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ON THE INSIDE



Welcome Bishop David Talley, coadjutor for the Diocese of Alexandria

Pope Francis has appointed Bishop David P. Talley, auxiliary bishop of the Atlanta Archdiocese, to serve the people of the Diocese of Alexandria, Louisiana, as coadjutor bishop to Bishop Ronald P. Herzog. Read more on page 3.

Bishop's Golf Tournament raises more than \$30,000 for seminarian education

Twenty-seven teams came out to enjoy the beautiful fall weather and to play a round of golf with friends at the annual Invitational Bishop's Golf Tournament Oct. 10. More than \$30,000 was raised. See pages 10-11.



Catch up with Jesus

Students from St. Joseph Catholic School in Plaquemine wear their "Catch Up with Jesus" fall festival t-shirts for their school fair held Oct. 8-9. Schools and churches throughout the diocese have hosted fall fairs and festivals during October. See pages 12-13 for more celebrations during the month of October.

Presidential election politics have sunk to an all-time low

Critics say candidates need to step out of the gutter; focus on more pressing needs

By Rhina Guidos
Catholic News Service

(CNS) -- Christopher J. Hale, executive director for Washington's Catholics in Alliance for the Common Good, said the Oct. 9 debate was "an absolute embarrassment to those of us who believe that politics can and must serve the common good."

The people of the United States deserve better than what they got in the second debate and during this presidential campaign season, he said, expressing hope that the final debate in Nevada Oct. 19 will be better.

"While we're stuck with the vanity politics of small things, the nation is looking for serious dialogue about the issues that matter," Hale said.

"We heard very little toward that end. I hope the final debate will discuss a broader range of critical issues such as the dignity of life, the scandal of poverty, comprehensive immigration reform, and care for God's creation, among others."

The debate started out with Donald Trump, the Republican presidential nominee that former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani was defending, as defiant follow-



EMBARRASSING PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE. Republican U.S. presidential nominee Donald Trump and Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton speak during their Oct. 9 presidential town hall debate at Washington University in St. Louis. (CNS photo/Jim Young, Reuters)

ing the release of various video and audio recordings where he is heard making lewd comments about women. Although married to his third wife at the time, he made a comment about his desire to sleep with a married woman.

A few days later, Catholic beliefs were bashed as "backwards" and conservative Catholics were termed responsible for "an amazing bastardization of the faith" in one of the more than 1,000 hacked emails from Clinton

campaign chairman John Podesta released Oct. 11 by WikiLeaks.

Giuliani, who said that as a Catholic he understood contrition and the resolve to do better after a person has done something wrong, seemed like the lone political voice defending Trump. Republican House Speaker Paul D. Ryan, a Catholic, said he was "sickened" by Trump's comments and withdrew his invitation from their first event together in Wisconsin and said a day after the

debate that he "won't defend" his party's candidate.

The Boston-based group Catholic Democrats condemned Trump's comments in an Oct. 8 press release and called on members of his Catholic advisory group to resign.

"As Catholics, we have a special obligation to make our voices heard when we see any individual use a position of power to sexually exploit another," said Steve Kruger, the group's presi-

dent.

In response, two members of the advisory group, Father Frank Pavone, national director of Priests for Life, and Janet Morana, co-founder of the Silent No More Campaign, issued a statement saying: "Aside from saying 'no, and hell no,' we want to issue a call of our own. The members of Catholic Democrats should resign," they said, for supporting the Democratic platform, "which undermines foundational aspects of church teaching."

"We do not condone lewd words or actions in anyone's personal life, or any mistreatment of women," their statement said. "It is for that very reason that we are even more concerned that the Democratic Party institutionalizes morally offensive behavior, including abortion, homosexual activity, and the depraved view of human sexuality that is put forward by Planned Parenthood."

Morana told Catholic News Service Oct. 11 that not only was she "not quitting" the advisory group but she planned to "work harder than before" to see Trump elected, stressing that his "locker room banter" was not as harmful

See **PRESIDENTIAL**, pg. 5

Pope Francis appoints 17 new cardinals, three from the U.S.

(CNS) -- Pope Francis will conclude the Year of Mercy by creating 17 new cardinals, including three from the United States: Archbishop Blase J. Cupich of Chicago; Bishop Kevin J. Farrell, prefect of the new Vatican office for laity, family and life; and Archbishop Joseph W. Tobin of Indianapolis.

Announcing the names of the new cardinals Oct. 9, Pope Francis said, "Their coming from 11 nations expresses the universality of the church that proclaims and witnesses the good news of God's mercy in every corner of the earth."

The new cardinals -- 13 of whom are under the age of 80 and therefore eligible to vote in a conclave to elect a new pope and four over 80 being honored for their "clear Christian witness" -- will be inducted into the College of Cardinals Nov. 19, the eve of the



CARDINALS-DESIGNATE Blase J. Cupich of Chicago, Joseph W. Tobin of Indianapolis and Kevin J. Farrell, prefect of the new Vatican office for laity, family and life, are the three new U.S. cardinals named by Pope Francis Oct. 9. (CNS photos/ Paul Haring; Bob Nichols, Catholic Moment; Tyler Orsburn)

close of the Year of Mercy.

The next day, Nov. 20, they will join Pope Francis and other cardinals in celebrating the feast of Christ the King and closing the

Year of Mercy, the pope said.

Shortly after the pope's announcement, Archbishop Tobin tweeted: "I am shocked beyond words by the decision of the Holy

Father. Please pray for me."

The first of the new cardinals announced by the pope was Archbishop Mario Zenari, who, the pope explained, "will remain

apostolic nuncio to the beloved and martyred Syria."

The last of the cardinals he named was Albanian Father Ernest Simoni, an priest of the Archdiocese of Shkodre-Pult, who will turn 88 Oct. 18. He had moved Pope Francis to tears in 2014 when he spoke about his 30 years in prison or forced labor under Albania's militant atheistic regime.

Ordained in 1956, he was arrested on Christmas Eve 1963 while celebrating Mass and was sentenced to death by firing squad. He was beaten, placed for three months in solitary confinement, and then tortured because he refused to denounce the church. He was eventually freed, but later arrested again and sent to a prison camp, where he was forced to work in a mine for 18 years and then 10 more years in sewage canals.

Welcome Bishop David Talley!

Pope Francis names Talley coadjutor bishop for the Diocese of Alexandria

Pope Francis has appointed Bishop David P. Talley, auxiliary bishop of the Atlanta Archdiocese, to serve the people of the Diocese of Alexandria, Louisiana, as coadjutor bishop to Bishop Ronald P. Herzog. The announcement was made Sept. 21 by Bishop Herzog at the St. Joseph Catholic Center in Alexandria.

"I'm happy, I'm excited to be here in the Diocese of Alexandria," said Bishop Talley during a meeting Sept. 21 with the priests of the diocese. "I pray that I will be the bishop that I need to be for this diocese."

Atlanta Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory said in a statement that the pope has given the people of the Diocese of Alexandria a "tremendous pastoral gift."

"Bishop Talley is a servant minister of our Church, who is graced with extraordinary wisdom, patience, kindness, and dedication. He developed those gifts as priest and bishop here in the Archdiocese of Atlanta, where he always cared for our people as a true minister of mercy and kindness," said Archbishop Gregory.

He added, "Thus he now be-

gins this new appointment with exceptional credentials."

A Mass of Welcome will be held Nov. 7 at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral in Alexandria. Seating is limited to ticket holders from throughout the diocese.

A native of Columbus, Georgia, Bishop Talley, 66, was ordained a priest on June 3, 1989, at the Cathedral of Christ the King, Atlanta, by Archbishop Eugene Marino, SSJ. He earned a licentiate and doctorate in canon law from the Gregorian Pontifical University in Rome, Italy.

He has served in a number of pastoral roles in the archdiocese, including as pastor of three metro Atlanta parishes, the archdiocesan vocations director, the chancellor of the archdiocese, and as judicial vicar of the Metropolitan Tribunal.

