



## Mardi Gras Ball for Life GALA FUNDS LIFEHOUSE CAPE GIRARDEAU



**LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL**—The Very Rev. Allan Saunders, Bishop Edward M. Rice, and Fr. Laurent Okitakatshi posed for a photo during the 2023 Mardi Gras Ball for Life held Feb. 18. Funds from the gala support LifeHouse Cape Girardeau, a crisis maternity home for homeless pregnant women and their child, a ministry of Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri. Under construction, the facility is projected to welcome its first residents in February 2024. *(The Mirror)*

### Cape Girardeau

The good times rolled for the second annual Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri 2023 “Mardi Gras Ball for Life,” held Feb. 18, in the Drury Plaza Hotel Conference Center, Cape Girardeau.

It was the party of the year, complete with a fabulous dinner, games, the crowning of a Mardi Gras King, and a festive live auction, featuring local legend Mitch Miller, who, along with Emcee Mike Renick, entertained the crowd while raising money for the future LifeHouse Crisis Maternity Home Cape Girardeau. The evening was capped off with dancing to the live music of “Spectrum,” a St. Louis premier variety dance band.

The night was a celebration as the community anticipates the February 2024 opening of LifeHouse, a residential program for homeless, pregnant women aged 18 and older. LifeHouse is not just a



**BIDDING NUMBERS**—Bidding numbers and tickets were assigned during the 2023 Mardi Gras Ball for Life held Feb. 18 for LifeHouse Cape Girardeau. The evening included a meal, dancing, a live auction, and the crowning of the Mardi Gras King, among other activities. *(CCSOMO)*

shelter but a comprehensive program, the goal of which is making a better life for the mother and child.

*Mardi Gras Ball for Life* is an annual gala with all funds raised supporting LifeHouse.

“It was a truly amazing event to support LifeHouse Cape Girardeau,” said Ken Palermo, Executive Director of Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri. “After years of planning, reaching for new relationships across communities, and building on the successes of LifeHouse Springfield, our vision is not only felt, but seen in the ongoing construction. We would not be at this point without the support demonstrated here and since the project’s conception.”

This year’s sponsors were gratefully acknowledged, including RIHC Contracting, Saint Francis Healthcare System, CPU Inc, Drury Development Corporation, Drury Southwest, Beussink, Hey & Roe CPAs, Knights of Columbus Council #1111, Don Carlos of Cape Girardeau, Jackson, Chaffee, FGR Mechanical, Red Letter Communications, Steven and Debra Frye, and Kevin and Susan Stanfield.

### 15-UNIT LIFEHOUSE CRISIS MATERNITY HOME

LifeHouse Cape Girardeau will be located at Spanish and Park Streets on a nearly two-acre plot of land that has already been donated by a generous benefactor for this specific purpose. Spanning 17,000 square feet, LifeHouse Cape Girardeau will include 15 units, each housing one resident (mother) and her child(ren), indoor and outdoor community spaces, administrative



**STAFFERS**—Some of the staff of Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri were in the spirit Feb. 18 during the 2023 Mardi Gras Ball for Life in Cape Girardeau. Pictured were Danylle Hoover, Cindi Kopel, Rhea Keller, and Nikohl McKee. Proceeds of the gala benefit LifeHouse Crisis Maternity Home Cape Girardeau. *(CCSOMO)*



**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE**—Tedd Powers is pictured during the 2023 Mardi Gras Ball for Life held Feb. 18 benefiting LifeHouse Cape Girardeau. Powers co-chairs the capital campaign committee along with his wife, Laura, and Richard and Rhonda Cuba. *(CCSOMO)*

office space for LifeHouse and Catholic Charities’ housing and community pregnancy support programs, and a building for material donations. Situated downtown, LifeHouse Cape Girardeau will breathe fresh life into its immediate surroundings.

### OPERATING EXPENSES FOR FIRST TWO YEARS

While the space in which Catholic Charities may provide this critical service is a necessary first step, this campaign seeks also to provide immediate financial stability by raising the first two years of operating expenses for LifeHouse Cape Girardeau, thereby sustaining it as it welcomes its first residents. These expenses are estimated to amount to \$2 million based on LifeHouse Springfield’s operating expenses.

For more information, to get involved, or to make a donation, please visit [www.ccsomo.org](http://www.ccsomo.org). ©TM



*“Through this brick and mortar presence, the love of Christ will remain evident every day, with every service provided, every hand held, and with every heart led towards healing. Thank you for your generous consideration and prayers as LifeHouse Cape Girardeau enters this very exciting phase.”*

—KEN PALERMO, Executive Director, Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri

The next issue of *The Mirror* will be **March 31, 2023**. Sign up to receive the diocesan newspaper via Email in digital format: Contact Debbie Thompson at (417) 866-0841, or Email: [dthompson@dioscg.org](mailto:dthompson@dioscg.org).





**COME, AND  
YOU WILL SEE**  
Bp. Edward M. Rice

# The Rosary is our source of consolation

**“Never has a Lent been more important. Every newspaper and every newscast tells us of terrible happenings throughout the world. We must be prepared for whatever is coming by taking up every means provided by Mother Church. We must get ourselves ready, no matter what the future, to live in peace and holiness, without fear and without concern for our own lives.”**

These are the words of Jean Fox, of Madonna House, from a letter written on March 10, 2003.

Maybe you thought these words were written today and they certainly do apply. The news is filled with war, turmoil, and natural disasters. There are many things that can rob us of our peace if we allow it. In these days of challenge and difficulty, let us turn to Our Lady, Queen of Peace. We turn to the rosary, the source of our consolation. Our own diocesan patron, Pope St. Pius X said “The rosary is the most beautiful and the most rich in graces of all prayers; It is the prayer that

touches most the heart of the Mother of God ... and if you wish peace to reign in your homes, recite the family rosary.” I echo once again the words of Fr. Peyton, the “Rosary Priest,” “The family that prays together, stays together.”

Could not the family rosary be a beautiful Lenten activity? How touched I am when I see spouses and children in adoration at Saint Francis Hospital, Cape Girardeau, and Holy Trinity Parish chapel, Springfield. How beautiful it would be to receive an invitation to join a family in their family rosary (I may regret this!!!) Or how about a group of families coming together? With the month of May right around the corner, I will once again try to schedule a few “Meet Me At The Grotto” events to pray the rosary at some of our beautiful outdoor shrines spread throughout the diocese.

In this time of prayer, fasting, and charity, each one of us is invited to a renewal, a conversion, a turning away from the things that hinder us from turning more fully toward Christ. When we respond to the 40 days of Lent, we participate more deeply in the glory of the Risen Lord at Easter. As your Lenten

journey continues, please know of my prayerful support!

## PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

Remember also to pray for and promote vocations to the priesthood and to the religious life. I have scheduled a series of Masses followed by the rosary throughout the diocese for that very intention. Join me if possible! The remaining Masses for Vocations will be Tuesday, March 28, 6 p.m., St. Peter the Apostle, Joplin; Tuesday, April 11, 5:30 p.m., Saint Agnes Cathedral, Springfield; and Wednesday, April 19, 5:30 p.m., St. John Vianney, Mountain View. If you aren’t able to attend, you can always pray the rosary for that intention. I ask that you look for those young men and women who you feel have the qualities to make a good priest or consecrated religious and invite them to discernment. Encourage them, and please send me their name and address so that I may send them a note of support. At every confirmation I always encourage the candidates to consider if the Lord may be calling them. I am always so pleased when I hear of those people who are open to

the possibility. I ask the candidates to entrust their future to Our Lady, asking her to guide their future vocation. We need to support our youth with prayers and encouragement, which gets me back to the family rosary. I have referred many times to the home as the “Domestic Church.” Should not the home also be considered the first seminary or convent? Long before a young man or woman steps into the seminary or convent, hopefully they would have learned the virtue of prayer from the parents within the family.

We are grateful for the vocations that the Good Lord sends to us. As we hear in Scripture, “The harvest is plenty, but the laborers are few. Therefore, pray to the Lord of the harvest provocations.” We do so with confidence, trusting that the Lord will give us what we need. ©TM

SAVE THE DATE

2023 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL for Funding Church Ministries

2023 DIOCESAN DEVELOPMENT FUND

One Bread. One Body.  
One Church.

DDF SUNDAY  
MAY 7, 2023

WWW.DIOSCG.ORG

10<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY

CONGRATULATIONS

Deacon Gary Steffes

Deacon Steffes will celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his ordination to the permanent diaconate on April 20. Deacon Steffes serves in St. Francis of Assisi Parish, in Nixa.

*Happy Anniversary, Deacon Steffes!*



## 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 30, 1988** Charades is a game whereby the object is to guess a specific word or phrase in which, as a hint, it is possible for a partner to indicate that the word being sought “sounds like” another word. That game came to mind last week when a parent told me about his son. The father had told his little boy that he would get to see the “bishop” at church. When the little boy saw me, he was terribly disappointed. “That’s no ‘spaceship,’” he said to his dad.

**October 7, 1988** Wealthy businessman Paul Getty once said, “If you can actually count your money, then you are not really rich.” As you would be able to see from our audit in

*The Mirror*, we can definitely count our money in Springfield-Cape Girardeau! It’s our blessings we can’t count. And that is why we are truly rich!

**October 14, 1988** Last week at Sacred Heart Parish, in Verona, I visited the CCD classes—as is my usual practice. One class was discussing Baptism. Hoping to have the children understand that the water used in Baptism is a symbol of life and that we cannot live without water, I asked, “What would happen if there was no water on earth?” One little girl answered, “We would all stink!”



**Bishop Rice congratulated Ellen Seyer** on her teaching in NDRHS for 30 years. *(The Mirror)*

in addition to her fine arts classes, she teaches Interpersonal Communications and Oral Communications courses, and is the Tri-M Honor Society moderator and vocal director for the spring musicals. Ellen Seyer has a B.A. in Education from Fontbonne College and an M.A. in Education from Southeast Missouri State University. She has been recognized by the Encore Federated Music Club, named

# Inductees named for PAVA Hall of Fame

Cape Girardeau, MO

**N**otre Dame Regional High School is proud to announce the newest inductees into its Performing & Visual Arts (PAVA) Hall of Fame! Ellen Seyer and Jacob Seyer ('10) will be inducted into the 2023 Hall of Fame class. This talented Notre Dame teacher and alumnus will be honored at the PAVA Hall of Fame luncheon on April 1, 2023, at Notre Dame Regional High School.

**Ellen Seyer** has been a faculty member at Notre Dame for 30 years. She is the head of the Performing and Visual Arts Department and director of concert choir, treble choir, mixed chorus, and men's choir. In addition to her fine arts classes, she teaches Interpersonal Communications and Oral Communications courses, and is the Tri-M Honor Society moderator and vocal director for the spring musicals. Ellen Seyer has a B.A. in Education from Fontbonne College and an M.A. in Education from Southeast Missouri State University. She has been recognized by the Encore Federated Music Club, named Outstanding

Director by the Missouri Choral Directors, and received the National Society of High School Scholars Recognition.


**Jacob Seyer**, a 2010 graduate of Notre Dame, is currently a guitarist, instructor, and international award-winning composer based in the Pacific Northwest. He has both a bachelors and master degree in music, with composition, album production, and touring experience in the U.S., Canada, and South America. He has received numerous accolades including the Vancouver Central School of Music Teacher of the Year award, and most recently was awarded second prize in the 2021 Time of the Guitar International Composition competition for his piece "Relictus" ("En Aethere"). His music has been described as

"sophisticated," "groundbreaking," and "full of variety."

**Congratulations to the 2023 Performing & Visual Arts Hall of Fame inductees!** ©TM



**Jacob Seyer**, NDRHS, Class of 2010. *(Photo by Taylor Seyer)*



## Diocese seeks CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

**The Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau** seeks qualified applicants to fill the position as **Chief Financial Officer (CFO)**. The CFO serves by Canonical appointment according to Canon 494, which states a Chief Finance Officer is to be expert in financial matters and distinguished for honesty and integrity. The position is responsible for the overall financial management of the Diocese under the authority of the Bishop, ensuring that all financial systems and controls reflect best practices, as well as implementing financial controls. The position also manages all human resources activities and manages hiring processes for The Catholic Center. The CFO accomplishes fiscal management and oversight in collaboration with the Bishop and the Diocesan Finance Council. The CFO supervises and directs the diocesan Finance Office staff.

Applicant must be a practicing Roman Catholic. A master's degree in accounting, finance, economics, or business administration is preferred. In lieu of a master's degree, five years experience in a supervisory position providing leadership, direction, and training to staff is required. Previous employment for a nonprofit organization is helpful.

This is a full-time, exempt position. The diocesan office (The Catholic Center) is located in Springfield, MO. Compensation includes competitive salary and excellent benefits.

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## Diocese seeks DIOCESAN ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR of YOUTH and YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

**The Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau** seeks qualified applicants to fill a position working in collaboration with the Diocesan Director of Youth Formation to develop and implement diocesan policies and programs related to Youth and Young Adult Ministry that will promote the three priorities of the diocesan Mutually Shared Vision: 'Growing in Holiness, Forming Intentional Disciples, and Being Sent to Witness.' Applicants must be a practicing Roman Catholic. Employment or volunteer experience in youth or campus ministry at a parish, university, Catholic school, or diocese is required. Degree in Pastoral Ministry, Theology, Catechesis, Catholic Education or other related degree is preferred but other training and experience will be considered.

This is a full-time, exempt position. Evening and weekend hours, as well as extensive travel driving across the diocese will be required. Compensation includes competitive salary, excellent health benefits and retirement plan based on diocesan guidelines.

