



Instagram

## Immaculate Conception School, Springfield

### 2022 NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL



Springfield

**O**n Sept. 16, US Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona recognized 297 schools as National Blue Ribbon Schools for 2022. The recognition is based on a school's overall academic performance or progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups. Secretary Cardona made the announcement during his Road to Success Back to School bus tour.

Eight Missouri Schools were recognized and three are in southwest Missouri, including Immaculate Conception Catholic School in Springfield.

"We are very proud of Immaculate Conception," said Deacon Rob Huff, diocesan Superintendent of Catholic Schools. "This recognition of its excellence is well deserved."

Mike Johnson serves as Principal of Immaculate Conception Catholic School; Ashley Harris is Assistant Principal.

"I applaud all the honorees for the 2022 National Blue Ribbon Schools Award for creating vibrant, welcoming, and affirming school communities where

students can learn, grow, reach their potential, and achieve their dreams," said US Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona. "As our country continues to recover from the pandemic, we know that our future will only be as strong as the education we provide to all of our children. Blue Ribbon Schools have gone above and beyond to keep students healthy and safe while meeting their academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs. These schools show what is possible to make an enduring, positive difference in students' lives."

Having bestowed approximately 10,000 awards to more than 9,000 schools, the National Blue Ribbon School award affirms and validates the hard work of students, educators, families, and communities in striving for—and attaining—exemplary achievement.

The Department recognizes all schools in one of two performance categories, based on all student scores, subgroup student scores and graduation rates:

- **Exemplary High-Performing Schools** are among their state's

highest performing schools as measured by state assessments or nationally normed tests.

- **Exemplary Achievement Gap-Closing Schools** are among their state's highest performing schools in closing achievement gaps between a school's student groups and all students.

Other 2022 Blue Ribbon Schools in Missouri included Nixa High School, Eugene Field Elementary School in Webb City; Dewey Elementary School, in Chillicothe; Blair Oaks Elementary School, Jefferson City; Kirkwood Sr. High School, Kirkwood; Chapel Lakes Elementary School, Lee's Summit, and Epic Elementary School, Liberty.

Photographs and brief descriptions of the 2022 National Blue Ribbon Schools are available at <https://www.nationalblueribbonsschools.ed.gov/>. ©TM



### STUDENTS EARN COLLEGE BOARD NATIONAL RECOGNITION

**CAPE GIRARDEAU**—Eight Notre Dame Regional High School students, in Cape Girardeau, have been awarded with academic honors from the College Board's National Recognition Program. Bridget Bailey, Celia Keran, Chloe Heisserer, Ella Shaffar, Evelyn Jones, Reagan Randolph, Wil Morgan, and William Dodson earned the National Rural & Small Town Award by excelling on their College Board assessments and in the classroom with a GPA of 3.5 or higher. Congratulations to all!

(Photo courtesy of Notre Dame Regional High School)





COME, AND  
YOU WILL SEE

Bp. Edward M. Rice

# Never underestimate the power of Our Lady over evil

**D**avid Carollo, Executive Director of the World Apostolate of Fatima USA, recorded an increase in rosary sales since *The Atlantic* magazine published an article in August that attempted to link the rosary to violent, right-wing extremism in the United States. After a frenzy of grave concern of what many considered anti-Catholic sentiment, the magazine changed its headline from “How the Rosary Became an Extremist Symbol” to “How Extremist Gun Culture is Trying to Co-Op the Rosary.”

The article said, “These armed radical traditionalists have taken up a spiritual notion that the rosary can be a weapon in the fight against evil and turned it into something dangerously literal.” Well, I don’t know about that. I do know that I’ve been carrying and praying the rosary since seventh grade. Does that make me a threat to others?

The article also shows the ignorance of the author because until the not-too-recent past, rosaries were issued to Catholics in the military. And the imagery of “war” and “battle” are part of the history of the Church. All you have to do is pray the prayer to St. Michael, “St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle ...” And maybe not as popular as in days gone by, we do speak of the three divisions of the Church as the Church Triumphant in heaven, the Church Suffering in purgatory, and the Church Militant on earth, i.e., we who are fighting the battle of faith. Have I offended somebody because I used the word “battle?”

I can only assume that this man has never heard of the prayer to St. Michael or the recent tradition of army-issued rosaries. It is also a reality that those of us of a certain age were confirmed with a little tap on the cheek to remind

us that we were to be tough in the battle of faith, as we were confirmed “soldiers for Christ.” If the enemy attacks, we

**Padre Pio,  
WHOSE FEAST  
WE CELEBRATE  
SEPT. 23, SAID,  
‘PRAYER IS THE  
BEST WEAPON  
WE POSSESS,  
THE KEY THAT  
OPENS THE  
HEART OF GOD.’**



counterattack, we always move forward, we never retreat in the battle of faith. Now to be fair, the author recognizes the concept of the “Church Militant in the tradition of regarding the rosary as a weapon against Satan.” The author even refers to a 2020 quote of Pope Francis, “There is no path to holiness ... without spiritual combat.”

There is also a recent tradition of rosaries made out of fishing line and sinkers. They are sturdy and long-lasting and will certainly appeal to the outdoor person. I hope all those who like to fish are not extremists! My personal preference is for a simple black rosary that is small enough for me to carry in my pocket. I think of the many times over the years that I have gathered with others to pray the rosary. Sometimes those moments were in a church, sometimes in an outdoor grotto and sometimes in front of an abortion clinic. To say that “battle beads” permit radical – traditional Catholics to demonize others is erroneous. Again, to quote from David Carollo, “We don’t pray against people, we pray for people. That’s what the rosary is all about.”

I do have my favorite quotes on the rosary:

“The rosary is the weapon for these times.” - **St. Padre Pio**

“Give me an army saying the Rosary and I will conquer the world.” - **Pope Pius IX**

“The rosary is a powerful weapon.” - **St. Josémaría Escrivá**

“The rosary is a powerful weapon to put the demons to flight and to keep oneself from sin.” - **Pope Pius XI**

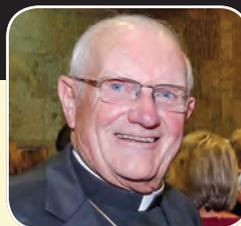
The chapel in O’Reilly Catholic Student Center, on the campus of Missouri State University, Springfield, is dedicated to the Claretian Martyrs. As you enter the chapel, if you turn around and look above you, you will see an artistic rendering of bullet holes, highlighting the execution of the

martyrs. During the Spanish Civil War (1936-39) violent religious persecution resulted in the murder of priests, nuns, and Catholic lay leaders throughout Spain. Among them were 51 priests and seminarians that belong to the Claretian Order. The seminarians were in their last years of theological studies, on the road ordination to the priesthood. On July 20, 1936, the seminary was overrun by soldiers and the priests and seminarians were arrested and accused of harboring weapons. Hearing the accusation, the superior of the seminary took the rosary from his pocket and raised it up for all to see saying, “This is the only weapon we have.”

