

THE PRAIRIE CATHOLIC

Pastoral news from across the Diocese of New Ulm

Minnesota's Most Rural Diocese Diocese of New Ulm Vol. 26 No. 3 November 2011

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First in diocese: New Ulm woman enters vocation of consecrated virginity

by Sam Patet
The Prairie Catholic

On Oct. 7, the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, approximately 200 people gathered at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in New Ulm as Bishop John M. LeVoir consecrated Margaret McHugh as a virgin living in the world. McHugh is the daughter of Tom and Lynda McHugh of Burlington, Wis.

Bishop LeVoir said that "it's a wonderful day as we see Margaret pledge her life to God." She is the diocese's first consecrated virgin. Her vocation represents "a wonderful blossoming" of a

variety of ministries in this local Church, he said.

The Consecration of a Virgin is one of the oldest sacramentals in the Church, and one of the fruits of Vatican II was the restoration of this profound blessing on virgins living in the world. Through this sacramental, the virgin, after renewing her promise of perpetual virginity to God, is set aside as a sacred person who belongs only to Christ.

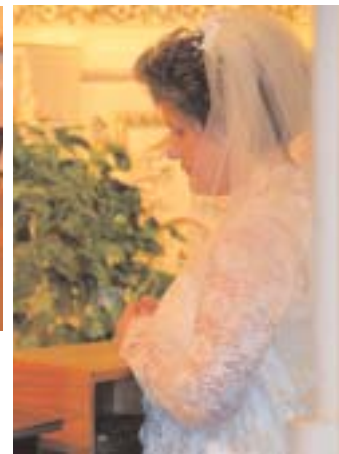
Since 2004 McHugh has served as the director of the Office of Youth Ministry for the Diocese of New Ulm. Before becoming a consecrated virgin, she was a religious sister with the Daughters of St. Mary of Providence (the religious sisters who run Divine Providence Community Home in Sleepy Eye). During her 23 years with the sisters, she worked as a teacher, a nurse's assistant, and youth minister.

While she loved her life as a religious sister, she began to feel that the Lord was calling her to a different vocation. "I knew I was called to belong to Jesus, to be his forever," McHugh said, but "I didn't feel like I was doing what God was calling me to do." Being a sister "fit, but it didn't fit," she said.

As she was discerning whether God wanted her to remain a religious sister, she was introduced



Margaret McHugh waits with joyful anticipation for the consecration ceremony to begin. Seated with McHugh are her two attendants (l-r) Dr. Dr. Monica Breaux of Phoenix, Ariz., and Amanda Shaheen of Grand Rapids, Mich., and her parents, Tom and Lynda McHugh of Burlington, Wis.



(photos by Sam Patet)

to the vocation of consecrated virginity. As she learned more about it and met consecrated virgins, she felt more attracted to it.

"I said, 'Wow! This (consecrated virginity) is where I fit' ... I was so impressed with those women and ... I knew that's where I belonged," she said.

After much prayer and conversations with her spiritual director, the Daughters of St. Mary, and Bishop LeVoir, McHugh stepped away from her life as a religious sister in 2009.

She then began to pursue becoming a consecrated virgin, which meant spending more time in prayer, learning more about the

vocation, and speaking with Bishop LeVoir.

The ceremony
McHugh's consecration was celebrated within the Mass. As in a wedding, she processed in from the back of the cathedral ahead of the bishop to begin the ceremony. Two female attendants – Dr. Monica Breaux of Phoenix, Ariz., and Amanda Shaheen of Grand Rapids, Mich. – accompanied McHugh as she processed in.

One was immediately drawn to her attire, as she was wearing a white wedding dress and a veil, representing that she was a bride of Christ.

During his homily Bishop LeVoir referred to McHugh's wedding

dress as "a symbol of the gift of Jesus to her and of herself to Jesus." Just as a husband and wife give of themselves totally to one another, so too will McHugh be giving "her life totally to God without compromising," he said.

The bishop highlighted the special vocation McHugh would be assuming. He said that while she will remain a virgin for the rest of her life, she will nevertheless be the mother of children. "She is the director of youth ministry for the Diocese of New Ulm, and ... she's had hundreds and thousands of children over the years," he said. The youth "are the ones she takes care of," he continued; the youth

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THE PRAIRIE CATHOLIC

Pastoral news from across the Diocese of New Ulm

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Margaret McHugh, vocation awareness

BE NOT AFRAID

Father Louis Guanella is a Saint!

by Bishop John M. LeVoir

On Sunday, Oct. 23, I was privileged to be present at St. Peter's Square in Rome for the canonization by Pope Benedict XVI of Blessed Louis Guanella, founder of the Daughters of St. Mary of Providence. These are the women religious who operate the Divine Providence Community Home in Sleepy Eye.

Msgr. Eugene Lozinski, pastor of the Church of St. Mary in Sleepy Eye, was with me. Sr. Lucy Tardivo and Sr. Mary Lynn Rakowski, who are at the Divine Providence Community Home in Sleepy Eye, as well as Sr. Janet Kosman, who was in Sleepy Eye for several years, were also there. They were ecstatic that their founder was being canonized. In addition, there were thousands and thousands of Guanellian priests and sisters, and those associated with the Guanellian movement, who attended the celebration.

The weather that day was beautiful. The sun was shining and the canonization Mass was celebrated outside of the Basilica of St. Peter. The crowd attending the Mass filled St. Peter's Square. At the Mass, I prayed especially to St. Louis Guanella for our diocese.

There were two others who were canonized at the Mass that day. They were Blessed Guido Maria Conforti and Blessed Bonifacia de Rodriguez de Castro. Archbishop Conforti was born in Italy in 1865. He founded the Xaverian Missionaries in 1895 and was bishop of Ravenna and later of Parma. Born in Spain in 1837, Sr.

Bonifacia Rodriguez de Castro worked to improve the lives of poor female workers. She co-founded the Servants of St. Joseph, who offered work to poor unemployed women.

Fr. Luigi (Louis) Guanella was born in Italy in 1842. He dedicated his life to the care of the poor and needy. He founded the Daughters of St. Mary of Providence in 1881 and Servants of Charity in 1908. The Holy Father said that St. Louis Guanella was a "... companion and teacher to the poorest and the weakest, their comfort and relief. Love of God made him desire the good of the people in his care, in the tangible reality of everyday life." Commenting on the necessity of helping the poor, St. Louis Guanella himself would tell his companions: "It is impossible to stop as long as there are poor people to be helped."

About the three saints, the Holy Father said: "Let us be attracted by their examples, let us be guided by their teachings, so that our whole existence becomes a witness of authentic love for God and neighbor."

During the liturgy, relics of the three saints were brought to the Holy Father. Carrying the relics of St. Louis Guanella was 30-year-old William Glisson Jr. from the Philadelphia area. William was the victim of a severe head injury when he was 21. Through the intercession of Blessed Louis Guanella, he was miraculously healed. This miracle was accepted by the Holy Father as proof that Blessed Louis Guanella was in heaven.

On Monday, Oct. 24, Msgr. Lozinski



Pictured (l-r) Msgr. Eugene Lozinski, Sr. Mary Lynn Rakowski, Bishop John M. LeVoir, Sr. Janet Kosman, and Sr. Lucy Tardivo.

and I were able to celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving for St. Louis Guanella inside the Basilica of St. Peter. There were many priests and a dozen bishops who concelebrated. There were many, many laypeople in the congregation. The main celebrant was Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, Vatican Secretary of State. Given that Cardinal Bertone is the Secretary of State, we were able to concelebrate at the main altar in St. Peter's. Only the Holy Father and those to whom he gives permission are able to celebrate Mass at the main altar. At the consecration, I was one of six bishops who stood at the altar with Cardinal Bertone. It was an unbelievable privilege to stand where the pope stands when celebrating Mass.

While in Rome, I was able to make a pilgrimage with Msgr. Lozinski to the four major basilicas: St. Peter's, St. Paul's Outside the Walls, St. Mary Major, and St. John Lateran. St. Peter's is built over the tomb of St. Peter and is best known for hosting papal Masses and audiences. St. Paul's Outside the Walls is built over the tomb of the Apostle Paul.

Recently, his tomb was discovered underneath the main altar of the church. St. Mary Major is the largest church in Rome dedicated to the Blessed Virgin. St. John Lateran is the cathedral church of Rome and thus the pope's cathedral. Because of this, it is called the "Most Holy Lateran Church, of all the churches in the city and the world, the mother and head." While in all of these churches, I prayed for our diocese.

I was able to visit with Deacon Aaron Johanneck, one of the seminarians of our diocese who is studying at the Pontifical North American College in Rome. Deacon Johanneck arranged for my transportation in Rome and also arranged for two Masses that I celebrated at the Pontifical North American College. We were also able to go out to dinner.

I was so pleased to make this pilgrimage to Rome. I always try to make my travels to Rome spiritual journeys. They are also a reminder to me of the universal nature of the Church of which the Diocese of New Ulm is a part.

Bishop's November Calendar

1 New Ulm: 8:15 a.m. Cathedral of the Holy Trinity. School Mass.

Sleepy Eye: 10 a.m. Divine Providence Community Home. Mass.

2 New Ulm: 9:30 a.m. Catholic Pastoral Center. Diocesan Staff Meeting.

3-4 Collegeville: Catholic and Lutheran Bishops of Minnesota Annual Meeting.

5 Hutchinson: 9 a.m. Church of St. Anastasia. New Ulm Diocesan Council of Catholic Women Board Meeting.

New Ulm: 7 p.m. New Ulm Country Club. Fr. Alexander Berghold Society Recognition Dinner.

7-9 Sleepy Eye: Good Leaders, Good Shepherds.

9 Forest City: 6 p.m. Church of St. Gertrude. Community Formation Night.

11 New Ulm: 10 a.m. Catholic Pastoral Center. Diocesan Pastoral Council Meeting.

12-16 Baltimore, MD: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops General Assembly.

16-17 Baltimore, MD: Bishops' Support Group Gathering.

20 New Ulm: 9:30 a.m. Cathedral of the Holy Trinity. Blessing of the "Roman Missal, Third Edition."

New Ulm: 6 p.m. Catholic Pastoral Center. Lectio Divina Prayer Group Gathering.

21 Marshall: 2:30 p.m. Avera Marshall Regional Medical Center. Blessing of the Medical Center.

22 New Ulm: 10:30 a.m. Catholic Pastoral Center. Priest Personnel Board Meeting.

New Ulm: 2 p.m. Catholic Pastoral Center. Vocations Team Meeting.

New Ulm: 5 p.m. Catholic Pastoral Center. Capital Campaign Executive Committee Meeting.

24 New Ulm: 9 a.m. Cathedral of the Holy Trinity. Thanksgiving Day Mass.

27 New Ulm: 5 p.m. Church of St. Mary/Holy Cross Area Faith Community. Advent Vespers.

29-30 Bismarck, ND: Episcopal Ordination and Installation of Bishop David A. Kagan.