**To request an application packet for either position, including a detailed job description, please contact Jan Smith at The Catholic Center, [jansmith@dioscrg.org](mailto:jansmith@dioscrg.org), or call (417) 866-0841.**



**FR. ANDY DAVY** | **MARI PABLO** | **THOMAS MUGLIA**

**DYC 2023**  
ALL 7TH - 12TH GRADE YOUTH ARE INVITED!

**CAPE GIRARDEAU**  
FRIDAY & SATURDAY, MARCH 24 & 25  
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL PARISH

**CARTHAGE**  
FRIDAY & SATURDAY, MARCH 31 & APRIL 1  
CONGREGATION OF THE MOTHER OF THE REDEEMER MONASTERY

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE OFFICE OF YOUTH MINISTRY  
DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD- CAPE GIRARDEAU

**You're not you when you're hungry . . .**

**Jesus Satisfies**

# The National Shrine of Mary, Mother of the Church holds Lenten Pilgrimage of Healing

Laurie, MO

The National Shrine of Mary, Mother of the Church, is hosting a Lenten Pilgrimage of Healing on Thu., March 30, beginning at 5 p.m. Pilgrims will have the opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, available in both English and Spanish, before or after Mass; Mass will be at 5:30 p.m., and adoration and healing prayer will be offered following Mass.

The celebrant will be Fr. Norbert Rappold, from the Diocese of Little Rock, who will also offer healing prayer and laying of hands after the liturgy. Father Rappold has said he has seen God move in miraculous ways through his devotion to Jesus Christ and the Blessed Mother. He actively prays for healing in his parish, area hospital and nursing homes, at conferences, and at Healing Masses.

The National Shrine of Mary, Mother of the Church is nestled within the Ozark hills of Missouri on 60 acres in Laurie, MO. It is adjacent to St. Patrick Parish at 176 Marian Dr., Laurie, MO 65037.

Colloquially known as the "Mothers' Shrine," the Shrine is dedicated to Mary, Mother of the Church and to all mothers. The Shrine features an awe-inspiring 14-foot stainless steel sculpture of Mary, with her arms outstretched to welcome all to her embrace. The platform that holds the sculpture of Mary turns 360 degrees every four minutes to face all pilgrims as they enjoy the grounds.

Registration is not required for this event, and all are welcome and invited to come for healing and prayer. More information can be found at [mothersshrine.com](http://mothersshrine.com), or by calling (573) 374-MARY (6279). ©TM

All are welcome at the

## Lenten Pilgrimage of Healing

with  Fr. Norbert Rappold,  
Diocese of Little Rock

"Heal me Lord,  
that I may be healed;  
save me, that I may be saved,  
for you are my praise."  
JEREMIAH 17:14

# MARCH 30, 2023

The National Shrine of Mary, Mother of the Church  
176 Marian Dr., Laurie, MO 65037

5PM | RECONCILIATION (English and Spanish) 5:30PM | HEALING MASS

ADORATION & HEALING PRAYER TO FOLLOW

Scan to learn more



 THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF **Mary**  
MOTHER OF THE CHURCH



## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AROUND THE DIOCESE

### CAPE GIRARDEAU

**Notre Dame Regional High School, in Cape Girardeau, seeks applicants for a main office Administrative Assistant.** Interested candidates should send their resume, cover letter, and list of references to [paulunterreiner@notredamecape.org](mailto:paulunterreiner@notredamecape.org). Application deadline is Fri., Mar. 24. Find a complete job listing Online at: [www.notredamehighschool.org/jobopenings](http://www.notredamehighschool.org/jobopenings).

### JACKSON

**Youth & Family Director sought in Jackson Immaculate Conception Parish, in Jackson, is currently accepting applications for a Youth and Family Director.** Applicants must be a practicing Catholic. Interested applicants should contact Fr. Randy Tochtrop at (573) 243-3182 or Email [pastor@icjacksonmo.com](mailto:pastor@icjacksonmo.com).

### KELSO

**St. Augustine Catholic School seeks a Jr. High English teacher for the 2023-2024 school year and for two part-time teachers' assistants or the infant room for the 2023-2024 school year.** For an application or questions, please Email Katie Hendricks at [khendricks@stakelso.edu](mailto:khendricks@stakelso.edu) or call (573) 264-4644. Applications may be found at [stakelso.org](http://stakelso.org).

### MONETT

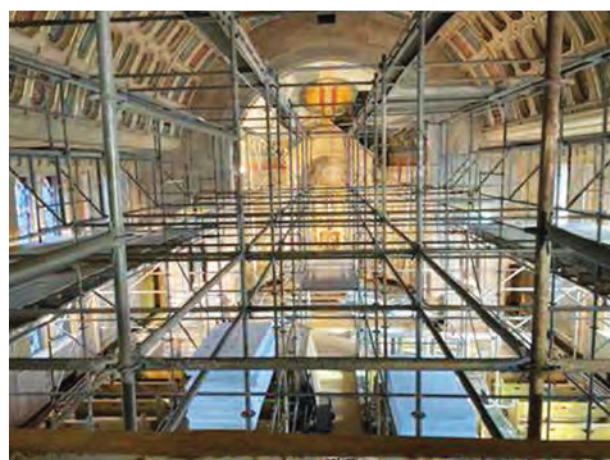
**St. Lawrence Catholic School is seeking a third/fourth grade teacher for the 2023-2024 school year.** Interested individuals should be appropriately certified. Catholic candidates preferred. Our school is small and family oriented, and vested in providing our students a quality

education that is grounded in the teachings of our faith. Interested persons may contact Tracey Welch at (417) 235-3721 or Email [twelch@stlawrencecatholicsschool.com](mailto:twelch@stlawrencecatholicsschool.com).

### SPRINGFIELD

**St. Joseph Catholic Academy is accepting applications for a full-time secretary.** St. Joseph is a small, diverse school with a family-type atmosphere where all are expected to work hard to provide the very best for our students and families. Applicants must exhibit the following characteristics: Christ-like behaviors, have a positive attitude, work collaboratively with the principal, have excellent verbal and written communication skills. Applicants should be proficient in the following skills: Microsoft Office programs, Google Suite, graphic design (fliers and bulletins), and basic office skills. Catholics preferred. Bilingual skills are preferred but not necessary. Interested applicants can send their resume and cover letter to Angela Stevens at [astevens@stjosephcatholicacademy.org](mailto:astevens@stjosephcatholicacademy.org), or for more information, call (417) 866-0667.

**St. Joseph Catholic Academy is seeking a preschool teacher for the 2023-2024 school year.** Interested individuals should be appropriately certified. Catholic candidates preferred. Our school is small and family oriented, and vested in providing our students a quality education that is grounded in the teachings of our faith. Interested persons may contact Angela Stevens at [astevens@stjosephcatholicacademy.org](mailto:astevens@stjosephcatholicacademy.org), or call (417) 425-1627.



