows on August 15, 1947, and final vows on August 15, 1952. She taught at St. Vincent de Paul School in Petaluma. She taught elementary school in Des Moines and Muscatine, Iowa; Lincoln and Omaha; Butte; and San Francisco. She served as congregational volunteer in Dubuque, Iowa.

St. Mary Adele Henneberry, BVM

Sr. Mary Adele was born in Chicago. She entered the BVM congregation on September 8, 1945. She professed first vows on March 19, 1948, and final vows on August 15, 1953. She was assistant manager at Vigil Light Apartments in Santa Rosa. She taught elementary and secondary school music in Chicago and Grayslake, Illinois; and Boone and Fort Dodge, Iowa; and Hempstead, New York.

She served as executive director of the Interfaith Program for the Elderly in Milwaukee, and worked in housing services in Denver. In Dubuque, Iowa, she served as vice president of the BVM congregation, administrator of the Motherhouse, and music/liturgy minister for the BVM congregation.

To send a congratulatory message to a sister on her jubilee or to donate to the BVM congregation on behalf of these sisters, please go to http://tinyurl.com/orvykk4.

For more information contact:

Jody Iler
Communications Specialist
Sisters of Charity, BVM
1100 Carmel Dr.
Dubuque, IA 52003
563-588-2351 x5538
jiler@bvmcong.org
www.bvmcong.org
St. Sebastian Church in Sebastopol is sponsoring a free health and wellness family event on Saturday, October 31, from 10am-2pm in the parish hall. The Binational Health Week Campaign with St. Sebastian will feature health care organizations to provide health screenings; bone marrow, diabetes and blood pressure checks, and other beneficial medical testing and procedures. Come familiarize yourself with ways to improve your health and meet resources available to you in the community. The church is located at 7983 Covert Ln., Sebastopol, California 95472. For more information, contact Edie Urteaga at ediemichel73@gmail.com or 707-849-8889.

Young Couples Meeting Announced St. Eugene Church has started an Evening With Joy, a group for Catholic young couples, filled with worship, friendship, fun, and learning. It meets every Wednesday from 7-9pm in the Parish Life Center. For more information call Titi Hammar at 415-666-6394.

Living the gospel while retired The Society of St. Vincent de Paul quietly feeds more than 85,000 of Sonoma County’s poor and needy people annually, at their Free Dining Room in Santa Rosa’s Railroad Square. Additionally, 15 St. Vincent de Paul Conferences affiliated with Catholic parishes in Sonoma County annually provide food, clothing and other essentials to another 132,400 of the county’s needy. While the Conferences and the Dining Room can always use volunteer help, The Society has an urgent need for dedicated individuals who would be willing to serve on its Executive committee/board of directors. This provides direction and guidance to all of the Society’s operations. Executive committee positions have just a three-year term. Currently The Society has openings for president, vice-president, and secretary. Training and guidance for these positions will be provided. For more information, call Jack Tolin at 707-695-4744.

Adult Education at St. Leo Church Breaking Open the Word, a discussion of the Sunday Scripture readings for the coming month will be presented by Geoff Wood on Sunday October 25 and November 29, 9:30 and 11:00am.

SOV took them out to the ballpark On September 26, the Star of the Valley Church Men’s Club hosted an outing to Oakland Coliseum to see the San Francisco Giants take on the hometown Athletics. A good time was had by all.

It’s almost that time of year Advent is traditionally a time of penance and almsgiving, and it starts next month. Worthy noting, therefore, are several fantastic initiatives of Star of the Valley Church and its Neighbor-to-Neighbor Programs.

Christmas Food & Gift Give-Away: Star of the Valley’s “signature” program is still the Christmas Food & Gift Give-Away. Last year the church invited 245 families in need, who were prescreened by Peter Hardy, St. Mark Lutheran Church, and Catholic Charities. Each family received two bags of groceries and a $10 Safeway gift card. There were 342 adults and 472 children served. Last year we gave $15 Target gift cards to children 14 years old and younger. This year we plan to do gift cards again. Kid Street Learning Center Lunch Program: Initiated in 2009 by Delia Mansell at the request of Joe and Nancy Martin, it involves providing weekly lunches for approximately 126 children considered “at risk” at the Kid Street Learning Center. More than a dozen people from the parish are involved in this worthy endeavor, which includes grocery shopping, making, and delivering sandwiches. Nick’s Pantry: Parishioners help individuals and families in need with food purchased from the Redwood Food Bank at a discount, and $10 Safeway gift cards, also bought at a discount. Parishioners also help keep the food donation box full. If you have any questions about the Neighbor-to-Neighbor Programs, call Peter Hardy at 537-8257.

Drought consciousness in Rohrert Park If you have been by St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church in Rohrert Park, you have likely noticed the construction on the front lawn. SEAS was selected as part of a free pilot lawn replacement program sponsored by the Sonoma County Water Agency. Sonoma County Youth Ecology Corps (SCYEC) and Conservation Corps North Bay (CCNB) will do the work. SCYEC employs 16-24-year-olds to work on ecosystem restoration and conservation-related projects. In addition to a paycheck, SCYEC workers receive training and environmental education. A local nonprofit, Daily Acts, is managing the project. They will lay mulch over grass, plant native and drought-resistant plants, and install a new drip system.

The parish expects to realize a savings in excess of 140,000 gallons of water a year. Learn more by visiting www.dailycracts.org.

Catholic Bible scholar speaks to laity in Arcata On August 29, St. Mary Church in Arcata welcomed Fr. Rayanna Govindu, who spoke on the “Spirituality of Lay Ministry.” Fr. Govindu is sub-regional coordinator of South Asia for the Catholic Biblical Federation and has also been the coordinator of Regional Small Christian Communities in India.

In ecumenical news, between August 16 and September 20, the Arcata United Methodist Church hosted a small group discussion of Pope Francis’ encyclical Laudato Si’ (“On Care for Our Common Home”).

Word to victims of domestic violence cut, police said Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Windsor wants people to know its community outreach programs offer support groups in English and Spanish designed for women who have left abusive environments. Participants receive support, education, and confidence that enable them to break the cycle of violence. For more information, call the Domestic Violence Hotline at 707-546-1234.

The bells of St. Mary … under her title at Guadalupe Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Windsor also reports that after nearly four years of absence, the melodic sounds of the carillon have returned. The bells will ring every day and every hour from noon to 6pm. The Angelus bells will ring prior to the noon and 6pm hours are a traditional call to prayer. The Angelus prayer is a prayer of devotion for the Incarnation, which includes saying the “Hail, Mary” three times. Recorded sacred music will play on the bells after the clock strikes the hour. The church will also ring a bell peal on Sunday mornings prior to the 9am Mass. A peal refers to a prolonged ringing on a set of bells.

New Citizenship Preparation Classes in Sonoma Catholic Charities and La Luz Center are offering free citizenship preparation classes at Sasselari Elementary School. Classes began on September 2 at 6pm. Learn about United States history, practice reading and writing in English, and prepare for the interview. Free childcare is available. For information, call Candy at 707-578-6000, x235, or Yuliana at 707-938-5131.

Saving souls at Cal In August, Calistoga vintner Judy Barrett hosted the new FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students) missionery team—three young women (Alison, Kendra, and Summer) and two young men (Jordan and Carlos)—for the University of California, Berkeley, at her home for their beginning of the academic year retreat. Carlos served on the team last year and is this year’s team leader. This summer he led a mission trip to Peru with a group of Cal students.

Each year Barrett puts together a package of Mass cards, notes of encouragement, offers of prayer support, and spiritual bouquets for the team. If readers would like to send their good wishes and offers of Mass intentions and other prayers, please send them to her care of this newspaper—dioceseofsanarao@usa.com—or by mail to Judy Barrett, PO Box 618, Calistoga, California 94515. She will present whatever you send them to these fine young men and women in several weeks, when a surprise package just might be a boost for them.

Last year, the Cal FOCUS missionaries led thirteen small-group weekly Bible study groups on campus and seven student-led Bible studies on campus. Furthermore, forty-eight student leaders became active in FOCUS events, and one young man is entering a seminary this fall. FOCUS is now on over 100 campuses around the United States, and on average, one young man or woman enters the priesthood or religious life from each campus, each year.