In addition to being Respect Life Month, **October is the Month of the Rosary.** The Feast of the holy rosary is Oct. 13, marking the sixth apparition of Our Lady of Fatima and the miracle the sun. Most recently, Pope St. John Paul II (whose Optional Memorial we may celebrate Oct. 22), and Pope Benedict XVI, and Pope Francis have all recommended the rosary as a powerful tool. Let’s get out our rosaries and continue to battle. ©TM

## ANOTHER WALK THROUGH: ‘WALKING TOGETHER’

by Bishop Emeritus John J. Leibrecht



Before his retirement in 2008 as the Fifth Bishop of the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau, Bishop John Leibrecht wrote a standing column in *The Mirror* entitled, “Walking Together.” At the end of each article, Bp. Leibrecht would normally share a funny story referencing his travels to the schools, or time with friends, family, or other bishops. *The Mirror* has decided to share a few of these in an ongoing series entitled, “Another walk through: ‘Walking Together.’” We hope you enjoy them.

**September 25, 1987** At the luncheon which closed our Diocesan Pastoral Council meeting last week, we celebrated the birthday of one of the Council members. Stories abounded about birthdays and growing older. One member got us all laughing when she told us of a shock she recently experienced when at a fast-food restaurant, she thought she had been under-charged, but then realized that the cashier had assumed that she was entitled to a *senior citizen* discount.

**October 2, 1987** One man married 60 years said to a man married 66 years, in full earshot of both wives and with a big grin on his face: “I’m happy to meet somebody who has suffered more than I have.”

**October 9, 1987** *The Mirror* carried stories about the re-opening this year of the parish school at St. Francis Xavier in Sikeston. I preached at all the Masses one weekend as part of our joyous celebration of such an event. Last week I received letters from children at the school thanking me for my visit. “I hope you come back again,” said one, while adding: “We’ll shake hands, Mister Bishop!” A little girl wrote: “I am pretty and will send you a picture if you want.”

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## Saint Francis welcomes five Little Sisters of St. Francis



**WELCOME RELIGIOUS SISTERS**—Saint Francis Healthcare System in Cape Girardeau is pleased to welcome five Religious Sisters to the Saint Francis Family. Starting on Aug. 15, the Solemnity of the Assumption of Our Lady, and throughout the month of August, a new group of Little Sisters of St. Francis (LSOSF) have joined Saint Francis. Pictured are Sr. Kevin Karimi, Sr. Evalyne Ekesa, Sr. Julian A. Oyoo, Sr. Cecilia Akol, and Sr. Margaret Sergon. (*The Mirror*)

Cape Girardeau

**S**aint Francis Healthcare System is pleased to announce five Religious Sisters have joined the Saint Francis Family. The Little Sisters of St. Francis is an Institute of Diocesan Right founded in Uganda on May 1, 1923, by an Irish Sister, now Servant of God (SOG), Mother Mary Kevin Kearney.

“In 1875, God called three Franciscan Sisters to found Saint Francis Hospital,” said Gerry Salter, MBA, PT, Vice President – Specialty Practices. “The last employed Sister, Sr. Jane Ann Kiefer, OSF, retired in 1993. Almost 30 years later, Franciscan Sisters are once again present among the colleagues at Saint Francis Healthcare System, walking in the footsteps of fellow Franciscan Sisters who have journeyed this path before us and those yet to serve in this Ministry. We are excited to welcome them to the Saint Francis Family and southeast Missouri community as they continue the Mission and Ministry begun nearly 150 years ago.”

The Little Sisters of St. Francis (LSOSF) will serve in various capacities across the Healthcare System. Sr. Kevin Karimi, LSOSF, PhD, serves as the Director of Mission Integration and is joined by Sr. Cecilia Akol, LSOF, MA, a Spiritual Care Minister through Pastoral Care Services. Sister Evalyne Ekesa, LSOF, PhD, and Sr. Margaret Sergon, LSOF, PhD, will join the Neuropsychology department as Licensed Professional Counselors,

and Sr. Julian A. Oyoo, LSOF, MSA, will work in the Finance Department as an Accountant.

Sister Karimi joins Saint Francis from Mercy Hospital in Springfield, MO. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in Sociology with a minor in Philosophy and Religious Studies followed by her Master of Arts in Philosophy and Religious Studies from the University of Nairobi in Nairobi, Kenya, where she published her thesis, “Moral Objectivism vs. Moral Relativism: A Critical Examination – Ethics.” She then earned her Master of Social Work followed by her PhD in Strategic Leadership and Administrative Studies

from Marywood University in Scranton, PA.

Sister Akol joins Saint Francis from Villanova University Center for Access, Success, and Achievement in Villanova, PA. She earned her Bachelor of Science in English with a minor in Education Studies from Siena College in Loudonville, NY, followed by her Master of Arts in Education from Villanova University.

Sister Ekesa joins Saint Francis from Better Help, where she worked as a therapist and counselor. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in Clinical Psychology, Social Science, and Professional Communication from Alverno College in Milwaukee, WI, followed by her Master of Arts in Family Counseling from Marquette University in Milwaukee. She earned her PhD in Education and Leadership for Advancement in Higher Institutes from Cardinal Stritch University in Milwaukee. Since 2019, Sr. Ekesa has been professionally researching child sex-slavery and trafficking.

Sister Margaret Sergon, PhD, recently graduated from National Louis University in Chicago where she earned her PhD in Community Psychology. She joins Saint Francis from Friends

of the Valley in Maryland. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology with a major in Sociology and a minor in Community Leadership followed by her Master of Arts in Community Psychology from Alverno College in Milwaukee.

Sister Oyoo earned her Bachelor of Arts in Accounting and Finance from Mercyhurst University in Erie, PA, followed by her Master of Science in Accounting and Fraud and Digital Forensic Certificate from Siena College in Loudonville, NY. She joins Saint Francis from Franciscan Brethren of St. Philip in Williamsburg, VA.

Saint Francis Healthcare System is pleased to welcome the Little Sisters of St. Francis to continue the legacy of care and compassion the Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart and Mary began in 1875, now characterized in the Charism of the LSOSF “to bring newness and fullness of Christ’s life (John 10:10) to the needy among us in the Spirit of St. Francis and Mother Kevin Kearney (SOG).”

Saint Francis Healthcare System is guided by its Mission to provide a ministry of healing, wellness, quality, and love inspired by faith in Jesus Christ. Founded by Franciscan Sisters in 1875, we serve all who enter with dignity, compassion, and joy. ©TM



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## PROJECT RACHEL

### Abortion Healing Ministry

#### What is it?

**Project Rachel is the Catholic Church's ministry of love, support, and healing for those who have been involved in abortion.**

To implement that ministry, our Diocese has created an integrated network of services, including pastoral counseling, support groups, retreats, opportunities for sacramental forgiveness, and referrals to licensed mental health professionals.