## ST. JOHN CHAPEL IN MERCY SPRINGFIELD GETTING A FACE LIFT

Scaffolding is up in St. John Chapel, in Mercy Springfield, where frescos are getting a refresh and other repairs and restorations are being made. Bishop Edward Rice took a recent tour of the progress. He is pictured with David Huskisson, Mercy Manager of Pastoral Services; Fr. John Mark Ogu, Mercy Hospital priest/chaplain; Bill Hennessey VP-Mission; Keith Schaefer Director-Mission Integration. A special thanks to Mercy Springfield Auxiliary and the other donors that are making the work possible. *(The Mirror)*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Buffalo**—St. William Parish Council of Catholic Women (PCCW) will have the **annual yard, plant, and bake sale** on Thu., May 4 and Fri., May 5, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., in the St. William Church hall, located at 404 N. Locust St.

**Cape Girardeau**—In conjunction with the American Academy of Dermatology's SPOT® me screening program, Saint Francis Healthcare System will offer **free skin cancer screenings** on Sat., April 1, 8 a.m.-noon, at Cape Radiation Oncology, located at Entrance 6 of Saint Francis Medical Center. An appointment is required; to schedule please call (573) 331-5784.

**Leopold**—St. John Parish Council of Catholic Women will have a **Rummage Sale**, Thu., May 4, 7 a.m.-6 p.m., Fri., May 5, 7 a.m.-6 p.m., and Sat., May 6, 7 a.m.-Noon, in the Leopold KC Hall. Items priced to sell! If you have any questions, please contact Geri at (573) 208-6445.

**Monett**—The Parish Council of Catholic Women will host the annual **Spring Salad Luncheon**, Wed., April 26, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., at the Parish Hall. Cost is \$10 per person and this includes dessert and drink. Vendor space is available; if interested, please contact Linda at (417) 235-4702.

**Salem**—The Altar and Rosary Society will hold its **annual dinner and basket fundraiser** on Sat., April 29 at Sacred Heart Parish. For more information, please contact the parish at (573) 729-4291.

**Scott City**—St. Joseph Catholic Church will have a **Palm Sunday Spring Dinner**, Sun., April 2, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m., in the St. Joseph Parish Center. Fried chicken, chicken and dumplings, chicken and dressing, green beans, slaw, dessert, and drink. Cost: adults-\$14; children, ages 6-12 yrs.-\$7; and ages 5 and under-free. The Council of Catholic Women will sell crafts, religious articles, breads, and sweets in the Country Store and Bakery Shop. Dine in or carry-out available.

**Springfield**—St. Bernadette's Guild will hold a **Ladies Day of Inspiration**, "Deepening our Faith Through the Spirituality of Environment," Sat., April 1, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., in St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, located at 2200 W. Republic Rd. Mass will begin at 8:30 a.m., followed by breakfast (prepared by Men's Club); program begins at 10:30 a.m. To register, please call Kay, (417) 861-0708, or Debbie, (417) 839-1092.

**Springfield**—Springfield Area Perpetual Adoration, hosted at Holy Trinity Chapel, has an **urgent need of Adorers**: Wed., 2 a.m. & 3 a.m., and Sat., 1 a.m. Substitutes are needed for all hours. Please consider joining the substitute list to experience the peace of adoration. For more information or to sign up, please contact Marilyn Gibson at (417) 224-4043.

**Springfield**—Open to all women of the diocese: Immaculate Conception PCCW will host a **Lenten Retreat**, Sat., March 25, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m., with Sr. Pauline Nugent, CCVI, as speaker. A continental breakfast will be served at 9 a.m., Sr. Pauline's presentation will follow at 9:45 a.m. Mass will be held at 11 a.m. Lunch will be served. After lunch, Sr. Pauline will lead a discussion and the day will end with a rosary. To register or for more information, please call the church at (417) 887-0600.

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

**FISH FRIES ARE BACK!**

**BILLINGS** - St. Joseph Men's Club **Fish Fry Fridays**: 5-7 p.m., Mar. 24. Dine-in or carry-out.

**CAPE GIRARDEAU** - St. Vincent de Paul Parish Men's Association will host **Fish Fries**, 5-7 p.m., beginning Fri., Feb. 24, and continuing every Friday of Lent in the St. Vincent de Paul School Gym.

**GAINESVILLE** - St. William will have **Lenten Fish Fridays**, 4-6 p.m., Mar. 24. Tickets will also be sold for an Easter Basket fundraiser.

**GLENNONVILLE** - St. Jerome Knights of Columbus Council #1572 will have a **Lenten Fish Fry**, 4:30-7 p.m., beginning Feb. 24 and continuing every Friday during Lent at the KC Hall, located at 12936 CR 116, Campbell. Dine-in or carry-out.

**JACKSON** - The Knights of Columbus #6405 will have a **Fish & Chicken Dinner**, 4:30-7:30 p.m., beginning Feb. 24 and continuing every Friday of Lent, in the lower KC Hall. Dine-in or carry-out.

**JOPLIN** - The Knights of Columbus Council #979 will have a **Lenten Fish Fry**, 5-7 p.m. on Fri., Feb. 24, and continuing every Friday during Lent at St. Peter the Apostle Church. Dine-in or carry-out (drive-thru lane).

**KIMBERLING CITY** - Our Lady of the Cove will have a **Fish Fry Friday**, 4-6:30 p.m. on Mar. 31. Dine-in or carry-out. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council and Parish Council of Catholic Women.

**LEBANON** - The Knights of Columbus Council #6871 will have a **Fish Fry**, 5-7 p.m. on Fri., Mar. 17, and Fri., Mar. 31 in the St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church Family Center at 345 Grand Ave.

**MT. VERNON** - St. Susanne Parish will host a **Drive-Thru Fish Fry**: Steaming Hot and Ready to Go from 5-6:30 p.m., beginning Fri., Feb. 24 and continuing through Fri., Mar. 24, at 700 West Sloan Street. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and Parish Council of Catholic Women.

**NIXA** - The St. Francis of Assisi Knights of Columbus will host a **Traditional Fish Fry**, 4:30-7 p.m. beginning Feb. 24 and

continuing every Friday of Lent. For more info, call (417) 551-1135.

**OZARK** - St. Joseph the Worker Knights of Columbus will host a **Fish Fry-Day**, 5-7 p.m. beginning Feb. 24 and continuing every Friday of Lent. Kids ages 5 & under get a FREE spaghetti-only plate!

**POPLAR BLUFF** - The Knights of Columbus Council #1706 will have a **Fish Fry**, 4:30-7:30, (or until we run out) every Friday during Lent at the Knights Hall, located at 2280 Grand Ave.

