



WYOMING CATHOLIC REGISTER



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Where sin increases, grace abounds.

By: Bishop Steven Biegler

In this issue of the Wyoming Catholic Register, we are making public a list of all Catholic clergy with substantiated allegations of sexual abuse of minors or vulnerable persons for whom we have files and who were in active ministry from 1950 to the present in the Diocese of Cheyenne. Our clergy are expected to be shepherds who guard and protect the flock, especially the least among us. They are called to imitate the Good Shepherd who laid down his life for the sheep. Therefore, sexual abuse by clergy is an appalling sin and a reprehensible crime. It contradicts everything we stand for. Each name on this list represents a betrayal of trust, a violation of the innocent and a human tragedy.



Bishop Steven



1. The vessels containing the holy oils await Mass to begin
2. Bishop Steven breathes on the Oil of Chrism
3. Isaiah John solemnly carries the cross during Mass

4. The Eucharistic table is prepared during Mass
5. Most priests and many deacons from around the diocese attended, despite inclement Wyoming spring weather

Chrism Mass Celebrated February 9

By: WCR Staff

Bishop Steven blessed the holy oils to be used in sacraments by priests of our diocese at the annual Chrism Mass, celebrated at St.

Patrick's Catholic Church in Casper on February 9th. These oils include the Oil of the Catechumens, the Oil of the Sick and the Oil of Chrism. The Oil of the Catechumens is used

in infant baptisms and in some preparatory rites for those being initiated into the Church. The Oil of the Sick is used in the sacrament of

See **Chrism Mass**, 23

Recently, I met with a victim of clerical sexual abuse who is making progress on a journey of healing. He told me, "there will always be bad guys," but what is important is "that institutions can be trusted to do the right thing" – that is, the Church and law enforcement – so that those who have been harmed can find hope in honest institutions and the credibility of good leaders. My sense was that he was wounded not only by the sexual abuse, but even more so by how he was treated by institutions that failed to respond to his case with fairness and justice. As a consequence, he felt shunned, isolated, and without recourse.

On behalf of the church, I

See **Grace abounds**, 23

apologize to each victim, not only for the misconduct of those who committed sexual abuse, but also for the failure of any Church leader who did not take appropriate action after having received a report of an allegation. Finally, I pledge to do all that we can to assist with your healing and to learn from errors in our past.

The purpose of a public listing

Several dioceses and religious orders have published lists of clergy with substantiated allegations of sexual abuse. Nevertheless, some question the purpose for doing this. While this is not a practice of other public institutions like schools and other faith communities, there are good reasons for doing it. Here is my rationale. First, the Catholic Church made a commitment to transparency in the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, which stated: "Dioceses are to be open and transparent in communicating with the public about sexual abuse of minors by clergy" (cf. Article 7).

In the past, this information was kept confidential, and as a consequence, other children were harmed. Transparency helps prevent future abuse because it makes it almost impossible for those of us in church leadership to backslide on our promise of zero tolerance. It is, we hope, a means of restoring trust with the laity. Credibility depends upon open and honest communication.

In addition, there have been times when church leaders did not believe victims of sexual abuse even when their allegations were true. Sometimes their allegations were not investigated. Other times substantiating evidence was ignored. I pray that publication of this list today is a clear signal that things have changed. Because the Church has been more transparent in recent years, victims have felt that their voices are being heard, and it encourages others who have been abused to come forward. Transparency creates an atmosphere in which victims can breathe a sigh of relief and know that they can speak about this horrible experience.

I know this personally because victims of family sexual abuse have written to me after they learned about the steps that we have taken to address sexual abuse in the Diocese.

Furthermore, in the Church and society Catholic clergy have a unique role. They are mediators between God and people. By the grace of ordination, the priest stands in the place of Christ. Catholics refer to him as an *alter Christus* (another Christ). Little children often view the priest as Jesus. In counseling and the Sacrament of Reconciliation, people open themselves to clergy with profound vulnerability. Catholic clergy are more than public servants, and they should adhere to a higher standard. Their unique role demands a correspondingly elevated response when they commit a scandalous crime.

With zero tolerance and publication of the names of clergy with substantiated allegations, some ask, "Where is mercy?" God's mercy knows no bounds, and abusers who acknowledge their sins are readily forgiven. But there is a difference between divine forgiveness and ecclesiastical reassignment. Mercy must be balanced with responsibility, consequences for one's actions and the protection of others.

Finally, we need to be compassionate to victims. Too often some have expressed concern for merciful treatment of clergy abusers without mention of the victims. That has to change. Our society needs a conversion regarding how we think about those affected by sexual abuse. We need a revolution in our thinking so that the victims are at the center of our hearts.

The term 'substantiated' allegation

For this publication, we have used the term 'substantiated' allegation. There are a number of factors which could substantiate an allegation: (1)

if the accused has admitted to the conduct in whole or in part; (2) if the victim speaks with consistency while offering information about the alleged offender and other relevant facts; (3) if there is corroborating evidence; (4) if others offer knowledgeable testimony; (5) if multiple, independent allegations manifest similar patterns; (6) if there was prior grooming with sexual content; and other factors. When such elements are present, they help us determine that the allegation is likely true or substantiated. When these elements are absent, the allegation is unconfirmed and lacks substantiation.

There is no official church definition of the term 'substantiated' in regard to allegations of sexual abuse. For our purposes, we are using the following definition: A *substantiated allegation* is one which has been determined to have reasonable probability or even certainty based on a convincing level of proof.

Process of the file review

I had hoped to be able to share these results earlier. However, the review of each file is a tedious process that requires a diligent and careful study of the facts. To assist the diocese with this effort, we engaged the services of Nussbaum Speir PLLC, a law firm with expertise and experience in conducting similar file reviews for Catholic dioceses. At our request, Nussbaum Speir has provided us with an impartial and comprehensive assessment of 303 files going back to 1950 of Catholic clergy of the Diocese of Cheyenne, including 5 bishops, 253 priests and 45 deacons. Subsequent to that review, the Diocese conducted a further review of particular files in order to clarify some cases by additional investigation.

The date of 1950 was selected with a focus on those victims who

See *Grace abounds*, 3



What should I do if a minor or vulnerable person is being abused or if I have been abused by a representative of the Diocese?

If you know of a minor or vulnerable person in imminent danger, immediately call 911. If you have observed suspicious behavior and fear that someone might be being abused or neglected by a representative of the Diocese, report to local Department of Family Services or law enforcement agencies. Additionally, make a report to the Diocese itself.

If you or someone you know has been the victim of abuse by a member of the clergy, or an employee or volunteer of a parish in the past, and would like to report or discuss this please contact

Victim Assistance Coordinator,
Mary Adams
307-220-0485 or adamsmaryj@outlook.com
or
Patti Loehrer
Chancellor
307-638-1530 (toll free 866-790-0014) or
ploehrer@dioceseofcheyenne.org

The Diocese encourages your report, no matter when the abuse occurred.



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may still be living, and to reflect the availability of historic files that might contain allegations of abuse. This date also coincides with the earlier study of sexual abuse of minors conducted by the John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

The Church has a responsibility to be transparent about sexual misconduct with minors by those in Church leadership, and I have an obligation to protect those entrusted to my pastoral care. At the same time, I have a responsibility to protect the good names of clergy, who have served with selfless dedication, from having their reputations harmed by sincere but unsubstantiated accusations. It is difficult to discern the truth of an event that allegedly happened decades ago, especially if the accused is deceased or the memories of others, who could have provided helpful information, have faded.

The list that we are providing today is as accurate as we can make it based on the information we now possess. However, in some cases we were not able to ascertain whether or not an allegation was substantiated. If new information comes to light, the list will be updated. In accord with the *Charter*, we observe zero tolerance. If a priest has one substantiated allegation of sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult, then he is not allowed to do any public ministry.

A diocesan bishop does not have the same authority over all priests assigned within the Diocese. They can be: (a) diocesan priests of the local diocese, (b) diocesan priests of another diocese, or (c) priests of a religious order. For those priests in the latter two categories, the bishop assigns them to ministry within the Diocese and has authority over their ministry; however, their own bishop or religious superior has jurisdiction over them in all other matters of religious life and discipline. Our diocesan files are incomplete for such priests because only

a portion of their priestly ministry happened within this Diocese. If they committed sexual abuse elsewhere, then their religious orders or dioceses will decide whether to name them in their own reports. For those reasons, we did not publish names of such priests on this list, unless we received a substantiated allegation that such a priest sexually abused a minor while he served within the Diocese of Cheyenne.

In the next few months, there will be new procedures implemented for allegations against bishops. This was addressed in the May 9, 2019 publication of Pope Francis's *Motu Proprio*, *Vos estis lux mundi* ("You are the light of the world"). Information about the *Motu Proprio* is included elsewhere in this issue of the diocesan paper. The U.S. bishops will be discussing that document and other sexual abuse policies during their meeting in Baltimore the week of June 10.

Shining the light on a hidden plague

I am grateful to members of the media who have brought accusations to light or advocated for greater transparency and justice by the Church and society to address this evil. This is a human problem which needs attention in every arena of public and private life. In addition, I am grateful to the members of our Diocesan Review Board who have dedicated many hours and offered invaluable counsel in evaluating sexual abuse allegations.

In a special way, I want to thank the victims who have come forward with allegations. Your courageous action helps to prevent someone else from being victimized, and I trust that by bringing this into the light it will benefit you on the journey of healing. I regularly pray for the healing of victims/survivors of sexual abuse, and I am willing to meet with them and accompany them on their journey of healing. Victims may also contact the diocesan Victim's Assistance Coordinator, Mary

Adams, who will help them to obtain support for their needs. In addition, we have established the Shalom Fund to provide financial assistance for those who need counseling. Furthermore, I am in the process of consulting professionals with experience in counseling of sexual abuse clients, with the intention of developing a healing ministry for all who have experienced sexual abuse in society.

In God's providence, this painful time has opened a new conversation in the Church and society so that everyone is more aware of the horrible reality of sexual abuse. Now we have a heightened knowledge of the scourge of sexual abuse in families, schools, scouting, athletics, churches, and virtually every corner of society. People are more vigilant about protecting minors or vulnerable persons. And those who were abused are feeling the freedom to speak out. The hidden plague of abuse is being exposed to the light. Thus, God is using this agonizing time as a new dawn.

During the next six months, I ask you to join me in praying for the healing of victims, for the repentance and forgiveness of abusers, and for the Catholic Church to become a place of healing for anyone who has been abused. Also, please pray for me and all bishops, that we may be granted wisdom, counsel, courage and hope. Please make a commitment to pray at least 15 minutes a day. Your family could pray a rosary together, meditate on a Scripture passage or spend the time in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Prayer is the foundation for a renewal in our Church. Nothing is more important because God alone is the source of new life. Prayer moves us from desolation to hope. Instead of being discouraged by sin, we are reminded that God is greater than evil. As St. Paul said, "Where sin increased, grace abounded all the more" (Rom. 5:20).

