

St. Therese Little Flowers earn Marian medal

On June 13, Bishop Jackels awarded various religious awards to hundreds of the youth of our diocese at the 2010 Scouting Religious Emblems Mass.

In September 2009, 27 girls from St. Francis Parish began a year-long journey to earn the Marian Medal. It started with a Friday night workshop, sitting around in their troop leader's basement, flipping through a 55-page Marian Medal Project Book. The girls were told at this first meeting that they would need to make a commitment to this project and to Mary.

These seventh and eighth graders are no strangers to having a religious focus for their activities. As members of St. Therese Little Flowers, they earn petals studying the Virtues and try to emulate the lives of the saints.

The seventh graders had a great time learning about how Mary is honored throughout our city by going on a Marian Scavenger Hunt around Wichita. They located various Marian works of art including a grotto, the Cathedral, stained glass windows, statues and outdoor Stations of the Cross.

In the spirit of Mary, the seventh grade girls enjoyed taking care of the needy by serving at the Anthony Family Shelter and donating items for gift baskets to be auctioned for a family in need.

The eighth grade troop met on Friday nights for Marian Bible studies. The girls liked racing each other to find scripture passages about Mary's life. At one of their workshops, they made rosaries and sent them to soldiers in Afghanistan. After studying the

Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary, the girls decorated votive candles, lit them, then "snuck" into the darkened church at midnight and sang hymns at the foot of the altar.

The biggest highlight for both troops was the amount of work and time needed to complete the Marian Medal. Working with very busy teenage girls can be a challenge. There were times the leaders felt that there would not be enough time to complete each chapter on schedule. Each time they felt overwhelmed, things just seemed to fall in place and work out. The support and love of Mary, the Holy Spirit and of St. Therese were very evident and felt strongly. It gave them great joy!

– Angie Lubbers



Photo by Angie Lubbers

Standing with Father Smeltzer and Bishop Jackels after the Scouting Religious Emblems Mass are: Back Row: Rachel Ternes, Molly Demel, Morgan Stead, Abbie Scott, Megan Heng, Aubrey Burgess, Kaitlyn Frangenberg, Courtney Lubbers, Lauren Chapman, Catie Mallory, Madison Blinzler. Front Row: Ashley Krier, Kate Oxler, Mackenzie McElhiney, Caitlin Hawk, Cady Allen, Laura Quaney, Margaret Lallement, Andrea Murillo, Kaitlyn Pham. Not Pictured: Valan Polley, Taylor Bevis, Taylor DeVore, Elise Gallant, Gabrielle Meyer, Kelsey Schippers, Tori Thompson.

School nurse's role evolves, but gentle, caring attitude and expertise remain

What do sniffles and sneezes and tissues, bumps and bruises and ice packs, broken bones and compassion, and hugs for homesick children have in common? Rose Finn.

For nearly three decades and still counting, Rose provides physical and emotional care for St. Francis of Assisi students. The result of her long-term experience is a fine-tuned process to assess, plan, implement and evaluate student health needs.

"My role as school nurse has changed so much since when I first started," Rose said. "The state regulations have become more complicated, and the increased number of students means I'm busier and more involved than ever before."

After short stays in Kansas City and Denver, Rose and her husband, Pat, returned to Wichita in 1977. They moved into a west Wichita home and became members of St. Francis Parish, where all four of their children attended school. As a registered nurse working in Wichita hospitals during the early 1980s, she joined other parish mothers to form a group dedicated to creating and managing a school health room. For the next eight years, Rose served as volunteer coordinator in charge of running the health room.

"In 1990, I became a full-fledged staff member with the official title of school nurse," Rose explained. "I believe St. Francis was the second Catholic school in Wichita to hire a full-time registered nurse. I'm proud of what we've been able to accomplish since those early health room discussions."