**SIKESTON** - The Knights of Columbus, St. Francis Xavier Parish will have their **annual Lenten Fish Fry**, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and 4-7 p.m. on Fri., Mar. 31 at the KC Hall, located on East Tanner St. Tickets may be purchased at the parish office or from any Knights of Columbus Member.

**SPRINGFIELD** - Knights of Columbus Council #11182 will host a **Fish Fry** at Catholic Campus Ministries, O'Reilly Catholic Student Center, 5-7 p.m., Fri., Mar. 31.

**SPRINGFIELD** - St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish will have **Lenten Fish Fry Fridays**, 3:30-7 p.m. beginning Feb. 24 and continuing every Friday of Lent. Please plan to join to support various parish groups.

**SPRINGFIELD** - Immaculate Conception Parish will have a **Fish Fry**, beginning Fri., Mar. 3, and continuing every Friday of Lent. Each week benefits a different parish organization/cause: Mar. 3- IC School; Mar. 10- PCCW; Mar. 17- KofC #13681; Mar. 24- IC youth; Mar. 31- SVDP.

**SPRINGFIELD** - Sacred Heart Parish will host a **Soup Supper & Stations of the Cross**, 6 p.m., beginning Fri., Feb. 24, and continuing every Friday of Lent. Stations of the Cross begin at 7 p.m. (bilingual).

**SPRINGFIELD** - St. Joseph Parish will host a **Soup Supper & Stations of the Cross**, 5:30 p.m., beginning Fri., Feb 24, and continuing every Friday of Lent. Confessions are offered during the Stations and will close with Benediction.



Don't see your parish's Lenten offerings listed?  
Send us the details or ask the event organizers to contact us!  
Find updated gatherings at [DioSCG.org/fishfries](http://DioSCG.org/fishfries)





Vatican II in session.  
(MDJH/Wikimedia Commons)



By  
Fr. Joshua  
J. Whitfield

## WHAT WE BELIEVE, PART 14:

# A Conciliar Church

Beginning with Jesus, as is only right, and then looking at the New Testament and at a few representative texts from early Christianity, we've discerned, just a little, the essence of the Church. We now shift focus to explore the Church today.

But first, a brief review. The Church, remember, is *ecclesia*, the called body of believers. Its essence belongs to the communion of the Trinity, opened to believers in Jesus Christ, to those who by faith believe him to be the incarnate Son of God. When believers live in Jesus, he lives in them, which is how believers in Christ find themselves in communion with God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. That's how the Church is holy.

But this communion with God is also at the same time communion with other believers — with the *adelphoi* — all those with faith sharing in Christ together. It's a communion grown by means of the Apostles' preaching; what John saw and heard he proclaimed to others, for

instance, creating fellowship, as he said, both "with us" and "with the Father" (1 Jn 1:3). That is, the communion of the Church is both divine and human, not just holy but also catholic and apostolic. It's built upon the preaching of the Apostles and fellowship with them, and it includes all believers. But it's also a communion characterized always by the oneness Jesus prayed for in John 17, which, as we saw when exploring that passage in depth, meant something more than mere *esprit de corps*, more, too, than metaphor. Jesus spoke in terms much more demanding than just conceptual or sentimental unity; his followers were to be one. Now of course, we have yet to flesh out how the Church remains one, but we will elsewhere in exploring the sacraments and also the papacy.

But for now, that's the Church — *unam, sanctam, catholicam et apostolicam*. Whatever we think of it historically, sociologically, politically, bureaucratically, that is the Church in essence — this divine and human communion. And it's important to remember this for several reasons. First, it helps us remember that the Church is something more mysteriously enduring and more beautiful than what we may see of the Church at any one time.

When the Church isn't beautiful, this is really important to remember. But it's also important because it challenges our sometimes overly individualistic accounts of Christian belief. It helps us remember that the Lord's Prayer is prayed always to "our Father" and not "my Father." It helps us retain a more biblical understanding of Christian belief and belonging, remembering that the Church is, to use Paul's imagery, the body of Christ; or to use John's imagery — echoing the Song of Songs — that it's the bride of Christ. Now there are, as we'll see, many more images given to this mysterious communion, yet the underlying truth is the same: the Church is *ecclesia*, the body and the bride of Christ, a single communion rooted in God. As the great theologian Henri de Lubac put it, "The Church of God is unique: there is only a single Body of Christ, a single Spouse of Christ, a single fold, a single flock under a single Shepherd" (The Motherhood of the Church, 171). This is the truth I've slowly tried to describe, a truth about the essence of the Church that endures even today, and that we'll need to remember as we continue our exploration of Catholicism. Now, however, our task is simply to find it in the present, in the Church of today.

So, fast forward. To understand the Catholic Church today, one must understand the Second Vatican Council — what it was and in a certain sense still is. It was announced by Pope St. John XXIII on Jan. 25, 1959 after Mass at the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls in Rome. The Council opened three years later in 1962 and ended in 1965. However, in 1959, when only 10 weeks into his pontificate John XXIII called the council, it shocked the Church and the world, too. Now John XXIII was himself a surprise. Quite old when elected, many thought he'd simply keep the papal seat warm until a younger pope came along. Little did anyone expect he was going to shake things up like he did. A joyful man — humble, hilarious and holy — he said himself how the idea of calling an ecumenical council was sudden and unexpected. And not only did news of the council shock many, it changed the world. It was a meeting of massive importance for all Christians, not just Roman Catholics, and whether you know it or not, you've been influenced by Vatican II.

An ecumenical council is simply a great meeting of bishops and others in the Church, and it belongs to a long tradition of councils. The Church has held councils since the beginning, since the so-called Council of Jerusalem in Acts 13. Then, the question was about what to do with all the Gentiles coming into the Church. Should they follow the dietary laws of Judaism? Should they be circumcised? These were serious controversies, leading to quite heated debates. And really, ever since, the Church has been arguing, coming together informally and formally in what the tradition came

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to call councils — some large, some small — to argue important points of theology or discipline and sometimes a whole lot more. And we've gained much from this tradition. The Creed we say every Sunday, for instance, is a product of two councils — the Council of Nicaea in 325 and the Council of Constantinople in 381. The Catholic Church calls some councils ecumenical councils, which means those that relate to the entire Church. Different traditions count ecumenical councils differently — some count only seven, some only three. The Roman Catholic Church counts 21 ecumenical councils.

Now, generally speaking, until Vatican II, ecumenical councils were called in response to some controversy, either of theology or discipline. The Council of Nicaea, for example, was called in response to the controversy caused by a rather eloquent priest from Alexandria in Egypt named Arius who was going around preaching that Jesus was a "creature," that he was "made" and "created," not God quite like the Father is God. And so, the Church gathered at Nicaea to refute Arius. And, if you know anything of the history of the Arian controversy, to listen to the Nicene Creed is to hear the Church basically scold Arius. For example, that the Creed says "begotten, not made" is really quite a specific dig at Arius. We no longer hear it that way, but bishops in the fourth century certainly did. The Council of Ephesus in the fourth century responded to Nestorius, the Council of Trent in the sixteenth century to the Protestant Reformation and so on. Or, for matters of discipline, as again at Nicaea when the council fathers declared that castrated clergy couldn't be promoted — a quite odd but also quite serious issue at the

time!