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What information are you releasing? Whose names are on the list?

The list contains names of clergy members against whom a substantiated allegation of sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable person has been received and investigated by the Diocese of Cheyenne. The Diocese is aware of one bishop and ten priests with substantiated allegations. In all cases but one, they were clergy of this Diocese. The one exception is a member of a religious order who committed sexual abuse while serving in the Diocese of Cheyenne.

A "minor" is a young person under the age of 18. "Vulnerable person" means "any person in a state of infirmity, physical or mental deficiency, or deprivation of personal liberty which, in fact, even

occasionally, limits their ability to understand or to want or otherwise resist the offence." (*Vos Estis Lux Mundi*, Pope Francis, May 9, 2019)

2. How did you define "child sexual abuse"?

All sexual touching between an adult and a minor or vulnerable person is sexual abuse. But sexual abuse does not have to involve penetration, force, pain or even touching. If an adult engages in any sexual behavior with a minor or vulnerable person in order to meet the adult's interest or sexual desires even if it does not involve touching, it is sexual abuse. This includes the manufacture, distribution and viewing of child pornography.

For purpose of diocesan policies, the term "sexual abuse" is not necessarily limited to the definitions of sexual abuse under civil or criminal law.

3. What do you mean by a substantiated allegation?

A substantiated allegation is one which has been determined to have reasonable probability or even certainty based on a convincing level of proof. For a broader description of the term "substantiated allegation," please see the article by Bishop Steven in this issue of the Wyoming Catholic Register.

4. Does inclusion on the list imply a criminal offense?

Clergy listed with a substantiated allegation does not necessarily mean they were found guilty of a crime or are liable for civil or criminal claims. Often the determination of a substantiated

See [FAQ, 4](#)

action taken by law enforcement, and it might not have been proven in a civil or ecclesiastical court.

5. What happens to an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable person by a member of the clergy once it is received?

The Diocese promptly refers all reports of sexual abuse to civil authorities and child protection agencies as required by applicable state laws and the Diocesan Safe Environment Policy. The Diocese cooperates fully with law enforcement in the process of an investigation. The bishop and other appropriate diocesan officials will also be notified. Any reasonable allegation of sexual abuse will result in the alleged perpetrator's temporary removal from ministry until an investigation is concluded.

The Diocese may engage the services of an independent investigator, who will take into account the rights of all parties. The Diocesan Review Board examines and evaluates all findings of an investigation and advises the Bishop in his determination of the suitability for ministry of priests and deacons accused of sexual abuse of minors or vulnerable persons.

6. Are any of the men on this list still in active ministry?

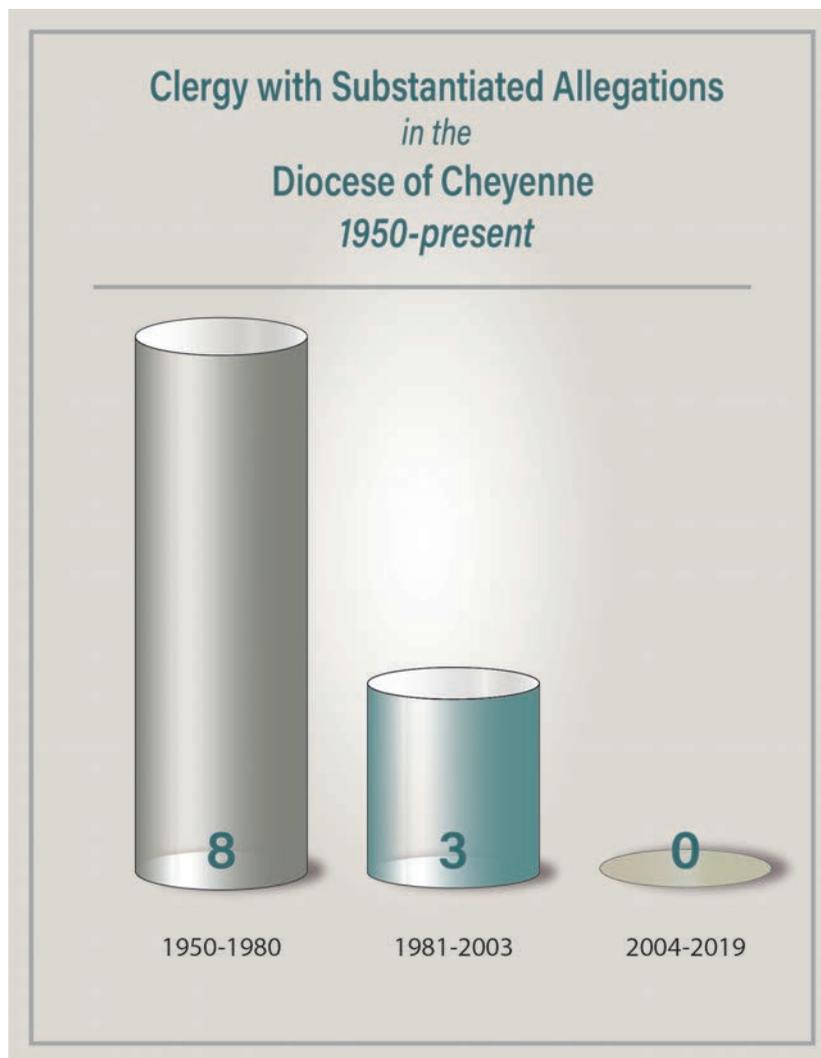
The diocese has a Zero-tolerance Policy. No cleric, indeed, no employee or volunteer with a substantiated allegation of sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable person serves in public ministry in any way in the Diocese of Cheyenne.

7. What is the Diocese doing to prevent sexual abuse within the church? What education is provided to clergy, new employees and volunteers?

The Diocese of Cheyenne has had a Sexual Misconduct Policy in place since 1994 with the latest revision being July, 2018. The Diocese began

employees in 2001 and implemented the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People in 2003.

In addition, the Diocese continues to create and maintain a comprehensive safe environment program that includes all children and youth and adults: clergy,



employees and those volunteers working with minors or vulnerable persons in our parishes and schools.

For Children and Youth: All students in grades K-12 in Catholic schools and religious education programs are required to receive safe environment education. This is not sex education. Students are taught about personal safety, awareness and boundaries.

For Adults: The following requirements must be met prior to employment or volunteer service for those who interact with minors or vulnerable persons:

- Safe environment education
- State and national background checks, repeated at least every five years

received, have read, and will follow:

- » Norms for Responding to Reports of Sexual Abuse of Minors and Vulnerable Adults
- » Instructions Concerning Interactions with Minors and Vulnerable Adults

In addition, The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops engages an

independent firm that conducts an annual safe environment audit to ensure compliance with the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. The Diocese has been found in full compliance with the Charter yearly.

As a consequence, there have been no substantiated allegations of sexual abuse of minors against a priest serving in the Diocese of Cheyenne to have occurred after 2003.

8. What steps has the Diocese taken to ensure that those who apply for seminary are suitable for ministry?

The application process for

the Diocese of Cheyenne includes interviews, multiple reference national criminal background and national sex offender registry checks and a psychological assessment that includes a psychosexual evaluation. Only a man capable of living a chaste and celibate life required of his moves forward in the application process. While in seminary, men are closely supervised by a formation team and routinely evaluated by the Diocese. The formation integrates the human, pastoral, spiritual and intellectual dimensions of the Program of Priestly Formation. This training for our priests is an important responsibility that we observe with the utmost seriousness.

9. How does the Diocese ensure that priests or deacons from other dioceses or religious communities, ministering here either short or long-term, are not a threat?

Prior to being allowed to minister in the Diocese, every cleric from outside of the Diocese must provide a letter from his bishop or religious superior stating that he is a cleric in good standing and suitable for ministry. He must have completed safe environment training under the provisions of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. Bishops and/or religious superiors must attest that there is nothing in his background that would render him unsuitable for ministering; especially with children and young persons.

10. If a cleric who has a substantiated allegation performed a sacrament for me (Baptism, Confirmation, Marriage, etc.), is that sacrament considered valid? In other words, did it "count"?

Even if a bishop, priest or deacon has been removed because of a substantiated allegation (under restrictions or dismissal from the clerical state), sacraments that administered are valid. A sacrament is a personal, saving action of Jesus Christ. However worthy or unworthy that ordained person may be, the sacrament is valid as long as the cleric was validly ordained.

Clergy with Substantiated Allegations

CHLEBORAD, GERALD

AFFILIATION: Diocese of Cheyenne

BIRTH: 1934

ORDINATION: 1960

STATUS: Suspended, Faculties Removed, Retired

REPORTING VICTIMS: 3 adolescent males

EST. TIME OF ABUSE: 1984-85, 1995, 2003

ASSIGNMENTS:

- St. Joseph, Cheyenne
- Holy Name, Sheridan
- St. Mary's, Cheyenne
- St. Matthew, Gillette
- St. Joseph, Lovell
- St. John the Baptist, Buffalo
- St. Patrick, Kemmerer
- St. Margaret, Riverton
- Ss. Cyril & Methodius, Rock Springs
- Our Lady of the Mountains, Jackson
- St. Ann, Saratoga

MURRAY, JOHN

AFFILIATION: Diocese of Cheyenne

DOB: 1933

YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1960

STATUS: Retired; prohibited from active ministry

REPORTING VICTIMS: 2 adolescent females

EST. TIME OF ABUSE: 1976-77

ASSIGNMENTS:

- St. Mary's, Cheyenne
- St. Anthony, Casper
- Ss. Cyril & Methodius, Rock Springs
- Our Lady of Fatima, Casper
- St. Joseph, Cheyenne
- Our Lady of Peace, Pinedale
- St. Anthony, Guernsey
- St. Edmund, Ranchester
- Holy Name, Sheridan
- Holy Rosary, Lander
- St. Patrick, Wheatland
- Our Lady of Sorrows, Rock Springs
- St. Ann, Saratoga
- St. James, Douglas
- St. Patrick, Kemmerer

PRADO, CLETUS

AFFILIATION: Diocese of Cheyenne

BIRTH: 1928

ORDINATION: 1958

STATUS: Faculties Removed; Retired; Deceased

REPORTING VICTIMS: 2 adolescent males

EST. TIME OF ABUSE: 1958-63, 1977-78

ASSIGNMENTS:

- St. Joseph, Rawlins
- Our Lady of Sorrows, Rock Springs
- St. Margaret, Riverton
- St. Barbara, Powell
- St. Paul, Sundance
- St. Anthony, Upton
- Corpus Christi, Newcastle
- Holy Rosary, Lander
- St. John the Baptist, Buffalo
- St. Patrick, Wheatland
- St. Mary Magdalen, Evanston

COLIBRARO, PHILIP

AFFILIATION: Diocese of Cheyenne

BIRTH: 1930

YEAR OF ORDINATION: 1957

STATUS: Deceased

REPORTING VICTIM: 1 adolescent male

EST. TIME OF ABUSE: 1965

ASSIGNMENTS:

