

THE PRAIRIE CATHOLIC

Pastoral news from across the Diocese of New Ulm

Minnesota's Most Rural Diocese Diocese of New Ulm Vol. 25 No. 6 February 2011



Last month the Vatican announced that the beatification of Pope John Paul II will take place May 1 in St. Peter's Square. (See story below)

John Paul II's beatification approved for May 1, Divine Mercy Sunday

Vatican City (CNA/EWTN News) – The much-anticipated beatification of Pope John Paul II will take place on May 1, the Sunday after Easter, the Vatican announced.

The healing of a French nun with Parkinson's disease is to go down in history as the miracle that made John Paul II a "blessed." The title is given to martyrs and other Christians to whom a miracle has been officially attributed, thus bringing them one step closer to sainthood.

Pope Benedict XVI approved the decree for the beatification of his predecessor during a Jan. 14

audience with the head of the Vatican department for saints' causes, Cardinal Angelo Amato.

John Paul II's cause arrived in the current Pope's hands for approval after doctors studied the miraculous healing of Sr. Marie Simon Pierre Normand and concluded it was "scientifically unexplainable." Following approval from theologians and Church officials, Pope Benedict promulgated the decree with his signature.

The atmosphere was electric at noon in the the Holy See's Press Office with journalists from all over the world expecting news of the beatification decree.

During the rather cheerful press briefing, Vatican spokesman Fr. Federico Lombardi explained some

of the details of the process and revealed preliminary plans for the ceremony.

In what some have called "record

"Pope John Paul II's cause is extraordinary in the history of the Church both for the speed with which it was advanced to beatification and because it will be his immediate successor to preside over the ceremony."

time," the pope's cause was seemingly expedited through the trials to prove his sainthood. Fr. Lombardi admitted that the cause for the pope was "facilitated" because of his "great fame of sanctity."

At Pope Benedict's bidding, norms stipulating that saints' causes begin five years after the individual's death were waived. His cause, as those of others popes and special cases, also leapfrogged others in what is usually

a "first in, first examined" process.

This being the case, no corners were cut, the Vatican spokesman assured.

He insisted that "each of the legislative steps of the inquiry have been fulfilled, they have been taken with care. They have not been

facilitated, rather the cause has proceeded with great attention and fidelity."

Pope John Paul II's cause is extraordinary in the history of the Church both for the speed with which it was advanced to beatification and because it will be his immediate successor to preside over the ceremony.

The Pope's cause was brought to beatification in just over five years,

rivaling that of his good friend Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta for its speed.

His beatification will be celebrated by Pope Benedict XVI in St. Peter's Square on May 1, the first Sunday after Easter.

As Fr. Lombardi explained, the choice is full of significance for the late pope, who died just a day before the celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday in 2005. That year, it fell on April 3. The date changes from year to year, but is always the first Sunday after Easter.

"For those who followed John Paul II's pontificate, it is a special Sunday," said Fr. Lombardi. It is a "fundamental date in his life and his encounter with the Lord,"

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Fr. Robert Barron presenter at Bishop Lucker Lecture

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Vocation of consecrated virgins dates back to early Church

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by Dan Rossini, director Office of Communications

New Ulm – The actions of a priest from Ireland who worked for several months at St. Andrew's Parish in Granite Falls almost 30 years ago have embroiled the Diocese of New Ulm in a lawsuit alleging sexual abuse of a minor.

Fr. Francis Markey, a priest of the Diocese of Clogher, Ireland, served at St. Andrew's in the spring of

1982 during and after participating in a Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) program at Willmar State Hospital. During that time, he allegedly had inappropriate sexual contact with a boy he was helping to prepare for first Holy Communion.

The lawsuit, filed Jan. 10 in U.S. District Court in St. Paul, Minn., names Fr. Markey, the Diocese of Clogher, and the Diocese of New Ulm as defendants, along with two

rehabilitation facilities where Fr. Markey received treatment and the religious orders that operated them. The suit alleges that while at St. Andrew's, "Fr. Markey engaged in unpermitted, harmful and offensive sexual contact" with the unnamed plaintiff, who was approximately eight years old at the time and in second grade.

The suit further alleges that the defendants knew that Fr. Markey had sexually abused children and

had received treatment as a perpetrator of sexual abuse prior to the incident, and "defrauded children and their parents and/or entered into a conspiracy to defraud children and their parents" by failing to disclose the priest's history to them.

However, when allegations first surfaced last year concerning Fr. Markey's time at St. Andrew's, the diocese reported to the press that it

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BE NOT AFRAID "Lent and Easter 2011"



Bishop John M. LeVoir

Some might look at their calendars for February and wonder: "Where is Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent? Isn't Ash Wednesday always in February?" Many years, Ash Wednesday is in February. However, this year it is not. Why?

The date of Ash Wednesday depends on the date of the celebration of Easter. In 2011, Easter is almost the latest date that it can possibly be. It is on April 24. The latest that it can be is April 25.

So, starting on April 24, when we count backwards "forty days" (the period of Lent) on the calendar, we arrive at March 9. In 2011, Ash Wednesday is March 9 and that is when the season of Lent begins.

Knowing the date of Ash

Wednesday helps us in our proximate preparation for Lent. How will we spend Lent 2011? We know that Lent is a time of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, but what shape will these Lenten practices take in our lives? How and when will we pray? From what shall we fast? How will we see to the needs of the poor and disadvantaged? By preparing for Lent now, we will set ourselves up for a fruitful Lenten season and consequently a fruitful Easter season.

Two Roman Catholic Cardinals in one week

It is a rare occasion when a Roman Catholic cardinal visits Minnesota. However, during the week of Jan. 2, 2011, two cardinals visited Minnesota. One was newly named cardinal, Cardinal Raymond Burke, and the other was Cardinal John Foley.

Cardinal Burke visited the Church of St. Michael in Stillwater as part of a fundraising dinner for Catholic education in the three-parish community of St. Charles, St. Mary, and St. Michael. He celebrated Mass and was the main

speaker at the Light Their Way Dinner.

At the dinner, Cardinal Burke spoke of the irreplaceable role of the Catholic education of children and the critical role played by Catholic schools. He encouraged us to support Catholic schools with our prayers, resources, and efforts. He highlighted the fact that both Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI supported Catholic school education unwaveringly. For example, when Pope Benedict XVI came to the United States in 2008,



Cardinal Raymond Burke visits with Bishop LeVoir during a fundraising dinner for Catholic education held in Stillwater.

he spoke of Catholic education. He said: "Education is integral to the mission of the Church to proclaim the Good News. First and foremost every Catholic educational

institution is a place to encounter the living God who in Jesus Christ reveals his transforming love and truth." Cardinal Burke's talk was very well received.

Cardinal Foley came to St. Paul for the celebration of the 100th anniversary of "The Catholic Spirit," the newspaper of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. Cardinal Foley is the Grand Master of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem. The order is composed of Catholic men and women throughout the world. The twofold purpose of the order is to work for the personal holiness of its members and to help support Catholic initiatives in the Holy Land, such as Catholic churches, schools, and hospitals.

Cardinal Foley spoke about the importance of supporting Christians in the Holy Land, especially at this time in history. Many Christians are leaving the Holy Land because the political environment is hostile to them. He encouraged us to make a pilgrimage to the Holy Land for our own spiritual benefit and to view firsthand what the Order of the Holy Sepulchre is doing for Christians in the Holy Land.

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Bishop's February Calendar

1 Wabasso: 10 a.m. Church of St. Anne. Mass for Catholic Schools Week.

Springfield: 1 p.m. Church of St. Raphael. Mass for Catholic Schools Week.

2 Sleepy Eye: 8:20 a.m. Church of St. Mary. Mass for Catholic Schools Week.

St. Peter: 10:30 a.m. Church of St. Peter. Mass for Catholic Schools Week.

New Ulm: 1:30 p.m. Cathedral of the Holy Trinity. Mass for Catholic Schools Week.

3 Mankato: 9:30 a.m. Fitzgerald Campus Gym. Mass for Catholic Schools Week.

4 Hutchinson: 10:30 a.m. Church of St. Anastasia. Mass for Catholic Schools Week.

Silver Lake: 1 p.m. Church of the Holy Family. Mass for Catholic Schools Week.

5 Graceville: 7 p.m. Church of the Holy Rosary. Confirmation.

6 Beardsley: 8 a.m. Church of St. Mary. Mass.

Dawson: 11 a.m. Church of St. James. Mass.

