Catholic dioceses launch Oklahoma Catholic Native Schools Project

Project will study the history, experiences of Catholic Indian boarding schools in Oklahoma

By Sally Linhart
The Sooner Catholic

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City and the Diocese of Tulsa on Nov. 11 launched a new project to better understand the history, educational value and experiences of Native students in Oklahoma Catholic boarding schools from 1880 to 1965.

The Oklahoma Catholic Native Schools Project seeks to understand the history of Catholic Indian boarding schools in Oklahoma by gathering oral histories from former students and their descendants, studying documentation on Catholic Indian boarding schools in Oklahoma so we can make better and more informed decisions moving forward,” Archbishop Coakley said. “We will continue to build a culture of inclusion, healing and understanding related to Native.

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Shop Christmas gifts at local Catholic bookstores

By Sally Linhart
The Sooner Catholic

Oklahoma Catholics looking to support local Catholic businesses this Christmas have several shopping options, including a new Catholic bookstore in southwest Oklahoma City.

After eight years of operating Cordero De Dios Libreria out of their garage, Norma and Salvador Vasquez moved their bookstore to a storefront location earlier this year. Located on S.W. 44 near Western Avenue, the bookstore is within walking distance of Saint James the Greater Catholic Church.

The store offers an impressive selection of books and gifts, both Spanish and English, for children and adults. For the Vasquezes, it is more than just a bookstore; it is how they minister.

“When people come and buy anything, each item will help people to know more about God,” Norma Vasquez said.

New arrivals at Cordero De Dios Libreria include nativity sets, advent wreaths and books, including the recently released title “Elwood: The Story of a Catholic World War II Hero.” Also included in the store’s literary options are

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Church’s evangelizing mission can heal division, archbishop tells assembly

By Dennis Sadowski
Catholic News Service

BALTIMORE – The U.S. Church today is called more than ever to carry out its centuries-long evangelizing mission at a time of spiritual awakening rising from “under the clouds of the pandemic” and the country’s uncertain future, the president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops told his fellow prelates.

“People are starting to examine what they truly believe and what they value most deeply in their lives,” said Los Angeles Archbishop José H. Gomez, who spoke Nov. 16 during the opening public session of the USCCB’s Nov. 15-18 general assembly in Baltimore. He received a standing ovation from the bishops.

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The questions from people allow the Church to continue its mission, even in an increasingly secularized society, the archbishop said.

The challenge, he said, is "to understand how the church should carry out her mission."

Archbishop Gomez acknowledged that differences among members of the Church exist because of the differing views people hold on how to
Put Out Into the Deep

Remembering the four last things

During November as we see the natural world around us preparing for its long winter rest, the Church's liturgy and many popular customs invite us to reflect on what we call the four last things: death, judgment, heaven and hell.

In that sense, hell is our own making and choosing. Those who die in the state of friendship with God but who are not fully perfected in love are assured of salvation, but they must first undergo further purification from the effects of their sins. Only those who are perfected in love and holiness are able to bear the weight of glory and enter into the presence of the Most Holy Trinity. This process of purification after death is called purgatory. “The Church gives the name Purgatory to the final purification of the elect, which is entirely different from the punishment of the damned” (CCC 1031).

We really do not know exactly what purgatory is. It is often described in terms of a purifying fire. The image of fire helps us recognize that perfect love is achieved only through a painful stripping away of the remnants of self-centeredness that clung to us and keep us from living freely and totally.

In the Nicene Creed, which we profess at Sunday Mass, we profess belief in the Communion of Saints. In the Communion of Saints, we are united with fellow believers on earth, with the suffering souls in purgatory as well as the saints in heaven. In this wonderfully communal life of love and life we are able to assist and be assisted by the prayers and good works of one another.

The Church always is mindful of the duty to assist those in purgatory, especially through the celebration of the Eucharist. We pray for the faithful departed as part of the Eucharistic Prayer in every Mass. But, we also can request that Masses be offered for the intention of the deceased, especially for our deceased loved ones. As an expression of the mystery of the Communion of Saints, the Church also allows us to obtain indulgences and apply them in charity to help the souls in purgatory.

Although it is our Christian duty always to be mindful of the faithful departed, the month of November is an opportune time to pray for them. On All Souls Day, we come to the aid of our deceased brothers and sisters by praying for them in charity. In purgatory, the prayers of our friends and relatives are a source of hope and comfort for the souls there. Our prayers help to ensure that the souls will enter the presence of God and share his life forever.