- Holy Name, Sheridan
- Our Lady of Sorrows, Rock Springs
- St. Patrick, Kemmerer
- St. Paul, Pine Bluffs
- Ss. Cyril & Methodius, Rock Springs
- St. Mary Magdalen, Evanston
- St. Paul, Pine Bluffs
- St. James, Douglas
- Our Lady of Fatima, Casper

PERONE (C.S.P.), ROCCO

AFFILIATION: Paulist Fathers

BIRTH: 1920

ORDINATION: 1949

STATUS: Deceased

REPORTING VICTIM: 1 adolescent male

Others reported elsewhere-see Paulist Fathers website

EST. TIME OF ABUSE: 1957

ASSIGNMENTS:

- St. Anthony, Casper

TELLEZ, GEORGE

AFFILIATION: Diocese of Cheyenne

BIRTH: 1935

ORDINATION: 1961

STATUS: Resigned from ministry to marry; Laicized; Married

REPORTING VICTIMS: 3 adolescent females

EST. TIME OF ABUSE: 1966-1971

ASSIGNMENTS:

- St. Joseph, Rawlins
- Our Lady of Fatima, Casper
- Corpus Christi, Newcastle
- St. Laurence O'Toole, Laramie
- St. Edmund, Ranchester

HART, JOSEPH

AFFILIATION: Diocese of Cheyenne

BIRTH: 1931

ORDINATION: 1956

STATUS: Retired; Pope Francis imposed restrictions and authorized a penal process

REPORTING VICTIMS: 3 adolescent males

EST. TIME OF ABUSE: 1977-80

ASSIGNMENTS:

- Priest in the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph
- Auxiliary Bishop of Diocese of Cheyenne
- Ordinary Bishop of Diocese of Cheyenne

POWER, JAMES

AFFILIATION: Diocese of Cheyenne

BIRTH: 1915

ORDINATION: 1939

STATUS: Deceased

REPORTING VICTIMS: 5 adolescent males

EST. TIME OF ABUSE: 1958-72

ASSIGNMENTS:

- St. Thomas, Monarch
- St. Matthew, Gillette
- St. John the Baptist, Buffalo
- St. Patrick, Casper
- St. Rose, Torrington

Abused in the Diocese of Duluth

GORMLY, CHARLES

AFFILIATION: Diocese of Cheyenne

BIRTH: 1910

ORDINATION: 1936

STATUS: Deceased

REPORTING VICTIMS: 1 preadolescent and 4 adolescent females

EST. TIME OF ABUSE: 1960-61

ASSIGNMENTS:

- Our Lady of Sorrows, Rock Springs
- St. Paul, Pine Bluffs
- Holy Rosary, Lander
- St. Laurence O'Toole, Laramie

JABLONOWSKI, ANTHONY

AFFILIATION: Diocese of Covington (1970 - 1980)

Diocese of Cheyenne (1980 - 2000)

- St. Anthony, Guernsey
- Our Lady of Lourdes, Glendo
- St. Leo, Lusk
- Holy Rosary, Lander
- *Diocese of Steubenville (2000 - 2006)*

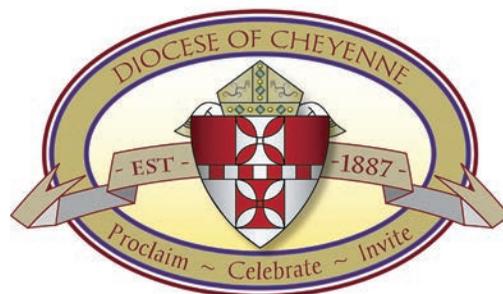
BIRTH: 1937

ORDINATION: 1970

STATUS: Dismissed from clerical state and released from prison

REPORTING VICTIMS: 4 adolescent males

EST. TIME OF ABUSE: 1983-88



This information is also available
on the Diocese of Cheyenne
website at
www.dioceseofcheyenne.org

Abuse of a vulnerable adult

STOLCIS, RONALD

AFFILIATION: Diocese of Cheyenne

BIRTH: 1942

ORDINATION: 1968

STATUS: Retired; Restricted from public ministry

REPORTING VICTIM: 1 male

EST. TIME OF ABUSE: 1995-1997

ASSIGNMENTS:

- St. Barbara, Powell
- St. Anthony, Casper
- St. Margaret, Riverton
- Sacred Heart, Greybull
- St. Mary Magdalen, Worland
- Holy Name, Sheridan

USCCB President Issues Statement on Pope Francis' Motu Proprio Decree

Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo, Archbishop of Galveston-Houston and President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, has issued the following statement regarding the release of Pope Francis's Motu Proprio on May 9. The Motu Proprio, *Vos estis lux mundi* ("You are the light of the world"), is a worldwide order to the Church from the Pope, in response to the evil of sexual abuse. The new law comes three months after a meeting in Rome that brought together all episcopal conference presidents from across the globe to discuss the Church sex abuse crisis.

Cardinal DiNardo's partial statement follows:

"Today, Pope Francis ordered a worldwide response to the evil of sexual abuse. It calls for the establishment of easily accessible reporting systems, clear standards for the pastoral support of victims and their families, timeliness and thoroughness of investigations, whistleblower protection for those making allegations, and

active involvement of the laity. It also leaves latitude for national bishops' conferences, such as the USCCB, to specify still more to account for their local circumstances. We receive the Motu Proprio *Vos estis lux mundi* ('You are the light of the world') as a blessing that will empower the Church everywhere to bring predators to justice, no matter what rank they hold in the Church. It also permits the Church the time and opportunity to bring spiritual healing.

The Holy Father said a 'continuous and profound conversion of hearts is needed, attested by concrete and effective actions that involve everyone in the Church.' Pope Francis was clear that this responsibility 'falls, above all, on the successors of the Apostles.' As part of this responsibility, bishops also will be held accountable under the authority of this Motu Proprio, which covers sexual abuse of minors or vulnerable persons, sexual acts compelled through the abuse of authority, and any coverup

of such crimes.

I am grateful for the opportunity to build upon the excellent foundation of the USCCB's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, the Essential Norms for Diocesan/Eparchial Policies Dealing with Sexual Abuse of Minors by Priests or Deacons, and the Statement of Episcopal Commitment, all of which date back to 2002. The existing framework in the United States including victim outreach, zero tolerance, reporting allegations to civil authorities, and lay expertise on review boards, among other measures - positions us readily to bring the Holy Father's instructions to action. By embracing the painful experience of survivors and working on these new protections, let us pray we continue to grow into a stronger Church."

Please find the respective translations of the *motu proprio* here:

English: <http://bit.ly/motoproprioEnglish>

Spanish: <http://bit.ly/motoproprioSpanish>

Q&A Regarding Motu Proprio Vos estis lux mundi

What does the new Motu Proprio do?

The new Motu Proprio *Vos estis lux mundi* is a significant move forward for the universal Church, one that echoes many of the practices established in the Essential Norms and the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People that have been in force in the United States since 2002. For example, it affirms the existing:

- commitment to provide for the spiritual and emotional well-being of victims/ survivors and their families;
- duty to comply with all applicable civil laws with respect to the reporting of allegations of sexual abuse of minors to civil authorities;
- right of any person to report such crimes;
- guarantee of a prompt and objective investigation;
- assurance of lay involvement.

The Motu Proprio also continues to focus on victims by significantly building upon existing local practices, for example by expanding:

- the scope of cases to include: the

sexual abuse of a new classification of "vulnerable persons,"

- the use of violence or other abuse of power to perform or submit to sexual acts,

- any cover up of such conduct by others;

- those who are to be reported for such cases, namely, cardinals, bishops, other clerics, religious superiors, and other members of institutes of consecrated life or societies of apostolic life;

- reporting obligations to include mandatory, internal reporting;

- against retaliation or discrimination by mandating "whistle-blower" protections.

When do these norms take effect?

- they will take effect on June 1, 2019;

- they will be reviewed by the Holy See after three years and adjusted as needed;

- every diocese and eparchy (either individually or collectively) is to have a publicly accessible means for people to report cases covered under the Motu Proprio by June 1,

2020. In the United States, while this has already been accomplished for cases involving the sexual abuse of minors by priests and deacons, reporting mechanisms will have to be modified to serve the broader categories of the Motu Proprio.

What about cases of sexual misconduct that do not fall under this Motu Proprio?

- These are generally already covered by existing diocesan or eparchial codes of conduct. With the help of lay and legal experts, bishops are working on ways to ensure that coverage and enhance awareness and reporting mechanisms for such cases.

How are transparency and confidentiality promoted in this new Motu Proprio?

- The Motu Proprio increases transparency by establishing clear procedures that must be followed, reaffirming the obligation to report to civil authorities, providing for lay involvement in internal investigations, protecting from

possible conflicts of interest, and ensuring that those who report complaints to the Church are also free to report the same information to others and are protected from retaliation. At the same time, because the Motu Proprio involves the investigation of a complaint, it carefully balances the rights of those involved. Confidentiality is needed for the effectiveness of the investigation. It protects victims and witnesses, as well as the presumption of innocence and the seal of the confessional.

Does this new Motu Proprio interfere or hinder civil law, such as mandatory reporting requirements and civil investigations?

- In no way. The Motu Proprio establishes the canonical (Church law) procedures that are to be followed. Included in these procedures, however, is the obligation to comply with all applicable civil laws.

See *Moto Proprio Q&A*, 7

NFP Awareness Week Begins July 21st

By: USCCB & Maria Ward

“Love, Naturally! Cooperating with God’s design for married love” is the theme of this year’s Natural Family Planning Awareness Week, a national educational campaign of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) to celebrate God’s vision for marriage and promote the methods of Natural Family Planning.

Natural Family Planning (NFP) is a general title for ethical, natural, safe and effective methods for both achieving and avoiding pregnancy in marriage. NFP methods teach couples how to observe and interpret the wife’s signs of fertility and infertility. In the words of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, NFP methods “respect the bodies of the spouses, encourage tenderness between them and favor the education of an authentic freedom.” (CCC, no. 2370) The Catholic Church invites all the faithful to embrace God’s plan for married love. Learn more about these beautiful teachings which support the use of NFP in marriage at: <http://www.usccb.org/nfp/catholic-teaching>.

The Diocese of Cheyenne Office of Pastoral Ministries joins with the U.S. bishops in highlighting the benefits of NFP as moral methods to help married couples live God’s design for their marriages. The dates of Natural Family Planning Awareness Week are: July 21 – 27, 2019.



WWW.USCCB.ORG/NFP

Please follow the Diocese of Cheyenne Facebook or Instagram accounts and watch for information and events happening that week.

Please join the diocesan NFP team to spread the word about God’s design for married love

and the gift of life as well as the methods of NFP! If you would like to learn NFP or become an instructor in the Diocese of Cheyenne, please contact Maria Ward at 307-638-1530 or mward@dioceseofcheyenne.

Motu Proprio Q&A from 6

Zero tolerance is not mentioned. Is that no longer the policy of the Catholic Church?

