



Dinner for Life 2022

A young guest is carried during the 2022 Dinner for Life held Sept. 16 in Springfield, MO, supporting LifeHouse Crisis Maternity Home, a ministry of Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri (CCSOMO). (John Farmer de la Torre/Catholic Charities/The Mirror)

Springfield

The 2022 annual Dinner for Life benefiting LifeHouse Crisis Maternity Home was held Sept. 16 in the White River Conference Center in Springfield, with 235 in attendance. The theme was “Light the Night,” and underscored the ways in which LifeHouse lights up the broken lives of women, many who have experienced violence, substance abuse, homelessness, and trafficking, and who have chosen life for their unborn baby in hope of a brighter future.

Among the many impactful ministries and programs of Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri (CCSOMO), LifeHouse Crisis Maternity Home in Springfield has proven transformational for the pregnant women in its care who courageously rise out of traumatic histories into healthy, hopeful, self-sufficient families. Construction is underway for LifeHouse in Cape Girardeau, which will bring critical services and resources to homeless pregnant women aged 18 and older, their infants, and young children in southeast Missouri.

Music was provided to attendees at the annual fundraiser by Geezer the Band. The evening of dinner and witness was highlighted by present and former LifeHouse residents that spoke in person and via video as to what LifeHouse programming and its two-year AfterCare program have meant in their lives and the lives of their children.

While at LifeHouse’s 24/7 transitional, residential facility, residents receive

holistic individualized case management which promotes good maternal health and positive pregnancy outcomes. This includes such services as prenatal care, good nutrition, parenting classes, learning how to budget, how to find a job, getting that GED, and counseling, all in a safe, secure, and sober environment.

“These women have scars,” said Cindi Kopel, Director of Maternal and Family Programs at CCSOMO. “Scars on the outside and scars on the inside.”

“I was raised in foster care. I dabbled in a lot of drugs which led me to abusive relationships,” said Nickie, a LifeHouse resident. “I was five months pregnant, homeless and staying with my boyfriend. The last encounter, he had his knee in my stomach and was choking me. ... It came down to where I had to save my son’s life.”

The ultimate goal of LifeHouse staff is to walk with residents toward lives of self-sufficiency and nurturing relationships with their babies. The AfterCare program exists to fortify and maintain the habits hard-won while at LifeHouse, providing two years of ongoing support to LifeHouse graduates.

“In all of my 36 years, I have never been loved like this, I have never been taken care

of like this,” Nickie said. “I feel like the LifeHouse family is my family. I wouldn’t be here if it wasn’t for all of the employees.”

Did you miss Dinner for Life? You can still get involved and/or make a donation for women who choose life. Learn more about LifeHouse Springfield and LifeHouse Cape Girardeau by visiting www.ccsomo.org; telephone (417) 720-4213, or Email info@ccsomo.org. ©TM



PHOTO 1: Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri Board Director Bill Hennessey accompanied women religious to their seats at the Sept. 16 Dinner for Life in Springfield, MO, supporting LifeHouse Crisis Maternity Home. (John Farmer de la Torre/Catholic Charities/The Mirror)

PHOTO 2: Guests reviewed auction items at the 2022 Dinner for Life in Springfield, MO. (John Farmer de la Torre/Catholic Charities/The Mirror)



Bishop Edward M. Rice visited with guests from Sacred Heart Parish, Bolivar, at the 2022 Dinner for Life held Sept. 16 in Springfield, MO. (John Farmer de la Torre/Catholic Charities/The Mirror)



Grayson sat with his mother, Morgan, a former LifeHouse Crisis Maternity Home resident currently enrolled in the AfterCare program. They sat onstage with Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri Director of Development Mandy Long at the 2022 Dinner for Life in Springfield, MO. (John Farmer de la Torre/Catholic Charities/The Mirror)





COME, AND
YOU WILL SEE

Bp. Edward M. Rice

October's focus is Life & family as first 'school'

October 7 is the First Friday of the month, traditionally dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

This month, October 7 is also the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. In a beautiful coincidence, the hearts of Jesus and Mary will be united. Hanging on the wall of the kitchen at the bishop's residence, is an image of the two hearts, the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The Sacred Heart is a reminder of God's boundless love for us, while the Immaculate Heart stresses her maternal love for each one of us. Make a special effort to honor the Two Hearts by praying the rosary that day.

And, as the entire month of October is dedicated to the rosary, let us remember the old phrase, "The family that prays together, stays together." When was the last time your family prayed the rosary at home? By doing so you sanctify the home, praying the rosary in the "Domestic Church." While I typically pick different grottoes in the diocese in which to pray the rosary and invite everyone to join me, the more impressive thing is to pray the rosary at home with your family members. Please plan to pray the rosary together as a family and build up and sanctify family life.

Additionally, October is Respect Life Month. Please find all the different ways to celebrate Life as a family by focusing on these resources and various life issues found here: <https://www.respectlife.org/respect-life-month>.

In the September issue of *Legatus* magazine, the president, Steven M. Henley, highlighted the family as the most important "school," long before the kids put on their backpacks and leave the home to go to school. In that sense, we recall the words of blessing the parents at the end of the baptismal ritual, reminding the parents that they are the "first teachers of their children in the ways of faith." Given that mandate, then there is no such thing as vacation from the school that is the home. Pope Francis echoed those words in his encyclical *Fratelli Tutti* (*All Brothers, fraternity of the human family*), families are called to a primary and vital mission of education. Therefore, it is not enough just to send them to religion classes or to a Catholic school. The transmission of the faith belongs to the parents. And as the article brings out so well, "school should be in session all year long in our home." Hopefully it is at home where parents teach their children the 10 Commandments, long before they hear about it in a religion class. Hopefully it is at home where parents teach

their children to make the sign of the cross, along with the basic prayers, long before they hear it in a religion class. Hopefully it is at home where parents teach their children the importance of

Sunday Mass, whether on vacation, traveling to another city for a sports tournament, and making the Mass a priority on a busy weekend. The school of faith is always in session. There's no

vacation—no fall or spring breaks. The school of faith is always in session!

We are well into the new academic year. Pens, pencils, notebooks, book bags, and other items necessary for a good learning environment are currently in use. What about the rosary, the Litany of the Sacred Heart, or the Litany of the Blessed Mother? These are the items that we use at home, in the school of faith. "The family that prays together stays together."