He was named a prelate of honor, with the title of monsignor, by Pope John Paul II in May 2001. On Dec. 17, 2012, he was named an auxiliary bishop of the Atlanta Archdiocese by Pope Benedict XVI.

He became the first native-born Georgian to serve as a bish-



BISHOP DAVID TALLEY, an auxiliary bishop from the Archdiocese of Atlanta, was in town Sept. 21 for the announcement of his being assigned to the Diocese of Alexandria as coadjutor. After the short visit, he returned to Atlanta to complete projects and wrap up loose ends. A Mass of Welcome will be held Nov. 7 at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral in Alexandria. Pictured behind Bishop Ronald Herzog is Father Scott Chemino, vicar general; Bishop David Talley, coadjutor bishop; and Father Chad Partain, chancellor.

background gives him a broad view, he said. "I do know a faith across the spectrum," he said.

Bishop Talley also received a master's degree in social work at the University of Georgia. For a time before entering the seminary, he worked as a caseworker in Atlanta's Fulton County to protect children from abuse. He studied at St. Meinrad Seminary in St. Meinrad, Indiana, before ordination, where he received a master of divinity degree.

Bishop Talley also currently serves as vicar general and director of Priest Personnel and is a member of the Council of Priests and the Committee for Ongoing Formation. He serves on various committees for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, such as the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, Special Assembly Planning Committee, and the Secretariat of Child & Youth Protection Services.

As coadjutor bishop, Bishop Talley will assist Bishop Herzog, working in harmony with him in governance of the Alexandria Diocese. A coadjutor bishop has the right of succession, and so Bishop Talley will succeed Bishop Herzog at the time of his retirement. Bishop Herzog has served the Diocese of Alexandria as bishop since January 2005.

The Alexandria Diocese, consisting of 13 civil parishes, includes some 50 church parishes, 22 missions and more than 44,000 Catholics.

"We will sorely miss him in the Archdiocese of Atlanta, even as we thank him sincerely for sharing himself with us over these years, but we will gladly accompany him with our prayers and warmest best wishes as he starts his service to Bishop Herzog and to all of God's people in the Diocese of Alexandria. May the Lord watch over him and all those entrusted to his pastoral care," said Archbishop Gregory.

What is a Coadjutor Bishop?

- A **BISHOP** is the head of a diocese in the Catholic Church. There is only one bishop assigned to a diocese.

- Sometimes, when a diocese is so large, a single bishop may need the assistance of one or more **AUXILIARY BISHOPS**. An auxiliary bishop is one who assists the bishop of a diocese in the duties of running a diocese. However, the final authority rests with the main bishop.

- A **COADJUTOR BISHOP** is similar to the relationship between a retiring employee who's training his replacement. The coadjutor bishop has the same authority as the diocesan bishop, but isn't the diocesan bishop... yet. The diocesan bishop is still the final authority. However, upon the resignation or retirement of the diocesan bishop, the coadjutor bishop automatically becomes the new diocesan bishop: no need to wait around for the usually protracted process of finding a suitable replacement.



op in the Atlanta Archdiocese when he was ordained on April 2, 2013. His episcopal motto is "He will give you a new heart."

When he was director of vocations, the archdiocese initiated a cross-cultural immersion program for seminarians where they spent time living in El Paso, Texas, and in Juarez, Mexico, to learn Spanish and be more knowledgeable about Hispanic culture and more skilled at ministering in a variety of communities.

One of his roles in the archdiocese is as chaplain to the Disabilities Ministry. His experience ministering among people with disabilities, which began at his first parish assignment, is key to

his spiritual life, he said.

"All they can do is ask the Lord for help. That simplicity and humility is where I think the church should be—humble before God," he said in an interview in 2013.

Bishop Talley was raised as a Southern Baptist but has said he left the church as a teenager over the issue of racial segregation. At Auburn University he met Catholics and read the writings of Thomas Merton, which led him to become Catholic. He was 24 when he joined the church at St. Mary Church in Opelika, Ala.

Family members remain faithful Baptists, including a brother who is a deacon. That

A Special Edition of the Church Today dedicated to Bishop David Talley, will be published Nov. 21

If you or your organization would like to purchase a color welcome/congratulatory ad in this special edition, please call Joan Ferguson at 318-445-6424, ext 264. Deadline for ads is Thursday, Nov. 10

Election results could put Hyde Amendment in jeopardy

Hyde Amendment bans federal government from funding abortion through Medicaid

By Mark Pattison
Catholic News Service

(CNS) -- Most people who keep an eye on life issues know the shorthand about the Hyde Amendment -- that it bars the federal government from funding abortions through Medicaid.

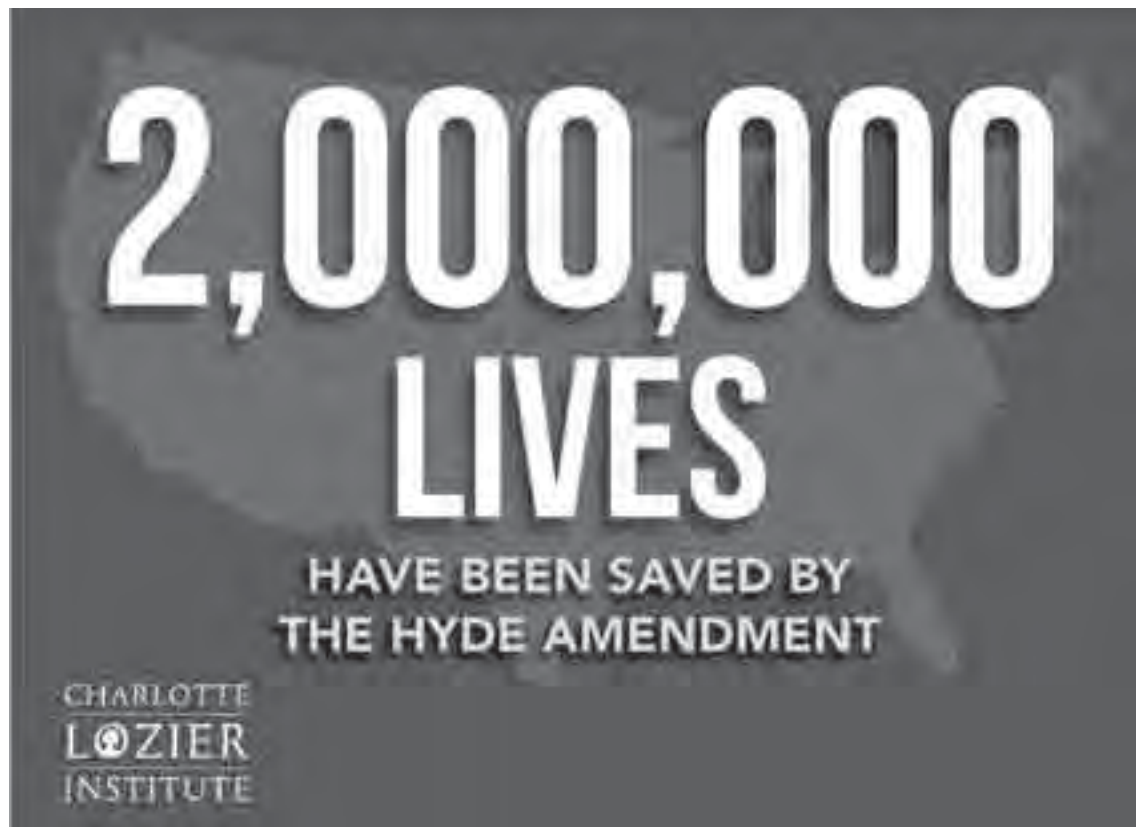
But the amendment does more than that -- although not everything pro-lifers may wish it could do -- and with the amendment's 40th anniversary Sept. 30 just passed, it may do well to remember how it all came about.

It was in 1973 that the Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton cases were decided by the Supreme Court, which ruled that women could obtain abortions virtually on demand. From that point, politicians and citizens opposed to abortion in both parties were looking for ways to overturn the decision, or at least place restrictions on abortion.