Saint John of the Cross wrote, “In the evening of life, there is a time for reflection. Let us prepare for our entrance into heaven. Our life is not finished, but we must reflect and turn away from sin.” We should use the month of November and the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls Day) to recall the dead in prayer.

During November as we see the natural world around us preparing for its long winter rest, the Church's liturgy and many popular customs invite us to reflect on what we call the four last things: death, judgment, heaven and hell.

Students raise morale in hospitals through photos, prayers

The Blessing Stanley Rother Shrine reflects the beauty of its Spanish architecture. One item that is becoming more visible in the Perla PEP White B Pine King - the white brick deck with a low iron content. When mixed with chalk and food, they tune it up. The bricks provide the look of white Spanish tile with the required hardiness for Oklahoma weather.

Pinnon said she created something similar in the past to help boost morale at nursing homes. “Around Thanksgiving, I found some of the kids at Christ the King in Oklahoma City, and asked if there would be any interest in painting mural-type murals and I think there was a lot of interest. I met with the nursing staff several times, and they wanted to do it. So, I got the materials together, and the kids loved it.”

Using that same concept, she asked the nursing staff if they would want to do that again. In fact, she named the project the Good News Chroni- cles. She said she found the coloring pages on Pinterest and other websites. Students at Saint James Catholic School in Oklahoma City joined, coloring in pages for medical staff and front responders to help cheer them up. “The goal was to take it as a proj- ect, and every teacher in every class decided to do something different. Some of the cards went to only Integrated Southwest Medical Center because many of the parents work there. I made copies and shared them with several hospitals in the area.”

Some of the students decorated as doctors and nurses and teachers took them to share with hospital staff. “They put the cards, prayers and poetry to the whole page. "They caused a few moist eyes, and you saw the kids understand and stand clearly what's going on, and one of the students put on a show of giving these to people you have to see people die," she said.

A public charter school in Oklahoma City also had their art students make different kinds of pictures and creations to give.

By Jolene Schonchin

The Sooner Catholic

By Sooner Catholic Staff

Additional coverage of Church and archdiocesan news and events, only on soonercatholic.org.

- To send photos, event information or story ideas, e-mail communications@archokc.org.
- For an increase of voca- tions to the priesthood, diaconate, religious life and holy marriage. We pray to the Lord, Lord, honor our prayer.

- Lay Missionaries of Charity, the lay order of the Missionaries of Charity of St. Teresas of Calcutta, meet on the first Saturday of each month at Holy Mass at 9:30 a.m. at St. Ann Independent Living Center in the St. Joseph Chapel led by Eucharistic adoration, the Rosary and the Chaplet. Meeting 10 a.m. – Noon in the conference room. They also meet on the third Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. – Noon in the Holy Innocents’ conference room. Any lay person interested in living a consecrated life welcomes the opportunity to learn more about this other location. Contact Connie Haelsemann, (405) 491-3177 or (405) 694-1292, tonni@slowglobe.net.

- Mary Pinnon, a former nurse at Integris Southwest Medical Center, and Pinnon’s daughter at Integris St. Joseph Medical Center, brought some of the cards to the medical center. She says she brought both cards for patients and for the spirit of justice and fullness of the land and the challenge of the cities. We thank you for your work and our rest, for our another, and for our homes. We thank you, Lord, accept our thanksgiving on this day. We pray and give thanks through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
- Archdiocese of Oklahoma City

Archbishop Coakley’s Calendar

The following events are part of Archbishop Coakley’s official calendar:

Nov. 23 – Mass, 11:30 a.m. – St. Francis de Sales Chapel, Catholic Pastoral Center
Nov. 24 – Mass, 11:30 a.m. – St. Francis de Sales Chapel, CPC
Nov. 29 – Dec. 1 – Visit to Conception Seminary College, Conception, Mo.
Dec. 2 – School Mass, 8:30 a.m. – St. James the Greater, OKC
Dec. 2 – Cathedral Choir Board meeting, Catholic Church offices, OKC
Dec. 3 – CPC staff Advent Reflection Day, CPC offices closed 8:30 a.m. – Noon

Archbishop Paul S. Coakley

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Mercy Hospital Oklahoma City honored “A” grade for patient safety

OKLAHOMA CITY – For the ninth consecutive year, Mercy Hospital Oklahoma City has received an “A” Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade from The Leapfrog Group, an independent national watchdog organization, in an annual letter grade to nearly 2,600 general acute care hospitals across the country based on 27 key performance measures reflecting errors, injuries, accidents, failures in care and other harms to patients. Across all the system hospitals, there were no instances of patient harm to patients. In Oklahoma, Mercy Hospital Oklahoma City was one of only 11 hospitals throughout the state to earn an “A” grade from Leapfrog in the 2021 grading cycle.