-In the United States, zero tolerance has been the policy since 2002, which comes from the Charter and the Essential Norms. The Motu Proprio does not undo this policy. Other episcopal conferences around the world have or will be developing policies appropriate to their legal and cultural situations. The good news here is that what was first thought of as an “American problem” or a “Western problem” is now on everyone’s radar.

Why does the Motu Proprio focus on the role of the Metropolitan?

-The Motu Proprio uses the Metropolitan because it is a position in the Church that is grounded in tradition and the teaching of Vatican II and is governed by

existing canon law.

-This also allows investigations to be carried out on the local level, where the Metropolitan will have more direct access to information, documents, and lay experts to help investigate, and can collaborate with civil authorities. The Metropolitan, being local, can also take measures to preserve and secure evidence.

-Recent investigations of misconduct by a bishop, such as in West Virginia, have successfully followed this practice.

What does this mean for the proposals the U.S. bishops considered last November?

-The work of our committees that has already taken place will be examined and adapted to work within the framework of the new Motu Proprio and will be the basis for deliberation over its implementation at the USCCB Plenary Assembly in June.

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Priests Move Forward in Wellness and Leadership

By: Father Bill Hill

January 15 through 17, deacons and priests gathered in Casper to learn and reflect more about personal health and well-being in the context of serving our family of faith. Bishop Steven had raised two areas of focus for his first years in the diocese: ministry to Latinos, and priest well-being and leadership. This year's January Institute was the first step in addressing the well-being of our priests.

Father James Flavin provided an in-depth and thorough presentation. Father Flavin is a priest of the Archdiocese of Boston and had been the director of the Saint John Vianney Center in Philadelphia. Father Flavin has a doctorate in psychology and is a nationally-recognized expert on priest mental health. Currently he is an Episcopal Vicar and pastor of a parish in the Archdiocese of Boston.

The topics ranged from the

daily realities of stress, overwork, and exercise to addictions and pornography abuse. Father Flavin was direct and straightforward while explaining the challenges that face priests in active ministry. Like all people, priests benefit from the opportunity to reflect upon their lives and the duties that are asked of them. Many of the priests expressed gratitude for the chance to pause and investigate the larger questions of health in the context of ordained ministry.

Permanent deacons were also invited to the January Institute. While this area of focus is particularly directed to ordained priests, many deacons were interested in gaining insights as well. Multiple deacons expressed a desire to support the priests with whom they serve in parishes, as well as an openness to glean insights for their own self-care and ministry.

One can well imagine that a quick workshop will not immediately solve every problem that our priests face. Additionally, many bad habits will be rooted out only with a holistic approach of prayer, self-awareness, relationship, and a desire to change. Please join with me in praying for our priests to more fully reveal the heart of Jesus the Good Shepherd.

Priests, Chancery staff training on leadership

In addition to the January Institute on priest wellness, this spring the Diocese of Cheyenne engaged a national leadership company to provide focused training. The diocese contracted with Leadership Roundtable to provide a 360° leadership report for chancery staff and interested priests. Leadership Roundtable is a non-profit organization of laity, clergy, and religious that offers training and best practices to Catholic institutions like our diocese.

Many professional organizations use 360° feedback profiles to encourage and quantify professional growth. Sometimes the church can have a culture of avoiding necessary conflict for the mistaken notion of community harmony, and this can result in leaders having incomplete understandings of their strengths and weaknesses.

Beginning in February, priests and chancery leaders began the process of soliciting and receiving feedback from a wide range of individuals who experience their ministry. Following up on this consultation, they were provided ninety-minute, one-on-one coaching sessions to evaluate their individual report. Finally, after spending time in reflection and personal prayer they established personal development plans for further growth and development.

These personal development plans will form the basis of some larger trainings designed to strengthen leadership skills of our priests. Potential topics include human resources, establishing a vision, conflict resolution, risk management, and leading in the context of the abuse crisis. Priests will have the opportunities to continue to develop their skills in order to better serve our parishes and the larger mission of Jesus Christ in the world.

As we all seek to respond to our baptismal call of holiness and right relationship, may our priests continue to grow in their effectiveness as leaders of our Church. May the Holy Spirit guide the Church in being the loving presence of Christ for all the world to see.

Father Bill is the Pastor of Holy Spirit Catholic Community in Rock Springs and Director of Ongoing Formation for Priests for the Diocese of Cheyenne.

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“Exceptions” and the Undermining of the Moral Law

By: Father Tad Pacholczyk, Director of Education, The National Catholic Bioethics Center



Fr. Pacholczyk

Whenever we make small exceptions to universal moral rules, we shouldn't be surprised that the rules themselves can be quickly undermined. Establishing an "exception" in one case makes people think they're due an exemption for their case as well. Certain norms of moral behavior, however, do not admit of any exceptions, and we risk undermining morality altogether if we don't recognize them. Moral norms governing the protection of human life are one such example.

A recent and lengthy article in The Guardian took a look at the practice of euthanasia in the Netherlands. It led off with this provocative title: "Death on demand: has euthanasia gone too far? Countries around the world are making it easier to choose the time and manner of your death. But doctors in the world's euthanasia capital are starting to worry about the consequences." The article points out that, as the world's pioneer, the Netherlands has also discovered that although legalizing euthanasia might resolve one ethical conundrum, it opens a can of others – most importantly, where the limits of the practice should be drawn. In the past few years a small but influential group of academics and jurists have raised the alarm over what is generally referred to, a little archly, as the 'slippery slope' – the idea that a measure introduced to provide relief to late-stage cancer patients has expanded to include people who might otherwise live for many years, from sufferers of diseases such as muscular dystrophy to sexagenarians with dementia and even mentally ill young people.

The logic behind these concerns is clear. If we are willing to make an exception to the rule that direct killing of an innocent human being is

always wrong, then it only becomes a matter of "haggling over the price." If killing by euthanasia can be allowed for a deeply emotional reason, it can certainly be allowed for other reasons too, and soon for nearly any reason, making it difficult, if not impossible, to put the cat back into the proverbial "moral bag."

The almost instantaneous deployment of abortion-on-demand around the world several decades ago relied on very similar logic: first, grant a single exception, and in time virtually any instance begins to appear plausible and defensible. That exception, of course, was rape. By playing on the tragedy of sexual assault, abortion advocates managed to direct attention and blame towards the child, an innocent bystander, turning him or her, almost more than the rapist, into the culprit. After the child had been successfully targeted in situations of rape, he or she became generally targetable in other situations as well.

When it comes to abortion, the state of Louisiana in past years required some of the most comprehensive reporting in the U.S., and their detailed records are a helpful resource for determining how frequent abortions for rape really are. Abortionists were required to fill out a form entitled "Report of Induced Termination of Pregnancy" (Form #PHS 16-ab) for every abortion. The form stated at the top: "Failure to complete and file this form is a crime." Item 9d on the form was entitled "Reason for Pregnancy Termination." Statistics compiled from these forms over a 14-year period reveal the reasons for 115,243 abortions in Louisiana during that time:

Reasons for Abortion in Louisiana between 1975 and 1988

Mother's Mental Health	114,231	99.12%
Mother's Physical Health	863	0.75%
Fetal Deformity	103	0.09%
Rape or Incest	46	0.04%

These data confirm other calculations indicating that, on average, about 550 women per year in

the U.S. become pregnant as a result of rape. Assuming they all ended in abortion, this means that an average of 0.04% (one twenty-fifth of one percent) of all abortions have been performed for rape — or only one out of every 2,500! Yet for every one of the more than 50 countries that now have abortion on demand around the world, the initial step taken by proabortion forces was intense lobbying for abortion in the so-called 'hard cases' — especially rape and incest. Once abortion advocates secured the availability of abortion for the 'hard cases' they went on to argue for abortion in any situation.

Even if one granted, for the sake of argument, that rape justified a mother's decision to end her child's life, could that ever justify the other abortions that occur for non-rape related reasons? It is duplicitous to justify 2,499 deaths from the one assault, unjust and traumatic as it may have been. By granting the exception, the moral rule has been, in effect, eliminated, and the doors have been thrown open to the practice of abortion for any reason. Encouraging exceptions is the entry point into a broader repudiation of our moral duties towards each other, the first of which is the duty to respect the inviolability of each other's life.

Reprinted with permission. Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did post-doctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, MA, and serves as the Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. Father Tad writes a monthly column on timely life issues. From stem cell research to organ donation, abortion to euthanasia, he offers a clear and compelling analysis of modern bioethical questions, addressing issues we may confront at one time or another in our daily living. His column, entitled "Making Sense of Bioethics" is nationally syndicated in the U.S. to numerous diocesan newspapers, and has been reprinted by newspapers in England, Canada, Poland and Australia.

Wyoming Catholic College Graduates Called to "Become Missionaries of Hope!"

By: Colin McCarty, Office of Advancement, Wyoming Catholic College

Lander, WY— On Saturday, May 11th, the forty-two members of Wyoming Catholic College's Class of 2019 made their way across the Lander Community Center stage and received their diplomas. This was the College's largest graduating class to date—a fact further evidenced by the 600+ friends, family, and community members who attended the event.

William Eby (from Whitehouse, OH), this year's Senior Class Speaker, spoke of what he and his classmates had experienced during their

four years at Wyoming Catholic and of how these lessons will continue to influence their lives. "During our Freshman year," he said, "we learned that a story is not understood until a conclusion. And we do not realize why the middle chapters are important and necessary until we discover what their consequences are at the very end. This graduation is the conclusion of our four-year story, and it gives coherence to our actions. But it is also a continuation. As we go out from here, we must continue our quest for the truth, we must keep the faith, and we must never forget our neighbors along the way."

The event's Commencement Speaker was Bishop

David L. Ricken, head of Wisconsin's Diocese of Green Bay and one of Wyoming Catholic College's original founders. He echoed Eby's themes of companionship and generosity, adding to them the obligations and the gratitude that must accompany those gifts. "You have earned a reputation for joy and humility," he said. "You have been given the ability to talk to anyone no matter their views or background, and can accompany that person a few steps along their journey to the truth." "Here," he reminded them, "you have encountered what is truly real! Your mission now is to carry that to others. You must become missionaries of Hope!"

First Communion



St. John the Baptist, Buffalo



St. Joseph, Ethete



St. Mary Catholic School, Cheyenne, photo by Val Rothwell Photography



St. Paul, Pine Bluffs



St. Joseph, Cheyenne, photo by Val Rothwell Photography



Holy Family, Thayne



St. Mary Magdalen, Worland, photo by David Huber



St. Stephens Mission



St. Patrick, Kemmerer



Sacred Heart, Greybull



St. Anthony of Padua, Cody, Photo by Jody Moser

Confirmations



St. Paul, Pine Bluffs



St. John the Baptist, Buffalo



St. Matthew, Gillette, photo by Dunlap Photography



St. Patrick, Kemmerer



Our Lady of Peace, Pinedale, St. Anne's, Big Piney

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Catholic Summer Fun Ideas

By Maria Ward, Assistant Director of Pastoral Ministries

This summer, as your family embarks on vacations, camping trips, and hiking adventures, be sure to take advantage of this opportunity to spend time talking about your Catholic faith. Here are a few ideas of how you can incorporate faith-based experiences into your summertime fun.

