Diocesan youth in grades 7–12 recently gathered with their sponsors and youth ministers for the 30th Annual Diocesan Youth Conference (DYC). The conference was held in two locations for the first time this year: Friday and Saturday, March 24–March 25 in St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Cape Girardeau, and Friday and Saturday, March 31–April 1 in the Congregation of the Mother of the Redeemer Retreat Center, in Carthage.

“We were excited to hold the 30th annual Diocesan Youth Conference in two locations this year!” said Lynn Melendez, Director of Youth Ministries for the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau. “About 135 participants attended the conference in Cape Girardeau and about 300 participants attended in Carthage.”

“You’re Not You When You’re Hungry ... Jesus Satisfies,” was the conference theme, focusing on the Eucharist during the current National Eucharistic Revival.

“Fr. Andy Davy, featured speaker for the National Eucharistic Revival, challenged conference attendees to become ‘active participants,’ in the Holy Mass and celebration of the Eucharist, rather than attending Mass as ‘mere spectators,’” Melendez said. “He reminded everyone that Jesus loves us completely, with reckless abandon and wants to share himself with us completely. Are we ready to fully receive him?”

In addition to Fr. Davy, guest speakers included Mari Pablo, a well-known Catholic speaker featured at the National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC), Steubenville Mid-America Youth Conferences, and Pinecrest Camp, as well as musicians and OCP Artists, Thomas Muglia, and Lighthouse Worship.

Bishop Edward M. Rice celebrated Mass at DYC with an Eucharistic message for the youth in his homily.

“The Miracle of Mass, is that Jesus is fully present to us in His Body and Blood in the form of bread and wine. The Marvel of the Mass is that we, when properly disposed, are privileged to receive Him,” the bishop said. “We recognize how unworthy we may be, that is why we echo the words of the Centurion, ‘Lord, I am not worthy,’ and yet we also hear the words, ‘Take and eat.’”

“When we receive Christ in the Eucharist,” Bishop Rice said, “we do something that the Angels, being pure spirits, cannot do. In this sense, the Angels are jealous of us.”

Planning for the 2023 DYC was supported by youth ministers for the Cape Girardeau event and by the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton youth group, Springfield, for the Carthage event. The planning team for each location makes suggestions for the overall conference theme and presentation topics; they propose and lead games and service project activities; they serve in liturgical roles in the Mass celebrated by Bishop Rice; they help set up, and much more. The planning team for each location is an important aspect of the conference’s success. The events are planned by and for the youth, ensuring that they have a positive and meaningful experience.

A total of 435 youth and adults enjoyed this year’s DYC held in both Cape Girardeau and in Carthage, MO, under the theme, “Jesus Satisfies.”
Moved by a zeal for souls: The priesthood

2023 Chrism Mass
Homily by The Most Rev. Edward M. Rice

Next to ordinations, the annual Chrism Mass is one of the most special times for us to gather as the presbyterate (priests) of the Diocese of Springfield Cape Girardeau. It is on this day that we renew our efforts to serve the people of God. And it is on this day, with the blessing of the sacred oils of chrism, catechumens, and the sick, that we renew the Sacramental life of the diocese.

Monsignor William Stanton, who died at the age of 85, on Jan. 18, 2017, was a priest of our diocese for six decades, serving in 10 parishes from Joplin to Cape Girardeau, and places in between. He was a classmate of Bishop John Leibrecht’s, and they were ordained on March 17, 1956, in St. Louis. I don’t know how for sure, but somewhere along the way, I found a copy of his ordination card. I used the prayer quote from that card for the recent Vocation Masses that I’ve celebrated throughout the diocese. I would like to use it for our reflection and inspiration on this special day as well.

The verse says, “Oh Mary, my mother, to thee I consecrate the years of my priesthood; make them fruitful for the glory of God and the salvation of souls.” I would propose to all of the priests that if, at the end of your life, looking back on your years of priesthood, that you had fulfilled this little prayer, then your priesthood would have been well lived.

In that little verse, we recognize first the role of Our Lady in the life of a priest. She is “Queen of the Clergy.” I am mindful of the words of Our Lady of Guadalupe to St. Juan Diego, “Let not your heart be troubled...am I not here? I, who am your mother?” These words of Our Lady offer priests consolation, especially during these times of societal change, opposition to the Church; offering consolation at the loss of a loved one, sanctifying and reconciling people to the sacraments of baptism, reconciliation, and Holy Communion; 61 years of preaching the Incarnation and the passion, death, and resurrection of Christ in good times and in bad times; 61 years of preaching the fullness of the Gospel and passing on the teachings of the Church. I would like to think that Msgr. Stanton was just as zealous for the salvation of souls on the day of his death as he was on the day of his ordination. Hopefully, that could also be said of each of us!

That is why the Church, in her wisdom, on this day, the Chrism Mass, invites priests throughout the world to renew their priestly promises. In the mind of holy mother Church, we, brothers gathered as a presbyterate, I, as Bishop gathered with my clergy, we recommit ourselves today to do what we do for the glory of God and the salvation of souls.

“Da Mihi Animas,” “Give Me Souls,” was always the cry of the newly-ordained priest. With the smell of Sacred Chrism still on his hands, with all his youth and vigor, he was sent to a parish to begin his priestly work. On this day, whether decades ago or more recently, we, the clergy of this diocese, recommit ourselves to this work. Actually, the full quote of that verse includes “Cetera Tolle,” “Give me souls, take everything else.” There is nothing more important, nothing should ever take precedence over the priestly work that has been given to us. Nothing should ever get in the way of the late night call to go to the hospital, the last-minute request to teach in a classroom, visiting the sick in their homes, or preparing couples for marriage: the whole spectrum of the Sacramental life.