San Francisco (City News Service)—Gold and a cross with a saint's bone embedded in it were stolen from a Catholic church in San Francisco's Mission District, police said.

A priest at St. Anthony of Padua Church at 3215 Cesar Chavez St. discovered the theft Tuesday, September 15 when he found a cable securing the rear door had been cut, police said.

The thieves damaged the tabernacle in the church and stole items from inside it, including the chalices and crosses. The theft is thought to have occurred between around 10:30pm Monday and 8am Tuesday, according to police.

Were Vatican officials using Ashley Madison? Detroit (Pathos.com)—In the recent data dump of users IDs for Ashley Madison, the website that bills itself as the number one place for adulterers to meet, the Catholic Herald reported, “Websites of at least two dozen people with the .ez address are among those who had signed up to meet married people for liaisons.”

The reader could only imagine the ramifications for the Catholic Church, as a new sex scandal threatened to expose high-ranking Vatican officials to public scrutiny. But now David Taylor, a Montreal-based biochemist and blogger who operates the website proofreader.com, has stepped in to counter the accusation with facts. The article begins: "In the week or so since the Ashley Madison hack data dump, there have been many news stories that have reported its contents uncritically, by journalists who have obviously never seen the data."

Proofreader.com explains:
Notorious abortion clinic to close

Manassas, Virginia (life-news.com)—After a quarter century-plus, the Amethyst Health Center for Women, located in Manassas, Virginia, announced it would close as of September 28, 2015. It opened in 1989. No reason was given.

This closure comes as the Board of Health, now controlled by pro-abortion Gov. Terry McAuliffe (D), voted to relax abortion regulations enacted under former Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli II (R), who lost the gubernatorial race to McAuliffe last fall.

McAuliffe has blocked the regulations from taking effect. When the Amethyst Health Center for Women was inspected in June and December of 2012, inspectors discovered 48 pages worth of violations including multiple violations of infection prevention protocols that left women at risk of becoming sick.

Violations included dirty facility conditions, soiled linens and recovery recliners, and the failure of staff to change gloves between patients.

The second inspection report revealed infection control issues discovered during the June inspection still had not been corrected six months later. Cuccinelli’s regulations were created in reaction to this.

Cuccinelli’s regulations were created in reaction to this. They also promised to ban the promotion of the “redeemed version of marriage” in schools, and direct the Planned Parenthood Foundation to leave the state.

Cuccinelli had written:

\[\text{Archbishop Chaput had written:}\]

\[\text{Here’s a simple exercise in basic reasoning. On a spectrum where the left end represents the promotion of the "redeemed version of marriage" and the right end represents the promotion of Planned Parenthood, where would you place the promotion of the "redeemed version of marriage"?} \]

The flap emerges from a three-year-old controversy fueled by pro-homosexual activists, after Chick-fil-A CEO Dan Cathy expressed support for the “biblical definition of family” on a Christian radio broadcast in 2012.

Regardless of his position then or now, legal specialists say the city may get sued and stands to lose if it blocks Chick-fil-A.

“We were the government to bar Chick-fil-A from an airport port concession due to political statements made by Cathy, that would be unconstitutional discrimination,” said Jona-than Adler, director of the Center for Business Law and Regulation at Case Western Reserve University School of Law in Ohio, in an email exchange with the Register.

“It cannot pronounce a company guilty because of suspicions aroused by the CEO’s comments about gay marriage.”

Presidential candidates sign pledge to support marriage

Washington, DC (gaystarnews.com)—Four Republican presidential candidates have signed a pledge to overturn the Supreme Court of the United State’s landmark Obergefell ruling on same sex unions if elected in 2016.

Ted Cruz, Rick Santorum, Bobby Jindal, and Ben Carson all signed the National Organization for Marriage’s pledge.

In doing so, the four Republicans vowed to amend the Constitution to uphold marriage and reverse the Supreme Court’s “illegitimate” to reclassify the institution.

They also promised to ban the promotion of the “redeemed version of marriage” in schools, and direct the US Department of Justice to investigate cases where anti-gay marriage activists have been “harassed or threatened,” proposing new protections if needed.

Archbishops disagree

From blogger Matt Abbot comes the following:

Archbishop [Charles] Chaput of Philadelphia recently wrote a (somewhat) veiled public response to Archbishop Blase Cupich of Chicago regarding abortion in general and the Planned Parenthood scandal in particular.

Archbishop Cupich had written:

\[\text{Archbishop Chaput said in response:}\]

While commerce in the remains of defenseless children is particularly repulsive, we should be no less appalled by the indifference toward the thousands of people who die daily for lack of decent medical care; who are denied rights by a broken immigration system and by racism; who suffer in hunger, joblessness and want; who pay the price of violence in gun-saturated neighborhoods; or who are executed by the state in the name of society.

Archbishop Chaput subsequently wrote:

\[\text{Here’s a simple exercise in basic reasoning. On a spectrum where the left end represents the promotion of the "redeemed version of marriage" and the right end represents the promotion of Planned Parenthood, where would you place the promotion of the "redeemed version of marriage"?} \]

The deliberate killing of innocent life is a uniquely wicked act. No amount of contextualizing or deflecting our attention to other issues can obscure that....

Archbishop Chaput went on to chastise Arab refugees making the perilous Mediterranean crossing.

After citing certain traditions of Islamic jurisprudence, the article scolded as follows:

\[\text{Sadly, some Syrians and Libyans are willing to risk the lives and souls of those whom they are responsible to raise upon the Sharia – their children – sacrificing many of them during the dangerous trip to the lands of the war-waging crusaders ruled by laws of atheism and indecency.} \]

It concludes that “voluntarily leaving [the lands of Islam] for [the lands of infidels] is a dangerous major sin, as it is a gateway toward one’s children and grandchildren abandoning Islam for Christianity, atheism, or liberalism.”

Pope tells prelates: Pay your taxes!

Vatican City (AFP)–Pope Francis on Monday told congregations which run hotels and restaurants to pay their taxes “like everyone else”, weighing in on a heated debate in Italy over Church privileges.

In an interview with Portuguese public television, the Pope returned to one of his favorite topics, the need to “fight the temptation of the ‘God of money,’ into which
Archbishop Amal Ganguly: His Beatitude said he plans to open a formal cause for the beatification of the victims next year. He made this announcement during the August 29 ceremony in Baghdad. The remarks were made in context of taking in refugees since the days when His Holiness was archbishop from 1967-77. He died of a heart attack in 1977, at age 57.

White supremacist groups expressed hatred of Pope Washington, DC (SITE Monitor)—Users of prominent white supremacist and neo-Nazi forums called for Pope Francis to be assassinated amid his calls for “every European Catholic parish to house refugees.” These discussions took place on September 7, 2015.

In the neo-Nazi discussion, one user declared, “The pope deserves to be executed for crimes against the White race.”

In the white supremacist discussion, another user appeared to echo the call, “This [expletive] needs a third eye, right in the middle of where his two existing eyes are.” Shortly after, another responded, “White people need to be protected from the genocidal anti-white Pope and the genocidal anti-white religion he pushes.”

The Washington Post reported the Pope’s remarks. According to the website Raw Story, “The Post article was published on another white supremacist forum, Vanguard News Network, with user ‘John Adams’ responding, ‘The pope deserves to be executed for crimes against the White race.’”

Enrique Shaw: The rich businessman the Pope may soon beatify

Buenos Aires (CNA/EWTN News)—Pope Francis’ desire to see the late Argentine businessman Enrique Shaw raised to the altars could be close to fruition, according to the postulator of Shaw’s cause for beatification.

Juan Navarro Florio told CNA the diocesan phase of the cause has been completed. “This process began when Pope Francis was the archbishop of Buenos Aires, and in that capacity he was the one who asked Rome to open the process,” he related. The diocesan process was closed in 2013 under Archbishop Mario Poli, and everything was passed on to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints, which this year declared the judicial validity of that phase of the process.