The Leapfrog Group is an independent national watchdog organization, and as a national organization, is supported through the Catholic Communications Appeal.

Deacon Patrick Galffeey: St. Eugene, Oklahoma City
Deacon Lawrence Germann: St. John the Baptist, Edmond
Deacon Howard Harper: Blessed Sacrament, Lawton
Deacon Hector Hernandez: St. Mary, Comanche, Lawton
Deacon William Hornek: St. Francis of Assisi, Newkirk
Deacon Charles Krumsick: Holy Trinity, Okarche
Deacon Robert Dunlap: St. John the Baptist, Edmond
Deacon Juan Prastao: St. Catherine of Sienna, Pauls Valley

Deacon John Herring: St. Eugene, Oklahoma City
Deacon Adrian Meave: St. Catherine of Sienna, Pauls Valley
Deacon Alvaro Moreno: St. James the Greater, Oklahoma City
Deacon Zolti Nagykalio: St. John the Baptist, Edmond
Deacon Cus Nguyen: St. Andrew, Elk City, Oklahoma
Deacon Hans Nguyen: The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Oklahoma City
Deacon Jacob Nguyen: The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Oklahoma City
Deacon Louis Nici: Holy Name, Chickasha

Deacon Mickey Reeves: St. Eugene, Oklahoma City
Deacon Richard Rosencrans: St. John the Baptist, Edmond
Deacon Javier Solia: St. Philip Neri, Midwest City
Deacon Joseph Vandervort: St. Mark the Evangelist, Norman
Deacon Sergio Vera-Silva: Holy Angola, Oklahoma City

For more information on the issues of the USCCB Fall General Assembly, visit usccb.org.
Photos provided.

Kroll attended. The event Coakley, Catholic Foundation at the Baptist Catholic Church University of Central Oklahoma

To send photos, event communications@archokc.org.

American Indian Catholic Outreach Princess Alethea Schonchin participated in an honor process on Nov. 6 at Stillwater State University in Claremore.

American Indian Catholic Outreach Princess Alethea Schonchin introduced herself to the crowd in the Comanche language: “The brother er, Modern,” was the head man dancer. The Schonchin family are parishioners at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Lawton. Photos provided.

Knights of Columbus Council #9191 in Guthrie completed their third annual “Stuff the Trunk with Turkeys” for God’s Food Bank in Guthrie. They collected more than 200 turkeys at St. Mary Catholic Church, Guthrie High School and through donations to the council as well as 3,485 pounds of food. Pictured are Mike Schmidt with 100 turkeys being loaded, Grand Knight David Nolan helping unload a truck of turkeys and Robert Carrey with a load of turkeys from St. Mary Catholic Church.

Oral histories and research will be coordinated locally by university researchers. Oral histories and research will be coordinated locally by university researchers.

The dioceses will work with Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wis., which holds the archives for the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions, with specific collaboration with Marquette professor Bryan Rindfleisch, who specializes in American Indian history and studies.

The event will include tamales, tacos, Mexican Christmas punch, hot chocolate, snacks, music and games.

It is a huge undertaking for the small parish and requires a number of volunteers.

“Parishioners have really stepped up and volunteered to help on this huge undertaking. It is such an exciting event,” said Rosalina Aglikerun Hoyle, parish secretary. “We couldn’t even begin to try to do it without everyone pitching in.”

Charles Albert is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

continued from page 1

American Catholics in our state.”

The discussions will work with Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wis., which holds the archives for the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions, with specific collaboration with Marquette professor Bryan Rindfleisch, who specializes in American Indian history and studies. Oral histories and research will be coordinated locally by university researchers.

“It is by understanding the past that we are able to improve and build on good ideas in the present and, where necessary, make amends for failures in the past,” said Bishop David A. Konderla, Bishop of Tulsa. Eleven Catholic Indian boarding schools existed in Oklahoma between 1880 and 1960. The first one opened in Kasson in 1880 and closed in 1926. The last Catholic Indian boarding school, Saint Patrick’s in Anadarko, closed in 1965. They were all overseen by various religious orders.

To learn more about experiences at the schools, the office of American Indian Catholic Outreach has been conducting listening sessions across the state which hold focus groups and listen to the thoughts of Native Americans. Sessions have been held in Shamnee, Pawhuska, Fairfaks and Anadarko. The sessions are being led by Dr. Jason Claypool of the University of Oklahoma, and his wife Susan Claypool, who is a member of the Checotah Nation of Oklahoma.

