U.S. Pilgrims join Guatemalans to remember Fr. Rother anniversary

Sixty-six pilgrims from the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City and the Diocese of Little Rock traveled to Guatemala in late July to mark the 35th anniversary of the martyrdom of Servant of God Father Stanley Rother, who was killed in his rectory in Santiago Atitlan on July 28, 1981.

Archbishop Coakley celebrated Mass at Cerro de Oro and participated with more than a dozen bishops and thousands of local parishioners at a Mass outside Father Rother’s former parish in Santiago Atitlan. At the end of Mass, bishops were presented with homemade stoles and hand-carved wooden gifts. A special plaque was presented by Bishop Villa to Sr. Marita Rother, sister of Father Rother. In a touching moment, several parishioners rushed to the stage to surround their former pastor Father Thomas McSherry, who also served in Guatemala.

Youthful face of mercy can change the world, pope tells young people

By Junno Arocho Esteves, Catholic News Service

KRAKOW, Poland – The youthful face of God’s mercy can change the hearts of people who have lost hope, Pope Francis said.

A young person who is touched by Christ is “capable of truly great things,” the pope told thousands of young men and women July 28 at the welcoming ceremony of World Youth Day in Krakow.

“Today the Church – and I would add, the world – looks to you and wants to learn from you, to be reassured that the Father’s mercy has an ever-youthful face and constantly invites us to be part of his kingdom,” the pope said.
By Archbishop Paul S. Coakley, 
thereby dictate our responses. As we did during the puppet master by allowing him to anticipate and
denate than I actually wield!

Again, he will
capitol that he
satanist announced
in front of Saint Jo-
he conducted a ritual
people of faith. This
Catholics and other
scheduled, but at least they were denied the opportu-
formance, the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City sued
intervene to prevent this blasphemous and offensive
nctionary, the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City sued

On Divine Mercy
As the old French proverb goes, “The more things
many destructive and violent manifestations. I ask
liberty to act on our faith in serving the poor and
County to commit sacrilege by desecrating a consecrated

soonerCatholic.org:
“Bernalmo, Father, I
ormful Passion, have
mercy on us.”

Cristo Rey Oklahoma City
Catholic High School to open in Fall 2017
Catholic school to offer education, work opportuni-
with more than 30 high profile business ex-
rom the Corporate Work Study Program, cameras, in-
Country Stores, Bozeman, BFA, Mercy Health, Philips
Communication. Cristo Rey Oklahoma City is seeking additional partners who can provide substan-
ite projects, productive work opportunities for

Porter Chosen as President
The archdiocese also announced
Cristo Rey Oklahoma City
college and in a career," Porter said.

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City
President Renee Porter at

Cristo Rey Oklahoma City Catholic High School
Catholic school to offer education, work opportuni-

Cristo Rey Model High School is a
contribution of Oklahoma at (405) 721-
gram, contact the Catholic Founda-

Catholic Charities serves more
than 80,000 people each year, providing a wide range of
services and programs. To find more information or to make
a donation, please visit www.catholiccharitiesok.org.

Catholic Charities 10th annual western-themed fundraiser, "Reds, Whites and Brews" raised $25,000. About 250 people were in atten-
dence at the event in July. The Beer and wine-tasting, held in Presen-
tation Hall at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum, benefi ts Sanctuary Women’s Development Center in Stock-
yards City. Fine wine was provided by vineyards in California and
Oregon, and craft beer was provided by local breweries.

Catholic Charities, founded in 1912, serves all, regardless of race, religion or national origin through its ministry to provide help
to those in need through the Catholic tradition.

Catholic Charities’ services for children and young adults
are available in three locations in Oklahoma City.

To learn more about Catholic Charities, visit www.catholiccharitiesok.org.

$25,000 raised to support OKC’s homeless women and children

Patron of the Holy Rosary School, Bishop Michael G. Bransfield, 1903-08
St. Mary School in Guthrie

[Image of St. Mary School in Guthrie]

Travel Stops and Country Stores

Corporate Work Study Program,

Archbishop Paul S. Coakley

Cristo Rey Oklahoma City Catholic High School will be a
member of the Cristo Rey Network comprised of 32 Catholic,
college preparatory high schools that serve more than
10,000 underprivileged students in 21 states and the District of
Columbus at the school’s archives with real-world work
experience, seeking to prepare their students for success in
college and life. As part of Cristo Rey’s unique urban model,
students work one day a week in professional settings, earning a
majority of their own tuition.