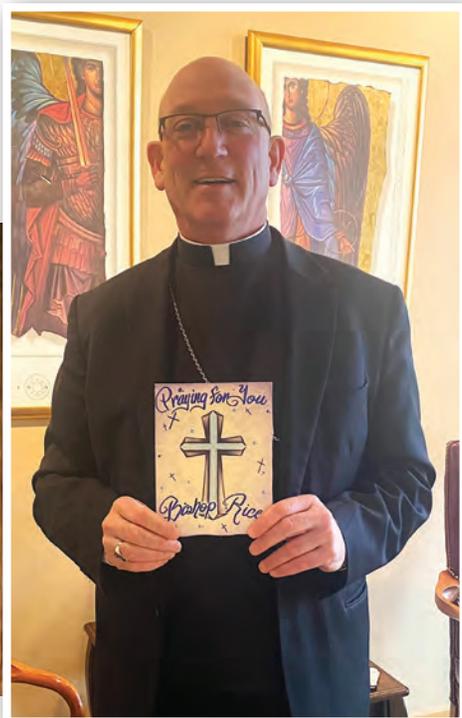
COURAGE/ENCOURAGE

In paragraph 2013 of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, regarding Christian holiness, it is stated, "All Christians in any state or walk of life are called to the fullest of Christian life and to the perfection of charity. All are called to

holiness." I have heard that quote many times and it is beautiful, reminding us that regardless of our state in life: single, married, ordained or vowed, we are all called to holiness. Holiness is not just for a few. However, what you don't hear quoted as often is paragraph 2015, "The way of perfection passes by way of the Cross. There is no holiness without renunciation and spiritual battle." Who wants to hear about renunciation and battle? Well, that is how you make spiritual progress.

There are many people struggling with sexual issues such as pornography or same-sex attraction who are looking for help in leading a chaste life. Yes, they too are called to holiness! That is good news! It is not an unrealistic expectation. The Lord doesn't call us to holiness and then not give us the ability to achieve. It can be difficult and that is why it requires renunciation and spiritual battle. And, in 1980 the first Courage group met in New York City to pursue the **five goals** of chastity, prayer, and dedication, fellowship, support, and a good example. In my next column, I will explain more fully the five goals of courage and also explain "Encourage," a ministry dedicated to the spiritual needs of parents and friends of those who identify as LGBTQ+. ©TM

The transmission of the faith belongs to the parents



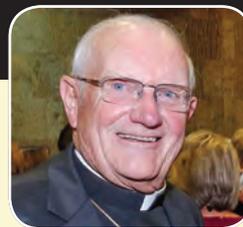
PRAYERS FOR RECOVERY—

Bishop received a get-well card from the men incarcerated at Southeast Correctional Center, in Charleston, MO, wishing him a speedy recovery from his recent knee surgery and promises of prayer.

(Photo by Sarah Pittman/The Mirror)

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.

October 23, 1987 Maybe you heard about the preacher who asked that everybody in the congregation who wanted to go to heaven should stand up. Everyone stood but one man. "Don't you want to go to heaven when you die?" the preacher asked the man. "Oh," said the man, "when I die, yes. I thought you meant right now!"

October 30, 1987 My automobile was taken to the shop last week for a tune-up. The mechanic called me on the phone at the Chancery to tell me I also needed new brakes (after 120,000) on the car. "They're expensive," he said, as he gave me the price. "They sure are," I told him, "but they're a lot less expensive than a new bishop would be."

November 6, 1987 A parent at St. Lawrence Parish told me his first grader came home the previous Friday all excited. Sister Dominic evidently told the class: "Monday, we are going to be visited by the *bishop*." The little girl told her father: "Monday we are going to be visited by the *big ship*."



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VEN Y VERÁS

Obispo Edward M. Rice

El enfoque de octubre es la vida y la familia como primera “escuela”

El 17 de octubre es el primer viernes del mes, tradicionalmente dedicado al Sagrado Corazón de Jesús. Este mes, el 7 de octubre es también la fiesta de Nuestra Señora del Rosario. En una hermosa coincidencia, los corazones de Jesús y María se unirán. Colgada en la pared de la cocina de la residencia del obispo, hay una imagen de los dos corazones, el Sagrado Corazón de Jesús y el Inmaculado Corazón de María. El Sagrado Corazón es un recuerdo del amor ilimitado de Dios por nosotros, mientras que el Corazón Inmaculado subraya su amor maternal por cada uno de nosotros. Haz un esfuerzo especial para honrar a los Dos Corazones rezando el rosario ese día.

Y, como todo el mes de octubre está dedicado al rosario, recordemos la vieja frase: “La familia que reza unida, permanece unida”. ¿Cuándo fue la última vez que tu familia rezó el rosario en casa? Al hacerlo, ustedes santifican el hogar, rezando el rosario en la “Iglesia doméstica”. Aunque suelo elegir diferentes grutas de la diócesis en las que rezar el rosario e invitar a todos a unirse a mí, lo más impresionante es rezar el rosario en casa con los miembros de tu familia. Por favor, planeen rezar el rosario juntos en familia y construir y santificar la vida familiar.

Además, octubre es el Mes del Respeto a la Vida. Por favor, encuentra todas las formas diferentes de celebrar la Vida en familia centrándote en estos recursos y en varios temas de la vida que se encuentran aquí: <https://www.respectlife.org/respect-life-month>.

En el número de septiembre de *Legatus*, el presidente, Steven M. Henley, destacó que la familia es la “escuela” más importante, mucho antes de que los niños se pongan la mochila y salgan de casa para ir a la escuela. En ese sentido, recordamos las palabras de bendición a los padres al final del ritual bautismal, recordando a los padres que son los “primeros maestros de sus hijos en el camino de la fe”. Dado ese mandato, entonces no existen las vacaciones de la escuela que es el hogar. El Papa Francisco se hizo eco de esas

palabras en su encíclica *Fratelli Tutti* (*Todos los hermanos, fraternidad de la familia humana*), las familias están llamadas a una misión primordial y vital de educación. Por lo tanto, no basta con enviarlos a clases de religión o a una escuela católica. La transmisión de la fe pertenece a los padres.