It was a time that "we didn't know which part would claim to be the party of life," said Michael New, a visiting professor of education at Ave Maria University, during a Sept. 29 anniversary observance in Washington sponsored by the March for Life organization.

The bipartisan nature of the Hyde Amendment is reflected in its origin.

According to Bart Stupak, who represented Michigan's Upper Peninsula for 18 years as a



THE HYDE AMENDMENT, which bars the federal government from funding abortions through Medicaid and which was passed 40 years ago on the back of a bipartisan consensus, was seen as the first significant legislative victory for the pro-life movement, but it has an uncertain future.

Democrat in the House of Representatives, the amendment was developed by James Oberstar, a freshman Democrat from Minnesota. But because Oberstar was serving on what is now known as the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, he didn't have a path to shepherd the bill.

However, another House freshman, Henry Hyde, a Re-

publican representing Chicago's northwest suburbs, was a member of the House Judiciary Committee, and could see the amendment through to passage. Hyde and Oberstar, Stupak told Catholic News Service in an Oct. 5 telephone interview, were then co-chairs of the House Pro-Life Caucus.

Because of the huge Demo-

cratic gains in the House resulting from public disgust over Republican Richard Nixon's resignation as president two years previously, Democratic votes were needed to ensure passage. Stupak said Oberstar got Democrats who sat on the Judiciary Committee to vote for the amendment.

The rider passed Sept. 30, 1976, on a 207-167 vote. It was

seen as the first significant victory for the pro-life movement. Not only did it bar the use of federal Medicaid funds to pay for abortions, it also banned the use of federal funds to pay for the abortions of women serving in the military outside the United States. In 1980, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the Hyde Amendment as constitutional.

Today, while abortion opponents still reject the notion that abortion on demand is settled law, the Hyde Amendment itself is not settled law. As a rider to congressional budget appropriation measures, it is subject to renewal with each new federal budget.

"It's been contentious all the way through those 24 years I've been around Washington," said Stupak, who joined a Washington law firm after leaving Congress in 2011. He is still active with the Washington-based Democrats for Life, and plans to write a book about the history of abortion legislation in Congress.

In 1993, pro-lifers came up a few votes short to renew the Hyde Amendment, Stupak told CNS. Planned Parenthood of Michigan sued to release federal funds for abortion. The court ruled that, absent legislative guidance one way or the other, a federal agency's policy is equivalent to law, so this permitted the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to release Medicaid funds to pay for abortions.



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Presidential election Continued from pg. 2

as Clinton's abortion stance.

She also called on people to forgive Trump, emphasizing that it is still the Year of Mercy and that he has apologized for his statements.

Morana emphasized that she was speaking only as a Catholic woman in leadership and was not representing the Silent No More Campaign.

Angela Flood, another member of Trump's Catholic advisory board, told CNS in an Oct. 11 email: "I don't condone or defend Donald Trump's past taped statements that were released recently, but I accept his apology."

Flood, a former communications director for the Archdiocese of Washington who is currently working for a consulting firm in Virginia, said she hoped members of Catholic Democrats were similarly outraged by leaked emails from the Clinton campaign that she described as *"seething with disdain for us and our beliefs."* They should all be ashamed. I don't know how Catholic Democrats can condone such contempt for our faith."

Others also said they felt they had no other option but to stick with Trump.

"I think his comments are utterly disgusting, but I have no other choice than to vote for him," said Gail Buckley, who attended a meeting of the Catholic Leadership Conference in Denver



in early October, where Trump sent a letter to Catholics gathered there saying: *"I will be there for you. I will stand with you. I will fight for you" on pro-life and other issues.*

Buckley, who is president of the leadership conference as well as president and founder of Catholic Scripture Study International, said she asked Clinton to also address the group, but her campaign declined the invitation. Buckley said she does not trust Clinton and "would never support a candidate who promotes abortion and same-sex marriage and threatens my religious liberty."

Joseph Cella, founder of the National Catholic Prayer Breakfast, who serves as a liaison between a Catholic advisory group and the Trump/Pence ticket, said he found what Trump said "repulsive and undignified and cannot

be condoned or defended," but he also said that the Republicans were the only candidates who would "defend the right to life" as well as religious freedom.

In the debate, which was sprinkled with assaults from both sides, Trump said: *"I am looking to appoint judges very much in the mold of Justice Scalia,"* when the candidates were asked about their plans for nominating a Supreme Court justice to replace the conservative Catholic Justice Antonin Scalia, who died in February. It is a task that the next president will have to undertake and one that is high in the mind of many voters.

Clinton answered: *"I want a Supreme Court that will stick with Roe v. Wade and a woman's right to choose and I want a Supreme Court that will stick with marriage equality."*

Louisiana State Proposed Amendments

(Information provided by PAR -- www.parlouisiana.org)

Proposed Amendment No. 1

"Do you support an amendment to provide that the manner of appointment for the registrar of voters in each parish is as provided by law and to require the qualifications of the registrar to be provided by law?"

Translation: A vote for would establish new qualifications standards for registrars and more public disclosure in their hiring process.

Proposed Amendment No. 2

"Do you support an amendment to authorize the postsecondary education management boards to establish the tuition and mandatory fee amounts charged by institutions under their supervision and management, without legislative approval?"

Translation: A vote for would allow higher education boards to set tuition rates and fee amounts without legislative approval.

Proposed Amendment No. 3

"Do you support an amendment to eliminate the deductibility of federal income taxes paid in computing state corporate income taxes?"

Translation: A vote for would eliminate the deduction for federal income taxes paid by corporations when calculating state income taxes while triggering a flat corporate tax rate of 6.5 percent.

Proposed Amendment No. 4

"Do you support an amendment to authorize an exemption from ad valorem property tax for the total assessed value of the homestead of an unmarried surviving spouse of a person who died while on active duty as a member of the armed forces of the United States or the Louisiana National Guard, or while performing their duties as a state police, law enforcement, or fire protection officer?"

Translation: A vote for would give surviving spouses of members of law enforcement, military and fire fighters who died while on duty a full property tax exemption on their home.

Proposed Amendment No. 5

"Do you support an amendment to establish the Revenue Stabilization Trust Fund for the deposit of recurring mineral and corporate tax revenues, to restrict the use of the fund to 10 percent of the balance when the balance reaches \$5 billion, to restrict the use of the fund to construction projects and transportation infrastructure, and to allocate recurring mineral revenues to the payment of state employee retirement debt?"

Translation: A vote for would create a fund to receive a portion of revenues from corporate and mineral taxes and to spend the money on infrastructure and pension liabilities rather than all of that revenue flowing into the state general fund.

Proposed Amendment No. 6

"Do you support an amendment to authorize the use of up to five percent of current year appropriations or allocations from statutorily or certain constitutionally created funds or up to one percent of the current year's balances in certain constitutionally created funds to eliminate a projected deficit in the next fiscal year if the official forecast for the next fiscal year is less than the official forecast for the current fiscal year or if the official forecast has been reduced by at least one percent from the most recently adopted estimate for the ensuing fiscal year, and to exempt certain funds and mandates from being used to eliminate a projected deficit?"

Translation: A vote for would provide legislators a new way to tap into constitutionally protected funds during revenue downturns and also extends protection to five existing funds.

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By now you have all heard the news of the appointment of a coadjutor bishop to our diocese. We made the announcement last month.

How fortunate we are to have Bishop David Talley, an auxiliary bishop from the Diocese of Atlanta join our diocese! I look forward to working with him.

A Mass of Welcoming will be held Nov. 7. Unfortunately, because of limited seating at the Cathedral, the event is closed to the public. However, I understand that Bishop Talley is a "people person," and I know that he is anxious to get into the parishes and schools and meet the people. I know that you will make him feel as welcome as you made me feel when I first came to the diocese. Welcome Bishop Talley!