In an interview conducted with March in the Mexican TV station Televisa, Pope Francis said, “I’ve known Enrique, a rich person, and I’m moving forward with the cause for beatification over there [in Argentina] of a rich Argentine businessman. Enrique Shaw was rich, yet saintly. A person can have money. God gives it to him so he can administer it well. And this man administered it well. Not with paternalism, but by fostering the [personal] growth of people who needed help.”

Pope Francis sent his blessing and prayers, while at the Altar of St. Pius X in Vatican on Friday when he attended the 7am Mass on August 21 at the Altar of St. Pius X in the church. It was the feast day of the saint.

The Mass was celebrated by Msgr. Lucio Bonora, an official of the Holy See’s Secretariat of State, who was unaware the Pope planned on being there. When he was informed Pope Francis was praying at the altar, he asked if he should go back to the sacristy, but was told to say Mass as usual.

When [Pope Francis] saw me, he told me he came to pray because he had already said Mass earlier in the Casa Santa Marta, and he wanted to pay his respects to St. Pius X,” Msgr. Bonora told Vatican Radio.

“When he saw I had come to celebrate Mass, he wanted to remain, to stay there with the faithful, attend Mass, and pray,” he said.

Enrique Shaw told CNA that Pope Francis greeted the faithful during the sign of peace.

“It was very moving for me, and for the faithful, to see the Pope as a humble member of the faithful, going to pray at the tomb of St. Pius X,” the priest said. “In the message of August, Pope Francis told him he has a strong devotion to Pius X, and prayed especially for catechists, since in Buenos Aires the feast serves as the Day of Catechists.”

Holy Father Supports Beach Missionaries

Vatican City (Vatican Radio)—Pope Francis has sent a message to the missionaries of the Nuovi Orizzonti (New Horizons) community, who were evangelizing at Riccione beach, which is a popular vacation spot near Rimini, Italy.

The Pope was responding to a letter sent by the members of the community, which explained they chose Riccione for their mission because it had recently become “infamous” for being a place where “young people lost their lives due to a deviant culture of drugs, sex, and unrestrained entertainments.”

In their letter, the young missionaries—who are ages 18-35—said there is a “great thirst for God” in the hearts of young people.

In a message sent through Msgr. Guillermo Karcher, the Papal Master of Ceremonies, Pope Francis conveyed his gratitude for their “beautiful letter,” and for the fact that “[in the message of August] you have generously dedicated your time to the mission of evangelization at the beaches, streets, and informal meeting places of Riccione.”

Pope Francis sent his blessing and prayers, while at the same time asking the missionaries “to not forget to pray for him.”
Es Sobre la Familia

Ya que el Encuentro Mundial de las Familias, acaba de concluir en Filadelfia, es bueno para cada uno de nosotros reflexionar sobre la importancia de esforzarse por vivir una fe familiar llena de vida. La catequesis sobre la familia, que El Papa Francisco ha dado a sus audiencias semanales, a su visita a la Costa Este de participar en el Encuentro Mundial de las Familias, y el próximo Sínodo sobre la familia son todos los signos a nosotros de la centralidad de la familia.

Les puedo asegurar que mi familia nunca calificaría como la Familia del Año. Y aún así en el contexto de la familia, me dieron un ambiente que me ayudó a escuchar y responder al llamado de Dios para ser sacerdote. A pesar de ser un niño muy pequeño en el tercer y cuarto grado recuerdo decir esta oración todos los días después de la Santa Comunión con reverencia y devoción.

Después de la Santa Comunión con reverencia y devoción.

La bendición para mí fue que yo era parte de una familia y que reza una oración en mi nombre. “¿Cómo pagaré al Señor por todo lo que Él me ha dado? Esa pregunta permaneció conmigo desde aquellos primeros años en adelante: “¿Qué retorno podría hacerle al Señor por la gracia que me ha dado?”

A pesar de que era un niño muy pequeño en el tercer y cuarto grado recuerdo decir esta oración todos los días después de la Santa Comunión con reverencia y devoción. El regalo del Cuerpo de Nuestro Señor y de la sangre que después de la Santa Comunión con reverencia y devoción.

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“¿Qué retorno podríamos hacerle al Señor por la gracia que le dimos?”

Tomaré la copa de la salvación y invocaré el nombre del Señor. Mis votos al Señor que cumpliré en presencia del Señor.

En esos tiempos que regularmente íbamos los sábado por la noche a la Bendición y la Confesión, y por lo tanto crecimos con una apreciación vivida para ambos. Estas cosas eran tan parte de nuestra vida que nosotros como los niños no los veíamos como adiciones o adjuntos a la vida, sino como parte integrante de la vida misma. A pesar de esta inmersión en la fe, nuestra familia nunca se describía como muy piadosa o incluso sagrada. Una vez más, la fe fue tan profundamente integrada en el tejido de la vida que no se veía, ni siquiera se tomaba como algo extraordinario.

Lamentablemente ya no es lo normal que los niños crezcan en hogares estables con ambos padres. No es suficiente expresar nuestra tristeza por la desaparición progresiva de la familia. Cada uno debe orar fervientemente para que los jóvenes que han sido heridos por el mal ejemplo, quebrantamiento, y la intervención adversa gubernamental. Nosotros también debemos dar testimonio audaz para la comprensión católica del matrimonio y de la familia, esforzándose por ser una familia que reza unida.

Termino con las palabras dadas a nosotros por el Papa Pablo VI con motivo de su visita a Nazaret en 1964. A medida que se disponía a salir, reflexionó sobre el valor del silencio, la familia, y el trabajo como él los había experimentado en Nazaret. Acerca de la familia escribió esa sección de Nazaret que nos dice algo importante sobre la vida doméstica:

“Leción de vida doméstica. Enseñe Nazaret lo que es la familia, su comunión de amor, su sencilla y austera belleza, su carácter sagrado e inviolable; enseñe lo dulce e insustituible que es su pedagogía; enseñe lo fundamental e insuperable de su sociología.”

A Prayer for Priests

O almighty and eternal God, look upon the face of Your Christ and for love of Him Who is the eternal high priest, have pity on Your priests. Remember, O most compassionate God, that they are but weak and frail human beings. Stir up in them the grace of their vocation which in them by the imposition of the Bishop’s hands. Keep them close to You, lest the enemy prevail against them, so that they may never do anything in the slightest degree unworthy of their sublime vocation.

O Jesus, I pray You for Your faithful and fervent priests; for Your unfaithful and tepid priests; for Your priests laboring at home or abroad in distant mission fields; for Your tempted priests; for Your lonely and desolate priests; for Your sick priests; for Your aged priests, for Your dying priests; for the souls of Your priests in purgatory.

But above all I commend to You the priests dearest to me: the priest who baptized me; the priest who absolved me from my sins; the priest at whose Masses I assisted and who have me Your Body and Blood in Holy Communion; the priest who taught and instructed me or helped me and encourage me; all the priest to whom I am indebted in any other way, particularly (priest’s name here). O Jesus, keep them all close to Your heart, and bless them abundantly in time and in eternity. Amen.
Noticias locales

Evento de Salud y Bienestar Familiar Gratuito
La Iglesia de San Sebastián, situada en 7923 Coster Ln., Sebastopol, Alta California 95472 está patrocinando un Evento de Salud y Bienestar para la Familia Gratuito el sábado 31 de octubre 2015 10am-14pm en el Salón Parroquial.

La Campaña de la Semana Binacional de Salud, con San Sebastián han asegurado organizaciones de atención de la salud para proporcionar exámenes como; la médula ósea, diabetes, revisiones de presión arterial y otros. Venga a familiarizarse con las formas de mejorar su salud y conocer recursos en la comunidad disponibles para usted.

Para más información, contacte Edie Urteaga en edi.emichel73@gmail.com o 707-849-8889.

Desde la Iglesia de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe en Windsor
Los grupos de apoyo diseñados para las mujeres que hayan dejado los ambientes abusivos, se ofrecen a través del programa de extension comunitaria en español y en inglés. Los participantes reciben el apoyo, la educación y la confianza que les permitan romper el ciclo de la violencia. Para obtener más información, llame a la línea directa de Violencia Doméstica al 707-546-1234.

