Pope calls Shroud of Turin ‘icon’ of Christ’s solidarity with humanity

By Catholic News Service

TURIN, Italy — The Shroud of Turin is an icon of “the most radical solidarity”: Christ sharing the loneliest moment of human existence by lying in a tomb, Pope Benedict XVI said after he visited the burial cloth that wrapped the body of Jesus, but he said it clearly “is a linen cloth. The pope did not discuss the authenticity of the shroud as the cloth used to wrap the dead body of Jesus, but he said it clearly “is a burial cloth that wrapped the body of a man who was crucified in a way corresponding completely to what the Gospels tell us of Jesus.”

Pope Benedict paid a daylight visit to Turin May 2, celebrating an outdoor Mass, venerating the shroud in Turin’s cathedral, meeting with young people and visiting the sick.

During his evening visit to the exposition of the shroud, which is on public display until May 23, the 83-year-old pope said that while he has seen it before, this time there was a special “intensity, perhaps because the passing of years has made me more sensitive to the message of this extraordinary icon.”

SEE SHROUD, P. 14

Two longtime Dallas priests ordained as auxiliaries of diocese

By David Sedeño

Editor, The Texas Catholic

DALLAS — With Catholic Church dignitaries, friends, and family watching in a packed Cathedral Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe, two longtime Dallas priests were ordained bishops April 27.

Bishops J. Douglas Deshotel and Mark J. Seitz became auxiliary bishops of Dallas and will assist Bishop Kevin J. Farrell in ministering to a growing diocese that exceeds more than 1 million people and stretches across nine counties of North Texas.

Because of the limited seating at the cathedral, the ordination was broadcast via TexasCatholicTV.com and simulcast to the parish communities of St. Monica and St. Rita, where hundreds of people, including schoolchildren, watched the Mass.

Eighteen bishops, including Fort Worth Bishop Kevin Vann, about 150 priests, dozens of deacons and more than 50 seminarians attended the ordination Mass.

Bishop Farrell thanked them and also thanked the families of the two men, including Janet Seitz, mother of Bishop Seitz.

“The mother of a priest is a very special person, so I want to thank you for being here,” he said.

“Each of you brings important gifts to the episcopacy,” Bishop Farrell told the two men. “You have been and will continue to be pastors. This will not change.”

He also said they would remain brother priests who would mentor other priests, deacons, and religious in special ways, telling them that they must “respect the flock that you have been called to shepherd.”

“The prayer of ordination admonishes you to work tirelessly to serve people in the night and day,” he said.

“You are a compassionate shepherd to the flock of God’s people, so you must be kind, gentle, understanding, and patient,” he said.

“Your pastoral ministry will be to lead, to teach, to feed, to water, to comfort, to heal, to cherish, to love, to be an affectionate and a sweet but firm shepherd.”

“The diocese is a brilliant myriad of cultures, of countries of origin, of ethnicity, of ancestry. It also resulted in a late-night meeting with young people and St. Rita, where hundreds of people attended the ordination Mass. Two rallies took place in Dallas. Two rallies took place in Fort Worth, Bishop Kevin Vann, watched the Mass.

Eighteen bishops, including the Legion of Christ, were ordained in the Rosary April 21 outside the the Arizona Capitol in Phoenix. More than 100 people turned out to urge Gov. Jan Brewer to veto a bill recently passed by the Legislature, which would make being in the United States illegally a crime. (CNS photo/J. D. Long-Garcia, Catholic News Service)

BIShOP KEVIN VANN SPEAKS ABOUT THE DIGNITY WE NEED TO GIVE IMMIGRANTS

Page 2

SEE BISHOPS, P. 14

Two rallies took place in Dallas. (Ben Torres, THE TEXAS CATHOLIC)


Rallies in Phoenix, Dallas, across nation take aim at Arizona immigration law

By J.D. Long-Garcia

Catholic News Service

PHOENIX — About 10,000 protesters rallied May 1 at the Arizona State Capitol to demonstrate against the state’s new immigration enforcement law, SB 1070.

Bigger rallies took place the same day in states not affected by the law. In Los Angeles, an estimated 50,000 gathered, while a reported 20,000 assembled in Dallas. Two rallies took place in New York City.

Other cities holding rallies included St. Louis; Oakland, San Jose; San Mateo, Berkeley and Gilroy, California; Wichita, Kansas; Columbus, Ohio; and Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

The law, which sets into place tough new standards, has galvanized immigrant rights groups around the United States.

It also resulted in a late-night April 29 session of the Arizona Legislature to limit the bill’s scope.

Whereas the original bill, signed into law April 23, previously required law enforcement to make a “reasonable attempt” to determine legal status during “any lawful contact,” it now limits the reach to any lawful “stop, detention, or arrest.”

Another revision states that law enforcement “may not consider race, color, or national origin,” striking the word “solely” that many of the bill’s opponents took issue with.

Before the revisions, immigrant rights groups vowed to challenge the bill in court. Those speaking at a news conference where the vow was voiced included Dolores Huerta, sister-in-law of the late United Farm Workers union founder Cesar Chavez, and singer Linda Ronstadt, an Arizonan native with both German and Mexican ancestry.

Frank Perez brought a group of Protesters turned out to urge Gov. Jan Brewer to veto a bill recently passed by the Legislature, which would make being in the United States illegally a crime. (CNS photo/J. D. Long-Garcia, Catholic News Service)
Diocesan / National / Vatican

Bishop Vann encourages us to live up to our Catholic and American legacies and welcome the immigrant

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Recently, the issue of immigration and immigration reform has been pushed to the forefront of the news with Arizona’s very problematic immigration control law. I add my concern to that of Bishops Olmstead and Kicanas in this matter.

Far from resolving the problems of a broken immigration system, this law only further politicizes the issue and turns the focus away from the fact that immigration and the need for immigration reform are not only political issues but affect the lives of many poor people. As long as immigration reform is treated in this way, we will not live up to our Christian calling and our American legacy.

The issue of immigration reform is very close to my heart, not only because I am the shepherd of a large diocese in Texas, but also because I have seen firsthand the struggles and suffering of people searching for a better way of life both here and in Mexico. During my visits to Mexico, I have walked and talked with many men and women who labor intensely to provide the bare necessities for their families. These are real people with real problems who are searching for real solutions. Dismissing their desire to move to places where they may receive a decent wage degrades their humanness. Likewise, calling for the removal of all undocumented immigrants shamelessly ignores the benefits these people have accrued not just for themselves but for our society — and it can separate children from parents.

Resisting the temptation to view illegal immigration as a strictly “law-and-order” question, we may see it as a profound human issue with serious moral dimensions. It is hypocrisy to point fingers at the undocumented and not recognize the many ways in which their labor has been implicitly sought and frequently exploited. True immigration reform will go beyond securing borders to address the manifold concerns of justice to people who have laid down roots in the United States.

The plight of the immigrant is an ancient as well as contemporary Christian story. Today is not really different from Biblical times when the prophets judged society as faithful to God by its treatment of “strangers,” that is, immigrants, along with widows and orphans. Our Lord, along with the Blessed Mother and St. Joseph, were aliens in Egypt. The rich tradition of Catholic Social Teaching claims the right of the poor to emigrate for economic necessity (Pacem in Terris, #25). Immigrants have infused customs, ideas, as well as numbers to give the Church in the United States spiritual and moral dynamism. As Pope Benedict stated in his first encyclical: “Concern for our neighbor transcends the confines of national communities and has increasingly broadened its horizon to the whole world” (Deus Caritas Est, #30).

Therefore, since “man is the path of the Church,” we as members of the Body of Christ must work diligently to see that the basic human rights of all men and women are respected. At the moment this work involves appealing to our Congressional representatives for meaningful immigration reform that as much as possible meets the needs of all, especially the poor. To this end, I along with the Bishops of the United States and, more specifically, with Bishop Farrell and my brother Bishops in Texas have called for comprehensive changes that include the following measures:

• a viable path to permanent residency for the undocumented population;
• a new worker program that includes appropriate worker protections, wage levels, and an opportunity to earn permanent residency;
• reductions in family reunification backlogs;
• the restoration of due process protections lost in the 1996 Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act (IIRIRA); and
• policies that address the root causes of migration, such as economic development in sending countries (Letter from Texas Catholic Conference to US Senators, May 2007).

It is our concerted view that these measures will justly treat immigrants and help resolve the long-standing problems that set in motion massive emigration. Last Sunday we heard at Mass the words of Jesus: “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; even as I have loved you, that you also love one another” (John 13:34). Solidarity rooted in Jesus’ command to love, calls all Catholics to work for significant immigration reform. I urge you, as members of our communion of faith, the Body of Christ, to support the Bishops of Texas and the Bishops of the United States in our efforts to bring about legislation that corrects our flawed immigration system and creates an order that upholds human dignity and provides hope for impoverished people. This is not “political” activity, but a response of faith.

Bishop Kevin Vann
Diocese of Fort Worth

CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS:

• In the April 23 issue of the North Texas Catholic, the home base of the abortion doctor seen leaving the Henderson Street Planned Parenthood facility in the story on the Good Friday Rosary Vigil on page 28 was Tyler, not Wichita Falls.

• Also in the April 23 issue, the parishes over goal in the second block of parishes in the All Things Possible campaign were listed: Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Decatur; Holy Name of Jesus, Fort Worth; Immaculate Heart of Mary, Fort Worth; Our Lady of Guadalupe, Wichita Falls; Sacred Heart, Wichita Falls; Knoxville City; St. John the Baptist, Bridgeport; St. Mary of the Assumption, Fort Worth; St. Mary, Gainesville; St. Matthew, Arlington; St. Mary, Jacksboro; and St. Mary, Quanah.

A reader from one of the parishes to go over goal out of Block One of the All Things Possible campaign who went over their goals: Good Shepherd, Colleyville; Holy Family, Fort Worth; Holy Rosary, Cisco; Holy Trinity Mission, Azle; Sacred Heart, Wichita Falls; St. Francis Xavier, Eastland; St. John, Strawn; St. Joseph, Nocona; St. Rita, Ranger.

• Congratulations to all those and to all Catholics who have given for the good of the local Church. May future generations of Catholics here remember and appreciate your generosity, as we appreciate the generosity of those who have built the Church for us.

Report: Pope to create Vatican department for ‘new evangelization’

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI is planning to create a Roman Curia department charged with overseeing the “re-evangelization” of traditionally Christian countries, an Italian newspaper reported.

The Pontifical Council for the New Evangelization will be announced in an apostolic letter being prepared by the pope and will be headed by Italian Archbishop Rino Fisichella, Il Giornale said April 25. The Vatican had no immediate comment on the report.

The step would represent the first major Roman Curia innovation under Pope Benedict, who has frequently spoken about the need to renew the roots of the faith in Europe and other Western societies.

It was Pope John Paul II who first used the term “new evangelization,” and Il Giornale said a proposal to create a Vatican department to promote this type of activity was made in the 1980s by Father Luigi Giussani, the founder of the Italian lay movement Communion and Liberation.