Yet when John XXIII called the Second Vatican Council, there really was no urgent problem afoot. There were certainly in the first half of the 20th century both creative tensions and uncreative tensions in the Church. The modern world was rapidly changing, and there was significant argument within the Church about how best to confront such changes. Catholic theologians and leaders in France, for instance, wanted to engage the world quite differently than those in Italy. And there was even some talk of another council under Pius XII — whose papacy, by the way, very much reflects the wider tensions in play at the time — but it was not an idea that had gained much traction. Catholics by and large were getting on just fine, most thought. Whatever tensions existed were being managed well enough by the ordinary means of debate, censure and old-fashioned Church politics. And so, when John XXIII called the Council in 1959, most wondered what for. It's a spiritual question, in fact, that's still being asked today. But more on that next week.

**NEXT EDITION:**  
WHAT WE BELIEVE: PART 15

**The Characteristics of Vatican II**

*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 14: A Conciliar Church" by Fr. Whitfield is from *simplycatholic.com*, copyright © Our Sunday Visitor; all rights reserved, no other use of this material is authorized.

**St. Joseph Parish introduces new Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program**



**CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD**—Designed on the basis that children learn best by doing, preschoolers explored the themes of the doctrine of Jesus, such as the Good Shepherd, as well as a model of the altar. St. Joseph Parish, Springfield, has introduced a new Montessori-style, hands-on approach to religious education for young children each Sunday at 9 a.m. (Submitted photos)

By Paula Wright Springfield

In hopes of attracting young families to the parish, St. Joseph Parish, Springfield, has introduced a new Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) program. With support from Fr. Karl Barmann, OSB, pastor of St. Joseph, the new CGS Phase I program was introduced for preschoolers on Jan. 8 by Christa Bauer, a trained CGS leader with prior experience facilitating CGS programs. Before starting the CGS program, St. Joseph Parish did not have PSR (parish school of religion program) for pre-school age children. The parish is hopeful that not only will preschoolers have an opportunity to learn about the Church, but also the program will help attract young families to the parish who will then stay for Mass after the classes. With a focus on prayer, liturgical content, and spiritual development, the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) is a Montessori-style, hands-on approach to religious education. CGS classes meet in the "atrium," a specially-designed classroom space created exclusively for kids. Designed on the basis that children learn best by doing, the atrium provides resources that encourage thought and a deeper relationship with God. Materials like a model altar and a prayer table are present.

"The program is very hands-on, engaging, and very interactive in a way that is peaceful and prayerful," said Bauer. "The style of the program helps these young, very active, often inattentive children learn by giving them materials they need to be better engaged for learning. The atrium is designed to help preschoolers focus as well as engage."

Each atrium session is led by a

trained CGS catechist. These formation leaders go through training and once completed, they are recognized leaders through the US Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.

After receiving instruction, students work with the accompanying resources. The atrium is a tranquil learning environment where the students obtain a thorough understanding of the doctrines of Jesus, the Bible, the liturgy, and the beliefs of the Catholic Church. "During atrium, the children are learning the importance of Mass. The atrium includes an altar model and the other key elements associated with Mass," Bauer said. "They can engage with these; they begin learning the names of items and the vocabulary. Once they learn at this level, they now begin paying attention during Mass because they are familiar with what is happening. We work on learning Scripture, liturgy, and prayers, and interact with the small models to help support the learning."

Sessions are held at 9 a.m.-10:20 every Sunday in the hopes of making it easier for families to participate in the Mass, either at 8 a.m. or 10:30 a.m.

"The preschoolers want to sit closer, they want to see what is going on, because they want to learn more," Bauer said. "During class time, we ask them questions for the student to think about during Mass. The program is structured to give students time to reflect on the questions and gives them time to work and let the Holy Spirit work in them, the program gives quiet time for students to think and work through the questions posed to them."

"Overall, the focus of the program is for children to learn to be active in Church for life," stated Bauer. ©TM

**A GRATEFUL CHURCH** celebrates and recognizes the following *ordination anniversaries* in APRIL:

**PRIESTS:**

- Rev. Pompeyo Tan, Jr., April 1, 38 yrs.**
- Rev. Samson Dorival, SMM, April 6, 26 yrs.**
- Rev. Thomas Dharelli, HGN, April 11, 7 yrs.**
- Rev. David Hulshof, April 18, 41 yrs.**
- Rev. Mark Boyer, April 24, 47 yrs.**
- Rev. Francis Theetla, April 25, 26 yrs.**
- Rev. Rayappa Chinnabathini, April 26, 13 yrs.**

**DEACONS:**

- Deacon Gary Steffes, April 20, 10 yrs.**
- Deacon William 'Bill' Keller, April 24, 19 yrs.**
- Deacon Mark Wand, April 24, 19 yrs.**



With the celebration of World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life, Feb. 2, 2023, *The Mirror* launched a limited series highlighting the consecrated women religious in the diocese who marked a milestone anniversary of their vows in 2022. In this issue, we feature **Sr. Janine Tran, CMR**.

**Sr. Janine Tran, CMR** | Congregation of Mary, Queen

# 25<sup>th</sup> Jubilarian Anniversary

**What is one of the first things that comes to mind as you reflect on your years of service to the Church and as a consecrated religious?**

The beautiful complementarity of the religious consecrated life, the laity, and the ordained.

**How did you know you were called to be a religious sister?**

I found joy in the simplicity of this life. I also feel honored that God calls me to be his own.

**What was your journey to find and choose your religious order?**

It was almost an accident that I found our community, the Congregation of Mary, Queen. I was choosing between the Dominicans and our community. I called our community first and fell in love with its spirituality of evangelical spiritual childhood. I didn't feel the need to keep on looking; I had found home.

**What is its charism?**

Our charism: To transform into Jesus Christ, the Beloved Child of God and of Mary, in communal consecrated life and dedicated to apostolic works.

**Where did you find support as you discerned a religious vocation?**

My parents are the most influential people in my vocation's journey. They have supported me every step of the way, even though it meant the sacrifice of their eldest daughter. They also were living examples of trust and fidelity. God has also sent many beautiful people into my life as friends and co-workers in the vineyard.

**How has your faith evolved over the years?**

I think it's growing!

**What do you consider the most rewarding part of your life as a consecrated religious?**

To have people come up to me randomly at a gas station, Walmart, a bowling alley and say, "Are you a real sister?!" And then having a conversation about whatever they want to talk about.

**What is your greatest enjoyment for this jubilee year?**

Traveling down memory lane and thanking God for all the blessings, small and large, he has placed into my life.