Dawson: 12:30 p.m. Church of St. James. Operation Miryam Lunch.

7 New Ulm: 1 p.m. Catholic Pastoral Center. Vocations Team Meeting.

Sleepy Eye: 6 p.m. Church of St. Mary. Good Shepherd Serra Club Banquet.

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

St. Paul: 1 p.m. St. Pascal Baylon. Minnesota Catholic Conference Executive Director Interviews.

9 St. Paul: 1 p.m. Chancery.

Minnesota Catholic Conference Board Meeting.

10 St. Paul: 7:30 a.m. Chancery. Minnesota Catholic Conference Board Meeting.

11 New Ulm: 10 a.m. Holy Trinity Middle School. NUACS Board of Directors Meeting.

St. Paul: 7 p.m. The St. Paul Seminary. Institution of Lectors.

12 Searles: 9 a.m. Church of St. John the Baptist. NUDCCW Board Meeting.

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Poverty, marriage among legislative priorities for state Catholic conference

by Joe Towalski
The Catholic Spirit

St. Paul – From their offices on University Avenue, just a short distance from the State Capitol, Fr. David McCauley and his small support staff at the Minnesota Catholic Conference are getting ready for the hard work that still lies ahead during this year's legislative session.

The MCC, which advocates on behalf of the state's Catholic bishops for public policies and programs that support the life and dignity of every human person, has identified several priorities for the session that began Jan. 4:

- Advocating for a state constitutional amendment defining marriage as a union between one man and one woman.
- Ensuring that efforts to fix Minnesota's \$6.2 billion budget shortfall won't harm the poor and vulnerable.
- Promoting education initiatives, including legislation that creates tax credits for businesses and individuals who donate money toward scholarship programs for nonpublic, K-12 schools.
- Supporting health care initiatives that benefit the common good – including advocating for legislation that provides health care for all Minnesotans and backing efforts to end public funding of abortion in the state.

It's an agenda that encompasses the wide breadth of Catholic social teaching, MCC staff members say. "I think we're a very unique organization," said Peter Noll, the MCC's executive director. "There's probably no other one like us at the Capitol lobbying because we advocate for the life continuum from conception to natural death and everything in between. Most other organizations are much more narrowly focused."

A lot has changed since the last session of the Legislature: DFL Gov. Mark Dayton has replaced Republican Gov. Tim Pawlenty. Among the 201 members of the Minnesota Legislature are 60 freshman lawmakers, including 24 in the Senate. Both chambers have shifted from Democratic to Republican control.

The MCC has a new look of sorts as well. Father McCauley, who was the MCC's executive director from 1995 to 2001, is now serving as the organization's interim leader until a search is completed for a new executive director following the departure of Chris Leifeld.

Republican legislative majorities could bode well for some initiatives the MCC supports – including the marriage amendment, Fr. McCauley said. But fixing the budget shortfall will continue to be a challenge for legislators of both parties.

The MCC will work to develop and identify sponsors for a marriage amendment that could appear on the ballot in 2012 for approval by Minnesota voters if the proposal passes with a majority vote in both the House and Senate. The procedure bypasses the governor's office. Republicans proposed similar amendments in the past but ran into opposition from DFL leaders.

"One of the things that concerns me is that we are able to present the whole thing in a context that suggests we are concerned about marriage and family and all that has happened to it in our state and country over the last 30 years," said Fr. McCauley, who cited concerns about the number of children today raised out of wedlock and the effects of no-fault divorce laws.

Concerns about the well-being of families extend beyond the debate over so-called same-sex marriages, he said, and the MCC would be open to supporting other types of legislation focused on strengthening family life and traditional marriage.

Ladder out of poverty

Another way the MCC will be seeking to strengthen families is by advocating for public policies and services that help the poor and vulnerable secure basic needs and free themselves from the cycle of poverty.

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Fr. Robert Barron to speak on "The YouTube Heresies" at upcoming Lucker Lecture

New Ulm – Fr. Robert Barron's mission is simple: to evangelize the culture, and claim it for Christ.

Over the past 20 years, the Archdiocese of Chicago priest has published a voluminous array of works on the Catholic faith in various media. His weekly radio program is broadcast to 28 million listeners in 17 states. His DVDs are used as powerful faith formation tools in universities, schools, churches, and homes across the country. His online video commentaries, available on YouTube, draw thousands of viewers and are among the most popular of any evangelist on the Web site.



Fr. Robert Barron

suggest that preachers, teachers, evangelists, and catechists might attend with some care to these four," said Fr. Barron, who will analyze each in turn.

Fr. Barron is the Francis Cardinal George Chair of Faith and Culture at University of St. Mary of the Lake/Mundelein Seminary in Mundelein, Ill. Ordained a priest in 1986, he has also published several books, including "Word on Fire: Proclaiming the Power of Christ" in 2008.

After his presentation, Bishop John M. LeVoir of the Diocese of New Ulm will present the Diocesan Distinguished Service Awards to several individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the diocesan Church. A social hour will follow, with an added screening of Fr. Barron's new Catholicism series.

The Bishop Lucker Lecture series is funded by an initial grant from Bishop Raymond A. Lucker. Its intent is to offer the faithful of the diocese an opportunity to be enlightened and challenged by prominent leaders, teachers, and practitioners of the Catholic faith.

Fr. Barron is also well known for his Internet media ministry, Word on Fire, anchored by his wordonfire.org Web site. Drawing over 300,000 visitors a year, the site features his weekly video clips, commentaries and radio sermons, and offers an audio archive of over 300 homilies.

Now the prominent theologian and podcasting priest is coming to the Diocese of New Ulm. On Mar. 29 at 7 p.m. he will give the eighth annual Bishop Lucker Lecture at the Church of St. Catherine in Redwood Falls. The title of his talk will be "The YouTube Heresies."

Fr. Barron's presentation will defend the Catholic faith against the anti-Catholic rhetoric prevalent on YouTube with responses contained in some of his own video offerings. He has discovered four basic objections to Catholicism on YouTube: scientism, ecclesial angelism, biblical fundamentalism, and Marcionism. Marcionism is a re-emerging heresy originating in early Christianity that denies the God of the Old Testament.

"What is blocking the preaching of the faith, especially to younger people? Many things. But I would

2010 DMA shows steady progress to date, \$1,078,418 received in pledges



The 2010 DMA (Diocesan Ministries Appeal) has been growing steadily since the appeal kicked off on Nov. 20-21, 2010. To date, 4,305 families from around the diocese have made pledges totaling \$1,078,418.

Although these are great numbers, previous appeals have seen as many as 5,000 donors pledging over \$1.5M. If this appeal follows the pattern of the past four, pledges will continue to come in over the succeeding days and weeks. Sixty-seven of the 76 parishes

in the diocese have now exceeded their diocesan goal.

To see how your parish is progressing with DMA pledges or to view the 2010 DMA promotional video, visit www.dnu.org and click on the Diocesan Ministries Appeal button. For further information about the appeal, call Wayne Pelzel, diocesan director of the Office of Development, 507-359-2966; wpelzel@dnu.org.



No Tengas Miedo *Cuaresma y Pascua 2011*

por Obispo John M. LeVoir

Algunos se preguntarán al ver su calendario el mes de Febrero: "¿Dónde está el Miércoles de Ceniza y el comienzo de Cuaresma? ¿No se celebra el Miércoles de Ceniza en Febrero? Por varios años, el Miércoles de Ceniza es en Febrero. Sin embargo, no lo es este año. ¿Porqué?

La fecha del Miércoles de Ceniza depende con la fecha de la celebración de Pascua. Este año, la Pascua es casi la última fecha que se pueda celebrar. Es el 24 de Abril. La última fecha que se puede celebrar es el 25 de abril.

Por lo tanto, el 24 de Abril cuando comenzamos a contar al revés "cuarenta días" (período de

Cuaresma) en el calendario, llegamos al 9 de Marzo. Este año el Miércoles de Ceniza es el 9 de Marzo y es cuando se da inicio a la temporada de Cuaresma.

Saber la fecha del Miércoles de Ceniza nos ayuda con la preparación inmediata para la temporada de Cuaresma. ¿Qué iremos hacer esta Cuaresma? Sabemos que durante ese tiempo es de oración, ayuno y limosna, pero de que forma estas prácticas cuaresmales darán impacto en nuestra vida. ¿Cómo y cuándo debemos orar? ¿Cómo veremos las necesidades de los pobres y de los más desafortunados? Cuando nos preparamos desde ahora tendremos la ventaja de tener una temporada cuaresmal muy provechosa.