More recently, the newspaper said, Cardinal Angelo Scola of Venice re-proposed the idea to Pope Benedict, and the German pontiff decided to move ahead with the project.

Archbishop Fisichella has headed the Pontifical Academy for Life since 2008.
Seminarians, inspired by pioneer priest, Fr. Tolton, pray for black vocations

WASHINGTON (CNS) — His holy card depicting Father Augustine Tolton, the first recognized black priest in the United States. In 2012, Rhodes hopes to be ordained as the first African-American priest of the Archdiocese of Louisville, Kentucky, in more than two decades.

“Tuse that (holy card) always as a source of encouragement. If he could do it as the first, I could do it,” said Rhodes, who is the only African-American seminarian now studying at Theological College, the national seminary of The Catholic University of America. Rhodes now serves as the president of the National Black Catholic Seminarians Association, and he organized and sang as a cantor at an April 24 Mass at the Theological College Chapel to mark the National Day of Prayer for Vocations in the Black Community.

Washington Auxiliary Bishop Martin D. Holley, one of 16 African-American priests, celebrated the Mass, which was held on the 124th anniversary of Father Tolton’s ordination to the priesthood.

“I would not be standing here as a priest and a bishop if not for Father Augustine Tolton,” said Bishop Holley. “The odds were stacked against him. He persevered because of faith and the grace of God.”

Born into slavery in 1854 and baptized a Catholic, Father Tolton was ordained to the priesthood in 1886, and sent back to serve as a missionary in the U.S. Despite the racism he endured, he became renowned as a preacher, and founded St. Monica Parish, the mother church for black Catholics in Chicago. He died in 1897 at age 43.

The Archdiocese of Chicago announced in March that it was beginning the sainthood process for Father Tolton.

According to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, about 75 seminarians of African descent, most of whom are immigrants from Africa, are studying to be priests in the United States. About 250 African-American priests, 400 African-American sisters, and 50 black religious brothers are now serving in the United States, which has 3 million African-American Catholics.

At the Mass, Bishop Holley encouraged the seminarians to likewise serve their people with love and help lift up vocations. He noted that in today’s world, there are “so many obstacles to hearing the voice of the Lord,” and he pointed out how the African-American community faces challenges like high rates of abortion, AIDS, drug addiction, and incarceration. “It’s going to take good people like you to reach out... Evangelize, reach out to them.”

Responding to God's Call

Curious about priesthood?

Breakfast at the Cathedral might be just the thing

If you are a young Catholic man, interested in your faith, and are wondering what God has in mind for your future, then the open invitation from Bishop Kevin Vann to have Mass and “Breakfast at the Cathedral” is an opportunity to learn about the fulfilling and selfless life of priesthood that you won’t want to miss.

Breakfast at the Cathedral is a golden opportunity for young men between the ages of 16 and 25 who are interested in learning more about the priesthood to join Bishop Vann on Saturday, May 15. Bishop Vann will celebrate the 8 a.m. Mass at St. Patrick Cathedral, followed by a short question and answer session. After breakfast, provided by the Serra Club, we will have talks given by our seminarians, view the powerful “Fishers of Men” video, as well as take a look at the many steps involved in discerning one’s vocation.

We all want our priests, men of prayer dedicated for life to Christ and the Church, to be there with us in every stage in our lives; from baptisms, to first Holy Communions, to confessions, to our youth groups, our retreats, our marriages, to bless our new homes, our anniversaries, when we are ill, and at our funerals. Besides this, the priest is to set the example for the rest of the Church and for all of society. We need good men!

Parents, if you want a brighter Church for tomorrow, then you ought to be willing to give your brightest son to the Church. If you want a more compassionate Church, then you ought to be willing to give your son who has the biggest heart to the Church. A calling to the priesthood is a calling from Christ Himself who leads his flock by self-denial of personal desires in order to save his sheep. Christ was not a hired hand, but gave his life to protect his sheep and He calls young men in every generation to consider doing the same.

Breakfast at the Cathedral, it is hoped, will be an annual invitation of young men to meet our bishop and seminarians in a short Saturday morning session at the end of the academic year for college students and near the end of the academic year for high school students.

The end of an academic year is the perfect time to have young men consider their calling as they reach a new stage in their lives. This gathering is simply a beginning step to help young men see the priesthood as a real option in their lives, to talk with men their age (seminarians) who are learning about their faith and their calling as they deepen their spiritual lives and are committed to serving others.

On a few occasions, I have seen young high school age men who already know they are called to consider the priesthood, are mature for their age, and are free to enter the seminary immediately after high school. Most young men, however, want to experience college life and know what it is like to live on their own. This is very healthy too, as it gives young men time and space to mature in many ways. Still others, called by God to consider the priesthood, want some time after college to enter the work force for a few years, and this, once again, can bring much needed resolve and maturity before entering the seminary.

For any young man interested, please RSVP by Wednesday, May 12, so that we may know how many to expect for breakfast. Call the Vocations Office at (817) 560-3300 ext. 105 or e-mail Fr. Kyle at kwalterscheid@fwdioc.org. "Peter, do you love me... tend my sheep" John 21:15-18.

Father Kyle Walterscheid is the director of Vocations for the Diocese of Fort Worth. He can be reached by e-mail to kwalterscheid@fwdioc.org.
Eagle Classic Golf Tournament will be held May 14

Office of Information and Media Services
The Catholic Diocese of Fort Worth
6552 Placid Road
Fort Worth, TX 76179

American Vocation Awareness Program will be held June 25-27

The 2010 Vocation Awareness Program will be held June 25-27 at Holy Trinity Seminary, 3151 Vince Hagan Dr., Irving. The weekend is open to all individuals who are Catholic, 18 to 40 years of age, and have an interest in learning about the ministry as a priest, brother, or sister.

Pre-registration is required. For more information, contact Father Kyle Waldschmidt, director of Vocation Services, at (817) 236-8518, ext. 105 or kwalterscheid@fdw.org, or visit www.vaphis.org.

Annual Vocation Awareness Program will be held June 25-27

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Holy Family golf tournament to be held May 21

The HFC's Dads' Club will be hosting its fourth annual golf tournament benefitting Holy Family School. The tournament will be held Friday, May 21 at Hask's Creek Golf Club, 620 White Settlement Rd., in Westover Village. The format will be a Best Ball, Four-person Scramble with featured events including a Ball Drop, Hole in One, Longest Drive, Closest to the Pin, auction, and team awards. The tournament will kick off at 10 a.m. with a 12:30 p.m. shotgun start. The registration fee is $150 per player or $600 for a team of four players. Register before May 20 for early bird savings. The fee includes a round of golf, cart, dinner, courtesy player shirt, drinks, catered lunch, and more. Sponsorships and volunteers are welcome. All proceeds will go to plans with improved programs for the Holy Family School's athletic facilities.

For more information visit the Web site at www.holysafamilygolf.org, e-mail info@holysafamilygolf.org, or call Mrs. Meade at (817) 927-8101 or Chris Murphy at (817) 845-0143.

Cory Cowden earns Eagle Scout Award with project for Holy Rosary

Cory Cowden, son of Morris Cowden, has earned the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest recognition in the Boy Scouts of America. Cory chose to do his Eagle Scout Leadership Project for Holy Rosary School in Arlington.

Holy Family Church, Seymour will celebrate centennial

Sacred Heart Church in Seymour will celebrate its 100th anniversary June 11, the feast of the Sacred Heart, and June 12. On Friday, June 11, the celebration will begin at Mass at 7 p.m. followed by a catered meal in Mosler Hall. Father Stephen Berg, vicar general of the Diocese of Fort Worth, Father Charles Gorantla, HGN, sacramental minister of Sacred Heart, and priests who have served Sacred Heart in the past will consecrate the Mass.

Saturday’s celebration will begin at 10 a.m. with vendors, a horseshoe tournament, volleyball, and kids’ activities on the grounds. A Polka Dance will be held in Mosler Hall from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. A Mass at 7 p.m. will round out the day’s festivities.

The parish community extends a special invitation to former parishioners. There will be family displays of history/memorabilia. Those wishing to attend the dinner may reserve a seat by calling the office at (817) 800-5322. Sacred Heart Church is located two-and-one-half hours west of the Fort Worth area, going the country road, going west to Jacksboro and then 11/2 West to Seymour.

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High school graduates with skills in science and technology are encouraged to attend the Holy Family School, which is offering a tuition discount to graduates.

Young adults invited to participate in ‘Adventure’ retreat

May 28-31

“The Adventure: Ignatian Experience,” a retreat program based on St. Ignatius’ ‘The Spiritual Exercises,” will be offered May 28-31 for participants between the ages of 19 and 25. The retreat will take place at Montserrat Jesuit Retreat Center, 660 N. Shady Shores, Lake Dallas. The Spiritual Exercises, according to a retreat flyer, ‘can help you to be at peace at any stage, but they are specially designed for that bold, proud time when virtually all of the important determining options, and life-determining mistakes, are made.’” The Adventure is for a personal guided tour of the heart, in silence, and is described as an ‘identity-defining opportunity.’

For registration information and to make a reservation, visit the Web site at www.youshallbelieve.com. San Mateo Mission is located at 5316 Lovell Ave., Fort Worth.

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ST. FRANCIS ASIASSI — Parents and families of children enrolled in St. Francis Children’s Discovery Center Preschool gathered for the blessing of a statue of St. Francis donated in honor of the staff at the preschool. The statue, placed in the Children’s Garden, was blessed April 22 by Father Jacob Alvares, SAC, parochial vicar of St. Francis Parish in Grapevine. The statue, placed in the Children’s Garden, was blessed April 22 by Father Jacob Alvares, SAC, parochial vicar of St. Francis Parish in Grapevine. The statue, placed in the Children’s Garden, was blessed April 22 by Father Jacob Alvares, SAC, parochial vicar of St. Francis Parish in Grapevine. The statue, placed in the Children’s Garden, was blessed April 22 by Father Jacob Alvares, SAC, parochial vicar of St. Francis Parish in Grapevine. The statue, placed in the Children’s Garden, was blessed April 22 by Father Jacob Alvares, SAC, parochial vicar of St. Francis Parish in Grapevine. The statue, placed in the Children’s Garden, was blessed April 22 by Father Jacob Alvares, SAC, parochial vicar of St. Francis Parish in Grapevine. The statue, placed in the Children’s Garden, was blessed April 22 by Father Jacob Alvares, SAC, parochial vicar of St. Francis Parish in Grapevine. The statue, placed in the Children’s Garden, was blessed April 22 by Father Jacob Alvares, SAC, parochial vicar of St. Francis Parish in Grapevine. The statue, placed in the Children’s Garden, was blessed April 22 by Father Jacob Alvares, SAC, parochial vicar of St. Francis Parish in Grapevine. The statue, placed in the Children’s Garden, was blessed April 22 by Father Jacob Alvares, SAC, parochial vicar of St. Francis Parish in Grapevine. The statue, placed in the Children’s Garden, was blessed April 22 by Father Jacob Alvares, SAC, parochial vicar of St. Francis Parish in Grapevine. The statue, placed in the Children’s Garden, was blessed April 22 by Father Jacob Alvares, SAC, parochial vicar of St. Francis Parish in Grapevine. The statue, placed in the Children’s Garden, was blessed April 22 by Father Jacob Alvares, SAC, parochial vicar of St. Francis Parish in Grapevine. The statue, placed in the Children’s Garden, was blessed April 22 by Father Jacob Alvares, SAC, parochial vicar of St. Francis Parish in Grapevine. The statue, placed in the Children’s Garden, was blessed April 22 by Father Jacob Alvares, SAC, parochial vicar of St. Francis Parish in Grapevine. The statue, placed in the Children’s Garden, was blessed April 22 by Father Jacob Alvares, SAC, parochial vicar of St. Francis Parish in Grapevine. The statue, placed in the Children’s Garden, was blessed April 22 by Father Jacob Alvare
DCYC
Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference

Hyatt Regency, DFW Airport
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~ Micah 6:8

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Composer William Marsh was the heart of Catholic music locally for decades

Greenwood Memorial Park in West Fort Worth sits on the grave of William John Marsh, an internationally recognized composer, with rich ties to the history of the Diocese of Fort Worth. He lies with several family members beneath a tall stone cross in death as he was in life to his parents, four sisters, and brother. A marker, placed at his gravesite in 1985 by the Texas Historical Commission, notes that Marsh — a native of England — was the composer of “Texas, Our Texas,” the state’s official song.