Permanent deacon candidates in final year of formation; ordination set for 2012

Diocese of New Ulm permanent deacon candidates and their wives attended a pre-ordination retreat in August held at Saint John's University, Collegeville, and the College of Saint Benedict, St. Joseph. The men's retreat centered on the stages of maturity experienced in faith life at the times of individual reception of sacraments. The wives' retreat focused on the life of wives of deacons. Deacon Pete LaRue and his wife Joannie from Williamsport, Penn., were the retreat leaders.

The retreat consisted of group presentations, fellowship, and prayer opportunities.

Steve Spilman, one of the 12 candidates, said that a memorable prayer opportunity was praying the Rosary with some of his classmates at the university's Stella Maris Chapel, which is on the shore of Lake Sagatagan. Because the lake was overflowing its banks, some of the paths to the chapel were submerged. "Where the water was high," he said, "we had to take off our shoes to keep them dry."

Spilman also enjoyed the fellowship opportunities. "We've been together as a group for five years; we really cherished that community time," he said.

The group, now in the final year of academics which began in 2007, is the diocese's first formation group of deacon candidates. Their final six months of preparation will consist of classes in moral theology and training sessions on how to celebrate Baptisms and assist at the Mass.

In December Bishop John M. LeVoir and the Committee on Admissions and Scrutinies will evaluate each candidate individually for the final time. Pending the committee's recommendation and Bishop LeVoir's decision on each candidate, ordination to the diaconate is scheduled for April 21, 2012, at the Church of St. Mary, Sleepy Eye.



Permanent deacon candidates and their wives gathered in August for a pre-ordination retreat. Pictured are (front row, l-r) Julie Treinen, Tami Kober, Ruth Ann Hansen, Tina Myhre, Alta Stalboerger, Deb Dolan, Deb Reitsma, Pam Osborne. Back row: Paul Treinen, Deacon Mark Kober (diocesan director of the Permanent Diaconate), Jim Guldán, Brenda Guldán, Jason Myhre, Mike McKeown, John Hansen, Buffy Spilman, Steve Spilman, Russ Blaschko, Ken Stalboerger, Deb Blaschko, Tim Dolan, Bob Reitsma, Joannie LaRue, Deacon Pete LaRue (retreat leader), and Roger Osborne. Not pictured are Rick and Gwen Christiansen.

Resources

To find out more about the diaconate, especially the contemporary diaconate and its renewal, consider the following books:

- 101 Questions and Answers on Deacons by William T. Ditewig (Paulest Press)
- The Deacon Reader by James Keating (Paulist Press)
- The Emerging Diaconate: Servant Leaders in a Servant Church by William T. Ditewig (Paulist Press)

Prayer, following up play important role in campaign's success

Editor's note: St. Edward's, Minneota, parishioner Bruce Bot shares his perspective as a volunteer member of the "Christ Our Life" Capital Campaign committee. Bot has been a lifetime member of St. Edward's and attended St. Edward's Catholic School. Bot and his wife of 23 years, Juanita, have five children, all who have also attended St. Edward's School. Bot is a member of the parish council and has assisted in starting an endowment fund in the parish.

Minneota – When Bruce Bot was asked by his pastor, Fr. Jeremy Kucera, to serve on the "Christ Our Life" Capital Campaign leadership committee for his parish, he was not very enthusiastic about it. "None of us like to go and ask people for money," Bot said.

"But, after looking over the promotional materials, watching the promotional video, and listening to

Bishop LeVoir talk about the campaign, I became convinced of the need," he said.

Bot also realized that by serving on the committee, he was giving the people "the opportunity to be generous and contribute."

The "Christ Our Life" campaign is a major fundraising effort of the Diocese of New Ulm to raise \$15 million. The money raised will be split, with \$7.5 million going to the diocese to be used to build a new Pastoral Center, and \$7.5 million going to the 76 parishes participating in the campaign.

Bot said that prayer and a good committee are essential to being successful. Holding regular meetings to encourage and motivate committee members and discuss issues also helped. "I was surprised that once our committee committed



CAMPAIGN TOTAL TO DATE: **\$8,671,568** (as of Oct. 26)
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to the process, it actually was enjoyable," he said.

When asked about the initial campaign presentation, Bot felt the diocesan representatives did a good job of introducing the campaign materials. "Their positive attitude kept everyone thinking that way," he said.

"The meetings were educational and I felt we were given the tools needed to be successful."

Bot said that in the beginning there were some differences in the way

people perceived the campaign and some were not convinced that a new Pastoral Center was needed. However, he felt that following the presentation, most people seemed to realize the necessity.

As a member of the leadership committee, Bot's responsibility was to call and set up appointments with the people he was assigned to. He said that about 85 percent of prospects agreed to meet.

"We tried not to leave the pledge cards with the people, but in some

cases we did," he said. Bot would then contact the campaign office at the diocese, which would e-mail a list of people who had returned pledge cards – not the amount – just the names. "If they didn't return their pledge card, we would call them again to see if they would like to meet to discuss the campaign," he said.

Bot explained that in his parish they really pushed pulpit announcements in August and September to go along with the weekly bulletin announcements. The committee agreed that the pulpit announcements helped a lot with the campaign promotion.

In the middle of September the parish observed Commitment Sunday, which was an opportunity for Bot to talk about stewardship and the need for a new Pastoral Center. On Oct. 2, the committee followed

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Advent: a season of waiting

by Fr. John Paul Erickson

Waiting.... Few of us like to do it. What is more, in a world of instant communication, fast food, and easy intercontinental travel, most of us don't have to wait for much. Of course, in some areas of life, indeed, perhaps the most important areas, waiting obstinately remains a critical part of our experience – we wait for test results; we wait for our loved ones to come home from school or the battlefield; we wait for the birth of a child.

This side of the veil, that is, here on earth, waiting remains one of the fundamental actions of the believer. In their captivity and exile, the Jewish people waited for the coming of the Messiah. And, in the fullness of time, he did come in the person of Jesus Christ, true God and true man. And now, like the Hebrews did of old, we Christians wait for the triumphant return of the King. In the words spoken at every Holy Mass, “we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.” With the eyes of faith, we know that Jesus Christ has encountered his

passion and death and has been raised from the dead, and is now seated at the right hand of the Father. But Christ will come again at the end of time to judge the living and the dead. Every Christian is called to wait for that inevitable, final day; to wait and to be ready by living lives of prayerful love and mercy.

But it is not only judgment day that we wait for as Christians. We wait for the coming of God today, as we offer our desperate prayers to our Father who can indeed seem so very distant. The beautiful, haunting words of the “O antiphons,” sung by the Church in the final days of Advent, echo the drama of waiting that is the Christian’s state.

O Wisdom, O holy Word of God, you govern all creation with your strong yet tender care. Come and show your people the way to salvation...

O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death...

O Emmanuel, king and lawgiver, desire of the nations, Savior of all people, come and set us free, Lord our God...

Even as we acknowledge the

goodness and paternal love of God, we plead with him to hear our prayer, to touch the lives of those we care about, and to bring about that healing and peace in the world that only the True and Living God can effect. The supremely hopeful message of Advent and Christmas is that the God we call out to in prayer does hear us, he does care for us, and he will save us.

Advent is a time of quiet, of reflection, and of prayerful meditation on the promises of God, not the least of which is his triumphant return at the end of time. But it is also a time to reflect on the fidelity of God, and the blessed assurance that has been given to those who persevere in the ways of love, an assurance that is rooted in the tender love of God for his people.

“Zion said, ‘The Lord has forsaken me; my Lord has forgotten me.’ Can a mother forget her infant, be without tenderness for the child of her womb? Even should she forget, I will never forget you. See upon the palms of my hands I have written your name...” (Isaiah 49:14-16)

Fr. John Paul Erickson is the director of the Office of Worship for the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis.



No Tengas Miedo *¡Padre Louis Guanella es un Santo!*

por Obispo John M. LeVoir

El Domingo, 23 de Octubre, tuve el privilegio de estar presente en la plaza de San Pedro, Roma para la canonización del Santísimo Louis Guanella, fundador de la congregación de Hijas de Santa María de la Providencia. Ellas son las religiosas que trabajan en la Divina Providencia en Sleepy Eye.

Msrgr. Eugene Lozinski, párroco de la Iglesia de Santa María en Sleepy Eye, estaba conmigo. Hna. Lucy Tardivo y Hna. Mary Lynn Rakowski, trabajan en la Divina Providencia en Sleepy Eye, así como Hna. Janet Kosman, quien vivía en Sleepy Eye el año pasado estuvieron presentes también. Ellas estaban con un gran entusiasmo por la canonización de su fundador. Además, hubieron miles y miles de sacerdotes y religiosas y asociados al movimiento de Guanella, que asistieron a la celebración.

Hubieron otros dos que fueron canonizados ese día, Santísimo Guido Maria Conforti y Santísimo Bonifacia Rodriguez y Castro. Arzobispo Conforti nació en Italia en 1865. El fundó a los misioneros de Xaverian en 1895 y fue el Obispo de Ravenna y después de Parma. Hna. Bonifacia Rodriguez y Castro nació en España en 1837 y trabajó por mejorar la vida de las trabajadoras pobres. Ella fue la cofundadora de las Misioneras Siervas de San Jose, que ofrecieron trabajo a las mujeres pobres desempleadas.

Padre Louis Guanella nació en Italia en 1842. El dedicó su vida al cuidado del pobre y necesitado. El fundó la Congregación de las Hijas de la Divina Providencia en 1881 y de la Orden de los Siervos de la Caridad en 1908. El Santo Padre dijo que Santo Louis Guanella fue un “...compañero y

profesor de los más pobres y de los más débiles. El amor de Dios hizo que él deseara el cuidado de la gente a su cuidado, en la realidad tangible de la vida cotidiana.” Comentando respecto a la necesidad de ayudar a los pobres, Santo Louis Guanella diría a sus compañeros: “Es imposible parar mientras haya pobres que ayudar.”

Sobre los tres santos, el Santo Padre dijo: “seamos atraídos por sus ejemplos, guiados por sus enseñanzas, de modo que nuestra existencia entera se convierta en un testigo del amor auténtico para Dios y su prójimo.”

Durante la liturgia, las reliquias de los tres santos fueron traídas al Santo Padre. William Glisson Jr. de treinta años y de Filadelfia llevó la reliquia del Santísimo Louis Guanella. William fue víctima de una lesión severa en la cabeza cuando tenía veintinueve años. Con la intercesión del Santo Louis Guanella, se curó milagrosamente. Este milagro fue aceptado por el Santo Padre como prueba que el Santísimo Louis Guanella estaba en el cielo.

El Lunes, 24 de Octubre, Msgr. Lozinski y un servidor tuvimos la oportunidad de celebrar la Santa Misa de Agradecimiento por Santo Louis Guanella en la Basílica de San Pedro. El celebrante principal fue Cardenal Tarcisio Bertone, Secretario del Estado del Vaticano. Dado que Cardenal Bertone es el Secretario de Estado, pudimos concelebrar en el altar principal de la Basílica de San Pedro. El Santo Padre y a los quien él da permiso pueden celebrar la Misa en el altar principal. Durante la consagración, yo fui uno de los seis obispos que estaba en el altar con Cardenal Bertone. Fue un gran privilegio estar en el mismo lugar donde el Santo Padre celebra la Santa Misa.