Scrapes and scratches and achy stomachs are just a few of the common symptoms Rose treats. She says that while some days are uneventful, other days can become chaotic, especially when a virus



Photo by Rick Reitmeyer

sweeps through the school. And, of course, there's always the occasional serious injury that requires special and immediate attention.

During the past school year, I received a call from Rose with news that my daughter, Brenna, took a tumble on the playground and hit her mouth. Her description of the injury stirred up memories of a similar accident I had in second grade. The images of a swollen lip, cut gums, missing teeth and blood (lots of it) were branded into my memory. I imagined Brenna sitting in the nurse's office, scared and wailing in pain.

However, when I arrived at the school, I saw her sitting calmly next to Rose, an oversized icepack covering her fat lip. "Hi Dad," she muttered. "I think I thmathed my fathe pretty good." Although I'm told there was plenty of screaming and crying at first, Rose used her gentle and caring approach to comfort Brenna so she could eventually address the wound. Brenna, I realized, was in good hands.

In addition to her medical role in the school, Rose also works closely with teachers to help solve learning problems. She's currently involved in a computerized reading program that tracks the eye movement of students to help them improve their reading skills.

Rose adds that one of the highlights of her job now is treating a second generation of students. "I love taking care of the children of children I took care of in the past," she said. "I think that's a real compliment to the school. When previous students want to send their children to the same school they went to, you know you're doing something right."

– Patrick Mileham

The Vernacular

This newsletter is published monthly by and for the parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi Parish. It normally appears the third or fourth weekend of each month. Deadlines are the end of each month. For more information or to submit articles, contact Brent Dick, Communications Commission coordinator, at 721-1530, or Mike Gerik, news editor, at 722-5561, or e-mail at mgerik@yahoo.com.

The Anointing of the Sick

“Are there any who are sick among you? Let them send for the priests of the Church, and let the priests pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer of faith will save the sick persons, and the Lord will raise them up; and if they have committed any sins, their sins will be forgiven them.” (James 5: 14-15)

The healing of the sick was an important part of the ministry of Jesus. In each community He went to, as soon as the people heard He was there, they would bring the sick to Him for healing. Through the miracles of healing He performed, many people came to believe He was the Messiah. With the people gathered, He would teach them about the kingdom of God, thus leading them to share in the salvation He wished all to receive. This healing ministry continued with the apostles and remains a part of the sacramental life of the Church through the Anointing of the Sick.

The healing miracles of Jesus reveal two forms of healing the sick person received. The sick persons would receive the healing of the physical infirmity, but more importantly, they would receive the



Message From
The Pastor

spiritual healing from our Lord. In the sacrament of the anointing, the physical healing is granted according to the will of the Lord.

We recognize that not everyone who is anointed is granted the full miracle of the healing of the body and we know many who have been anointed have been granted such miracles. God in his wisdom of love knows what is necessary for our salvation and will grant such miracles according to His plan. Thus we find the healing of the body may or may not take place through the anointing.

The more important healing, namely the healing of the spirit, is always granted through the anointing. Jesus clearly shows this by stating so often, “Your faith has saved you.” St. James points this out in the above passage when he says their sins will be forgiven them.

Through the Sacrament, we are filled with the strength and power of the Holy Spirit to endure the suffering of the illness and are able to unite our suffering to the suffering of the Lord. By receiving the Sacrament of Anointing in times of serious illness or when we are close to death, we know that we will be prepared to face our Lord Jesus when He calls us back to Himself.

Indeed, we have been relieved of our suffering and have been healed spiritually by uniting ourselves with Christ, who has forgiven us of our sins, and we have been strengthened through the power of Jesus. All of these effects are intended to prepare us for our final journey into the everlasting kingdom of God promised to us through the resurrection of Jesus.

Jesus fully understands our needs in deepening our relationship with Him. The sacrament of the Anointing reveals to us His presence in those times in our lives when we can often feel most alone. Again, our Lord shows His compassion and love in this gift of healing. May we all know His comfort and peace.