The long, school-free days of summer provide the perfect time to go to daily Mass as a family. Since daily Mass is typically less crowded and shorter than a Sunday liturgy, try sitting up front so your children can see everything that takes place. After Mass, ask your children if they noticed anything different. If you are heading out of town for vacation, use resources such as www.masstimes.org to find out when and where Masses are available at your destination or along the way. Visiting other parishes, cathedrals, and shrines is a great way to

introduce your family to the Universal Church.

Road trips can mean lots of time listening to music, so be sure to download some of the latest songs from your favorite Catholic musicians. If you want to incorporate a little catechesis into your drive, multiple Catholic podcasts offer everything from homilies to casual conversations about everyday topics. For the days when the kids just want to watch television, check out the selection of Catholic children's programming on www.formed.org. Formed offers lots of shows that can be streamed on demand for both adults and children that cover a variety of topics within Catholicism. If you have never used this resource before, contact your parish office to obtain your parish's login code.

Celebrating the feast days during the summer can also be another opportunity for learning and fun. The birth of St. John the Baptist is celebrated

on June 24 and comes with many fun cultural traditions. One tradition is to decorate the door of your home with a lantern, white lilies, birch leaves, and St. John's wort on the eve of this solemnity. Celebrate the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus on June 28 by making heart crafts and talking about the love, mercy, and forgiveness that come from Jesus' heart. Teach them about St. Margaret Mary Alacoque and the twelve promises for those who practice a devotion to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. In July, the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel is celebrated on the 16th and offers an excellent opportunity to talk about the role of sacramentals in the Catholic faith, such as the Brown Scapular. Many Catholic websites offer resources to help families celebrate the saints together by offering ideas for activities, prayers for children, and printable coloring pages. As your family heads out for summertime adventures, research who is the patron saint of that location or activity. Your family can learn about new saints and pray for their intercession. For example, St. Adjutor is the patron saint of swimming and St. Lawrence is the patron saint for grilling and they both have fascinating stories for how these got these designations. Also, if the kids are planning on lighting off fireworks this fourth of July, a prayer to the patroness of fireworks, St. Barbara is surely a good idea.

The staff at the Diocese of Cheyenne will be praying for all of the families across Wyoming to have a safe, fun, and relaxing summer.

"WE ARE NOW IN THE HEART OF SUMMER. THIS IS THE PERIOD IN WHICH SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED AND THE GREATER PART OF THE HOLIDAYS ARE CONCENTRATED . . . IT IS THEREFORE

A FAVORABLE TIME TO GIVE PRIORITY TO WHAT IS EFFECTIVELY MOST IMPORTANT IN LIFE, THAT IS TO SAY, LISTENING TO THE WORD OF THE LORD." —POPE BENEDICT XVI, ANGELUS, JULY 18, 2010



"ESTAMOS YA EN PLENO VERANO. ES EL TIEMPO EN EL QUE CIERRAN LAS ESCUELAS Y SE CONCENTRAN

LA MAYOR PARTE DE LAS VACACIONES. . . ES POR LO TANTO UN MOMENTO FAVORABLE PARA DAR EL PRIMER LUGAR A LO QUE EFECTIVAMENTE ES MÁS IMPORTANTE EN LA VIDA, O SEA, LA ESCUCHA DE LA PALABRA DEL SEÑOR". —PAPA BENEDICTO XVI, ÁNGELUS, 18 DE JULIO DE 2010

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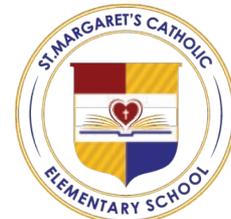
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Planting a Mary Garden

By: Pam Miller, WCR Staff

It is a Catholic tradition to acknowledge and honor the selfless and holy life of the Blessed Virgin Mary, particularly in the month of May. A special way of doing this is to plant a Mary Garden that you can enjoy all summer long!

Typically, the center focus of the garden is a statue of Our Blessed Lady, surrounded by Marian flowers, such as, lilies, violets, roses (symbolizing Mary as the Queen of Heaven), carnations, bluebells, daisy, lilies of the valley, marigolds or your favorite blossoms.

Mary's entire life was devoted to her Son. When you plant and enjoy a Marian garden you honor Mary and are able to more fully realize what her "Yes" brought to the world!

"Going beyond the surface, Mary "sees" the work of God in history with the eyes of faith. This is why she is blessed, because she believed." (Pope Benedict XVI, May 31, 2008)



SUMMER PROGRAMS

Don't see your parish listed? Please call them and find out what is offered in your area.



VBS, ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH, BUFFALO

June 10-14, 9:00am - 12:00pm
532 North Lobban Ave, Buffalo, Wyoming
Cost: FREE
Theme: "Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus"
Call the church office for information and questions 307.684.7268



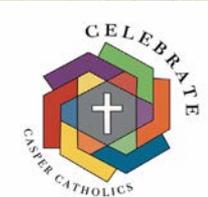
VBS, TRI PARISH, CASPER

June 10-13, 9:00am - 12:00pm
St. Anthony Tri-Parish School, 1145 West 20th St, Casper
Ages 3 & Potty trained - 10
Cost: Early registration \$15/individual, \$30/family, \$20/youth at door
Registration: www.stpatricks-casper.com/religious-ed Click on VBS



TOTUS TUUS, TRI PARISH, CASPER

June 16-21, 9:00am - 3:00pm grades 1-5, 7:00pm - 9:10pm grades 6-12
Our Lady of Fatima, 1401 CY Avenue
Ages grades 1-12
Cost: \$15/individual, \$30/family, \$20/youth at door
Registration: goo.gl/8RDhW1



CITYWIDE MASS, CASPER

July 21, 10:30am
David Street Station, downtown Casper
All ages welcome
Stay after Mass for a celebration of our Catholic community with vendors and street fair

VBS, ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH, CHEYENNE

June 24-28, 6:00 - 8:00pm
314 E 6th St, Cheyenne, Wyoming
Ages 4-12
Cost: FREE, only your time!
Free dinner each evening served from 5:00- 5:40pm
Registration forms at stjosephscheyenne.org or stmarycathedral.com or register at the door

SUMMER RELIGIOUS ED, HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH, CHEYENNE

Session 1: June 10-21, 9:00am - 12:00pm
Session 2: July 29-Aug 9, 9:00am - 12:00pm
Grades K-6
Register online at www.holytrinitycheyenne.org or pick up a paper form in the vestibule of the church. Please register early to ensure adequate materials are available. Contact Molly or Amy if you have any questions 307.632.5872.

COOPERATIVE VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, LARAMIE

June 10-14, 9:00am - 12:00pm
First Baptist Church, 1517 E Canby St, Laramie
Ages 4 years - grade 6
Cost: \$5
Sponsoring churches: First Baptist, St. Matthew's Episcopal, St. Paul Newman Center, St. Paul's UCC
Register online www.laramiefbc.org/vacation-bible-school 307.745.4106



GOOD NEWS CAMP, ST. ROSE OF LIMA, TORRINGTON

July 8-12, 8:30am - 2:30pm
605 E 22nd Ave, Torrington
Grades 1-6
This year's theme is "Pilgrimage." Please bring a sack lunch. Registration forms in the parish vestibule or online at www.strosetorrington.org/parish-life/education

VBS, ST. MARY MAGDALEN, WORLAND

June 24-26, 9:00am - 11:45am
1009 Charles Avenue, Worland
Ages 4-12
For information, call Danielle Earl 307.588.0646, Jana Dworshak 307.431.6028, Christy Cochran 208.841.0555 or Tanya Kienlen 307.431.2102



NEW ASSIGNMENTS FOR PRIESTS | EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2019 UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

Rev. David Anderson, presently Administrator of St. Peter Eastern Catholic Mission in Ukiah, CA, is appointed as Associate Chaplain of Wyoming Catholic College in Lander.

Rev. Kevin Barrett, presently the Pastor of St. Anthony in Casper, is appointed Parochial Vicar of St. Anthony in Cody and the missions of Our Lady of the Valley in Clark, St. Theresa in Meeteetse and the chapels in Yellowstone National Park.

Rev. Brian Hess, presently the Parochial Vicar of St. Anthony, Cody and the missions of Our Lady of the Valley in Clark, St. Theresa Church in Meeteetse and the chapels in Yellowstone National Park, is appointed Parochial Administrator of Corpus Christi in Newcastle and the missions of St. Paul in Sundance and St. Anthony in Upton.

Rev. Jesryll Intes, presently Parochial Vicar of St. Matthew Parish in Gillette and the missions of St. Patrick in Moorcroft and Blessed Sacrament in Wright, will depart the Diocese of Cheyenne to serve as a Chaplain for the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA. Effective September 1, 2019.

Rev. Bryce Lungren, presently Parochial Vicar of St. Stephens Mission and the missions of St. Joseph in Ethete, and Blessed Sacrament in Ft. Washakie, is appointed Parochial Vicar of St. Matthew Parish in Gillette and the missions of St. Patrick in Moorcroft, Blessed Sacrament in Wright and St. Matthew in Hulett.

Rev. Tim Martinson, presently the Pastor of Corpus Christi in Newcastle and the missions of St. Paul in Sundance, St. Anthony in Upton and St. Matthew in Hulett, will take a Leave of Absence from priestly ministry.

Rev. Hiep Nguyen, presently Parochial Vicar of St. Patrick in Casper and Corpus Christi in Newcastle and the missions of St. Matthew in Hulett, St. Paul in Sundance, and St. Anthony in Upton, is appointed Associate Vocation Director with residence at St. Paul's Newman Center in Laramie and reappointed Parochial Vicar of St. Patrick in Casper.

Rev. Robert Rodgers, presently Parochial Vicar of St. Margaret in Riverton and the missions of Our Lady of the Woods in Dubois, St. Edward in Kinnear, and St. Joseph in Shoshoni, is appointed Parochial Administrator of St. Mary Magdalen in Worland.

Rev. Ray Rodriguez, presently Pastor of St. Mary Magdalen in Worland, is appointed Pastor of St. Anthony in Casper.

Rev. Philip Vaske is appointed Parochial Vicar of St. Anthony in Casper and reappointed as Chaplain of the Hospitals, Nursing Homes and Hospice in Casper.

REAPPOINTMENTS FOR PRIESTS | EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2019

Rev. Gerard "Augustine" Carrillo is reappointed Parochial Administrator of St. Mary Magdalen in Evanston and the mission of St. Helen in Fort Bridger.

Rev. Peter Johnson is reappointed Pastor of St. John the Baptist in Buffalo and the missions of St. Mary in Clearmont and St. Hubert in Kaycee.

