Losing a child at any stage of pregnancy can be devastating for expectant parents and their families. For some grieving parents, loss can be more painful when medical facilities dispose of their infant’s remains without consulting the family.

On April 15, 2021, Senate Bill 647, also known as “Lily’s Law” passed the Oklahoma House unanimously 93-0. At the time of the Sooner Catholic’s publication, the bill was waiting to be signed into law by the governor.

Lily’s Law expands a 2019 law requiring health care providers, including birthing centers, to keep a written policy on file and to notify parents of their right to request their child’s remains at 12 weeks gestation and later. Lily’s Law expands rights to include children lost before 12 weeks. If the family gives no directive within 14 days, a facility can dispose of the remains per their policy.

“Lily’s Law” is named in honor of an Oklahoma family who lost their daughter, Lily Gianna, early in the first trimester in 2012. The grieving family was not informed of their right to retrieve Lily’s remains and said they would have chosen to bury her if they were aware they had that option.

Rachel Kretchmar suffered two back-to-back miscarriages within six months. Kretchmar said while her family knew of their right to request their child’s remains and have them buried; many grieving parents do not realize they have this right. Kretchmar said burying her children provided a concrete way to process their grief.

Life during and after a loss can be difficult for grieving families. A large part of a family’s immediate concerns may include both the delivery and burial, if those are both an option and the wishes of a
Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Greetings in the Risen Lord! May these glorious days of Easter be a season of joy and renewal for you and your loved ones.

We have faced many challenges this past year due to the worldwide epidemic of COVID-19 - from disruption of our normal everyday patterns to the loss of jobs and even the loss of loved ones and fellow parishioners. One of the most difficult things for many has been the inability to participate regularly in the Mass and sacraments of the Church. That was especially true when public places were closed as we sought to avoid the dangers posed by the pandemic. I have heard many expressions of gratitude for the guidelines and mandates put in place last summer to make it safer to return to public celebrations of the Mass. The dispensations in the Sunday obligation have been a temporary provision to enable Catholics of the archdiocese to return when it was safe for them to do so and when there would be room for them in churches with limited capacities due to social distancing.

I also have heard from some who were unhappy with our mandates and safety precautions. In every case, I have done what I believe was necessary to protect the flock entrusted to my care. I am grateful for the patience and charity so many have shown in following these guidelines. I am grateful for the creativity of pastors, staff and volunteers who have provided access to Mass on virtual platforms. This has been a helpful provisional measure providing parishioners a way to participate spiritually in the Mass when they could not be present in person.

Virtual participation in the Mass was never meant to be a permanent substitute for us. Indeed, it cannot become a permanent substitute. Christ is truly present in the Eucharist - body, blood, soul and divinity. Neither was the dispensation from the Sunday obligation intended to be permanent. Participation in Sunday Mass for Catholics is an essential way we fulfill the divine commandment to keep my Lord’s Day holy.

We are a sacramental people. We need to come together to worship God, receive the sacraments and bear witness to our faith, not just virtually, but in person. God woos us in visible form in the humanity of Jesus and, in the sacraments, offers himself to us in the liturgy of the Church giving us a real participation in the heavenly liturgy. These sacraments communicate invisible realities under visible, tangible forms. They are unique channels of grace that Christ instituted for our salvation. We need Mass and the sacramental life.

With growing interest, I welcome reports of declining COVID infections, hospitalizations and deaths coupled with the near widespread availability of vaccines in Oklahoma and increasing numbers of vaccinated adults.

Considering these encouraging developments, and after consultations with pastors, staff and other professionals, I am authorizing further modifications to the COVID guidelines for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, effective April 24, 2021.

Most significantly, I am lifting the dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass, effective Saturday, April 24, 2021. While there will be exemp-
tion from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass, effective April 24, 2021.

As we move into the second year of the COVID pandemic, the guidelines for Mass, receptions and parish gatherings are transition-
ating toward a more normal situation.

Below are the latest updated guidelines, effective Saturday, April 24, 2021.