Archbishop Coakley said the school is
poses to help establish and lead a school
potential while exposing them to


![Image of St. Mary School in Guthrie]
The mustard seed principle in Sooner Territory

Knowledge is the foundation of faith. In the mustard seed principle, Jesus tells us of the small beginnings of something much bigger. This is a parable that is oftentimes misunderstood, so it is important to carefully examine and understand it.

Before Jesus lived, the religious leaders of the day had a formalized system of evangelizing. They traveled from town to town, spreading their teachings. However, this formal system was not effective. Eventually, they realized that something had to change. They needed a new approach, one that was more personal and intimate.

Jesus himself understood this principle. He knew that the kingdom of God was not something that could be forced upon people. Instead, it needed to be shared in a way that was personal and relational. He started with just 12 disciples and taught them about the mustards of faith.

In the parable, Jesus tells a story about a farmer who sows mustard seeds in his field. The seeds grow and become a large bush. Eventually, birds come and feed on the bush, scattering its seeds far and wide. This is a metaphor for the way in which faith is spread.

The farmer does not force the seeds to grow. Instead, he allows them to germinate naturally. In the same way, Jesus left his disciples with a simple message: share the good news of the gospel and let it grow naturally.

Jesus knew that the kingdom of God would not be established overnight. It would take time and patience. But he also knew that even the smallest beginnings could lead to great things. This is why he chose to use the mustard seed as a symbol of faith.

In the end, the mustard seed principle is a reminder that anything is possible with God. Even the smallest actions, when done with faith, can lead to great things.

 faker
Retrouvaille: a saving marriage ministry

By Sally Linhart

Retrouvaille is a Catholic ministry that helps couples who are struggling in their marriage by providing them a safe, non-judgmental environment for spouses to reconnect with one another and with God. Although the program is Catholic in nature, it is open to all married couples, regardless of religion.

The program begins with a weekend-long encounter followed by a series of meetings or workshops over the course of several months. During the weekend, a team of three married couples and a priest lead the program, and helps reinforce and implement the community's new understanding. Jack and Marycald Page coordinate the Retrouvaille program for Oklahoma and have seen firsthand the positive impact it has on couples during the healing process.

“Some couples who are experiencing divorcement or marital conflict can never achieve a healthy post-divorce level, from simple communication struggles to an ongoing cycle of divorce, could benefit from the teaching and support on communication, there is an emphasis on unity in the marriage. Their goal is to ‘heal and help,’” Marycald Page said. “Church calls us to be healers of souls. We’re there to focus on what we focus these couples on.”

The total cost of the program is $375, although scholarships are available for two nights and all meals. A $100 deposit is required to reserve a space as soon as the sessions are advertised.

“We’re ordinary people sharing ordinary things, but every single person brings something,” Betsy said. “That’s our job.”

“They just love what he does in his priesthood,” said Becky Triton of Guthrie, who, along with her husband, Bill, has been friends with Father Beckman for many years. “That was his mission; what he was sent to do is to be a priest – and he’s continued to do that even after his retirement from active ministry as a priest to the mass.”

“Conversion of hearts has happened,” said the Rev. Christopher Frioux, O.S.B., abbot of Saint Gregory’s Abbey. “I think it’s been a very dry sense of humor. He’s quite the character.”

“Once” Steve Gust, a freelance writer for the Oklahoma City Business Journal.

Building cultural bridges in Norman

By Steve Gust

A new program at Saint Joseph Catholic Church in Ponca City, Oklahoma, is helping Hispanic and Anglo groups learn and socialize with each other in an effort entitled Bridge Builders.

The program, explained co-leader Tina Kiro, has three main goals: to help local Hispanic and Anglo groups learn and socialize with each other, to help Hispanic and Anglo groups learn how to better understand each other and to bring people together.

According to Kiro, there are two main sessions each month. The first session is a 2-hour session, starting at 8:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Sunday. The second session is a 1-hour session, starting at 6 p.m. on Thursday. The sessions are open to the public and are free.

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Youthful face of mercy can change the world, pope tells young people

Arriving at Blonia Park in his popemobile, Pope Francis was enveloped in a sea of red, yellow and blue as pilgrims donned brightly colored ponchos to shield them from the rain.

Taking his seat on the main stage, the pope was welcomed by Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz of Krakow and six young men and women representing Europe, Asia, North America, South America, Africa and Australia.