While that may be the most commonly known fact about the musical legacy of William Marsh — fondly known to generations of local music students as “Uncle Billy” — it’s only a small part of the legacy of a man still remembered by many as the musical heart of the Catholic community of Fort Worth for more than 40 years.

Marsh began his service to the local Church as organist and choirmaster at St. Patrick Cathedral on New Year’s Day, 1920, and stayed until his retirement in 1963.

“My husband, Art, and I both knew Mr. Marsh very well, because he taught organ and voice at Our Lady of Victory Academy,” recalled McMullin. “As you’d come in to St. Patrick Cathedral, there was a long-time parishioner of St. Patrick Cathedral, “and he also led music at Laneri [High School] where Art was a student.

“As you’d come in to St. Patrick Cathedral, you would come to the cathedral for noon Mass, and we would sing in the choir. We knew all the music,” she said, “because it was music that Mr. Marsh had composed and we learned it in school. He was always so welcoming and kind to us.”

To be a Catholic school student in the Fort Worth area in the ‘40s and ‘50s meant learning to sing many of the Masses, anthems, and hymns written by the prolific musician, agreed Mary Naron Parsons, a parishioner of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church in Keller. Parsons noted that the “Texas, Our Texas” as the recessional at the Mass were “very big and majestic, and the

Father Gonzalo Morales will mark his 25th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood May 18. He was ordained by Bishop Joseph Delaney on that date in 1985 at his home parish of St. Philip the Apostle Church in Lewisville.

Fr. Morales, a native of Hart, Texas and the son of the late Concepcion Cuellar Morales and Maria Ramos Martinez Morales, has recalled in previous interviews that he began to discern his vocation to the priesthood during his high school years, with the help of his then-pastor, Monsignor Joseph Scantlin, who now serves as pastor of Most Blessed Sacrament Church in Arlington.

While Marsh wrote the Mass over 70 years ago, it continues to be a favorite of cathedral choir members, said Doug Parsons, interim organist and choirmaster for the cathedral. Parsons will accompany the choir on the organ at the May 23 Mass.

Calling Marsh’s music “stately, but also very easy to sing,” Parsons noted that the Sanctus and the Gloria sections of the Mass are “very big and majestic, very dramatic, and very joyous.”

In honor of the occasion, choir members will sing “Texas, Our Texas” as the recessional at the conclusion of Mass, added Parsons. “Mr. Marsh wrote the song in what is called a ‘chordal’ style, which makes it really almost like a hymn,” he explained.

Even a degenerative spinal disease, which led to his retirement from the cathedral in 1963 and eventually resulted in his paralysis, could not keep him from his beloved music. He continued to dictate his compositions to an organist friend, Lt. Col. Howard Fialho, archivist and historian for the cathedral.

The “Centennial Mass,” written by longtime cathedral organist William J. Marsh and beloved by generations of St. Patrick Cathedral parishioners, will be sung by the cathedral choir at the Sunday, May 23 Mass at 11 a.m.

“May 23, 1929 is the date that the Texas legislature adopted ‘Texas, Our Texas,’ which was composed by Mr. Marsh, as our state song. And so we hope to honor the memory of a very special part of our cathedral history by singing Mr. Marsh’s compositions,” explained Kay Fialho, archivist and historian for the cathedral.

While the Mass was written by organist William Marsh over 70 years ago, it continues to be a favorite of cathedral choir members, said Doug Parsons, interim organist and choirmaster for the cathedral. Parsons will accompany the choir on the organ at the May 23 Mass.
Sr. Helen Mary Gieb, SSND 1928-2010

Sister Helen Mary Gieb, a member of the School Sisters of Notre Dame religious congregation for more than 75 years, died April 14 in Dallas after a brief illness. The Mass of Resurrection was held at the Holy Family Chapel at St. Joseph Village in Coppell on April 19; interment was at Calvary Hill Cemetery in Dallas.

Born Nov. 17, 1928 to Joe and Helen Gieb in Gainesville, Sr. Helen Mary attended St. Mary’s School in Gainesville, where she was taught by the School Sisters of Notre Dame. She professed her first vows within the order in 1949. With a degree in elementary education and a graduate degree in special education, Sr. Helen Mary taught students with special needs in Louisiana, Illinois, and Missouri before she was asked to establish a school for students with developmental disabilities in Dallas.

After founding Notre Dame School in 1963, where she served as principal until 1970, Sr. Helen Mary went on to establish and implement a special education program at Regina Caeli Center in Lake Charles, Louisiana, where she served as principal until 1990. She then returned to Dallas to work with young adults with developmental disabilities while serving as director of the Association for Independent Living (AFIL), a nonprofit organization that works to maximize the independence of mentally challenged individuals by providing training and support for daily living skills.

From 2002 until early 2009, Sr. Helen Mary ministered at AFIL as an apartment supervisor before her retirement and subsequent volunteer ministry at Christus St. Joseph Village in Dallas, where she resided until her death. Sister Helen Mary is lovingly remembered by her family and her religious community as a visionary educator and selfless advocate for all individuals with special needs. She is survived by her siblings Lucille Evans and Evelyn Schafer of Gainesville; Joe Gieb of Midland and Annabel Gaughan of Kansas City, Missouri; nine nieces and nephews and a large extended family; the members of her religious congregation, and many friends.

Memorial gifts in her honor may be made to the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Dallas Province, P.O. Box 227275, Dallas, Texas 75222.
Catholic Scouts earn recognition for religious study, service

Uniformed Scouts and their leaders gathered in troops and groups and dens as they prepared to take part in the Diocese of Fort Worth’s Religious Awards ceremony April 18 at Good Shepherd Parish in Colleyville.

More than 200 youth and adult leaders had gathered to receive awards and emblems honoring their excellent work in religious programs.

Bishop Kevin Vann, presided over the assembly and personally presented each individual Scout with his or her award, as they came forward single file in their uniformed Scouting glory.

Awards were presented to Girl Scouts, Campfire youth, Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Venturers.

Teresa Harner coordinated presentation of the awards to Girl Scouts and Campfire Girls. Tom Moore, emblems chairperson of the Fort Worth Diocesan Committee on Scouting, did coordination of the Cub Scout, Boy Scout, and Venturer emblems.

Assisting Bishop Vann with the presentation were Susan Schbel and Mark Thornsburg, members of the Catholic Committee on Scouting. Richard Matthews, chair of the committee, announced the recipients’ names.

Presented this year were the Guardian Angel Award, the purpose of which is to recognize Tiger Cubs and Daisy Girl Scouts for advancement in religious knowledge and spiritual formation as they seek to develop a spiritual knowledge of how God protects them in every area of their lives; the Family of God Award; for girls 7 to 9 years old, designed to help them discover the presence of God in their daily lives; and the Hall Mary Award, for first- and second-graders, who worked to recognize God’s presence in their homes and communities.

Third and fourth grade girls received the Holy Family Award, for learning to recognize God in their homes and communities. Girls 9 to 11 years earned the I Live my Faith Award, which teaches appreciation of God and religion in daily life, and encourages participation in the community of faith.

The Marian Medal, for young women aged 12 to 15 years, recognizes active involvement in understanding Mary as the model of openness and spirituality, and development of a Christian spirit of hope, faith, and joyful Christian community.

Boys who are Tiger and Wolf Cub Scouts earned the Light of Christ Award, preparing to take their places as maturing Catholics and Americans; and the Pope Pius XII Award recognized Scouts’ potential to develop as leaders in Church and community.

John Corpany an adult leader of Cub Scout Pack 32 of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, Keller represented the pack in receiving its unit award, the Pope Paul VI Award. Qualifications for that honor are adult leadership response to training, with Scouts participating in the religious emblem programs of their particular levels in Scouting, and work to benefit the Catholic community in and around Keller.

Adult awards presented last December were recognized in the program and included the Bronze Pelican and St. George Emblem. The Bronze Pelican is a diocesan recognition presented to those who have made significant contributions to Catholic Scouting. Receiving the Bronze Pelican were Bob Grubbs of Troop 384 at St. Ann Parish, Burleson, and Deacon Don Warner, of Pack 32, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Keller.

In recognition of outstanding contribution to the spiritual development of Catholic youth in the Boy Scouts of America, the St. George Emblem was given to Oanh Nguyen Nguyen, Troop and Crew 304, St. Maria Goretti Parish, Arlington, and Jeremy Stephens, Troop 9168, St. Philip the Apostle Parish, Lewisville.

For more information on Catholic Scouting, go to www.bsaccs.org

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More than 1,000 teens gather for Youth 2000 to refocus their lives as they focus on God

Story and photos by Joan Kurkowski-Gillen / Correspondent

There was a time when no one ever expected Lorenzo (TK) Cocjin to attend — much less speak — at a Youth 2000 rally.

Seven years ago, as Catholic youth groups from across Texas were making travel plans to attend the annual spiritual retreat in Fort Worth, Cocjin, then a Nolan Catholic High School sophomore, was lying near death at Cook Children’s Medical Center. A ventilator kept him alive after bacterial meningitis caused an ischemic stroke. With tests showing little brain activity, doctors told his parents to prepare for the worst and allow friends and family to say their goodbyes.

But, instead of giving up, relatives and people who knew the teenager through the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton youth group and parish, or Nolan, began to pray. “Every hour three members of the youth group prayed the Rosary and the Divine Mercy chaplet in my room,” says Cocjin, who was in a coma and remembers nothing of the swirl of activity around him. “Other friends and their families offered vigil prayers in front of the exposed Holy Eucharist at church.”

Addressing a hushed crowd of more than 1,000 teens and young adults attending the 2010 Youth 2000 retreat inside Nolan’s Hartnett Arena on April 9-11, the 23-year-old credited the healing power of God for helping him survive the medical crisis. The stroke left the patient with the cognitive abilities of a second-grader and unable to walk or perform other tasks.