ONE IN THE LORD

Most Rev. Ronald P. Herzog
Bishop of the Diocese of Alexandria

For those who may not be familiar with the term "coadjutor bishop" think of it as him being my "replacement in training." While I continue to serve the diocese these last six months before my retirement, Bishop Talley will be here to assist me and serve in the many events and functions required of a bishop. I certainly welcome his service in this di-

cese. Again, welcome Bishop Talley!

The annual Bishop's Golf Tournament was held last week (Oct. 10) and I am so proud and appreciative of the many people who made this popular event possible. From Sandi Tarver and Father Louis Sklar, who coordinated the event, to the sponsors and golfers who participated in

the event. All proceeds from this event go toward the education of our seminarians. I am happy to report that more than \$30,000 was raised for seminarian education. Thank you!

On a final note, let me remind you about October being the month of the Holy Rosary. Throughout our faith history, the power of the Holy Rosary has been evident. The Battle of Lepanto in 1571, when a small coalition of European Catholic maritime states arranged by Pope Pius V, decisively defeated the fleet of the Ottoman Empire near Greece, was important for several reasons.

But one of the most important reasons, was that it is the first time the Catholic Church credited the victory of a battle to the Virgin Mary, whose intercession

with God they had implored for victory through the use of the Rosary!

Pope Pius V instituted a new Catholic feast day of Our Lady of Victory to commemorate the battle, which is now celebrated on Oct. 7 by the Catholic Church as the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary.

If only we all understood the power of the Rosary!

May I remind you that during the month of October, and every month for that matter, to pray the Rosary daily!

May you receive all the graces of the Rosary this month and always.

Sainthood is far more achievable than winning the lottery

You may remember that Powerball fever swept the nation earlier this year because the jackpot reached a whopping \$1.6 billion! Optimistic winner-wannabes stood in line for hours to buy a ticket as the amount kept getting bigger and bigger.

The one fact everyone ignored was that the likelihood of winning was incredibly small (though I guess that didn't matter to the three people who wound up splitting the prize).

CBS News reported that you have a higher chance of getting struck by lightning than winning the Powerball. Then, they added another statistic: you have a higher chance at "achieving sainthood" than winning the Powerball billion.

It's likely that CBS meant being canonized a saint, like we saw with Mother Teresa recently. But sainthood in general is far more achievable than winning the lottery because it's not a game of luck; there's actually choice involved, along with a good helping of God's grace.

As All Saints Day approaches, it's a good time to remember what we Catholics believe about the afterlife: namely, that people who've died and made it to heaven are considered saints. All of them, not just the ones who are publicly canonized. That means your mom, dad, grandma or grandpa could be a saint right now and praying for you to join them some day.



Guest Editorial

by Toni Rossi, Director of Communications
The Christophers

While TV and movies have often led us to believe that people become angels when they die, that's more of an entertaining storytelling device than actual theology. Angels are actually spiritual beings directly created by God. Sainthood, on the other hand, is a state toward which everyone can strive.

In a broad sense, that road to sainthood comes down to the way Jesus sums up the law of God in Mark 12:28-31: "One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that [Jesus] answered them well, he asked Him, 'Which commandment is the first of all?' Jesus answered, 'The first is,

Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength. The second is this, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.'"

In other words, both faith and action are needed. They may not always be easy to live out, but nurturing a relationship with God through prayer and other means can help us along the way. And if we keep our eyes open, the grace we need will likely be there to help us, too.

No canonized saint was ever perfect, and we'll never be per-

fect either. But when saints fall, they realize their mistake, atone for their sin, and move forward in the right direction.

For instance, there's St. Paul, who was responsible for the murder of many early Christians before his dramatic conversion experience on the road to Damascus. And St. Augustine of Hippo led a life of arrogant pride and immorality before offering

his mind, heart and soul to God, thanks in part to the Letters of St. Paul and the prayers of his mother, St. Monica.

So if you plan on standing in line to buy a lottery ticket at some point, feel free. But also remember to turn your mind to the more achievable goal of sainthood.

As the old saying goes, "The pay may not be much, but the retirement plan is out of this world."

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Saints of Today: Modern day saints canonized this century



Match the Saints listed below with the list of things each is most remembered for.

Answers on page 18.

1. ____ St. Mother Teresa

2. ____ St. Kateri Tekakwitha

3. ____ St. Pope John Paul II

4. ____ St. Pope John XXIII

5. ____ St. Padre Pio

6. ____ St. Maximillian Kolbe

7. ____ St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

8. ____ St. John Neumann

9. ____ St. John Martin Moya

10. ____ St. Faustina Kowalski

11. ____ St. Katherine Drexel

12. ____ St. Josemaría Escrivá

13. ____ 120 Chinese Martyrs

14. ____ 25 Mexican Martyrs

15. ____ St. Juan Diego

16. ____ St. Andre Bessette

17. ____ St. Marianne Cope

18. ____ St. Damien of Molokai

19. ____ St. Junipero Serra

20. ____ Sts. Louis & Zelle Martin



A. She was the first native American to be canonized a saint.

B. A pope for more than 30 years, this saint is know for his devotion to and promotion of the Divine Mercy.

C. A teacher herself, she is the patron saint of teachers.

D. This Franciscan missionary, converted thousands in N. California, around what is now San Francisco.

E. The first U.S. bishop to become a saint and the founder of the first diocesan Catholic school system.

F. She spent her life helping the 'poorest of the poor.' Also founded the Missionaries of Charity.

G. This sister from Poland received visits from Jesus, who asked her to promote his Divine Mercy.

H. After having a vision of Our Lady of Guadalupe, her image was placed on his tilma.

I. This group of martyrs were mostly priests, who died during the Cistero War.

J. This first American-born saint, founded Xavier University in New Orleans.

K. This husand and wife duo were the parents of St. Terese of Liseiuex.

L. This pope initiated Vatican II and spearheaded its reforms.

M. A priest saint from the island of Hawaii, who contracted leprosy while working in the colony in the 1870s.

N. This saint gave up his life to save another while a captive in a WWII concentration camp, Auschwitz.

O. A sister saint from the island of Hawaii, who worked with Father (St.) Damien in the leoprosy colonies.

P. This Canadian saint, who cured the sick, attributed his healing power to his strong devotion to St. Joseph.

Q. This priest is the founder of the Sisters of Divine Providence.

R. This large group of martyrs died between 1648 and 1930; most during the Boxer Rebellion in 1900.

S. This saint was most famous for exhibiting the stigmata most of his life.

T. Spanish priest who founded Opus Dei, and taught that everyone is called to holiness.

(Answers on page 18)

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Richard J. Arsenault, Alexandria

Wearing cassocks is a sign of Christ’s love for the world

By Jeannie Petrus
CT editor

When Father Louis Sklar, director of Vocations sent me this picture of four of our seminarians at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio, my first thought was that they looked like young monsignors.

On Sept. 25, the cassocks of four of our seminarians at the PCJ were blessed during a special Mass and the young men allowed to wear them for the first time since entering the seminary. They are called “house cassocks” and are worn only for formal events and liturgical celebrations.

On most Catholic seminary campuses, the accepted attire for seminarians attending formal events or liturgical celebrations is a white shirt and black pants.

In year two, however, on what some call “Cassock Day,” seminarians receive the “house cassock” for the first time during a special Mass at the seminary.

Each seminary has thier own color of dress. At the Pontifical College Josephinum, the cassock is black, with crimson trim, but-



ALEXANDRIA SEMINARIANS at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio, received their “house cassocks” Sept 25 during a special Mass. Second-year seminarians receive these cassocks as a symbol of “leaving their family” for the sake of guiding and protecting God’s children. Pictured are (left to right) Chase Masters, Matthew Bonner, Derrick Rials, and Luke LaFleur.

tons, and satin sash. At the North American Pontifical College in Rome, the cassock is blue with crimson trim.

The cassock is one of the most recognizable symbols of the Catholic priesthood and is the ordinary garb of priests in the Latin

rite. It remains an option to this day and many priests continue to wear the cassock as a visible sign because they believe it still

speaks to the heart of the people.