After presenting the pope with a custom pilgrim’s backpack, a group of young performers from around the world entertained the pope and the crowd by dancing traditional dances. The dances ranged from a young Indian woman swaying to the tune of sitar to a couple masterfully dancing to tango music.

Following the Gospel reading, the pope thanked the youth for their presence, greeting them warmly saying, ‘At last, we are together.’

Encouraging them to cheer for Saint John Paul II, the pope thanked his predecessor for initiating World Youth Day.

‘From heaven, he is with us, and he sees all of you: So many young people from such a variety of nations, cultures and languages, but with one goal: that of rejoicing that Jesus is in our midst,’ he said.

The pope noted the festive atmosphere of World Youth Day and praised the ‘enthusiasm, dedication, zeal and energy’ of the young men and women who make God’s love palpable to the world.

However, while extolling the virtues of a young, merciful heart, the pope also lamented young people ‘who seem to have opted for ‘early retirement.’”

‘It worries me to see young people who have ‘thrown in the towel’ before the game has even begun, who are defeated even before they begin to play, who walk around glumly as if life has no meaning,’ he said.

Deep down, he added, ‘young people like this are bored and are boring.’

The celebration in Poland, the pope continued, offers an opportunity for young men and women to help each other and ‘not be robbed of the best of ourselves.’

On July 30, Archbishop Emeritus Eusebius Beltran celebrated a memorial Mass for Father Rother at his home parish, Holy Trinity in Okarche. He was joined by Father John Peter Steinmazthan, Deacon Max Schwarz and members of Father Rother’s family.

Photos Cara Koenig

He also invited them to dedicate their time in Poland to listening to Jesus and to each other in order to live a full life and to embark “on the adventure of mercy.”

‘Here we are, Lord! Send us to share your merciful love,’ Pope Francis prayed. ‘We want to affirm that our lives are fulfilled when they are shaped by mercy, for that is the better part and it will never be taken from us.’

Photos provided

To learn more about Father Rother and the cause for sainthood, go online to www.archokc.org/cause-for-beatification-of-father-stanley-rother/home.

U.S. Pilgrims join Guatemalans to remember Fr. Rother anniversary

continued from Page 1

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Photos Cara Koenig

Nashville Convent

A group from Prince of Peace in Altus traveled to Nashville where they visited a convent. During the trip, the girls and sponsors of the trip threw a surprise party for Fr. Cory Stanley, who celebrated the 5th anniversary of his ordination.
Police chaplain award renamed to honor Deacon Frazier

Police chaplain award renamed to honor Deacon Frazier

By Judy Hiltskay, 

“I am honored, and a little embarrassed,” Deacon Dennis Frazier said of his latest Chaplain of the Year award from the Oklahoma City Police Department. “I don’t think I want to work,” he said humbly. It is Deacon Frazier’s second award in two years, this one was just as much an honor for the department as it was for the chaplain. “The Deacon Dennis R. Frazier Chaplain of the Year Award.” The award, which was presented May 19 at the Oklahoma City Police Department’s Chief’s Prayer Breakfast, reads, “This designation is made in grateful appreciation of your continued dedication and compassion in service to the Oklahoma City Police Department and your community.”

“It was a complete surprise to Dennis,” Master Sgt. Charlie Phillips said. Phillips, the senior chaplain at the department, was the driving force behind the name change.

“Dennis works harder than any paid full-time employee I know and is in addition to his other duties as a deacon.”

Deacon Frazier also is a chaplain at Alliance Health Downsview, Integrative Baptist Medical Center and Select Specialty Hospital.

“I wanted to put more emphasis on the award and with chaplains like Dennis it was very easy to do.” Phillips said. “I wanted to honor his heart, spirit and work ethic and I thought there was no better way to than to rename the award after Dennis.”

Deacon Frazier, who also was a police officer for 25 years, is a unique understanding since he has walked a mile in the shoes of the people he serves.

“He is almost like a respected father figure for a lot of his young officers because he has been there and done that and he has earned the respect of these people right off the bat. He provides that spiritual support and care they need, especially in times of need.” Phillips said.

According to Phillips, the award criteria focuses on the chaplain who devotes most of their time to serving the police community, civilian employees, dispatchers and police officers, and the one who has a strong relationship with officers. The department’s chaplain serves all times of the day and night, is always there to serve and tend his flock.