To learn more about the project, go online to archokc.org/aknative-schoolsproject. To participate in the project or to share an experience from a Catholic Indian boarding school in Oklahoma, e-mail info@oknative-schoolsproject.org.

Diane Clay is editor of the Sooner Catholic.

A message from the office of American Indian Catholic Outreach

November is Native American Heritage Month. It’s a time to honor the sacrifices and contributions of American Indians to their country, their community and their faith. It’s also a time to remember how cultural awareness can help avoid stereotypes and bring honor and dignity to the many tribes, nations and clans around the world.

Please be aware during this time of year that many of the Native American “costumes” sold for Halloween and Thanksgiving are not culturally accurate or appropriate.

The regalia worn by American Indians should reflect the rich history, tradition and meaning of the clothing, and “costumes” should be avoided.

Resources to help families, schools and parishes appreciate the history of American Indians in Oklahoma and the Catholic Church can be found online at the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of the American Indian – americanindian.si.edu/61366.

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American Indian Catholic Outreach Princess Alethea Schonchin participated in an honor process on Nov. 6 at Stillwater State University in Claremore. The Schonchin family are parishioners at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Lawton. Photos provided.

Perishers at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Anadarko held the annu
tfifth-anniversary Halloween/Trunk-or-Treat party on Oct. 24. The high school students oversee the games, hot chocolate, decorated cars. Photos provided.

Kicking off Vaccinations Awareness Week on Nov. 5, more than 150 fifth-grade students spent the day at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Youth Camp learning about vaca
tions and meeting with priests and religious women. Photos provided.

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Diane Clay is editor of the Sooner Catholic.
Archbishop Coakley celebrated the annual Serra Club Mass on Nov. 9 at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Oklahoma City. To learn more about the club that prays and supports vocations, visit serraokc.org.

Photos Fran Kozakowski/Sooner Catholic.

St. Patrick Catholic Church in Oklahoma City was visited by many saints on All Saints Day when children were encouraged to dress up as their favorite saint and join the procession into Mass. Fr. Joseph Arledge and Dcn. Duane Fischer encouraged the “little” saints to share who they chose to honor. Photos Fran Kozakowski/Sooner Catholic.

If you are 70 1/2 or older and own a traditional IRA, you can use it to help Catholic churches, schools or ministries across the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

With a Qualified Charitable Distribution, IRA owners can direct gifts annually to charity without that amount counting as taxable income.

This tool is especially helpful for those 72 and older, who must take a Required Minimum Distribution from their IRA each year.

To learn more about making a Qualified Charitable Distribution to the Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma for the benefit of your favorite ministry, visit www.cfook.org/qcd or contact Owen Canfield at the foundation, 405-721-4115 ocanfield@cfook.org.

On Nov. 6, the archdiocesan office of Marriage and Family Life Ministry hosted “Be Light: A Marriage Retreat for Couples” at St. Monica Catholic Church in Edmond. The one-day marriage retreat focused on forming spouses in evangelization. The keynote speakers were Ryan and Mary-Rose Verret, founders of Witness to Love. They shared their reflections on how to make homes into domestic churches and missionary outposts of parishes. For information on upcoming marriage and family life opportunities, visit archokc.org/family-life. Photos Chris Porter/Sooner Catholic.

On Nov. 7, parishioners of St. Patrick Catholic Church in Oklahoma City celebrated the 15th ordination anniversary of Dcn. Duane Fischer. In his service to the parish, Dcn. Fischer has been a member of the pastoral and finance councils, taught Baptism, Confirmation and RCIA classes, and trained lectors and altar servers to support ministries at the church.

“One of the most rewarding experiences as a deacon is to participate in the Baptism of children, watching them grow, and then to be part of their First Communion and Confirmation,” Dcn. Fischer said.

Fr. Joseph Arledge acknowledged Dcn. Fischer’s years of service in an appreciation reception in the parish fellowship hall following Mass. Photos Fran Kozakowski/Sooner Catholic.
Twenty-seven men were ordained to the permanent diaconate by Archbishop Coakley on Nov. 5 at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Oklahoma City. The evening before, Archbishop Coakley presided over a Holy Hour with the deacon candidates in the St. Francis de Sales Chapel at the Catholic Pastoral Center. Photos Chris Porter/Sooner Catholic.
Real Life Disciples

What are you thankful for?