Y como muy bien dice el artículo, “en nuestra casa debería haber escuela todo el año”. Esperemos que sea en casa donde los padres enseñen a sus hijos los 10 mandamientos, mucho antes de que los oigan en una clase de religión. Esperemos que sea en casa donde los padres enseñen a sus hijos a hacer la señal de la cruz, junto con las oraciones básicas, mucho antes de que lo escuchen en una clase de religión. Esperemos que sea en casa donde los padres enseñen a sus hijos la importancia de la Misa dominical, ya sea de vacaciones, viajando a otra ciudad para un torneo deportivo, y haciendo de la Misa una prioridad en un fin de semana ajetreado. La escuela de la fe está siempre en sesión. No hay vacaciones, no hay descansos de otoño o primavera. ¡La escuela de la fe está siempre en marcha!

Estamos en pleno curso académico. Actualmente se utilizan bolígrafos, lápices, cuadernos, bolsas de libros y otros artículos necesarios para un buen ambiente de aprendizaje. ¿Y el rosario?, ¿las letanías del Sagrado Corazón?, ¿o

las letanías de la Virgen? Estos son los elementos que utilizamos en casa, en la escuela de la fe. “La familia que reza unida permanece unida”.

COURAGE/ENCOURAGE

En el párrafo 2013 del *Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica* sobre la santidad cristiana, se dice “Todos los fieles, de cualquier estado o régimen de vida, son llamados a la plenitud de la vida cristiana y a la perfección de la caridad. Todos son llamados a la santidad”. He oído esa cita muchas veces y es hermosa, pues nos recuerda que, independientemente de nuestro estado de vida: solteros, casados, ordenados o con votos, todos estamos llamados a la santidad. La santidad no es sólo para unos pocos. Sin embargo, lo que no se oye citar tan a menudo es el párrafo 2015: “El camino de la perfección pasa por la Cruz”. No hay santidad sin renuncia y sin combate

espiritual”. ¿Quién quiere oír hablar de renunciaciones y combates? Así es como se progresa espiritualmente.

Hay muchas personas que luchan con problemas sexuales, como la pornografía o la atracción por el mismo sexo, y que buscan ayuda para llevar una vida casta. Sí, ¡ellos también están llamados a la santidad! ¡Eso es una buena noticia! No es una expectativa irreal. El Señor no nos llama a la santidad y luego no nos da la capacidad de conseguirla. Puede ser difícil y por eso requiere renuncia y combate espiritual. Y, en 1980, el primer grupo Courage se reunió en la ciudad de Nueva York para perseguir los **cinco objetivos** de castidad, oración y dedicación, compañerismo, apoyo y buen ejemplo. En mi próxima columna, explicaré con más detalle los cinco objetivos de la valentía y también explicaré “Encourage”, un ministerio dedicado a las necesidades espirituales de los padres y amigos de quienes se identifican como LGBTQ+. ©TM

— “ —
La transmisión de la fe pertenece a los padres



DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD-CAPE GIRARDEAU
Office of Vocations

MIRIAM DINNER



Sunday, October 30 Thursday, November 3

5:00pm

O'Reilly Catholic Student Center
Springfield

4:00pm

St. John Henry Newman Center,
Cape Girardeau

All single women, ages 16-40 are invited to join Bishop Rice and religious sisters in our diocese for an evening of prayer, fellowship, and dinner. There will be time for discussion about Religious life and discerning the will of God.

For more information and to RSVP, email kkearbey@dioscg.org

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CONTEMPLATIVE



EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLES
of the WORLD

The Very Rev. Shoby Chettiyath, V.G.



1433 EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLE
in Avignon

During the national three-year Eucharistic Revival, The Very Rev. Shoby Chettiyath, 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.miracolieucaristici.org/en/liste/list.html>.

In the French town of Avignon, there is a church named the Church of the Holy Cross, which is cared for by Franciscan monks. There, they had perpetual adoration in the church, Jesus present in the Blessed Sacrament, exposed in the Monstrance throughout the year for people to come pray before him. After two centuries of perpetual adoration, this Eucharistic miracle happened in 1433:

A heavy rain poured down on the city of Avignon, and the Sorgue River, which runs by the city of Avignon, overflowed its banks. The city had never seen such flooding. On Nov. 30, 1433, Avignon was completely flooded. Due to all the rain and flooding, the monks feared that the church altar would be submerged and the Blessed Sacrament had been carried away by the water.

Fearing that the Blessed Sacrament had been swept away, two monks rowed to the Church. As

they opened up the church door, the waters had parted, and accumulated on both sides of the church, making a clear path through the center aisle of the sanctuary leading up to the Blessed Sacrament. The central aisle,



The Altar where the Miracle took place

altar, monstrance, and the Eucharist were completely dry! News of the miracle spread rapidly through the town. Hundreds of people rowed to the church to witness the miracle.

The monks determined that the anniversary of the miracle would be celebrated every year in the church on the feast day of St. Andrew, the Apostle. Even today, each year

on Nov. 30, the monks reunite at the *Chapelle des Pénitents Gris* to celebrate the memory of the miracle. The pathway from the entrance to the altar called to mind the parting of the Red Sea in the time of Moses. Therefore, before the blessing of the Blessed Sacrament, the monks recite the words from Exodus: "Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the Lord swept the sea with a strong east wind throughout the night and so turned it into dry land. When the water was thus divided, the Israelites marched into the midst of the sea on dry land, with the water like a wall to their right and to their left" (Ex 14: 21-22). ©TM

The Very Rev. Shoby Chettiyath, 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 November 30, 1433 a small church run by the Gray Penitents of the Franciscan order was exhibiting a consecrated Host for perpetual adoration. After days of rain, the rivers swelled and surprisingly, Avignon was submerged. By boat, two friars of the Order succeeded in reaching the church where the Holy Sacrament had been left for adoration. When they entered the church, they saw that the waters were divided to the right and to left, leaving the altar and the Sacrament perfectly dry.

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EVELYN JONES
Commended Student

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

NOTRE DAME REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CAPE GIRARDEAU

Notre Dame Principal, Tim Garner, recently announced that senior Evelyn Jones has been named a Commended Student in the 2023 National Merit Scholarship Program! A Letter of Commendation from the school and National Merit Scholarship Corporation, which conducts the program, was presented to this scholastically-talented senior.