#### Why are we doing it?

It's normal to grieve a pregnancy loss, but the loss of a child by abortion can create a hole so deep in one's heart that it may seem the emptiness can never be filled. With the forgiveness, hope, and healing provided through **Project Rachel Ministries**, many women and men have returned to a loving relationship with God.

#### How do people get help?

Women and men who have been involved in abortion are invited to contact the diocesan **Project Rachel Ministry** to receive free, compassionate, and confidential help. To learn more, call (417) 242-9300 or Email [projectrachel@dioscg.org](mailto:projectrachel@dioscg.org). A list of ministry resources is available at [hopeafterabortion.com](http://hopeafterabortion.com).

#### For more information

Contact **Kim Brayman**, Program Coordinator  
Office of Family Life  
Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau  
601 S. Jefferson Ave., Springfield, MO 65806-3143  
[kbrayman@dioscg.org](mailto:kbrayman@dioscg.org)  
(417) 866-0841 (office) | (417) 866-1140 (fax)

*Hurting?* Confidentially call (417) 242-9300 or Email [ProjectRachel@dioscg.org](mailto:ProjectRachel@dioscg.org)



**EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLES of the WORLD**

*The Very Rev. Shoby Chettyyath, V.G.*



**THE EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLE IN Buenos Aires, Argentina (1996)**

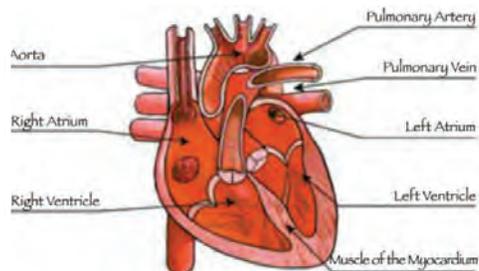
During the national three-year Eucharistic Revival, The Very Rev. Shoby Chettyyath, V.G., the diocesan Vicar General, will write a series of articles exploring the various Eucharistic Miracles of the World. A companion for readers in this series is, "The Eucharistic Miracles of the World," an international exhibition designed and created by Blessed Carlo Acutis, the Servant of God. All rights reserved; used with permission. More information may be found at <http://www.miracolieucaaristici.org/en/liste/list.html>.

On Aug. 15, 1996, in the Parish of Santa Maria, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, a parishioner received the Eucharist in his hands, but unintentionally dropped it on the floor. He left without taking care of the consecrated host. Another person saw what had happened, and picked up the host and informed the pastor, Padre Alejandro Pezet. According to the instructions of the Church, he placed the recovered Host into a bowl of water in the tabernacle to dissolve. A week later, the tabernacle was reopened to remove the dissolving Host from the pyx. At his surprise, the priest found the Host was not dissolved and there were

reddish stains on it. Seeing the reddish stains that were growing day-by-day, the pastor reported the miracle to the Archbishop Jorge Mario Bergoglio (the future Pope Francis). In October 1999, Archbishop Jorge Bergoglio gave his permission to test a sample.

Various initial tests were conducted by many experts including Italian professor Edoardo Linoli (who also examined the Lanciano miracle).

But the final studies were performed on March 2, 2004, by professor Frederick Zugibe of Columbia University in New York. He, an expert in forensic medicine of the heart, received the sample without disclosure of its source. Professor Zugibe identified the presence of intact white blood cells when it was brought into the laboratory, indicative of a living person. He confirmed that the sample was of the AB blood type that, like at Lanciano, was from the upper left ventricle of the myocardium. He also found markers indicative of trauma

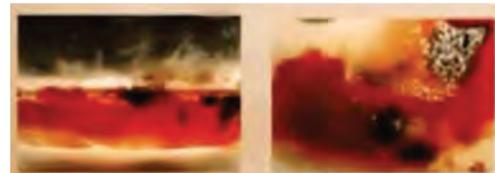


in the chest, and that the patient could not breathe for lack of oxygen. No genetic profile nuclear DNA testing was conducted in three independent DNA labs. In 2006, the results were presented to then-Cardinal Bergoglio. Today, the miraculous host can be seen in a monstrance in a small shrine in the parish of Santa María."

The Eucharistic miracle in Buenos Aires is an extraordinary sign attested to by science. Through it, Jesus desires to arouse in us a lively faith in His Real Presence in the Eucharist. He reminds us that His presence is real, and not symbolic ... There is no need to actively seek out wondrous signs. But if Jesus chooses to give them to us, then it behooves us to accept them with meekness and to seek to understand what he desires to tell us by them. Thanks to these signs, many people have discovered faith in God. ©TM

(<https://www.osvnews.com/2021/09/10/do-you-doubt-the-real-presence-learn-about-these-eucharistic-miracles/>)

*The Very Rev. Shoby Chettyyath, V.G., serves as Vicar General, Moderator of the Curia, and Vicar for Religious in the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau. He is Parochial Administrator of St. Francis of Assisi Parish, in Nixa, MO.*



On August 15, 1996, Father Alejandro Pezet picked up from the ground a consecrated Host that he placed in the tabernacle after putting it in a vessel with water to make it dissolve. When on August 26 he reopened the tabernacle he found that it looked covered by a reddish substance.



When Professor Zugibe became aware that the sample came from a consecrated Host, he exclaimed: "I do not believe it" and he was greatly moved. He himself had shown in a book the case of one of his patients who presented the same lesions of the sample that was brought to him. Doctor Zugibe confirmed that at the moment in which he had been given the sample to analyze, it showed vital activity.

Also Doctor John Walker, professor at the University of Sydney, in Australia, studied the sample without knowing from where it came and concluded that this was a sample of human skin which contained also muscle cells and that intact white blood cells were observed in it (we must underline that the white blood cells disintegrate after 15 minutes outside our body and here 6 years had passed and they had stayed intact).



**GRANDPARENTS**—Tennyson VanGennip sits with his grandparents during Grandparent's Day on Sept. 13 in Guardian Angel School, Oran. (Submitted photo)



**COOKIES**—Trase & Tate Webb and Kallon Graviett enjoy eating and visiting with their grandparents & great-grandparents at Guardian Angel School on Sept. 13. (Submitted photo)

**Grandparents (and great-grandparents) celebrated in Oran**

Oran, MO

Grandparents are pretty special people and we even have a day to celebrate them: Sun., Sept. 11.

Guardian Angel Catholic School in Oran celebrated students' grandparents on Tue., Sept. 13. The grandparents were invited to join the school children for Mass and then come to the cafeteria for cookies, milk, and coffee.

"We believe this was the biggest crowd we ever had," said Debbie Gaines, school secretary. "Lots of chatter was heard and smiles were seen as the grandparents and grandchildren hugged each other, ate cookies together, and shared precious time together."

Many pictures were taken by them and by school staff.

"We can learn a lot from our grandparents and should spend time with them often," Gaines said. ©TM

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(With special guest appearances!)

**Sunday, October 2nd ♦♦♦ 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. (ish)**  
Knights of Columbus Upper Hall ~ 3305 N. High Street, Jackson, MO

**Admission:**  
Free-will donations accepted at the door.

Food and drinks will be available for purchase.  
No coolers, please!