Las campanas de Santa María... bajo su título en Guadalupe
La Iglesia Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe en Windsor también informa que después de casi cuatro años de ausencia, los sonidos melódicos del carillón han regresado.

Las campanas sonarán cada día y cada hora desde el mediodía hasta las 6:00. Las campanas Ángeles sonarán antes de las 6 pm hora y al mediodía estas son una llamada a la oración tradicional. La oración del Ángelus es una invocación de devoción por la Encarnación, que incluye diciendo el “Ave, María” tres veces. Música sagrada se reproducirá en las campanas después de que el reloj marque la hora. También tendremos un repique de campana los domingos por la mañana antes de la misa de las 9 a.m. Un repique se refiere a un sonido prolongado en un conjunto de campanas.

¡Nuevas Clases de Ciudadanía en Santa Rosa!
Caridades Católicas y La Luz Center están ofreciendo clases de preparación para la ciudadanía gratuitas ofrendadas en La Escuela Primaria Sassarini. Las clases empezarán el 3 de septiembre a las 6 de tarde. Aprenda acerca de campanas.

El Cardenal afirmó que a muchos molesta que “en este tiempo de deserciones, la Iglesia continúe anunciando el Evangelio de jesucristo”. Afortunadamente muchos de nosotros hemos sido testigos de la caída de las dictaduras más férreas; “Señor, ¿a quién iremos? Sólo tú nos gustan los criterios de vida de jesucristo; en donde decimos que creemos... pero no dejamos que esa fe se refleje en nuestra vida diaria. Es tiempo de elegir libremente a Jesús.”

Para celebrar, el Cardenal Rivera dijo que “ciertamente los ideólogos, políticos, sociólogos, líderes humanos, pueden y deben ayudar a resolver los problemas concretos de la convivencia, pero sólo Jesús es capaz de responder al misterio profundo de la existencia. Afortunadamente muchos de nosotros hemos sido testigos de la caída de las dictaduras más férreas; “Señor, ¿a quién iremos? Sólo tú tienes palabras de vida eterna.”

El Papa Francisco: Es bello que padres y madres enseñen a hijos a mandar un beso a Jesús o la Virgen
Papa Francisco: —Bello que padres y madres enseñen a mandar un beso a Jesús o a la Virgen. ¡Cuentan tercera en eso! —En aquel momento el corazón de los niños se transforma en lugar de oración y es un don del Espíritu Santo. ¡No olvidemos nunca pedir este don para cada uno de nosotros! Porque el Espíritu de Dios tiene su modo especial de decir en nuestros corazones: ‘Abbi’, es decir, ‘Padre’, no es enseñar a decir padre, del mismo modo como lo decía Jesús, un modo que no podremos nunca encontrar solos.

El Pontífice resaltó luego que “en familia se aprende a pedir y apreciar ese don del Espíritu. Si lo aprendes con la misma espontaneidad con la cual aprendes a decir ‘papá’ y ‘mamá, lo has aprendido para siempre.”

“Cuando esto sucede, el tiempo de la eterna vida familiar viene encubierto en el vientre del amor de Dios, y busca espontáneamente el tiempo de la oración.”

Francisco también lamentó que en algunos lugares hay niños que no saben hacer la señal de la cruz: “Una cosa que tengo en el corazón, que le visto en las ciudades: ¿hay niños que no han aprendido a hacer la señal de la Cruz? Tú mamá, papá, enseña al niño a rezar, a hacer la señal de la Cruz, esta es una tarea bella de las mamás y de los papás.”

El Evangelio no obedece al consenso para ser atractivo, moderno, dice Cardenal mccarico
El arzobispo primado de México, Norberto Cardenal Rivera Carrera, explicó que la Iglesia Católica seguirá anunciando el mismo Evangelio de Jesucristo, en medio de un mundo que le exige adecuarse a los “nuevos tiempos” y que posiblemente escucharía con más agrado un anuncio “más atractivo, moderno y progresista”.

En la homilía de la Misa que presidió el domingo en la catedral primada de México, el Cardenal afirmó que a muchos molestaba que “en este tiempo de deserciones, la Iglesia continúa anunciando el mismo evangelio, cuando la huida de tantos se podría evitar proclamando un evangelio más atractivo, moderno y progresista, por supuesto con propuestas consensuales y democráticas, aunque no sean precisamente las de Jesucristo que consideramos ya superadas.”

El arzobispo dijo luego que “con frecuencia tenemos noticias de que algún compañero, amigo o familiar se alejó de su fe porque consideró que perduraría un absurdo, que la indisolubilidad del matrimonio era imposible, que amar el dolor y la cruz era repugnante, que respetar la vida no es moderno ni progresista, que no robar sólo es para los que no saben aprovechar las oportunidades.”
This Month in History...

130 Years Ago

Bishop Patrick Manogue (1831–95), founding bishop of the Diocese of Sacramento and a former gold miner, made a pastoral visit to St. Joseph Church in Crescent City that left the community very excited. The correspondent who wrote the report of the bishop’s stay noted, “We are not, as a rule, a church-going people in this town, but during the past eight months we have been expecting a visit from [His Excellency], and a large number of children and adults have been preparing for the holy sacrament of confirmation.”

The total receipts of the recent fair at Napa, given by the ladies of the Catholic Church, amounted to $3,547.50. The expenses were $315.50, leaving a net balance of $3,232 for the church. That would be nearly $84,000 in today’s money.

50 Years Ago …

St. Mary Justine Withey, CSJ, Fr. Thomas Stang, Fr. William Delaney, and Fr. James Franck discuss plans for the upcoming anniversary.

The diocese announced it would sponsor a weekly adult forum for eight weeks on the contemporary issues facing twentieth century Christians. Sessions took place at Cardinal Newman High School.

45 Years Ago …

Fr. Thomas Devereaux, then parochial vicar of St. Bernard Church in Eureka, inaugurated a series of classes in Christian education of an ecumenical nature at St. Bernard High School. Teachers came from four denominations.

Later that month, the Eureka Junior Chamber of Commerce honored Father as one of the Outstanding Young Men of America. Criteria for nomination was a man’s service to others, professional excellence, business advancement, charitable activities, and civic and professional recognition.

Bishop Mark J. Hurley preached the sermon at the annual national Serra Convention.

10 Years Ago …

On October 16, the Ursuline High School community and its friends joined in a commemorative Mass to celebrate the school’s one-hundred-and-twenty-fifth anniversary.

Founded in 1880, Ursuline was a private Catholic secondary school for girls. The school closed at the end of the 2010–2011 school year and merged with Cardinal Newman High School.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, Sacred Heart School in Hattiesburg, one of then-30 in the Diocese of Biloxi, Mississippi, and the only one in Hattiesburg, sustained extensive damage. Winds ripped off most of the roof, water flooded classrooms, and flooring was ruined. The bill for removal of all the downed trees on campus alone came to $12,000.

St. Eugene School adopted Sacred Heart as its “twin” and sent needed uniforms, books, supplies, and cash. By early October the cash raised equaled $5,000. These funds came from collecting pennies and dimes, selling “hurricane beads,” and other small fund-raisers conducted by each class.

Just over 100 diocesan youth joined some 20,000 of their peers at the National Catholic Youth Conference in Atlanta. The diocese also contributed $2,500 to assist youth from St. Catherine of Siena Church in Metairie, Louisiana, to attend the confab in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

The Congress of Religious Education North met in Arcata on October 22. The theme given to speakers to develop was the Eucharist.

Our Lady of the Pillar: October 12

How Catholic are US Catholics?

The National Catholic Reporter

More than 81 million U.S. adults identify themselves as Catholic.

But how they live that identity — how they connect to the church beyond celebrating the popular Pope Francis — adds up very differently.

The overall Catholic count plunges to 68.1 million in the 2015 Official Catholic Directory. It tallies up reports from the nation’s parishes of adults — and children — who have attended worship, received sacraments, joined a youth group or donated money.