“He gave me the strength and perseverance to endure what it takes to recover,” admits Cocjin who still receives therapy. “He sent compassionate, determined doctors, nurses, therapists, psychologists, priests, counselors, teachers, and coaches to help me regain my bodily function. With God’s grace, I’m still progressing.”

The Tarrant County College student encouraged his impressionable listeners to turn to God in times of trouble. “We are not alone on our journey,” the speaker added reassuringly. “He’s in control, and his grace is sufficient to carry us through all our undertakings.”

The power of prayer experienced by Cocjin is one of the messages organizers of Youth 2000 try to drive home with young retreat participants hoping to develop a closer relationship with God. Heartfelt testimonials of faith and conversion from peers are one of the highlights of the emotionally charged weekend. Sponsored by the Diocese of Fort Worth and led by the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, the three-day event is structured around inspirational talks, upbeat music, personal reflection, and Eucharistic Adoration. The hours of prayer and devotion culminate with a Mass celebrated on Divine Mercy Sunday. This year’s gathering brought together church groups from across the state of Texas and from Louisiana.

To help the assembly focus on God during the retreat, young people and their chaperones sit around an imposing, tiered platform of candles that serves as an altar for a gold monstrance bearing a consecrated host. For many young people, the high point of the weekend is the Saturday evening Eucharistic Procession when the priest carries the monstrance through the crowd of worshippers. The rite reinforces the belief that God is real and truly present in their lives.

Taliza Rubledo, a member of immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Fort Worth, called the procession “a powerful moment.”

“I got to touch the veil of Jesus,” she said, describing how young people reached out to stroke the humeral cloth used by the celebrant to carry the monstrance around the room. “It was like magic. You felt God’s presence there with you.”

The 14-year-old, who was coaxed into attending the retreat by her sister, says the experience makes her feel closer to God. “I’ll definitely be back next year,” she adds, enthusiastically.

For many first-time Youth 2000 attendees, the weekend is just the first step in a journey of discovery and deepening faith, according to Elizabeth Victory, chair of the organizing committee.

“This is an initiative. Young people want to give back to the Church. They want to be part of the Church, so this is a beginning,” she explains. “It’s the opening up of their heart and soul to God.”

One retreat volunteer from Long Island, New York told the assembly of young people how the Youth 2000 movement helped her repair the emotional and spiritual damage of an abortion.

“An invitation to World Youth Day in France and a burgeoning friendship with the Sisters of Life in New York City started the healing process. “He’s the reason I’m here today,” she announced as she pointed to a large banner of the Divine Mercy. “I carry this cross every day, but God is merciful. The Lord forgives this sin of mine.”

The speaker implored her listeners not to follow in her footsteps.

“I beg you to choose life,” she pleaded tearfully. “I pray once a month outside an abortion clinic, and my heart breaks for every woman who walks inside.”

The young woman’s testimony brought tears to the eyes of Leticia Guerrero. The high school sophomore attended Youth 2000 to fulfill a confirmation requirement and expected boredom not a life-changing experience.

“The entire weekend has been amazing, I can feel the power of the Spirit,” explained the 14-year-old member of St. Stephen Parish in Weatherford. “I just feel as if I want to go to church all the time right now. I’m feeling good!”
If the Church is the Body of Christ, where else should we go?

By David Mills

Sometimes picking up the newspaper or looking at the Web is just too painful. We know the major media twist a lot of the stories about the sex abuse scandal, but some very bad men did some very bad things, and other men let them. Some of them were monsters, and monsters people called “Father.”

I’m afraid there’s no good comeback to offer people who use the news to score points against the Church. They make the simple equation: “Bad clergy = bad Church.” For them it’s obvious. There are some good long answers to that charge, but few people are going to sit still for them. They won’t listen to us while we distinguish the Church as the Body of Christ and the Church as we see it on the evening news. The idea that God may accomplish his purposes to sit still for them. They won’t listen to that charge, but few people are going to leave too. Simon Peter replied, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.”

That seems to me the best answer to challenges like my friend’s, not that people like that will always listen. Where else should we go? The Church is the Body of Christ. Despite the great sins of its members — despite our sins — we meet the Lord there in a way we meet Him nowhere else on Earth. There He offers us the words of eternal life.

David Mills is author of DISCOVERING MARY and the deputy editor of FIRST THINGS. He can be reached at Catholicsense@gmail.com. Anderson’s article, “The Church as New Israel,” can be found on www.ilsussidiario.net.

Lessons from my 90-year-old mom

By Father Peter J. Daly

My mother turns 90 this month.

If you talk to her, she says that she is the same today as she was when she was 50. However, she has noticed that all of her eight children have certainly gotten older.

I drove up to see her in Baltimore at Easter. She was tired from going to the Easter Vigil the night before.

I asked her, “How are you, Mom?”

She told me that she had broken the frames of her glasses and her hearing aids weren’t working.

“Well,” she said sarcastically, “I can’t hear and can’t see. But apart from that I’m alright.”

It was nothing serious. A spot of super glue fixed the glasses. It turned out the hearing aid batteries were in backward.

Mom still lives in her own apartment, but it can hardly be said she “lives on her own.”

When you are 90, you have staff. Her permanent staff consists of eight children. She says the reason for having eight children is so that you never have to go into a nursing home.

Still on the 11th floor of a high-rise.

My brother Kevin lives one floor below. He takes care of her medicines and bills. Together with my sister Maureen, who lives a few blocks away, she drives Mom to church, the doctor, the hairdresser, and everywhere else. They get the “caregiver award.”

Besides the children, Mom has two paid caregivers, one in the morning and one in the evening.

The morning visitor is generously paid by the state under Medicaid. It is a program intended to keep people out of nursing homes, which would cost the state much more.

The evening visitor Mom pays out of her own savings.

Each visitor stays about an hour. They change the bed and help Mom bathe. The morning worker gets her up and makes breakfast. The evening worker gets her to bed.

Mom also has Meals on Wheels, which brings a hot lunch and a cold dinner five days a week. Even in the terrible snow storms in which they came faithfully.

Currently the meals are delivered by a nice young man in his 20s. Every day Mom tells him he is a nice-looking boy.

Mom is definitely low-income. She lives on Social Security, a tiny pension, and her savings. Every month her savings diminish a little. But, hey, that’s what they are for.

Every six weeks or so, Mom comes to stay with me for a week. It gives her a break in “the country house,” as she calls the rectory.

She does not want to live out in the country. “Too boring,” she says.

She also goes to visit my sisters Brenda, Rena, Deirdre, and Brigid at their houses. The peripatetic Mrs. Daly!

Every day Mom receives telephone calls from her children in diaspora from New York to Illinois to Florida.

No matter how old you are, you call your mother.

Every day she prays. She was never a traditional Catholic exactly. She was always a thinker and a questioner. She keeps her own prayer ritual from her days as a third order Dominican. She reads the Scriptures with a critical mind and a poetic heart.

At 90, Mom has peace. She lives in the present. She forgives (and forgets) the past. She hopes for the future and heaven.

She enjoys the little things, like chocolate milkshakes. But she values the big things: life, family, faith, and love.

Happy birthday Mom. You go girl!

Father Peter J. Daly is author of the “Parish Diary” column for Catholic News Service. He writes on church life from his parish, St. John Vianney in Prince Frederick, Maryland.
Refusing to Choose

who must suffer

By Richard M. Doerflinger

So who would the Catholic bishops throw off the boat? Uninsured citizens, or immigrants and the unborn? The answer was: None of the above. The bishops refused to choose between one moral wrong and another.

The final situation with health care reform this spring might have been crafted to stump these students. The House of Representatives had passed a reform bill that the Catholic bishops commended for ensuring access to health care for the poor and immigrants, and for respecting long-standing current laws on abortion and conscience rights. But the Senate refused to consider this bill. Instead it approved its own new funds from the Treasury that were exempt from the Hyde policy against abortion, including billions of dollars for community health centers serving the poor.

So who would the Catholic bishops throw off the boat? Uninsured citizens, or immigrants and the unborn? The answer was: None of the above. The bishops refused to choose between one moral wrong and another. They reaffirmed that all the human lives at stake are of inestimable worth, and their needs must never be forgotten. But there is a “floor” to that commitment, beginning with respect for the most fundamental good of the human person, life itself. In particular, we cannot “do good” by expanding direct attacks on innocent human life. The rule for passing health care legislation is the same as the rule for medical ethics generally: First, do no harm. The bishops surely knew that many would be disappointed, and some would see them as being unrealistic. But sometimes we get to change the world, and occasionally we can only keep the world from changing us. After all the “realists” have spoken, somebody still has to speak up for that cabin boy.

Mr. Doerflinger is Associate Director of the Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. For more information on the bishops’ pro-life activities, see www.usccb.org/prolife and www.usccb.org/healthcare.

God sent me a hurt little friend whose constant perseverance taught me that even in woundedness, we can adapt and become a
gift to others

By Mary Morrell

“Jesus is God’s wounded healer: through his wounds we are healed. Jesus’ suffering and death brought joy and life. His humiliation brought glory; his rejection brought a community of love. As followers of Jesus we can also allow our wounds to bring healing to others.”

— Henri Nouwen

Each spring my backyard becomes home to a host of critters who are a continual source of delight to me. For the past two years my favorite has been the hyperactive squirrel who seemed to rejoice, in his own squirrel way, in being alive.

He had a penchant for sliding across canvas awnings, swinging in the neighbor’s hanging planters, and jumping up on my patio table to join me for coffee when I was least expecting it.

This season there is a different squirrel, one that doesn’t do much sliding or swinging. And when he does run, it’s with the characteristic of a crab, always stage right. Obviously, he is wounded. I noticed him one morning, picking up a peanut from under my lawn chair. He seemed to be listing, like he was drunk. Occasionally he would lose his balance and hit the frame of the chair. I thought he was just having a bad day. But later, as I watched him try to sit on his hind legs to eat another peanut, he fell over sideways, a tiny version of Arte Johnson on Laugh In when he used to fall over with that little tricycle. It was funny, but worrisome. I went outside to see if he was OK, and then I realized that, though he was lying on his side, he was still eating the peanut. When he was done, he got up, found another peanut and promptly fell over sideways again.

See Morrell, p. 22
Individuals and groups join the dioceses of Fort Worth and Juticalpa in a massive, six-year international effort to relieve...

Human suffering

By Juan Guajardo
Editorial Assistant

For years, Catacamas, Honduras, was the largest municipality in Central America without a hospital.

That is until the dioceses of Fort Worth and Juticalpa, the local government of Catacamas, the federal government of Honduras, and several groups and individuals came together in a united international effort to build a complete Catholic hospital in a populated yet impoverished region of Honduras that had long needed one.

The hospital, costing approximately $6.5 million, was dedicated April 14 and is set to soon open its doors to the more than 150,000 people living in Catacamas and its neighboring towns and villages.