By Emma Wilson
For the Sooner Catholic

A

bouncy house, tug-of-war, dunk
gerilla and food awaited the children from
The Boys and Girls Club of Oklahoma County
when they arrived Oct. 28 at the carnival organized
by the Class of 2022. All 171 seniors helped with
the annual service project.

“Traditionally, the se-
cior class does a service
project together as kind
of a culminating aspect of
service,” said Christine
Parks/19, senior class
cponsor.

The seniors involved the com-
unity in a special way by
organizing a carnival to
raise funds for the
 Boys and Girls Club.

Sr. Virgil Kummer, O.P.
SINSINAWA, Wis. – Sister Virgil Kummer,
O.P., died Oct. 25 at St. Dominic Villa, Hazel Green, Wis. Burial took
place in the Motherhouse Cemetery in
Sinsinawa, Wis. She was age 97.

Sister Kummer lived her profession as
a Dominican Sister of Sinsinawa from
1949-1953. She served as liturgist and
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Sr. Virgil Kummer, O.P.
Jobs Box

Human resources director - OKC

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a human resources director to report to the archdiocesan chancellor and to be responsible for managing the ministry of the human resources department, and serving as a trusted advisor to the archdiocesan chancellor. The director will have primary responsibility for: planning, organizing, and managing all fundraising activities; preparing, organizing, and managing all donor relations. The director will lead the archdiocesan Catholic Youth Camp; be familiar with long-term care and senior living operations and be able to produce accurate and a good listener, speaker, and facilitator; enjoy working with seniors and their families; and coordinate and implement strategic gifts to meet their needs; possess a proven track record in cold-call fundraising; be knowledgeable in human resources management or administration; have experience in schools, employment laws, possess excellent written and verbal communication skills, strong interpersonal skills, and excellent skills in Microsoft Office. Human resources national certification desirable. Send resume and cover letter to Chancery Michael Scarpelarca at mcscarpel@archokc.org.

Safe Environment coordinator OKC

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking an individual with a proven track record of working well with others to join the work of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City’s Safe Environment Program. Perform a wide variety of functions related to the implementation, management, and dissemination of the archdiocese’s Safe Environment Policy and other archdiocesan education and awareness efforts. The successful candidate will be an individual who is able to work in a team environment and to collaborate across diocesan departments and team members. Will support regular communication with Safe Environment Program partners, provide support and training to Safe Environment program leaders, and work closely with Safe Environment program leaders to develop and maintain the archdiocese’s Safe Environment Policy. Send resume and cover letter to mmills@archokc.org.

Pilgrimage director - OKC

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a pilgrimage director to co-manage and lead annual faith-based events at the shrine; manage and coordinate all pilgrimage-related activities; include scheduling Masses, tours, and special events, and train and staff the pilgrimage office; and plan, develop and promote of pilgrimage-related events and activities for the shrine. Send resume and cover letter to mmills@archokc.org.

Event specialist - OKC

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a full-time event specialist to plan, manage and implement events for the shrine. Duties include managing scheduling Masses, tours and activities, and planning and implementing large events such as concerts and conferences and events. Have a desire to promote the shrine, work of evangelization and promote and diffusion of devotion to St. Stanley Rother. Send resume and cover letter to mmills@archokc.org.

Cook - OKC

The Archdiocesan Pastoral Center of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a Cook to work a flexible schedule that requires evening and weekend availability and 3-4 years of experience in food service. Send resume and cover letter to mmills@archokc.org.

Director of finance - OKC

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City is seeking a finance director to provide overall financial planning and control for the agency and its programs. The ideal candidate will have at least five years of accounting or finance experience in a non-profit environment. Send resume and cover letter to mmills@archokc.org.

Bilingual counselor - OKC

Monsignor Joseph Pacholczyk, President of the Saint Joseph Institute at the Ave Maria University has developed a book, “The Sooner Catholic: Conquering the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.” This short book, 94 pages, by Monsignor Pacholczyk explains the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. He continues by saying that the “yes” is a personal declaration of faith, an act of love, and a commitment to the Lord. That’s what happens routinely in the Catholic faith. When the person says “yes,” they are saying that human beings are not a random, accidental part of a grand human system, but a unique and sacred choice. They believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. This is a true belief, and it’s not just the privilege of the rich and the educated. It is a belief that should be common to all of us. Christians believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. This is a true belief, and it’s not just the privilege of the rich and the educated. It is a belief that should be common to all of us. Christians believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