As we anticipate Holy Thursday, with the institution of the priesthood and the Eucharist, let this Mass be a time for the clergy of our diocese to be ever-more resolved to be more closely conformed to Christ, and to follow Christ, the head and shepherd: Let us commit to be moved only by a zeal for souls. Amen.

READ MORE ABOUT THE CHRISM MASS ON PAGE 10
Movidos por un celo por las almas: el sacerdocio

**Misa Crismal 2023**

Hommilia del Excmo. Mons. Edward M. Rice

**J**unto a las ordenaciones, la Misa Crismal anual es uno de los momentos más especiales para reunirnos como presbítero (sacerdotes) de la Diócesis de Springfield-Cape Girardeau. Es en este día que renovamos nuestros esfuerzos para servir al pueblo de Dios. Y es en este día, con la bendición de los óleos sagrados —el crisma, el óleo de los catecúmenos y el óleo de los enfermos—, que renovamos la vida sacramental de la diócesis.

Monseñor William Stanton, quien murió a la edad de 85 años, el 18 de enero de 2017, fue sacerdote de nuestra diócesis durante seis décadas, sirviendo en 10 parroquias desde Joplin hasta Cape Girardeau, y en lugares intermedios. Fue compañero de clase del Obispo John Leibrecht, y fueron ordenados el 17 de marzo de 1956, en Saint Louis. No sé cómo, pero en algún momento encontré un ejemplo de su tarjeta de ordenación. He utilizado la oración/cita de esa tarjeta en las recientes Misas de Vocaciones que he celebrado en toda la diócesis. Me gustaría utilizarlo también para nuestra reflexión e inspiración en este día tan especial.

El verso dice: “Oh María, madre mía, a ti consagro los años de mi reflexión e inspiración en este día tan especial.”

En ese pequeño versículo, reconocemos en primer lugar el papel de Nuestra Señora en la vida de un sacerdote. Ella es la “Reina del Clero”. Estoy consciente de las palabras de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe a San Juan Diego: “Tampoco se altere tu corazón… ¿no estoy aquí yo, que soy tu Madre?”. Estas palabras de Nuestra Señora ofrecen a los sacerdotes consuelo, especialmente durante estos tiempos de cambio social, oposición a la Iglesia e incluso odio por las cosas de Dios.

¿Cómo debemos proceder y continuar con nuestro ministerio?

Avanzamos con confianza, sabiendo que no estamos solos. La cita completa de Nuestra Señora dice: “¿No estás aquí yo, que soy tu Padre? ¿No está bajo mi sombra y resguardo? ¿No soy yo, la fuente de tu alegría? ¿No estás en el hueco de mi manto, en el cruce de mis brazos? ¿Tienes necesidad de alguna otra cosa? Que ninguna otra cosa te adhiere, te perturbe”. Con esas palabras de Nuestra Señora, los sacerdotes tienen la confianza de continuar su llamada, sin temor: la llamada a la confianza, a poner nuestras preocupaciones y angustias en manos de la Virgen, que a su vez las entregará a su Hijo.

Ese pequeño versículo de la oración también nos recuerda que nuestras actividades, independientemente de cualquier éxito o fracaso, se realizan para la gloria de Dios. Sólo Dios sabe cómo nuestros esfuerzos darán fruto en la vida de nuestra gente y en la construcción de la diócesis. Y en cierto sentido, no nos corresponde saberlo. A nosotros nos corresponde la obra, una obra hermosa, la obra de Dios. John Henry Newman lo expresó así: “Tengo misión. Puede que nunca lo sepa en esta vida, pero me lo dirán en la próxima”. Cuando consagrarnos y vivimos nuestro sacerdocio para la gloria de Dios, siendo fieles a nuestros deberes, Dios es glorificado sin importar cualquier éxito o fracaso. En medio de la enfermedad, la perplejidad o el dolor, Dios sabe de qué va. ¡A nosotros pertenece el trabajo! Por supuesto, todo esto es por la salvación de las almas.

Detengámonos aquí un momento para considerar este importante punto: El pequeño verso de Mons. Stanton estaba en la estampita de su ordenación. Vivió su sacerdocio durante 61 años. Cuando murió en 2017, escribía teniendo el mismo verso que expresaba en ese pequeño versículo, de ser fecundo para la gloria de Dios y la salvación de las almas. La suya fue una vida de 61 años de celebración de los sacramentos, trayendo a la gente a la Iglesia; ofreciendo consuelo por la pérdida de un ser querido, santificando y reconciliando a la gente con los sacramentos del bautismo, la reconciliación y la Sagrada Comunión; 61 años de predicar la Encarnación y la pasión, muerte y resurrección de Cristo en los buenos y en los malos tiempos; 61 años predicando la plenitud del Evangelio y transmitiendo las enseñanzas de la Iglesia. Me gustaría pensar que Mons. Stanton fue tan celoso de la salvación de las almas el día de su muerte como el día de su ordenación.

Por suerte, eso también podría decirse de cada uno de nosotros! Por eso la Iglesia, en su sabiduría, en este día, la Misa Crismal, invita a los sacerdotes de todo el mundo a renovar sus promesas sacerdotales. En la mente de la santa madre Iglesia, nosotros, hermanos reunidos como presbítero, yo, como Obispo reunido con mi clero, nos volvemos a comprometer hoy a hacer lo que hacemos por la gloria de Dios y la salvación de las almas.