The updated guidelines are in bold. Archbishop Coakley asks all parishes to follow the guidelines to ensure the safety of parishioners and visitors while maintaining a welcoming environment. The arch-
diocese will continue to monitor COVID-19 and make adjustments as needed. Thank you for your patience.

Guiding Principles
1. Faith: As parishioners return to Mass, encourage cat-
chesis and understanding of the Real Presence and Foster an environment of discipleship and hospitality;
2. Health: In applying these guidelines pastors and their staffs are encouraged to adapt them to their unique circumstances and local conditions;
3. Charity: With a return of more people to Mass, reduced social dis-
tancing and out of concerns for our vulnerable brothers and sisters, the mask requirement remains in place.apse the time that has been lost. Everyone is encouraged to continue to use best hygiene practices.

Mass
1. The dispensation for attend-
ing Sunday Mass is lifted, effec-
tive Saturday, April 24, 2021.

Those dispensed from the Sun-
day Mass obligation include:

a. Those who are caregivers for someone who is ill;

b. Those who are ill themselves;

c. The homebound;

d. Anyone who is unable to receive a COVID vaccine at this time (e.g., women who are preg-
nant);

e. Those who are vulnerable due to age, health or severe anx-

iety about becoming ill;

f. With the exception of “d,” these dispensations are only per-
durable Saturday, April 24, 2021.

The attached guidelines give more specific informa-
tion. With the assurance of my prayers and every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Paul S. Coakley
Most Reverend Paul S. Coakley
Archbishop of Oklahoma City

On March 17, 2020, Archbishop Coakley made the difficult decision to suspend public Masses and lit-
ergies in the Archdiocese of Okla-

Mass and Ministry COVID-19 Guidelines
Archdiocese of Oklahoma City
April 12, 2021

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

April 27 – Dedication and Blessing of SSM Health St. Anthony Hospital Midwest, 11 a.m., Midwest City

April 27 – Confirmation, 7 p.m., St. Mary, Guthrie

April 28 – Construction and opening of perpetual adoration chapel, 3 p.m., St. Francis Xavier Church, Edmond

April 28 – Confirmation, 6 p.m., St. Francis Xavier, Edmond

April 29 – AISM Corporation Board meeting, 5 a.m., Mount St. Mary Catholic High School, OKC

April 29 – Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma Board meeting, 3 p.m., Catholic Pastoral Center, Oklahoma City

April 29 – Confirmation, 6 p.m., Sacred Heart, Edmond

April 30 – Bohemian Bash Auction, 6:30 p.m., Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School

May 1 – Confirmation, 10:30 a.m., St. Mary, Clinton

May 4 – Confirmation, 11 a.m., St. Mark, Edmond, OKC

May 4 – Confirmation, 11 a.m., St. Joseph, Jenks

May 4 – USCBB Committee on International Justice and Peace virtual meeting, 10 a.m.

May 4 – USCBB Committee on Domestic Justice and Human virtual meeting, 12:30 p.m.

May 6 – Senior Staff meeting, 10 a.m., CPC

May 6 – Senior Staff meeting, 2 p.m., CPC

May 6 – Assembly of Catholic Professionals luncheon, 11 a.m., Downtown Petroleum Club, OKC

May 6 – Confirmation, 7 p.m., St. John the Baptist, Edmond

May 7 – Confirmation, 7 p.m., Little Flower, OKC

May 8 – Confirmation, 1 p.m., St. Patrick, OKC

May 9 – Confirmation, 9 a.m., Sacred Heart, Alva

May 9 – Confirmation, 7 a.m., Sacred Heart, Edmond

2. With the exception of “d,” these dispensations are only per-
durable Saturday, April 24, 2021.

1. Distribution of communion

1. Cloth face coverings must be worn at all times;

2. Parishioners are encouraged to use their gifts in the

3. Parishes that live-stream

4. Cards face coverings must be worn by all participants age 6 and older except for

5. Nurseries are allowed; cry

6. It is recommended that

7. Hymnals can be returned to

8. Alcoholic beverages are

9. Holy water can be returned to

10. Nurseries are allowed; cry

11. parishioners are encouraged to use

12. Receptions are allowed;

13. Parishioners are encouraged to use

14. It is recommended that

15. Communion

16. The dispensation for

On April 25, 2021

Archbishop Coakley asks all parishes to follow the guidelines to ensure the safety of parishioners and visitors while maintaining a welcoming environment. The archdiocese will continue to monitor COVID-19 and make adjustments as needed.