Be not afraid

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Blessing the church organ

On Sunday, January 9, 2011, I was privileged to celebrate Solemn Vespers for the Baptism of the Lord at the Church of St. Mary in Sleepy Eye. During the service, I blessed the church's refurbished pipe organ. The music during the liturgy was beautiful. Afterward, several hymns were played on the organ to demonstrate the range of sound that can be produced by this magnificent instrument.



Bishop LeVoir blesses the refurbished pipe organ at the Church of St. Mary, Sleepy Eye. *(photo by Chris Heiderscheidt)*

During the homily, I recalled the words of Pope Benedict XVI at the blessing of a new organ at Regensburg's Alte Kapelle on Sept. 13, 2006. At that time, the Holy Father said, "The organ has always been considered, and rightly so, the king of musical instruments, because it takes up all the sounds of creation . . . and gives resonance to the fullness of human sentiments, from joy to sadness, from praise to

lamentation. By transcending the merely human sphere, as all music of quality does, it evokes the divine. The organ's great range of timbre, from piano through to a thundering fortissimo, makes it an instrument superior to all others. It is capable of echoing and expressing all the experiences of human life. The manifold possibilities of the organ in some way remind us of the immensity and the magnificence of God."

Bishops see their work supported in World Marriage Day, National Marriage Week USA

Washington – Two separate marriage initiatives in February affirm the priority of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) to support and strengthen marriage, said Bishop Kevin Rhoades of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Ind., who oversees the bishop's efforts in this area.

In a Jan. 13 letter to all Catholic bishops of the United States, Bishop Rhoades, the new chairman of the USCCB Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life, and Youth, highlighted World Marriage Day, National Marriage Week USA, and numerous resources offered by the USCCB, saying, "I encourage you to share this information with the clergy and lay leaders of your diocese so that together we might strive to become 'marriage building' communities of faith and action."

World Marriage Day, which is promoted by Worldwide Marriage Encounter, is being sponsored Sunday, Feb. 13, in U.S. dioceses and parishes. Its theme is "Love One Another."

"World Marriage Day received the Apostolic Blessing of John Paul II

in 1993," noted Bishop Rhoades. "It has continued to grow and spread among many countries and faith expressions ever since." Resources for celebrating World Marriage Day can be found at <http://wmd.wmme.org>.

Bishop Rhoades also highlighted National Marriage Week USA, which will be observed Feb. 7-14 with the theme "Let's Strengthen Marriage."

"This project – now in its second year – is a collaborative effort to influence the culture by faith communities, business, media, education, and non-profit groups," said Bishop Rhoades. It is working to "focus national attention on the need to strengthen marriage," launching "new efforts for marriage education and crisis intervention," and promoting "a message about the benefits of marriage," he said.

Bishop Rhoades noted that National Marriage Week USA also recognizes that children are best served when raised in the context of a marriage with a father and a mother.

Recommended USCCB online resources

- www.foryourmarriage.org and its Spanish counterpart, www.portumatrimonio.org
- "Love and Life in the Divine Plan," the pastoral letter on marriage, www.usccb.org/loveandlife
- advocacy resources on why marriage should be promoted as the union of one man and one woman, www.marriageuniquetoforeason.org
- a collection of briefing papers entitled "Making A Case for Marriage," www.usccb.org/npim
- a collection of essays, teaching materials, and resources for prayer and celebration developed for Catechetical Sunday 2010, the theme of which was "Matrimony: Sacrament of Enduring Love," www.usccb.org/catechetical/sunday
- "Prayer for Married Couples" in English and Spanish, available in packages of 100 from USCCB Publications (www.usccbpublishing.org)

Spanish-language marriage encounter held *first of its kind to be offered in diocese*

Fairfax – Nine Latino couples gathered at the Church of St. Andrew in Fairfax over the weekend of Dec. 4-5, 2010, to participate in the first Spanish-language marriage encounter in the diocese. Deacon Ramón Garcia and his wife Suzanne from the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis were the retreat presenters.

A Marriage Encounter Weekend is meant to be a positive and personal experience offering married couples a chance to look deeply into their relationship with each other and with God. It is a

time to share their feelings, hopes, and dreams with each other as well as the opportunity to learn techniques of loving communication that they can use for the rest of their lives.

As one couple shared, "We had fallen into a rut of poor communication and being busy with the lives of our children. We forgot to take time for each other. This weekend opened wide the door again to our love and commitment."

For further information about



(photo by Sr. Anna Marie Reha)

Spanish-language marriage encounters, contact the diocesan Office of Hispanic Ministry, 507-359-2966; areha@dnu.org.



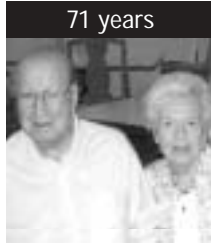
the Golden Years



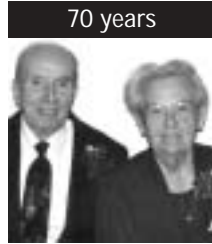
World Marriage Day, sponsored by Worldwide Marriage Encounter, will be observed on Feb. 13. This day honors husband and wife along with the family, the basic unit of society. It salutes the beauty of their faithfulness, sacrifice, and joy in daily married life. In 1993, His Holiness Pope John Paul II imparted his apostolic blessing on World Marriage Day and celebrations continue to grow and spread to more countries and faith expressions every year.

The Prairie Catholic congratulates couples throughout the diocese who will be celebrating a significant wedding anniversary (65 years or beyond) in 2011. The years displayed represent the years married as of 2011.

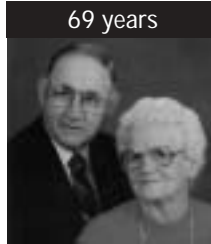
For more information on Worldwide Marriage Encounter or a listing of upcoming marriage enrichment weekends, visit www.wmme.org.



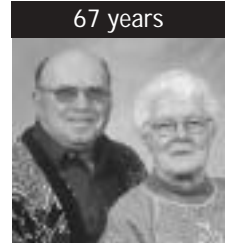
71 years
Wayne and Pearl (Kreaman) Newton are members of the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, New Ulm.



70 years
George and Anna (Braunger) Walter are members of the Church of St. Mary, Sleepy Eye.



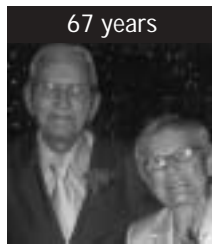
69 years
Frank and Elizabeth (O'Hara) Moberg are members of the Church of the Holy Rosary, Graceville.



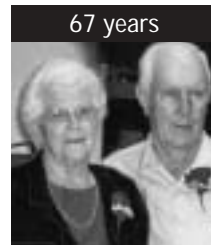
67 years
Lawrence and Caroline (Kamrath) King are members of the Church of St. Mary, Willmar.



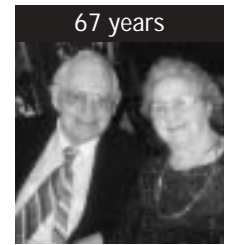
68 years
Victor and Angeline (Vonderharr) Tennesen are members of the Church of St. Michael, Madison.



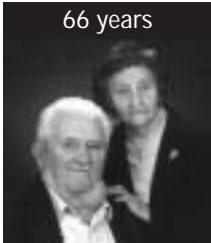
67 years
Raymond and Alice (Jilek) Jilek are members of the Church of the Holy Family, Silver Lake.



67 years
Clifford and Doris (Suter) Schafer are members of the Church of St. Bridget, DeGraff.



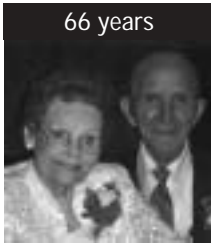
67 years
Eugene and Eileen (Wenisch) Sell are members of the Church of the Sacred Heart, Murdock.



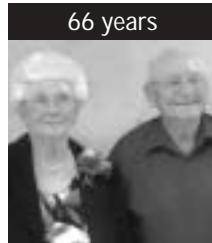
66 years
Jerome and Emral (Sprenger) Haala, Church of St. Willibrord, Gibbon.
Editor's note: Shortly before press, God called Jerome Haala to eternal rest.



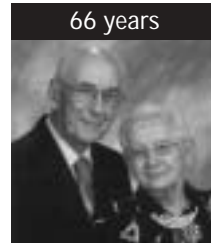
66 years
Harold and Phyllis (Rue) Lensing are members of the Church of the Holy Redeemer, Marshall.