Parents of seminarians dine with the bishop



Recently, Bishop John M. LeVoir hosted a dinner for the parents of the current Diocese of New Ulm seminarians. The dinner was marked by great conversation, laughter, and support. Parents had the opportunity to ask questions and share their concerns, as well as to talk about their hopes and their pride for their sons. Dean and Doreen Peterson, parents of the newest priest of the diocese, Fr. Zachary Peterson, shared their feelings of seeing their son ordained. Pictured with Bishop LeVoir, front (l-r) are: Carl and Patricia Niemand, Doreen and Dean Peterson, and Joe and Kaye Dieter. Back row: Audrey and Mike Wagner, Margrit and Fred Rabaey, Connie and Tom Johanneck, Sharon and John Illikman, and Bishop LeVoir. Not pictured: Rich and Mary Ahlers and Greg and Marie Kodet.

Health struggles fail to thwart priest's life mission of hope and healing

by John Tevlin
Minneapolis Star Tribune

Editor's note: This article was originally published Sept. 17 in the Minneapolis Star Tribune. Please visit, <http://www.startribune.com/local/130023588.html> to read the story.

In addition, on Oct. 14, Msgr. Schaffer underwent triple heart by-pass surgery in St. Paul. Please keep him in your prayers.



For the past 48 years, Msgr. Greg Schaffer has served the diocese's mission parish of San Lucas Toliman, Guatemala. Although struggling with health issues, his loyalty and passion for the people of San Lucas remains strong.

The late Archbishop Fulton Sheen credited with baby's stunning recovery

Peoria, Ill. (CNA/EWTN News) – Bonnie Engstrom remembers praying silently to Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen over and over again after her baby son was born lifeless and without a pulse for 61 minutes.

Little James Fulton was the third child that Engstrom and her husband, Travis, planned to give birth to at home, and everything had been going perfectly in the early hours of Sept. 16, 2010. But what the couple and attending midwife did not know was that there was a knot in the baby's umbilical chord which tightened while he was descending the birth canal. Her son, 9 lbs. 12 oz., was a stillborn.

"I have a memory of repeating Sheen's name, in my head, not out loud, but just kind of saying over and over again 'Fulton Sheen, Fulton Sheen' while they were still doing CPR," Engstrom said.

Engstrom's husband also baptized the baby James Fulton – the name



(photo courtesy of Archbishop Fulton Sheen Foundation)

they had agreed upon before he was rushed to the St. Francis Medical Center in Peoria. During the transport to the hospital, a friend who had attended the birth called others to pray, with some of them invoking Sheen's name as well.

"The intercession for my son with Archbishop Sheen began when I was still pregnant with him," Engstrom explained. "We knew that we were going to name him after Fulton Sheen and so I was praying to him and asking him to watch out for my son to be his kind of patron."

The Most Rev. Daniel R. Jenky, Bishop of Peoria, poses with baby James Fulton and his parents, Travis and Bonnie Engstrom.

At the hospital, a full 61 minutes after he was born and while doctors were preparing to declare the time of death, James Fulton suddenly had a pulse.

Although the medical team was stunned, they refrained from being optimistic and simply told Bonnie's husband that the baby had a heartbeat, but that was all they could say.

Doctors expected James Fulton to die within the week, or at the very least, be on a ventilator or feeding

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U.S. bishops to meet for fall general assembly

Washington, D.C. – The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) will meet Nov. 14-16 in Baltimore for their annual fall general assembly. The bishops will hear the first address of Archbishop Timothy Dolan of New York as president of the USCCB.

The meeting agenda will also include the following:

- Elections of USCCB secretary-elect, chairmen-elect of five committees, the chairman of the Committee on International Justice and Peace, and board members of Catholic Relief Services (CRS)
- Discussion and approval of the “Resolution on Diocesan Financial Reporting”
- Discussion and vote on changing the current Task Force on Health Care into a permanent Subcommittee on Health Care Issues under the Committee on Doctrine
- Discussion on religious liberty
- Discussions and approval to place the inscription of the “Optional Memorial of Blessed Marianne Cope” and the “Optional Memorial of Blessed John Paul II” on the Proper Calendar
- Discussion and approval of Blessings of the Oils for Catechumens, the Sick, and for Consecrating the Chrism
- A report by the Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life and

Youth and the Subcommittee for the Promotion and Defense of Marriage

- A report by Cardinal Daniel DiNardo on the work of Project Rachel, the post-abortion healing ministry
- A report by Cardinal Donald Wuerl on *Anglicanorum coetibus*, the Vatican’s response to groups of Anglicans seeking full communion with the Catholic Church
- A report by Bishop Kevin Farrell on the proposed publication of the Committee on National Collections guidelines entitled: “One Church, One Mission - Guidelines for Administering USCCB National Collections in Dioceses”
- Discussion and approval of the 2012 Conference Budget
- An oral report on status of Deepen Faith, Nurture Hope, Celebrate Life, the USCCB’s Priority Plan
- A presentation on the Evaluation of the Reorganization and the Process to Create a Priority Plan, 2008-2011
- Discussion and consensus from the body of bishops on three priority initiatives for 2013-2015

Visit www.usccb.org for news and information on the upcoming fall general assembly. Watch live coverage from the meeting floor along with live tweets and news posted throughout the day.

Pope names Archbishop Vigano new nuncio to the U.S.

Washington D.C. (CNA/EWTN News) – Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, 70, was appointed Oct. 19 by Pope Benedict XVI to serve as his official representative to the United States. Archbishop Vigano will succeed Archbishop Pietro Sambi, who died in July from complications that developed after he underwent lung surgery.

As papal nuncio, he will serve as the pope’s personal representative to the Church in the United States. He will carry out diplomatic duties and will also play an important role in selecting new bishops in the U.S.

The position of papal nuncio to the United States is viewed as a key diplomatic position for the Vatican.

Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, called the appointment “yet another sign” of the great care the pope has for the U.S. and its Catholic community. “As the personal representative of our Holy Father, you will serve as a continuing sign to us of that source of renewal and hope that Pope Benedict brought to our country,” said Archbishop Dolan.

“Catholic for Marriage Equality MN” not affiliated with official Catholic Church

Group disputes and misinterprets Catholic teaching on marriage, homosexuality, moral law

St. Paul – The Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis and the Minnesota Catholic Conference issued a joint statement Sept. 29 explaining that a newly formed group calling itself “Catholics for Marriage Equality MN” has no recognition from nor affiliation with the Roman Catholic Church.

One of Catholics for Marriage Equality MN’s expressed aims is to defeat the Minnesota Marriage Protection Amendment that will appear on the November 2012 ballot, and which defines marriage as the union of one man and one woman. The group misleadingly tries to convince Catholics that they can, in good conscience, support a state redefinition of marriage without undermining marriage itself. The Catholic Church, in keeping with Catholic teaching, reason and natural law, and in concert with many other faiths, strongly supports

maintaining the current, traditional definition of marriage by voting “yes” for the Amendment in the November 2012 election.

“Anyone can selectively piece together statements taken out of context from Church documents or the writings of theologians to construct a religious worldview that suits his or her personal preferences,” said Jason Adkins, MCC executive director. “But such a pick-and-choose cafeteria religion is antithetical to Catholicism. One of the most compelling reasons for being Catholic is that we believe in the Faith given to the Apostles by Jesus Christ himself and handed on and safeguarded by their successors, the bishops.”

Adkins continued: “It is the responsibility of the bishops in communion with the pope to uphold the Truth as well as encourage and support all Catholics who are trying to live their baptismal promise of believing and trusting in our one, Catholic, and apostolic faith. This is especially true in the area of marriage and sexuality, where the

universal moral law and Gospel values are constantly under attack in American law and culture.”

Both MCC and the Archdiocese stress the importance of respecting the God-given dignity of all persons, which means the recognition of authentic human rights and responsibilities, while pointing out that official Catholic teaching goes well beyond what Catholics for Marriage Equality MN’s Web site states. Adkins reiterated longstanding Catholic Church teaching that “Homosexual persons are to be fully respected in their human dignity and encouraged to follow God’s plan with particular attention in the exercise of chastity.” And, that the “duty calling for respect does not justify the legitimization of behavior that is not consistent with moral law” for those with same-sex inclinations or heterosexuals, married or unmarried.

The statement can be found at <http://mccc.org/issues/marriage/joint-statement-about-catholics-for-marriage-equality-mn/>

The face of HIV/AIDS 30 years later

by Fr. Paul Schumacher

It has been 30 years since the first report of that new disease that would eventually become known as AIDS. Since then, 25 million people have died from AIDS-related illnesses, and today more than 33 million men, women, and children are living with the disease. We have come a long way, but there is still no cure and we always need to remember that this disease is preventable.

Catholic Church in forefront

In May the Vatican hosted international scientists at a one-day conference on AIDS. Among those attending the conference were leading scientific experts on AIDS.

The Catholic Church and other faith groups must continue to acquaint themselves with the true facts of AIDS prevention and feel



World AIDS Day is Dec. 1

empowered to promote faithfulness and abstinence. And at the same time, the Church must continue to take care of the sick and dying, reduce stigma and discrimination, provide clinics and hospitals, and educate people about AIDS.

For this purpose, the Good Samaritan Foundation, an organization established by Pope John Paul II, plans to expand its outreach and assistance to AIDS

patients across the globe. One of its top priorities will be providing HIV/AIDS patients with universal and free access to treatments.

A few facts

- Thirty years after the HIV/AIDS emergence, the disease has a new face – people over 50.
- There is a growing need for services among the ethnic groups in the Diocese of New Ulm. The number of active HIV/AIDS clients has increased from six in 2006 to 32 through May 2011.

We must continue to reach out and be of service, as Jesus did.

Fr. Paul Schumacher is the diocesan coordinator of ministry to persons with HIV/AIDS. He can be reached at the Church of the Holy Redeemer, 503 W. Lyon St., Marshall, MN 56258; 320-297-0309.

Rejoice! Give it a Voice

Over 400 students in grades 9 through 12 gathered on Oct. 23 at Hutchinson High School for the 35th annual diocesan Senior High Youth Rally. The day was packed with exciting, spiritually enriching activities.

HIGHLIGHTS

Fr. Leo Patalinghug – A priest of the Archdiocese of Boston and host of the nationally acclaimed cooking show "Grace Before Meals," Fr. Leo used food to talk to the youth about the spiritual life.

Claire Culwell – An abortion survivor, Culwell, 23, spoke to the students about chastity, waiting to have sex until marriage, and the evils of abortion.

DJ Bill Lage – DJ Bill rocked the house with the youth, getting them out of their chairs, meeting new people, and dancing in the aisles.

NET Team – The 11 members of NET Team #7, who are in the Diocese of New Ulm from Oct. 21 to Nov. 9, attended the event. They performed a skit on rejecting sin and choosing Jesus Christ.

Sunday Mass – The most important moment of the rally was the celebration of the Mass. Normally the bishop of the diocese celebrates Mass; however, since Bishop John M. LeVoi was in Rome for the canonization of Fr. Louis Guanella, Fr. Zachary Peterson, associate pastor at St. Anastasia in Hutchinson, took his place. Seven priests concelebrated with Fr. Petersen.