Proceeds benefit I.C. School and I.C. Parish.

For questions or information, please TEXT:  
573-579-0547-Patti  
573-986-8368-Darlene

PSR CLASSES PRAY TO THE HOLY SPIRIT



**KNOWLEDGE & WISDOM**—The Parish School of Religion (PSR) at Our Lady of the Cove, Kimberling City, opened the school year on Sept. 14, 2022, with “The Mass of the Holy Spirit,” celebrated by Fr. William W. Hennecke, Jr., pastor. During this Mass, the youth prayed for the Holy Spirit to impart Knowledge and Wisdom as the academic year begins on the students, teachers, parents, and parishioners.

(Submitted photo)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Branson**—The Knights of Columbus will co-host an American Red Cross Blood drive, **Branson Area Battle of the Badges**, Fri., Sept 23, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., at Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, located at 202 Vaughn Dr. To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-733-2767, or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter BRANSONHERO.

Sun., Oct. 16, 7:30-10:30 a.m. Sausage, scrambled eggs, biscuits & gravy, fried potatoes, pancakes, fruit, and drink, all for your good will donation. There will also be a bake sale. Proceeds to support the foreign missions in honor of the three Hotze brothers. For additional information, please call Geri, (573) 208-6445.

**Dexter**—Sacred Heart Parish will host its annual **Turkey and Ham Dinner**, Sun., Nov. 6, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., in the parish hall. Served buffet style, menu includes turkey and dressing, ham, mashed potatoes & gravy, green beans, corn, slaw, rolls, coffee, tea, lemonade, and dessert. Adults-\$10; children, ages 6-10 yrs.-\$5; under age 6, free. Carry-out is available.

**Marshfield**—The Parish Council of Catholic Women (PCCW) will host a **Rummage Sale**, Thu., Oct. 6, 7 a.m.-5 p.m.; Fri., Oct. 7, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sat., Oct 8, 8-11 a.m., at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, located at 515 E. Washington. Donations of clean & working household items, jewelry, clothing, toys, outdoor items, holiday décor, and antiques will be accepted on Mon., Oct. 2 and Tue., Oct. 3, at the parish hall behind the church. We are unable to accept televisions, computers, exercise equipment or paint/chemicals. Proceeds will be used to fund the many charities supported by the PCCW.

**Forsyth**—Our Lady of the Ozarks Catholic Church, located at 951 Swan Valley Dr., will hold a **Fall Rummage and Bake Sale**, Thu., Oct. 6, 7 a.m.-4 p.m.; Fri., Oct. 7, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; and Sat., Oct. 8, 8 a.m.-noon (Bag Day). Household goods, furniture, décor, jewelry, clothing, books, holiday items, and much more!

**Springfield**—Revive your faith by joining with the **Praise & Worship Prayer Group** every Thursday evening, 6:30 p.m., in the sanctuary of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, located at 2200 W Republic Rd., or join by Zoom. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, this group has been meeting since 2016 and includes many parishioners from across the diocese. For more information, please call Shelly Pichler at (417) 838-2730.

**Jackson**—The Jackson Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary will host a **Bunco Bash**, Sun., Nov. 6, in the Upper KC Hall, located at 3305 N. High St. Registration begins at 12:30 p.m., and play starts at 1 p.m. Entry fee is \$10/player. Pre-registration is not required. Prizes and snacks will be provided; drinks available for purchase. Proceeds will be used to fund scholarship program, and various other organizations we support, such as Options for Women, Birthright, and Special Olympics. For more information, contact Donna at (573) 243-5464 or jacksonkcaux@gmail.com.

**Springfield**—*May the Angels guide our children who have died into paradise. Jesus said. "... for I say to you that their angels behold the face of my father,"* Mt 18:10. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church will hold a **Mass of Remembrance and Healing for Pregnancy & Child Loss** on Wed., Oct. 5, 2022, at 6 p.m. All Catholics & non-Catholics are welcome to attend this special liturgy as we remember you and your children, whom we commend to the Lord. We will also be collecting baby items for the newborns at LifeHouse Crisis Maternity Home. A reception will follow the Mass.

**Kimberling City**—Our Lady of the Cove Catholic Church, located at 20 Kimberling Blvd., will have its **Fall Garage Sale**, Fri., Oct. 7, 8 a.m.-2 p.m., and Sat., Oct. 8, 8 a.m.-12 noon. Clothing, furniture, appliances, and much more! For more information, call the church office, (417) 739-4700.

**Leopold**—St. John Parish Council of Catholic Women will host the **Hotze Mission Breakfast** at the Knights Hall,

Parishes and organizations are invited to submit notices of future events to be printed on a space-available basis. There is no fee.



2022 Charity Golf Tournament

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2022  
12:00 NOON SHOT GUN START  
FREMONT HILLS COUNTRY CLUB

Over the past seven years, the annual Knights of Columbus Charity Golf Tournament has generated over \$60,000 in donations to local charities. Due to the generosity of the players, sponsors and contributors, the Knights of Columbus have been able to support Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri's LifeHouse Crisis Maternity Home program.

Four-person team scrambles, putting contest, long drive contest, hole-in-one contest, 50/50 raffle and Hole 19 Happy Hour!



Registration Deadline is September 19, 2022. Scan code for info!



Register for your Sponsorship or Team Entry and pay online at [www.ccsomo.org](http://www.ccsomo.org) or by calling 417-720-4213.

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## PRESIDENT & CEO NAMED *for* SAINT FRANCIS HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

Cape Girardeau

The Saint Francis Healthcare System Board of Directors is pleased to name Justin Davison as the new President and Chief Executive Officer, effective immediately.

“I am pleased to support Justin Davison as

President and CEO of Saint Francis,” said The Most Reverend Edward M. Rice, Bishop of the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau. “His extensive experience in Catholic healthcare, as well as his many talents, will be a great asset in continuing into the future the healing ministry of Jesus. In the spirit of the Franciscan Sisters who founded the hospital, he will continue to shape the vision of Saint Francis as the leading Catholic healthcare system in southeast Missouri, safeguarding the sanctity and dignity of human life.”

Bishop Rice will celebrate the Feast of St. Francis and Mass of Installation on Wed., Oct. 5, in St. Mary of the Annunciation Cathedral. More details to come.

Davison joined Saint Francis Healthcare System in November 2019 as Chief Financial Officer. In February 2022, he transitioned to the role of Interim President and Chief Financial Officer.

“The Board looks forward to working with Justin as our President and CEO. He has done an outstanding job as the Chief Financial Officer. We strongly believe he is the right person to guide and move us forward,” said Steven K. Dirnberger, Board Chair for the Saint Francis Healthcare System Board.

Prior to Saint Francis, Davison served as Vice President of Finance at Mercy Health in

Springfield, MO. He has more than 18 years in executive leadership experience for a variety of hospitals and healthcare systems.