Among the 500 people at the dedication were Bishop Mauro Muldoon of the Diocese of Juticalpa; Archbishop Luis Blanco, papal nuncio to Honduras; Victor Hugo Barnica, vice president of Honduras; Dr. Arturo Bendaña, minister of health; Elena de Lebo, Honduras’ first lady; Carlos Zelaya, brother of former president Manuel Zelaya; Lincoln Figueroa, the mayor of Catacamas, and other high-ranking officials.

Traveling through mountain villages on his way to the hospital dedication, Jonathan Willmer, a parishioner of Holy Redeemer in Aledo, saw the elegant building rise out of the horizon.

“I was really struck by the impact of it, I knew it was a large project, but I had no idea quite how large it was,” Willmer said. “I had never been to Catacamas before and it’s all unpaved roads … and you’re going through these dirt roads, and then suddenly in the distance you see looming up this huge building — it looks like it’s just been lifted out of Fort Worth and just put down here.”

The dedication ceremony began with Mass celebrated by Archbishop Blanco and concelebrated by Bishop Muldoon and several local priests in the hospital’s large assembly hall. After the Mass, two hours of speeches were given before the happy and excited crowd.

“There’s almost like an atmosphere of disbelief, that people can’t believe that it’s really happened,” Willmer said.

Bishop Muldoon told how Franciscan friars arrived 66 years ago and built roads, installed electricity, built youth centers, schools, and the regional hospital, San Francisco de Asís, in Juticalpa 35 miles away. It is now joined by Hospital Santo Hermano Pedro Betancourth, named after the missionary Franciscan brother who founded a hospital, school, and shelter in 1652 in Guatemala for the poor and elderly.

“It’s fitting to ask our gathered community two questions,” Bishop Muldoon said. “Why a hospital in the city of Catacamas? And why a Catholic hospital? “The answer to the first is evident. Until now, there was only one single municipal hospital … for the majority of the population [in this area] the trip to Hospital San Francisco is a long journey … at least a one-day trip, or maybe two or three days.

“Here, in the municipalities of Catacamas, Santa María del Real, and Dulce Nombre de Culmi, we have 150,000 human beings with no emergency services, without specialized surgeries, without modern maternity care.”

In reply to his second question, he said, “The answer sometimes lays hidden in the social doctrine of the Church … Christ sent his apostles to spread the Kingdom of God and to heal the sick … Human suffering is a special experience of the cross and resurrection of the Lord. Like Mary at the foot of the Cross, Hospital Hermano Pedro will embrace all those who suffer.”

Executive director of the hospital, Alberto Valledares, said the hospital would do its best to treat those in need.

“To all those present and to all those listening, we say: We don’t want to be only a hospital; we want to be quality in health services with a human focus to give relief to those who need our services,” he said.

He went on to thank several of the individuals involved includ-
Before hospital, many lacked basic medical care

By Juan Guajardo
Editorial Assistant

Every year hundreds of local families would flock to receive medical care from the group of doctors, surgeons, and nurses from the Diocese of Fort Worth during medical missions to Catacamas, Honduras, and its outlying towns and villages.

Julie Montague, a Good Shepherd parishioner and registered nurse who went on two of these medical missions, witnessed how the people would walk “miles and miles” to receive care after the local parish in Catacamas put the word out that the group was coming.

“There’s no question that the need was there,” Montague said. “We cared for patients about two days and one day we saw 800.”

Led by Dr. William Runyon, the volunteer group would work anywhere from 12 to 15 hours a day, going out to rural locations and serving about 2,500 people on each trip.

It was on those trips that Runyon and the group saw the great need for a hospital. They would help hundreds of people each day, but some they could do little for, like the young boy who suffered third-degree burns on his face and needed to be rushed to a hospital several hours away, or the young pregnant woman who was denied care at the nearest hospital. Wilmerca didn’t have space available, Runyon said of the overcrowded hospital located 50 minutes from Catacamas.

“There were so many stories, every year it was multiplied,” Runyon said of the serious cases the group came across. “I can go on and on.”

Runyon, an oral and maxillofacial surgeon in Fort Worth, has led medical missions to Honduras five times in the past seven years. And while his group has grown to almost 30 nurses and doctors from Holy Family Parish and other parishes in the diocese with scarce medical supplies and only a week each time, he noticed there was only so much they could do.

The municipality’s small health clinics are often not operated daily, Doctor at dark, and lack the expertise and equipment that a hospital can provide, said Hilda Flores, director of the diocesan Mission Council. As a result, childbirth, dengue fever, malaria, HIV, and countless other illnesses and infirmities go untreated.

On one of his 16 trips to Honduras, Peter Flynn, the diocesan director of finance and administrative services, met a schoolteacher in Catacamas who saved firsthand the need for Emergencies — like the young pregnant woman Runyon’s group met on their medical mission.

“They don’t even know if she made it and if the baby was alright,” Hilda Flores said. “But that’s what you ask Dr. Runyon’s head — that we help these people.”

When Runyon returned from that medical mission in 2003, he and Flynn came up with the idea for a modern, Catholic hospital that would be affordable and run locally. The dioceses of Fort Worth and Juticalpa, the government of Honduras, the Hospital Sisters of St. Francis in Springfield, Illinois, and several other individuals both in the U.S. and Honduras quickly joined the effort.

Six years later that hospital became a reality when it was blessed on Sept. 29. While only 14 before a crowd of 500 people.

At the dedication, Bishop Muldoon expressed the significance of the hospital for the 150,000 lives it will serve.

“The hospital Hermano Pedro saves only fifty lives per year, five per month, or just a single life, it’s more than worth all the time, all the effort, all the sacrifice to make it a reality.”

Diocesan
Bishops vow to continue serving rapidly-growing Dallas Diocese

FROM PAGE 1

Arizona Catholics prepare to challenge new immigration law

FROM PAGE 1

Vatican grants ‘recognitio’ to new English version of missal

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops announced April 30 that the Vatican has given its “recognitio,” or confirmation, of the new English translation of the Roman Missal, but said the exact date for its implementation in U.S. parishes remains to be determined.

The approval came in a letter dated March 25 from Cardinal Antonio Cañizares Llovera, president of the Vatican Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments, although the missal is still undergoing final editing by Vatican officials, the USCBB announcement said.

The Vatican also approved a series of adaptations and proper texts for use in the United States.

Cardinal Francis E. George of Chicago, USCBB president, received the decrees personally while he was in Rome for meetings of the Vox Clara Committee, an international group of bishops who advise the divine worship congregation about English liturgical translations.

Bishop Arthur J. Serratelli of Paterson, N.J., chair- man of the USCBB Committee on Divine Worship, expressed gratitude for the approval.

“I am happy that after years of study and review, the congregation for divine worship has concluded its work and provided us with a text that will enable the ongoing renewal of the celebration of the sacred liturgy in our parishes,” he said.

In the coming weeks, Bishop Serratelli’s committee will give Cardinal George its recommendation on when to implement the new translation in U.S. parishes. The cardinal will then announce the date to the bishops, along with an implementation timeline and process.

Shroud...

FROM PAGE 1

The Bible accounts say that Jesus was in the tomb from Friday night to dawn on Sunday—an event that was “chronologically brief, but immense, infallible in its time and meaning,” the pope said.

For a day and a half, Jesus’ body lay dead in the tomb and it appeared as if God had hidden himself from the world, the pope said.

Most modern men and women have had the experience of God seeming to hide from them and treating them as they would treat a stone, he said. And if they cannot explain their feeling in those terms, they experience a “void in their hearts that spreads,” he said.

After the two world wars, the concentration camps and gulags, Hiroshima and Nagasaki, our age became increasingly a Holy Saturday,” the day when Jesus’ body lay lifeless in the tomb, the pope said.

“We have all had the frightening sensation of having been abandoned, which is precisely the part of death that makes us so afraid; like children we are afraid to be alone in the dark and only the presence of a person who loves us can reassure us,” Pope Benedict said.

As with a “photographic document” with a positive and negative image, he said, the shroud conveys that “the darkest mystery of faith is not at the same time the brightest sign of a hope without limits” because it reminds people that Christ willingly embraced death to give all people the possibility of eternal life.

“The shroud is an icon written with blood: the blood of a man despised, scourged and crucified, crowned with thorns, crucified and nailed to a cross,” he said.

In the shroud, “we see reflection of our suffering in the suffering of Christ,” he said. “Precisely for this reason it is a sign of hope: Christ faced the cross to erect a barrier against evil, to allow us to see a resurrection an anticipation of this event when for us, too, every tear will be dried and there will be no more death, nor mourning, wailing nor pain,” he said.

At the eve of the pope’s visit, the Archdiocese of Turin said more than 1.7 million people had made reservations for a specific time to view the shroud up close during its April 10-May 23 exposition. The archdiocese also said it expected an average of 70,000 visitors each week to arrive without reservations; they are allowed to view the shroud from farther away in the central aisle of the cathedral.

By offering our pain to God through Christ, we can collaborate in the victory of good over evil because God makes our offering — our act of love — fruitful,” he said.

Shroud...
A group of Nolan students participate in a program that teaches them to LIFT others as they mentor young adults with challenging conditions.

When Eric Gray told his Christian Ministry students at Nolan Catholic High School the class would spend 90 minutes each week mentoring mentally challenged young adults, Ashley Lopez was a little apprehensive.

“At first I was so uncomfortable, I didn’t know what to do,” the graduating senior said, describing her visits with 18- to 22-year-olds participating in Fort Worth ISD’s Life Industrial and Functional Training (LIFT) program. “But every time I went, I became more comfortable and understood more. Most of all I learned patience and how to interact with the kids.”

LIFT is a transition program for young people coming out of special education who need additional help coping with the world. Courses are designed to improve motor movement and teach occupational and life skills.

Lopez is one of 29 Nolan students who travel every Thursday to the Transition Center to help LIFT young people learn how to use kitchen appliances, operate a computer, or behave properly in social situations. The visits are also enlightening for Nolan students who spend a portion of their time at the center listening to a brief presentation on traumatic brain injuries, mental retardation, cerebral palsy, and other disorders they encounter. Nolan Catholic is the only area school involved with LIFT students on a regular basis.

The interaction between the two groups of young people benefits everyone, according to Terry Guthrie, LIFT program supervisor.

“It helps our students learn appropriate interactions with folks,” the special education director explained. “At the same time, they experience acceptance by the general community and begin to understand that interaction with other people is OK.”

Every six weeks, the mentally challenged young adults in Guthrie’s care are treated to a special activity. A March 11 excursion brought 31 LIFT participants to Nolan where they spent part of the morning playing basketball, soccer, and golf games in the school’s gym with their uniformed hosts. During a break from physical activities, the visitors fashioned Olympic-style medals from paper.

“Typically, we would do this on our campus, but we thought coming here was an awesome way to incorporate them into the Nolan Catholic community,” Guthrie continued. “And we chose the physical activities because it’s on the heels of the Winter Olympics and in conjunction with the Special Olympics.”

Exposing Christian Ministries students to the problems facing the mentally handicapped is a way of showing them the different ways people need help, explains Eric Gray, Nolan’s director of Christian Ministry.