Thank you for your patience.

God our Father,

you made each of us to

for our gifts in the

Body of Christ.

We are to be:

a. Outdoor programs that in-

a. Activity p.e.g., eating or

b. Large parish-wide social gatherings are permitted at full capacity;

c. Parishes are encouraged to

1. This document superseded and replaces earlier documents and guidelines.

Archdiocese of Oklahoma City
April 12, 2021

Archbishop Paul S. Coakley
Archbishop of Oklahoma City
Rose Home celebrates Mother’s Day

Willow Pregnancy Support is building a new Rose Home to house up to eight pregnant women and their children. To accommodate residents, the new Rose Home will include eight bedrooms, four bathrooms, a classroom, a playroom, and a custom kitchen. This Mother’s Day, Willow Pregnancy Support is asking people to consider a gift to Willow Pregnancy Support and/or the Rebuild Rose Home Campaign. Gifts will help reinforce the love and tenderness that their children that their lives are valued and honored. There are three ways to give: use a church offering envelope on Mother’s Day, if one is provided by the parish; attend the annual Rose Home Garden Party on May 27 (tickets are available at willowpregnancy.org); or go directly to willowpregnancy.org.

Whether it is a one-time donation, a monthly pledge or a major gift, each gift has the ability to change the trajectory of someone’s life. Along with housing, Willow Pregnancy Support provides free pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, maternity clothing, infant layettes and case management to facilitate client goal setting with offices in Bethany, Edmond and south Oklahoma City.

From the Archives …

Enduring more than their share of hardship, the people of Saint Joseph Catholic Church in Union City have persevered and prospered for more than 120 years. In the beginning, it was largely a German and Czech community. Mass was first offered in Union City early in 1893, at Joseph Rein’s hotel. 1894 saw the first regular visits of a priest in the person Father A. G. Borremans, resident pastor of Okarche. A church was constructed with the carpentry work supplied by parishioners and dedicated on May 1, 1894, under the patronage of Saint Thophile. It was the only church in Oklahoma of that name being an homage to Bishop Theodore Meerschaert, Vicar General of Oklahoma (later Diocese of Oklahoma). The first of many catastrophes befell the community as the church was destroyed by a tornado in 1896. It was not until 1899 that the new building was dedicated, this time to Saint Joseph. Growth was slow as a resident pastor was not assigned until 1909 in the person of Father P.P. Slesseff. Even before the residence of Father Slesseff, the parish was determined to provide Catholic education, and built a school in 1907 (closing in 1963) under the care of the Sisters of Divine Providence. This type of tenacity and devotion to the faith would characterize Saint Joseph throughout its history. Another tragedy occurred when the second church burned to the ground in 1929. From the parish history: “A new, lovely brick church was built on the grounds between the school and the priest’s home. Notwithstanding the parish had only sixty families, this church was built without any debt, thanks to the financial wisdom of Father Vander Grinten. The church was dedicated on December 16, 1930, by Bishop Francis Clemens Kelley.”

Father Van would serve as pastor until 1939 and was much beloved. The third significant event occurred in 1973 when a massive tornado demolished the school, convent and parish hall. The church suffered extensive damage. Undaunted, the parish repaired the church and added new stained-glass windows. A testament to the strength of this country parish can be observed by the number of vocations it has produced, including Monsignor Daniel Fitcher and the revered Father John Michelick. In all, five priests called Saint Joseph their home parish as well as religious sisters.