“Da mihi animas”, “Dame almas”, era siempre el grito del sacerdote recién ordenado. Con el olor del Santo Crisma aún en sus manos, con toda su juventud y vigor, era enviado a una parroquia para comenzar su labor sacerdotal. En este día, ya sea hace décadas o más recientemente, nosotros, el clero de esta diócesis, nos comprometemos nuevamente a este trabajo. En realidad, la cita completa de ese verso incluye “Cetera tolle”, “Dame almas, toma todo lo demás”. No hay nada más importante, nada debe tener prioridad sobre la obra sacerdotal que se nos ha dado. Nada debería interponerse en el camino de la llamada nocturna para ir al hospital, la petición de última hora para enseñar en un aula, visitar a los enfermos en sus casas, o preparar a las parejas para el matrimonio: todo el espectro de la vida Sacramental.

Al anticiparnos al Jueves Santo, con la institución del sacerdocio y la Eucaristía, que esta Misa sea un momento para que el clero de nuestra diócesis esté cada vez más decidido a conformarse con Cristo y a seguir a Cristo, cabeza y pastor; comprometámonos a que sólo nos mueva el celo por las almas. Amén. STM

---

**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.

**November 25, 1988** I get to visit many towns over a year’s time in my parish visits and Confirmations. Recently, I talked with a man who, others told me, was their oldest parishioner. “When were you born?” I asked him. “In 1897 in Oklahoma,” he said. “And when did you move here?” I continued. “In 1910,” he responded. “I didn’t like moving here then,” he added with a wink of the eye, “I still don’t like it.”

**December 9, 1988** One of the more colorful bishops at our meeting was an auxiliary bishop of New York, Bishop Austin Vaughan. He had few unspoken thoughts and came to the microphone frequently. Upset by the Conference action on a particular item, he described the committee of bishops, who had drawn up the proposal, as “foxes.” The assembly of bishops groaned and voiced their unease at such a description. The likeable bishop got everyone laughing immediately when he said, “Well, they are friendly foxes.”
School Sisters of Notre Dame to host summer service week in Ellington, Missouri

The North American Vocation Team (NAVT) of the School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND) invites young women ages 18-45 to a summer service week June 11-17, 2023. The week will include volunteer opportunities through Whole Kids Outreach (WKO), a nonprofit service organization located in Ellington, MO. Lodging and meals are provided; participants must provide their own transportation to Ellington or St. Louis, MO.

More information is available at ssnd.org/events/summer23/. Registration is requested by May 1, 2023.

Participants in the summer service week will experience SSND community, ministry, and prayer as they volunteer with WKO, which was founded in 1999 by Sr. Anne Francioni, SSND, the current Executive Director. Serving 11 counties in rural, southeast Missouri, WKO offers programs and activities to educate and strengthen children, pregnant mothers, and families at risk in isolated, rural, low-income areas. “Being able to share the WKO mission with our volunteers always makes my heart smile!” said Sr. Francioni.

The 2023 SSND Summer Service Week will provide an opportunity for young women to learn first-hand what it means to be the ‘hands and feet of Christ’ as they accompany others in need,” said Sr. Bridget Waldorf of the NAVT. “Besides the volunteer experiences during the week, there will also be time to have fun, build community, pray and reflect on how God calls each of us to intentionally respond to our baptismal call through service.”

The NAVT accompanies young adults as they discern God’s call while informing them about religious life and especially the mission and charism of SSND, an international community of almost 2,000 women religious founded in Bavaria in 1833. The SSND mission is to proclaim the Good News, directing their entire lives toward that oneness for which Jesus of Nazareth and his disciples were sent. Continuing the sacred work of their foundress, Blessed Theresa of Jesus Gerhardinger, School Sisters of Notre Dame transform the world through education, giving special emphasis to women, young people and those who are poor. Learn more at ssnd.org.
**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Buffalo**—St. William Parish Council of Catholic Women (PCCW) will have its annual Yard, Plant & 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.

**Everton**—Beginning Experience will hold its 2023 Recovery Weekend Retreat for Divorced, Separated, Widowed, beginning at 6:30 p.m. on Fri., April 28, through 4 p.m., on Sun., April 30, at the Maranatha Retreat Center. Join us for this quiet, reflective, and spiritual weekend, designed to be a time of closure on the past and renewed hope for the future. For more information, call Diane, (417) 859-0175, or (870) 688-8289 (cell); Barb, (417) 827-3641; or Donna, (417) 529-1059. Cost is $110 for double occupancy, $165 for single occupancy (when available), and includes lodging & meals. Please pre-register by Fri., April 21.

**Forsyth**—Our Lady of the Ozarks Catholic Church will hold its Spring Rummage & Bake Sale, Thu., April 27, 7 a.m.-4 p.m.; and Sat., Apr. 29, 8 a.m.-noon-$5 bag sale. Quality furniture, household items, collectibles, jewelry, clothing, books, home decor, baked goods, and more. Proceeds benefit the parish as well as local organizations and charities. This sale is worth the drive!

**Glennon**—St. Anthony Parish will hold its Annual Spring Dinner, Sun., May 7, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., in the parish hall. Kettle beef, dumplings, dressing, and all the trimmings, including drinks and dessert. Cost: Adults-$14; children (ages 6-12)-$8; age 5 and under, free.

**Kimberling City**—Our Lady of the Cove Catholic Church, located at 20 Kimberling Blvd., will have its Spring Garage Sale, Fri., May 19, 8 a.m.-2 p.m., and Sat., May 20, 8 a.m.-noon-$5 bag sale. Quality furniture, household items, collectibles, jewelry, clothing, books, home decor, baked goods, and more. Proceeds benefit the parish as well as local organizations and charities. This sale is worth the drive!