“I have a wonderful chaplain here who is just being the criteria, Deacon Dennis is being served as a chaplain, there would be no one else able to fill this void with this award. Even his fellow chaplains recognize that standard by which we measure this award, ” Master Sgt. Phillips said.

Judy Hiltskay is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

Director of admissions
Sooner Catholic

Sooner Catholic’s University seeks a director of admissions responsible for the overall functioning of the Office of Admissions by developing and implementing strategies for recruiting students for both traditional and non-traditional programs. Bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university and one or more years of direct admissions, recruitment experiences or a private not-for-profit college or university required. Ability to attend night and weekend events and travel. Application at www.atgorgwya.edu/about-us/employment.

Director of campus ministry
Sooner Catholic

St. Mark’s Evangelist Catholic Church in Norman celebrated 25 years during a Mass and celebration on July 10. Archbishop Coakley blessed the new tabernacle and was joined at Mass by St. Mark’s pastor, Rev. Robert Wood, former pastor, Rev. John Metanger, Archbishop Emeritus Bobette, William Novacek, the Vicar General for the archdiocese, and Deacon Byron Jacobson.

Photos Theresa Duggn

Jobs Box

Giffing Mineral Interests

Did you know that you can give mineral rights as a gift to the Catholic Foundation?

“Mineral rights” are the ownership of the minerals below a parcel of land. Minerals include oil, natural gas, ores, metals, coal, gemstones, dimension stone (natural rock shaped to a specific size), construction aggregate and aggregates, including salt, potash, and mica.

Mineral rights are sold at the county recorder’s office. Mineral rights are verified as a gift to the Catholic Foundation?

Anyone who might be interested.

Gifting Mineral Interests

The Catholic Foundation

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Sobre las revelaciones privadas: un mini curso

En respuesta a las preguntas con respecto a la devoción a la Preciosa Sangre

Por Pedro A. Moreno, O.P., M.R.E.
Director del Oficina del Ministerio Espíritual

Durante los últimos meses he recibido varias llamadas telefónicas de personas que están interesadas en la devoción a la Preciosa Sangre. Esta devoción tiene una larga historia en la Iglesia Católica.

Hace cinco siglos, la Fiesta de la Preciosa Sangre se celebraba en España y desde allí se extendió por toda Europa y hasta llegar a todo el mundo. Una comunidad de sacerdotes, los Misioneros de la Preciosa Sangre, de la casa de Bernabé Nwoye en Nigeria, ha sido siempre una de las devociones más potentes y las devociones que más se han hecho en nuestras iglesias y en cada hogar y durante un período de oración eucarística y canónica.

En este contexto de oración eucarística, se observa que la devoción a la Preciosa Sangre se ha extendido por toda Europa y hasta llegar a todo el mundo. Una comunidad de sacerdotes, los Misioneros de la Preciosa Sangre, de la casa de Bernabé Nwoye en Nigeria, ha sido siempre una de las devociones más potentes y las devociones que más se han hecho en nuestras iglesias y en cada hogar y durante un período de oración eucarística y canónica.

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**Renewal: A Journey to Jesus**

This program will promote dy- namism and leadership in the cate- 것은과 체육과 예술과 학부생의 만성을 사전의 지식을 제공할 것이다. 

**Friends of the Mission of St. Gregory’s University banquet fund raiser**

For people with questions about the banquet or check payments of joining the Church, there is an immediate response.

**Pre-Cana classes**

Pre-Cana is a day for couples pre- paring for marriage who want to enter into the marriage liturgy. A specially prepared team will work with couples to help them form a marriage contract with the intention of en- suling excellence in marriage. We are aware of the privileges and responsi- bilities of marriage. For more information, call Journe Church

**Faith Formation**

The sessions are free and im- plement the commitment to join the Catholic Church.

**Charismatic Catholic prayer meeting**

A prayer meeting, every Thursday, at Catholic Parish Center, 615 E. 1st St., decorated with flowers, where participants can pray the rosary, listen to the Word of God, and hear testimonies from sisters and brothers who share their spiritual experiences.

**Playing for the Bishop**

The Bishop’s Golf Tournament is the 5th annual playing for the Bishop on Aug. 20 at the Edmond Memorial Golf Course.

**Charismatic Healing Mass**

Julia Gier and the Holy Family Church present “Healing Mass” at 6 p.m. on Aug. 20 at the Sacred Heart Church, 1600 N. Main St., OKC.