Pictured above are the youth rally's keynote speakers: Claire Culwell, an abortion survivor and pro-life speaker, and Fr. Leo Patalinghug, host of "Grace Before Meals."



Fr. Paul Timmerman, associate pastor in the St. Isidore the Farmer Area Faith Community, which includes Benson, Clontarf, Danvers, DeGraff, and Murdock, distributes the Precious Blood at Mass.



Members of the Diocesan Youth Council take a break from greeting high school students. From left to right: Tanner Thooft, 10th grade (St. Edward's, Minnesota); Sara Hughes, 12th grade (St. John's, Darwin); Andrea Tauber, 12th grade (St. Aloysius, Olivia); Shawn Polman, 12th grade (St. Mary's, Cottonwood); Alison Miller, 10th grade (Sacred Heart, Murdock); and Johanna Johnson, 12th grade (Sacred Heart, Murdock). Back row: Ben Follese, NET Team #7 (Forest Lake).



Youth from St. Andrew's in Granite Falls relax during a break time.

"Christ Our Life"

(continued from page 3)

up with a phone-a-thon.

Throughout the last two months, Bot said, he contacted the campaign office at the diocese several times for support and advice and found them to be very helpful.

Members of St. Edward parish who also served on the campaign leadership committee were Fr. Jeremy Kucera, Fred Rabaey, Tim Gossen, Fred and Margrit Rabaey, Juanita Bot, Omer Laleman, Jeff Claeys, Frank Swedzinski, and Margaret Doom. Each committee member agreed that God was going to have to move people's hearts to make them receptive to the

campaign. If they were going to be successful in their fundraising efforts, they would have to pray, which was something each committee member did before they met with individuals or couples.

The prayers and hard work of Bot and the leadership committee paid off. St. Edward's has reached its parish goal of \$268,875. In fact, it went over its goal by \$2,500, raising a total of \$271,420 for the Capital Campaign.

Bot attributes their success to God. "Our whole committee commented on the generosity of our parishioners, so we felt God helped us," he said.



Youth celebrate with DJ Bill at the end of the rally. Students perform the "Catholic Dance" (a dance DJ Bill taught them) as music blasts from the speakers.

(photos by Sam Patet)



"How shall I make a return to the Lord for all the good he has done for me?"

- Psalm 116:12

CAMPAIGN GOAL
\$680,000

SEMINARIANS
receive 22%

PERMANENT DEACONS
receive 17%

LAY MINISTRY
receives 15%

CHILDREN & YOUTH
receive 19%

PEOPLE IN NEED
(CATHOLIC CHARITIES)
receive 27%

Last year, parishes received a total of \$479,389 in DMA rebates!

A message from the bishop

I would like to express my sincere thanks for your effort and dedication to the 2010 Diocesan Ministries Appeal (DMA). Your financial generosity helps the diocese to prepare seminarians and permanent deacons for service, to provide ministry formation for our lay leaders in our parishes, to assist in program development for Catholic schools and religious education, and to offer crucial assistance for those in need through our Catholic Charities offices.

Even in these difficult economic times, all of our parishes in the diocese were able to reach or surpass their 2010 DMA parish goal. This not only benefits the diocese, it also greatly benefits the parishes as money



Bishop LeVoir

received beyond the parish goal is returned to the parish for important projects.

On November 19 and 20, a new Appeal year will be launched in the parishes. The 2011 appeal theme is "The Miracle of Sharing." It draws its meaning from our Lord's miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fish that fed more than 5,000.

In much the same way, in the Diocesan Ministries Appeal, your gift is combined with others to help address the many ministry needs of the Diocese of New Ulm. It becomes a miracle when the sharing is multiplied, as many folks throughout the diocese combine their gifts with those of others.

Your gift is crucial to carrying out the mission of the diocese and no contribution is too small. Through the important ministries that the DMA supports, our Church here in the Diocese of New Ulm helps to fulfill the mission of Christ.

Let us all work together and combine our gifts into the 2011 Diocesan Ministries Appeal, making this "The Miracle of Sharing."

In Christ,

Most Reverend John M. LeVoir
Bishop of New Ulm

The Bishop's Guild: recognizing gifts of over \$1,000

The Bishop's Guild is an important component of the Diocesan Ministries Appeal (DMA). Guild members (listed) contribute a minimum of \$1,000 to the DMA. Please prayerfully consider becoming a member.

ST. JOHN, APPLETON
St. John's Catholic Altar & Rosary Society, David and Anne Bonk, Mitchell and Devon Fett, Fr. Brian Oestreich, Michael Ruether

ST. MARY, ARLINGTON
Dave and Dee Czech, Duane and Patricia Geib, Gregory and Maurine Goblirsch, John and Donna Krauth, Michael and Susan McCarthy, Michael and Mary Noack, Fr. Jerome Paulson, Tom and Judy Schoeneberger

ST. FRANCIS, BENSON
Richard and Colette Hanson, Pete and Kathy Hilleren, Robert and Mary Hoffman, Madeline Holmes, Helen Hughes, Craig and Carla Johnson, William and Janet Luzum, Timothy and Carol Mattheisen

ST. MARY, BIRD ISLAND
Fr. George Schmit

ST. PETER, CANBY
Lowell and Lois Fales, Roger and Alice Janiszski, Laverne and

Alice Kack, Regina Kockelman, Ralph and Kathy Ochocki, Margaret Schubert, Fr. Craig Timmerman

ST. CLARA, CLARA CITY
Robert and Carolyn Brix, Sr. Carole Freking, Troy and Danelle Groothuis, Tom Gunter, Jim and Sherri Thein

ST. PAUL, COMFREY
St. Paul & St. Mary Council 139

ST. MARY, COTTONWOOD
Joseph Paul Inden, Jerry and Donna Sanders

ST. JOHN, DARWIN
Fr. Patrick Casey, John and Kathy Nowak, Fr. John Pearson

ST. JAMES, DAWSON
Kevin and Jill Kemen, Eugene Sis

ST. BRIDGET, DEGRAFF
Patrick and Bev Byrne

ST. ANDREW, FAIRFAX
Fr. Jeffrey Horejsi

ST. JOHN-ASSUMPTION, FAXON TWP.
Fr. Keith Salisbury

ST. GERTRUDE, FOREST CITY
Fr. Patrick Casey

SACRED HEART, FRANKLIN
Fr. Jeffrey Horejsi

ST. MICHAEL, GAYLORD
Tim and Debra Dolan, Douglas and Iris Parrott, Fr. Jerome Paulson, Nathan and Cindy Posivio, Don and Patricia Ruffing

ST. ELOI, GHENT
Dale and Lila Schmidt, Steven and Jeanne Schmidt

ST. WILLIBRORD, GIBBON
Fr. Jeffrey Horejsi, Dorothea Young

ST. PIUS, GLENCOE
First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, James and Lanette Dammann, Robert and Joyce Hallaway, Barry and Susan Mielke, Dr. Peter and Barbara Smyth, Fr. Anthony Stubeda

ST. ANDREW, GRANITE FALLS
Dominic and Holly Hanson, Jack and JoAnn Masters, Art and Jan Mehr, Don and Viola Sebring, Nancy St. Sauver

ST. BRENDAN, GREEN ISLE
Diana Kroells, Todd and Connie Meeker, Fr. Jerome Paulson, Michael and Sue Vos, Daniel and Rosemary Vos

ST. CLOTILDE, GREEN VALLEY
Maurice and Bernie Louwagie, Rachel Noshush, Richard and Beverly Wambeke

ST. JOHN, HECTOR
Edwin Mamer

ST. JOSEPH, HENDERSON
Steve and Joanie Heinz, Mike and Jennifer Kolter, Fr. Keith Salisbury

ST. ANASTASIA, HUTCHINSON
James and Catherine Allen, Carl and Mae Beatriz, Diane and James Bobier, Todd Bradley, Jeffrey and Gail Lehn, Thomas and Mary Jo Lyke, Emmet and Marge McCormick, John and Renee McRaith, Fr. Gerald Meidl, Lee and Priscilla Moore, Paul and Janet Mraz, Roselyn Peterson, Richard and Bea Prellwitz, Michael and Audra Retterath, John and Cindy Sandberg, Fr. Paul Schumacher, Dr. Christopher and Cathleen Wallyn, Jim and Robin Young

SS. PETER AND PAUL, IVANHOE
Fr. Ronald Huberty, Robert and Paulette Knoff, Chad and Pam Olsen, Allen and Jane Steffes

ST. PATRICK, KANDIYOHI
Joseph and Joan Conway, Fr. Brian Mandel, Fr. Steven Verhelst

(continued on page 10)

Fr. Paul Schumacher delighted to serve as 2011 DMA chairperson

by Sam Patet
The Prairie Catholic

Fr. Paul Schumacher has worn a lot of hats during his 49 years of priesthood in the Diocese of New Ulm. He has served at 48 parishes, mainly as pastor, associate pastor, or sacramental minister. From 1974 to 1980 he was the diocese's director of religious education; he served as the diocese's director of youth ministry from 1982 to 1985; and since 1987 he has served as the diocese's coordinator of ministry to persons with HIV/AIDS. Currently, he is serving as senior associate at Holy Redeemer Parish in Marshall.

His work with teachers, youth, families, and the sick prepared him well for a special new assignment, namely, being the honorary chairperson of the 2011-2012 Diocesan Ministries Appeal (DMA).

Wayne Pelzel, director of development for the diocese, said Fr. Schumacher was an excellent choice. "If there is any one priest," he said, "who is known for being present in many different parishes, it is Fr. Schumacher." He is well-known and well-loved by the people of the diocese, he added.

Furthermore, Fr. Schumacher has "experience working with things the DMA impacts," Pelzel said, including Catholic Charities and youth ministry.

Fr. Schumacher said he was happy to promote the appeal to the diocese. "The DMA has been a major part of the ministry of the Diocese of New Ulm, and I was here for the founding of this great ministry and program," he said. "I was excited about the way, with the DMA, we were expanding our ministry, which we are called to by Jesus."

Started in 2005 under then-Bishop John C. Nienstedt, the DMA is an annual event that raises funds for vital ministries in the diocese. The five ministry areas the DMA supports are training for lay ministers, outreach to children and youth, seminarian education, the

permanent diaconate formation program, and people in need (Catholic Charities). "The DMA," said Pelzel, "funds ministries ... that the diocese couldn't afford as of five years ago."

Parishes benefit too

Fr. Schumacher has seen first-hand how the DMA has helped him in his priestly ministry. Many parishes that he served since 2005 exceeded their DMA fundraising goals, he said. The extra monies they raised were returned to the parishes for a variety of projects. The DMA, he said, helped his parishes make facility upgrades that normally would be a struggle.

Funding for seminarian education

Fr. Schumacher praised the DMA for the financial support it has given to the diocese's seminarians. He was pastor to Paul Timmerman (now Fr. Timmerman, ordained in 2007) while serving at St. Peter in Canby and St. Leo in St. Leo. Later, he was pastor to seminarian Matthew Wiering (now Fr. Wiering, ordained in 2010) while serving at St. Dionysius in Tyler.

"I noticed," Fr. Schumacher said, "how many ways we were able to help them" through the monies raised from the DMA.