The numbers and rate of participation in church life slide even further when researchers look at how adults report their Catholic life in action — or rather, inaction.

Only about 1 in 3 adult Catholics (31.4 percent), chiefly older women, attend Mass in any given week, according to a survey of 1,007 self-identified Catholics by the Catholic research agency, the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate.

The most recent Official Catholic Directory reports, based on the full 2014 calendar year, show:

- Infant baptisms (a number affected by the birth rate and immigration) fell to 693,914 from 981,944 in 1995, and 1.3 million 50 years ago.
- Confirmations (first measured in 1990) are down to 566,143 from a peak of 630,465 in 2000.
- First Communions are down to 726,887 from 849,919 when these were first tracked in 1990.
- Marriages in the church fell to 148,134, from a peak of 426,309 in 1970.

Add one more potentially alarming statistic. A 2015 study of Catholic family life found that 68 percent of Catholics with children under age 18 have sent them for no religious education whatsoever — not even a parish youth group.

Holy Cross Family Ministries, the organization behind the famous slogan “The family that prays together stays together,” commissioned the research in advance of Francis’ September visit to the World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia and the Vatican’s October meeting to conclude the church’s Synod of Bishops on the Family.

The study found that 30 percent of parents did not find it very important that their children celebrate their First Communion. Twenty-five percent didn’t consider it very important that they be confirmed.

A Pew Research Center survey released Sept. 2 backs this up. It asked 1,016 self-identified U.S. adult Catholics about what is “essential” to their personal sense of “being Catholic.”

The answers reveal that for most Americans, Catholic identity is rooted more in how they live and believe than in whether they check off the boxes for official Catholic measures:

- 68 percent cited “having a personal relationship with Jesus Christ” as essential.
- 67 percent: Belief in Jesus’ actual resurrection from the dead.
- 62 percent: Working to help the poor and needy.
- 54 percent: Devotion to Mary as the virgin Mother of God.
- 54 percent: Receiving the sacraments.

(see US Catholics p. 26)
The new law thus puts the responsibility squarely on the bishop as a pastor.

“A new, briefer process involving the bishop has been created. Up to now there have been two processes for handling annulments: the formal process (which is the lengthier one involving gathering and weighing testimony) and the documentary process (which deals with situations where a marriage can be proved invalid simply by presenting certain documents, such as showing that a Catholic got married outside the Church without the required permission). Now there is a middle process involving the bishop. If the evidences for nullity are especially clear, they can be presented to the bishop in a process intended to take less time than a formal process case. However, if the evidences require more examination, the case is to be referred to the formal process.

“Appeals can be made against the judgment of the bishop to the metropolitan. As a check on the judgment of the bishop, whose decision is final, the metropolitan bishop (i.e., the bishop who heads the local ecclesiastical province, composed of several neighboring dioceses). Or if it was the metropolitan himself who heard the original case, appeal can be made to the senior suffragan bishop (i.e., the bishop in the province with the most seniority, apart from the metropolitan).

“According to the procedural norms attached to Mitis Iudex Dominus Iesus (see Art. 14 § 1), these cases include the following:

- lack of faith resulting in the simulation of consent to be married or an error that determines the will regarding one of the requirements of marriage
- the brevity of married life (i.e., the couple divorced very quickly after being married)
- procured abortion to prevent procreation (presumably during the marriage itself, prior to bearing other children and thus showing an unwillingness to procreate)
- the stubborn persistence in a extramartialis affair at the time of the wedding or at a time immediately following
- the malicious concealment of:
  - infertility
  - a serious contagious disease
  - children born from a previous relationship
  - an incarceration
- a reason for getting married that is completely foreign to married life (presumably something like entering a legal fiction of a marriage to be able to immigrate or gain an inheritance) or consisting of the unplanned pregnancy of the woman
- the physical violence inflicted to extort the consent to marry
- the lack of use of reason proved by medical documents

According to Vaticanista John Allen, Jr., “The decision will recalibrate the discussion at October’s second edition of the Synod of Bishops on the family, likely reducing the emphasis on the question of Communion for divorced and remarried Catholics and creating space for other issues to emerge.

“Last October, the matter of whether the traditional ban on Communion for Catholics who divorce and remarry outside the Church ought to be softened was the hot-button issue par excellence, with cardinals and other senior leaders exchanging barbed commentary and activist groups on both sides banging the drum. Previously, the law did not establish that the bishop himself was a judge in marriage cases. Now, in keeping with his role as shepherd of the faithful, it does. In fact, he is the principal judge in his diocese, to be assisted by others whom he chooses. The new law thus puts the responsibility squarely on the bishop as a pastor.

“Whatever people may think of the fine points, everyone will be realistic enough to grasp that in the immediate wake of one major reform, it will be a while before the time is ripe for another.

“...the United States accounts for at least half, and sometimes more, of all the annulments granted by the Catholic Church every year, even though it represents only 6 percent of the global Catholic population.

In one passage, the Pope writes, “In no wise did it escape my notice that an abbreviated process of judgment might put at risk the principle of the indissolubility of marriage, for this very reason, I have desired that in such cases the Bishop himself, who, because of his pastoral office is with Peter the greatest guarantor of Catholic unity in faith and in discipline, shall be the judge.”

Writing in the Catholic Herald (UK), one English observer noted, “The Pope wishes to speed up annulments, but he does not want to compromise the doctrine of indissolubility. Because bishops will judge, and because bishops are charged with upholding the faith in union with the Holy See, the doctrine of indissolubility will be safeguarded. One notes the way the Pope speaks of ‘faith and discipline.’ The latter reflects the former, and the two cannot be separated. That is a crucial point and it gives a hint to the discussions at the coming Synod, where, one hopes, all talk of faith and discipline parting company will be sternly resisted.

“One also notes the reference to the ‘Catholic unity’ that exists between bishops and the bishops. We all know that Catholic means universal. This too is a hint that so called ‘local solutions’ (i.e., those proposed by liberal western European bishops) will be given short shrift. The Church is One, as the Creed states: Germany [i.e., the German cardinals such as Reinhard Cardinal Marx and Walter Cardinal Kaspe] will not be getting what it wants.”

### Spanish Omelette with Chorizo and Sweet Potato

**Heat 1 tablespoon of the oil in a large frying pan (with about a 23cm or 9” base). Tip in the chorizo and fry for 4-5 minutes until crisp. Remove with a slotted spoon and drain on kitchen towel. Pour the chorizo fat into a heatproof bowl and wipe out the pan.**

Put the remaining tablespoon of olive oil and 2 tsp of the chorizo fat into the pan. Add the shallots and fry for a couple of minutes, then drop the potato chunks in the pan and cook over a medium heat, stirring occasionally, for about 6-7 minutes or until both are turning brown. Cover the pan with a lid and continue to cook on a low heat for a further 4-5 minutes, or until the potatoes are tender but still holding their shape.

Beet the eggs in a bowl, season with pepper and stir in the parsley. Return the chorizo to the pan with the potato, then pour in the eggs. Gently and briefly stir to combine, then leave to cook over a medium heat for 4-5 minutes or until starting to set and the bottom of the omelette is cooked. Tip the pan occasionally so the raw egg can run to the edges of the pan to cook. Preheat the grill to high. Put the pan under the grill for a couple of minutes to finish cooking the top of the omelette. Slide the omelette onto a board or flat serving plate, scatter with extra parsley and cut into thin wedges to serve.
Cardinal Serves as Traffic Cop

Manila (Yahoo! News)—An 83-year-old Catholic cardinal in the Philippines came to the rescue of thousands of stranded motorists in late August after single-handedly untangling a traffic jam in Manila during a typhoon.

Gaudencio Cardinal Rosales took matters into his own hands as he traversed a typhoon-lashed Philippine highway on the outskirts of the capital to help settle a traffic dispute.

“We were trapped for over an hour and we were rushing to another engagement. I said to myself, ‘We cannot take this anymore,’ the retired Manila cardinal told AFP on August 25.