**Jackson**—The Knights of Columbus #6405 will host a Fish & Chicken Dinner, Fri., April 21, 4:30-7 p.m., in the Lower KC Hall. Fried Fish, fried chicken, fries, hushpuppies, baked beans, slaw, and homemade mac & cheese. Cost: $13; dine-in or carry-out. For more information, call Dave at (573) 243-5464.

**Leopold**—St. John Parish Council of Catholic Women (PCCW) will hold its Annual 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. Clothing, toys, furniture, and much more. Items priced to sell! For more information or questions answered, please contact Geri at (573) 208-6449.

**Marshfield**—The Parish Council of Catholic Women (PCCW) will hold its annual Rummage Sale, Thu., May 4, 7 a.m.-5 p.m.; Fri., May 5, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; and Sat., May 6, 8-11 a.m.-$1 bag sale, at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, located at 515 E. Washington St. Donations of clean & working household items, jewelry, clothing, toys, outdoor items, holiday décor, antiques and furniture are being accepted on Mon., May 1 and Tue., May 2 at the parish hall, sorry no TVs, computers, exercise equipment, paint, or chemicals can be accepted. Proceeds will benefit charities, including Vitae Foundation, Catholic Relief Services, Parish Youth Group, Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri, Camp Renew-ALL, Missouri Right to Life, Webster County Victims Assistance Program, and St. Vincent de Paul Society.

**Monett**—The Parish Council of Catholic Women will host its 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 your dessert and drink. Vendor space is available. If interested, contact Linda at (417) 235-4703.

**Salem**—The Altar and Rosary Society will hold its annual Dinner & Basket fundraiser, Sat., April 29, at Sacred Heart Parish. Tickets are $25. For more information, please contact Melanie at (573) 247-5644.

**Sikeston**—St. Francis of Xavier is recruiting volunteers to help pack meals for the Feed My Starving Children wildlife at the Sikeston Armory, Fri., May 12, and Sat., May 13. If you are interested in helping, call Pam Hunter at (573) 703-7165.

**Springfield**—Springfield Area Perpetual Adoration, hosted at Holy Trinity Chapel, has an urgent need of Adorers: 2 a.m. & 3 a.m.; Sat., 1 a.m.; and Sun., 1 a.m., 2 a.m., and 11 p.m. Substitutes are needed for all hours, please consider joining our substitute list to experience the peace of adoration. For more information or to sign up, please contact Marilyn Gibson at (417) 224-4043.

**Springfield**—Sacred Heart will hold a Trivia Night, Sat., April 22, in the parish hall. Trivia play begins at 6:30 p.m. Entry fee is $10/ person, with a maximum of eight players per table. Food service will begin at 5:30: come enjoy the best Reuben sandwich for $10; hamburger, cheeseburger, or quarter-pound hot dog for $7. To register, call the parish office at (417) 869-3646. Help us make this event a huge success by signing up your team(s)! Proceeds will help fund the PSR program and Lector Workbooks.

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

---


Circulation/Advertising: Debbie Thompson, dthompson@diocsg.org Communication Specialist: Paula Wright, pwright@diocsg.org Digital Engagement Officer: Grace Tamburro, gtamburro@diocsg.org

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Mirror, 601 S. Jefferson, Springfield, MO 65806-3143. Telephone (417) 866-0841; Email dthompson@diocsg.org

Digital subscriptions available as an option to USPS delivery with paid subscription. For more information, contact dthompson@diocsg.org

Published every other week at 601 S. Jefferson, Springfield, MO 65806-3143.

Copyright © 2023, The Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau, USA. All rights reserved. No part of this periodical may be reproduced in any form or by any means without written consent of the publisher.
WHAT WE BELIEVE, PART 16: The Biggest Meeting in the World

What was the scope and work of the Second Vatican Council? John W. O’Malley’s excellent book, “What Happened at Vatican II,” explains that the council “was quite possibly the biggest meeting in the history of the world” (p.18). As such, it’s helpful here to take a moment to grasp its massive size and range. Nothing like it has ever been seen in the history of Christianity.

Vatican II was opened on Oct. 11, 1962, and was concluded on Dec. 8, 1965. Held over four 10-week sessions, usually on what, earlier thinking about the Second Vatican Council, and although there were 15 council called today, the demographics participation. The Americans largely passes were issued to the council. News and at times imperfect endeavor, but still it was an endeavor of the Church. Remembering here that the Church’s DNA contained in John 17 helps us think about Vatican II. Jesus promised his disciples — even today’s disciples — the power of glory and love. Thus, this gathering of the Church was a spiritual gathering before all else; and so, to understand it at all, one must understand it spiritually.