The 33 buttons represent the 33 years of Christ’s Earthly life. The five buttons on either side of the sleeve symbolize the five wounds of Christ.

On a blog by Matthew Richardson, who was writing about the seminarians, he commented:

“The cassock is not just a cloth priests, deacons, or seminarians wear “just for the heck of it”, but it is a sign. It is a sign of Christ’s love for the world. It is a sign of “esteemed soldiers” who try to lead us all to victory.

“Gustave Flaubert, a famous French author, once said, “The true poet for me is a priest. As soon as he dons the cassock, he must leave his family.

“The priest, or seminarian, must leave his family for the sake of protecting and leading God’s children. He symbolically accepts this task by putting on the cassock. He is now an “esteemed soldier” for Christ and His Church.”

-- www.seminarianparents.com

Think about that the next time you see a seminarian or a priest wearing a cassock.



YARD OF THE MONTH. The Vidalia Garden Club chose Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Vidalia as “The Yard of the Month” for September. Thanks to parishioners Tab Dore’, Charlotte Watson and Cathy Metcalf, who maintain certain areas of the grounds, and to paid employees, Margaret Hawkes and Martina McGehee, who mow and care for all the remaining beds on the grounds. The front canopy of the church was also recently completed. Its construction funds were provided to the Altar Society and Men’s Club for use on their 2016 projects by parishioners Lloyd and Karen Songe.

Seminarian Burses

September Donations

Father Peter Kuligowski	\$25.00
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Knights of Columbus Council 9217	\$25.00
Father Adrian L. Molenschot Burse	
Mrs. Joy Broussard.....	\$50.00
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Monsignor Steve Testa Burse	
Bayou Chateau Nursing Center.....	\$100.00
Floyd J. LaCour, Sr. Burse	
Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Schupbach.....	\$200.00
Monsignor Steve J. Testa Burse	
Mr. and Mrs. Robert O. Miller.....	\$200.00
Father Daniel Corkery Burse	
Total.....	\$750.00

St. Rita recognizes its volunteers for service

Father Craig Scott, pastor of St. Rita parish, recognized Mrs. Jackie Haskins as Volunteer of the Year at St. Rita Church Sept. 25 during the Volunteer Luncheon. Mrs. Haskins serves in many ministries such as lector, sacristan, Bereavement Committee, communion to the shut ins and she is the longest serving member of the choir. Thank you for all of your many years of service! Father Scott also recognized Sister Nell Murray MSC and Mrs. Melva Villard for 25 years of service (employment) at St Rita Church on Sept. 25 at the 11 a.m. Mass. Sister Nell is the director of religious education and Melva is the director of music.



Judges, attorneys attend annual Red Mass

The annual Red Mass was celebrated Sept. 23 at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral by Bishop Ronald Herzog. Father Bruce Miller was the homilist. Nine judges and numerous attorneys and other legal professionals attended the special Mass. The name is derived from the red vestments worn by the priests at the Mass, symbolizing the tongues of fire that represent the Holy Spirit. In ancient days, too, the robes of judges were red. The Mass invokes a blessing and guidance in the administration of justice.



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St. Francis Xavier Cathedral

The annual White Mass will be celebrated Saturday, Oct. 22 at 9:30 a.m. at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral in Alexandria. The White Mass is celebrated annually in the Catholic Church for all healthcare professionals. The Mass requests guidance from the Holy Spirit for all who provide comfort and healing to the sick. Medical professionals are asked to wear their scrubs or other medical clothing to the Mass. The public is also invited.

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ST. JOSEPH STUDENTS ATTEND RED MASS. Fifteen students from St. Joseph School in Plaquemine attended the Red Mass held Sept. 23 at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral.



KRAMER FUNERAL HOME TEAM -- FIRST PLACE GROSS. Members of the team are Corky Yates, Charlie Weems, Gentry Mangum, and Frank Brame.



WESTERN AUTO TEAM -- FIRST PLACE PEORIA. Members of the team are Craig Pujol, Scott Pousson, Frank Giglio, and Lawrence Mayeaux.



SACRED HEART OF PINEVILLE -- 2ND PLACE GROSS. Members of the team are Jimmy Slater, Billy Brooks, Dennis Vicknair, and Ronnie Kaiser.



CHRISTUS ST. FRANCES #1 TEAM -- 2ND PLACE PEORIA. Members of the team are Andy Anderson, Alex Castaneda, Ethan Garrett, and Tom Slayter.



FIRST FEDERAL TEAM -- 3RD PLACE GROSS. Members of the team are Justin Lachney, Sam Spurgeon, Nolan Spillers, and Justin Lowe.



GARY DeBLIEUX TEAM-- 3RD PLACE PEORIA. Members of the team are Jeffrey Thomas, Gerard F. Thomas III, Robert Thomas, and Gary Steven DeBlieux.

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All photos by
Elizabeth Shaw

Pictures can be viewed in a Photo Gallery
at www.diocesealex.org



Invitational Bishop's

GOLF TOURNAMENT



BISHOP'S GOLF TOURNAMENT. It was a beautiful day for golfers who participated in the annual Bishop's Golf Tournament Oct. 10 at Oakwing. Twenty-seven teams participated to raise money for the 12 seminarians who are currently in four seminaries this fall. Pictured above are seven of the seminarians and Father Louis Sklar, director of Vocations.



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HOLY GHOST CATHOLIC CHURCH 5K RUN/1-MILE WALK WINNERS. Holy Ghost Catholic Church in Marksville held a 5K Run/1-mile Walk on Saturday, Oct. 1. Jamie Ducote won first place in the 5K run and Father Abraham Varghese, pastor of Holy Ghost, won first place in the 1-mile walk. Pictured are (at right) the winners and the volunteers; (bottom left) the volunteers; and (bottom right) the winners.



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ST. FRANCES CABRINI CELEBRATES FEAST OF ST. THERESE OF LISIEUX. The students from St. Frances Cabrini School celebrated the Feast of St. Therese Lisieux (Little Flower) Sept. 30 by the children bringing roses to place before a statue of St. Therese. (Bottom left) Kadence and Kinsley Swart carry their roses into church.



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SACRED HEART SCHOOL held its annual Living Rosary, honoring Our Blessed Mother on October 7. It was under the direction of Mrs. Amanda Lacombe, religion teacher. Participants reciting the prayers of the Rosary, stood on stones reflecting the beads of the Rosary that go around the grotto.



SELF DEFENSE SEMINAR. Joe Thompson and Donald Buckley, the Self Defense Ministry from Sacred Heart in Pin-
eville, were asked to present a one-day seminar to Sigma Alpha Iota from Northwestern State University. The seminar
offered some basic knowledge of what to look out for and some things that might help in defending themselves in a
bad situation.



ST. ANTHONY SCHOOL STUDENTS
(Bunkie) in Mrs. Susan Pickett's second
grade class take turns preparing the
ground for a vegetable garden at the
school. With the help of the Food Bank
of Central Louisiana's Good Food Proj-
ect, the vegetables grown in the garden
will be used by the school.



ST. MARY'S 7TH GRADE QUALIFIERS FOR DUKE TIP. 7th grade Duke Tip is an opportunity for students who have a
qualifying score on a standardized test to take the ACT or SAT early. Duke Tip offers these students many opportunities
and programs to challenge them and further their education. To qualify for Duke Tip, the student must score in the 95th
percentile in one of the following categories: English, Reading, Math and Science. Opportunities like this are the reason
we encourage all students to try hard on standardized testing. Through dedication and hard work, you can open many
doors for your future.



HOLY SAVIOR MENARD has a new electronic message board, thanks to the
proceeds from last year's car raffle. The new message board will announce
athletic schedules and dates, academic calendar dates, and other events.

Special thanks to:



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ST. ANTHONY SCHOOL CHEERLEADERS for the 2016-17 school year



ST. ANTHONY SCHOOL VS. SACRED HEART SCHOOL. St. Anthony Junior High School of Bunkie brings home a win, 40-8, against Sacred Heart Junior High in Moreauville on Sept. 14. Bunkie Head Coach is Barry Lacombe and assistant coaches are Will Bain, Jeff Dodds and Scotty Thomason.



ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL GOLF TOURNAMENT WINNERS. St. Joseph School hosted its 15th Annual Lynn St. Romain Golf Tournament at Gator Grounds in Bunkie on Saturday, Sept. 10. This was a very successful event with 15 (four-man) scramble teams playing. The winners of the championship flight were (pictured above) Davis Steele, Dexter Steele, Lance Reed, and Dustin Veneable. The 1st Place Flight Winners (pictured below)

Proceeds from the tournament will benefit St. Joseph School athletics.



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Knights of Columbus host pajama party for St. Mary's residents

Volunteers from Knights of Columbus Councils 1134 and 3200 teamed up Sept. 21 to host a pajama party and BBQ dinner for the residents of St. Mary's Residential Training Center. Participants were able to put on their favorite PJs and dance the evening away.

Pictured at right are residents doing the "bunny hop." Pictured at far right is Father Dan Cook and some of the KCs.



HOLY CROSS WELCOMES FOCUS MINISTRY!

The NSU FOCUS Missionary Team have arrived at Holy Cross in Natchitoches and have begun a peer ministry of evangelization with the students at Northwestern State University. Thanks to the support from Holy Cross parishioners who renovated the adjacent two-story home, where the evangelization team members are housed. Pictured are NSU FOCUS Missionary Team with Fr. Marc Noel, pastor -- Monica Shulz, Abby Harmann and Sergio Espinoza.



ST. JULIANA SCHOLARSHIPS. Mr. Levator Boyd of the Epsilon Psi Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., presents Tarus Tolbert and Allen K. Lee II with a \$1,000 scholarship, after Mass at St. Juliana Church in Alexandria. Both students are freshmen at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. Congratulations!

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OLPS CELEBRATES THE FEAST OF THE HOLY ROSARY. Father Dan O'Connor, pastor of Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church, leads the Rosary procession of OLPS students Oct. 4.



Students in grades 2-6 processed in the streets (while praying the Rosary) to the Church, where Benediction and Marian prayers were prayed.



ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS. Thanks to the community and parents of students, St. Joseph School in Plaquemine was able to put a new roof on the gym, add two new water fountains in the gym, and do some dirt work on the baseball field. Special thanks to Kyle Link, Paul DeSoto and Doni Gauthier who are all parents of SJS students.

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OUTDOOR ILLUMINATED ROSARY

Last day this season
is Thursday,
Oct. 27

The final outdoor illuminated rosary for the summer/fall will be held Thursday, Oct. 27 at 7:15 p.m. at St. Joseph Church in Marksville.

The weekly outdoor rosary has been prayed every Thursday evening since May and will continue each Thursday until Oct. 27. In case of inclement weather, the Rosary will be prayed in the church.

Is Halloween a satanic holiday or a fun night of trick-or-treating?

By Jeannie Petrus
CT editor

As a kid, I can remember the thrill of trick or treating in the neighborhood near Our Lady of Prompt Succor School, for a night of Halloween fun.

Almost every house on the block had their lights on, waiting for the neighborhood kids to knock on their door and shout “trick or treat!”

The highlight of the night was always the last stop of the night. Dad would pile all of us seven kids into the station wagon and drive us to Bishop Greco’s house on Jackson Street for the best treats ever!

It was Bishop Greco who shook our hands and personally placed an ENTIRE bag of Hershey minatures into our treat bag!

Because of this, I always equated Halloween with that special memory of Bishop Greco. I figured if Bishop Greco was a part of this fun annual tradition, it must be a good thing!

Still, every year a debate rages among Catholics and other Christians: Is Halloween a satanic holiday or merely a secular one? Should Catholic children dress up like ghosts and goblins? Is it good for children to be scared?

Lost in the debate is the history of Halloween, which, is actually a Christian celebration that’s almost 1,300 year old.

Christian Origins of Halloween

“Halloween” is a name that means nothing by itself. It is a contraction of “All Hallows Eve,” and it designates the vigil of All Hallows Day, more commonly known today as All Saints Day. (“Hallow,” as a noun, is an old English word for saint. As a verb, it means to make something holy or to honor it as holy.)

All Saints Day, November 1, is a Holy Day of Obligation, and both the feast and the vigil have



HALLOWEEN TRICK OR TREATING is actually a 1,300-year-old Christian tradition.

been celebrated since the early 8th century, when they were instituted by Pope Gregory III in Rome. (A century later, they were extended to the Church at large by Pope Gregory IV.)

Pagan Origins of Halloween

Despite concerns among some Catholics and other Christians in recent years about the “pagan origins” of Halloween, there really are none. The first attempts to show some connection between the vigil of All Saints and the Celtic harvest festival of Samhain came over a thousand years after All Saints Day became a universal feast, and there’s no evidence whatsoever that Gregory III or Gregory IV was even aware of Samhain.

In Celtic peasant culture, however, elements of the harvest festival survived, even among Christians, just as the Christmas tree owes its origins to pre-Christian Germanic traditions without being a pagan ritual.

Combining Celtic & Christian

The Celtic elements included lighting bonfires, carving turnips (and, in America, pumpkins), and going from house to house, collecting treats, as carolers do at Christmas. But the “occult” aspects of Halloween—ghosts and demons—actually have their roots in Catholic belief. Christians believed that, at certain times of the year (Christmas is another), the veil separating earth from Purgatory, Heaven, and

even Hell becomes more thin, and the souls in Purgatory (ghosts) and demons can be more readily seen. Thus the tradition of Halloween costumes owes as much, if not more, to Christian belief as to Celtic tradition.

1st Anti-Catholic attack

The current attacks on Halloween aren’t the first. In post-Reformation England, All Saints Day and its vigil were suppressed, and the Celtic peasant customs associated with Halloween were outlawed. Christmas and the traditions surrounding it were similarly attacked, and the Puritan Parliament banned Christmas outright in 1647. In the Northeastern United States, Puritans outlawed the celebration of both

Christmas and Halloween, which were revived largely by German Catholic (in the case of Christmas) and Irish Catholic (in the case of Halloween) immigrants in the 19th century.

Commercialization

Continued opposition to Halloween was largely an expression of anti-Catholicism (as well as anti-Irish prejudice). But by the early 20th century, Halloween, like Christmas, was becoming highly commercialized. Pre-made costumes, decorations, and special candy all became widely available, and the Christian origins of the holiday were downplayed.

The rise of horror films, and especially the slasher films of the late 70’s and 80’s, contributed to Halloween’s bad reputation, as did the claims of putative Satanists and Wiccans, who created a mythology in which Halloween had been their festival, co-opted later by Christians.

2nd Anti-Catholic attack

By the late 1990’s, many Catholic parents, unaware of the anti-Catholic origins of the attack on Halloween, had begun to question Halloween as well. Their concerns were elevated when, in 2009, an article from a British tabloid sparked an urban legend that Pope Benedict XVI had warned Catholics against celebrating Halloween. Even though there was no truth to the claim (see Did Pope Benedict XVI Condemn Halloween? for details), alternative celebrations became popular and remain so to this day.

Source: catholicism.about.com

Answers to Saints Quiz

- | | | |
|-------|--------|--------|
| 1. F. | 8. E. | 14. I. |
| 2. A. | 9. Q. | 15. H. |
| 3. B. | 10. G. | 16. P. |
| 4. L. | 11. J. | 17. O. |
| 5. S. | 12. T. | 18. M. |
| 6. N. | 13. R. | 19. D. |
| 7. C. | | 20. K. |

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October 21
Taste of Creole Night
St. Juliana Church, Alexandria

St. Juliana will host the 12th annual Taste of Creole Night on Friday, Oct. 21 at 6 p.m. at the Church Activity Bldg. (900 Daspit St, Alexandria). Join us for a night of Creole food tasting, entertainment, and fun for the whole family. Tickets are \$15 per person.