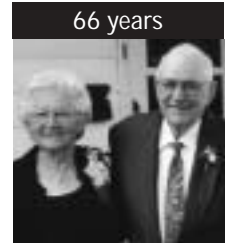
66 years
Dennis and Dorothy (Burns) Leibfried are members of the Church of SS. Peter and Paul, Ivanhoe.



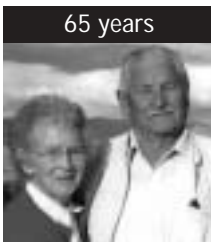
66 years
Dennis and Grace (Woller) Kosek are members of the Church of St. Anastasia, Hutchinson.



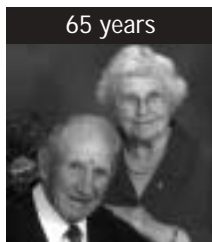
66 years
Stanley and Doris (Hacker) Schnobrich are members of the Church of St. John, Searles.



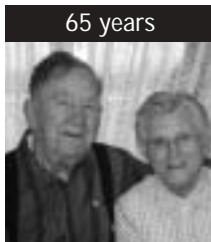
66 years
Vincent and Prudence (DeSutter) Boerboom are members of the Church of St. Eloi, Ghent.



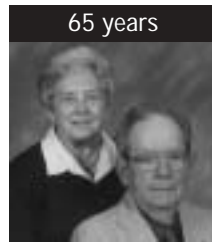
65 years
Harvey and Louise (Bonk) Schlueter are members of the Church of St. John, Appleton.



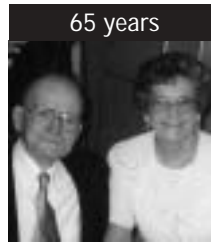
65 years
Louis and Lucille (Remiger) Plaetz are members of the Church of St. Anne, Wabasso.



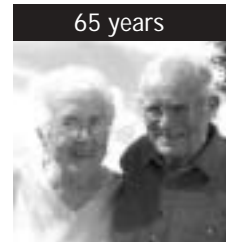
65 years
Leonard and Marion (Platz) Roiger are members of the Church of St. Raphael, Springfield.



65 years
Adrian and Germaine (Ploof) Weis are members of the Church of St. Mary, Bird Island.



65 years
Austin and Irene (Banken) McGearry are members of the Church of St. Francis, Benson.



65 years
Vernon and Audrey (Blom) Jahn are members of the Church of St. Joseph, Montevideo.

World Day for Consecrated Life Feb. 5-6 in U.S. parishes

diocesan celebration Feb. 13 in New Ulm

The 15th celebration of the annual World Day for Consecrated Life will be celebrated in parishes in the United States the weekend of Feb. 5-6. World Day for Consecrated Life marks an opportunity to highlight the ordinary and extraordinary contributions of consecrated men and women in this country and to pray for vocations to the consecrated life.

"We thank God for the service of many consecrated men and women who work in parishes, schools, universities, chanceries, hospitals, centers of social service, counseling, and spiritual direction. So often, these men and women transform human need through their prayerful witness of the love of Christ by educating the unlearned, healing the sick, comforting the sorrowful, befriending the lonely," said Archbishop Robert Carlson, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Clergy, Consecrated Life, and Vocations. "Their zeal and joy for doing God's will manifests the life and holiness of the Church."

Prayers of the Faithful and a prayer card for the World Day for Consecrated Life can be found on

the U.S. bishops' Web site, www.usccb.org. Also on this site, the Report of the Profession Class of 2010 will be made available on Feb. 2. It explains the results of a survey of religious sisters and nuns who made their profession of perpetual vows in 2010. The survey was conducted by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) at the Secretariat's request.

Diocesan celebration Feb. 13 in New Ulm

There will be a diocesan celebration of World Day for Consecrated Life on Sunday, Feb. 13, at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in New Ulm. Bishop John M. LeVoir invites all religious brothers and sisters to attend. The lay faithful are also encouraged to attend to show appreciation for the many good works that the consecrated women and men have done for the Diocese of New Ulm.

There will be a reception in Leifeld Hall at 3 p.m. followed by vespers at 4 p.m. This celebration is being organized by the diocesan Sister's Council and the Office of Worship.

New school chapel dedicated at Holy Trinity in Winsted

Holy Trinity students and staff had a unique opportunity to participate in a dedication ceremony for a new chapel, located on the third floor of Holy Trinity High School in Winsted.

The Dec. 3 ceremony began with a procession of the Eucharist from the Church of the Holy Trinity to the chapel, which was recently completed.

Parish pastor Fr. Tony Hesse said the ceremony was something he had never experienced. All students – both elementary and high school – were in attendance. "We really wanted to invite the kids of all grades to come and be part of the ceremony as a witness to the tradition of the Church," he said.

The procession was led by the Knights of Columbus, while all those present sang the song "Sanctuary." During the dedication, Fr. Hesse placed the Eucharist in the tabernacle and blessed the chapel and everyone present. The chapel was filled to capacity and a video feed was used to enable others to view the dedication.

According to Fr. Hesse, the chapel was constructed for student, faculty, and staff use. "Having a chapel in the school provides easy access to a contemplative, prayer-centered environment without leaving the building," he said.

In addition to using the chapel for individual prayer, Fr. Hesse also plans to say some school Masses there, as the smaller space offers a more personal religious experience for attendees. Fr. Hesse said the idea of placing a chapel in the high school was something that had been on his mind for awhile. "I felt this nudging for quite some time, and I want to give credit where credit is due – to our Lord," he said.

"It was because of that constant nudging that I felt it was something I needed to do. We were blessed to have a room available in the high school to use for this purpose," he



Fr. Tony Hesse, pastor at the Church of the Holy Trinity, Winsted, blesses the new school chapel during the dedication ceremony Dec. 3.



Holy Trinity students Leigha Felder, Ali Condon, Kim Condon, Katie Jones, and Lauren Kahle had a good time helping to bring the chapel to life with a fresh coat of paint.

added.

To establish the chapel, Fr. Hesse first contacted the diocese to receive permission to have a tabernacle – a container in which the Eucharist is kept – placed in the school.

"I wanted the Blessed Sacrament in the new chapel, bringing Christ into the school in a sacramental way," he said. The diocese not only gave its permission, but also assisted in planning the dedication ceremony.

When word spread about the project, numerous volunteers stepped forward to help with the chapel's creation. A parishioner prepped the walls for student painters by putting holes and taping edges. Additional volunteers helped move pews and kneelers which previously had been removed from the church, and others assisted

in anchoring them to the floor.

The chapel altar was made by a man from Winsted several years ago and the crucifix that once hung above the altar in the church was touched up by one of the teachers and hung in the chapel. An extra tabernacle to store the Eucharist was available from the church, and a set of Stations of the Cross were also found in storage.

Fr. Hesse hopes that having the chapel in the school will have a positive influence on Holy Trinity's students, inspiring them to be more Christ-like. "When people walk into our school, I want them to see that Christ is here," he said.

(story courtesy of Holy Trinity staff)

Students and parents gather for first reconciliation retreat



Second grade students of Holy Redeemer school and parish in Marshall gathered with their parents or guardian for a first reconciliation retreat held on Dec. 4 at the school. They went through five "stations" that helped them review for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. When they were finished, they went to the chapel and made their First Reconciliation with Fr. Paul Wolf. Pictured at one of the Stations are Kiara Berg and her mother, Kristen.

the Stations are Kiara Berg and her mother, Kristen.



Vocation of consecrated virgins dates back to early Church

by Margaret McHugh

An ancient and little-known vocation in the Church is making a comeback.

In Catholic dioceses across the United States, a growing number of unmarried single women have petitioned their bishops to be consecrated as virgins living in the world.

Last June, Bishop David L. Ricken of Green Bay consecrated the first virgin in his diocese's history. The Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis currently has 11 consecrated virgins, and the Diocese of Sioux Falls, S.D., now has three.

While the Diocese of New Ulm has not yet had the consecration of a virgin, one woman is now actively discerning this vocation, and I am preparing for my own consecration on Oct. 7, 2011, at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in New Ulm.

In the United States, there are over 200 consecrated virgins. All together, in 26 countries, there are a total of 3,000 consecrated virgins.

What is a consecrated virgin?