In his new role, Davison will oversee the strategic direction, development, and expansion of Saint Francis. For nearly 150 years, Saint Francis Healthcare System has served southeast Missouri

through exceptional, patient-centered care. As the largest healthcare system between Memphis and St. Louis, Saint

Francis has evolved in the 21st century from a local community medical center to the regional healthcare leader recognized nationally for quality and safety. What started as hospital-based services has grown to include an expansive network of clinics and providers across our region.

Davison serves on the Missouri Hospital Association Board of Directors and the board of the Healthcare Financial Management Association.

Saint Francis Healthcare System is guided by its

Mission to provide a ministry of healing, wellness, quality, and love inspired by our faith in Jesus Christ. Founded by Franciscan Sisters in 1875, our priority remains the same: serve all who enter with dignity, compassion, and joy.

Anchored by Saint Francis Medical Center, a 306-bed tertiary hospital, and supported by nearly 3,000 employees and more than 250 providers in 10 communities, the Healthcare System is a driving economic force in the region. Major services include the Cancer Institute, Emergency and Level III Trauma Center, Family BirthPlace and Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, Heart Hospital, Neurosciences, and Orthopedics. ©TM



## OBITUARY | *Sister Michael Marie Friedman, OSU*



Sister Michael Marie Friedman, 75, an Ursuline Sister of Mount Saint Joseph, died Sept. 12, 2022, at Mount Saint Joseph, in her 57th year of religious life. She was born and raised in Glennonville, MO, and attended St. Teresa Catholic School and parish. When St. Teresa went from being a public school to a

Catholic school, the parish could not afford to continue the high school. Several of the girls completing the 8th grade at St. Teresa began studies at Mount Saint Joseph Academy in Maple Mount, KY, run by the Ursuline Sisters. Sister Friedman was one of those students, graduating from the Academy in 1964. She joined the Ursulines upon graduation. In 2013, she was honored by the alumnae with the Maple Leaf Award. She earned a bachelor's degree in education from Brescia College in 1969, and a master's degree in education from Murray State University in 1978.

Following in the footsteps of her Ursuline teachers from elementary school, Sister Friedman devoted 45 years as an educator before serving in outreach ministry. All of her ministry was in Kentucky, which included 25 years as principal of St. James Catholic Regional School, Elizabethtown (1990-2015). Sister Friedman served in pastoral outreach in Livingston County from 2015-21. She also served as information receptionist and daily annalist at the Motherhouse (2021-22).

Sister Friedman was preceded in death by her parents, Michael and Johanna Friedman, and her siblings Vincent Friedman, Patricia Howell, and Richard Friedman. Survivors include the members of her religious community and nieces and nephews.

The funeral Mass was celebrated Sept. 16 at Mount Saint Joseph, and was followed by the rosary and the praying the litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Donations in memory of Sr. Friedman may be made to the Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph, 8001 Cummings Road, Maple Mount, KY 42356. ©TM

## SEMO 'truth booth' evangelizes state fair

Cape Girardeau

For 10 days, a Catholic evangelization booth featured all things Catholic during the Southeast Missouri State Fair in Cape Girardeau on Sept. 10-17.

Area parishes, Knights of Columbus Councils, and other Catholic groups staffed the booth. “The Splendor of Truth” booth featured over 50 different free faith informational pamphlets, books, CDs, religious medals, rosaries, etc., to spread awareness and deepen the understanding of the teachings, traditions, and sacraments of the Catholic faith. ©TM

◀ **ALL THINGS CATHOLIC**—Bishop Edward M. Rice popped into the “Splendor of Truth” booth at the Southeast Missouri State Fair in Cape Girardeau on Sept. 13. Pictured were Mark Loos, Rick Horrell, Bishop Rice, Tedd Powers, and Gerry Strohmeier. (*The Mirror*)





By  
Fr. Joshua  
J. Whitfield

## WHAT WE BELIEVE, PART I:

# What Scripture says of Jesus

It all begins with Jesus. To discover Catholicism — that is, what we believe — one must discover him. But how? So common is the mere idea of Jesus that even in post-faith cultures almost everyone has at least some faint notion of him. Consider the innumerable portrayals of Jesus in art, literature, and film. Yet, how is Jesus discovered as the object of belief and worship for billions of people, and not just the cultural artifact?

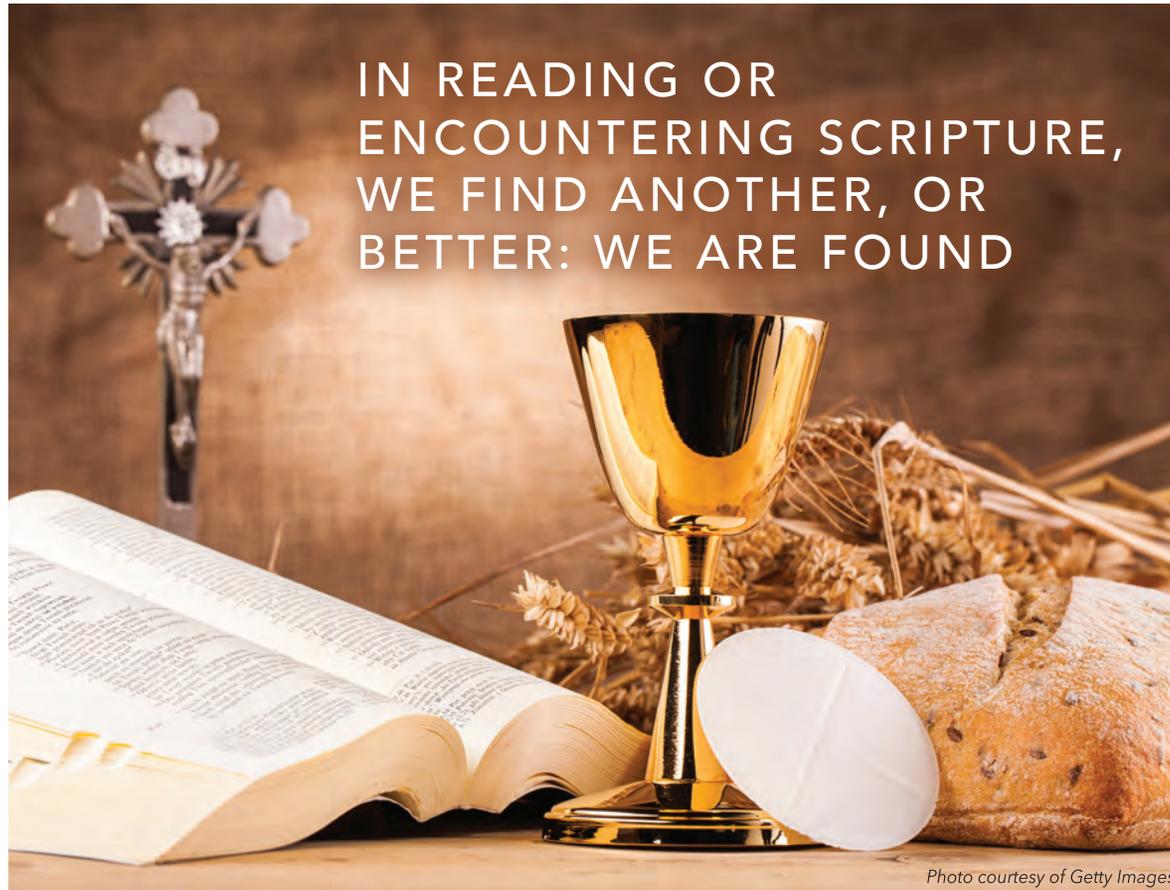
One can, of course, discern philosophically the God of Jesus Christ. St. Paul hinted at it, that God was evident even to pagans by the witness of nature through “invisible attributes of eternal power and divinity” (Rom 1:19-20). Later, St. Thomas Aquinas talked about knowing God via both nature and grace. Belief in Jesus, God’s Son, comes by way of the latter, by “another science, inspired by God,” he said, “beyond the philosophical disciplines” (*Summa Theologiae*, 1.1).