Rev. Charles Heston Joseph is reappointed Parochial Vicar of St. Anthony in Cody and the missions of Our Lady of the Valley in Clark, St. Theresa in Meeteetse and the chapels in Yellowstone National Park.

Rev. Andrew Kinstetter is reappointed Parochial Vicar of St. Mary's Cathedral in Cheyenne.

Rev. Rob Spaulding is reappointed pastor of St. Paul's Newman Center in Laramie.

Rev. Steve Titus is reappointed Vocation Director.

Rev. Philip Vanderlin, OSB, a Benedictine Priest of Assumption Abbey in Richardton, ND, is reappointed Parochial Vicar of Our Lady of the Mountains in Jackson and the missions of Holy Family in Thayne and the Chapel of the Sacred Heart in Grand Teton National Park.

Rev. Paul Ward, a priest of the Archdiocese of Detroit, is reappointed Chaplain of Wyoming Catholic College in Lander.

NEW ASSIGNMENTS FOR DEACONS | EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2019

Deacon Bill Hill, currently serving Our Lady of the Mountains in Jackson and the missions of Holy Family in Thayne, and the Chapel of the Sacred Heart in Grand Teton National Park, is appointed permanent deacon of Holy Spirit Catholic Community in Rock Springs and the mission of St. Christopher in Eden.

REAPPOINTMENTS FOR DEACONS | EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2019

Deacon David Johnson is reappointed permanent deacon of St. Anthony in Casper.

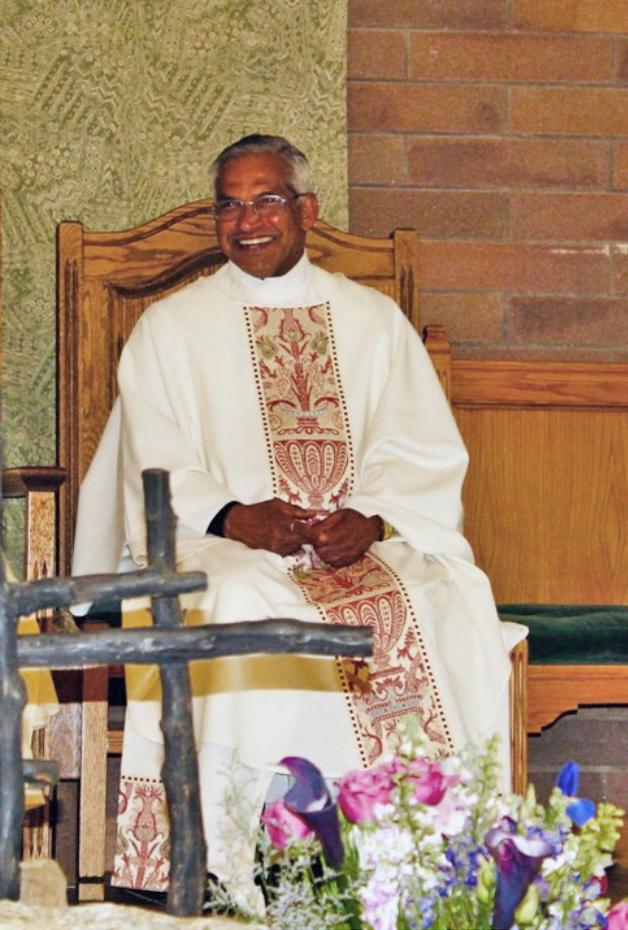
DATED MAY 9, 2019

Handwritten signature of Steven Biegler

THE MOST REVEREND STEVEN BIEGLER, DD, STL BISHOP OF CHEYENNE

Handwritten signature of Patricia A. Loehrer

PATRICIA A. LOEHRER CHANCELLOR



Fr. Denis D'Souza Celebrates 40 Years

Photos by Desiree Gomez

By: Michele Harris, Administrative Assistant, Immaculate Conception Church

Rev. Denis D'Souza, pastor of Immaculate Conception Church in Green River, celebrated the 40th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood on May 16, 2019. Bishop Steven Biegler presided over the Mass and several diocesan priests as well as priests from outside the Diocese were in attendance. A potluck dinner

followed which was attended by over 200 parish friends and family.

Rev. Denis G. D'Souza was born and raised in Madanthyar, a small town located near Mangalore, a city on the west coast of South India. He joined the Diocese of Nellore and was ordained a priest on March 19, 1979. He was assigned to Moksha Matha Church, Chandrasekharapuram, and later to Holy Family Church, Giddalur and Our Lady

of Perpetual Help, Tripuranthakam. He also worked as the principal and correspondent of St. Peter's High School and Our Lady of Lourdes High School, Udayagiri.

Rev. D'Souza was assigned to be an associate pastor of St. Anthony's Church in Cody when he came to the Diocese of Cheyenne in 2012. He became the pastor of Immaculate Conception in July 2015.



From left, Sr. Mary Carmen & Sr. Josefina Guzmán Ayala, Ma Pilar Ordaz Mendez, Sr. Imelda Muñoz Hernández & Sr. Alejandra Austria Garcia

Mexican Sisters Visit Wyoming

By: WCR Staff

On May 1, 2019 Sisters of the community Esclavas de la Inmaculada Niña from Mexico City visited St. Anthony Parish in Casper. St. Anthony Tri-Parish School greeted the sisters with a warm Wyoming welcome that included lunch, a visit with the children, and welcome gifts. Through a grant from Catholic Extension, three Sisters will be serving in Casper beginning later this year.

Gather us in....



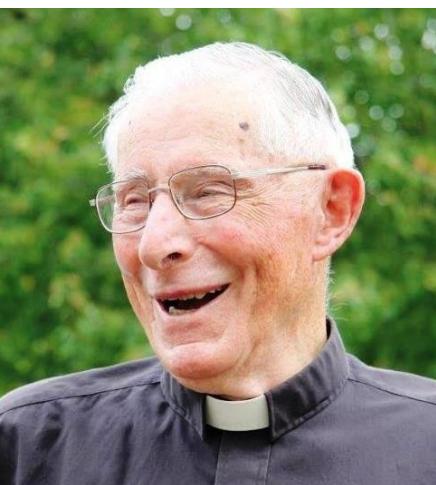
Secular Franciscan Order
There are fraternities in Wyoming.
Come... join us!
More information?

www.secularfranciscansUSA.org

Francis1003Saint@gmail.com

Fr. Thomas Colman Fahey 1919 - 2019

Obituary followed by homily by Reverend Carl Beavers



Fr. Thomas Fahey

Father Thomas Colman Fahey, 99, of Huntington, Ind., passed away March 17 at St. Anne Victory Noll in Huntington.

Father Fahey was born Dec. 6, 1919, to James and Norah (Neilan) Fahey in Galway, Ireland. His parents preceded him in death.

Father Fahey was ordained as a priest on June 1, 1947, in Carlow, Ireland. He began his career at the Diocese of Cheyenne, at St. Mary's Cathedral from 1947-48; Holy Name Parish, Sheridan, from 1949-52; St. Laurence O'Toole, Laramie, from 1952-56; Hospital Chaplain, Cheyenne, from 1956-68; Iona College, New Rochelle, N.Y., from 1968-70; St. Mary's Cathedral, Cheyenne, from 1970-72; Corpus Christi Parish, Newcastle, from 1972-77; Holy Trinity Parish, Cheyenne, from 1977 until his retirement in 1990. In July 1990, he spent some time in Arizona before he made his final residence and served as Chaplain beginning in August 1991, at Victory Noll, now known as Saint Anne Communities - Victory Noll, Huntington, Ind.

Father Fahey is survived by two sisters, Sheila Lynch and Gertrude Fahey; one brother, Jack Fahey; many nephews and nieces; and many more relatives who survive and reside in Ireland. Father Fahey is also survived by Our Lady of Victory Noll Sisters.

Along with his parents, he was preceded in death by two brothers, J.J. (James Joseph) Fahey and Bertie Fahey; and two sisters, Mary Frances O'Sullivan and Betty Fahey.

Mass of Christian Burial was held on March 20, at Archbishop Noll

Memorial Chapel in Huntington, IN with the Rev. Carl A. Beavers, Fr. Maicaal Lobo, Fr. Stephen Colchin and Fr. David Ruppert presiding. Burial was at Victory Noll Cemetery in Huntington.

Following are excerpts from the homily at Fr. Fahey's funeral, given by Fr. Carl Beavers.

Of course, Tom Fahey would go to the Lord during Lent. One more lap would be superfluous. Of course, he would die on the 12th day of Lent, twelve, a number of fulfillment, this time his own. Of course, the Gospel of the 12th day would be Jesus' Transfiguration when the Incarnation entirely yielded to reveal the divine Son of God to whom we are to listen. Few have listened so acutely, so whole-heartedly. We live in a context and we die in a context. What I am trying to say is that Fr. Fahey was in sync with God.

If you desire to know what ignited the flame in (Fr. Fahey's) youthful heart years before ordination, go the Gospel of St. Luke, Chapter 18:8: "but when the Son of Man comes, will he find any faith on earth?" Tom Fahey, if God would use his life, would make sure the Son of Man would find faith on earth. He told me of the pounding haunt with which he lived that there would be no faith for the Son of Man to find. It brought him to the conclusion that if faith is of such importance to God and to the Kingdom, there is nothing he should do with his life unless first to proclaim the centrality of faith. He did: faithfully, accurately, and fervently.

He wrote to me years ago, this remarkable self-disclosure.

"In studying the dynamics of the relationship between God and Moses I learn much about prayer."

"Moses is lost in wonder. When he wants to know, he moves closer to God and is told he must be holy to share with God. God reveals himself to Moses; He reaches out and touches Moses with a fiery touch. He changes Moses, makes him holy by imparting to him his own spirit. Moses, in turn, reaches out to God but he needs to be purified and to surrender totally to God."

"So when I pray I put myself in the place of Moses and I beg God to touch me with His fiery hand and



Fr. Fahey was known for his beautiful flowers and green thumb

burn out of me all the rotten stuff and remake me. One day I hope all the rotten stuff will be burnt away and God will embrace me fully and I suppose that will be heaven."

So praying is becoming contemplative and, then, becoming a mystic."

Is it possible that Father Fahey now beholds the Father's face? That answer is beyond my purview. Still, when I remember that Moses will be pleading his case before

God's throne and Mother Cabrini's testimony has been admitted with all the other evidence to be considered, my hope is secure. His faith has gone on "to the realization of what he hoped for, the evidence of things not seen". (Heb. 11:1). For that to be happening, he would have to be beholding the Father's face.

May he rest in peace and may his soul and the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. *Oremus pro invicem.*

Monsignor James O'Neill 1929-2019



After recurrent illnesses and miraculous healings during his retirement years, Msgr. O'Neill went home to God on March 18, 2019. Msgr. was born in Bantry, County Cork, Ireland to James and Jane (O'Sullivan) O'Neill on August 8, 1929, the ninth of thirteen children, the second boy. Msgr. received his early education in the local schools and graduated from St. Fachnas High School, Skibbereen in June, 1948.