Approximately 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Although they will not continue in the 2023 competition for National Merit Scholarship awards, Commended Students placed among the top 50,000 students who entered the 2023 competition by taking the 2021 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).

"Those being named Commended Students have demonstrated outstanding potential for academic success," commented a spokesperson for NMSC. "These students represent a valuable national resource; recognizing their accomplishments, as well as the role their school plays in their academic development, is vital to the advancement of educational excellence in our nation. We hope this recognition will help broaden their educational opportunities and encourage them as they continue their pursuit of academic success." ©TM

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KHJM	89.1 FM	Dexter & the Bootheel
KFSS	94.5 FM	Joplin
KQOH	91.9 FM	Springfield

Tune-in: Learn, Live, Grow, Be Inspired

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

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!

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, such as Options for Women, Birthright, and Special Olympics. For more information, contact Donna at (573) 243-5464 or jacksonkcaux@gmail.com.

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

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.

Sikeston—The St. Francis Xavier Grandparents Association will sponsor a **Rosary Rally**, Sat., Oct. 8, 12-noon, at the corner of Scott and Malone St. All are welcome to come and pray the rosary. Please bring your rosary and a folding chair. For more information, contact Karen Horton in the church office, (573) 471-2447.

Sikeston—The Women of St. Francis Xavier (WSFX) parish will have its annual **Chili and Chicken Soup Lunch**, Fri., Oct. 14, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., in the Parish Center. Tickets are \$8 and may be purchased from any WSFX member, or pay at the door. Carry out is available.

Springfield—St. Agnes Parish will host

a **Holiday Market**, Sat., Nov. 5, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sun., Nov. 6, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m., in the school gymnasium, located in The Catholic Center. There will be a variety of vendors with candles, cards, religious items, Norwex, Tupperware, paintings, many handmade items, and baked goods. John Carpenter will be there with his books.

Springfield—St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish Council of Catholic Women will have its **14th Annual Fall Bazaar**, Sat., Nov. 5, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sun., Nov. 6, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Many vendors available with handmade embroidery, knitted and crocheted items, Christmas décor, Jordan Essentials skincare, Party Lite, Tupperware, painted wood, glass items, handmade jewelry, religious items, pecans and walnuts will be sold by the Lion's Club, and much more.

Visit the dining room for lunch; chili, soup, frito pie, hot dogs, and many more items. Proceeds support LifeHouse, seminarians, and other ministries within the parish.

Springfield—Immaculate Conception PCCW will have its **Holiday Sale**, Sat., Nov. 12, 8 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sun., Nov. 13, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Start your Christmas shopping at our huge white elephant & bake sale. A lunch of sandwiches, soups, & desserts will also be available.

Springfield—Holy Trinity PCCW will have its **Fall Bazaar**, Sat., Nov. 12, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sun., Nov. 13, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Vendors will offer a variety of items; including original artwork and crafts, children and baby hats, blankets, and clothing. Christmas gifts and décor, jewelry, skin care, candles. Home baked goods, candy, and hand-crafted items will

be available. White Elephant Sale and gardening booth with lots of houseplants. Lunch will be available on Saturday from the Knights: smoked meat sandwich, coleslaw, chips, beverage and dessert. Breakfast will be available on Sunday from the Knights: pancakes, scrambled eggs, biscuits & gravy, bacon, fruit, coffee & juice.

Springfield—The next Strengthening & Healing Conference, **A Fresh Fire**, will be held Fri., Nov. 11, 4-9 p.m., and Sat., Nov. 12, 9 a.m.-9 p.m., at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, located at 2200 W. Republic Rd. Featured presenter is Fr. Patrick Gonyeau, Encounter Ministry. This day and a half conference is designed to stir a fresh fire of divine love in your life in the Holy Spirit! For more information, please call Shelly at (417) 838-2730, or Jan Dills at (417) 763-1579. Additional details may be found at www.strengtheningandhealing.org. To register, go to https://dioscg.formstack.com/forms/healing_conf1.

Springfield—Sacred Heart Parish will host a **Trivia Extravaganza** on Sat., Oct. 15. Cost is \$10 per person, with a maximum of 8 persons per table. Trivia will begin at 7 p.m. A meal will be available and will be served from 5-7 p.m., menu includes Sharla's famous Rueben sandwich, hamburgers and hotdogs; your choice of sandwich, chips, dessert, and a drink, for \$7. First place will receive a custom dinner prepared for the winning table participants. Gather your smartest friends and reserve your table by calling the parish office at (417) 869-3646. Come join the fun!

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

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY AT THE DIOCESE

MINISTRY PROGRAM COORDINATOR POSITION

The Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau seeks qualified applicants to fill the position of **Diocesan Ministry Program Coordinator**. This position works in collaboration with diocesan directors of individual ministry offices and their administrative staff members in the planning of major diocesan ministry programs and events.

Applicant must be a practicing Roman Catholic. High school diploma is required. Organizational skills with the ability to work on multiple projects at the same time is essential. Previous program/event planning is a plus. This position requires the ability to work collaboratively, using good communication skills. Proficiency in using Microsoft Office products is expected.

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To request an application packet, including a detailed job description, please contact Jan Smith at The Catholic Center, jansmith@dioscg.org, or call (417) 866-0841.





By
Fr. Joshua
J. Whitfield

WHAT WE BELIEVE, PART 2:

Discovering Jesus in Scripture

To know what we believe, we must read Scripture. But what does the Bible say about Jesus?

One way to answer this question is to examine the names and titles of Christ. In fact, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* takes this approach (see Nos. 422-455). Theologians both Catholic and Protestant have done this for centuries. Simply put, it's an easy way to explore how Jesus is portrayed in the New Testament—by studying his many titles. Examining only a few will be sufficient.

The most emphatic and repeated thing Scripture says of Christ, as Peter preached at Pentecost, is that he was crucified and killed, but that “God raised him up” (Acts 2:23-24). That is, Jesus is the Risen One. Such was the disciples' most profound experience and what compelled them to preach to anyone who would listen.

Believing that central message, however, only inspired more questions—biographical ones. Like, where was Jesus from? Who were his parents? What did he do and say? Jesus was a teacher, clearly. He was also recognized as a prophet and acted like one. But how was Jesus different from other teachers and prophets? The Gospels were written to answer just such questions—to meet faith's curiosity, the desire to know more—just as Theophilus desired to know, the one for whom Luke wrote his Gospel (Lk 1:3-4).