A consecrated virgin offers her virginity to the Church, as a bride of Christ living in the world. She receives the profound blessing of consecration at the hands of the diocesan bishop through the Rite of the Consecration to a Life of Virginity for Women Living in the

World. In this rite, she renews her promise of perpetual virginity to God and is set aside as a sacred person belonging only to Christ. She is asked to join the public prayer of the Church and pray the Liturgy of the Hours.

At her consecration, the woman usually wears a small bridal veil symbolizing her spiritual marriage. She receives a book of the Liturgy of the Hours and a wedding ring as a symbol of her marriage to Christ.

Although consecrated virginity is a particularly public form of consecrated life in the Church, it is lived individually, not in community. Unlike religious vows, which can be dispensed, a consecrated virgin cannot be "unconsecrated." Unlike religious sisters, a consecrated virgin wears no external sign of belonging to a congregation (that is, a habit or pin), nor is she addressed as "Sister." The only external sign she wears is the wedding band.

Consecrated virgins date back to apostolic times

The custom of consecrating a woman to a life of virginity flourished in the early Church. Its ancient roots go back to the beginning of the life of the Church when, "in an unprecedented novelty," the hearts of certain women began to open to a desire for consecrated virginity. They experienced the desire to give one's entire being to God, which had its

first extraordinary fulfillment in the Virgin of Nazareth and her "yes." Early Christian virgins included St. Agnes, St. Cecelia, and St. Agatha, who were consecrated by the pope. The earliest Church tradition reserved the consecration of virgins to the Bishop of Rome. This role was eventually extended to every bishop.

The consecration existed well before various institutes of religious life and their ceremonies of Profession of Vows. Around the 9th or 10th century, the Rite of Consecration fell into disuse for women living in the world but was retained for nuns in monasteries. Even then, it was distinct and separate from the profession of vows. In 1970, following the Second Vatican Council, the Rite was restored for women living in the world.

The role of the consecrated virgin

Since the consecration is received through the hand of the diocesan bishop, the virgin has a particularly important connection with the diocesan Church. She gives herself to the local diocese, and she is responsible for supporting, encouraging, and working alongside the local clergy.

The diocese is the spiritual family of the virgin, not a particular parish or a religious order or association. Serving in complementary roles, diocesan priests and consecrated virgins both serve to build up the local Church.



During the Rite of the Consecration to a Life of Virginity for Women Living in the World, the virgin receives a book of the Liturgy of the Hours and a wedding ring, a symbol of her marriage to Christ. Pictured is Bishop Paul Swain of the Diocese of Sioux Falls, S.D. consecrating Therese Ivers. (photo courtesy of Diocese of Sioux Falls)

Who can receive this consecration?

According to canon 604 of Canon Law, a woman who has never married or lived in public or open violation of chastity can become a consecrated virgin. By her age, prudence, and universally approved character, she must give assurance of persevering in a life of chastity dedicated to the service of the Church and her neighbor.

It is entirely up to the bishop whether or not and under what conditions the candidate is to undertake a life of perpetual virginity. It is also understood that a woman aspiring to the Consecration of a Virgin is able to support herself by work or pension or independent means, and has provided financially for her medical care and retirement.

At the conclusion of his talk at the 2008 international congress of

consecrated virgins in Rome, Pope Benedict XVI said, "The choice of a virginal life is an allusion to the transitory nature of earthly things and an anticipating of future good. Be witnesses of vigilant and industrious hope, of joy, of the peace that belongs to those who abandon themselves to the love of God. Be present in the world, yet pilgrims on the journey to the kingdom."

Christ refers to consecrated virginity in Matthew 19:12. The Catechism of the Catholic Church treats it in paragraphs 922-924, 2349, and 1618-1620. More information can be found at www.consecratedvirgins.org or www.10000vocations.org/newsdetail.aspx?id=2.

Margaret McHugh is the director of Youth Ministry and Vocation Awareness for the Diocese of New Ulm.

Fr. James Barry to mark 50 years of priesthood



In recognition of Fr. James D. Barry's 50 years of priestly ministry, there will be an open house in his honor on Feb. 26-27 following each weekend Mass at the Church of St. Edward, 9401 Nesbitt Ave., Bloomington, Minn. (www.stedwardschurch.org). Mass times are: Feb. 26 at 5 p.m.; Feb. 27 at 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 11

a.m. Fr. Barry will be the celebrant at both the 5 p.m. Saturday Mass and the 8 a.m. Sunday Mass.

In addition, on Sunday, May 1, at the Church of St. Mary in Willmar, there will be a 10:30 a.m. Mass of Thanksgiving followed by an open house from 1:30-3:30 p.m. All are invited to attend these events.

Fr. Barry was ordained to the priesthood on Feb. 25, 1961, at the Church of St. Mary in Willmar, by Bishop Alphonse J. Schladweiler. He has served in the parish

communities of Watkins, Benson, St. Peter, Olivia, Tyler, Danvers, Lake Lillian, Hutchinson, Lamberton, Sanborn, Wanda, Willmar, Arlington, Jessenland, and Henderson. From 1976-1989, he served as diocesan director of the Office of Worship, and from 1976-1979 and again from 1987-1989, he served as diocesan director of the Office of Continuing Education for Clergy.

Come celebrate! Consecrated life in the diocese

Sunday, Feb. 13
Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, New Ulm
3 p.m. reception in Leifeld Hall

4 p.m. vespers (presided over by Bishop John M. LeVoi)

EVERYONE WELCOME!

Celebration organized by diocesan Sister's Council and Worship Office.



Minnesota Catholic bishops' legislative priorities



photo by The Catholic Spirit

(continued from page 3)

As part of its legislative agenda, the MCC said it will continue to support reforms recommended by the Legislative Commission to End Poverty in Minnesota by 2020 as well as support an increase in taxes "should it become necessary."

Dayton supports raising taxes on the state's highest-income earners, but the Republican-controlled House and Senate opposes any tax hikes. "It is not enough to provide a safety net," the MCC states in its agenda outline. "We must find a way out of that net to ensure that those in need are given the means to provide adequate employment, housing, food and health care for themselves and their dependents."

Fr. McCauley said he is "optimistic that some [legislators] might be able to take a little longer view and recognize that while something might be a little more costly in 2012 and 2013, if you look down the road, it's going to be tremendously more economical" to help people move out of situations of poverty and dependency as soon as possible.

Still, Noll acknowledged, "people have to come offering ideas this time around. It isn't just saying we need more money. It's also bringing new ideas to solve both the jobs issue and the budget deficit, which is over 20 percent of our state budget."

One of those ideas in the area of education is to create tax credits for businesses and individuals who

donate money toward scholarship programs in nonpublic schools.

"I think there's room to say that if they increased the tax credit for people in nonpublic schools, that money would probably be matched or more than matched by what they would save in their per-pupil allocations to the public school districts," Fr. McCauley said.

"It would also help us build a more truly competitive school system in the state, which I think would be good for the public schools and nonpublic schools."

Working together

Once the legislative session hits high gear, Fr. McCauley, Noll, and Katie Conlin, the MCC's interim social concerns director, anticipate spending a lot of time at the Capitol, particularly Tuesdays through Thursdays when most committee hearings are being scheduled.

That leaves Fridays and Mondays for visiting with legislators. "We're starting to set up a variety of meetings on a number of different issues with lawmakers," Noll said. "It's going to be interesting getting to know many of these new lawmakers. . . . That's a huge part of our job — building up the political capital."

The MCC started the session by dropping copies of its agenda into lawmakers' mailboxes. "That actually generated a couple of phone calls from legislators — new members who wanted to talk to us and find out who we are," Conlin said.

The MCC is currently working to line up meetings between the bishops and key lawmakers, Noll said. The bishops also are planning to issue a joint letter with the state's Lutheran bishops on poverty-related issues to be presented to Dayton and lawmakers.

Throughout the year, the MCC creates and hones its legislative agenda in consultation with the state's Catholic bishops, who comprise the organization's board of directors. MCC staffers also meet with members of internal committees — including groups focused on education and social concerns — made up of experts from Minnesota's six dioceses who are appointed by the bishops.

In part because of the MCC's limited staff and broad agenda, it will be working this session with the Catholic Charities Office for Social Justice and the Joint Religious Legislative Commission, of which the MCC is a member, to identify agenda items of mutual interest and determine which organization will take the lead on a particular issue.