It is essential, he said, for the diocese to raise the necessary funds to train the future generation of priests. The \$50,000 it takes per year to educate one seminarian is quite a bit more than the money it took to educate him for one year in the 1950s. "When I started at Nazareth Hall (a college seminary, now closed) in 1950, a nine-month period of feeding and giving me the best education was \$300 for a year — and we smile at that today!" he said.

Catholic Charities reaches out to the most needy

A ministry supported by the DMA that Fr. Schumacher has a special attachment to is Catholic Charities. When Catholic Charities was formed in the diocese in 2007, Fr. Schumacher was asked to be the organization's priest advisor. "I said, 'Yes! Yes!' I would do that,



Fr. Paul Schumacher's pastoral experience and AIDS/HIV ministry blends well with his new role as the 2011 Diocesan Ministries Appeal honorary chairperson.

(photo by Kirstie Meyer)

since in many ways my priesthood really reached way beyond just pastoring and just a special area," he said.

During its first four years of existence, Catholic Charities has served 4,887 people, providing counseling, spiritual direction, adoption services, pregnancy help, and crisis response. The DMA is critical in helping Catholic Charities continue to provide these services to people in need.

Fr. Schumacher is especially grateful to Catholic Charities for the assistance they provided after the recent suicides of several teenagers. They were able to provide high-quality, professional resources to grieving family members and friends.

In addition, Fr. Schumacher thinks that Catholic Charities will be providing help to soldiers returning from the wars in the Middle East. He is aware of the struggles soldiers and their families are experiencing, and he thinks that Catholic Charities will be handling more of these cases in the years to come. "I think we haven't even seen the surface of ... where Catholic Charities needs to be involved with our returning troops," he said.

Why give to the DMA?
Why should people give to the

DMA six years after its start, especially when the diocese is in the middle of its "Christ our Life" Capital Campaign?

The Capital Campaign has a short duration. It's "a one-time thing," Fr. Schumacher said, that will raise funds for the new Pastoral Center and for parish projects.

The ministries supported by the DMA, on the other hand, are a "never ending responsibility," he said, that the diocese needs to support. "We're certainly always going to have people in need, we're always going to need lay ministry, we're going to need the youth, we're going to need seminarians; to me that's a ... never ending ministry," said Fr. Schumacher.

"There would be plenty of reason why people should say, 'Gee, we've just given a large gift to the diocese; now they're asking us to give another,'" Pelzel said. "My hope and my prayer," he continued, "is

that the Diocesan Ministries Appeal ... is established enough that the people of the diocese see the value of the work it does, and for that reason they continue to give."

A heart full of gratitude

As he approaches the 50th anniversary of his ordination in February, Fr. Schumacher wishes to express his joy and gratitude to all the people of the diocese he has gotten to know.

"To me, as I come ... to 50 years of ministry here in the diocese, and being able to share in so many different ways on the diocesan staff and many, many parishes, it's just a delight to see how we are reaching out in so grand ... and special ways to people that sometimes think we don't care about them.

"I'm delighted to be a part of this diocese, to be a part of the DMA for this coming year, to say 'thank you' to all those who have given in so many ways all these years."

View the 2011 DMA Video Online!
www.dnu.org

See what your parish contributed.

For a DMA Fund Summary listed by parish, visit the diocesan Web site or contact the Office of Development, 507-359-2966. Visit weekly for updates.



Bishop's Guild membership

(continued from page 8)



The Bishop's Guild is a group dedicated to helping the bishop meet essential needs within the diocese. Members who give a minimum gift of \$1,000 to the DMA will in return receive an invitation to a special Guild dinner with the bishop, the annual spring edition of Good News - a publication of the Diocesan Ministries Appeal, and recognition in "The Prairie Catholic."

OUR LADY, MANANNAH
Msgr. Francis Garvey

HOLY REDEEMER, MARSHALL
Robert and Ramona Aufenthie, Todd and Jane Bock, Elizabeth Brookshire, Greg and Suzanne Cattoor, Charles and Dawn Deutz, James and Jan Fuhrmann, Sharon Gruhot, Kathryn Hauschild, Lois Henkel, Reinhold and Connie Mathiowetz, John McLaughlin, James and Elizabeth Murray, Kenneth and Janice Noyes, Fr. Zachary Peterson, Steve and Juli Sanders, Thomas and Linda Sanders, David and Marcia Schroeder, Evonne Seivert, Daniel and Kathy Sussner, Fr. Paul Wolf

ST. MICHAEL, MILROY
Daniel and Grace Coudron, Mark and Victoria Dolan, Tom and Julie Dolan, Kenneth and Cheryl Lanoue, Ronald Schmidt, Lon and Jean Walling, David and Patricia Zwach

ST. EDWARD, MINNEOTA
Bruce and Juanita Bot, Fr. Patrick Casey, James and Mary Myhre, Jason and Tina Myhre, Seth and Teresa Myhre, Michael and Yvonne Sontag, Scott and Debbie Thooff

ST. JOSEPH, MONTEVIDEO
Fr. Patrick Casey, Bill and Connie Pauling

ST. MICHAEL, MORGAN
Duane and Kristine Anderson, Arnold and Emma Iffert, Myron and Becky Mathiowetz

ST. JOHN, MORTON
Gladys Angermeyr

SACRED HEART, MURDOCK
Richard and Paulette Collins, James and Mary Matthews, Margaret Walsh, Rod and Carol Yost

CATHEDRAL, NEW ULM
John Altenburg, Michael and Becky Boyle, Richard and Gwen Christiansen, Shirley Drexler, Jo Ann Guggisberg, James and Brenda Guldan, Pat Herzog, Alan and Jean Hoffmann, Lawrence and Margaret Kropinski, Chris and Mary Loetscher, Rose McCourtney, Tim and Lora Rahe, Gerald and Lorie Reinarts, Msgr. John Richter, Steve and Tricia Schreiber, Steven and

Buffy Spilman, Fr. Bernard Steiner, Doris Weise

ST. MARY, NEW ULM
Angeline Anderl, Andy and Anne Biebl, Bill and Joanne Brennan, Mary Carroll, Joseph Deml, Terry and Janet Dempsey, Dr. Mario and Christine DeSouza, Robert and Mary Ellen Domeier, Steven and Shari Franta, Stan and Marge Freking, Leonard and Roberta Fuller, Msgr. Douglas Grams, Marie Guldan, Kenneth and Mary Beth Hauser, David and Anita Hoffmann, Ed and Sharon Hubly, John and Sharon Illikman, Dean and Shirley Laraway, Chris and Mary Loetscher, Peter and Linda Neigebauer, Mary O'Connor, Fr. Germain Rademacher, Robert and Gayle Ranweiler, Marilyn Reinhart, Mary Reinhart, Roman Schmid, Mark and Mary Lou Steffl, Sr., Drs. Jay and Ellen Vancura, Greg and Jane Windschill, Steven and Colleen Zeig

HOLY ROSARY, NORTH MANKATO
Richard and Cathleen Ahern, Russell and Debra Blaschko, Eugene and Shirley Brandt, Brian and Julie Corbett, Gerald and Mary Hicks, Dr. James and Darlene Schorn

ST. ALOYSIUS, OLIVIA
Mary Ellen Rauenhorst, Tom and Jan Rauenhorst, Gregory and Sheila Steffl

ST. JOHN, ORTONVILLE
Terry and Judy Gere, Paul and Julie Treinen, Duane and Betty Van Keulen

ST. CATHERINE, REDWOOD FALLS
Winifred Balkenol, Florence Dunlevy, George and Jenifer Goblisch, Kathryn Olson, Paul and Marvel Pryor

HOLY REDEEMER, RENVILLE
Fr. Patrick Casey, Leona Schafer

ST. LEO, ST. LEO
Fr. Craig Timmerman

ST. PETER, ST. PETER
Jeff and Peggy Borgmeier, Elizabeth Burke, Jeffrey and Sharon Crowley, Pat and Lauren Dickie, Jeffrey and Heather Gilbertson, Dr. JoAnna

Gleisner, Gene Hager, Jim and Kitty Littig, Glen and Deb Schilling, Brad and Luann Schloesser, Fr. Philip Schotzko, Russ and Sue Serbus, Mary Strey

ST. MARY, SEAFORTH
Dallas and Joann Dolan, Joel and Joleen Irlbeck, Thomas and Connie Johanneck, Fr. Todd Petersen, Norbert Skoblik

ST. JOHN, SEARLES
St. John's Catholic Aid Council, St. John Council of Catholic Women, Lester and Linda Braulick, Gregory J. Griebel

HOLY FAMILY, SILVER LAKE
First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, Joseph Mallak, Lawrence and Kathleen Mottl, Brian and Julie Stibal, Fr. Anthony Stubeda

ST. MARY, SLEEPY EYE
Michael and Tami Carr, Eleanor Fischer, Michael and Marjorie Hoffmann, Deacon Mark and Tami Kober, Msgr. Eugene Lozinski, Lawrence and Jane Peichel, Wayne and Patti Pelzel, Joe and Judy Schwartz, John and Rosemary Schwartz, Mark and Anita Schwartz, Arthur Sellner, Charles and Kathy Spaeth, Dan and Lisa Steffl, Kathleen Wichmann

OUR LADY OF THE LAKES, SPICER
Ron and Verdonna Dobbs, Andrew and Joyce Kroneberger, Fr. Brian Mandel, Ron and Diane Pyka, Carmen Rohne, Fr. Steven Verhelst

ST. RAPHAEL, SPRINGFIELD
Dr. Francis and Glenna Boyle, Helen Landkammer, Hilary and Betty Mohr, Gordon and Jodi Pieschel, Paul and Sharon Pieschel, Daniel and Martha Renner, Dan and Amy Schmitz, Ralph Schunk

ST. BONIFACE, STEWART
Fr. Patrick Casey, Douglas Kuttner, Greg Kuttner, Kenneth and Eileen Kuttner, Mark and Cindy Maiers, Thomas and La Mae Maiers, Fr. Gerald Meidl, Mildred Navara, Richard and Barbara Navara, Fr. Paul Schumacher

ST. MARY, TRACY
Louisa Paul, Gary and Patricia Peterson

ST. DIONYSIUS, TYLER
Fr. Ronald Huberty, Ronald and Rhonda Wiering

ST. ANNE, WABASSO
Fr. Patrick Casey, George and Jenifer Goblisch, Fr. Todd Petersen, Bradley and Paula Pohlen, Chuck and Joann Robasse, Charlotte Salfer, William and Mary Schwarz

ST. PAUL, WALNUT GROVE
Bernard and Marianne Boerboom

ST. MATHIAS, WANDA
Fr. Leonard Jenniges, Gerald and Lucy Moldan, Fr. Todd Petersen, Richard and Elaine Rohlik, Daniel and Linda Weber

ST. ANTHONY, WATKINS
Fr. John Brunner, Fr. Richard Gross, Luella Looman

ST. GEORGE, WEST NEWTON TWP.
Fr. John Berger, Philip and JoAnn Gitter, James and Rita Gleisner

ST. JOHN CANTIUS, WILNO
Fr. Ronald Huberty, Kevin and Judy Leibfried, Steven Ratajczak, Joseph A. Rybinski, Sr.