**What should the Church do better to encourage women to serve as Religious?**

Please continually pray for those who are already sisters and to actively encourage young women to consider this life. Personal invitation is powerful.

**What is the biggest change that you've seen or would like to see in the Church with regard to your vocation?**

I love it that Pope Francis has reorganized the Curia and invited women into leadership positions. Part of the closing message of the Second Vatican Council was "The hour is coming, in fact has come, when the vocation of women is being acknowledged in its fullness, the hour in which women acquire in the world an influence, an effect and a power never hitherto achieved. That is why, at this moment when the human race is undergoing so deep a transformation, women imbued with a spirit of the



Gospel can do so much to aid humanity in not falling." I hope each of us does our part to build the world and the Kingdom of God.

**What have you been doing recently; what work do you do for our diocese?**

I currently serve as the diocesan Director of Faith Formation and Respect Life. It is an honor to work to help build up the Church in Southern Missouri in close collaboration with Bishop Rice and the amazing staff here at The Catholic Center! ©TM



## Masses For VOCATIONS

With Bishop Edward M. Rice

- Tuesday, March 28, 6:00pm | St. Peter the Apostle, Joplin
- Tuesday, April 11, 5:30pm | St. Agnes Cathedral, Springfield
- Wednesday, April 19, 5:30pm | St. John Vianney, Mountain View



All Masses will be followed by a Rosary  
Bishop Rice invites *all* to join him!



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





**EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLES**  
*of the WORLD*

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



**THE EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLE**  
*of Tumaco*

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.miracolieucaistici.org/en/liste/list.html>.

**J**esus assures us that we could indeed move mountains with only a mustard seed of faith. As it is written in Matthew 17:20, "...for truly I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there, and it will move; nothing will be impossible to you.'" He proved it on Jan 3, 1906, to the faithful who believed and cried out in full faith for God's mercy. In the face of imminent destruction from a mountain of water, a faithful priest and his flock stood strong with their faith in the words Jesus had spoken and believed and acted on them with all their heart. They were indeed delivered!

On Jan. 31, 1906, on the small island of Tumaco at 10 o'clock in the morning, the earth shook violently for almost 10 minutes. All the inhabitants of the village ran to the church and begged the pastor, Fr. Gerardo Larrondo, to lead a procession with the Blessed Sacrament. The sea was rising and had already engulfed part of the beach. It had plunged inland a kilometer

and a half and a mountainous wall of water was building up and threatening to drown everyone and everything in one gigantic wave. It caused destruction and death across many port towns and villages except one. A small barrier island, Tumaco, in the middle of it all was spared.

Fr. Gerardo consumed the small Hosts in the ciborium and set the large Host aside. He called out to his people:

**"Let us go, my people. Let us go toward the beach, and may God have pity on us."**

Comforted by the presence of the Eucharistic Christ, they began their march, weeping and crying out to God. Scarcely had Fr. Larrondo reached the beach with the monstrance in hand, when he advanced courageously to the water's edge and as the wave came rushing in, he calmly raised the Sacred Host and traced the sign of the Cross. It was a moment of tremendous solemnity. The wave hesitated, paused, and receded. Fr. Larrondo and Fr. Julian alongside him saw what was transpiring, and the people, overjoyed, cried out "Miracle, miracle!" In truth, a force beyond that of nature prevailed. The mighty wall of water that threatened to wipe the village of Tumaco off the face of the earth was halted and began to recess, and the sea resumed its normal level. The inhabitants of Tumaco were overcome with joy at having been saved from death by the favor of Jesus in the

**An undersea earthquake in 1906 on the Pacific Coast caused enormous damage. The small island of Tumaco was spared by a miracle thanks to the faith of the people and the blessing with the Blessed Sacrament by Fr. Gerardo Larrondo.**

Blessed Sacrament. (<http://www.miracolieucaistici.org/en/liste/scheda.html?nat=colombia&wh=tumaco&ct=Tumaco,%201906>)

Prayers of fervent thanks poured out. The miracle of Tumaco became known across the world. We can say that by faith, the people of Tumaco saved their village from the destruction of a tidal wave caused by one of the largest earthquakes ever recorded in history by invoking the 1906 Eucharistic Miracle of Tumaco, Colombia.

The Lord said, "I will not leave you desolate, ... I am with you always, until the close of the age," and "All things are possible to him who believes." Let us turn to Him, inexhaustible source of life and the only One who can quench our deepest thirst. He desires to pour Himself into our hearts. ©TM

Read more at <http://www.miracolieucaistici.org/en/liste/scheda.html?nat=italia&wh=ferrara&ct=Ferrara,%201171>

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. For more information, go to <http://www.miracolieucaistici.org/en/liste/list.html>.

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**67 YEARS Anniversary**  
**Bishop Emeritus John Leibrecht's**  
priesthood ordination

**B**ishop John Leibrecht celebrated the 67th anniversary of his priesthood ordination on March 17. May God continue to bless Bishop John with good health as he continues to serve the faithful of the Diocese in various ways as Bishop Emeritus. Please keep him in your daily prayers of thanksgiving! Happy Anniversary, Bishop Leibrecht!

**SPECIAL NOTE:** Bishop Leibrecht was ordained the same year the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau was founded (1956) and he served as its Fifth Bishop (1984-2008). He has the distinction of being the longest-serving bishop (24 years) and the Diocese's first Bishop Emeritus.



## Director of Schools named for Joplin Area Catholic Schools

Joplin, MO

Joplin Area Catholic Schools welcomes Dr. Emily Yoakam as its new Director of Schools, effective July 1, 2023.

"I am honored to serve the Joplin Area Catholic Schools as its new Director of Schools," said Yoakam. "I'm excited for the opportunity to support our principals as we work together with our families, parishes, the diocese, and our greater Joplin community to further the mission entrusted to us by the Sisters of Mercy—building the legacy of Catholic education, one Warrior at a time."

A role that began in 2019, Yoakam currently serves as principal of St. Peter Middle School and McAuley Catholic High School.

"With her experience in the building-level she has an awareness of needs within our system as well as ideas to continue to promote Catholic education in southwest Missouri," said Fr. Joe Weidenbenner, pastor at St. Mary Catholic Church.

As principal, Yoakam navigated learning for students during the COVID-19 pandemic, has recruited and retained high-level educators, and elevated the academic standards for both schools.

"Her experience in education,



Dr. Yoakam



including being educated in Catholic schools, her faith, and her enthusiasm for the future are strong attributes to her hiring," said Fr. Brian J. Straus, Parish Administrator for Joplin's St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church.

Yoakam earned her Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Baker University in 2019. In addition, she holds a Master of Science in Reading and Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education and from Pittsburg State University.