Following graduation, he entered St. John's Seminary in Waterford to study for Priesthood and was ordained a priest at the Waterford Cathedral on June 17, 1954. It was his lifelong desire to serve as a missionary priest in an area of greatest need. He was accepted by the then bishop

of Cheyenne, Bishop Newell, to serve the people of Wyoming.

In the years of his Priesthood Msgr. ministered to people at St. Patrick's, Kemmerer — Jackson: 1954-1955; St. Mary's Cathedral, Cheyenne: 1955-1958 and 1964-1983; St. Joseph's, Cheyenne: 1958-1959 and 1962-1964; Corpus Christi, Newcastle: 1959-1962; St. Anthony's, Casper: 1983-1998; St. Patrick's, Casper 1998 — until his final retirement.

Msgr. served as Vicar-General of the diocese, 1973-1994, under two bishops: Bishop Newell and Bishop Hart. He was named a Prelate of Honor to Pope Paul VI with the title Monsignor on February 20, 1974.

In his retirement years Msgr. ministered to the sick, the aged, and the shut-ins of Wyoming, northern Colorado, and eastern Nebraska by means of the Sunday TV Mass for fifteen years. He was named "Hidden Hero" by The Catholic Extension Society of America for his TV ministry. Msgr. chaired the Diocesan Centennial Celebration the weekend of August 8, 1987, attended by some 40 bishops from throughout the United States, more than one hundred priests and religious, and five thousand people from Wyoming. He also chaired the Diocesan Synod — a three-year process for the assessment of the pastoral needs of the Church in Wyoming. He retired in 1998 due to ill health and took up residence at St. Patrick's.

Msgr. often said that he has been truly blessed by the very, very many good, holy, and saintly people whom he has met and whom he has been privileged to serve... that he has received so much more than he has given... that he is deeply indebted Bishop Newell, Bishop Hart, Bishop

Ricken, Bishop Etienne and Bishop Steven for their goodness and for their confidence in him... that he is so very grateful, too, for his brother priests, deacons, religious, and all the good people that he has befriended. He said that he is grateful above all for his saintly parents and for his brothers and sisters, nieces and nephews, and their families and for their strong support. Msgr. said that he has enjoyed being a priest.

Surviving Msgr. is one brother, Dan of New York; one sister, Sister Pauline, SM, Provincial of the Marist Sisters in England; 35 nieces and nephews; 70 grand-nieces and nephews; 9 great grand-nieces and nephews.

Msgr. was preceded in death by his good parents; three brothers — Patrick, Michael, and John; seven sisters — Ann Gair, Mary and Kitty O'Neill, Jean McGee, Eileen O'Driscoll, Peggie Kéohane, and Bridie Keane; two nieces and three nephews.

Visitation was Thursday, March 21, 2019 at St. Patrick's, Casper followed by office of the Dead and Vigil Service. Funeral Mass was Friday, March 22, 2019 at St. Patrick's with Most Reverend Bishop Steven Biegler, DD, STL, as Principal Celebrant and the priests of the diocese as concelebrants. Interment followed at Highland Cemetery. Memorials in honor of Msgr. may be made in care of your local parish to St. Joseph Society for Retired Priests; St. Anthony Tri-Parish School, Casper; Catholic Extension Society of America sponsor of the TV Mass. Reception followed Funeral Services at St. Patrick's Gym.

"Until we meet again, God bless you and thanks to all." -Msgr O'Neill



Msgr O'Neill on far right pictured with Fr. August Koeune (middle) and Deacon Russ Humphreys(left)



Master of Theology Awarded to Diocesan Deacon

By: WCR Staff

Congratulations to Deacon Steve Penwell, a student in the Graduate Theology Program at Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology, who was awarded a Master of Arts (Theology) on Saturday, May 11, 2019. Penwell is a Deacon for the Diocese of Cheyenne. He is a member of St. Barbara's Catholic Church in Powell.



Children play a fun game of tug-of-war



Thank you to the Knights of Columbus cook crew



Fr. Steve Titus says Mass at the 2018 gathering



St. Anthony of Padua Parish Family Retreat/ Campout July 12-14 in Cody

By Tom Caudle, St. Anthony Parish

The parish family retreat at St. Anthony's in Cody was started several years ago to give families an opportunity to come together in a family-friendly, faith-centered setting. This event brings the parish family together and also brings families within the parish together. The goal has always been to bring the parish together as a unit. The family is every member of Christ's Body of Believers, from the youngest to the oldest, the married or unmarried.

This year's retreat will be held July 12-14 at the Buffalo Bill State Park just 20 minutes from Cody along the route to Yellowstone National Park. Camping is provided in the park both Friday and

Saturday nights and checkout is Sunday morning, after Mass. The Knights of Columbus provide the food for the Saturday and Sunday morning breakfast along with the meat for the Saturday evening meal. A potluck provides for the sides and desserts. Spiritual lessons are given throughout the weekend in age appropriate groups. Mass is celebrated Saturday and Sunday and "field confession" is available the entire weekend. Field confession is an open invitation to ask a priest to take a walk with you in the nearby fields to hear your confession. Everyone gathers around the fire in the evening for the Rosary and campfire songs. Contact: Tom Caudle at tomcaudle68@yahoo.com

Divine Mercy Celebration in Cheyenne

By Linda Wahl, St. Joseph Catholic Church

On April 28, 2019, the Divine Mercy celebration took place at St. Joseph's Parish in Cheyenne. Deacon Tom Neiman led the Eucharistic procession of the faithful, which was followed by Adoration, and the singing of

See Divine Mercy, 19



Top: Deacon Tom Niemann leads the procession with the Blessed Sacrament

Bottom: Participants process prior to the holy hour

Divine Mercy from 18

the Divine Mercy Chaplet, during the Hour of Mercy (3:00 pm). Parish groups including the Adoration, St. Michael the Archangel, Passionist, Santa Maria Visitation, Holy Face, Carmelite, Divine Mercy groups, as well as the Virgen de Guadalupe Rosario all participated. This is a feast day Jesus ask us to “celebrate,” and celebrate we did...with food and entertaining music! Thank you to Erlinda Varos for leading and singing the Chaplet during the service, and Linda Urelly who was the pianist at the reception. Both women helped organize the event along with Linda Wahl.

Please join us next year!



Top: Fr. Kevin Barrett reminiscent of his days as an EMT with the Chicago Fire Department at last year's event

Left: left to right: Henry Halvorsen, Maggie Halvorsen, Nora Halvorsen, and Charlie Halvorsen with their faces painted at the 2018 event

Right: The Matachine Dancers from Gillette danced throughout the day in 2018

Come Celebrate St. Anthony of Padua!

By: LaVonne Carlson, Finance & Office Administrator, St. Anthony

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church in Casper will be celebrating its Patron Saint's Feast Day on Saturday, June 29, 2019 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. This is our 2nd annual celebration and we have lots of activities planned. Next year's celebration will be combined with our 100 Year Celebration in August 2020.

We invite you to join us for free games, bounce houses, a bungee jump, face painters, cake walk, and much more. We will be serving complimentary hamburgers, hot dogs, Mexican food and soft drinks until gone. There will also be a Sno-Cone truck, raffles, silent auction, craft booths and an adult beer garden, all available for purchase.

Entertainment is scheduled throughout the day with Mexican Matachine Dancers,

Magician/Illusionist Lazarus Benson, 307 Dance Academy, and The Science Zone. The Casper Fire and Police Departments will also be onsite giving tours of their vehicles.

We currently have raffle tickets for sale at \$5.00 per ticket with the proceeds being used to offer this free event. The Grand Prize is \$1000.00 cash. Other raffle prizes are a king size handmade quilt, a hand-carved birdhouse wall hanging, and an antler bowl by Shawn Rivett Designs. The drawing will be at 2:00 P.M. on June 29th. You do not need to be present to win. If you are interested in purchasing a ticket you may call the Shepherd Staff office during business hours at 307-266-2667 and ask for LaVonne or Trina.

So come one, come all. Gather up the kids and grandma too. Spend some time with us at St. Anthony of Padua Church Feast Day Celebration located at 644 S. Center Street in Casper, WY!



The 2020 Campaign to End the Death Penalty in Wyoming

By Deacon Mike Leman

The 2020 Campaign to End the Death Penalty in Wyoming kicked off on April 30, 2019. Nearly 30 people braved the snow and cold, gathering in front of the Wyoming Supreme Court for the launch.

Below are statements from both Pope Benedict XVI and Pope St. John Paul II, calling for the repeal of death penalty laws.

Pope Benedict XVI

Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation *Africae Munus*- November 2011-

“Together with the Synod members, I draw the attention of society’s leaders to the need to make every effort to eliminate the death penalty.”

Address to the Community of Sant’Egidio, November 30, 2011-

“I express my hope that your deliberations will encourage the political and legislative initiatives being promoted in a growing number of countries to eliminate the death penalty.”

Pope Saint John Paul II

Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation *Ecclesia in America*- January 1999-

“Nor can I fail to mention the unnecessary recourse to the death penalty when other bloodless means are sufficient to defend human lives against an aggressor and to protect public order and the safety of persons.” “In this regard, the Synod Fathers, echoing recent documents of the Church’s Magisterium, forcefully restated their unconditional respect for and total dedication to human life from the moment of conception to that of natural death.”

Papal Mass, St. Louis, Missouri, January 27, 1999-

*“The new evangelization calls for followers of Christ who are unconditionally pro-life: who will proclaim, celebrate and serve the Gospel of life in every situation. A sign of hope is the increasing recognition that the dignity of human life must never be taken away, even in the case of someone who has done great evil. Modern society has the means of protecting itself, without definitively denying criminals the chance to reform (cf. *Evangelium Vitae*, 27). I renew the appeal I made most recently at Christmas for a consensus to end the death penalty, which is both cruel and unnecessary.”*



Top: Bishop Steven, Rep. Jared Olsen (last year’s sponsor of the repeal bill), Legislative Liaison Deacon Mike Leman and other campaign supporters gathered for a snowy picture. Above: Father Christopher Xanthos (Holy Apostles Orthodox Church) addresses the crowd.

St. John Vianney Relic Venerated In Cheyenne

By Theresa J. Meuer, St. Matthew Youth Director, Gillette

I have a great relationship with the Trinity. I believe fully in Transubstantiation and the miracle of the Eucharist. I know truth of Divine Presence as well as evil. I believe in heaven & hell. Yet I am a skeptic, totally unqualified to write this article. And that is what makes me the perfect representative to share my experience with the Incorruptible Heart of St. John Vianney that recently graced the Cathedral of St. Mary in Cheyenne. I wanted to make the journey to see the relic because I struggle to grasp miracles fully. Oh, yes, I know He brought me back from suffering and saved my life (miracle!) But a weeping statue or the Eucharist turning to actual flesh? Here, I admit, I have struggled to believe in these. I am Doubting Thomas. I need to put my fingers in the wounds. Perhaps it is because I belong to the millennial generation where there is so much noise and you must be wary of information. Perhaps it is simply human.