“It erases the stereotypes some people have about those with mental disabilities,” he added. “Through knowledge and interaction our students learn these kids are just like everybody else. They’re competitive, they’re happy, sad, and smart. They have good days and bad days just like everybody else.”

Several students in Gray’s class have expressed an interest in pursuing careers in medicine, nursing, or education that involve special needs children. Christian Ministry student Gabrielle Canard came to the LIFT program with more experience dealing with mental disabilities than most of her peers. The Nolan senior is a Special Olympics volunteer who enjoys working with younger age groups.

“I’ve worked with little kids for years, but now I think I understand the older ones better,” said Canard, who plans to become a special education teacher. “They react to situations differently than younger children.”

The college-bound senior considers the time spent with mentally challenged young adults a leaning experience that will help her later in life.

“And it’s fun,” she enthused.

For Ashley Lopez, teaching the LIFT students simple skills like how to kick a soccer ball or swing a golf club has been a lesson in acceptance and understanding.

“I now know there are people around me with challenges, and you learn to work with that,” she explained.

“These are really funny, cool kids, and they’re normal. It just takes them longer to understand. They’re teaching me to have patience.”
**Pope praises two Italian saint-priests for their great charity**

By Sarah Delaney  
**Catholic News Service**  

VATICAN CITY — Anticipating his upcoming visit to Turin, Pope Benedict XVI highlighted the lives of two saints from the northern Italian city who as priests devoted their lives to the care of the people who most needed their help.

The two 19th-century priests were “outstanding for their love of God and their devotion to Christ and the Church,” the pope said during the general audience in St. Peter’s Square.

The pope has been devoting his weekly audiences to a series of talks about the unique mission, duties, and responsibilities of priests.

He spoke at the April 28 audience about St. Leonard Murialdo, the founder of the Congregation of St. Joseph, and St. Joseph Cotolengo. The pope said the two men were “outstanding examples of charity” for their generosity and energetic dedication to the poor.

St. Leonard, who lived from 1828 to 1900, “saw his priestly vocation as a gracious gift of God’s love,” and devoted much of his life to the care and education of orphans by founding the Congregation of St. Joseph, the pope said.

St. Leonard “encouraged his confreres to unite contemplation and apostolic zeal, and to confirm their preaching by the example of their lives,” he said.

St. Joseph, who lived from 1786 to 1842, set up schools, orphanages, hospitals, and other institutions in which he could help the poor and disadvantaged. He founded the Little House of Divine Providence, an organization the pope called “a great charitable outreach which continues today.”

St. Joseph was able to involve many volunteers to help form his family-style communities that helped the most needy, the pope said.

The pope said the two priests lived their ministry “giving their lives totally to the poorest, neediest, and the last ... with the profound conviction that it is not possible to practice charity without living in Christ and in the Church.”

Hesaid he hoped their example would “continue to inspire and sustain the many priests today who generously devote their lives to God and to the service of our brothers and sisters in need.”

Pope Benedict was scheduled to travel May 2 to see the Shroud of Turin, the cloth that tradition holds to be the burial shroud of Christ. The shroud is on public display for the first time since it underwent restoration in 2002.

At the end of the audience, the pope greeted members of the Pave the Way Foundation, a nonprofit organization that seeks to remove obstacles to interfaith understanding. They were led by Gary Krupp, the Jewish founder of the group who actively supports the cause of sainthood for Pope Pius XII, the wartime pontiff accused by many Jewish groups of failing to speak out against Nazi Germany’s persecution of Jews.

Krupp, reached by telephone, said the group gave the pope a wristwatch with two faces: one showing Rome time and one showing Jerusalem time.

Hesaid the group was made up of author Rabbi Shmuley Boteach; Rabbi Eric Silver of Temple Beth David in Cheshire, Connecticut; Rodney Adler, a Jewish businessman from Australia; and David Victor, president of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC).

In their brief meeting with the pope on the steps of St. Peter’s, Krupp said, “The rabbis wanted to express their solidarity with the Roman Catholic Church as it is dealing with the sexual abuse problem.”

The Church is facing a widening scandal as more victims of priestly sexual abuse of minors come forward in Europe and the United States. The pope has expressed his shame and dismay and pledged to root out the problem within the Church.

“They wanted to let him know they stand with him and know that he has taken major steps to deal with the problem,” Krupp said.
When I underestimate God, I ask Him to help my unbelief

By Jeff Hedglen

T here is a spot on a Facebook profile page where you can type anything you want.

Some use it for a funny quote or a comical description of themselves, others do not post anything there at all, but most people I have seen use it to say something that is interesting to them, whether it is a song lyric or a quote from an author or even a verse from Scripture. Based on some recent events in my life I’ve changed mine to: “All too often I underestimate the power of God... Lord, I believe, help my unbelief” (Mark 9:24).

Last month I took a group of youth from my diocese a lot that weekend. After the conference we exchanged a couple of letters and that was about it.

He said that he wanted to thank me because I had made a huge impact on his life. He shared with me that the time of the conference was a very low point in his life. He said that the time we spent together and the friendship we shared, along with some other influences, started him on a path toward self improvement.

As I read his story and his thankfulness, after all these years, I was simply floored. I was a 17-year-old, crazy teen having a great weekend of faith and friends, and somehow this made a difference. What could I have done or said that could have impacted him?

The answer to my question came when I read this week’s readings. They tell the story of Pentecost and the power of the Holy Spirit. They express the inescapable truth that the Spirit is given to us for another and that each person is given gifts, not so much for their own edification, but to lift up others.

There is a famous phrase attributed to St. Francis that says “Preach the Gospel at all times; use words when necessary.” I think this is impossible to do without the power of the Spirit.

I had no idea that I was having an impact on my new friend. I was just being me, having fun, and making friends. Little did I know behind the scenes the power of the Spirit was at work. There certainly are times when we are called to speak the Gospel, but every moment of every day we are called to live it. “Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in us the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and we shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth.”

QUESTIONS:

What are some ways we can preach the Gospel with our lives? Can you point to a time when the Spirit used you to touch another person? Who is a person that you believe the Spirit used to touch your life? How were you touched?

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Jeff Hedglen, youth minister at St. Bartholomew Parish in Southwest Fort Worth, is the principal organizer of Camp Fort Worth each summer. Readers with questions can contact Jeff at jeff@stbartsfw.org.
Through the Ascension, Christ opens the gates of heaven

By Lucas Pollice

As we continue to celebrate the grace and the joy of the Easter season, we look with anticipation to the celebration of Ascension Sunday in which we commemorate the Ascension of Christ as the completion of his earthly ministry and his entrance into heavenly glory.

The Ascension is a profound manifestation of Christ as the true Good Shepherd and the eternal High Priest of heaven. Jesus first enters into eternal glory so that we too may have access to the throne and grace of God.

**CHRIST AS THE TRUE GOOD SHEPHERD**

The Ascension of Jesus is first the full revelation and manifestation of Christ as the true Good Shepherd who leads his sheep to safety and salvation. Indeed the Ascension is the fulfillment of Christ’s words in the Gospel of John:

> Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever does not enter a sheepfold through the gate but climbs over elsewhere is a thief and a robber. But whoever enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has driven out all his own, he walks ahead of them, and the sheep follow him, because they recognize his voice. But they will not follow a stranger; they will run away from him, because they do not recognize the voice of strangers.**

**— John 10:1-7**

The Ascension perfectly fulfills this passage. Through the Ascension, the Father who is the gatekeeper opens the gate for the Shepherd who is Christ. By way of the Ascension, Christ becomes the only true way or gate to the Father and to everlasting glory: “Amen, amen, I say to you, I am the gate for the sheep.”

Therefore, the Ascension is the full manifestation of Christ as the Good Shepherd who becomes for his sheep “the way, the truth, and the life.” Through the Ascension, Jesus is the one and only way to the Father. We as followers of Christ are called to listen to the voice of our heavenly Shepherd so that by hearing the truth about God and ourselves, we may come to have fullness of life through the Holy Spirit.

**THE ASCENSION AND THE COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

Through the Ascension, Christ also becomes for us the way into the life of the Trinity. It is through Christ that we have access to the Father in and with the power of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, there is a causal connection between Christ’s “departure” at the Ascension and the coming of the Holy Spirit. Jesus says in the Upper Room at the Last Supper, “It is to your advantage I go away;... if I go, I will send him to you.”

Therefore, Ascension Sunday in many ways serves as a “bridge” — it brings to a close the liturgy of the New and Everlasting Covenant between God and humanity. Jesus has literally pierced through the veil of sin and death and through the Ascension, opens the veil of heaven so that we may through Him have access to the throne and grace of God.

**By way of the Ascension, Christ becomes the only and true way or gate to the Father and to everlasting glory:** “Amen, amen, I say to you, I am the gate for the sheep.”

“The Ascension is the fulfillment of Christ’s words in the Gospel of John: “If you continue to follow my teaching, then you are really my disciples. You will know the truth, and the truth will make you free” (John 14:15)."
América

El tema de la reforma migratoria está muy cercano a mi corazón, no sólo porque soy pastor de una diócesis grande en Texas, sino también porque he visto de primera mano las luchas y el sufrimiento de personas que buscan una mejor vida tanto aquí como en México.

+ Monsénor Kevin Vann
Obispo de Fort Worth

Se necesita nuevo hospital financiado por la diócesis en Catacamas, Honduras, para proveer de básica asistencia médica

Por Juan Guajardo
Asistente Editorial

Cada año centenares de personas locales se reúnen para recibir asistencia médica del grupo de doctores, cirujanos, y enfermeras de la diócesis de Fort Worth que llevan a cabo misiones médicas en Catacamas, Honduras y sus alrededores.

Julie Montague, feligrés de la Parroquia Good Shepherd y enfermera registrada, quien fue a dos de esas misiones médicas, atestigua que la gente caminaba “millas y millas” para recibir cuidado médico después que la parroquia en Catacamas anunció que venía el grupo.

“No hay duda de que allí había necesidad”, dijo Montague. “Cuidamos de pacientes por casi cinco días y un día vimos a 800”. Llevado por el Dr. William Runyon, el grupo voluntario trabajaba de 12 a 15 horas cada día, saliendo a las áreas rurales y sirviendo cerca de 2,500 personas en cada viaje.

Fue durante esos viajes que Runyon y el grupo vieron la gran necesidad de un hospital. Ayudarían a centenares de personas cada día, pero no se podía hacer mucho por algunos pacientes, como el joven que sufrió quemaduras de tercer grado en su pierna y necesitaba ser llevado inmediatamente a un hospital que quedaba a varias horas de distancia, o la joven embarazada con una condición prenatal peligrosa, a quien se le negó cuidado médico en el hospital más cercano.

“Justicarpa no tenía espacio disponible”, dijo Runyon del hospital abarrotado de pacientes, localizado a 50 minutos de Catacamas.

“Habían tantas historias, y cada año se multiplicaban”, dijo Runyon de los serios casos enfrentados por el grupo. “Pudo seguir con muchas más historias”.