Archdiocese of Oklahoma City Archives

Archdiocese of Oklahoma City

April 25, 2021

Sooner Catholic
El Reno Catholic school to host outdoor auction, festival

By Charles Albert
The Sooner Catholic

EL RENO – For the 25th year, Sacred Heart Catholic School will host a school festival and fundraiser. The event, Redbird Roundup, will be in place of the annual Taste of Sacred Heart event.
The program this year will be outdoors and as always, a “fun event” from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday, May 15, at the Deny-Crump Bowles Area.
The program will feature live entertainment from Jeremy Rowe, cow patty bingo, a food truck, a children’s choice raffle and a live auction.

Jeremy Rowe, a well-known, local talent from the Oklahoma City area, will provide music from different genres and decades. The raffle will feature $3,000 in cash or a trip to a choice of three different destinations. The live auction will include classroom projects, vacation packages and autographed memorabilia. One lucky winner of the cow patty bingo will win $2,000.

Catholic Charities leads humanitarian effort at U.S-Mexico border

By J-P Mauro
Alison

Catholic Charities is spearheading an effort to bring aid to migrant children at the U.S.-Mexico border. The United States received nearly 19,000 children illegally over the past month, and those children are being housed in various facilities across the country.

Catholic Charities USA, their Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, and several other Catholic entities of the Archdiocese are mobilizing similar efforts along the border. In the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, Catholic Charities is working closely with the Office of Refugee Resettlement to house children of refugee parents. Their efforts have included legal advocacy for minors as well as organizing prayer groups.

Learn more about Catholic Charities’ border efforts and ways to get involved at catholiccharitiesusa.org/border-crisis.

Ellen Tureo is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

Catholic Charities Foundation of Oklahoma hires Canfield as associate director for gift planning

By Diane Cerrone

OKLAHOMA CITY – The board of directors for Catholic Charities Foundation of Oklahoma announced April 12 it is hiring Owen Canfield to serve as the new associate director for gift planning.

Canfield, 61, will help lead the foundation’s mission to engage Catholic Charities in estate planning and in making gifts through the foundation to benefit parishes, schools and ministries within the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

“Owen will bring an entirely new level of support to our Catholic Charities’ generosity throughout the archdiocese,” said Interim Executive Director Peter de Keraty.

Most Rev. Paul S. Coakley, Archbishop of Oklahoma City, commended the announcement.

“Owen and his family have been faithful, generous and dedicated Catholics for many years,” he said. “This new position provides him a chance to work together with his faith, and his knowledge for the betterment of the archdiocese and the people we serve.”

Danny Stapp, chairman of the foundation’s board of directors, said he looked forward to Canfield’s efforts to advance the foundation’s work “to help donors make an impact on the programs and services they care most about.”

Canfield joins the foundation after a long and award-winning career in journalism. He most recently was the opinion editor for The Oklahoman newspaper where he worked for 17 years. Prior to joining The Oklahoman, he spent nearly two decades in the Oklahoma City Bureau of The Associated Press.

Canfield and his wife, Lori, have been married 26 years and are active and longtime members of the Saint Eugene Catholic Church in Oklahoma City. They have four grown children who attended Saint Eugene Catholic School and Bishop McGuinness Catholic High School, and three grandchildren.

Established in 1965, the Catholic Charities of Oklahoma Foundation was incorporated as a nonprofit with a mission to procure and build endowment funds to support the ministries and entities of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. With the spiritual leadership and guidance of the Archbishop of Oklahoma City, the foundation is managed by a board of directors, consisting of priests, deacons and professionals, lay men and women who represent various geographic areas of the archdiocese.

“Carrying out its mission, the foundation provide critical estate planning and charitable giving information, assistance, and distribution earnings on its endowed funds to designated archdiocesan entities, and functions the development of the Catholic Church in central and western Oklahoma.”

Owen Canfield

Holy Family Catholic Church helps persecuted Christians as Lenten project

By Eliana Tedrow

OKLAHOMA CITY – “Owen will bring an entirely new level of support to our Catholic Charities’ generosity throughout the archdiocese,” said Interim Executive Director Peter de Keraty.

The donations were sent to the Knights of Columbus in the Middle East and Africa as their annual Lenten project through their Spiritual Life Committee. A second collection was taken at the end of Mass during the five weeks of Lent.