Joint Religious Legislative Coalition (JRLC) Day on the Hill

THURSDAY, FEB. 17

St. Paul RiverCenter

8:30 a.m. Registration
9 a.m. Opening Prayer
9:20 a.m. Keynote Speech
9:40 a.m. Issue Briefings
10:20 District Table Time/Lunch
11:20 a.m. Bus to Capitol

State Capitol

11:45 a.m. Social Justice Awards
12:00 p.m. Call to Justice
12:15 Meetings with Lawmakers
3:30 Shuttle Back

Keynote:

Fr. David McCauley, interim executive director of the Minnesota Catholic Conference

Register online at www.jrlc.org or call 612-870-3670

MCC staff members also anticipate entering into coalitions with other organizations when appropriate to advance its legislative agenda. One coalition the MCC might join is Invest in Minnesota, which is composed of local faith communities, labor groups, and nonprofit organizations, and focused on how the state can raise revenue to help resolve the state budget deficit.

"We're at least going to attend their meetings and see if we're going to sign on," Conlin said.

Noll said the Church has a long history of standing up for social justice, and good Catholic citizenship requires bringing the Church's moral perspectives to public policy debates.

"It's a clarion call from our faith to do that, to get involved and stand up for the poor and vulnerable," he said. "If that requires us to be in the political arena, that's where we'll be."

Catholic Charities serves 1,721 clients in 2010

DMA support continues to play major role in ministry's success

Finishing its third full year of counseling and crisis response service, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of New Ulm is available, well trained, and networked to address most crises or counseling issues.

In 2010, Catholic Charities served 1,721 clients. "This is especially impressive given that all Catholic Charities staff are part-time and work in other contexts," said Thomas Keaveny, diocesan director. "It is a great source of pride for all of us to know that we can assure any client or referring person concerned that we will respond to a crisis, generally within 24 hours, and never would someone

need to wait more than three working days to see a counselor."



As 2011 begins, Catholic Charities staff invite your questions, comments, or concerns. Call 866-670-5163 if there is something you feel should be included in Catholic Charities 2011-2012 plans and objectives.

As Catholic Charities continues to be a part of the service mission of the Diocese of New Ulm, Bishop John M. LeVoir and the staff of Catholic Charities remain grateful to the many Diocesan Ministries Appeal contributors who make this important work possible.

Catholic Charities Counseling Services offered in Hutchinson, Marshall, New Ulm, and Willmar

Providing: Individual and Family Counseling; Adoption Counseling; Marriage Preparation Counseling; Parish and Community Crisis Response; Pregnancy Counseling; and Grief Services.

For inquiries or to schedule an appointment, please contact the New Ulm office located at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 1400 6th Street North, New Ulm, MN, 56073; phone: 507-359-2617 or toll-free 866-670-5163.



from the desk of Audrey Prokosch
the DCCW President

Spring gatherings and annual convention just around the corner!

Here we are in the second month of the New Year. How are your New Year's resolutions coming?

How about resolving to become more active in your Church or in your parish Council of Catholic Women (CCW)? Parish CCWs are always looking for new active members and new ideas. What better time to get involved!

An annual event sponsored by the six regions of the diocese is the Council of Catholic Women spring gatherings. This year, the presenter at each gathering will be either Deacon Jacob Niemand or Deacon Aaron Johanneck, seminarians for the diocese and newly ordained deacons. Their topic will be marriage and family life. This will also be a great opportunity to meet these two future priests of our diocese.

The schedule of gatherings is:

Region 1 – Thursday, March 17 at the Church of St. Mary, New Ulm. Presenter will be Deacon Aaron Johanneck.

Region 2 – Thursday, March 3 at the Church of St. Joseph, Lamberton. Presenter will be Deacon Jacob Niemand.

Region 3 – Monday, March 14 at the Church of St. John Cantius, Wilno. Presenter will be Deacon Jacob Niemand.

Region 4 – Tuesday, April 5 at the Church of St. James, Dawson. Presenter will be Deacon Jacob Niemand.

Region 5 – Monday, March 28 (place to be announced). Presenter will be Deacon Aaron Johanneck.

Region 6 – Tuesday, March 8 at the Church of St. Mary, Manannah. Presenter will be Deacon Aaron Johanneck.

Each region president and the region board members have been busy planning a faith-filled evening. These spring gatherings are a great way to reacquire yourself with CCW members that you have known for years but have not seen lately, as well as an opportunity to meet new members and make new friends.

Please mark your calendars to attend.

Plans underway for 2011 DCCW Convention

Mark your calendar for the annual New Ulm Diocesan Council of Catholic Women Convention on Saturday, April 30 at the Church of St. Catherine in Redwood Falls. Watch for further details in "The Prairie Catholic."

Audrey Prokosch is from Redwood Falls and is a member of the Church of St. Anne, Wabasso.

Spreading the Catholic faith through great music

The National Catholic Youth Choir is currently seeking high school singers (grades 10, 11, and 12), to apply now for the June 14–28 camp and tour. The choir is sponsored by the School of Theology and Seminary and meets on the grounds of Saint John's Abbey and Saint John's University in Collegeville, Minn. The choir sings music of various Christian traditions, ranging


from medieval Gregorian chant to twentieth century music. The primary focus of the choir is liturgical, seeking to implement the directive of Vatican Council II that the "treasury of sacred music" be preserved and fostered in the modern liturgy.

Contact Dorothy Kantor, 320-363-3154; dkantor@csbsju.edu; www.CatholicYouthChoir.org

Together in Ministry to assist musicians for new missal

In an effort to help prepare musicians in parishes for the new Roman Missal, the Feb. 26 session of Together in Ministry, sponsored by the Diocese of New Ulm, will focus on music for small choirs. Musicians including accompanists, cantors, and instrumentalist are encouraged to attend also

Each Together in Ministry session is held at the Church of St. Catherine in Redwood Falls from 9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. The cost is \$10 per session. It is open to anyone who serves their parish community as a lay volunteer or paid employee. To register contact Paulette at the



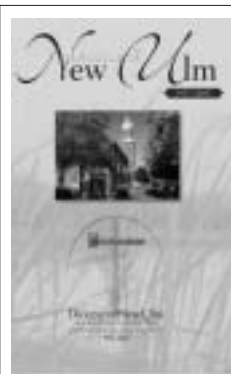
What's Your Ministry?

FEBRUARY 26
Pastoral Musicians

MARCH 19
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

APRIL 16
Catechists

Diocesan Pastoral Center, 507-359-2966 or online at www.dnu.org. Click on the Adult Faith Formation button.



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 \$26.50 per book/\$4.00 shipping

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*a Loving People in a Holy Place
 Un Pueblo Amoroso en un Lugar Santo*

ORDERING IS EASY!

Contact the diocesan Office of Communications, 1400 6th Street North, New Ulm, MN 56073; 507-359-2966; cclancy@dnu.org to order your copy. Each book is \$26.50. Note: If pick up is not possible and mailing is necessary, please include \$4.00 for one book; \$4.50 for two books; and \$5.50 for three books. For more than three copies, call for a postage quote.

John Paul II's beatification *(continued from page 1)*

the Vatican spokesman said. He explained that it is the day the Church celebrates the apparition of Jesus to the disciples in the upper room and the institution of Confession.

The day was particularly important to the late pontiff because it was the day in 2000 that he celebrated the canonization of St. Faustina Kowalska and declared that the Sunday after Easter should henceforth be known as "Divine Mercy Sunday."

Sr. Faustina, known for promoting the Divine Mercy chaplet, which is prayed using a rosary, said that all who go to Confession and receive the Eucharist at Mass the Sunday after Easter will be given full

remission of their sins. Divine Mercy is "absolutely fundamental" to the pontificate of John Paul II.

The staff at St. Peter's Basilica is already preparing for what is sure to be a grand occasion, drawing pilgrims from all over the globe. Workers are already cleaning the mosaics in the Chapel of St. Sebastian, just next to Michelangelo's Pietà, where the soon-to-be blessed's body will lie. John Paul II's body will be taken from the crypt below and set below the chapel's altar.

Because the process came about so quickly after his death, Fr. Lombardi said that the body will not be exhumed for examination. A marble stone bearing his name

"Beatus Iovannes Paulus" will adorn the coffin. The body will not be exposed, as others are in the basilica, "at least not for now," said Fr. Lombardi.

Blessed Pope Innocent XI's tomb, currently found below the altar in the same chapel, will be moved nearer the high altar of St. Peter's to make room for the new tenant. His body will be put under the altar located below the famous mosaic rendering Raphael's The Transfiguration.

The transfer will take place some time before the May 1 beatification, said Fr. Lombardi. He said that other logistical details have yet to be decided for the celebration.