Sexual activities

A major issue in bioethics today is about the issue of sexual activity. In other words, sex touches us at a deeper level than other activities. It is not just a matter of speaking a language not of autonomic function. Even though some question is just about being sure you gave consent before the action was performed. That’s what happens routinely in the Catholic faith. When the person says “yes,” they are saying that human beings are not a random, accidental part of a grand human system, but a unique and sacred choice. They believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. This is a true belief, and it’s not just the privilege of the rich and the educated. It is a belief that should be common to all of us. Christians believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. This is a true belief, and it’s not just the privilege of the rich and the educated. It is a belief that should be common to all of us. Christians believe in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

Related job openings

To see more job openings, go online to archokc.org/jobs. Some positions have a more detailed job description online.
Las actitudes del Santuario

El Santuario del Beato Stanly Rother refleja la belleza de su arquitectura espiritual. Un elemento que se está volviendo más visible es la Peña PETR WHITE B que llega hasta el tejado. Las esferas son de color blanco y tienen una textura resistente. El clima para la flora.

Duranocimiento, mientras vemos el mundo natural que nos rodea preparándose para su largo descanso invernal, la liturgia de la Iglesia y muchas costumbres populares nos invitan a reflexionar sobre lo que llamamos las últimas cuatro cosas: muerte, juicio, cielo e infierno.

No es una fascinación morbida, sino un recordatorio sobre la naturaleza trascendental de la fe cristiana. Comenzamos el mes celebrando a los Santos en gloria en el Día de Todos los Santos. El 2 de noviembre, celebramos la conmemoración de Todos los Fieles Difuntos (Día de Todos los Difuntos) y más tarde en el mes, el último domingo del año litúrgico, celebramos la solemnidad triunfal de Cristo Rey.

Aunque no le demos mucha importancia a las “cuatro últimas cosas”, son una realidad ineludible para cada uno de nosotros. Nos recuerdan el destino eterno de la gloria celestial que esperamos todos en presencia de Dios, como en el parágrafo del hijo pródigo, para darnos una idea de la felicidad del cielo.

Debemos tratar de disfrutar de una perfecta comunión de amor con la Santísima Trinidad y con todos los ángeles y santos. Para compartir con los miembros de la misericordia del Padre, Jesucristo nos ha abierto las puertas del cielo para aceptar la revelación de nuestros pecados y obtener la victoria sobre el pecado en su resurrección de entre los muertos.

En el otro extremo del espectro está, en última instancia, el rechazo de la misericordia, que siempre es un insumiso en el purgatorio. La imagen del fuego nos ayuda a reconocer que el amor perfecto se logra solo a través de un deseo profundo de reinstaurar el egoísmo que se aferran a nosotros y nos impiden amar libre y totalmente.

En el Credo de Nicéa, que profesamos en la misa dominical, profesamos creer en la Comunión de los Santos. En la Comunión de los Santos, estamos unidos con los hermanos en la fe en la Trinidad, con la salvación, con nuestras almas que sufren en el purgatorio y con los santos en el cielo. En esta misteriosa comunión de vida y amor podemos ayudarnos y ser asistidos por las oraciones y las obras de los demás. La Iglesia siempre está consciente del deber de ayudar a los del purgatorio, especialmente a través de la celebración de la Eucaristía. Oramos por los fieles difuntos como parte de la Plegaria Eucarística en cada misa. Por eso, también podemos solicitar que se ofrezcan misas por la intención del difunto, especialmente por nuestros seres queridos fallecidos. Conmemoración del misterio de la Comunión de los Santos, la Iglesia también nos permite obtener indulgencias y aplicarlas en la caridad hacia los almas del purgatorio.

Aunque no sea nuestro deber cristiano estar siempre atentos a los fieles difuntos, el mes de noviembre es un momento oportuno para orar por ellos. En el Día de los Difuntos, aclamamos en ayuda de nuestros seres queridos y de nuestros amigos fallecidos. Al visitar estos lugares sagrados, haremos un acto de devoción y acompañarán a nuestros seres queridos en su esperanza de la liberación de los males.

La liturgia de la Iglesia y nuestras costumbres populares nos invitan a reflexionar sobre lo que llamamos las últimas cuatro cosas: muerte, juicio, cielo e infierno. Este es el tiempo en el que recordamos los Santos y los Difuntos.

Compre regalos de Navidad en la librería católica de Norman.

Los católicos de Oklahoma que buscan apoyar a las empresas católicas locales esta Navidad tienen varias opciones de donde comprar, incluyendo la nueva librería católica en el sur oeste de la ciudad de Oklahoma. Después de ocho años de operar Cordero De Dios Librería desde su garaje, Norma y Saludor Vásquez trasladaron su librería a una tienda a principios de este año. Ubicado en S.W. 44 cerca de Western Avenue, la librería se encuentra a poca distancia de la iglesia católica Saint James the Greater.