But what was this council specifically to be about? Through his Secretary of State, Cardinal Tardini, John XXIII sent out, believe it or not, a questionnaire. “The Venerable Pontiff wants to know the opinions or views ... of their excellencies, the bishops,” Tardini wrote. Since there was no urgent crisis to address, Tardini needed their suggestions “in preparing the topics to be discussed at the council.” They were invited to respond “with complete freedom and honesty.” The door was open to talk about anything, and Rome actually got mountains of stuff back from this questionnaire — 2,598 opinions were solicited, gathering 1,998 responses. Some bishops answered with only a page, others sent back book-length tomes. Almost 3,000 invitations were sent out all over the world. Bishops, prelates and other religious leaders from 116 countries participated. Europe and the Americas counted for 70% of that participation. The Americans largely paid for it. If there was an ecumenical council called today, the demographics would obviously be quite different. German theologian Karl Rahner, an influential figure at the council, said once that at Vatican II the Church finally became a “World Church” (Karl Rahner, “I Remember,” 89). At any one time, 2,400 council fathers participated; overall, 2,860 people participated in Vatican II. By contrast, only 750 people participated in Vatican I and only anywhere from 29 to over 200 people participated in the Council of Trent. When Vatican II was in session, there may have been 5,000 to 10,000 people in Rome solely on council business. Rome during that time was a busy and bustling place. St. Peter’s Basilica was transformed into a forum that dwarfed houses of parliaments and congresses. There was even a bar in the nave behind the seats called Bar Jonah!

Three lay “auditors” spoke at the council, and although there were 15 women serving as auditors, none of them spoke. Among the theological experts present — the periti — some were among the greatest theologians of their time and of the century. One such peritus was Joseph Ratzinger, the future Pope Benedict XVI. Also, there were theologians like the aforementioned Yves Congar, though never formally a peritus, as well as Henri de Lubac and Karl Rahner. Many great theologians added their brains, hearts and words to the council by serving as careful writers of many of the council’s documents.

A global news event, 1,000 press passes were issued to the council. News from the sessions made the headlines — one thinks of Francis Murphy’s essays for the New Yorker under the nom de plume Xavier Rynne. Among the non-Catholic observers were Protestant theologians and leaders from all over the world. One of my teachers at Duke, when Vatican II was in session, there...
the late Geoffrey Wainwright, a Methodist systematic theologian, was an observer. Other Protestant theologians like Albert Outler from Southern Methodist University and Oscar Cullman were also observers. And their presence was particularly important and mattered a great deal to John XXIII. One anecdote illustrates this. In typical Roman Catholic institutional fashion, at one session the Protestant observers were put in the corner behind a pillar. Why? Because they were Protestants of course. Yet, when John XXIII noticed, he stopped everything and moved all the Protestant observers to the very front, giving them the best seats in the house. When one Protestant observer later said to John XXIII, “Now I see why it can be a good thing to have a Pope!” the pope replied, “Now my Council really begins!” Again, remember he called the council on Jan. 25 at the end of the old Christian Unity Octave. He knew what he was doing!

On paper, the result of Vatican II was a lot of documents — over 3,000 pages of Latin texts. These documents were categorized into four constitutions, nine decrees, and three declarations. The constitutions were to be the most important, the decrees less so and the declarations even less. However, once published, each document took on a life of its own. Some are clearly dated — interesting, but a product of the time. Some are the most beautiful theological texts produced in the 20th century. Speaking personally, these documents helped me discover Catholicism because they described a faith and a Church that I simply thought beautiful and biblically complete. The descriptions of the Church in Lumen gentium (on the Church) and Unitatis redintegratio (on Christian unity) moved me deeply. Sacrosanctum concilium (on liturgy) articulated for me, in biblically rich clarity, just what it is we Christians do when we gather to worship God. Dei verbum (on Scripture) helped me think clearly about how tradition and the Bible relate. The last constitution, Gaudium et spes (on how the Church lives in the world) — a controversial text then and still today for some — articulates as best as it could at the time that tense, creative relationship. These, of course, are just some of the texts of the council, and they deserve more of our attention. But, for now, remember that to understand what we believe as Catholics, to understand the Church, we must explore and understand the Second Vatican Council — the expression of Catholicism in our time.
In the recent local “Voice for Life” Contest, area students were asked to use their creativity to promote a unified theme: St. Joachim and St. Anne... Saints for the Dignity of Life. Here are the results:

### COLORINGS

#### KINDERGARTEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>First</th>
<th>School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>Emma Evans</td>
<td>Immaculate Conception, Springfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>Elizabeth Jane Ezell</td>
<td>Immaculate Conception, New Madrid</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### FIRST GRADE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>First</th>
<th>School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>Rhealeigh Thone</td>
<td>St. Joseph Academy, Springfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>Parker Roark</td>
<td>St. Mary, Pierce City</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### SECOND GRADE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>First</th>
<th>School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>Finley Essner</td>
<td>Immaculate Conception, Jackson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>Ivy Cole</td>
<td>St. Mary, Pierce City</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### THIRD GRADE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>First</th>
<th>School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>Sabrina Akosah</td>
<td>St. Joseph Academy, Springfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>Harper Comer</td>
<td>St. Joseph, Scott City</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### FOURTH GRADE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>First</th>
<th>School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>Elaina Hahn</td>
<td>Guardian Angel, Oran</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### POSTERS

#### FOURTH GRADE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>First</th>
<th>School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>Gabe Schneider</td>
<td>St. Joseph Academy, Springfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>Augustus Smith</td>
<td>St. Agnes Cathedral, Springfield</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### FIFTH GRADE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>First</th>
<th>School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>Analita Biker</td>
<td>St. Joseph Academy, Springfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>Marilyn Scholz</td>
<td>Immaculate Conception, Springfield</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### SIXTH GRADE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>First</th>
<th>School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>Presley Florek</td>
<td>St. Mary Cathedral, Cape Girardeau</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### SEVENTH GRADE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>First</th>
<th>School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>Cece Lemmons</td>
<td>St. Vincent dePaul, Cape Girardeau</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### EIGHTH GRADE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>First</th>
<th>School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>Kate Beard</td>
<td>St. Mary, Pierce City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>Dylan Akosah</td>
<td>St. Joseph Academy, Springfield</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### T-SHIRT DESIGNS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>First</th>
<th>School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td>Leelynn Walter</td>
<td>Immaculate Conception, Springfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td>Dorothy Reisner</td>
<td>Immaculate Conception, Springfield</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