The parish also added a donation box and prayer cards at their display in the narthex with envelopes designated for persecuted Christians. The church raised more than $11,000.

“[This new position] provides Owen a chance to help donors make an impact on the programs and services they care most about,” Stapp said.

“This new position provides him a chance to work together with his faith, and his knowledge for the betterment of the archdiocese and the people we serve. 

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“Carrying out its mission, the foundation provide critical estate planning and charitable giving information, assistance, and distribution earnings on its endowed funds to designated archdiocesan entities, and functions the development of the Catholic Church in central and western Oklahoma.”

Owen Canfield

Holy Family Catholic Church in Lenton, Okla.

“Their is still hope,” she said. “With or without options, it’s already too late,” she said. “I have met grieving families, Kretchmar said. “Dealing with a variety of letters, a husband might not always be possible,” Kretchmar said, “But we always try to keep in touch with a grieving family. Kretchmar said. “Parents often are so overcome with shock or grief they don’t know they have options. And even if some people they did have options, it’s already too late,” she said. “I have met mothers who carry grief for years because in that moment of shock and grief, they didn’t know they had options.”

In early 2020, Kretchmar approached state Sen. Adam Pugh (R-Edmond) about the issue. Pugh said he agreed to bring a bill to the State Senate.

Pugh said, “I think it’s an appropriate thing for us as a pro-life legislator to recognize that life, even from conception, has value.”

Pugh said it is important to change laws so that lives are recognized, and families can go through the grieving and healing process.

Marcia Mercer-Cole, vice president of Mercer Mercer-Cole said. “It is important for people to grieve in a way they prefer.”

“No one should be forced to shoulder the burden of grief alone,” she said. “It’s important for people to grieve in a way they prefer.”

Ellen Tureo is a freelance writer for the Sooner Catholic.

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April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Parishes throughout the archdiocese and the Catholic Pastoral Center are decorated in blue for Child Abuse Prevention Month. Below are pictures from the pastoral center, Catholic Charities, Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Marietta and Holy Cross Catholic Church in Madill. Photos provided.

Report abuse or inappropriate behavior with a minor immediately! Contact local law enforcement, the state Department of Human Services at (800) 522-3511 and the archdiocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator at (405) 720-9878. Visit archokc.org/safe-environment.

As Intentional Disciples, We are entrusted with preventing abuse

In SYF 2020 (July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020), OKSISH responded
77,552 reports of alleged child abuse, neglect or both
15,911 children were confirmed to be victims
In SYF 2020, 1,655 children were safely reunited with their families after working with victims to correct the conditions that led to the removal of children
1,655 adoptions were finalized and 152 legal guardianships were established
In this country over 125 billion dollars in mental health treatment on adults who were abused as a child

Awareness Acknowledge Action

- How can I increase my awareness to better care for our children, youth and vulnerable?
- What has prevented me from now to acknowledge my responsibility to stop prevent child abuse?
- What is my commitment into action for those entrusted in my care and in the community?

Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Altus

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Sulphur

St. Mary Catholic Church, Ponca City

HOLY WEEK
Archdiocese of Oklahoma City

St. Joseph Catholic Church, Ada
Good Friday Pilgrimage from Allen to Ada

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9

April is
Child Abuse
Prevention Month
A priest recently mentioned to me that he was not planning to get the COVID-19 vaccine. He told me he was concerned that the vaccine could alter our DNA and he believed there were also risks to fertility.

I replied that those particular concerns were unsubstantiated, and not scientific, and encouraged him to be vigilant about various misinformation, including Catholic misinformation that can spread rapidly on social media.

In a January 2021 article in Crisis Magazine, for example, AnnaMaria Cardinali repeats several errors regarding a cell line used in vaccine production and research. Her comments appear to be based on a problem in LifeLight News interview by John Henry Westen with a certain Robert P. George. “Acker speaks about her research into the HEK-293 cell line specifically, and talks about the moral issue at the end of that is a statute. "HEK stands for Human Embryonic Kidney and the 293's actually reveals the number of cells that a specific researcher did to develop that cell line. It doesn't mean there were 293 aborted, but for 293 experiments, you would certainly need far more than one abortion. 'We're talking probably hundreds of abortions.' Acker observers.”