Such desire, such curiosity, is fundamental to the Gospels, and it carries us into the whole world of the Bible. “But who do you say that I am?” Jesus asked. “The Messiah,” Peter answered (Mt 16:16). This makes sense only in light of the Hebrew Scriptures, as is true of almost all that's said of Jesus in the New Testament. For instance, the word “*Messiah*,” the Greek translation of which is “*Christ*,”

simply means “*anointed*.” In the Old Testament prophets, priests and kings were “*anointed*.” The Messiah for whom Andrew longed, as did the Samaritan

woman, was imagined as a sort of king, like kings of old—the regal fulfillment of God's promise to David that his kingdom would never end.

So Jewish meaning, you see, gives meaning to Jesus. Such is true even for his name—“Jesus.” The angel Gabriel gave Mary this name (Lk 1:31); it's the same name as “Joshua,” transliterated also sometimes “*Yeshua*” or “*Yehoshua*.” Succeeding Moses, Joshua led the people into the Promised Land. Jesus, in a sense, did the same. The name also evokes the Tetragrammaton, YHWH, the four consonants that are in the Hebrew Scriptures, the unpronounceable, and at times unwritable, name for God. “Jesus” simply means something like “YHWH saves.”

The Jewish web of meaning also helps us understand titles like “Son of Man,” which is how Jesus often spoke of himself. In one sense it simply means “human,” for we are all sons or daughters of “man” (Ps 8:4). Yet, in another sense—and especially as Jesus spoke of the “Son of Man,” say, in Luke's Gospel—it evokes the enigmatic figure found in the Book of Daniel, the “son of man” presented

before the “Ancient One” at the end of history given “an everlasting dominion that shall not be taken away” (Dan 7:13-14). “For just as the lightning flashes

and lights up the sky from one side to the other, so will the Son of Man be in his day” (Lk 17:24).

Jesus here was not simply employing a colloquial term for “human.” Rather, he was placing himself within the destiny described in Daniel. When Jesus talked about his death and resurrection, or about the

end of the world, or when he said the “Son of Man has authority to forgive sins on earth,” it's likely that this mysterious passage from Daniel came to the minds of his listeners, certainly to the Gospel writers (Mt 17:22-23; Mk 2:10-11). It is as if that is what the evangelists wanted us to understand about Jesus, about who he is and what happened to him, that we should understand him in terms of the eternal victory Daniel mystically saw.

SERVANT JESUS

Another term used of Jesus was “servant.” Peter called him “servant Jesus” (Acts 3:13). Paul said Jesus “emptied himself, taking the form of a slave” (Phil 2:7). Early on for Christians, talk of Jesus as servant evoked the Songs of the Servant found in Isaiah. In the so-called fourth Song of the Servant, for example, an enigmatic servant is “spurned” and “pierced for our offenses.”

Yet, by “his stripes we are healed,” the text says (Is 53:3-5). It is easy to see how early Christians interpreted these passages from Isaiah in light of Jesus, as prophetic images of his death and resurrection. Such is how Philip explained this passage to the Ethiopian eunuch, for instance (see Acts 8:32-35). It also, along with imagery from Exodus, makes sense of what John saw in the Book of Revelation, the living triumphal “Lamb that seemed to have been slain” (Rev 5:6).

Jesus was also called “Son of God.” In the Old Testament a “son of God” was sometimes an angel or a king (Job 1:6; Ps 2:7). In the Gospels, however, more is meant. Mark's Gospel, as it reads at the beginning, is the “gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God” (Mk 1:1). The whole story Mark tells leads to just this realization, voiced in the words of the centurion. “Truly this man was the Son of God” he says at the foot of the cross (Mk 15:39). But what does that mean? To call Jesus “Son of God” in one sense doesn't immediately suggest Jesus's divinity. When, however, Jesus prays to be glorified with the glory he shared with the Father from “before the world began,” we begin to see that “Son of God” means something more. Rather, it describes the unique relationship Jesus claimed to have with God, whom he called “Abba” or “Father” (see Jn 5:17-18) and which, adopted by the Holy Spirit, believers also have (Rom 8:15). Jesus, in this sense, is the “firstborn” of God's many children, those in whose hearts the Holy Spirit is poured (Rom 8:29; 5:5).

Now, all this thus far simply speaks to the hope of Israel, and that Jesus fulfills it. He was, however, called other things that say more. For instance, calling Jesus “Lord” as both Peter and Paul did (Acts 2:35; Rom 10:9; Phil 2:11) was perhaps the most radical thing one could say of him. Calling Jesus Lord carried both religious and political meaning. Religiously, one could argue,



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RECENT PROJECT ANDREW DINNER A SUCCESS



Twenty-four young men from Springfield and the surrounding area came together to learn more about the priesthood at a recent Project Andrew Dinner. Bishop Rice, area priests, and deacons, gathered in Immaculate Conception Parish, on Sept. 14 for dinner, discernment talks, and Eucharistic Adoration. #25by2025 #DioSCG (The Mirror)

it identified Jesus with God himself. Whenever Jewish scribes came across YHWH in the Hebrew Scriptures, for instance, out of respect they often replaced it with “Adonai,” which is translated “Lord.” And politically, of course, Caesar was “Lord.” Thus, to call Jesus “Lord” was blasphemous to some and seditious to others. Which is why, for Christians, calling Jesus “Lord” was so charged and also dangerous.

And no less daring, at least philosophically, was to call Jesus “Word.” That is what John said of him, that Jesus is the Word that “was with God” and “was God” (Jn 1:1). This should be read in light of Isaiah where God speaks of his word that goes forth from his “mouth” (Is 55:11), but also in light of all the words of God and the Law, which Moses begged Israelites to keep and pass onto their children (Deut 32:46). It also evokes the word spoken by God at creation (Gen 1:3). The Greek mind, though, would have read “Word” a variety of ways: as speech, as concept, as the rational organizing principle of the cosmos. Philo, the Jewish philosopher, understood it to be the divine reason of things. This makes John’s statement startling, that in Jesus the “Word became flesh” (Jn 1:14). Here we’re talking about not simply the fulfillment of Israel’s hope, but something more. It is a unique claim that Nicaea would summarize only a few centuries later—that the Father and the Son are “consubstantial,” that Jesus is “God from God.”