ST. MARY, WILLMAR
Anthony and Mary Amon, Edward and Marica Amdorfer III, Helaine Bolter, Joseph Eikmeier, Kurt and Teresa Hildebrandt, Dr. Martin and Amy Janning, Robert Jones, Harold and Mary Jo Larson, Lloyd Lehn, Fr. Brian Mandel, Bob and Jean Masters, Ralph and Mary Nessel, John and Georgia Robino, Fr. Steven Verhelst, Edward and Katherine Green

HOLY TRINITY, WINSTED
First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association, Elizabeth Angermeyr, Fr. Eugene Brown, Fr. Anthony Hesse, Eileen Otto, Thomas Scherping, Gerard and Rosemary Stifter

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES, WINTHROP
Fr. Jeffrey Horejsi, Roger and Pam Osborne, John and Minnie Sloom

GIFTS WITHOUT DESIGNATION
Thomas and Janet Keaveny, Bishop John M. LeVoir, Msgr. Robert Wyffels

Biking and prayer a good fit for pedal pilgrims



(photo by Sam Patet)

Pictured (l-r): Mike McNeil of St. Gertrude's, Forest City; Dennis Quinn of St. John's, Darwin; Stephanie Joyce of St. Philip's, Litchfield; Cathie Eiler of St. Philip's, Litchfield; and Diane Franta of St. George's, West Newton Twp. Not pictured is Matt Holkup of St. Gertrude's, Forest City.

New Ulm – Bikers from around the diocese gathered on Oct. 22 for the third annual Pedal Pilgrimage, organized by Mike McNeil, pastoral administrator at St. Gertrude's, Forest City.

Participants spent the day biking and praying at various churches in the New Ulm area, including the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, the Church of St. Mary, and the closed Church of St. Joseph located on Highway 25 southwest of New Ulm.

The prayer during the pilgrimage reflected the Catholic prayer tradition, but people of all faith traditions were welcome to take part.

According to McNeil, the annual event, held during MEA weekend, will rotate among different cities each year.

For information about future pedal pilgrimages, contact the Church of St. Gertrude, 320-693-7801; stgert@xtratyme.com.

St. Mary's in New Ulm marks 100 years of Catholic faith and fellowship

by Mary Ellen Domeier

On Sunday, Oct. 9, the Church of St. Mary in New Ulm launched a year-long recognition of the centennial of its formation as a faith community.

Bishop John M. LeVoir celebrated the morning Mass. Parishioners and guests then gathered outside, south of the church, on the site of the original convent, church, and school buildings where an unveiling of an historic plaque and a blessing ceremony took place. A noon banquet and program in the parish social hall concluded the day.

A hundred years of history

On April 26, 1922, with much fanfare, the cornerstone was laid for the new St. Mary's Catholic Church in New Ulm. The city blew its whistles and the new cathedral church's bells were rung. This was 10 years and seven months after the rather quiet formation of the parish under the umbrella of its mother parish, Holy Trinity Church, on Sept. 26, 1911. Masses during the intervening years were celebrated in the lower level of Holy Trinity.

World War I and economic factors entered into the delay between the establishing of the parish community and its actual possession of a church in which to worship. To help the stalled building project along after World War I, Fr. Robert Schlinkert, pastor of Holy Trinity, stated, "Man proposes and God disposes. The war shattered the plans. But now that peace bells have rung out, God willing, it shall become a reality in the not-too-distant future. The old church has pledged the new parish \$20,000 as a dowry."

The original combined church/school building and the convent cost \$85,000. Puhlmann Brothers was the general



Pictured (l-r) in front of the newly dedicated centennial plaque are St. Mary's pastor Msgr. Douglas Grams, Bishop John M. LeVoir, Fr. Richard Gross (pastor 1980-1987), Fr. Germain Rademacher (pastor 1987-1995) and retired priest of the diocese Fr. James Moran.



Fr. Losleben first pastor



(photos by Bill Moeller)

In October, the Church of St. Mary's in New Ulm recognized its 100 years of history. Bishop LeVoir celebrated Mass with parishioners and guests. A centennial plaque blessing ceremony on the church grounds and a noon banquet and program followed.

contractor. This was a significant construction project for those times, and, as such, garnered much city and citizen support. At the laying of the cornerstone, the community celebrated with the parishioners. Grand Marshals Ed J. Berg and Dr. A. C. Amann on horseback and the Hofmeister band led a procession from Holy Trinity to the new St. Mary's site. They made their way past the many buildings on Minnesota Street, most of them sporting red, white, and blue. Then Archbishop Austin Dowling blessed the cornerstone which was witnessed by many clergy, parishioners, dignitaries, and citizens.

Construction was completed several months later. The first

Mass was celebrated on Feb. 2, 1923. Fr. Anthony J. Losleben was the first pastor. At that time there were 300 households and 1,300 members in the parish. St. Mary's Elementary School opened in 1923 with 225 pupils in eight grades. Before moving its students to the consolidated New Ulm Area Catholic Schools in 1999, St. Mary's School educated over 2,400 students. Over the course of the last 100 years, St. Mary's has celebrated 4,340 Baptisms, 2,798 first Communion, 3,210 Confirmations, 1,515 marriages, and 1,847 funerals. The parish now numbers 1,125 households and 2,500 members.

NOMINATIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE
2012

DIOCESAN DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

This award is presented to members of the diocese in recognition of outstanding service in some leadership capacity to the Diocese of New Ulm over a period of years. Up to five awards will be presented by Bishop John M. LeVoir immediately following the annual Bishop Lucker Lecture to be held this year on Sunday, March 18, 2012, at 7 p.m. at the Church of St. Catherine in Redwood Falls. Evening presenter will be James F. Ennis, executive director of the National Catholic Rural Life Conference. The title of his presentation is "Sowing Seeds of Hope in a Distracted World."

Forms for nominations, as well as a listing of past recipients, are posted on the diocesan Web site, www.dnu.org, or contact Penny Forst at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 1400 6th Street North, New Ulm, MN 56073; 507-359-2966; e-mail: pforst@dnu.org.

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS JANUARY 2, 2012.

Pope Benedict declares a 'Year of Faith'

Vatican City (CNA/EWTN News) – Pope Benedict XVI has declared a “Year of Faith,” which will begin in October 2012, the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council. “It will be a moment of grace and commitment to a more complete conversion to God, to strengthen our faith in him and proclaim him with joy to the people of our time,” said the pope, making his announcement during Sunday Mass at St. Peter’s Basilica.

The Year of Faith will run from Oct. 11, 2012, until Nov. 24, 2013, which is the Solemnity of Christ the King.

The pope said in his Oct. 16 remarks that it will give “new impetus to the mission of the whole Church to lead men out of the desert in which they often find themselves, to the place of life, of friendship with Christ.” He also said that “reasons, purposes, and guidelines” for the year will be set out in an Apostolic Letter *Porta Fidei* (door of faith) to be published “in the coming days.”

The new evangelization aims to revivify Catholicism in traditionally Christian countries which have been particularly affected by secularization in recent decades.

Drawing upon the day’s Scripture readings, the pope outlined a roadmap for the new evangelizers. In the first reading, the Prophet Isaiah recounts how King Cyrus, the Persian Emperor in the 6th century B.C., played his part in fulfilling a divine plan despite that fact that he

“did not know” God and was not even Jewish.

“Even the mighty Cyrus, the Persian emperor, is part of a greater plan, that only God knows and carries forward,” observed the pope.

This demonstrates, he said, the need for a new “theology of history” as an “essential part” of the new

The Year of Faith will give “new impetus to the mission of the whole Church to lead men out of the desert in which they often find themselves, to the place of life, of friendship with Christ.”

– Pope Benedict XVI

evangelization because “the men of our time, after the disastrous season of totalitarian empires of the 20th century, need to find a comprehensive vision of the world and time,” more compatible with the vision of the Church.

In the second reading, taken from St. Paul’s First Letter to the Thessalonians, the pope said new evangelizers are reminded that “it is the Lord who touches hearts by his Word and his Spirit, by calling people to faith and communion in the Church.”

The fact that it is God and not the evangelist who touches hearts, shows the importance of recognizing God as the prime mover in any apostolic activities which “must always be preceded, accompanied, and followed by prayer,” he said.

Pope Benedict also highlighted the importance of having collaborators like St. Paul, who had Silvanus and Timothy as his companions in his work. He said today’s new evangelizers should also seek coworkers in spreading the Gospel. He then turned to the day’s Gospel and said that it provides the key message the new evangelizers must bring to the world. In it, Christ tells

the Pharisees to “render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” This is a reminder that the Church’s message is

not primarily a political one, the pope said.

“The mission of the Church, like Christ,” he said, “is essentially to speak of God, to commemorate his sovereignty, reminding everyone, especially Christians, who have lost their identity, of God’s right over what belongs to him, which is our lives.”

Later in the morning, the pope used his Sunday Angelus address to further explain his plans for a “Year of Faith” to over 40,000 pilgrims gathered in St. Peter’s Square. He summed up the initiative as “proclaiming Christ to those who do not know him or have, in fact, reduced him to a mere historical character.”

Diocese awarded \$1,500 grant to help fund bishop’s radio messages for liturgical year

New Ulm – The National Catholic Society of Foresters has awarded the Diocese of New Ulm a \$1,500 grant to assist in the funding of Bishop John M. LeVoir’s daily Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter radio messages for the 2011–2012 liturgical year. New Ulm is one of seven dioceses in the country that received such a grant this year.

Bishop LeVoir said that the diocese was “honored to have been chosen as a recipient.”

Three major radio stations in the diocese broadcast the messages during the morning time drive. They are KNUJ-AM 860, New Ulm; SAM-FM 107.3, Sleepy Eye; and KDUZ-AM 1260, Hutchinson. Bishop LeVoir’s radio messages will also be available on the diocese’s Web site, www.dnu.org.

The National Catholic Society of Foresters was founded in 1891 as “a non-profit fraternal benefit society” whose purpose was to “offer life

insurance and annuities to Catholics and their families,” according to their Web site. Over 100 years later, the society continues its mission of providing financial assistance to Catholic families and organizations. Its mission now includes a number of other efforts, including sponsoring Catholic education grants, college scholarships, and communication grants.

Youth choir sings at Rosary garden dedication



Springfield – On Oct. 5, St. Raphael’s Knights of Columbus and Council of Catholic Women teamed up to organize a parish celebration to dedicate a new Rosary garden. Pastor Fr. Dennis Labat blessed the garden. Following the dedication, parishioners enjoyed a free-will offering grilled dinner and special music honoring Mary by members of the parish adult choir and the youth choir, pictured above. The celebration concluded with a living Rosary. The Rosary garden project began in 2010 when the Knights wrote the grant and began fundraising. To make way for the garden, old shabby plants, and overly crowded trees were removed. Curb and gutter were installed for proper water drainage, along with a colored stamped concrete patio. Paver stones formed four flower beds and the Rosary path was laid using exposed aggregate beads, spaced with pavers. Volunteers helped to beautify the garden all summer.