**Unity Prayer Service and Walk**

A prayer walk at 6 p.m. on Aug. 20, leading to the annual blessing of the Holy Family Church, with a special focus on unity and peace in the world.

**Bingo at St. Mary Catholic School**

Bingo will be held at St. Mary Catholic School on Aug. 20 from 7 to 10 p.m.

**Live from Life**

A live stream event from the Church that will be broadcast from 7 to 9 p.m. on Aug. 20.

**Retrouvaille**

Retrouvaille is for couples with troubled marriages, including separated and divorced couples who want to try again to make their marriage work. Retrouvaille begins with a weekend, Aug. 26-28 at the Oklahoma City University, followed by a complete registration form at the Catholic Church, Cindy Tribbey at bmchstrivia@gmail.com.

**Feast of the Passion**

St. John the Baptist
A summer day trip: Mabee-Gerrer Museum of Art

By J.E. Helm,

A visit to the Mabee-Gerrer Museum of Art in Shawnee is always a treat, especially so this summer when visitors can enjoy free admission through August 31.

The museum is located on the grounds of Saint Gregory’s Abbey and is accessible via the main entrance to the abbey. Mabee-Gerrer is an independent, non-profit organization.

The museum has 12 display areas in the main gallery, and only 4 percent of the permanent collection is on display at any time. There are a number of truly exceptional pieces to be enjoyed, including an ivory crucifix from the 16th century, whose carved base of less than one foot depicts the entire passion of Christ.

A new addition is a ceramic camel, approximately 30 inches tall, from the Tang Dynasty (Chinese) that dates to sometime between the late 7th century to the early 8th century.

The ancient Chinese, like the ancient Egyptians, believed that those who died needed to be buried with everything they would need in the next life, explained Dane Pollei, director and chief curator of the museum. The camel may have figured into trade along the famed Silk Road.

Several other Chinese pieces, in bronze, also are on display and were a gift to the museum from the Arthur M. Sackler Foundation. Mabee-Gerrer was the only museum in Oklahoma to be so honored.

Sackler established the gallery that bears his name at the Smithsonian, and Pollei was told that the Sackler Foundation recognized Mabee-Gerrer “because of the strength of our educational programs.”

Some 15,000 PreK through senior high school students from all over the state came through the museum’s programs during the 2015-2016 academic year. Educators can find more information on available school projects and activities on the museum’s website at www.mgmoa.org.

Students are sure to be interested in the museum’s two Egyptian mummies. The mummies continue to be studied by anthropologists, and one of the two was CAT scanned at Saint Anthony Hospital in Shawnee last year. A sample of the mummy’s wrappings is scheduled to be sent for carbon dating sometime soon.

In addition to the main gallery, Mabee-Gerrer is showing a special collection, “Art from the U.S. Navy, Marines and Coast Guard,” subtitled “A Tribute to America’s Combat Artists and Fighting Forces.”

On display through Aug. 21, this collection alone is worth the trip to Shawnee.

In his office in the workroom area of the museum, Pollei explained that the idea for the exhibit “has been a research project of Victor Koshkin-Youritzin, the David Ross Boyd Professor of Art at the University of Oklahoma.

“He had this dream of an art exhibition drawn from the military collections that would be used to honor the military,” Pollei said.

The works in the collection were borrowed from the Marines, Coast Guard and Navy. None would be considered graphic, and all are suitable for family viewing.

Seven pieces from this special collection are located in the main display area. One of these is a cartoon strip of “Terry and the Pirates,” a cartoon that first appeared in newspapers in 1934.

Most of the collection is in a separate area, and art aficionados are sure to enjoy Gilbert Stuart’s portrait of Commodore John Rogers.

Some of the art is intense and is meant to evoke an appreciation of the tragedy of war as well as gratitude for those who have served their country. Visitors may view “Garden at Hiroshima, Autumn” by Standish Backus as well as “Flotsam and Jetsam on Iwo Jima” by Charles H. Waterhouse.

A focal point of the exhibit has to be “Three on a Knee” by Morgan Ian Wilbur. This is a compelling depiction of surgeons working to remove shrapnel from a wounded man’s knee at Fleet Hospital Three in southern Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom. The painting has an almost photographic quality, and its beautiful, bright blue and green tones draw the viewer’s eye.

An artist’s bio accompanies each work of art, and Pollei points out that “many were done by people painting things they witnessed.”

This special collection will be appreciated by those who value art, and it will also have special meaning for veterans as well as the friends and families of veterans.

J.E. Helm is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.