So, for the other “Thomases” out there, I approached the heart of St. John Vianney with an open mind and heart. As I approached the relic, I had a strong sense of warmth. My heart began to beat much stronger and faster, almost as if it was beating outside my chest. My husband shared he felt as if his heart slowed and calmed. Other members of our



Rev. Thomas Cronkleton is presented with a plaque for 25 years of Service as the Faithful Friar. Presenting the award is Past Faithful Navigator (PFN) Jerry Plumbley. Photo by John Lee PFN

Fr. Tom Cronkleton Receives Knights Award

By: Eugene Jonart PFN, Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree Assembly, #1223 Bishop P.A. McGovern

At a recent meeting of Fourth Degree Assembly #1223 Bishop P.A. McGovern, Reverend Thomas Cronkleton Jr, Pastor of Holy Trinity Church in Cheyenne, was presented with a plaque to honor his 25 Years as their Faithful Friar. In presenting, Faithful Admiral Jerry Plumbley noted that this length of service is extremely rare.



Top: The Knights of Columbus stand guard over the relic
Bottom: The incorrupt heart of St. John Vianney Photos by Theresa J. Meuer

group enjoyed the relic, but felt nothing special. I think each of us received what we needed.

St. John Vianney had an incredible heart and compassion for sinners, often hearing confessions for 11-18 hours. St. John Paul II once said the saint was a “a sign of courage for those who today experience the grace of being called to the priesthood.” As I sat gazing upon the heart of a sinner that became a saint and the tabernacle overlooking it, I prayed

God would bless me with such a heart. “...My God, if my tongue cannot say in every moment that I love You, I want my heart to repeat it to You as often as I draw breath.” -Prayer of St. John Vianney

The relic of St. John Vianney’s incorrupt heart began its US pilgrimage in November 2018 and has been entrusted to the Knights of Columbus. Veneration was at St. Mary’s Cathedral in Cheyenne on May 11, and the heart remained exposed during the 4pm Mass.



Photos by Jody Moser

Living Stations in Cody

By Deacon Rick Moser, St. Anthony of Padua

El viernes Santo, Los Jóvenes de La Iglesia de San Antonio de Padua. Interpretaron las 14 estaciones de la cruz con la ayuda de el ministerio hispano, Los Knights, el coro de la iglesia y voluntaries. Los vestuarios

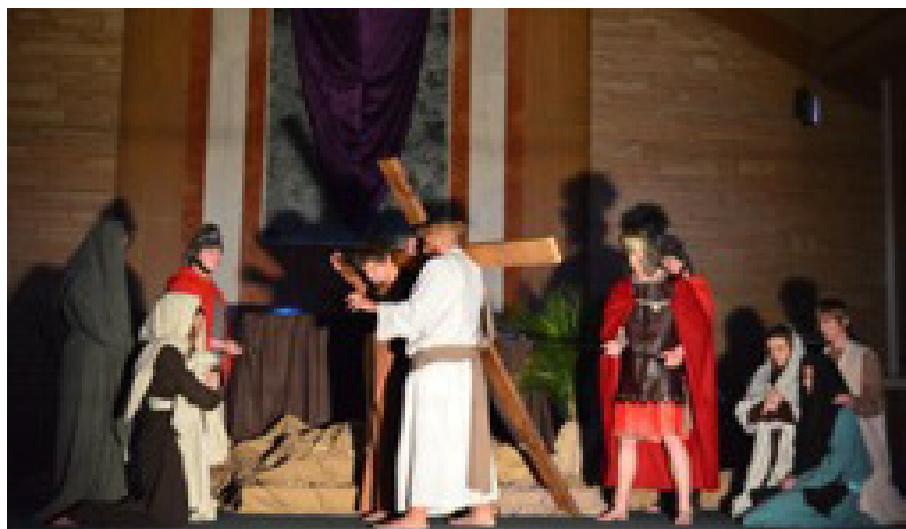
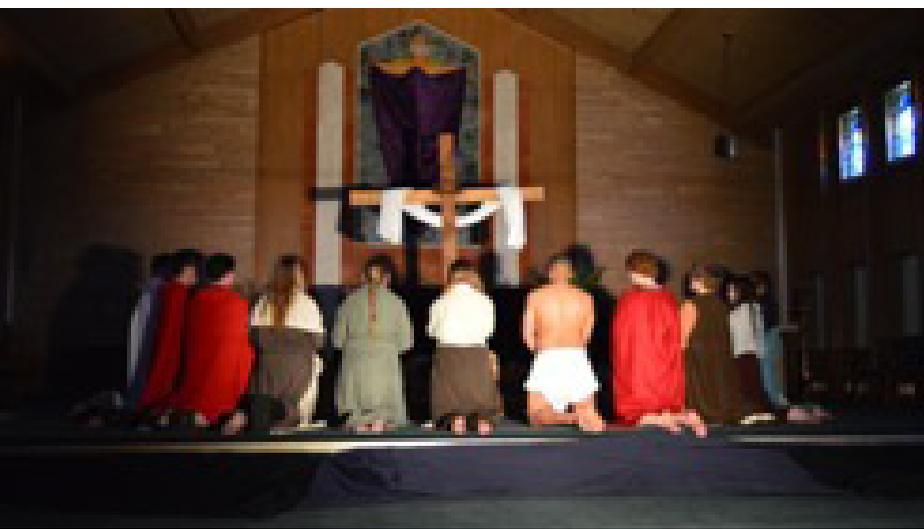
fueron elaborados en Mexico. Las personas estuvieron en procesión de estación en estación con rezos y cantos, participaron 27 jóvenes y los comentarios de las personas fueron excelentes y estuvieron agradecidos por ver compartido esta tradición hispana.

The Living Stations of the Cross

were held at St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Cody on Good Friday afternoon, April 19. This inaugural event was presented by the Hispanic Ministry of St. Anthony's in conjunction with the youth of the parish, the music ministry and the Knights of Columbus. The costumes used were made in Mexico and

sent to our parish. The attendees proceeded from station to station on the grounds of St. Anthony's. This Hispanic Tradition was wonderfully presented and much appreciated by not only the parishioners of St. Anthony's and its Missions but by many of the local citizens.

Saint Patrick's Youth Group Dedicates Stations of The Cross to Monsignor O'Neill



By Dennis Fakelman, St. Patrick's High School Youth Minister

The high school youth group at Saint Patrick's in Casper has been performing "Living Stations of the Cross" for the parish on Good Fridays for over ten years now. This year's edition was a little more special, as they dedicated the stations to Monsignor O'Neill, who passed away in March. Youth ministers Karin and Dennis Fakelman share that, "Monsignor would always help pick

out and approve which version would be read each year. It was always a special day for him. He would write a special prayer for the kids and come in just before we started and pray with them. He loved the kids dearly and they loved him right back." Karin added, "When we were practicing, some of the kids were saying, 'What are we going to do without Monsignor this year?' That's when they decided to dedicate the stations to him."

Being a part of the Stations has always been a very rewarding and spiritual experience for

the students who participate. One of the group's seniors, Morgan Jaquez noted, "I have done this all four years and each year is more powerful than the last. You really get to experience Jesus' Passion in a whole new way. The amount of suffering He endured for all of us points to just how much He loves us." This year we had some former students talk to us about how this experience stayed with them and strengthened their faith as they went to college. It was very inspiring, but we still missed Monsignor.

The Oil of Chrism is different in that it is scented with balsam. It is also used in baptisms, but where the Oil of Catechumens is used to anoint the chest of the infant, the Oil of Chrism is used in the anointing the crown of the head of the child. The Oil of Chrism is also used in Confirmation and Holy Orders. When a priest is ordained, the ordaining bishop will spread Oil of Chrism over the hands of the new priest. When a church, altar, altar stone, chalice, or paten is consecrated, Oil of Chrism is used there as well.

This Mass is traditionally celebrated on the morning of Holy Thursday, in remembrance of the anniversary of Jesus instituting the priesthood at the Last Supper. Due to the long distances our priests must travel to return to their parishes, it is impractical to expect them to attend Mass in the morning, then drive back to their parish in time for Mass on Holy Thursday night. For this reason, the Chrism Mass takes place early in our diocese. During the Mass, Bishop Steven called upon the priests to renew the sacred promises they made at their ordination.

The oils were carried to the front of the church, where Bishop Steven consecrated the oils by breathing on them. The oils were then poured into vessels to be taken back to the parishes for use during the year.

Everyone in the diocese is welcome and encouraged to attend the Chrism Mass. Look for information next Lent on where and when the Chrism Mass will be held.



Windy Work at St. Anne's in Big Piney

By Kim Linn, Secretary, Our Lady of Peace Pinedale

Despite the strong winds, St Anne's Confirmation class earned their community hours by cleaning the highway. Jafet Martinez, Thomas Barron, Jorge Garcia, Kim Linn, Audree Sevenski, and Maritza Galvan are committed to their Church and serving their community.



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Goodbye and Welcome

WCR Staff

Matthew Potter has taken a new position as the Director of Stewardship in the Diocese of Evansville, Indiana as of Easter. Matt served as Diocese of Cheyenne Director of Development & Stewardship, as well as the Executive Director of the Wyoming Catholic Ministries Foundation for the last nine years. Matt leaves behind a legacy of growth and development for both the Foundation and Development departments, as well as a plethora of photographs documenting years of diocesan history. You may have seen Matt at many a diocesan event toting a camera or two.

Joseph Wotawa has been hired as the new Director of Pastoral Formation for the Diocese of Cheyenne. Originally from St. Louis, MO, Joe completed his undergraduate studies at St. Louis University, majoring in Philosophy and English. He completed his Master of Divinity in May of 2019. Joe has experience as a teacher, campus minister and coach in a Catholic High school and as a catechist in parishes. In addition, he was in formation with the Society of Jesus (i.e., Jesuits) for eleven years. Joe is excited to join the Diocese of Cheyenne to support the faithful in our shared vocation of proclaiming the



Matt Potter

Good News. In his spare time, Joe enjoys reading, creative writing, running, and protecting the net for his soccer team. He will begin his ministry



Joe Wotawa

here near the end of June 2019.

Please pray for Matt and wife Sherry, as well as Joe during their time of transition.



Pilgrimage Trip to Italy
with
Bishop Steven Biegler
& **Fr. Carl Gallinger**
February 6-16, 2020

Join Bishop Steven Biegler & Fr. Carl Gallinger on this wonderful spiritual journey to Florence, Assisi, Orvieto, and Rome with lots to see and taste!

*Daily Mass in some of the most beautiful and important basilicas in Italy

*Attend a papal audience with Pope Francis

*Visit sites and monuments Italy is famous for

*Enjoy good Italian food and wine!

Total package \$3,600*
Deadline to register: August 16, 2019

REGISTER TODAY!

Visit www.dioceseofcheyenne.org/italy.html



for more information
contact Dorene McIntyre
dmcintyre@dioceseofcheyenne.org

*price based on minimum 30 participants