Key changes to Roman Missal capture original meanings



NEW WORDS, A DEEPER MEANING, BUT THE SAME MASS

(photo by USCCB)

by James Breig

Casual observers of the Roman Catholic Church often remark that it hasn't changed in 2,000 years. Actually, just like any living institution, it is constantly changing. Over the centuries, where and when the Mass is celebrated, how saints are chosen, and the method of electing popes are some of the ways the Church has adjusted its traditions and policies.

Now come changes to the Roman Missal, the book containing the prayers for the Mass. For years, the Church has been working to more accurately translate those prayers from the Latin in which the original Missal is promulgated into modern languages, including English. Msgr. Kevin Irwin, dean of the School of Theology and Religious Studies at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., says those alterations were necessitated by two factors.

"First, the Committee charged with the English translation of the Roman Missal issued the post-Vatican II translations very quickly," he said. "They realized, after a few years' use of the Missal, that some translations should have been more accurate. Second, some feasts have been added to the Church's liturgical calendar in recent years, for example, St. Padre Pio's. Those Latin Masses need to be translated into English."

Peter Finn, associate director of the International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL), compares the changes "to the

**Get Educated
on the New Changes!**
Visit: www.usccb.org/romanmissal

cleaning of an old painting whose images are brought to clearer light in the cleaning process. ...The translations have sought to achieve a suitable balance between the word-for-word, literal meaning of the Latin and the demands of good proclamation, style, and intelligibility."

One of the most significant changes, Msgr. Irwin says, involves the familiar phrase, "And also with you," which the congregation recites after the celebrant of the Mass says, "The Lord be with you."

He explains that "the congregation will now say, 'and with your spirit.' This places the English translation in line with most other languages. The response is not to the person of the priest but to the Spirit of God, who ordained him to permanent service in the Church. It is an acknowledgment of the 'spirit' and grace which is in him."

Msgr. Anthony Sherman, executive director of the U.S. bishops' Secretariat of Divine Worship, offers another example: Instead of saying, "We believe" at

the beginning of the Creed, Catholics will soon recite, "I believe." The reason for the shift, he says, is "to underline the fact that, although we share our belief together with our brothers and sisters, each one of us is called to make an individual profession of faith."

As the changes are introduced, parishioners will have many guides to help them learn their new responses. "Plans are underway by a number of publishers to print up Mass booklets or cards containing the changes," Msgr. Irwin notes.

Adds Msgr. Sherman: "Eventually all participation aids and hymnals will include the new responses of the people." Finn notes that "today, the people's responses can be made more readily available not only in printed editions but also on Web sites, CDs, iPhones, etc."

One Web site already available to help people become familiar with the new translation of the Roman Missal is sponsored by the United States bishops: www.usccb.org/romanmissal.

Average Catholics may not immediately grasp the necessity and benefits of the changes, Msgr. Irwin admits, but the familiarity that comes with time should lead people to a comfort with an understanding of the words.

"All of us – laity, clergy, and religious – will need to take time to review the changed words and

come to appreciate what we may not have understood or appreciated before," he says. "There are layers of meaning to liturgical texts, not just one meaning. These translations and the education we shall receive before they are implemented will offer us a chance to 'brush up' our knowledge of the Mass and of our beliefs."

Msgr. Sherman believes the changes "will invite the faithful to pause and reflect on what, after so many years, we may have taken for

granted. People will listen more attentively to the various prayers proclaimed by the priest and these will convey a much deeper richness, which can be the basis for meditation and prayer for the enrichment of one's spiritual life."

*courtesy of the United States
Conference of Catholic
Bishops, 2010.*

*James Breig is a long-time
diocesan newspaper editor and
freelance writer.*

Revised edition of new American Bible approved

Washington – The *New American Bible*, revised edition (NABRE), the first major update to the New American Bible (NAB) translation in 20 years, has been approved for publication. Cardinal Francis George of Chicago, then president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), signed the canonical rescript approving publication on Sept. 30, 2010. The NABRE will be available in a variety of print, audio, and electronic formats on March 9, Ash Wednesday.

The new translation takes into account advances in linguistics of the biblical languages, as well as changes in vocabulary and the cultural background of English, in order to ensure a more accurate translation. This issue is addressed in the apostolic exhortation of Pope Benedict XVI, *Verbum Domini*, in which the pope says, "The inculturation of God's word is an integral part of the Church's mission in the world, and a decisive moment in this process is the diffusion of the Bible through the precious work of translation into different languages."

The new translation also takes into account the discovery of new and better ancient manuscripts so that the best possible textual

tradition is followed.

The NABRE includes the first revised translation of the Old Testament since 1970 and a complete revision of the Psalter. It retains the 1986 edition of the New Testament. Work on most books of the Old Testament began in 1994 and was completed in 2001. The 1991 revised edition of the Psalter was further revised between 2009 and 2010.

The revision aimed at making use of the best manuscript traditions available, translating as accurately as possible, and rendering the result in good contemporary English. In many ways it is a more literal translation than the original New American Bible and has attempted to be more consistent in rendering Hebrew (or Greek) words and idioms, especially in technical contexts, such as regulations for sacrifices. In translating the Psalter, special effort was made to provide a smooth, rhythmic translation for easy singing or recitation and to retain the concrete imagery of the Hebrew.

courtesy of www.usccb.org

Diocese named in lawsuit

(continued from page 1)

had no knowledge of Fr. Markey's history of sexual abuse when he was accepted into the state-sponsored CPE program.

According to the complaint, Fr. Markey was first suspended for sexually abusing a child and sent for treatment in 1964. Subsequently, he was returned to priestly ministry. During the 1970s he reoffended, received treatment, and was reinstated to active ministry at least two more times.

As of Jan. 27, the diocese had not yet been formally served with a summons and a copy of the complaint. Once this occurs, it has 21 days to respond.

Representing the plaintiff is attorney Patrick Noaker of the law firm of Jeff Anderson & Associates in St. Paul. Anderson and his firm specialize in sexual abuse cases, and have filed over 1,500 lawsuits against the Catholic Church over the last 30 years alleging sexual misconduct by priests.

On Jan. 10 Anderson announced plans to join forces with Ann Olivarius, an American-born U.K. solicitor, to open a law office in London dedicated to rooting out clerical sexual abuse in Europe. The new firm's first case will be Fr. Markey's.

Allegations against Fr. Markey associated with his short stint in the diocese surfaced last March in a CNN report, which accused Fr. Markey of sexual misconduct involving a young male parishioner at St. Andrew's in 1982.

The diocese was cited in the report as saying that Fr. Markey was dismissed from St. Andrew's and sent for treatment because parents were concerned that he had an "unnatural attraction to minor males."

Msgr. Douglas Grams, the

diocese's vicar general and the bishop's delegate in matters pertaining to sexual misconduct, told CNN at the time that the diocese did not have knowledge of Fr. Markey's history when he was accepted into the CPE program.

Following the CNN report, the Diocese of New Ulm issued a press release concerning Fr. Markey dated March 25. It said that in the spring of 1982, "Fr. Markey filled in at the Church of St. Andrew in Granite Falls following the death of the church's pastor, and before the new pastor began his assignment there. Fr. Markey left the Diocese of New Ulm in June of 1982. Since that time, Markey has not lived in or served the diocese in any capacity."

The press release went on to reiterate the diocese's commitment to offer help and healing to victims of sexual misconduct, and to encourage anyone who believes that he or she may have suffered sexual abuse by a priest, deacon or pastoral administrator to report the misconduct to diocesan authorities.

In a letter written on March 27, Fr. Jim Devorak, pastor of St. Andrews, assured his parishioners that his parish, the diocese and the Catholic Church throughout the world were working vigilantly to address wrongs committed in the past and to prevent any future injustices. He offered his own help, that of the diocese, and the assistance of Catholic Charities to anyone who thought they might be a victim of clerical sexual abuse.

Fr. Markey was extradited from Indiana to Ireland last year to face charges that he raped a boy in that country over 40 years ago. He cannot be extradited again to this country to face charges in a civil suit. Anderson, however, believes his new firm will be helpful in gathering testimony from Fr. Markey as the case progresses.



If you or someone you know has been sexually exploited by a member of the clergy and you need to talk with someone about abuse, exploitation, or harassment, please contact the Diocese of New Ulm Victim Assistance Coordinator or the Bishop's Delegate in Matters Pertaining to Sexual Misconduct by Clergy, 1400 6th Street North, New Ulm, MN 56073; 507-359-2966.