October 22
Cabrini Fest, Alexandria

This day of fun at St. Frances Cabrini School is from 10 a.m. – 8 p.m. Join us for a day of activities like rock wall climbing, zip line, obstacle course, bingo, carnival games, lots of good food, music, entertainment throughout the day, a talent show and more. Jambalaya dinner begins at 5 p.m. Cenla Brass Band at 6 p.m. LSU game will be playing on a big screen TV.

October 26
Trunk or Treat
Sacred Heart Church, Pineville

Sacred Heart's Annual Trunk or Treat will be held Wednesday, Oct. 26 in the Activities Building parking lot. We are asking for volunteers to decorate their trunk and donate some candy and time for the evening! Trunks need to be set up in time for our children to be Trunk or Treating by 5:15 p.m. Prizes will be awarded for best costume in different age categories. If you would like to participate as a volunteer or make a donation please contact Melanie Dupre' Delahoussaye at 318-613-6959 or cajunladee65@att.net.

October 27-29
Zoo Boo, Alexandria

Join in the fun at Central Louisiana's biggest Halloween extravaganza Oct. 27-29 from 6 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. at the Al-

exandria Zoo (3016 Masonic Drive). This family-friendly Halloween experience is three nights of Spooktacular, scare-free fun! Enjoy Halloween activities for kids at the Festival Plaza, photo ops, and sweets and treats along the trick or treat trail through the Alexandria Zoo. Admission is \$7 per person -- cash only.

October 28
Tales Along the Bayou-Ghost Stories
at Kent House, Alexandria

Hosted by the Rapides Parish Library, this free family event will feature stories for the little kids at 6 p.m. then, after a short intermission, the scary stories for older kids will start at 7 p.m. While we do not require small children to leave for the second part we do encourage it due to the scary nature of some of the stories. Candy, snacks and concessions will be available for sale or you can bring your own picnic dinner. Join us for a great evening of Ghost Story Tales Along the Bayou!

October 29
St. Rita Mini Fall Festival, Alexandria

What better way to celebrate Halloween early than attending the St. Rita Mini Fall Festival Oct. 29 from 4 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. at the church in Alexandria. Our famous "St. Rita" Chicken & Sausage Gumbo will be served beginning at 4 p.m.,-- \$6 a bowl. A costume contest for children will be held at 5 p.m. and the carnival and Bingo will be held from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.. Trunk or Treat will be sponsored by St. Rita Youth. Donations are being accepted for the Country Store and the Sweet Shop only. Call 445-7141 ext 214 for further information.

November 4-6
Louisiana Pecan Festival, Colfax

Join us in Colfax, La. for the 48th annual Louisiana Pecan Festival. The weekend starts Friday morning with the Blessing of the Crops at 7:30 a.m. Vendors open at

8 a.m., followed by a day of entertainment, local performances, and the Queen's Ball at 8 p.m. On Saturday, the vendors open at 8 a.m. followed by the Grand Louisiana Pecan Festival Parade at 10 a.m. Starting at noon, the carnival opens, and the day is full of fun, food, and entertainment. A street dance will be held at 5 p.m. and fireworks at 8:30 p.m. On Sunday, the fun continues until 6:30 p.m. Join us for a weekend of fun. No admission charge.

November 19-20
Cabrini Sanctuary Society Christmas Shoppe

The St. Frances Cabrini Sanctuary Society will host its annual Christmas Shoppe Saturday, Nov. 19 from 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 20 from 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. in the parish Activities Building. Complete your Thanksgiving menu from a great selection of homemade frozen casseroles and desserts, or choose some of your Christmas gifts from the large selection of arts and crafts.

On Sunday, lunch will be served from 10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Tickets for an \$800 BBQ pit are \$5 for 1 or \$10 for 3. The drawing will be held Nov. 20.



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Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children is definitely 'peculiar'

By John Mulderig
Catholic News Service

NEW YORK (CNS) -- Director Tim Burton is on his home turf with the gothic fantasy *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* (Fox).

While his adaptation of Ransom Riggs' 2011 novel is mildly entertaining, however, it's hobbled by an overly complicated premise and by the head-scratching implications of time travel.

Bridging the film's two settings, present-day Florida and the Britain of the 1940s, is kindly grandfather Abraham 'Abe' Portman (Terence Stamp). As a boy during World War II, Abe had been sent from his native Poland to a remote island off the coast of Wales where he had found a refuge in the institution of the title.

Though he has a frayed relationship with his son, Frank (Chris O'Dowd), Abe and his grandson, Jake (Asa Butterfield), are the best of friends, and Abe delights in regaling Jake with tales of the otherworldly goings-on he experienced at Miss Peregrine's (Eva Green) establishment. As he gets older, though, Jake becomes skeptical about Abe's yarns, to the detriment of their bond.

Following Abe's mysterious death, which seems to be linked to his past, Jake convinces Frank to take him to Wales where he hopes to learn the truth about grandpa's childhood.

Once there, Jake enters the "time loop" which allows Miss Peregrine and her charges -- all of them endowed with paranormal gifts -- to live the same day



MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN. Director Tim Burton's gothic fantasy *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* stars Eva Green as Miss Peregrine, Asa Butterfield as Jake and Ella Purnell as Ella. While this film is probably too scary for tots, Miss Peregrine is generally well suited for their older siblings, many of whom will likely appreciate its macabre elements. (CNS photo/Fox photo)

in the fall of 1943 over and over again. Each evening, we learn, they magically reverse time at precisely the moment a Luftwaffe bomb is about to obliterate their

Victorian mansion.

As Jake falls for Emma (Ella Purnell), a girl who can float through the air, and battles an eyeless villain named Barron

(Samuel L. Jackson), familiar Hollywood tropes about the value of being different from everyone else and substituting a self-selected family for an inadequate

MOVIE REVIEW

biological one are trotted out yet again. Jake discovers that he, too, is a "peculiar," and receives from Miss Peregrine and her kids the love and attention good-hearted but ineffectual Frank has always failed to deliver.

While too scary for tots -- one scene shows Barron and his evil cohorts feasting on gouged-out eyeballs -- "Miss Peregrine" is generally well suited for their older siblings, many of whom will likely appreciate its macabre elements. There's mayhem aplenty, but it's almost all bloodless. Accordingly, only the occasional touch of slightly vulgar language, together with a couple of lapses where the Second Commandment is concerned, will raise a red flag for parents.

The film contains much stylized violence with minimal gore, some disturbing images, at least one use of profanity, a milder oath and a few crass terms.

The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 -- parents strongly cautioned.

Deepwater

Continued from pg. 21

Hudson said. "I always thought it was an oil rig, so the oil would be pumped out. So when it caught fire..."

When Wahlberg was considering the project, his New Orleans friends cautioned him, if he did it, he must get it right.

He received his validation at the premiere when families of the victims approached him with "tears in their eyes, with tears of joy that finally their loved ones were honored and recognized in a way that they had hoped. That was special to me."



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Wahlberg, Hudson discuss deep well of New Orleans faith

By Christine Bordelon
Clarion Herald

A true story with real heroes is how the *Deepwater Horizon* movie now in local theaters is being billed.

On a press junket Sept. 20, the morning after the movie premiere at the Orpheum Theater in New Orleans, actors Kate Hudson and Mark Wahlberg shared thoughts on what they learned of Louisianans while portraying real-life rig survivors Mike and Felicia Williams affected by the 2010 oil rig explosion in the Gulf of Mexico, 41 miles off the Louisiana coast.

While the film could have been centered on the environmental aspect of one of the world's largest man-made disasters, director Peter Berg – like Wahlberg and Hudson – thought that the media had covered that angle, and adapted Matthew Michael Carnahan and Matthew Sand's screenplay for a film concentrating on the “human courage and human spirit to triumph over real adversity” of the people involved.

“Our film was to take a different approach to things that people didn't know,” Hudson said. “I didn't realize that so many people (11) died on that rig when I first read the script, and I think a lot of people felt the same way.”