With no traffic policemen in sight amid the onslaught of Typhoon Goni, Rosales said he zipped up his raincoat and walked nearly a kilometre to find out what was causing the 1.6-kilometre (1 mile) long snarl, the likes of which have become a daily misery for Filipinos.

“We’re all in a hurry,” he said to the erring motorists, after discovering six cars fighting over two lanes in Santo Tomas town on Manila’s outskirts.

As his boots filled up with rainwater, the hooded man used hand signals to force the vehicles to back up, retearing the jam.

The rain later let up to reveal his large pectoral cross—which all bishops wear—peeking out of his jacket. The chastened motorists then got out of their vehicles to kiss his ring.

“They were very apologetic,” Rosales said of the culprits.

About 80 percent of the Philippines’ 100 million people are Roman Catholic, who are considered among the world’s most devout. Last January, six million attended Pope Francis’ rain-soaked Manila mass.

Traffic jams in the Philippine capital of 12 million have worsened in recent months, as the government rushed to build elevated tollways to accommodate the growing number of vehicles acquired amid a booming economy.

Rosales, who is one of the four Filipino cardinals, said he endured his share of hours-long traffic jams during his eight-year term as archbishop of Manila beginning in 2003.

But for as long as the gridlocks are there, Rosales said he would serve as a make-do traffic cop given the chance.

“Next time, I’ll be sure to bring a whistle,” he said laughingly.

(Valley Fire, cont. from page 1) of smoke. Looking online, I saw the local new agencies reporting that residents in Cobb were being evacuated, and the fire was quickly burning towards Middletown.

Struck with fear and disbelief, I began thinking of family friends who own homes in Cobb and Middletown. The news just reported that a second fire off of Gifford Springs Rd. a week earlier. They were at work in Lakeport and could not reach their home due to road closures. Not knowing if their house and their dogs were safe, they were forced to stay in Lakeport and begin a long and anxious wait.

Craig and Julie Swehla, parishioners of Our Lady of the Lake Mission in Loch Lomond, quickly rushed their two daughters out the door and into the car. As they blitze through neighborhood, they saw the first house on their street in flames. The area looked like a battle zone and the Swehlas thanked God they made it out in time.

Staying with their son and his family in Santa Rosa, Craig and Julie assumed that their house, which they had just placed on the market to sell, would be consumed by this hell-fire. All was entrusted to God and the prayers began to storm Heaven.

The fire grew at an incredible rate, and families were barely making it out of their homes in time. The fire reached Hidden Valley and was mostly started from embers blown over from the first fire, several miles away.

Pat and Lisa Lambert, parishioners of St. Mary Immaculate Church in Lakeport, had moved into their new home on Gifford Springs Rd. a week earlier. They were at work in Lakeport and could not reach their home due to road closures. Not knowing if their house and their dogs were safe, they were forced to stay in Lakeport and begin a long and anxious wait.

On top of all this grief, reports of looters began to surface and several arrests were made. Local law enforce- ment made a statement that several homes in the evacu- ated areas were being burglarized. Now not only were families in fear that their homes were destroyed by the Valley Fire, but now they have the fear of being victims of looters if their homes did survive. The victims could not catch a break, it seemed.

But in the midst of all this chaos, communities came together in support of the Valley Fire victims. Food and clothing began showing up by truckloads as the shelters grew in size. Groups of selfless and courageous communi- ty members came together to look for and rescue pets and livestock. Law enforcement agencies from all over the Bay Area offered patrols of the evacuated areas. Prayers were offered all over social media and neighboring coun- ties also offered disaster relief services.

Over a week later the fire has destroyed over 70,000 acres, nearly 900 structures, and displaced over 5,000 residents. The Valley Fire is California’s fourth largest wildland fire in history. Thankfully none of the parishes in Lake County were harmed. Even Our Lady of the Pines, an outdoor church, is still standing.

From his home in Indiana during a typhoon.

Of course not. Now ask yourself this, isn’t it only logical to

and the Swehlas thanked God they made it out in time.

To me, this comes as no surprise as the faith of our

for me, it’s humbled me and helped me realize how

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To me, this comes as no surprise as the faith of our

For me, it’s humbled me and helped me realize how

much I take for granted. My whole world could fall in a

always remember that God is at the helm.

and solace in God’s plan for them and trust in His will.

their homes are feeling right now. I pray they find peace

I pray they find peace and solace in God’s plan for them and trust in His will.

Let this be a reminder that all of our Earthly belongings and accomplishments are nil compared to the fruits of our faith.

In success and in failures, in joy and in despair, let us always remember that God is at the helm.

Why People Like Jared Fogle Migrate from “Regular” Porn to Child Porn

(fightthenewdrug.org)—In August lawyers for Jared Fogle announced he will plead guilty to possessing child pornography and traveling to pay for sex with underaged girls. Fogle is the former Subway spokesperson who gained fame after losing 245 pounds and becoming a weight loss inspiration. Subway fired Fogle due to the allegations.

The charges involve 14 minors. They were identified after police reviewed more than 27,000 emails, 160,000 text messages, and tens of thousands of videos and images. Fogle’s plea deal is that he is expected to give a sentence anywhere from 5-12 years.

The charges officially came against Fogle, a married father of two kids, after federal agents seized computers and DVDs from his home in Indiana.

An escalating addiction

One of the scariest realities of porn use is the fact that after a while, “regular” porn just doesn’t do it for the viewer any- more. Research has shown that porn, just like any other drug, is an escalating addiction. And for some people, porn use can eventually evolve into a curiosity or an appetite for violent porn or even child pornography.

Think about it. Is it logical to think that the first time someone like Jared Fogle viewed porn, that he went straight to searching “child porn” or “violent porn” right off the bat? Of course not. Now ask yourself this, isn’t it only logical to reason that criminals caught for child porn started out by watching regular porn and then slowly progressed into the more extreme, illegal material? The answer is, of course, yes.

“When you’re a porn addict, the same stuff gets boring,” said one man in jail for 40 counts of child porn. “You cycle through different phases.”

This sex offender’s statement confirms the research done by Zillmann and Bryant. In 1984, the two researchers con- ducted a study that revealed an increased interest in violent porn just from exposure to non-violent pornography. Zill- mann also conducted a study with college freshmen and found that frequent use of pornography requires newer and more bizarre material to achieve the same level of arousal, due to a growing tolerance of sexually explicit material (2000). The study showed that extended porn use creates boredom and dissatisfaction among viewers of both genders (Weaver, 2004).

The fact is that after using any drug for a while, the impulse tends to grow and require more intense stimulation. Just like it is common for gateway drugs such as marijuana to lead to harder drugs such as cocaine, softcore or “regular” porn can quickly lead into hardcore and even child porn over time.

Child porn is increasingly popular

Child pornography has become more prevalent and larger than we would ever like to imagine. The people who actually

In 2008, Internet Watch Foundation found 1,536 individ- uals in the sexual child abuse domains. Every week there are over 20,000 images of child pornography posted on the web (National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, 2003). Furthermore, United States Customs Services estimates (see Jared Fogle p. 26)
Scientists Discuss Long-Term Effects of Pill Use


If a commonly prescribed drug has such side effects, should it be commonly prescribed?

That was the question raised at an August 8 symposium at Georgetown University in Washington, DC. Researchers and medical professionals from across the United States and overseas gathered together to discuss the little-known risks of the birth control pill.

Entitled "Contraceptive Conundrum," the symposium explored the consequences of hormonal birth control, many of which are unknown by women and doctors alike.

Dr. S. Craig Roberts, a researcher who specializes in mate preferences, stressed that the Pill can alter the chemistry of attraction.

Under normal circumstances, he said, "women express preferences for genetically-dissimilar, masculine-faced men. But the Pill seems to alter these preferences."

"Women on the Pill tend to choose male partners who appear more feminine (and who are) more genetically similar to them."

Children born from unions of genetically similar parents may have greater health risks. Furthermore, when women come off the Pill — often when they decide to have kids — they may revert to their natural attraction patterns, which their partner whom they met on the Pill no longer fits.

Dr. Roberts noted that "women who met their partner when on the Pill are more likely to initiate divorce."