Now, this is but little of what is said of Jesus in the New Testament. There is, of course, so much more. John said as much at the end of his Gospel (Jn. 21:25). St. Athanasius said the same, that trying to learn about Jesus was like trying to count waves on the sea (On The Incarnation, No. 54). There is, indeed, much more. Yet, one must start somewhere, and Scripture is the best somewhere to begin. Because what we believe is found in the Bible, and it is also where you will be found if you keep reading. For the truth is, we are all sought by what we are seeking. So, keep reading until you are found.

NEXT EDITION:

WHAT WE BELIEVE: PART 3

What is the Church?

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 2: Discovering Jesus in Scripture,” by Fr. Whitfield is from simplycatholic.com, copyright © Our Sunday Visitor; all rights reserved, no other use of this material is authorized.

KOFC ‘BABY BOTTLE’ CAMPAIGN RAISES FUNDS FOR 3 LOCAL AGENCIES

The Knights of Columbus Council #14096 of St. Mary Parish, Joplin, had another successful Baby Bottle Campaign from Mother’s Day to Father’s day this year and were able to disburse checks to three local agencies that provide services for women and families. ©TM



◀ Deputy Grand Knight Bob Schroer presented a \$1,000 check to **Melissa Thomaas, the Executive Director of Loving Grace**, a Joplin facility that provides housing for pregnant women and small children for over one year. Also pictured are Miranda Hamilton and Trina Davis the Program Directors; and Marina Treat and Joanna Persons the Case Managers. (Submitted photo)



Deputy Grand Knight Bob Schroer and Treasurer Craig Winter present a \$1,000 check to **Jordynn Griffith at Life Choices** in Joplin. They arrange prenatal care and provide several services in their facility. (Submitted photo)



◀ Program Director Fred Wheeler and Treasurer Craig Winters present a check to **Becky Wuerdeman at Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri**, this money will go to LifeHouse Crisis Maternity Home, in Springfield, that provides a place to stay for pregnant women and if needed a child under age four for over one year. (Submitted photo)

Notre Dame High School: Taking A Stand For Life

by Rachel Engelen

Cape Girardeau

A third of our current generation is missing. A third of our generation has never been given the chance to take their first breath or cry their first tear. A third of our generation has been lost to abortion.

It is not enough to sit back, especially for the members of Students for Life at Notre Dame Regional High School in Cape Girardeau. The club's 58 members meet monthly for various projects and prayer services as a way to defend life. Their philosophy is to develop and send out strong leaders for the pro-life movement; leaders willing to defend life from conception to natural death.

Since the school became a part of the Students for Life organization during 2021-2022 school year, the Bulldogs revamped their former pro-life club.

"I would say our club changed a lot in the past year because, technically, last year was the first year we had a Students for Life Club, said Brock Hulshof, 2022 Notre Dame graduate and former club president, "but we have just been immersed in all things pro-life. Whether it is a young or old human, we protect them all."

One way Students for Life helps in the pro-life movement is by collecting various items to help mothers in need and pro-life organizations.

Material and spiritual needs

Along with material needs, the club

provides ways to help with the spiritual needs of the community around them. One way the club accomplished this was by hosting a prayer service the morning the Supreme Court heard *Dobbs v Jackson Woman Health Organization* in attempts for a verdict that could overturn *Roe v Wade*. The club also hosted a pro-life rosary for the student body to broaden awareness to the cause and the power of prayer.

Another way the students were able to incorporate prayer was by attending a prayer service for the pro-life movement on the steps of the Supreme Court in Washington DC. This prayer service was hosted by the organization Students for Life America the night before the annual March for Life in January. Students and faculty also joined with thousands of others to march to the Supreme Court of the United States in protest of the *Roe v Wade* decision.

"It was really eye-opening to see the people that would want to march for one cause," said Riley Baird, student participant. "It really brought to life that there are other people who exist outside of the local area that support the movement since there were people from all across the country."

Students at Notre Dame were reminded of the pro-life movement in several other ways during the past



STUDENTS FOR LIFE from Notre Dame Regional High School, Cape Girardeau, witnessed to life at the annual March for Life, which is held each January in Washington, DC. (Submitted photo)

school year. The most apparent form of this was by celebrating Respect Life Week with a different activity each day for the student body. Members of the club also created Mother's Day gift bags for mothers who choose life to be given out by Birthright. Lastly, those who attended the March for Life, in Washington DC, created a miniature Field of Innocence at Notre Dame which was visible to all who drove up Notre Dame Drive.

"These projects gave me that drive to keep pro-life values in mind," said Baird.

Commitment to life

While millions support the right to life, reasons for supporting the pro-life movement changes from person to person. For Hulshof, his passion for the movement started in the 8th grade when he went on his first March for Life. He claims that it sparked interest in the science behind the movement and it allowed his desire to fight for life to grow into a blazing fire.

"I'm a part of the pro-life generation because there are so many people my age that just simply believe what their parents tell them, or they just listen to what the news is telling them," Hulshof explained. "But from my own experience and knowledge of the pro-life movement, I've realized that people don't know why they believe what they do, and I want to change that by learning as much as I can and tell people about it as often as I can."

For some, such as Baird, religion plays a big role as to why they got

introduced into the movement, but the truth behind it has created the desire to continue to fight for life and spread that truth.

"I've always been Catholic, so the belief is that life is sacred beginning in the womb and abortion should be illegal," Baird said.

While religion may be a basis to join the movement, Baird has spread that belief for reasons of his own.

"I believe that life begins at conception and that should be protected just like everyone else's rights are protected," Baird shared passionately. "The rights of unborn babies should matter."

Notre Dame Students for Life will not stop fighting for change, even after the reversal of *Roe v Wade*. The club plans on turning its efforts to pregnancy crisis centers such as Birthright, Options for Women, etc. The club will hold drives and raise money for such organizations and continue to be a voice for the voiceless.