“Everybody was affected, and everybody was affected in different ways,” Wahlberg said. “I realized that I was as informed as most people on the outside looking in. What I was exposed to by the media was the environmental disaster, and, when I realized a lot of people lost their lives, I was a bit surprised that there wasn't enough attention put on that. And, then, I wanted to be a part – to make that movie and tell their story and honor them.”



KATE HUDSON and MARK WAHLBERG star in *Deepwater Horizon*.

Befriending a hero

Production for the *Deepwater Horizon* film started in New Orleans in the summer of 2015. Current and former oil rig workers were hired to help “recreate the unique working culture of a world populated by roughnecks, roustabouts, engineers and corporate honchos.”

Survivors, families of those who died in the explosion, the U.S. Coast Guard and oil industry experts also were consulted. It took eight months just to build the *Deepwater Horizon* set to an 85-percent scale of the actual oil rig.

To prepare for his part,

Wahlberg said he spent time with Mike Williams, who was chief electronics technician on the rig, overseeing its computers and electrical systems, when it exploded.

“He's very capable of articulating the story in a way that puts you there,” Wahlberg said. “But, the thing I cherish most was the times I got to see a guy – who obviously has some serious post-traumatic stress – smile and laugh and feel relief, and also he knows the victim's families and how much they were hurting, and he's very proud that we can at least honor them in the way we did.”

Felicia Williams was gra-

cious to re-live her experiences to help Hudson play her in “*Deepwater Horizon*.”

“For Felicia, the greatest thing she said was, ‘Minutes felt like an eternity,’” Hudson said. “Sometimes you're working on projects, and you do have to reach the deep, dark dregs of your life and say, ‘OK, I have to pull this out.’ But for something like this, when you are a parent and you really love the people, that fear actually sits more on your sleeve than you think.”

“So when we were shooting those scenes with Pete (Berg), I could step in the shoes and relate to it – to what that must feel like when you are trying to protect your child from something that is happening, that you are not sure is happening, but all of a sudden it feels like your whole life is about to fall apart. I get chills thinking about that because, unfortunately, it happens way too often to families. It's that in a flash, your life could change completely. We are very resilient, but we're also mortal and fragile.”

Wahlberg, a Catholic, said the faith of the real-life people they channeled wasn't specifically articulated to him.

But, he added, “you know everything for me is faith-based. So if they didn't (speak it), I just assumed that they did anyway because that's the only way I could deal with it. Anything negative and anything positive in my life is based on my having faith and belief.”

Louisiana people resilient

Both actors said they've gained an appreciation for New Orleanians and the city by spending time here, mentioning how several hurricanes and the oil spill hit the area in the same decade.

“The people here, in a short



MARK WAHLBERG in *Deepwater Horizon*, now playing in theatres.

time, have been through quite a lot,” Wahlberg said. “And, to see that they still have a lot of hope, joy and faith is very inspiring.”

“And, New Orleans just feels like this amazing city just filled with so much culture and so much passion, and it's taken such a beating from natural disasters to man-caused disasters,” Hudson said. “The people – I've gotten to know so many over the years – are so resilient, but it makes sense historically. It's phenomenal. I think that's what makes the city so powerful. And, the energy here – after working here before Katrina and after Katrina – the energy seems to come back and the city is just trying to catch up. But the people just keep moving forward. It's kind of an amazing thing to witness over the years. I think New Orleans might be the most original American city, and, other than New York City, my favorite city in the states.”

Both Wahlberg and Hudson said they learned the hard work and danger that exists on an oil rig, and how everyone takes this for granted every time we use natural resources such as oil.

“We all use these resources; they kind of make the world go ‘round,’” Wahlberg said. “It is an extremely dangerous occupation. It was just fascinating to dive into that world and see that it is a kind of world on its own. The culture of rig life. It was an amazing experience.”

“I didn't know anything about it until I read the script,”

See DEEPWATER, pg. 20

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Oct. 16-18: St. Louis de Montfort Mission

Deacon Cody Miller from Lafayette will present a mission on the topic of St. Louis de Montfort's True Devotion to Mary. The mission will be held Oct. 16-18 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at St. Margaret Mary Chapel in Gorum. Deacon Miller will also deliver the homily at the following Masses, the weekend before the Mission.

- Saturday, Oct. 15, 4 p.m. Mass at St. Margaret Church in Boyce
- Sunday, Oct. 16, 9 a.m. Mass at St. Margaret Church in Boyce
- Sunday, Oct. 16, 11 a.m. Mass at St. Margaret Mary Chapel in Gorum

The event is free and open to the public.

Oct. 17: Steubenville South registration

Registration for the 2017 Steubenville South Conference in Alexandria opens online Oct. 17. Youth ministers are invited to go online to www.steubenvillesouth.com to start registering groups. The conference will be held June 23-25, 2017.

For more information, contact Gennie Ashey at 318-445-6424, ext 257.

Oct. 17: Talk on St. Mother Teresa

Father Taylor Reynolds will be giving a presentation to the life, mission, and canonization of Mother Teresa on Monday, Oct. 17 from 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. at St. Rita Church in Alexandria. He will be talking about her life and call, sharing some stories of when he worked with the Missionaries of Charity and then sharing the steps leading up to her canonization. He will also distribute medals and holy cards blessed by the pope at her canonization.

The event is free and open to the public.

Virtus Training Sessions

- Thursday, Oct. 20 -- 6 p.m., St. Joseph Catholic Center, Alexandria
- Thursday, Oct. 20 -- 6 p.m., Sacred Heart, Moreauville (Lacour Hall)

Every adult who works/volunteers with children/youth in the Diocese of Alexandria's churches/schools must attend the VIRTUS™ Protecting God's Children for sexual abuse awareness training. In addition to the 2-3 hour Virtus program, "ongoing-training" is also part of the training component.

To register, go to www.virtus.org. For more information, contact Pam Delrie, coordinator of Safe Environment, at 318-445-6424, ext 213.

DIOCESAN BRIEFS**Oct. 20: Night of Renewal with Kara Klein**

Join speaker and recording artist Kara Klein for a night of worship and testimony as she shares her experiences with radical trust in the mercy of God, and how through surrendering our lives more fully to Him, we can become the women God has destined us to be. Join us Thursday, Oct. 20 at 6 p.m. at St. Anthony of Padua Church in Natchitoches (911 Fifth Street).

Oct. 22: White Mass

All healthcare personnel in the diocese are invited to celebrate the White Mass with the Central Louisiana Physicians Guild of the Catholic Medical Association on Saturday, Oct. 22 at 9:30 a.m. at St. Frances Xavier Cathedral in Alexandria. The public is also invited to attend.

Oct. 22: St. Louis Anniversary Mass

St. Louis Church in Glenmora will celebrate its 100th anniversary on Saturday, Oct. 22 with a Mass at 10:30 a.m. The public is invited.

Oct. 27: Last night for Outdoor Rosary

The final outdoor illuminated rosary for the summer/fall will be held Thursday, Oct. 27 at 7:15 p.m. at St. Joseph Church in Marksville. The weekly outdoor rosary has been prayed every Thursday evening since May and will continue each Thursday until Oct. 27. In case of inclement weather, the Rosary will be prayed in the church.

Jan. 25-29: Pro-Life Pilgrimage

Magnificat Travel is offering a Women's Pilgrimage to Washington D.C. Jan. 25-29 for the National March for

Life. Trip will include visits to the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Arlington Cemetery, Monuments & Memorials, Mount Vernon, the Holocaust Museum, and the Shrine of St. Elizabeth Seton. For more information call 337-291-1933 or info@holyltravels.org.

June 2017: Pilgrimage to Rome

Fr. Taylor will be leading a pilgrimage to Rome June 6-12, 2017. Sites include St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican Museums, Sistine Chapel, the Colosseum, and a day of culinary inclusions. Prices start at \$3,919 for airfare from Alexandria, hotel accommodations, guided tours, taxes and fees. For more information call, Fr. Taylor at 445-7141 ext 211.

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