Women's choice of partner while using hormonal contraception is part of a larger concern—the impact of hormones in the Pill on the human brain.

According to Dr. Nicole Peterson, a researcher at UCLA's Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior, the full extent of this impact is not yet clear, and research is still being done. But there is already ample evidence that the Pill creates changes that may make permanent alterations to brain pathways.

"Women on the Pill, the amygdala—memory making part of brain—responds less to emotional stimuli," she explained.

This can have some desirable results, such as lower rates of post-traumatic stress disorder among rape victims. However, it also drastically changes how women on the Pill make choices and interact with the world around them.

Even more alarming, the Pill's effects on brain wiring can still be seen at least four months after a woman has stopped using the Pill.

"If a woman is on oral contraceptives for long enough, she has a different kind of brain... there’s no guarantee that your brain remembers what the baseline is," stressed Dr. Melissa Farmer, a post-doctoral fellow at Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine.

She said that she finds the long-term nature of these brain changes particularly troubling.

Endocrine changes due to the Pill can also have long-lasting effects, with consequences that last after a woman is no longer on hormonal contraception.

For example, if a woman stops taking the Pill in order to become pregnant, the hormonal changes left over from the Pill can affect her child.

"Very small changes in hormones in critical periods of fetal development can have lifelong consequences," explained Dr. Frederick vom Saal, a researcher in developmental biology at the University of Missouri.

Another potentially long-term effect of the Pill: Nutrient depletion, which is associated with a whole host of other health problems.

"Oral contraceptives deplete nutrients more than any other kind of commonly prescribed drug," said cancer researcher and nutritionist Ross Pelton. This includes depletions in all B vitamins, vitamin C, folic acid, zinc and several others.

While the onset tends to be gradual, these depletions can last even after the cessation of Pill use, he noted. The result can be a negative impact on sexual health and increase risk for other problems, including heart issues.

With such serious potential side effects, some symposium participants questioned the widespread, almost automatic use of hormonal birth control.

"Why don't doctors know about this?" asked Pelton. "It's been in the literature for a long time." ☞

Another study out last month linked story time to a boost in brainpower. Researchers from Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center found that kids ages 3 to 5 whose parents read to them at home and had more reading materials in their house demonstrated more brain activity in the left side of the brain.

Story time has nonacademic benefits, too. Reading helps relax kids (hence the point of reading to them at bedtime), and the close physical interaction of lying on or near a parent helps them feel secure and connected.

For all these reasons, the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that moms and dads begin reading to kids when they are infants, setting aside a special time (even for just a few minutes), cuddling up, and letting little ones select the book to read from (kids love to make choices). ☞

Science: Bedtime Stories Help Kids

New York (Yahoo! Parenting)—A recent study from Psychological Science suggests reading to build a child’s vocabulary and thus makes her more prepared to learn to read in the future.

Study authors evaluated the types and variety of words in 100 picture books and then compared them to the words toddlers and preschoolers use and hear when communicating with their parents and caregivers.

"Our study found that the books contained more unique words," study coauthor Jessica Montag, assistant research psychologist at the University of California Riverside, tells Yahoo Parenting.

The thinking is, "the more unique words kids are exposed to when they're very young, the bigger their own vocabulary gets—and that makes it easier to learn to read."

Previous studies have shown that the faster they pick up reading, the more academically successful they can be.

The Sword in the Stone is Real

Siena, Italy (ChurchPop.com)—While the story of King Arthur, Merlin, and all the rest may or may not be true, there really is a centuries-old sword stuck in a stone.

In the small Italian town of Chiusdino, there is a small chapel near St. Galgano Abbey known as Montesiepi chapel. Inside is a big slab of stone in the floor with the handle of a sword sticking out of it.

How did it get there?

In the twelfth century a knight named Galgano Guidotti decided toward the end of his life to retire as a hermit. He then had two mystical visions. In the first, the archangel Michael said he would personally protect him. In the second, he met the Twelve Apostles and God Himself.

When the second vision ended, he decided to commemorate the place with a cross. Since he had no other materials, he stuck his sword into the ground as a cross. Immediately, the ground hardened up around it, and it has been stuck there ever since.

Just four years after Galgano's death, Pope Luccius III (1181-85) started a formal canonization process that ended with Guidotti being declared a saint, making him the first such person to be declared a saint by a formal process of the Roman Catholic Church.

Apparently “countless people have tried to steal the sword. In the chapel you can see what are said to be the mummified hands of a thief that tried to remove the sword and was then suddenly slaughtered by wild wolves.”

Though the sword is in Italy, some people think it may have influenced the English legend of King Arthur since its existence predates the writings of the romance about him. ☞
Schools News...

SVHS Caring for “Our Common Home”

From the desk of Debra Sammon, Communications director for St. Vincent de Paul High School in Petaluma comes word that SVHS has taken for its theme in the 2015-16 school year, “Care for our common home.” It is directly inspired and derived from the Pope’s encyclical, Laudato Si’.

Students supporting Rebuilding Together Petaluma last spring

Writes Sammon, “The theme will come to life through clubs, activities, prayer, and religion classes.” Furthermore, she says the entire school will take two days to go offsite together in order to be of service in the community.

“The projects are currently being organized by a parent volunteer, and this will be the first time in our history that we will have done something like this. The two days will be November 16 and April 11. “Inspired by Pope Francis and our patron saint St. Vincent de Paul, we are coming together as a larger community in support of our call to service.”

In other St. Vincent schools news, in response to the devastating Valley Fire in Lake County, both school communities of St. Vincent de Paul raised funds in support of our neighbors. Please look through some of the options below that are available through either campus as ways to support the relief effort. All of this provided an opportunity to teach what it means to be a supportive Christian to those in need.

Amongst the activities that have taken place:

- St. Vincent School held special free dress for charity days September 17 and 18. Students could dress outside of dress code for a suggested minimum donation of $5 for both days.
- St. Vincent School created a banner to let Lake County residents know the pupils are praying for them that all residents remain safe.
- The high school Leadership class held a pancake breakfast September 18, admission for which was $5. Any student who attended was allowed to wear pajamas for the remainder of the school day.
- Both schools are accepting Scrip cards. Walmart is the preferred card at this time. Donations of Target, Big 5, Dick’s Sporting Goods scrip cards are appreciated as well. These can be dropped off at either main office at any time.
- SVHS sports teams will hold bake sales during home games.
- The SVHS football team are collecting donations in fire fighter boots during drop off and pick up.

Editor’s note: Praised be to Jesus Christ now and for ages unto ages for such a heart-moving display of charity and solidarity in His Name through Our Lady’s intercession. What a fitting tribute to the schools’ namesake. Our Lady of Bon Secours, pray for us! St. Vincent de Paul, patron of the poor and woe-begotten, pray for us! Holy Spirit, inspire us to be heroically generous and to give until it hurts!

Progress at St. John the Baptist School in Napa

St. John the Baptist School in Napa’s Principal Nancy Jordon is excited to report the campus has “officially started our earthquake repairs, exactly one year after the earthquake to the day.” That day, “ABC 7 news interviewed me and took lots of video of our contractors. We had to navigate multiple levels of historic oversight policies at the federal, state and local levels.” Great news. Let us all keep the school, its officials and students, the contractors, and the laborers in our prayers that they may be safe, that the project goes well and is blessed, and that everyone do everything ad maiorem Dei gloriam, as the Jesuits say: For the greater glory of God.

Newman students see service

Cardinal Newman High School’s Judi Greaney reports the campus hosted its annual service fair on Monday, August 24, 2015. The event included a variety of 25 local nonprofit agencies and was a great success. Taking place during theology classes, all Cardinal Newman students attended the fair in the school gym. Students visited different booths and learned about the work of the nonprofits and the service opportunities available. Many students found meaningful ways to connect their God-given gifts and talents to serving others in the community.

The fair is a starting point for students to venture out into the community, locally, nationally or globally in support of positive social change according to the gospel. In addition, several nonprofits reported they learned a great deal about how to best support the students of CNHS with a variety of service opportunities from single events to potential service project options.