The resounding response from students at Notre Dame is that life should be protected. Science proves that life begins in the womb at the very moment of conception. Each person is worthy of life and respect no matter their circumstance. Our society doesn't need people to sit back and watch others fight for the rights of the unborn. Our society needs people to be unashamedly pro-life and persons of action. Take a stand. No matter your age, you, too, can be the pro-life generation. ©TM



STUDENTS FOR LIFE CLUB ORGANIZATION MEMBERS presented LifeHouse Crisis Maternity Home & Birthright with a donation of \$1,000. Members included: Ryan Smith, Corbin Baird, Vita Galati, Caroline Logel, Rachel Engelen, Riley Baird, and Emmett Pfeifer. Other service included collecting 1,800 baby sleepers, 120 packages of diapers which were distributed to Options for Women, and various other pro-life organizations. (Submitted photo)



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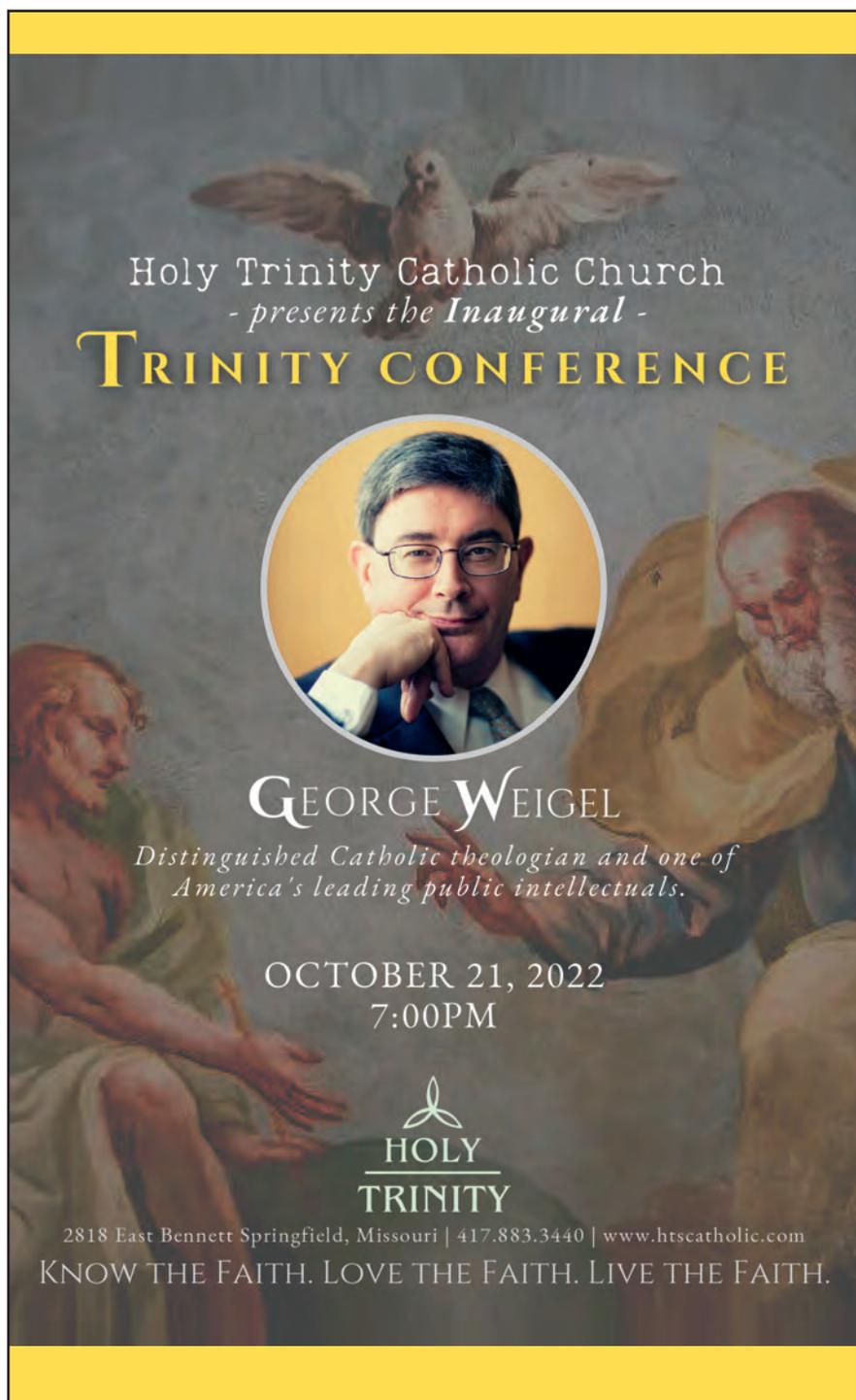


SACRED RELICS OF THE SAINTS
Treasures of the Church

Immaculate Conception Parish, Springfield, presents
a teaching and exposition of Sacred Relics on Fri., Oct. 14, at 6:30 pm.

Father Carlos Martins, a Vatican-appointed expert on relics, will be here with an extraordinary Vatican collection of over 150 relics, some as old as 2,000 years. Among the treasures will be relics of St. Joseph, St. Maria Goretti, St. Therese of Lisieux (the "Little Flower"), St. Francis of Assisi, St. Anthony of Padua, St. Thomas Aquinas, and St. Faustina Kowalska. There will also be a portion of the Veil of Our Lady and one of the largest remaining pieces of the True Cross in the world. Those in attendance will be able to examine and venerate each relic. Throughout history, many healings have been worked in the presence of relics; and thousands have occurred through this ministry. Do not miss this opportunity. You are encouraged to bring your articles of devotion (such as rosaries, holy cards, etc.) and pictures of ill friends/family members, which you will be able to touch to the reliquaries as a means of intercession.

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For more information, please contact the Office of Child and Youth Protection, childandyouthprotection@dioscg.org; or Bill Holtmeyer, billholtmeyer@dioscg.org; or Shelly Ferry, sferry@dioscg.org, (417) 866-0841.

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Heavenly blessings flow upon the humble

2 Kings 5:14-17;
Psalm 98:1, 2-3, 3-4;
2 Timothy 2:8-13;
Luke 17:11-19

It is an exciting story in the fifth chapter of Second Kings: the healing of leper Naaman. Naaman, the commander of the army of the king of Aram, was sent to prophet Elisha—who started his ministry with “double portion anointing” (2 Kg. 2, 9.15).