Stewardship Thought

Dear Lord, teach me to be generous. Teach me to serve you as you deserve, to give and not count the cost, to fight and not heed the wounds, save that of knowing that I do your will.

– St. Ignatius Loyola

Stewardship in action



Photo by Andrew Hamel

A volunteer waits after Mass for parishioners to register their children for Totus Tuus 2010.

Join fellow Catholics at 11th annual Midwest Catholic Family Conference

We are excited that the 11th annual Midwest Catholic Family Conference on Aug. 6-8 at Century II is quickly approaching! Get rejuvenated in your faith and gain knowledge on how to defend it, beef up your parenting skills and just enjoy renewing friendships and feeling the unity of thousands of fellow Catholics from all over the Midwest.

At this conference, you will hear some of the country's most knowledgeable speakers from both the clergy and the laity who can clearly and intelligently address contemporary Church teachings and social issues in the light of those teachings.

One thing that sets this conference apart is that it is for the whole family, from newborn to elderly, for adult singles, for retired couples, or anyone who desires to grow in their faith! The conference offers an adult program, high school program, junior high program and a children's program for ages 3-10. Accommodations are even made for children with special needs.

The environment is as family-friendly as possible. Children of any age may stay with their parents in the adult program area. Parents are welcome to come and go from the talks as needed to accommodate their children's needs.

A playroom is available for children under the age of 3 if accompanied by a parent. A big-screen TV monitor is provided in the room to allow parents to view talks broadcast LIVE from the convention hall. Children can play while parents watch and listen.

This year's speakers include Dr. Ray Guarendi, host of the radio program, "The Doctor Is In." He is also the father of 10 adopted children and the writer of a syndicated column on parenting. He has authored books on the subject,



SFA parishioners visit about the learning opportunities at the Midwest Catholic Family Conference. Registration is still taking place after Sunday Masses and online.

including "Back to the Family" and "You're a Better Parent Than You Think," now in its 25th printing.

Eduardo Verástegui, best known as producer and star of the movie "Bella," a pro-life film about faith and triumph of the human spirit, will talk about how he shunned the glitz of the entertainment world and rediscovered his Catholic faith.

Tim Staples will enthusiastically nourish you with his talks. A former Protestant evangelist, he will capture your attention with humor as he shares his love of Christ and the Catholic faith. He currently serves as the director of apologetics at Catholic Answers.

Teresa Tomeo is back by popular demand. Find out why she moved from the secular media to an evangelical forum. Teresa is an author, Catholic talk show host, professional speaker and media consultant. She introduced the EWTN program, "All Things Girl" for "tweenage" girls. She was one of 250 women delegates to Rome for the *Mulieris Dignitatum*.

Jesse Romero hosts the radio program, "Straight Talk

Catholicism." He holds a master's degree in Catholic theology from Franciscan University. He is an author and producer of DVDs on a wide range of Catholic subjects.

Our own Rev. John Lanzrath is known for his ability to capture his audience's attention. He is gifted in personalizing his talks to help the audience recognize God's gifts. While studying moral theology with an emphasis in medical ethics at the Gregorian University in Rome, he was privileged to act as the spiritual director to Mother Theresa of Calcutta. Come listen to "All Father Ever Speaks About Is Money."

Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk will address beginning and ending life issues, stem cell research and cloning. He has a way of explaining these topics that will help you understand their complexities. He is the Director of Education for the National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia and holds a PhD in neuroscience from Yale University.

Don't miss Mother Kathryn

Conference ... continued on page 7

Let's talk about food for a change



How many different ways are there to make a breakfast casserole?

Well, I discovered 17 new ways to concoct the tasty

treat at the just-finished Holy Family Camp. And they're all wonderful.

By the way, in case you were wondering, Holy Family Camp is aimed at persons with disabilities. Some 150 campers and volunteers participated in this year's weeklong extravaganza, sponsored by the Ministry with Persons with Disabilities of the Diocese.