Sheen intercession

(continued from page 5)

tube-blind and strapped into a wheelchair-for the rest of his short life.

What happened in the following days, however, was nothing short of extraordinary. “Two days after he was born, we had a Mass and a Holy Hour at the cathedral where Sheen was ordained, and we prayed the intercessory prayer asking for Sheen’s prayers that James would be completely healed,” Engstrom said.

The Engstrom family was surprised to be surrounded by over a hundred people gathered together with them at Mass that day. Over the next few days, friends and strangers alike held Holy Hours across the United States. “There were people from all over the world who e-mailed me and left comments on my blog saying, ‘we’re praying for your son and we are asking for Sheen’s intercession,’” Engstrom said. Within a week of his birth, doctors were shocked to find that James Fulton was breathing on his own.

And day by day, after all of his vital organs were seen to be functioning properly, it became more apparent that little James Fulton was going to be just fine.

James Fulton, a normal, happy little boy, celebrated his first birthday on Sept. 16, 2011.

The Engstrom’s were recently sworn into a tribunal of inquiry where members of Bishop Sheen’s cause for beatification and canonization will investigate the alleged healing. “Because my family believes that James was healed in part because of the intercession of Sheen, there is now an investigation into whether or not this is a real miracle,” Engstrom said. “We don’t know what’s going to happen, but they are investigating for the beatification.”

Archbishop Sheen died in 1979 and his cause for sainthood was officially opened in 2002. He is presently referred to as a “Servant of God.”



from the desk of the DCCW President

by Audrey Prokosch

This month, our Council of Catholic Women diocesan moderator, Msgr. Eugene Lozinski, and 20 CWCW members from the Diocese of New Ulm will attend the National Council of Catholic Women 2011 Annual Convention Nov. 9–12 in Chicago.

Shirley Nowak from Silver Lake will be installed as our new province director.

The two convention keynote

speakers are Sr. Helen Prejean and Dr. Robert Wicks.

Sr. Helen is the author of "Dead Man Walking," an eyewitness account of the death penalty. Sr. Helen was the spiritual advisor to a man who was sentenced to die in the electric chair in Louisiana's Angola State prison and later spent her time educating citizens about the death penalty and counseling individual death row prisoners. The book was later developed into a major motion picture.

She has also written "The Death of Innocents: An

Eyewitness Account of Wrongful Executions" and is currently working on a book, "River of Fire: My Spiritual Journey."

Dr. Robert Wicks is a nationally known speaker and author of "Everyday Spirituality." He will reflect on how spiritual life is within reach for everyone.

For anyone interested in attending the conference, there is still time to register. Visit the National Council's Web site at www.nccw.org.

The convention promises to be exciting.

Conversing with the God who loves us

by Connie Rossini

Catholics traditionally divide prayer into two categories – vocal and mental. Vocal prayer includes all prayers written for recitation, such as the Rosary or litanies. Mental prayer, on the other hand, is prayer in one's own words.

St. Teresa of Avila wrote, "Mental prayer, in my view, is nothing but friendly intercourse, and frequent solitary converse, with him who we know loves us" (Life, viii). St. Therese of Lisieux likewise wrote, "With me prayer is an uplifting of the heart; a glance towards heaven; a cry of gratitude and love, uttered equally in sorrow and in joy" (Story of a Soul, X).

As Catholics, we are generally comfortable with vocal prayer, but mental prayer can leave us at a loss. How can one spend 20 minutes, 30 minutes, or more in prayer without a pre-written text? How can one keep his prayer from becoming mere rambling, or a series of petitions?

St. Teresa strives to make mental prayer simple and accessible to all. Since each soul is unique, each person's prayer is likewise unique. There is no one-size-fits-all model. She emphasizes that the method of mental prayer takes second place to the attitude of the heart. Still, for beginners especially, a general format to follow is helpful. Otherwise, one might be tempted to give up in frustration.

The following method is taken primarily from St. Frances de Sales, but also incorporates suggestions from other authors. Feel free to adapt it to your own situation and temperament. You do not need to include every item in each section, only what facilitates intimate conversation.

God Alone Suffices



Preparation. Place yourself in God's presence. In other words, think about his omnipotence or his residence in your heart. Quiet your soul and set aside distractions.

Meditation. This is the key to the conversation. Read a short passage from Scripture or another spiritual book. Or, if you have a vivid imagination, you could visualize a familiar event from the life of Christ. You could even gaze at a holy picture. Although many subjects are suitable for meditation, we should most often focus on Christ. This is how we get to know him and are inspired to speak with him. Reflect on the passage or image. You may find it helpful to ask who, what, where, and why. How does your subject affect you?

Conversation. This is the goal of your mental prayer and should make up the bulk of it – 20 minutes or more of a half-hour prayer time. Speak to God from your heart about your subject. Thank and adore Him, asking his help in acquiring virtues you have thought about or overcoming related temptations. Examine your conscience. Think of concrete ways you can change your life, and make resolutions. Offer other petitions that are on your heart. If you run out of things to say, return briefly to your meditation for more inspiration.

Conclusion. Thank God for

the time you have spent with him and the insights you have gained. Consider how to improve your prayer next time. You could add a heartfelt Our Father or Hail Mary or invoke the saints to whom you are devoted or who are connected with your subject. Ask them to help you keep your resolutions, to bring you back to prayer tomorrow, and to maintain a prayerful attitude all day.

Remember, as the Catechism says, a "method is only a guide; the important thing is to advance with the Holy Spirit, along the way of prayer: Jesus Christ" (no. 2707).

Happy praying!

Recommended readings on mental prayer include "Time for God" by Fr. Jacques Philippe, "Introduction to the Devout Life" by St. Francis de Sales, "Conversation with Christ" by Fr. Peter Thomas Rohrbach (Teresian spirituality), and "Catechism of Mental Prayer" by Joseph Simler.

Connie Rossini is a parishioner of the Church of St. George, West Newton Township, and a member of the Council of Catholic Women. She is a permanently professed member of the Third Order of Discalced Carmelites.

Wholesome entertainment helps build strong family foundation

by Lorraine DeJaeghere
DCCW Family Concerns

What kind of entertainment is your family watching?

The Diocesan Council of Catholic Women Family Concerns Commission encourages wholesome family entertainment that will help build strong family foundations.

The newly released film, "Courageous," highlights the importance of fathers. It was produced by the Sherwood Baptist Church in Albany, Ga., the same group that produced the movie

RATINGS ON THE WEB

There are a number Internet sites where you can obtain information on the content and ratings of movies and to find wholesome family entertainment:

www.catholicnews.com/movies.htm includes movie reviews by Catholic News Service and the former Office for Film and Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

www.fathersforgood.org/en/index.html ("Reel Review") offers new reviews and trailers. This site is maintained by Fathers For Good, an initiative for men by the Knights of Columbus.

"Fireproof" three years ago. The plot follows the struggle of police officers who try to balance the demands of their careers with their obligations at home. The movie covers a

number of elements – drama, conflict, action, and humor, and depicts themes of fatherhood, family life, and the prospect of eternal life.

Advent prayer service Dec. 11

Olivia – On Sunday, Dec. 11, Bishop John M. LeVoir will lead the annual diocesan Advent prayer service at 4 p.m. at the Church of St. Aloysius in Olivia. Participants are encouraged to bring the baby Jesus figure from their home nativity set to be

blessed individually by the bishop. There will also be a blessing on families and expectant mothers as they prepare for Jesus' birth in their hearts. A "swaddling clothes" collection (blankets, sleepers, layette items, or a cash donation) will be taken for babies in

need and given to the San Lucas Mission and/or First Choice Pregnancy Services, New Ulm.

For more information contact Bryan Reising or Karla Cross at the Diocese of New Ulm, 507-359-2966.

New translation offers better knowledge of the Mass and Church belief



The introduction of a new translation for the Roman Missal gives people an opportunity to pause to think about the words they are saying every time they participate in the Mass. It is an opportunity for the entire Church in the United States to deepen its understanding of the Sacred Liturgy, of its meaning and importance in their lives. It also puts Catholics in contact with the Church's tradition of prayer and helps create a historical awareness.

On Nov. 27, the first Sunday of Advent, the Roman Missal, Third Edition, the ritual text containing prayers and instructions for the celebration of the Mass, will be implemented in the United States of America. If you have been hearing the buzz but are not completely up to speed on the new Roman Missal, here are ten things you need to know:

1) It is not a new Mass, it is a new translation for a new edition of the Missal. Because a new edition of the *Missale Romanum*, the Latin Roman Missal, was promulgated by Pope John Paul II in 2000, it was necessary for all the countries of the world to translate this missal into the various local languages. The new missal has added features: prayers for the celebration of recently canonized saints, additional prefaces for the Eucharistic Prayers, additional Masses and Prayers for Various Needs and Intentions, and some updated and revised rubrics (instructions) for the celebration of the Mass. In the case of the English-speaking world, a common translation of the common text was sought through the International Commission for English in the Liturgy (ICEL) to ensure uniformity.

2) Vatican guidelines for translation. The translation of the

new Roman Missal was carried out under the newest Vatican guidelines for translating prayers into modern local (that is, vernacular) languages. These were given in the instruction *Liturgiam Authenticam*, published in 2001, urging a stronger adherence to the original Latin wording and structure than earlier directives. In the new translation, the unique style of the Roman Rite is closely maintained. The texts are marked by a heightened style of English speech and a grammatical structure that follows closely the Latin text. In addition, many biblical and poetic images – such as “Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof ...” (Communion Rite, taken from Matthew 8:8) and “... from the rising of the sun to its setting” (Eucharistic Prayer III, taken from Psalm 113), which were lost in the 1973 translation – have been restored.

3. Particular adaptations to the U.S. are included. The new English-language Missal also includes Vatican-approved adaptations requested by the bishops of the United States as well as texts for observances that are proper to the United States (such as the prayers for the Memorial of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, and prayers for Independence Day and Thanksgiving Day).

4) “And with your spirit.” The

translation of several phrases in the Order of Mass had been previously decided by the Vatican in the instruction *Liturgiam Authenticam*. Among these are “certain expressions that belong to the heritage of the whole or of a great part of the ancient Church, as well as others that have become part of the general human patrimony ...” Such is the case of the response, “*Et cum spiritu tuo.*” What had originally been translated in 1973 as “And also with you” becomes now “And with your spirit.” This places the English translation in line with the way this has always been translated in most other languages, including Spanish, French, German, and Italian.

5) Changes in the people’s parts.

In addition to the response to the greeting “The Lord be with you,” people are going to find a number of other changes in the translation of common prayers throughout. This includes the various parts of the Penitential Act (“I confess to Almighty God...”), the Gloria, the Creed (both in the Nicene Creed and the Apostles’ Creed), the Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy), the Mystery of Faith, and the invitation to communion. Samples of comparative texts for the new and old responses can be found at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Roman Missal Web site.