La tienda ofrece una impresionante selección de libros y regalos, tanto en español como en inglés, para niños y adultos. Para los Vásquez, es más que una librería; así es como ministran. "Cuando la gente viene y compra algo, cada artículo ayuda a la gente a conocer más acerca de Dios", dijo Norma Vásquez.

Los dueños de las tiendas dijeron que los clientes de las tiendas dijeron que los católicos de Oklahoma que buscan apoyar a las empresas católicas locales esta Navidad tienen varias opciones de donde comprar, incluyendo la nueva librería católica en el sur oeste de la ciudad de Oklahoma. Después de ocho años de operar Cordero De Dios Librería desde su garaje, Norma y Saludor Vásquez trasladaron su librería a una tienda a principios de este año. Ubicado en S.W. 44 cerca de Western Avenue, la librería se encuentra a poca distancia de la iglesia católica Saint James the Greater.

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High school shadow visits Mount St. Mary Catholic High School admissions office is hosting shadow visits on campus for 8th grade students. Schedule a visit or chat about admissions with MSHS Director of Admissions Diane Floyd at dflloyd@msahs.com.

First Friday Mass 6:30 a.m. at St. Francis Xavier First Friday Day Mass at 6 p.m. Dec. 3 at the plaza in downtown Sulphur.

Shrine webcam Watch construction of the Bl. Stanley Rother Shrine on a live webcam at archokc.org/shrineswebcam.

First Friday Adoration Join the staff of the Catholic Pastoral Center on the first Friday of every month Noon - 3 p.m. for adoration and the Divine Mercy Chaplet in the St. Francis de Sales Chapel, 7501 Northwest Expressway, Oklahoma City. Adoration open to the public.

The Monks’ Marketplace - Live stream for “The Monks’ Marketplace” at St. Gregory’s Abbey in Sharing ideas for vocations in conjunction with First Friday activities at the Catholic Pastoral Center. The schedule is: 10:45 a.m. Scriptural Rosary; 11:30 a.m. daily Mass, and Noon - 3 p.m. adoration in the chapel.

First Friday Mass The monthly first Friday Mass in honor of the Sacred Heart is 7 p.m. at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 Northwest Expressway in Oklahoma City. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament available: 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. For more information about Home Enthronement, contact Francisco Luiano at (405) 921-5095, iluiano12@gmail.com. Sponsored by the archdiocesan Marriage and Family life office.

Poland, Vienna, and Austria pilgrimage Join Fr. Rick Stansberry on an 11-day pilgrimage to Poland, Vienna and Germany Aug. 1-11, 2022. The pilgrimage includes the Oslomeranergen; Passion Play. Other hosts include Marcello D’Ambrosio, Fr. Casey F. Jones and Dom. Peter Markwald. Contact Select International Tours at (800) 842-4842, janes@select-intl.com. Visit selectinternationaltours.com.

30th-Third or Last Week in Ordinary Time.

Feast of St. Francis Xavier.

Feast of St. Cecilu.

First Sunday of Advent.

First Sunday of Advent.

First Sunday of Advent.

First Sunday of Advent.

First Sunday of Advent.

First Sunday of Advent.

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U.S. Bishops’ Secretariat for Child and Youth Protection releases annual report


The report is based on the audit findings of Stonebridge Business Partners, a specialty consulting firm headquartered in Rochester, N.Y., which provides forensic, internal and compliance audit services to law and organized crime clients throughout the nation.

A survey on allegations conducted by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate is also included as part of the report.

This is the 18th such report since 2002 when the U.S. bishops established and adopted the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, a comprehensive set of procedures to address allegations of sexual abuse of minors by Catholic clergy and make a promise to protect and a pledge to heal.

The report, which is typically released in June each year, was delayed due to the health and safety restrictions as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. A mid-cycle adjustment was made to extend the time frame of the audit process to diocesan offices, which had closed, diocesan staff who had transitioned to remote work, and for the elements of on-site audits to go virtual. This adjustment did not alter data collected or information gathered from the audit process.

The 2020 report for audit year July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020, states that 3,924 adults came forward with 4,228 allegations. The number of allegations is slightly less than that reported in 2019. As noted in the 2019 Annual Report, the number of allegations increased significantly in large part due to allegations received in connection with lawsuits, compensation programs and bankruptcies.

During this audit year, 22 allegations were made by current minors, six of which were substantiated, two were unsubstantiated, three were unable to be proven, seven were still under investigation and four were categorized as “other.”