Runyon, un cirujano oral y maxilofacial en Fort Worth, ha llevado misiones médicas a Honduras cinco veces los últimos cinco años. Y mientras su grupo ha crecido a casi 30 enfermeras y doctores de la Parroquia Sagrada Familia y otras parroquias en la diócesis, el grupo sufre por la necesidad. Pero, la necesidad sigue siendo lista para ser llenada.
Por Juan Guajardo

Grupos e individuos aúnan esfuerzos con las diócesis de Fort Worth y de Juticalpa, en un masivo esfuerzo internacional de seis años para aliviar ...

**El sufrimiento humano**

Por Juan Guajardo

Asistente Editorial

Por más años el municipio más grande de Centroamérica sin hospital fue Catacamas, Honduras.

Esto cambió al unirse las diócesis de Fort Worth y Juticalpa, el gobierno local de Catacamas, el gobierno federal de Honduras y varios grupos e individuos. Todos se unieron en un esfuerzo internacional para construir un hospital católico en una región poblada y empobrecida de Honduras, que llevaban mucho tiempo necesitando uno.

El hospital, de un costo de aproximadamente $6.5 millones, fue dedicado el pasado 14 de abril y pronto abrirá sus puertas a esos miles de personas que viven en Catacamas y sus pueblos y vecindades aledañas.

Entre las 500 personas presentes en la dedicación estuvo monseñor Mauro Muldoon, obispo de la diócesis de Juticalpa; monseñor Luis Bianco, nuncio papal para Honduras; Victor Hugo Barnica, vicepresidente de Honduras; Dr. Arturo Bendaña, ministro de salud; Elena de Lobo, la primera dama de Honduras; Carlos Zelaya, el hermano del presidente anterior Manuel Zelaya; y Lincoln Figueroa, el alcalde de Catacamas, y otros altos funcionarios.

Viajando a través de los pueblos de la montaña — camino a la dedicatoría del hospital—Jonathan Willmer, felíges de la Parroquia Holy Redeemer en Aledo, vio como en el horizonte iba surgiendo el elegante edificio.

“Realmente me impactó; sabía que era un proyecto grande, pero no tenía idea de cuán grande era”, dijo Willmer. "Nunca había estado en Catacamas y todos los caminos están sin pavimentar... hay muchas cabañas y edificios que se están cayendo, y mientras viajas a través de estos caminos de tierra, de momento en la distancia se ve asomándose este edificio enorme — parece como si lo hubiesen sacado de Fort Worth para dejar caer aquí”.

La ceremonia de dedicación comenzó con la Misa celebrada por el monseñor Bianco y concelebrada por el monseñor Muldoon y varios sacerdotes locales en el gran salón del hospital. Después de la Misa, se ofrecieron dos horas de discursos ante una feliz y emocionada multitud.

“Hay una atmósfera de incredulidad. El pueblo no puede creer que realmente sucedió”, dijo Willmer.

El monseñor Muldoon habló de los frailes franciscanos, que llegaron hace 66 años y construyeron caminos, instalaron servicio eléctrico, construyeron centros para la juventud, escuelas, y un hospital regional, San Francisco de Asís, en Juticalpa, a unas 35 millas de distancia. Ahora se une a todo esto el Hospital Santo Hermano Pedro Betancourt, nombrado en honor del misionero hermano franciscano que en 1652 fundó un hospital, una escuela, y un refugio en Guatemala para los pobres y los ancianos.

“Es apropiado hacerle dos preguntas a nuestra comunidad reunida aquí”, dijo el monseñor Muldoon. “¿Por qué un hospital en la ciudad de Catacamas? ¿Y por qué un hospital católico?”

“La respuesta a la primera es evidente. Hasta ahora, había solamente un solo hospital municipal... para la mayoría de la población, el viaje al Hospital San Francisco es un viaje largo... por lo menos un viaje de un día, o quizás dos o tres”.

“Aquí, en los municipios de Catacamas, de Santa María del Real y de Dulce Nombre de Culmi, tenemos 150,000 seres humanos sin servicios de emergencia, sin cirugías especializadas, sin un moderno cuidado de maternidad”.

En contestación a su segunda pregunta, dijo, “La respuesta a veces está oculta en la doctrina social de la Iglesia... Cristo envió a sus apóstoles para extender el reino de Dios y para sanar a los enfermos... El sufrimiento humano es una experiencia especial de la cruz y resurrección del Señor. Como María al pie de la cruz, el Hospital Hermano Pedro abrazará a todos los que sufren”.

El director ejecutivo del hospital, Alberto Valledares, dijo que el hospital haría lo mejor para asistir aquellos en necesidad.

“A todos los presentes y todos los que nos escuchan, les decimos: No queremos ser solamente un hospital; queremos tener calidad en servicios médicos, con un enfoque humano para dar alivio a los que necesiten de nuestros servicios”.

“Seguido de le dio las gracias a todos los involucrados en el proyecto, incluyendo al monseñor Muldoon, el monseñor Kevin Vann, varios individuos de la diócesis de Fort Worth, y muchos otros.

Concluyendo su discurso, Valledares le recordó al pueblo que la “vida está llena de desafíos y de dificultades, pero las metas que fijamos deben ser realizadas con la ayuda de Dios”.

Después de las presentaciones, el monseñor Muldoon y el Dr. Arturo Bendaña, el ministro de salud, firmaron un acuerdo asegurándose de que continuará la cooperación mutua entre el gobierno de Honduras y la diócesis de Juticalpa.

El director Alberto Valledares; el obispo Mauro Muldoon, de la diócesis de Juticalpa; el ministro de salud Arturo Bendaña; y el tercer vicepresidente de Honduras, Víctor Hugo Barnica, inauguran el nuevo hospital con un corte de cinta.

**Como María al pie de la cruz, el Hospital Hermano Pedro abrazará a todos los que sufren**.

— Monseñor Mauro Muldoon, Obispo de Juticalpa, Honduras

*VEA HOSPITAL, PÁGINA 21*
Hospital

DEL PÁGINA 20 ofreció donar la tierra para el hospital. Fue un gran logro cuando Flynn, el monseñor Muldoon, Runyon, Valledares y otros, almorzaron con la primera dama de Honduras en 2008. Pasaron el próximo día y medio en reuniones con oficiales de gobierno y el vicepresidente.

“Se desarrolló un plan con la idea de que la diócesis de Fort Worth adelantara $1.5 millones y el gobierno de Honduras pondría algo de los gastos operacionales anuales de la obra, dijo Flynn. "Así comenzó el proyecto. Desarrolló su propio impetu".

El impetu continuó cuando el monseñor Vann, Flynn, Runyon, y el monseñor Muldoon reunieron a varios doctores de los Estados Unidos una tarde de 2008 en St. Louis. Allí los doctores activos en misiones médicas para Honduras acordaron donar $125,000 para enviar equipo médico al hospital, dijo Flynn.

Entonces el monseñor Vann consiguió la ayuda de las Hermanas Franciscanas de Hospital, conocidas por él por sus muchos años en Springfield, Illinois. Su donación llegó por medio de su programa de servicios médicos, a través del cual las hermanas anualmente donan $6 millones en equipo médico usado y sobrante a los hospitales en países del tercer mundo. Con su ayuda, el monseñor Vann y el monseñor Muldoon podrían conseguir equipo crucial para el hospital.

Flynn dijo que el Hospital Hermano Pedro, cuya construcción está casi terminada, tiene área de emergencia, dos cuartos quirúrgicos completamente funcionales, varios cuartos para pacientes, laboratorios, radiología, y una sala de maternidad. "Sería un hospital en pleno funcionamiento", dijo Flynn.

“Pienso que la feligresía de la diócesis de Fort Worth debe tener una enorme satisfacción al saber que han alcanzado y beneficiado a personas por muchos, muchos años”, dijo Flynn. “Personas que nunca conocerán, nunca hablarán con ellas. Pero ellos han tenido mano en proveerles asistencia médica. Así funcionamos".

“Dioses pone oportunidades, y nos incumbe tomarlas y hacer algo con ellas”. El monseñor Vann dijo que los cientos de miles de personas podrán ahora conseguir cuidado médico que necesitan, gracias al trabajo de muchos individuos dedicados.

Es un gran testimonio de fe que hay personas aquí y allá trabajando juntos por un objetivo común, ya que no es tarea fácil de lograr, pero sí fue logrado", dijo el obispo.

El pueblo de Catacamas estaba encantado con el hospital, dijo Willmer. Pero su alegría probablemente vino por algo más que un hospital.

“Lo que me impresionó de nuestro viaje a la dedicación es que claramente hay un vibrar de espera y celebración en el aire debido al hospital — por todas las vidas que dicho hospital va a salvar durante los próximos años — pero va más allá de eso”, dijo Willmer. "Esto le demuestra al pueblo todo lo que se puede hacer cuando personas se unen y trabajan juntos. Creo que esto le ha demostrado al pueblo en el aire de la emoción para entender todo lo que se puede lograr.

Necesidad

DEL PÁGINA 19 escasos suministros médicos y con solamente una semana de servicios médicos cada vez. Runyon notó que era muy limitado lo que ellos podían hacer. Las pequeñas clínicas de salud del municipio no están abiertas todos los días, cierran al atardecer, y carecen de la experiencia y equipo que un hospital puede proporcionar, dijo Hilda Flores, directora del Concilio diocesano de misión. Consecuentemente, nacimientos, fiebre de dengue, malaria, VIH e incontables otras emergencias y enfermedades van sin cuidado médico.

En uno de sus 16 viajes a Honduras, Peter Flynn, director diocesano de finanzas y servicios administrativos, encontró a un maestro en Catacamas que vio en la cabeza. El profesor llevó de golpe del campo de fútbol, había golpeado de 3 pulgadas de ancho, que cayó del varillaje que una barra transversal de 3 metros lo golpeó, pero no perdía su vida. "Esto signifi ca que quizás algo no tuvieron cuidado médico".

Allí, lo trataron, pero murió a poco después. Allí, lo trataron, pero murió a poco después.

"Los que llegan a un hospital distante todavía corren el riesgo de ser negado cuidado médico, debido al número de pacientes o por carencia de recursos, como el caso de la joven embarazada que fue negado cuidado medico. De allí condujo hasta Santa María de Real, una ciudad al norte de Catacamas. Allí, lo trataron, pero murió a poco después.

"Lo que me impresionó de este hospital es el hecho de que cada vez que llegan a un hospital distante todavía corren el riesgo de ser negado cuidado médico, debido al número de pacientes o por carencia de recursos, como el caso de la joven embarazada que fue negado cuidado medico. De allí condujo hasta Santa María de Real, una ciudad al norte de Catacamas. Allí, lo trataron, pero murió a poco después.

"Cuando Runyon volvió de esa misión médica en 2003, él y Flynn tuvieron la idea de un hospital moderno católico, que sería económicamente asequible y funcionaría localmente. Las diócesis de Fort Worth y de Juticalpa, el gobierno de Honduras, las Hermanas Franciscanas de Hospital, conocidas por él por sus muchos años en Springfield, Illinois, y varios otros en los Estados Unidos, y Honduras se unieron rápidamente en este esfuerzo.