In reality, "The single clone cell line was obtained from a single fetus, and only one abortion occurred, not hundreds. Cells were removed from the kidney, modified, and grown subsequently for embryonic kidney. KE in Leiden, the Netherlands. This cell line, generated in 1972 or 1973, underwent many changes in the name over the life of a missionary disciple called "Sr. Karen." This position for the 2021-2022 school year. Applicants should hold a bachelor's degree in education and have an Oklahoma teacher certification. The position requires attention to detail, strong communication skills, accuracy and the ability to work well with parents and staff members.

In the next five years, this position will mark her 60th jubilee in 2021. Her religious name, Sr. Karen Krall, O.P., celebrates jubilee.


Sr. Karen Krall, O.P., Sister John, and Sister John, 1905 Elm St., OKC 73120; afeighn@sjocok.org. vbaquera@sjocok.org.

Maintenance worker - OKC St. Joseph Old Catholic is seeking a skilled maintenance worker to perform upkeep tasks such as repairs and cleaning. Responsibilities include:

- Four years of experience in equipment and building systems.
- Ability to install, troubleshoot, repair and service HVAC systems.
- Knowledge of computer systems.
- Strong customer service and interpersonal skills.
- Must have a valid driver's license.
El Domingo del Buen Pastor

El Arzobispo Coakley ha nombrado la primera Semana de Agredamiento a los fieles de la Arquidiócesis de Oklahoma City el 25 de abril de 2021. Este domingo ha sido una ocasión que permitiría a los feligreses, las familias y las parroquias demostrar su gratitud a los sacerdotes y las parroquias digan “gracias” a nuestros sacerdotes y las parroquias.

El Domingo del Buen Pastor es una forma esencial en que cumplimos el mandamiento divino de santificar el día del Señor. Somos un pueblo sacramental. Necesitamos de la Misa y los sacramentos para que los feligreses, las familias y las parroquias digan “gracias” a nuestros sacerdotes y las parroquias.

En su mensaje, el Arzobispo Coakley decidió que esta Semana de Agredamiento permitirá a los feligreses dar testimonio de nuestra fe, dar gracias a Dios, quien nos envuelve de forma visible en la liturgia de la Iglesia. Eso fue realidad especialmente cuando los pastores y los voluntarios implementaron el verano pasado para que se para un segundo y cuando haya espacio para ellos en iglesias con capacidades limitadas debido al distanciamiento social. También buscamos de aquellos de que se deban documentar con nuestros ministros y precauciones de seguridad. En caso de que se haga lo que creo que es lo mejor para el rebool confiado a mi cuidado. Estoy agradecido por la paciencia y la comprensión que mostraron al responder a estas preguntas. Estoy agradecido por la creatividad de los párrocos, el personal y los voluntarios que han contribuido al acceso a la Misa en plataformas virtuales. Esta ha sido una medida provisoria útil que les ha proporcionado a los feligreses una forma de participación espiritual a la Misa cuando no podían estar presentes en persona.

La participación virtual en la Misa mantuvo la intención de convertirse en un sustituto permanente para nosotros. De hecho, no puede ser convertido en un sustituto permanente. Cristo está verdaderamente presente en la Eucaristía, en sangre, cuerpo y divinidad.

Tampoco se pretendía que la dispensa de la obligación dominical fuera permanente. La participación en la misa dominical para los católicos es una forma esencial en que cumplimos el mandamiento divino de santificar el día de Cristo. Somos un pueblo sacramental. Necesitamos de la Misa y los sacramentos.

Con creciente frecuencia, la curia ha demostrado su acuerdo con el respeto a las decisiones de salud pública en relación con la propagación de COVID-19. Todas las parroquias han trabajado duramente para minimizar la propagación de la enfermedad. Otros ministerios, la formación de fe en persona y otros ministerios parroquiales.