Though the biblical meaning of the name Naaman is “pleasant,” his response to the prophet’s message was not pleasant and so he resisted the prophecy. The problem with this commander was, he had already planned how God should act and intervene in his life. So the first lesson we learn from this is, never approach God with our own plans. God has his own plans for us and he will meet us where we are.

Naaman yielded to the reasoning of his servants, because those servants spoke some sense into him. Let us keep in mind that wisdom comes not only from people of high profile, but also from those whom we consider as illiterate or ordinary people.

“Elisha sent him the message: Go and wash seven times in Jordan ...” Simple acts with faith and obedience to God’s will produce great results. “Naaman went down and plunged into Jordan seven times at the word of Elisha, the man of God.” The result was astounding,



SCRIPTURE WISDOM
Fr. Antony
Thekkanath, VC

even beyond his wildest dreams: “His flesh became again like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean of his leprosy.” In my experience, I have witnessed that traditional and simple prayers have brought great results; confession, with a true contrite heart, led to the healing of mind and body; prayer of praising and thanksgiving, gave peace of mind.

Despite being an outstanding

We receive heavenly blessings when we humble ourselves and obey the Lord.

warrior and commander of the army, Naaman was a leper. No matter how powerful, influential, and wealthy we are, keep in mind we are vulnerable. We receive heavenly blessings when we humble ourselves and obey the Lord.

Naaman asked the prophet’s permission to “have two mule-loads of earth.” It was a thoughtful reminder of the ‘holy ground’ where he felt and experienced the Holy and Mighty One of Israel. He wanted to cherish that experience for the rest of his life. We

have to go out of the church not with the weight of the soil, but with the ‘light’ of Jesus having him in our heart.

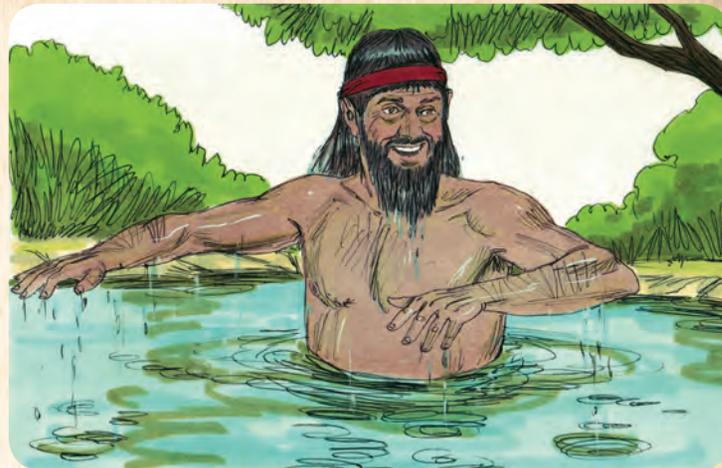
The healing led Naaman to a change in his belief; it convinced him that the God of Elisha, the prophet, is the true God. Certain experiences either good or bad happen in our lives, to deepen our faith in the Lord.

CLEANSING OF LEPERS

In today’s Gospel, too, we see healing of lepers. The cleansing of the lepers was an identifying marker of Messianic era: “Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: ... the lepers are cleansed” (Luke 7, 22).

The healing of the lepers takes place step by step: crying out from a distance, believing in Jesus’ words, healing on their way to show themselves to the priests, returning to Jesus praising God, and prostrating at the feet of Jesus.

Those 10 lepers were people of simple faith: they simply believed in the words of Jesus who said, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” They did not have any demand that Jesus



Naaman Healed in Jordan River (Getty Images)

should touch them or show some signs contrary to Naaman the leper.

A traditional believer may take everything for granted and may be spiritually deaf. The Samaritan, an outsider, was more responsive. A longtime member of a parish may not be the most spiritually-mature and deep in faith.

The 10 lepers “raised their voices” and asked for Jesus’ mercy. Jesus responded. Only one “returned, glorifying God in a loud voice.” Our prayer of thanksgiving should be as loud as our clamoring requests.

We have to acknowledge everything that we receive from the Lord. Let us be like the Samaritan who returned to thank the Lord. ©TM

Father Thekkanath is the Pastor of St. John Parish, Leopold, MO, and St. Anthony Mission Church, in Glennon, MO.

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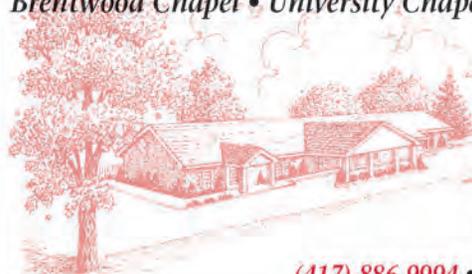


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#GIVINGTUESDAY

November 29, 2022



With the blessing of Bishop Edward Rice, the Diocese will again participate in the **#iGiveCatholic Giving Day**, the annual Online fundraising opportunity to our parishes, schools, Catholic Campus Ministries, Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri and other apostolates of the Diocese.

#iGiveCatholic is a 24-hour Online giving event for the faithful in (arch)dioceses across the nation to unite and raise as many charitable dollars as possible for our participating Catholic parishes, schools, and ministries on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving. This easy, secure, and exciting event offers parish leaders a golden opportunity to fund needed projects such as additional funding of a food pantry, building a needed storage shed, sponsoring a student or two in the parish Catholic school, or sending a youth group to a conference. Working together creatively in this annual social media fund-raising campaign can lead to

the realization of these and many other projects and goals.

This year, #GivingTuesday is on NOVEMBER 29, when donations for the #iGiveCatholic campaign will be accepted at igivecatholic.org from midnight to 11:59 PM CST. **Those eligible organizations that wish to participate should activate their profile page by Nov. 2.**

Here is a link (<https://springfieldcg.igivecatholic.org/>) to the Diocesan home page for #iGiveCatholic so that you can learn more about the program and register. It is typically more successful to fundraise with #iGiveCatholic by picking a particular project or program. For more information contact Shasta Beckers, sbeckers@dioscg.org; or Doug Kissinger, dkissinger@dioscg.org. **We hope you participate in the 2022 #iGiveCatholic Giving Day!**



Questions or concerns? Contact Doug Kissinger at (417) 866-0841 or Email him at dkissinger@dioscg.org



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