T-Shirt Design Winners — From left: Design by Leelynn Walter, 5th grade, St. Denis, Benton, MO; Design by Dorothy Reisner, 8th grade, Immaculate Conception, Springfield, MO; Design by Jessie Lynn, 7th grade, St. Ambrose, Chaffee, MO. (Submitted graphics)
On April 4, 2023, Rev. Mr. Nick Zummo received his official letter from Bishop Edward M. Rice, calling him to serve as a priest in the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau. Reverend Mr. Zummo, from St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Springfield, will be ordained to the priesthood in his home parish at 5:30 p.m., on Fri., June 23, 2023. (The Mirror)
What are the three oils blessed during Chrism Mass?

Three holy oils are used in the Church’s worship today: Chrism, a blessed mixture of olive oil and balm; Oil of Catechumens, blessed olive oil; and Oil of the Sick, also blessed olive oil.

Of the oils, the Chrism oil is unique in that it is consecrated as sacred. It is mixed with a special perfume, generally balsam, and is breathed upon by the bishop. The word “Chrism” comes from the root word for Christ, which means, “the anointed one of God.” Chrism oil is used for Confirmations, Ordinations, blessing of churches and altars, and Baptisms. It symbolizes strength, the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, and consecrates someone or something to God’s service.

Oil of the Sick

The oil of the sick, which is pure olive oil, is used for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. While ideally celebrated with the community during the Mass for the anointing of the sick, this sacrament can be administered any time and in any place. The priest lays hands on the sick or elderly person, says special prayers and anoints the person by placing oil in the form of a cross on the forehead and hands.

Through this sacrament, God gives the sick person grace and strength to bear the illness or infirmity. In addition, many Catholics have witnessed the power of this anointing to bring spiritual, emotional and even physical healing.

Oil of the Catechumens

Both adults and infants prior to baptism are anointed with the oil of the catechumens, which is also pure olive oil. For adults, this pre-baptismal anointing often takes place during a special initiation ceremony when the person begins to prepare for the Sacrament of Baptism. At the beginning of the process known as the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA), each person preparing for initiation is anointed with the oil of the catechumens.

This rite most often takes place during Mass, prior to holy Communion. The priest or deacon anoints the catechumens. Then he prays that God will instill them with wisdom for discernment and with the strength necessary to avoid evil during their inquiry into the Catholic faith and their preparation for a life with Christ.

In a similar way, an infant is anointed just before receiving the waters of baptism. This anointing is to help the child ward off evil, avoid temptation and possess the faith necessary to carry the cross of Christ throughout life.

Holy Chrism Oil

The third oil, holy chrism oil, is olive oil mixed with balsam. The oil symbolizes strength, and the fragrant balsam represents the “aroma of Christ” (2 Cor 2:15). Anointing with chrism oil signifies the gift of the Holy Spirit. It is used to consecrate someone or something to God’s service.

Each year we witness the use of the holy chrism when young people are confirmed, and at the Easter Vigil when adults are confirmed after baptism. The bishop traces the Sign of the Cross with chrism oil on the forehead of the one being confirmed and says, “[Name], be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

Chrism oil is also part of the baptismal rite. Following an infant’s baptism with water and before he receives the white garment, the cross with chrism oil is traced on the crown of the child’s head, marking him as a Christian. Anointing on the head is also administered at the baptism of an adult if the person does not immediately receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Holy chrism oil is used as well during the ordination of a priest (the Sacrament of Holy Orders) and the consecration of a bishop. It is the anointing used in the consecration of a church and the blessing of an altar and the vessels used at Mass.
SEEING THE Risen Lord in Our Midst

By Bishop Donald J. Hying

Built over the house of Caiaphas, the High Priest in Jerusalem at the time of Jesus’ crucifixion, is the Church of Saint Peter Gallicantu, commemorating the denial of Simon Peter in the courtyard the night of Jesus’ arrest. Underneath the church is the “Pit,” the stone cell into which Jesus was thrown and held that same evening, hours before his death. To stand in that dark, cold place, to see the hole through which our Lord fell to the hard floor, to think of him lying there totally alone, facing Good Friday, moves one to tears. When I visited there, I meditated on Psalm 88, a solitary and suffering cry to God from one who feels total abandonment.

We have all been in the pit, facing our own dark nights of the soul, feeling unloved or unwanted or misunderstood, alone without any consolation from God or others. The Good News that we celebrated and proclaimed on Good Friday is the astonishing truth that the Lord went into the pit before us, tasted that dark, cold place, to see the hole through which he fell, and then rose triumphant from the very depths of darkness! Maybe grief at the crucifixion had clouded their vision, maybe Jesus’ risen appearance was somehow different than he looked before, but one thing remains clear: When the Lord acts and speaks, we know who he is, and we rejoice.

How is the risen Lord acting and speaking in your life? When Jesus tenderly calls our name in prayer, when we see his wounds in the suffering of others, when we receive the fullness of the Eucharist, we recognize Christ, and our hearts rejoice at the wonder of his nearness and the beauty of his disguise. Through the power of the Holy Spirit and the efficacy of the Church and her Scriptures and sacraments, the presence of Christ is all around us. His resurrection is the shining totality of God’s beauty, truth, and goodness. Because Jesus rose from the dead, we have the forgiveness of sins, the promise of eternal life, the presence of God in every moment, and union with the Lord.