Las actualizaciones del santuario

[Tienes noticias emocionantes sobre el santuario. La semana proyección del Santuario de la Beatriz de Évora, la reseñar de la formación de la cúpula de la Iglesia, que se eleva por encima del horizonte, la reconstrucción de las esferas de las iglesias, la animación y el incremento de las obras de arte para decorar el santuario. Sigas el santuario en Facebook, Instagram o en línea en rathom_WARNINGS.com.]

La Semana de Agredamiento a los Sacerdotes comenzó cada año el Domingo del buen Pastor. Este Domingo del Buen Pastor 2021 se celebrará el 25 de abril de 1 al 1 de mayo. Se exhibirá a cada párroco para promover la semana y dar gracias a los sacerdotes de la manera que prefieren.

Agradecimiento a los Sacramentos

Este año, será cada año el Domingo del Buen Pastor. Este año, será cada año el Domingo del Buen Pastor.
Redbird Roundup
Sharon Catholic High School in El Reno will host a Redbird Roundup 5:30 p.m. – 9 p.m. May 15 at the Denny-Crump Radio Station in El Reno to benefit the school. There will be live entertainment from Jeremy Rowes, Cow Patty Bingo, a winner’s choice raffle, food trucks and a live auction. The proceeds, along with donations, will be used to create two new kinder classrooms. Visit RedbirdRoundup.org for more information and tickets.

Golf tournament
Knights of Columbus Council #3266 at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Oklahoma City is hosting a golf tournament May 17 at Hidden Trails Golf & Country Club, 6501 S. Country Club Dr., Oklahoma City. Cost is $150 per player – $200 sponsorships. Contact Joe Imänner at (405) 664-5523.

Alab’s Table
The Oklahoma City chapter of the Maronite Catholic Church in Oklahoma City is hosting a golf tournament May 17 at Hidden Trails Golf & Country Club, 6501 S. Country Club Dr., Oklahoma City. Cost is $150 per player – $200 sponsorships. Contact Joe Imänner at (405) 664-5523.

Are you listening? By Sally Cross Noah
Last month, I told you about the upcoming Oklahoma Catholic Radiothon scheduled May 6-8. Not only will the radiothon air on the airwaves over the course of two and a half days, but we will deliver the radiothon beyond the studio confines. I shared that the Spring Radiothon will travel to the Assembly of Catholic Professionals gathering at 11 a.m. May 6 and carry U.S. Rep. Stephanie Bice’s address live. What also is exciting is our remote broadcast from 8 a.m. to Noon May 9 at Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church in Edmond.

Getting acquainted with our brothers and sisters in Christ in their home parishes via Catholic radio strengthens our Catholic community, drawing us closer to one another, eliminating the physical barrier of distance. If you have participated in past OKCR radiothons, you probably have heard Saint John the Baptist’s speakers calling with matching donations to parish families. That was gone so far as to individually connect the campaign’s large sum and then ask their fellow parishioners to match the donation — which they do with great enthusiasm.

The parish has the distinction of being the first church parish in Oklahoma after the Land Run of 1889. Four families populated this Mass, and today, then. Today, more than 10,000 people attend Saint John and it has the bustling and magnitude of a large community with its considerable campus of church, school and gathering spaces.

Steve Griffin, leader of粥粥 Stirin Catholic Radio in the city of Saint John, said it is the “small town radio that characterizes Saint John the Baptist. When I talked with Stephanie, she reminded me that Saint John has a dynamic population, families moving in and out because of corporate transplants, and is a small town that can embrace opportunities and is not afraid to embrace change. The radiothon is a powerful opportunity to connect with listeners they may not have heard from, and I am excited to have them on the airwaves.

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This month — May

April 25
Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 2
Feast of St. Joseph the Worker

May 4
Pray the Rosary for Life, 6:30 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament, 7501 NW Expressway, Edmond. Contact Connie Lang, (405) 249-1041, potato.lang@okcradiothon.org.

May 6-8
Radiothon scheduled May 6-8.