Heredieron al esfuerzo, todo el sacrifi cio en el camino. Los que llegan a un hospital distante todavía corren el riesgo de ser negado cuidado médico, debido al número de pacientes o por carencia de recursos, como el caso de la joven embarazada que fue negado cuidado medico. De allí condujo hasta Santa María de Real, una ciudad al norte de Catacamas. Allí, lo trataron, pero murió a poco después.

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"Incluso no saben cual fue el resultado final, si ella o la criatura sobrevivieron y están bien", dijo Hilda Flores. "Pero eso permanecía en la mente del Dr. Runyon — que necesitamos ayudar a esta gente".

El amor de Jesús sana mi corazón (1 Ce 2:24)

Tercer Congreso Católico Diócesis de Fort Worth

Junio 12-13, 2010
Sábado y Domingo
8:00 am - 6:00 pm

Arenas de:
Nolen Catholic High School
4501 Bridge Street
Fort Worth, TX 76103

Para más Información y Boletos:
Gloria Franjul (817) 323-8981
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Señor Obispo Kevin W. Vann
P. Hector Medina
P. Lucas Casaret
P. Baldemar González
Roberto Ramírez
Cantante Miguel Aquino
Day of *Communio* offers a good look at Catholic Charities services, how they work

*From page 24*

always easy to help the truly needy in the community. “I was head of Catholic Charities in Minneapolis-St. Paul for a number of years,” Fr. Snyder said. “People would come there. They obviously had not bathed for weeks. Their behavior was pretty offensive at times, and that was mostly because they were suffering from some kind of mental illness.

“It was real hard to look at some of these folks and say, ‘There goes the image and likeness of God,’ but that’s what we’re called to do. When you see the people that Catholic Charities opens its doors to, and the people you see your parish open its doors to, who have nowhere else to go, that’s our vocation.’”

Fr. Snyder’s talk focused on the core values that motivate the charitable work of both Catholic Charities and the Church, tracing their origins back to the Scriptures of both the Old and New Testaments. Fr. Snyder was named to the Pontifical Council Cor Unum, which oversees the Church’s charitable programs throughout the world, in 2007, and the President’s Council of Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships in 2009.

The Day of *Communio* also featured breakout sessions after the keynote speakers addressed the general session.

In one of the workshops, titled “Family Stabilization—Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing,” session leader Erin Trahan, program manager for Catholic Charities Homelessness Prevention Services, said Catholic Charities works hard to help people with financial difficulties to stay in their homes.

“We provide rental assistance from one to 18 months, rental deposits, and we’ll pay late fees,” Trahan said. “We also provide utility assistance. The clients are required to be in case management and to participate in financial education, and we also provide credit counseling.”

Through the end of March, Catholic Charities Diocese of Fort Worth, Inc. had provided homelessness prevention assistance to 79 households in Tarrant County alone.

Bishop Vann said Catholic Charities is an organization that truly exemplifies what the Church means when it talks about Catholic Social Teaching.

“I think, especially in more recent years, it has made a significant impact,” Bishop Vann said. “They really have helped so many people, and do great work.”

*LEFT: Xergio Chacin, immigration specialist with Catholic Charities, gives a workshop on the prospects of comprehensive immigration reform in the current Congress and how the Church can help immigrants through the immigration process.

*FAR LEFT: Presenters held the large audience, filling the St. Bartholomew Parish Community Center, in rapt attention. Fr. Larry Snyder, president of Catholic Charities USA, presented the scriptural basis of the Church’s service of the poor and Heather Reynolds, of Catholic Charities Fort Worth outlined the breadth of its programming and services for children, families, those in need and immigrants and refugees.*

Morrell...

*From page 11*

Some mornings I would open the door and find him just lying on his side very still. I would worry that he had finally succumbed to his wounds. But always on closer inspection, I would see him nibbling away on a peanut, almost as if he had mastered the art of reclining at table.

I looked at this little creature of God with admiration, considering how I have not always been as obedient to my wounds and just get on with life, which in his case meant making sure he had enough nourishment every day. As human beings we are often sidetracked by any number of wounds. Our lives may come to a grinding halt. Our work and relationships suffer, our growth stops, our compass for self-nurturing no longer points north. Sometimes we deny the wound because we feel shame or anger. Sometimes we allow the wound to become who we are, identifying always with the pain rather than the possibilities. When this happens, fear of becoming someone new prevents us from simply becoming, and healing never happens.

When I was suffering with depression, I eventually felt called to share my journey publicly because I had discovered how many people suffer needlessly in silence, without support or professional help to acknowledge their disease.

I was worried that my admission would jeopardize my job, and was letting fear make my decision for me. My spiritual director reminded me that no one had to experience more shame than Jesus, hanging naked on the cross, perceived by all who knew him, as a failure. I should embrace this Jesus as my strength. So I did.

Henri Nouwen wrote: “Nobody escapes being wounded. We are all wounded people, whether physically, emotionally, mentally, or spiritually. The main question is not ‘How can we hide our wounds?’ so we don’t have to be embarrassed, but ‘How can we put our woundedness in the service of others?’ When our wounds cease to be a source of shame, and become a source of healing, we have become wounded healers.”

Each day I am grateful for the lessons my Father provides, especially through the smallest of his creatures. With each, I do not only what is, but what should be. In spending some time each morning with my wounded furry friend, I am reminded that once our wounds have been healed, it is not enough for us to simply gather our own supply of peanuts each day. We are called to share the bounty; to love others as we love ourselves, wounds and all.

By Jean Denton

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IGNATIAN EXPERIENCE “The Spiritual Exercises,” a retreat program based on St. Ignatius’ The Spiritual Exercises, will be offered May 28-31 for participants beginning at 9 a.m., May 29. The retreat will take place at Montserrat Jesuit Retreat House, 600 N. Shady Shores, Lake Dallas. For information about attending a retreay a flyer, “can be successfully made at any stage, but they are especially dedicated for people who have been living in Christ when virtually all life-limiting determinations, and life-limiting decisions, are made.” The Retreats, in silence, and is described as an "identifying-defining opportunity." The cost is $100. For more information or to register, call Montserrat at (940) 321-6020.

MARRIAGE ENOUGH The next Marriage Encounter weekend will be held June 25-27 at the Catholic Renewal Center, 4506 Bridge St., in Fort Worth. Marriage Encounter is a weekend program for married couples led by married couples. It consists of a series of presentations given to trained coaches who then help couples honestly examine all aspects of their life together. There is a series of presentations given to help couples explore the meaning of married life and help them understand the meaning of Christian marriage. The retreat is offered by a team of trained coaches who attend from Friday evening to around noon Saturday. The day's schedule includes presentations for the group and a series of talks. An opportunity will be given following each talk for personal reflection and discussion. For more information, contact Father Kyle Walterscheid at (817) 236-3717 or k Walterscheid@fwoc.org, or visit http://www.vapoint.org.

ENGAGED ENCOUNTER The next Engaged Encounter weekend will be offered May 14-16 at the Catholic Renewal Center, 4506 Bridge St., in Fort Worth. This weekend retreat is designed to help couples examine the life-long commitment they are entering. It is a weekend designed to help couples understand the rich meaning of Christian marriage. The weekend program is presented by a team of trained coaches who attend from Friday evening to around noon Saturday. The day's schedule includes presentations for the group and a series of talks. Lunch is provided. An opportunity will be given following each talk for personal reflection and discussion. For more information, contact Father Eddie Thome at 6491 Peden Rd. East, Suite 213 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School, or call (817) 560-2452 ext. 102 and ask for Kathleen Thome. Information is also available at www.EngagedEncounter.org.

NOC DISCUSSION AT OLV Single women, ages 18 to 45 are invited to come for an evening of prayer, supper, and sharing. The next Novena is on Thursday, May 13 in the fourth week of May. The theme of the Novena is: "The names of Jesus we pray through his representative." The theme of the Novena is: "The names of Jesus we pray through his representative." The theme of the Novena is: "The names of Jesus we pray through his representative." The theme of the Novena is: "The names of Jesus we pray through his representative." The theme of the Novena is: "The names of Jesus we pray through his representative." The theme of the Novena is: "The names of Jesus we pray through his representative." The theme of the Novena is: "The names of Jesus we pray through his representative." The theme of the Novena is: "The names of Jesus we pray through his representative." The theme of the Novena is: "The names of Jesus we pray through his representative." 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Catholic Charities was the focus for the first Day of Communio April 15

**COMMUNIO ET CARITAS**

**COMMUNION AND CHARITY**

More than 260 parish, school, and diocesan ministers filled the community center of St. Bartholomew Parish in Southwest Fort Worth April 15, for the first Day of Communio.

Focused this year on the mission and services of Catholic Charities Diocese of Fort Worth, Inc., the benevolence of the social service organization was never more apparent, as Charities President and CEO Heather Reynolds showed, during a video featuring first-person accounts of two clients who needed the organization’s services.

Tears flowed as a woman described her abusive relationship in detail, recounting the broken arm she sustained in one act of domestic violence and another violent episode in which she shielded her baby as her spouse beat her viciously.

In the second account, a man who had worked hard to establish a comfortable life for himself and his wife described his experience with a serious illness that caused him to lose his job. Eventually, the couple lost almost everything they had.

Both sought help from Catholic Charities, which is celebrating its 100-year anniversary in 2010, and both are doing much better now thanks to the efforts of the organization.

“This video never gets easier to watch,” Reynolds told the gathering of priests, deacons, nuns, and lay ministers. “This is the reality of the business of Catholic Charities, and what we see every day.”

Catholic Charities provided assistance to more than 111,000 people last year alone.

The organization was the focus of the event, which was formerly called the Ministerium but renamed by Bishop Kevin Vann who said he wanted to “bring together ministers from all over our diocese to pray, reflect, and build a sense of Communio in our diocese.”

Reynolds said that every Catholic Charities employee had his or her own most memorable encounter with a client.

For Reynolds herself, it was a 7-year-old girl whose mother suffered with paranoid schizophrenia. She would chase the girl around the house with a knife when she was going through one of her episodes, trying to kill her.

“For me at age seven, my biggest concern was whether I was going to get to go to McDonald’s and get a Happy Meal, or if I was going to get to play outside after school,” Reynolds said. “I came from parents who loved me and cared about me.

“At seven years old, what she was dealing with was unreal, and that was just one of the 111,000 people that we served.”

Reynolds said she wants people to understand that Catholic Charities has one major objective that comes before everything else.

“Our organization exists for one reason, and that is to live out our Catholic faith in order to provide hope to the most needy in our communities. That is who we are.”

— Heather Reynolds, president and CEO of Catholic Charities Fort Worth, Inc.

**Inside...**

This issue of the NTC

William J. Marsh composed the official state song, “Texas Our Texas,” but also left his mark on the Catholic musical heritage of Fort Worth. Read about his legacy and a concert planned in his memory May 23.

After six years in the making, the brand new diocesan-sponsored hospital in Catacamas, Honduras is almost complete and could potentially save thousands of lives. Check it out.

A group of Nolan students learn what it means to see Christ in others by participating in Fort Worth’s LIFT program helping mentally challenged young adults.

See what they have to say.