Ultimately, of course, philosophy seeks theology as nature seeks grace. What we can know of God by our own lights isn’t all we’re created to know, which is the tense, restless miracle of our nature. We are created to know and love God, but we can’t do it on our own. Hence, we are always searching.

### THEOLOGY & GRACE

Which is why all that we believe about Jesus, we believe God *himself* revealed. In the end, God finds us more than we find him. Which also, if what we ultimately say about Jesus is true, is the only possible way: that an eternal, immaterial, and invisible God would have to reveal himself, render himself findable, doing so in a way we can bear it. The fathers of the Church, like St. Athanasius, said we could only begin to comprehend God from understandable *paradeigmata* and *eikonas*, paradigms and images, because, of course, we are finite creatures and God is an infinite Creator (*Against the Arians*, 2.32). After all, we are, St. Augustine said, talking about divine wisdom and human beings (*The Trinity*, 1.23). Only God can make himself fully known.

That’s why we need Scripture. Just



IN READING OR  
ENCOUNTERING SCRIPTURE,  
WE FIND ANOTHER, OR  
BETTER: WE ARE FOUND

Photo courtesy of Getty Images

as God, in Jesus, was seen in human flesh, the Second Vatican Council taught, so too the words of God must be expressed in human words in order to be understood (*Dei Verbum*, No. 13). Again, because without God’s own accessible revelation, we’d be able only to demonstrate God’s existence by cause and effect, as St. Thomas Aquinas taught, a philosophically described Deity, “which everyone names God,” (*Summa Theologiae*, 2.2-3).

Yet the preceding philosophy, though quite important, doesn’t acutely matter. What matters is what it suggests, that Catholic belief in Jesus is, to use a Pauline phrase, in “accordance with Scripture” (1 Cor 15:3-4). Now, what Paul meant by this phrase is that the proper way to understand Jesus is to understand him biblically, particularly within the web of meaning provided by Hebrew Scriptures.

### SO LET IT BE WRITTEN

Such is how Jesus explained himself. Beginning with “Moses and all the prophets,” Luke wrote, “he interpreted to them what referred to him in all the scriptures” (Lk 24:27). For example, in Acts: Peter talked about Jesus in light of Dt 18:15. Jesus, Peter claimed, was the foretold prophet-like-Moses whom everyone was to follow (Acts 2:22-23).

Jesus is presented in Mosaic terms repeatedly in the Gospels. In John’s Gospel, Jesus even said, “if you had believed Moses, you would have believed me” (Jn 5:46). This is what we initially mean by saying that what we believe about Jesus is “according to Scripture.” Yet Christians also take this phrase to apply to all canonical writings. And so, to encounter Jesus most authentically is to encounter him in the literature of the New Testament, too.

Hence, what we believe begins with Scripture. To explore Catholicism, one must explore Scripture. Which shouldn’t be frightening. Sometimes, we scare ourselves off reading the Bible, thinking it only for scholars or priests. But that’s not true. The Bible is for everyone. All we need do is begin reading the Bible like any other book. It really is that simple. Perhaps read it together with a few friends, or read the Scriptures the Church is reading day-by-day or Sunday-by-Sunday in its liturgies. The goal in reading the Bible is not to become a scholar or some expert. Rather, it’s simply to know the story, to allow oneself to get swept up by the narrative, as with any good book. It’s just that reading this story can give way to a mystical experience, an encounter, a relationship. When reading Scripture — and especially reading and encountering

Scripture within the Church’s liturgy or within prayer — something different from ordinary reading happens.

### THE HEART UNDERSTANDS

What happens is we find another. Or, better, we’re found by another. That is, to put it plainly, we encounter Christ; he encounters us. In Dostoevsky’s *The Brothers Karamazov*, the monk Zosima illustrates the simplicity and the mystery of this reality. All a priest needs to do, Zosima says, is “open the Book” and read it to his people. There is “no need for him to spout wisdom, to give himself airs.” He need only read plainly to them the stories of Scripture. That will be enough. In the end, Zosima says, the heart will “understand everything!” It really is that simple. And it’s with the Bible — your own copy, on your shelf or in your nightstand — that anyone can begin to explore the Catholic faith.

At the end of his apostolic exhortation on the word of God in the life and mission of the Church, Pope Benedict XVI talked about “a new hearing of God’s word” (*Verbum Domini*, No. 122). That, really, is the best way to begin — or, for some, to begin again. Because what we Catholics believe begins with Scripture and the scriptural Christ. All we believe — our theology, our dogma — is rooted biblically. So, if you want to know Jesus, if you want to know what we believe, begin there, the Bible. Seek Jesus there. For as St. Jerome famously said at the beginning of his “Commentary on Isaiah,” “ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ.” And so, immerse yourself in Scripture. Because there is no such thing as Catholicism without it.

Father Joshua J. Whitfield is pastor of St. Rita Catholic Community in Dallas and author of *The Crisis of Bad Preaching* (Ave Maria Press, \$17.95) and other books.

“What We Believe, Part 1: Starting with Jesus and the Scripture,” by Fr. Whitfield is from *simplycatholic.com*, copyright © Our Sunday Visitor; all rights reserved, no other use of this material is authorized.



# EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION IN THIS THREE-YEAR EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

## HISTORY, ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION, PRAYER 'SUCCESS'

By Fr. Andrew Williams



Joplin, MO

***“I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world.” — John 6:51***

Beginning on June 19 of this year, the Bishops of the United States have called for a three-year grassroots revival of devotion and belief in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. They believe that God wants to see Catholics across the United States, healed, converted, formed, and unified by an encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist—and, sent out in mission “for the life of the world.”

Outside of Mass, one way we may encounter Jesus in the Eucharist is through Eucharistic Adoration. Let’s explore Adoration further:

### History of Eucharistic Adoration

When we talk about Adoration, what we usually mean is Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, the practice of placing the Eucharist in a *monstrance* (Latin, *monstrare* = to show) for the faithful to come and worship. Eucharistic Exposition has been an important part of Catholic devotion ever since it was made a universal practice with the “40-Hours Devotion” in 1592. However, although Exposition only then became common, worshipping the Eucharist outside of Mass was already a long-standing tradition.