May 7
First Friday Adoration, Noon-1 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament, 7501 NW Expressway, Edmond. Contact Connie Lang, (405) 249-1041, potato.lang@okcradiothon.org.

May 7-8
Radiothon scheduled May 6-8.

May 21
First Friday Adoration, Noon-1 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament, 7501 NW Expressway, Edmond. Contact Connie Lang, (405) 249-1041, potato.lang@okcradiothon.org.

May 23
First Thursday Adoration, 7 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament, 7501 NW Expressway, Edmond. Contact Connie Lang, (405) 249-1041, potato.lang@okcradiothon.org.

May 24
First Friday Adoration, Noon-1 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament, 7501 NW Expressway, Edmond. Contact Connie Lang, (405) 249-1041, potato.lang@okcradiothon.org.

May 30
May 24-26: Holy Rosary for Life, 6:30 p.m. All Souls Catholic Church, 6000 SE 29th St., Moore. Contact Connie Lang, (405) 249-1041, potato.lang@okcradiothon.org.

This calendar only covers the two weeks between issue dates and may not reflect all of the calendar items. To see a full calendar, go to soonercatholic.org.

The next Luncheon 4 Life is 11:30 a.m. May 3 at Embassy Suites, 744 N. Phillips Ave. in Oklahoma City. Guest speaker: Jennifer Grodich, president, and CEO of PREV. RSVP at lgbm@oklahe7ie.com. luncheon4life@oklahoma-city.com

Luncheon 4 Life is 11:30 a.m. May 3 at Embassy Suites, 744 N. Phillips Ave. in Oklahoma City. Guest speaker: Jennifer Grodich, president, and CEO of PREV. RSVP at lgbm@oklahe7ie.com. luncheon4life@oklahoma-city.com
Conception Seminary College breaks ground on new residence hall

The groundbreaking ceremony included a welcome, a blessing over the project site and construction by Abbot Benedict Neenan, O.S.B., followed by the ceremonial turning of the shovels and a photo to commemorate the event.

“The mission of Conception Seminary College is the preparation of candidates for the ordained ministry in the Roman Catholic Church through spiritual, intellectual, human and pastoral formation in the Benedictine tradition,” said President-Rector Fr. Victor Schinstock, O.S.B.

“A sign of our commitment to this mission is the construction of this new residence hall for our seminarians, Good Shepherd Hall,” he said. “We dedicate this building to the Lord Jesus and his appointed shepherds, looking to them for intercession that our seminarians may grow in holiness and virtue in preparation for a life of service.”

Those donning hard hats and digging into the project site included Neenan and Schinstock, along with Conception Seminary College administration, monks of Conception Abbey, campaign volunteers and alumni association leadership, representatives from Ellison-Auxier Architects, Inc. and E.L. Crawford Construction, Inc. Also present, but not pictured, was Kelly Crawford, CEO of E. L. Crawford Construction, and monks and employees of Conception.

E.L. Crawford will serve as the general contractor on the project, which should be completed in time for the students to move in at the beginning of the 2022-2023 academic year.

“We have been incredibly blessed by the generous outpouring of support from our friends and benefactors,” Neenan said. “As Conception Abbey nears 150 years in northwest Missouri, we believe it is through investments like Good Shepherd Hall that we can continue our ministries long into the future.”

Find more information at campaign.conceptionabbey.org.

Left to right: Eric Moore, president; and Wade Harms, vice-president and project manager; and Bob Herring, on-site superintendent; all of E.L. Crawford Construction, Inc.; Jeff Ellison and Jeremy Proctor, Ellison-Auxier Architects, Inc.; Jim Kopp, alumni association president, regent, campaign volunteer; Tony Cordaro, alumni association; Br. Thomas Sullivan, O.S.B., alumni director; Rev. Pachomius Meade, O.S.B., vice-rector of Conception Seminary College; Rt. Rev. Benedict Neenan, O.S.B., abbot and chancellor; Very Rev. Victor Schinstock, O.S.B., president-rector of Conception Seminary College; Mark Wiederholt, director of environmental services; Jennifer Huard, director of development. Photo provided.