Si usted, o alguien a quien conoce, ha sido sexualmente por un clero y necesita hablar con alguien sobre abuso, o acoso sexual, por favor ponerse en contacto con el Coordinador de Asistencia para Víctimas de la Diócesis de New Ulm o con el Delegado del Obispo en Asuntos que Pertenecen al Abuso Sexual por Cleros de la Diócesis de New Ulm, 1400 6th Street North, New Ulm, MN 56073; número de teléfono 507-359-2966.

Upcoming Events

Women & Spirit: Catholic Sisters in America, a traveling exhibition featuring women who played a significant role in shaping the nation's social and cultural landscape, will make its way to the National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium in Dubuque, Iowa, from Feb. 18–May 22. Visit <http://womenandspirit.org>.

Riverbend TEC Weekends Call 507-723-4141; or visit www.riverbendtec.org.

VIRTUS (safe environment training) sessions will be held Feb. 21 at 7 p.m. at NUACS-St. Anthony Elementary School, New Ulm; March 10 at 7 p.m. at the Church of St. Francis, Benson.

Good Shepherd SERRA Club meets Thursday, March 3 at Divine Providence Chapel and Marian Conference room, beginning with Rosary and Mass at 7 p.m., which will be followed by a program and lunch. (Note: there will be no February meeting.) Call Mike or Annette Rohlik at 507-747-2181.

Frassati Visit is scheduled March 3–6 at the University of St. Thomas, St. Paul. A Frassati Visit is a combined youth/vocations event for juniors and seniors in high school which focuses on how the Catholic faith influences choices of college, career, and vocation. It is an

exciting and dynamic youth event with times of prayer. To register call the diocesan Office of Vocations, 507-359-2966.

Marriage Preparation program sponsored by the diocesan Office of Family Life will be held March 5 or March 19 from 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m. at the Church of St. Aloysius Education Center, Olivia. Cost is \$75 per couple and includes all program materials, lunch, and refreshments. To register or for more information, call the Office of Family Life, 507-359-2966.

Remarriage in the Church program sponsored by the diocesan Office of Family Life will be held March 12, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. at the Church of St. John in Hector. Cost is \$100 per couple and includes all program materials, lunch, and refreshments. To register or for more information, call the Office of Family Life, 507-359-2966.

Televised Catholic Mass schedule for the Diocese of New Ulm

KEYC-TV, Ch. 12, Mankato
Sunday, 7:30 a.m.

Radio Rosary
KMHL 1400 AM - Marshall
Sunday, 7 a.m. and
Monday-Saturday, 6:10 p.m.

Bishop's calendar

(continued from page 2)

12 Willmar: 6 p.m. Church of St. Mary. Confirmation.

13 Litchfield: 10:30 a.m. Church of St. Philip. Confirmation.

New Ulm: 3 p.m. Cathedral of the Holy Trinity. World Day for Consecrated Life Celebration.

14 Olivia: Good Leaders, Good Shepherds.

15 Olivia: 1 p.m. Church of St.

Aloysius. Priests' Council Meeting followed by College of Consultors Meeting.

16 New Ulm: 12 p.m. Catholic Pastoral Center. Priest Personnel Board Meeting.

17 St. Paul: 9 a.m. State Capitol. Minnesota Catholic Conference Day on the Hill.

St. Paul: 3 p.m. The St. Paul Seminary. Board of Trustees Meeting.

18 New Ulm: 10 a.m. Catholic Pastoral Center. Budget Team Meeting.

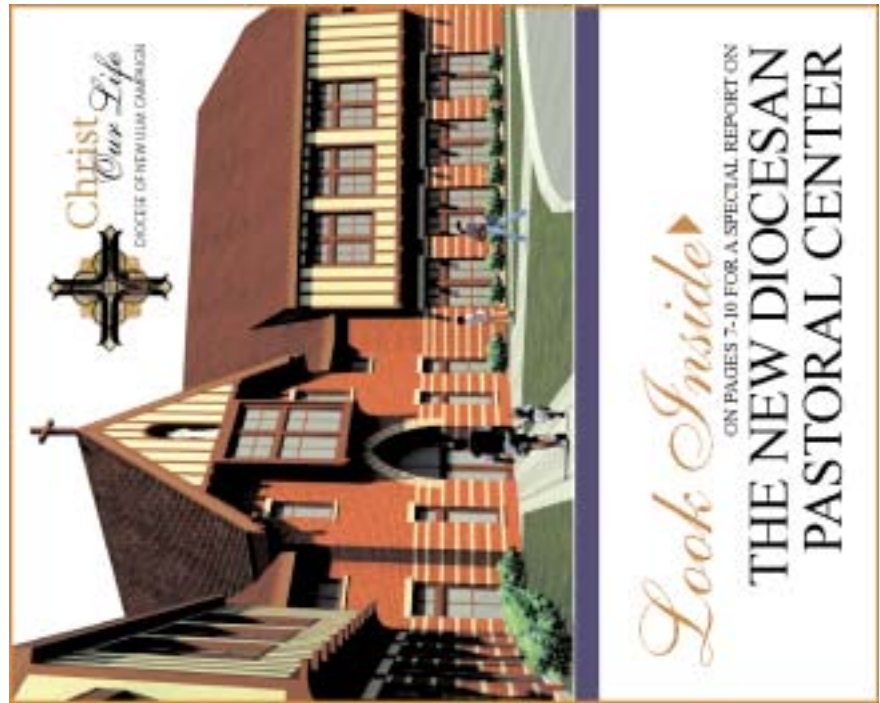
19 Fairfax: 4 p.m. Church of St. Andrew. Confirmation.
20 Minnesota: 10:30 a.m. Church of St. Edward. Confirmation.

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

THE DRAIRIE CATHOLIC

Pastoral news from across the Diocese of New Ulm

Minnesota's Most Rural Diocese Diocese of New Ulm Vol. 25 No. 6 February 2011



Look Inside

ON PAGES 7-10 FOR A SPECIAL REPORT ON

THE NEW DIOCESAN PASTORAL CENTER

catholic trends

Washington (CNA/EWTN News) – Hundreds of thousands of people gathered in Washington, D.C. for the annual March for Life on Jan. 24. People of all ages filled the streets, including a large number of young adults who came to show their support for the dignity of all human life.

Catholic colleges from around the country were represented at the March, in addition to pro-life groups from secular colleges. Diocesan groups, families, and individuals also came from near and far to march along the

National Mall in commemoration of the 38th anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision that legalized abortion in the United States.

Locally, nearly 4,000 people braved bitter cold to participate in the Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life March for Life on Saturday, Jan. 22, at the State Capitol in St. Paul. They marched in commemoration of unborn babies who have been killed by abortion – including 555,000 in Minnesota. They called for a ban on taxpayer

funded abortions, which enrich Minnesota's abortion industry by more than \$1.5 million every year. Citizens urged their state and federal lawmakers to pass protective legislation, including a prohibition on abortions performed when the unborn child can feel pain. And they urged legislators to fully fund the Positive Alternatives Grant Program which has helped 25,000 pregnant women to give birth to their babies.

Peoria, Ill. (CNA/EWTN News) – **The Diocese of Peoria has resumed its promotion of Archbishop Fulton Sheen's** cause for beatification despite its dispute with the Archdiocese of New York over the final resting place of the great evangelist's remains.

In November 2010 the Peoria diocese said it was no longer in a position to continue its nine years of work on Archbishop Sheen's beatification and canonization. The Archdiocese of New York's failure to transfer Sheen's body to a cathedral tomb in his

hometown of Peoria had upset the diocese and stalled plans to create a national shrine for him there.

Now Bishop Daniel R. Jenky of Peoria has announced that the Archbishop Fulton John Sheen Foundation has resumed its efforts to advance Sheen's cause. "After further consultation, and having heard the desire of the faithful to see the cause advance, Bishop Jenky, as president of the Sheen Foundation, is happy to work with the postulator in Rome and is hopeful that the cause will advance quickly," the Foundation said in a Jan. 27 statement.

"Even though this issue remains unsettled, Bishop Jenky received encouragement from cardinals, bishops, and the faithful from around the world, and especially from within his own diocese," said Patricia Gibson, chancellor of the Diocese of Peoria and an officer of the Sheen Foundation.

Bishop Jenky has asked the Vatican Congregation for Saints to help resolve the question of the tomb, while also definitively deciding to continue the Foundation's work to advance Archbishop Sheen's cause. More information about Bishop Sheen's life is available at the Sheen Foundation Web site: <http://www.ArchbishopSheenCause.org>.

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