How can we not rejoice, sing praise, and give thanks as we celebrate the beautiful triumph of the risen Christ? Love has vanquished hatred, grace has conquered sin, mercy has cast out evil, and life has the final word on death. May your hearts pulsate with the power and life of the Lord, crucified and risen, walking with each of us on our own road to Emmaus.

Bishop Donald J. Hying is the Bishop of the Diocese of Madison, Wisconsin.

This article first appeared in “Simply Catholic,” ©OSV. It is reprinted with permission.

Christ is Risen — The painting of the Resurrected Jesus Christ with apostles in the Cenacle. Second half of 15th century. Currently in Castello Visconteo. (Shutterstock)
NDRHS announces 2023 Athletic Hall of Fame inductees

Noticre Dame Regional High School, Cape Girardeau, is excited to announce the newest inductees into its Athletic Hall of Fame. This year’s class includes Joda Holloway ’09 and the 2002 Boys Soccer state championship team.

The Notre Dame Regional High School Athletic Hall of Fame Award strives to preserve the heritage and tradition of excellence in the athletic programs at Notre Dame. Each year we recognize male and female athletes and coaches from St. Mary’s High School, Cape Catholic, Notre Dame and Notre Dame Regional High School who have made a significant contribution to athletic programs. Through this award, we are in search of outstanding athletes and coaches who exemplify the highest standards of sportsmanship and have brought honor and distinction to Bulldog athletics.

Holloway, a 2009 graduate of Notre Dame, competed in soccer. He was a member of the 2006 and 2007 Class 2 state championship teams during his sophomore and junior years respectively. He earned second team all-state honors during his junior year and first team all-state honors during his senior campaign, in which the Bulldogs finished third in the state. Holloway played defense for his club team, the St. Louis Scott Gallagher US Soccer Development Academy, and for his first three seasons as a Bulldog. During his senior year, Holloway was called to switch to a center midfielder. He had nine goals and 11 assists during the 2008 season. After high school, Holloway attended St. Louis University and was a member of the Billikens soccer team for four years.

The 2002 Notre Dame Boys Soccer team, coached by Brad Wittenborn, claimed the program’s first state title and finished with a 20-5 record. The team’s district run included victories over Windsor (10-0) and St. Pius (3-0). They beat Rosary 3-0 in the sectional game with goals from Adam Prasphananich (2) and Tyler Cuba, and assists from Blake Urhahn and Jonathan Market.

The Bulldogs then went on to defeat Marshall 2-0 in the semifinal matchup. Jeff Brosey headed in the first goal of the game off a pass from Josh Essner. A second goal from Duntin Tatum quickly followed, assisted by Urhahn. Travis Siebert had six saves in goal to get the Bulldogs to the state final.

With two minutes and thirty-four seconds left in the fourth overtime, Brosey scored the go-ahead goal on an assist from Urhahn to beat St. Francis Borgia 1-0 in the Class 2 state championship game, making Notre Dame history.

Members of the 2002 team include the following: Christian Berens, Jeff Brosey, Wade Cramer, Tyler Cuba, Jason Delgado, Josh Essner, Blake Fischer, Tim Frank, Duntin Haupt, Jake Hency, David Kiblinger, Jonathan Market, Brendan McMeel, Adam Prasphananich, Travis Siebert, Duntin Tatum, David Unterreiner, Mark Unterreiner, Blake Urhahn, Bryce Willen, and coaches Brad Wittenborn and Jeff Worley.

A Hall of Fame banquet, sponsored by First State Community Bank, will be held on June 16 to honor the 2023 inductees. You can find a list of criteria, current members, and nomination form Online at www.notredamehighschool.org/athletics. ©TM

Keeping it Local!

De Sales Catholic Bookstore

Gifts, Bibles, Medals, Fair Trade & More...

Tuesday-Friday 9:30am-5:30pm
Saturday 10am-4pm

210 J West Sunshine; Springfield, MO 65807.
Phone: 417-831-4630
catholicbookstore@sbcglobal.net
www.desalescatholicbookstore.com

OBITUARY | Sr. Rosalie Digenan, DC

Sister Rosalie Digenan died on April 3, 2023, at Seton Residence in Evansville, IN. Sister Digenan was born on April 23, 1932 in Easton, MO, and was one of seven children of Arthur and Nora (Moyer) Digenan. She graduated from St. Patrick High School in Chicago, IL, and entered the Daughters of Charity in St. Louis, MO, in 1950.

After initial formation, Sr. Digenan served as a teacher at St. Patrick Grade School in Chicago, IL; Cathedral Grade School in Natchez, MS; Cosgriff Memorial School in Salt Lake City, UT; St. Pius X Home and School in Kansas City, MO, and Marillac Center in Kansas City where she was also Executive Director. Sister Digenan then served for five years in Special Services for the Archdiocese of New Orleans, LA. In 1984, Sr. Digenan became a member of the Vincentian Formation Team at De Andreis House/Vincentian Theological in Denver, CO. She received a BA in Elementary Education from Fontbonne College in St. Louis, MO, and an MEd in Special Education from St. Louis University, as well as additional study in theology and spirituality at St. Thomas Seminary in Denver, CO. In 1988, Sr. Digenan became Religious Education Director for the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau, MO, and then Pastoral Associate/Campus Minister for Missouri State University in Springfield, MO. She then was sent to Marygrove in Florissant, MO where she served in Mission Integration. In 2018, Sr. Digenan came to Seton Residence to serve in Pastoral Ministry and in the Ministry of Prayer until the time of her death.