The efforts of so many made the day work smoothly. Many thanks of appreciation go out to the Cardinal Newman parent volunteers, the Facilities team, the Advancement Office, and Anne DeMonte, Service coordinator, who organizes this event every year.

Cardinal Newman High School is most grateful to the extraordinary partnership of numerous local community nonprofits who participate with us in our mission of engaging students in the importance of service learning.

Coin Wars and Blanket Drive Help Fire Victims

The Student Council at St. Francis Solano School sponsored Coin Wars from September 23 to 25 to raise money for the Red Cross assisting the fire victims in Lake County. Students brought their spare change to school to contribute to the drive.

Students also collected and sent blankets to Catholic Charities, which is housing families that have been displaced by the fire.

In other news, the school is looking for scholarship donations of a sort.

Students will participate in various robotics tournaments throughout the Bay Area this year. These are costly, so the school needs sponsors. Corporate donors get their company’s name and logo on their team shirts. They also get these placed on the school’s website and additional materials distributed at team events.

If interested in helping, go to http://tinyurl.com/qh9ba3t.

At St. Vincent de Paul School, it’s Elementary

St. Vincent de Paul Elementary School invites you to please call the school to schedule an appointment for a tour. Scholarships are available for families who need assistance. Please call 707-762-6426 for more information or visit our web-site: SVELEM.org. ❖

(US Catholics. cont. from page 22)

- 42 percent: Being part of a Catholic parish.
- 41 percent: Being open to having children.
- 34 percent: Celebrating feast days or festivals that are part of your national or ethnic heritage.
- 33 percent: Opposing abortion.
- 29 percent: Working to address climate change.

The survey, conducted May 5 to June 7, has a margin of error of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points. Pew also learned 9 percent of Americans consider themselves ex-Catholics.

That might include George Herrera, 23, of Phoenix, a recent college graduate. In the Pew survey, he identified himself as an ex-Catholic.

He’s so disconnected that as of three weeks ago, he didn’t know Francis was bound for the United States. But in an interview, he said, “I don’t think of myself so much as ex-Catholic but just as having no religion. I believe in God. I just don’t feel the need to go to church.”

(Jared Fogle. cont. from page 24)

that illegal child pornography is offered by approximately 100,000 websites.

Keep in mind, while almost all pedophiles watch porn, not all people who watch porn are pedophiles. But regardless of what causes what, behavioral psychologists discovered over a century ago that when two stimuli are repeatedly paired together, something called classical conditioning takes place. (Pavlov, 1897). Using this widely accepted scientific theory, we know that when a person is constantly pairing sexual feelings with the image of children on screen, sexual feelings will continue to be associated in the presence of a child in real life.

Said one victim who was forced into being abused for profit from age 5 until she was “too old,” “I think more should be done in communities and neighborhoods and cities to watch out for child sex trafficking. This all happened to my family in a pretty normal working class suburb in the northwest. Child pornography—the making of it, the viewing of it, everything about it—to me is worse than [killing] because I would have been happily [killed] if I knew I was going to deal with living my life feeling dead and empty inside already. But that’s what the viewers and people involved in child pornography get off on. I don’t think it will ever be stopped, but hopefully stifled.”
San Francisco Catholic Teachers Agree to Contract

San Francisco (CNA/EWTN News)—Efforts to promote Catholic culture in the San Francisco archdiocese's high schools and to agree on a contract acceptable for the schools' teachers concluded on August 19 with a new contract.

The long dispute drew protests, interference from activist groups, and the attention of wealthy critics of Catholic teaching.

"I want to thank the union and administration negotiating teams for their hard work over the past few months in coming to this agreement. They have negotiated just wages and benefits for our high school teachers, who are among the finest teachers in northern California," Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone said.

The archbishop said he appreciated "very much" the negotiations’ "rich discussion about the mission and purpose of Catholic education and the vital role that our high school teachers play in carrying out that mission."

He said the discussions "reinforced and clarified" the purposes and roles that were referenced in previous contracts.

"I pass on my special thanks to all our teachers who ratified this agreement," Archbishop Cordileone said.

The teachers ratified the three-year contract by a vote of 90 to 80. The CBA covers teachers at the Archdiocese of San Francisco's four Catholic high schools. It provides a two percent pay raise in each of the three years. Disputes over teacher conduct both in the workplace and outside of the workplace would be governed by grievance procedures, SFGate.com reports.

The contract says the purpose of Catholic schools is "to affirm Catholic values through the Gospel of Jesus Christ." It says that teachers are expected to support the school's purpose "in such a way that their personal conduct will not adversely impact their ability to teach in our Catholic high schools."

The contract did not include specific morality clauses, the news site SFGate.com reports. The archdiocese's first proposed of the teacher contracts identified teachers as having a "ministerial role." The language echoed a 2012 Supreme Court of the United States decision which recognized teachers at religious schools can be held to standards of behavior without putting religious schools at risk of employment lawsuits.

❖

St. Francis of Assisi: October 4

St. Ignatius of Antioch: October 28

Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone

Youth Page … missing

But there’s a really good reason for it. From our diocesan youth and young adult minister:

Dear Community,

In keeping with the “Focus on the Family” it is with great pleasure that I announce the birth of our third child: Paige Elizabeth. Baby and mother are doing tremendous and your prayer for the Holy Spirit to guide our family would be appreciated. May God watch over your family as well and may all parents be renewed in their vocation as first witnesses of the gospel. – Stephen Morris, director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry.

For more info: Search online “Santa Rosa Diocese Events”
Contact Diocese Youth & Young Adult Ministry Office 707-566-3371
**SCHEDULE**

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Adult Faith
Formation & Certification 2015-2016

**SCHEDULE**

- Adult Formation $150.00/person for entire program, includes some books. (not interested in certification)
- Basic Catechist (BC) $150.00/person for entire program, includes some books.
- Master Catechist (MC) $175.00/person for entire program, includes some books. (Advanced Teaching/Prerequisite BC)
- For those interested in dropping in $20/person/class.
- There will be various books available to purchase. The Class fee does not include all books.
- Class can be used as credit towards Catechist Recertification.
- Those who wish to attend and are not interested in receiving a California Certificate are welcome.
- Complete an Application to begin the California Catechist Process or to register for class.

Sponsored by the Diocesan Department of Religious Education

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

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**Programa**

**PROGRAMA**

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**What is Satan’s Favorite Sin?**

Barcelona (CNA)—Is an exorcist afraid? What is the devil’s favorite sin? These and other questions were tackled in a recent interview with Fr. Juan José Gallego, OP, an exorcist from the Archdiocese of Barcelona, Spain, a position he has held for nine years.

In the interview with the Spanish daily El Mundo, Father said that in his experience, pride is the sin the devil likes the most.

“Have you ever been afraid?” the interviewer asked.

“In the beginning I had a lot of fear,” Fr. Gallego replied. “All I had to do was look over my shoulder, and I saw demons… the other day I was doing an exorcism, ‘I command you! I order you!’...and the Evil One, with a loud voice says back to me: ‘Galleegoo, you’re over-doing it.’ That shook me.”

Nevertheless he knows the devil is not more powerful than God. The exorcist recalled that “when they appointed me, a relative told me, ‘Whoa, Juan José, I’m really afraid, because in the movie The Exorcist, one person died and the other threw himself through a window. I said to her ‘Don’t forget that the devil is just a creature of God.’”

When people are possessed, he added, “they lose consciousness, they speak strange languages, they have inordinate strength, they feel really bad. You see very well-mannered people vomiting and blaspheming.

“There was a boy whom the demon would set his shirt on fire at night and things like that. He told me what the demons were saying: ‘I’m perfectly well, you’ll never have to go through any more of what you’re going through now’.”

Fr. Gallego also warned that “New Age” practices like reiki and some yoga can be points of entry for the demons. He also said addictions are “a type of possession.”

“When people are going through a crisis, they suffer more. They can feel hopeless. People feel like they’ve got the devil inside,” he said.

He recommends staying close to the sacraments, especially reconciliation and the Eucharist.

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**Feast of Christ the King: October 30**