### About Joplin Area Catholic Schools

Founded in 1885 by the Sisters of Mercy of St. Catherine McAuley, the Joplin Area Catholic Schools serves the greater Joplin community to educate Catholic and non-Catholic children from Early Learners (2-year-olds) through grade 12 at St. Mary's Preschool and Elementary School, St. Peter's Middle School and McAuley Catholic High School. Joplin Area Catholic Schools provide an outstanding academic and Christ-centered educational foundation that forms our present students of today into remarkable servant-leaders of tomorrow. For more information or to inquire about enrollment, visit [www.JACSS.org](http://www.JACSS.org). ©TM

## JACS names new principal for middle & high school

Joplin, MO

Joplin Area Catholic Schools welcomes Dr. Stephen "Steve" Gilbreth as the new principal of St. Peter Catholic Middle School and McAuley Catholic High School for the 2023-2024 school year, effective July 1, 2023.

"We are excited add Dr. Gilbreth to our team," said Dr. Emily Yoakam, current principal of St. Peter and McAuley Catholic. She will take over as Joplin Area Director of Schools on July 1. "He is a known difference-maker whose positivity, knowledge, and expertise will be a blessing to our school and faith community."

Gilbreth announced his retirement from Joplin Public Schools in February, where he currently serves as principal of Joplin High School.

"I am excited to have Dr. Gilbreth come on board as principal of St. Peter Middle School and McAuley Catholic High School," said The Most Rev. Edward M. Rice, Bishop of Springfield-Cape Girardeau. "His experience in education and administration, along with his deep faith, rooted in St. Peter Parish and his work with the Knights of Columbus, will greatly

enhance and move forward the mission of Catholic education in the Joplin Area Catholic School System. I look forward to working with him in the near future."

Gilbreth received his bachelors of English education from Missouri Southern State University, Joplin.

His masters in administration and educational specialist degrees were obtained from Pittsburg State University. Gilbreth received his doctoral degree from St. Louis University.

In his 26 years in education, Gilbreth has won



Dr. Gilbreth

numerous accolades including Golden Apple and Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year. He was recently named Distinguished Alumnus from Missouri Southern State University.

"I am excited about the opportunity to serve the students, faculty, staff, and parents of McAuley High School and St. Peter Middle School," said Dr. Steve Gilbreth. "As a member of St. Peter's Parish, I look forward to helping the community of the Joplin Area Catholic Schools." His parents graduated from St. Peter Catholic High School (now McAuley Catholic), and he attended St. Mary Elementary School. Gilbreth serves as a member of the Knights of

Columbus, Fr. Harter Council #979.

An open house for St. Peter Middle School and McAuley Catholic High School is scheduled for Wed., April 12, at 7 p.m., which also serves as an opportunity to meet Dr. Gilbreth at the school. ©TM



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## 64th Catholic Women's Spring Assembly

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Join women around the Diocese of Springfield - Cape Girardeau for two days of inspiration, faith, fellowship, and fun. Registration Fee is \$55 before March 21st and \$65 after March 21st, including a Banquet and Entertainment on Friday evening. Door Prizes, Raffle Tickets, Grab Bags, and Purse Silent Auction. The Service Project we are sponsoring is Whole Kids Outreach, Ellington, MO.

### Friday & Saturday, April 21-22, 2023










Registration form on our Webpage at: <https://dioscg.org/organizations/the-dccw/>  
Facebook Event Updates at: <https://www.facebook.com/DCCWSCGMO>



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### A DIOCESAN SEMINARY VISIT


March 24 - 26, 2023

Conception Seminary College  
Conception, Missouri

For men in junior year of high school thru 30 years of age. Time for prayer, Sacraments, campus tours, and fraternity. Contact your parish priest or Fr. Peirano at [frpeirano@ic-parish.org](mailto:frpeirano@ic-parish.org)

Diocese of Springfield - Cape Girardeau | Office of Vocations | Fr. Scott Sunnenberg | 417.866.0841




## 2023 MIDWEST MARCH FOR LIFE




midwestmarchforlife.com

### Wednesday, April 26, 2023

#### Missouri State Capitol



The Details



**Date:** April 26, 2023 **Time:** 9am - 3pm **Location:** Missouri State Capitol Jefferson City, MO

**Cost:** Free

**Lunch:** Fundraiser Lunch is from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM – Grilled Hot Dogs, Chips, Ice Cream, Cookies, Water (Hosted by K of C Precious Blood). Please bring your own lunch money.

**Transportation:**  
Option 1: Ride on your own and we will meet you there.  
Option 2: Ride on a diocesan-sponsored bus. Cost is \$80/person. Scholarships are available for up to 100% of the cost. Please visit this link to register your spot on the bus and/or apply for the scholarship. Buses will leave from two locations:  
 - Springfield at 6:30am  
 - Cape Girardeau at 5:30am

**Free Voice for Life tshirt** for those who ride the bus!


**Deadline to register for the bus:** Friday, March 24




speakers



**Shawn Carney**  
CEO and President of 40 Days for Life




**Lauren Muzyka**  
President and CEO of Sidewalk Advocates for Life



**Sr. Deirdre Byrne**  
Superior of the Little Workers of the Sacred Hearts

We are called to protect life.

For questions or comments, please contact Kim Brayman in the Respect Life Office at 417-866-0841 or [kbrayman@dioscg.org](mailto:kbrayman@dioscg.org)



DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD-CAPE GIRARDEAU

www.dioscg.org

REACHING OUT, PROVIDING HOPE, AND CHANGING LIVES

# Bishop's Prayer

## Mass of Thanksgiving

SATURDAY

### April 1, 2023

### 8:00 a.m.

St. Ann Church  
Carthage, MO



**ATTENTION: CATHOLIC MEN**  
You are invited to the Southeast Missouri...



# CATHOLIC MAN NIGHT

*Men Meeting Jesus*

Wednesday, **March 29** | **6:30-9:00 pm**  
Saint Denis, Benton, MO

An evening of Adoration, Confession, & a Manly Meal with discussion to follow.

To help plan for food, please RSVP to  
SEMOCatholicManNight@gmail.com  
'SEMO Catholic Man Night' on Facebook or text to 573-275-5214

Join us for Mass with Bishop Rice and acknowledge our gratitude for the many gifts shared and sacrifices made in walking hand-in-hand with the most vulnerable among us.

United in prayer and Thanksgiving, God continues to bless CCSOMO in its efforts in service to the Gospel in Reaching Out, Providing Hope, and Changing Lives.



[WWW.CCSOMO.ORG](http://WWW.CCSOMO.ORG)  
(417) 720-4213



Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri  
*Reaching Out. Providing Hope. Changing Lives.*

This event will also be Live-streamed to Facebook: @CCSOMO and @DIOCESEOFSPRINGFIELDCAPEGIRARDEAU

# INCOMING COLLEGE FRESHMEN KICKBACK






**SUNDAY, APRIL 23**

11AM MASS  
12:30PM BBQ & YARD GAMES  
CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY | 847 S HOLLAND AVE., SPRINGFIELD

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