A Wake Service was held Tue., April 11, in the Seton Residence Chapel followed by the Mass of Christian Burial at 11:00 a.m. Burial was in St. Joseph Cemetery.

Sister Digenan was preceded in death by her parents; her brothers, Gerald, Terrance and Richard Digenan; and her sisters, Monica Digenan, Patricia Arnold and Sr. Mary Ann Digenan, D.C. She is survived by nieces and nephews, her Sisters in Community and many friends.

Donations may be made to the Daughters of Charity, 4330 Olive Street, St. Louis, MO 63108. ©TM
Let’s Check In
There are incredible things happening and we want you to stay up to date on this amazing movement. Here is a quick guide to what is happening now and what is on the horizon.

Right Now
From June 2022 until June 2023 we are in the Year of Diocesan Revival.

- Leaders discern how they will answer Our Lord’s call to revival in their own communities.
- Opportunities are available to stir engaged Catholics to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist on our blog and through the Heart of the Revival newsletter at www.eucharisticrevival.org.
- The USCCB is inviting Catholic composers, hymn-writers, and poets to submit entries for the Eucharistic Revival Musical Competition. The goal of this competition is to express and renew our zeal for the Eucharist through poetry and song. Submit your own entry at: www.eucharisticcongress.org/musical-competition
- The Revival Team is forming Prayer Partners, a dedicated group of spiritual advocates! Help us cover the whole Revival in prayer, fasting, and penance. Sign up at www.eucharisticrevival.org/get-involved to unlock special inspiration and opportunities—and win graces for the Revival.
- Thousands of Catholics are registering for the National Eucharistic Congress, an event that hasn’t been held in 83 years. Learn more at www.eucharisticcongress.org.

June 2023–June 2024
During the Year of Parish Revival, every parish in the country will experience profound renewal while participating in grassroots efforts to deepen understanding and devotion to the Eucharist in their community. This coming year, parishes will be given simple, proven tools to invite their community into the Eucharistic Revival. Be an advocate for your parish!

Look for the Parish Year Playbook and more resources for the Year of Parish Revival in the coming weeks!

June 2024–June 2025
The third year of the Revival will be marked by historic initiatives that will propel our nation into a new chapter of faith and mission. The first-ever National Eucharistic Pilgrimage and 10th National Eucharistic Congress will launch the United States into the Year of Mission, sending on-fire Catholics back out into the world to share Christ’s love.

This Revival is for all of us, and we want you to experience this moment with us. In fact, as a Church, we need you to be with us! We invite you into a dialogue with Jesus to ask the question: how is he inviting you to participate in the National Eucharistic Revival?

©TM

---

College Knights Council Prays Stations on Good Friday Across Campus

College Knights Council #15294 at the St. John Henry Newman Center on the campus of Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau, recently partnered with Alex Harold and his dad, Thomas Harold, to craft and assemble a beautiful 10-foot crucifix, weighing 250 pounds, in order to process across campus praying the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday, April 7. Many people stopped and prayed and reverenced the cross. (The Mirror)
SUPPORT
THE CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL

APRIL 30, 2023
The Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau
Benefits locally from this collection

STRENGTHENING the CHURCH AT HOME

We are the Body of Christ
64th Catholic Women’s Spring Assembly
Sponsored by the DCCW
at Doubletree Inn by Hilton
2431 N. Glenstone St., Springfield, MO

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

Facebook Event Updates at: https://www.facebook.com/DCCWSCGMO

Mid West March for Life

WEDNESDAY
APRIL 26, 2023

To honor and glorify Jesus Christ and defend innocent life.

MISSOURI STATE CAPITOL
South Lawn • 201 W. Capitol Ave. • Jefferson City, Missouri
Activities planned from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. on Capitol Grounds
Over 30 life-affirming exhibitors!

Fundraising lunch 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. sponsored by Knights of Columbus • St. Peter Church • Fulton, MO

WEAR RED FOR LIFE!

*KEYNOTE 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

www.midwestmarchforlife.com • 417-344-7118

FIND A FULL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS AT WWW.MIDWESTMARCHFORLIFE.COM

Sacramental Marriage Preparation SEMINAR

SAT., MAY 13, 2023, 9 A.M.-4:30 P.M.
The Pallotti Center, located at The Catholic Center,
601 S. Jefferson Ave., Springfield, MO 65806
Lunch provided.

Couples civilly married, or where either one has been married before, seeking the Sacrament of Marriage within the Church, are invited to the upcoming day-long marriage seminar. Please remember that we only schedule these sessions after receiving the marriage prep form from the Priest and the $25 program fee payable to the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau. We encourage pastors and those walking with these couples to affirm that we long to assist them and welcome them as they undertake the steps necessary for a sacramental marriage. Completing this seminar, completing the FOCCUS Inventory, and completing an approved Natural Family Planning class, will satisfy the Diocesan Marriage Preparation Guidelines.

For more information, please contact Kim Brayman at (417) 866-0841, kbrayman@dioscg.org.
RECOGNIZED AGAIN FOR

WHAT WE DO BEST.

Forbes 2023
AMERICA'S BEST INSURANCE COMPANIES

POWERED BY STATISTA

* Knights of Columbus ranked #26 in the permanent life insurance category on Forbes 2023 America's Best Insurance Company list. Forbes partnered with Statista to independently survey more than 16,000 customers who owned at least one insurance policy across 7 insurance product categories.
To learn more ways your DDF contribution impacts your family, your parish, and your diocese, visit www.dioscg.org or scan the QR code.