As early as the year 120 AD, hermits carried the Eucharist with them in a small pouch around their necks. They did this so they could bring the Eucharist to those who were sick, but also for their own prayer and for protection against the dangers of the wilds and highway robbers.

There is evidence of the use of special receptacles and tabernacles in a biography of Saint Basil (who died in 379). He was said to have broken the

Eucharistic Bread into three parts when he celebrated Mass in the monastery. One part he consumed, the second part he gave to the monks, and the third he placed in a golden dove suspended over the altar. As before, this was done in case a monk fell ill, but the reserved Eucharist also served as a place and focus for prayer. As faith in the real presence of Christ in his Eucharist deepened, the Church became conscious of the meaning of silent adoration of the Lord present under the Eucharistic species.

By the 11th century, the Church encouraged frequent visits to the reserved Eucharist, also called the Blessed Sacrament. Windows were built into the chapels or the cells (individual rooms) of religious monasteries and hermitages, so that the faithful could make visits to worship Jesus, present in the tabernacle or the pyx. Saint Francis of Assisi, who was never ordained a priest, had a great personal devotion to Christ in the Blessed Sacrament.

Clearly, the practice of praying in the presence of the Eucharist has been with the Church from its early years. As time went on, it was even made a rule that each church should have the tabernacle in a place where the faithful can come to pray. It is an even greater privilege to offer that ritual during Eucharistic Exposition, when the consecrated host is placed in the monstrance on the altar. The Blessed Sacrament is ‘exposed’ for the faithful to see, and, although our senses see only the bread, our souls are changed by that real and radically close presence of Jesus.

### Adoration and Communion

Since the early days of the Church, we see Christians worshipped Jesus present in the bread-made-His-Body and the wine-made-His-Blood through the long-standing tradition of Eucharistic Adoration and Exposition.

Without a doubt, the purpose and grace of the Eucharist exists most fully in Holy Communion—after all, the Lord specifically said, “take this,

all of you, and eat of it ...”—but I would suggest that there is an important connection between Communion and Adoration. Eucharistic Adoration can lead to a greater thoughtfulness about what (Who) is given to us in the Mass; it fosters our faith in Jesus’ true presence in the Eucharist, and therefore multiplies the graces we derive from Holy Communion.

Throughout various times in history, although they went to Mass every Sunday, the majority of Catholics would only receive the Eucharist twice in their whole lifetime—once at their First Communion and once on their deathbed. The confession lines were long, but the lines for Communion were short. That isn’t to say that they didn’t have devotion to the Eucharist: they did. But instead of Holy Communion, their connection to the Eucharist was expressed in a “holy glance” at Mass. At the moment the priest elevated the bread-made-His-Body (the Consecration during the liturgy of the Eucharist), they looked upon it with great love, and offered their hearts to God; in a word, they saw and adored Him, yet, did not physically receive Him.

From our modern view, it’s easy to say that their sense of unworthiness and awe of the Eucharist shouldn’t have prevented them from going to Communion. After all, Jesus gave the Eucharist as medicine for those who have confessed their sins, not as a prize for those who are perfect. But at the same time, we should notice and appreciate their deep sense of what the Eucharist is, how it was so real to them as to make them hesitant to receive Him unworthily.

Today, we perhaps face the opposite problem: We receive the Eucharist so frequently that we easily forget what

it is we are doing and Who it is that we are receiving.

Reflecting on how God has lowered himself to come to us in Communion should lead to great wonder and deep thankfulness, but at times it becomes merely a habit. How many times have we received Jesus in the Eucharist without giving it a second thought? Has the sublime gift become a mundane routine? We have greater access to Holy Communion than any other time in history, and do we consciously reap the full benefits and blessings of that privilege?

I believe the key to experiencing the full grace of the Mass is to turn back to that “holy glance” in the context of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Being in the presence of the Eucharist during Adoration will prepare our hearts for Holy Communion. Like practicing until we know a song by heart, like muscle

memory, when we approach the Mass and the reception of Holy Communion, those hours spent in Adoration will all be present in our immediate spoken “Amen.” Then, we will see that we live in a time of immense grace, a time when God has cleared the path for each one of us to become great saints through the frequent and faith-filled reception of his Eucharist.

### Thoughts on prayer

I want to share three ideas about prayer, which can help a lot in Eucharistic Adoration.

First, my spiritual director told me this during my first year in seminary when I was having struggles in prayer: “Pray as you can, not as you can’t, or else you won’t.” It was a kind of prayer that

**JESUS GAVE THE EUCHARIST AS MEDICINE FOR THOSE WHO HAVE CONFESSED THEIR SINS, NOT AS A PRIZE FOR THOSE WHO ARE PERFECT.**



doesn't come easily to me, so I got frustrated and prayer became an anxious endeavor. He wisely saw that it was simply a matter of this prayer method not matching my personality. I just needed to give it up and try something else. The Catholic Church carries with it over 2,000 years of spiritual theology and methods of prayer. A spiritual director can be helpful but, even without one, do your own research to find what works. If it works, you'll probably keep doing it.

Second: *"There are some souls and minds so scattered they are like wild horses no one can stop. Now they're running here, now there, always restless."* This line is from St. Teresa of Avila. As one of the spiritual masters, she knew that not everyone is suited to long periods of silence in prayer. For them, it is helpful to bring a good spiritual book or the Scriptures to prayer, in this case: Adoration. You don't sit and read the whole time however; you allow the text to spark conversation. You read a few lines, set down the book, and speak to God in front of you in Exposition about what you read and what it makes you think of, and you listen, allowing thoughts and prayers to surface. Then, just as your thoughts are beginning to dry up or wander, you read a few more lines, and start the process over. The book serves as an aid to prayer.

Third, a quote from St. Paul: *"...It is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court... I do not even judge myself... It is the Lord who judges me."* We can apply this line from St. Paul to our practice of prayer as well. It is easy to sit and constantly judge our prayer, as if we were standing over our own shoulder and judging how well it's going. We should try hard not to. Realize: You set aside time for God, you came with a good will, and you're trying to make it a habit: 90 percent of the work is already done, and God is there to help you. The real test of one's prayer is the resulting change of the heart. Whether pious thoughts and feelings arise or not during Adoration, remain faithful to the time you've committed to, and you will grow in peace and holiness.