6) “For many.” One of the points that has generated more discussion is the translation of *qui pro vobis et pro multis effundetur in remissionem peccatorum*, presently translated “which will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven.” In the new edition of the Roman Missal, “for all” will be changed to “for many.” There are several reasons for this change. First, “for many” is a more accurate translation of the Latin phrase *pro multis* than the present translation. This is also the wording used in the Biblical narrative account of the Last Supper found in the Gospels of Matthew and Mark. Even though it is a dogmatic teaching of the Church that Christ died on the Cross for all men and women, the expression “for

many” is reflective also of the fact that this salvation is not brought automatically, without one’s own willing participation, but rather is a gift to be accepted. Also, in the context of the Last Supper, Jesus was speaking to the Twelve, extending the reach of his sacrifice beyond the boundary of his closest disciples. In the context of the celebration of the Eucharist, the phrase “for you and for many” connects the particular gathered assembly with the larger sense of the Church in every time and place, as if to say “not only you gathered here, but many more as well.”

7) Gradual implementation for musical settings. Though official implementation is set for the First Sunday of Advent 2011, some diocesan bishops may have permitted the gradual implementation of various musical settings of the people’s parts in the Order of Mass already starting in September to allow the congregation time to learn them. This applies only to the Glory to God, the Holy, Holy, Holy, and the Memorial Acclamations. Composers have readjusted previous musical settings and new compositions are also being prepared. New musical settings of the Amen and the Lamb of God, the texts of which are not changing, can be introduced at any time.

8) What’s not changing. The structure and rite of the Mass itself is not changing, so the Mass will look and feel the same. Some texts of the Mass are not changing, including the Lord’s Prayer and the Lamb of God. The translation of Scripture readings used at Mass will remain the same, so those who proclaim the readings (lectors and deacons) will not be affected in their ministry by the introduction of the new Missal. Much of the hymnody and other chants sung at Mass will not be affected by the changes, although many hymnals and other participation aids are being revised to reflect the changes in the parts of the Mass.

9) Symbolism of posture and

gestures. The symbolism of some traditional gestures has been recaptured in the new missal. The gestures themselves have always been prescribed, but the introduction of the new Missal provides an opportunity to teach about these long-standing customs. One such example is striking oneself over the chest during the Penitential Act (*Confiteor*) while reciting the words “through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault,” (*mea culpa*), as a show of remorse, a tradition that had not always been followed in the United States. Another example is the reverent bow during the recitation of the Creed. After the words “For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,” at the words that follow, “and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man” all bow as a sign of reverence for the mystery of the Incarnation.

10) Proximate preparation.

The Roman Missal itself is the primary source of training and instruction for the new translation. It displays rubrics, sentences printed in red that instruct a priest on what to say and do, how and when to gesture, and when to sing the common prayers in the Order of Mass. It provides instructions that guide the celebrant in leading the liturgy and the people assembled in ritual response for each occasion. It also dictates the words used by a priest during the Mass.

Those leading the efforts to educate the community hope the changes “will invite the faithful to pause and reflect on what, after so many years, we may have taken for granted” and that such meditation will redound in an “enrichment of people’s spiritual life.”

To learn more, visit the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Web site, www.usccb.org.

Annual Children's Holy Field Trip draws hundreds to the cathedral

by Sam Patet
The Prairie Catholic

Students gathered in New Ulm with Bishop John M. LeVoir on Oct. 5 to participate in the annual diocesan sponsored Children's Holy Field Trip at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity.

Karla Cross, diocesan director of Catholic Schools, said that the event is a time for children throughout the world "to pray, requesting the intercession of Mary on behalf of families and life."

Students from three of the diocese's elementary schools began arriving at the cathedral at 9:30 a.m. Julie Soehren, director of sacramental preparation at the Cathedral parish, gave the students a tour of the cathedral and its beautiful artwork. Fourth graders from John Ireland Elementary School in St. Peter had a variety of answers when asked what the prettiest part of the cathedral was. "The big picture" of the Holy Trinity, "the chair" (the bishop's chair), "the organ in the way back," and even "the staff" (or crozier) of the bishop were some responses.



(photo by Sam Patet)

Children from across the diocese gathered with Bishop John M. LeVoir Oct. 5 at the Cathedral in New Ulm for the annual Children's Holy Field Trip.

Bishop LeVoir began the morning of prayer by exposing the Blessed Sacrament in the monstrance. He and the students then prayed the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary, with students from Holy Trinity Elementary School in Winsted leading the decades. After the Rosary, Bishop LeVoir spoke to the students about the importance of the Eucharist and about looking to the Holy Family for help in living their lives. The morning of prayer concluded with benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Barb Fasching is a fourth grade teacher at Holy Trinity School in Winsted and has been bringing her students on the Holy Field Trip for several years. She thinks the event is important not only because the students get to see the cathedral and meet the bishop, but also because they get to pray the Rosary.

"Part of our religion class is to learn about the Rosary ... so I always feel it is a great way to reinforce what we're learning," she said.

Upcoming Events

Post-Abortion Reconciliation and Healing workshop, Nov. 16, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Parish Center, Sleepy Eye. Presenter is Vicki Thorn. To register contact Catholic Charities of New Ulm, 866-670-5163.

"What They Forgot to Tell Us in Sex Education," Vicki Thorn, Nov. 16, from 7-8 p.m. at St. Catherine's Church, Redwood Falls. This is an open presentation for Diocese of New Ulm religious education classes (grades 9-12). For further information contact Catholic Charities of New Ulm, 866-670-5163.

Free workshops to assist laity in welcoming the new Roman Missal will be held Nov. 12 and Nov. 17. The workshop on Nov. 12 from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Church of St. Mary in Willmar will be

presented by the Handmaids of the Heart of Jesus. The presenter for the workshop on Nov. 17 from 7-8 p.m. at St. Gertrude, Forest City, will be Ann Przybilla, diocesan director of the Office of Worship. Both workshops are open to the public. No registration necessary. For further information call the Handmaids at 507-276-9128 or Ann Przybilla, 507-359-2966.

Together in Ministry, to be held Nov. 19 from 9 a.m.-12:15 p.m. at the Church of St. Anastasia in Hutchinson. This month's topic is Marriage and Family, led by Chris Loetscher, diocesan director of Family Life. Open to anyone who serves their parish community as a lay volunteer or as a paid employee. To register, contact the diocesan Office of Lay Ministry, 507-359-2966; aprzybilla@dnu.org.

WANTED:

Women who desire a deeper, more profound understanding of their God-given dignity and vocation as a woman.

ENDOW groups being formed now!

Contact Sr. Candace Fier at the diocesan Pastoral Center in New Ulm, 507-359-2966; cfier@dnu.org.

<http://endowonline.org>

McHugh consecrated a virgin

(continued from page 1)

"are the ones that symbolize her motherly love."

Following the homily, McHugh stood before the bishop with her two attendants and was asked several questions in regard to her readiness to assume the responsibilities of being a consecrated virgin. She responded that she was ready.

She then lay prostrate on the cathedral floor as the congregation knelt and the Litany of Saints was prayed.

McHugh then knelt before the bishop, placed her folded hands between his hands, and stated the following: "Father, receive my resolution to follow Christ in a life of perfect chastity which, with God's help, I here profess before you and God's holy people."

Having received her promise, Bishop LeVoir stood, extended his hands over her, and prayed over her, asking God to consecrate her as a virgin and to give her the strength to live out her new vocation.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, Bishop LeVoir presented McHugh with a ring, a symbol of her marriage to Christ, and a copy of the Liturgy of the Hours, a prayer of the universal Church which she has committed to pray for the remainder of her life.

At the conclusion of the Mass, McHugh thanked those who supported her during her discernment. Her beaming smile gave witness to her joy and peace.



As part of the sacred ceremony, McHugh lays prostrate on the cathedral floor as the congregation kneels and prays the Litany of Saints.

(photos by Dan Rossini)

At the conclusion of the ceremony, Bishop John M. LeVoir presents Margaret McHugh with a ring – a symbol of her marriage to Christ – and a copy of the Liturgy of the Hours, a prayer of the universal Church that she has committed herself to pray for the remainder of her life. Also pictured is New Ulm seminarian Garrett Ahlers of Holy Redeemer, Marshall.



THE DRAIRIE CATHOLIC

Pastoral news from across the Diocese of New Ulm

Minnesota's Most Rural Diocese Diocese of New Ulm Vol. 26 No. 3 November 2011

*"The time has come to renew that spirit which inspired the Church at the moment when the Constitution Sacrosanctum Concilium was promulgated. The seed was sown; ... the seed has sprouted..." (Pope John Paul II, *Vicesimus Quintus Annus*, no. 23). In a word, the acceptance of the new Missal is a moment to sink our roots deeper into the soil of tradition handed on in the Roman Rite.*

The New ENGLISH MISSAL!



On Nov. 27, the first Sunday of Advent, the "Roman Missal, Third Edition," the ritual text containing prayers and instructions for the celebration of the Mass, will be implemented in the United States of America. Let us seize the opportunity given to all Catholics in the United States to deepen, nurture, and celebrate our faith through the renewal of our worship and the celebration of the Sacred Liturgy.

catholic trends

Vatican City (CNA/EWTN News) – At a general audience in St. Peter's Square on Oct. 12, Pope Benedict XVI reminded Christians to thank God for the good things in life, instead of only bringing problems to him.

"Dear brothers and sisters, in our prayers we should look at how often, in the events of our lives, the Lord has protected us, guided us, helped us," the Pope said. In his latest discourse on prayer, Pope Benedict dwelt on Psalm 126. It charts the joy of

the Jewish people returning from their exile in Babylon in the sixth century B.C.

"When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dreamed," reads the psalm's first line as it depicts a people whose "mouths were filled with laughter" and "tongues with songs of joy." The psalm "celebrates the great things which the Lord has done for his people, and which he continues to do for all believers," said Pope Benedict.

"This psalm teaches us that, in our prayer, we must always remain hopeful and firm in our faith in God," even when our life is "marked often by suffering, uncertainty, moments of crisis," said the pope.

This hope and faith is fulfilled in Jesus, with whom "our exile ends, and every tear is dried." It is in the "great discovery of Jesus Christ" that "we learn that even in dark nights, not to forget that the light exists, that God is already in the midst of our life and that we can sow with great confidence."

Washington, D.C. – The head of the Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops called on Congress to defend the American legacy of religious liberty on Oct. 26, during a hearing before the Subcommittee on the Constitution of the House of Representatives Judiciary Committee.

The chairman, Bishop William

E. Lori of Bridgeport, Conn., noted several recent actions by government entities that mark the erosion of the freedom of religion, often called the nation's "First Freedom." These actions include a health coverage mandate that would coerce employers to pay for services for which they have moral objections, such as abortion, sterilization and contraceptives, and government contracting decisions that exclude agencies unless they provide such services.

He called for passage of three bills before Congress: the Protect Life Act (H.R. 358), the Abortion Non-Discrimination Act (H.R. 361), and the Respect

for Rights of Conscience Act (H.R. 1179). "All three go a long way toward guaranteeing religious liberty and freedom of conscience for religious employers, health insurers, and health care providers," he said.

Religious liberty "is not merely a privilege that the government grants us and so may take away at will. Instead, religious liberty is inherent in our very humanity, hard-wired into each and every one of us by our Creator," he said. Bishop Lori's testimony can be found at www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/religious-liberty/upload/lori-testimony-on-religious-freedom-2011-10-26.pdf

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