The casseroles were made by members of the Sisters of St. Catherine of Siena Altar Society. You know, those are the folks who

learned their stewardship skills at St. Francis.

Members sent us the casseroles – all different – and we heated them and served them up to a very hungry audience.

You might say that a good time was enjoyed by all. I relished every bite I had, and that meant eating a smidgen from every casserole.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the folks who helped heat those casseroles, along with a myriad of other tasks. They were Jim Aukofer, Jim Kofford, Don and Judy Meirgerd, and my wife, Kay.

Their hands spent more time in dishwater than you can imagine. Of course, they're all St. Francis parishioners. The senior member of our kitchen crew was Myron Hermes of Hutchinson.

God bless the cooks.

On another food-related note, let me mention the St. Francis Parish Picnic. It was a grand experience.

Even with all the activities and stuff, one thing really stuck out.

While the burgers, brats and hot dogs were top-notch, a little condiment on the side made the whole experience sublime.

Grilled onions.

They helped elevate the sandwiches to new heights. They helped turn an otherwise tasty – but ordinary – repast into something to be savored.

It was the lowly little onion that did it all.

Thanks, picnic organizers, for remembering the onions.

I look forward to next year's picnic with great anticipation.

– Tom Suchan

Holy Family Camp 2010



Photos by Randy Guapo

Volunteers and campers – numbering around 150 – enjoy the 22nd annual Holy Family Camp for persons with disabilities.

Parents teach kids to be financial stewards

Adult children may be more dependent than ever on their parents, according to Charles Schwab's 2010 Families and Money survey. The survey revealed that 41 percent of parents still provide some level of support to their children ages 23-28, whereas a whopping 86 percent of Sandwich Generation parents report they were fully independent by the age of 25. Why the swing? College debt, unemployment and poor consumer spending habits are cited as the primary causes of this longer term dependency.

One of your goals as a parent should be to teach your children, by word and example, what it means to

manage money in accord with Godly principles. Deuteronomy 6:6-7 says, "And these words which I command you this day shall be upon your heart; and you shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise."

Of course, just because you provide a good example and solid teaching to your children doesn't mean they will follow your counsel. After all, they do have free will. But good example and teaching increase the likelihood of a positive outcome exponentially. Proverbs 22:6 alludes to this when it says, "Train up a

child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

Teaching your children to become effective stewards of Providence will not only help them achieve financial independence, but even more important, live out their independence in ways that honor the Lord. God love you!

– Phil Lenahan

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(This article provided as a service of the Family Finance Committee.)

Would you like to join Veritas?

If you're interested in joining the next Veritas small group class at St. Francis – which meets once a week in the evenings for six weeks – or just want to know more about it, please contact the church office and ask to be placed on the Veritas list. We will call or e-mail you with details when the next class is being formed.



Photo by Andrew Hamel

Parishioners select items from the Summer Harvest board that they can purchase and bring back to donate to local charities.

Funerals

Julia C. Oliphant, mother of Julie Koker, Charles Oliphant, Philip Oliphant, Karen Oliphant, Mary Ann Weiser, Paul Oliphant, on June 10

Betty C. Pates, mother of Jerry Pates, Ed Pates, Mary Welden, on June 14

Walter A. Landwehr, father of Tom Coronado, Mark Coronado, Mike Landwehr, James Landwehr, Vicki Smith, on June 16

Vincent Shawn Johnson, father of John Johnson, Nathan Johnson, son of Peggy Wheeler, on June 21

Thomas "Tom" Leahy, husband of Wilma, father of Lisa Navarro, Rodney Mumaw, Ryan Leahy, on June 23

Alfred "Fritz" Vonfeldt, husband of Pat, father of Ken Vonfeldt, Ron Vonfeldt, Becky Langley, Elaine Sauder, on June 24

Pray for conversion of abortionists

There are so many good causes and so little time, but here's a very important cause that you can help and it doesn't take much time. Join the campaign for the conversion of abortionists by simply saying the St. Michael the Archangel prayer privately after every Mass you attend.

St Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls.

This is promoted by Fr. Thomas Euteneuer, president of Human Life International. If you'd like to sign the pledge to pray this prayer, go to www.hli.org.

Fr. Euteneuer has written several books about spiritual battle. One of his latest is "Exorcism and the Church Militant." In a discussion on "Catholic Connections" (local station KAHS, 1360 AM, 8 a.m. M-F), Father reminded us that abortion is ancient pagan human sacrifice all over again. The Canaanites killed firstborn babies to satisfy their gods. Today, the culture promotes "gods" of self, wealth, comfort, materialism and relativism.

Please pray the St Michael prayer after every Mass – and often through the day:

- To convert abortionists and anyone who promotes and practices this evil killing of the innocents.
- To touch the hearts of all women to know the privilege they have been given to assist the Lord to bringing new life.
- To enlist St. Michael's help to fight against all the facets of the culture of death and any way in which the powers of darkness have control.

– Monica Walker

Conference ... continued from page 4

Joseph, SMMC, as she describes her community's conversion journey from Sedevacantism to Roman Catholicism. Listen to how the Eucharist inspired their conversion. She is Mother Superior of the order of Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Church located in Spokane, Wash. Rev. Jason Borkenhagen is in his ninth year as spiritual director for the conference. He will lead participants in an outdoor Eucharistic Procession and Benediction concluding with Night Prayer on Saturday evening. Fr. Borkenhagen will be the principal celebrant and homilist on Sunday. He serves as pastor of St. Patrick Parish in Parsons.

Bishop Michael O. Jackels is the principal celebrant and homilist for the Saturday Mass. The Bishop spent more than half of his priesthood in Rome, including eight years working under then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger (now Pope Benedict XVI) in the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. He holds a doctorate in sacred theology from Pontifical University of St. Thomas in Rome.

Both the teen and junior high programs will be full of energy as

they are emceed by Fr. Bernie Gorges and Fr. Aaron Spexarth, respectively.

Additional weekend offerings follow.

- Outdoor Eucharistic Procession and Benediction
- Daily Mass
- Confessions
- Rosary
- Adoration
- Divine Mercy Chaplet
- Exhibit Hall offering Catholic clothing, books, jewelry, rosaries, medals, gifts and other resources.

Fortunately, the cost is relatively low considering all that is offered for the family at this conference. If cost is a factor, there are plenty of volunteer opportunities available to offset costs.

Registration for the Midwest Catholic Family Conference is under way. Registration forms can be found in the St. Francis front walkway. For more detailed information or to register online, go to catholicfamilyconference.org, call 618-9787 or e-mail midwconf@cox.net.

Each year after attending the conference, attendees young and old have such a sense of excitement

about their Catholic faith that they can't help but want to share the conference with everyone they know. We hope to see you there!

– Becky Hawk

New Parishioners

Aaron and Amy Beauchamp
Mark Bell

Raymond and Venda Hemken
Brett and Erin Hemphill, one

child

Marcos and Jennifer

Mosqueda

Peter and Tess Rohleder
Richard and Rocio Rosales,

two children

Baptisms

Christian Alan, son of Kyle and Lisa Lang, on June 19

Evelynn Marie, daughter of Jes and Christina Brouillette, on June 20

Dylan Lawrence, son of Dan and Samantha Berry, on June 27

William Ronald, son of Joel and Davina Collette, on June 27

Jobs Clearinghouse

The following list of parishioners seeking employment is provided as a service for registered parishioners by the Social Justice Ministry. Parishioners seeking employment can contact the church office at 722-4404 to register and provide contact information, a brief description of the type of employment desired, and qualifications. Employers seeking to fill positions should also contact the office with their requirements. The Social Justice Ministry compiles the applicants and opportunities and notifies the parties if any matches exist. If no matches are immediately possible, the applicants and opportunities will be published in the Vernacular. For more information, contact the parish office.