The report notes the ongoing work of the Church in continuing the call to ensure the safety of children and vulnerable adults. In 2020, the Church’s investment in protective services increased by 15 percent. This included more than 2.5 million background checks conducted on clergy, employees and volunteers. In addition, in 2020 more than 2.5 million adults and 3.1 million children and youth were trained on how to identify the warning signs of abuse and how to report those signs.

The Church also continues to provide outreach and support to 2,458 victim survivors and their families in the form of counseling, spiritual assistance and other social services. Despite restrictions experienced due to the pandemic, evaluation of compliance with the charter continued. Necessary adjustments to social distancing did not alter elements included in the audit process conducted by Stonebridge Business Partners. The Archdiocese of New Orleans requested a one-year postponement of the audit as the area continues to recover from natural disasters. The report noted the following: 61 dioceses/eparchies were visited either in-person or via remote technology and data collected from 135 others;

There were four instances of non-compliance: the Diocese of Fort Worth and the Diocese of Helena were found non-compliant with Article 2 of the charter due to inactivity of their Review Boards; Saint Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy and Our Lady of Deliverance of Newark Eparchy were both found non-compliant with Articles 12 (training of youth and adults) and Article 13 (background checks) of the charter;

Two eparchies did not participate in the audit: the Eparchy of Saint Mary Queen of Peace, and the Eparchy of Saint Peter the Apostle.

The USCCB’s Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People and the National Review Board continue to emphasize that the audit and continued application of zero-tolerance policies are two important tools in the Church’s broader program of creating a culture of protection and healing that exceeds the requirements of the charter.

The full Annual Report, and all previously published Annual Reports, may be found on the secretariat’s audit page - usccb.org/offices/child-and-youth-protection/audits. The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People may be found at: usccb.org/offices/child-and-youth-protection/charter.

Additional information on diocesan requirements for the protection of children and young people may be found at: usccb.org/about/communications/bishops-resources/upload/cyp-norms-bulletin-insert.pdf.

FOCUS Missions to host 150 trips in the U.S., around the world

DENVER – Since 2004, more than 13,000 college students, chaplains and FOCUS missionaries have served on more than 1,000 FOCUS mission trips around the world, making FOCUS Missions the largest Catholic missions program. During this past year’s program, despite pandemic restrictions, FOCUS Missions sent more than 1,100 participants on more than 60 trips, many of which were in the United States.

For the 2021-2022 academic year, FOCUS Missions will host 150 mission trips around the world, partnering with local religious orders, apostolates and organizations that understand their communities’ greatest needs.

College students, missionaries, alumni and chaplains on FOCUS mission trips serve the poor and share the message of the Gospel. The focal point of FOCUS mission projects include providing patient care services at medical clinics, serving the homeless, and building and renovating community infrastructures.

FOCUS Missions anticipates that more than 2,300 participants will serve on trips in the next year. This year, FOCUS Missions offers two spring break trips: Nov. 30. Applications for summer trips are due by Feb. 15, 2022. More information is at focussmissions.org.

FOCUS mission trip locations include a spring break trip to Suri, Peru to name serve with the Servidora Sisters (March 25-April 3). Participants on the new trip to Romania will serve along with the Missionaries of Charity (March 4-13). Two new locations in California offer both an opportunity to serve in San Francisco to help the Missionaries of Charity (March 11-20) and a special California Missions Pilgrimage (March 11-20).

Popular trip locations include Brazil (Petrobas and Amazon trips), Mexico and the Holy Land. FOCUS Missions coordinates several FOCUS Greek trips and Varsity Catholic Camps for student-athletes. Medical mission trips to Peru, Argentina and Texas offer students in the medical field an opportunity to share their skills and the love of Christ. A full list of trips is at focussmissions.org.

FOCUS Missions prioritizes safety for participants on any mission trip and offers trips to locations only after they have been vetted with safety guidelines and safety for participants on any mission trip and offers trips to locations only after they have been vetted with safety guidelines and vetted with comfort.

The spring break trips will go to Spain (March 11-20), California (March 11-20) and Texas (March 11-20). In addition to the spring break trips, the National Mission Directors Program and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention offer guidelines for travelers.

FOCUS Missions also has a number of resources dedicated to promoting safety and mitigating risk, including paying for a security consultant to monitor the safety of all trip locations, training every mission director in safety and risk management at the interagency Training for Leadership Summit, taking out insurance policies for each trip and equipping staff and students with safety guidelines at trip orientation.

Spring break trip deadline Nov. 30