In summary: Come to prayer during Exposition with a good will, trying not to compare your experience to what you imagine other people's experience to be, or to some imaginary ideal. Have some time dedicated to silence and "Adoration" of the Lord, but also use reading to spark your prayer. Never doubt this: God knows how to speak to you in the way you will hear him. May God bless you all in your prayer. ©TM

*Father Williams is the Parochial Vicar (Associate Pastor) of St. Mary Parish, Joplin; St. Mary Parish, in Seneca; Chaplain of Joplin Area Catholic Schools, and Chaplain of Mercy Hospital Joplin.*

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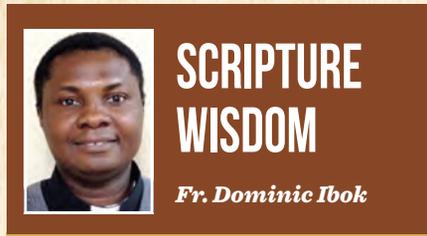
TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

# Is God your Source or just a Resource?

*Am 6: 1a, 4-7;  
Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10;  
1Tm 6:11-16;  
Lk 16:19-31*

The emphasis of riches and wealth in the Gospel account of Luke is overwhelmingly obvious to any reader of the Gospel. As in previous Sundays in this liturgical cycle, Jesus invites three groups of persons to be aware of the blessings that riches or wealth provide but also reminds that whatever riches or gifts we possess, each has its source in God. The three groups highlighted in the Gospel according to Luke are the disciples of Jesus, the Pharisees, and the crowds that followed Jesus with no specific desire of committing themselves to the Gospel proclaimed.

To paraphrase the words of a little-known writer, Tony Evans, our only source is God, and the riches we have and the gifts we possess are all resources that flow from that one source. Recognizing this will help us appreciate their value in our lives as we seek to be stewards of these blessings from



God. Our Gospel passage this weekend highlights this fact in a vivid way and how we need to be aware of this, especially in our relationship with our brothers and sisters. The parable points out two principal characters both described in an interesting way in our Scriptural translation. First, there is “a rich man who dressed in purple garments and fine linen and dined sumptuously each day.” Jesus does not give a name to this rich man, but rather describes him by his lifestyle and actions. However, the second character in the story is given a name, Lazarus, which means: God is my helper. But, he is also described according to his situation: “a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who would gladly have eaten his fill of the scraps that fell from the rich man’s table.” The interesting detail we immediately see here is that

both are described in relationship within the situation of another.

As Catholic Christians, one basic tenet of living our call is that like every other human being on the face of the planet, our lives are connected and we are not independent of others in living out our faith.

I am a Christian in relationship to my brothers and sisters in the parish, and so are you. Our Christian lives are not independent of others but connected to the lives and situations of others, whether it is a family member, a friend, a fellow parishioner, or a stranger. We are all very much

**The word of God reminds us that there is a mission attached to the gift or riches we possess.**

connected to each other. Hence, when we receive gifts from God, whatever the gifts, the word of God reminds us that there is a mission attached to the gift or riches we possess. Granted, sometimes it is hard for us to see the mission, but if you are a Christian and encounter another person, God’s primary purpose is for us to be witnesses to another. However, this does not mean that we will always fulfill this role of witnessing perfectly,

but, the invitation is always to not take for granted our vocation as witnesses and stewards.

The rich man forgot the source of his riches and when the parable ends, he is found in a place of torment and hopes that his “brothers” learn a lesson that he missed while still on earth. I believe that lesson is for every Catholic Christian who encounters Jesus Christ at Mass across our diocese, our nation, and our world. God is our

only source and all we have are his resources for us in order to witness

to him, who IS our Source. If we have journeyed this far in our faith and missed that point, today is yet another opportunity to learn and reset our ways. Only then, can we confidently say in the words of our responsorial psalm; “Praise the Lord, my soul!” ©TM

*Father Ibok is presently serving as a military chaplain for the US Army Reserves in Alaska.*

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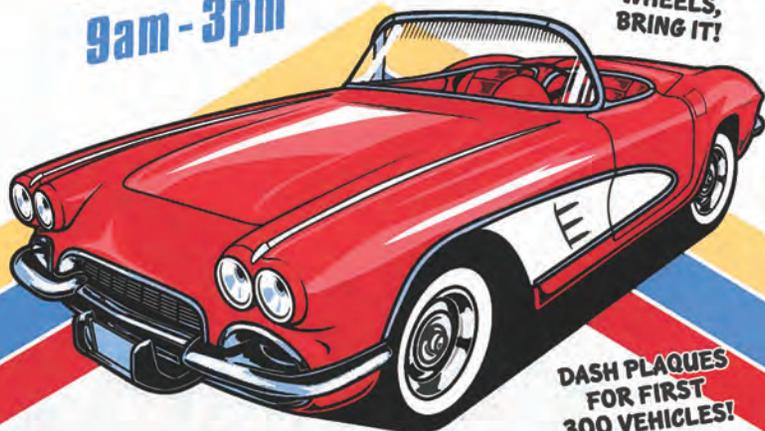


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# Encountering the Eucharist, East to West

## *Diocesan Pilgrimage*

The Corpus Christi processions held on June 19 served as the launch of the three-year *National Eucharistic Revival* in our diocese. Bishop Rice will make a pilgrimage across the diocese called, “**Encountering the Eucharist, East to West,**” traveling to a parish in each deanery from **Sept. 25 through Oct. 1**. Bishop Rice will begin with morning Mass at each location, then expose the Blessed Sacrament for Adoration throughout the day. School classes, families, and other parishioners are invited to sign up for a 30- or 60-minute time period of Adoration with the Blessed Sacrament. The Parish will close with Solemn Benediction at the end of the day.

### Encountering the Eucharist Pilgrimage Schedule:

**Deanery 4**                      **Sun., Sept., 25**                      **St. Agnes Cathedral, Springfield**

*Parish Mass at 5 p.m.; Adoration continues until closing Benediction 7 p.m.*

**Deanery 5**                      **Mon., Sept., 26**                      **Sacred Heart, Willow Springs**

*Parish Mass at 9 a.m.; Adoration continues until closing Benediction at 6 p.m.*

**Deanery 1**                      **Tue., Sept., 27**                      **St. Peter the Apostle, Joplin**

*Parish/School Mass at 8:15 a.m.; Adoration continues until closing Benediction 6 p.m.*

**Deanery 2**                      **Wed., Sept., 28**                      **St. Mary, Pierce City**

*Parish/School Mass at 8:15 a.m.; Adoration continues until closing Benediction at 7 p.m.*

**Deanery 3**                      **Thu., Sept., 29**                      **Sacred Heart, Bolivar**

*Parish Mass at 8:30 a.m.; Adoration continues until closing Benediction at 6 p.m.*

**Deanery 7**                      **Fri., Sept., 30**                      **Sacred Heart, Poplar Bluff**

*Parish/School Mass at 8:30 a.m.; Adoration continues until closing Benediction at 7 p.m.*

**Deanery 6**                      **Sat., Oct. 1**                      **St. Mary of the Annunciation Cathedral, Cape Girardeau**

*Vigil Mass at 4:30 p.m.; Adoration continues until closing Benediction at 7 p.m.*

“  
I encourage your parishioners to visit, especially those who are unfamiliar with Eucharistic Adoration or have never been. Together, let us do whatever we can do to bring more of our faithful to a personal encounter with our Lord in the Eucharist.  
”

– Bishop Edward M. Rice