Employment opportunity available

Part-time lube technician

- Experience needed: Lube experience, minor mechanical
- Special skills: Self-motivator; able to lift and follow directions
- Work hours: 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Sat.

Parishioners seeking employment

Seeking office and/or outside work

- Education: NOC Design Engineering – WSU computer science
- Experience: 30+ years heat and air, plumbing; resumé available
- Special skills: Volunteer with physically challenged; food bank and Habitat for Humanity
- Available: Any shifts; can start today

Seeking a challenging career opportunity in business management, accounting or financing

- Education: Wichita State University: BS in business administration/accounting; Butler Community College: business administration
- Experience: Supervising, training, inventory monitoring and auditing, planning, aircraft experience in avionics and weapons
- Special skills: Knight of Columbus, booster for Good Neighbor Fund through United Way among a whole host of other volunteer and award activities
- Resumé available

Project management or people management role

- Experience: Seasoned IT person with 22+ years experience in project management, customer/resolution, IT hardware/software, management, help desks, IT service, sales and customer relationships.
- Resumé available

Seeking employment as nurse aide, private duty caregiver

- Education: High school graduate, two years college
- Special skills: Nursing home experience of 13+ years, hospital one year, home health aide for 12 years, private duty caregiver for five years in clients' homes.
- Available: Daytime for full-time hours

Seeking clerical, administrative assistant, data entry or health care employment

- Education: Butler County Community College: Activity director/social designee; Bohecker Business College, 1992
- Experience: Resumé available
- Available: ASAP for full-time hours

Seeking employment as teacher assistant, clerical, sales

- Education: Education/special education, data entry, organizational and clerical
- Experience: Resumé available
- Available: Full-time

Please see printed version for financial report.



Photo by Lanette Belton

The second-year Webelo Cub Scouts from SFA's Pack 762 stand with Father Smeltzer and Bishop Jackels after the Scouting Religious Emblems Mass. The boys received the "I Live My Faith" emblem for completing a program designed to help each boy appreciate more deeply the place that God and religion occupy in his daily life.

Special Events, Holy Days*Aug. 6*

- The Transfiguration of the Lord (feast)

Aug. 11

- St. Clare, virgin (memorial)

Aug. 15

- The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (solemnity)

Regular Meetings*Aug. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30*

- Legion of Mary, after 8 a.m. Mass, St. Bonaventure Center (former rectory)

Aug. 2, 16

- Society of St. Vincent de Paul, 7-8 p.m., St. Agnes of Assisi Ministry house basement

Aug. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

- Immaculate Heart of Mary Rosary Group, 7:30 p.m., church

Aug. 9

- Parish Nurse Ministry board meeting, 7:30 p.m., St. Agnes of Assisi Ministry house

Aug. 26

- Alzheimer's Support Group meeting, 7 p.m., St. Agnes of Assisi Ministry house

SFA School*Aug. 4*

- Registration (New families only), 6-8 p.m., school

Aug. 5

- Registration, 3-7 p.m., school

Aug. 15

- Open House / Ice Cream Social, 2-4 p.m., school

Aug. 18

- First Day of Classes (Preschool - 7th grade students)

Aug. 19

- First Day of Classes (8th grade students)

Other*Aug. 1*

- Wedding Anniversary Mass, 8:30 a.m., church

Aug. 8

- Baptism Class, 7 p.m., St. Bonaventure Center (former rectory)

Aug. 31

- Vernacular deadline (calendar items, articles)



Above: CYO members enjoy a water balloon toss.

Right: Jesse Lyle and Jesse Elpers attack an already soaked Father Michael Linnebur during a CYO water fight.



Water fight breaks out at CYO meeting