THE MAGAZINE OF THE DIOCESE OF PHOENIX

TOGETHER LET US GO FORTH

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OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2022



Abide IN MY love

A CALL TO LIVE IN GOD'S GOODNESS, LOVE AND BLESSEDNESS AS DOLAN BECOMES DIOCESE'S FIFTH BISHOP AND REFLECTING ON THE PAST AND LOOKING TO THE FUTURE WITH BISHOP OLMSTED

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TOGETHER LET US GO FORTH

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– Gabriella



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Leading our youth to holiness



"We need saints with jeans and tennis shoes. We need saints that go to the movies, that listen to music, that hang out with their friends ... We need saints — saints for the 21st century ..."

It's uncertain who first spoke these beautiful words (thought to be inspired by Pope St. John Paul II), but the sentiment is clear. The holiness of our young people is a great and needed gift in our culture today!

Blessed Carlo Acutis, an Italian Catholic born in 1991, is a wonderful example of this. Carlo was known by his teachers as the student who always offered part of his sandwich to someone who had none, who stood up to bullies, and who invited a lonely student over to dinner after school.

But you know what else Carlo was known for? Wearing tennis shoes and playing video games. Is this not the holiness the Lord has in store for all of us — coming into our realities and joys and being present here?

It is easy for us to think it was solely Carlo's spiritual practices that made him holy. But it was the combination of his heroic virtue and his ordinary childhood that drew the attention of the world! When Carlo died of leukemia at the age of 15, he was buried in jeans and tennis shoes.

How can we help our own young people come to know Jesus through this same everyday holiness? How can we help them to be saints?

It is easy for young people today to become discouraged. The culture they are growing up in doesn't naturally provide the space and silence they need to foster a personal relationship with Jesus. Without this, it's easy for them to turn to the voices of the world to answer the profound questions we all must ask.

Who am I? Why am I here? Can I make an impact?



MOST REV. JOHN P. DOLAN

is the fifth bishop of the Diocese of Phoenix.

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Surrounded by the noises of society, our young people often don't realize this important truth: They were intentionally chosen and loved into existence by our creative God, Who is continually calling them by name and drawing near.

We need to teach them this Truth; we need the sainthood of our young people!

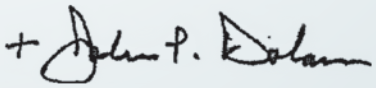
"Who am I? Why am I here? Can I make an impact?"

We desire this so that they may experience the beauty of being in a personal relationship with Jesus, the only One who can fulfill the longings of their hearts. We also desire this because the world needs their unique impact. Sometimes, we forget that our young people are disciples. As Jesus said in Luke 18, "Let the children come to me and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."

Our Church is blessed to have many Catholic schools, an invaluable opportunity to foster a space for children to "come to Jesus" without hindrance. Our school hallways are already filled with saints in the making! In high schools, elementary schools, and preschools. Where you find children, you find Jesus. Let us strive to foster a Spirit-filled environment — in our schools, homes, and parishes — where our young people can hear the voice of Jesus and respond to His call.

Please continue to pray for the efforts of our Catholic high schools and elementary schools, and for their administrators, teachers, and students. Together let us foster a freedom in our young people, so that as they ask these foundational questions — Who am I? Why am I here? Can I make an impact? — they will have the openness to hear Jesus' response.

You are a child of God. You have a great purpose. Your impact is irreplaceable. ✝



Yours in Christ,
Most Rev. John P. Dolan

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‘A little child shall lead them.’

When I first heard these words of the prophet Isaiah, I knew right away that they were referring to Jesus.

But it wasn’t until years later during a conversation with my daughter, Sophia, that I realized these words are talking about our children, too.

Six years ago, my wife Rosemary and I were invited to move our family from the great state of Texas to the incredible Diocese of Phoenix. It was a tough decision, especially with our four daughters in grade school and high school! But we felt God calling us to Arizona, and we’re so glad He did!!

But it hasn’t always been easy. As you can imagine, this move had challenges for our entire family, especially my daughter Sophia, who was in third grade at the time. She started at St. Francis Elementary School and was really struggling with all the changes in her life. As a dad, I started to wonder if moving our family had been the right thing to do.

But when God calls you to something, He accompanies that call with peace and confirmation.

I received that confirmation one night when I was putting Sophia to bed. Something really incredible happened … Sophia asked me to pray with her! That’s every Catholic dad’s dream! So of course I did! And then a conversation unfolded that went something like this:

Sophia: “Dad, do you know who Padre Pio is?”

Me: “Yes!”

Sophia: “Did you know he could be in two places at once?”

Me: “No, I didn’t.”

Sophia: “Did you know that he could read people’s souls, so when they came to confession, he already knew what they would say?”

Me: “No, but that’s pretty cool!” (And so was the fact that my daughter was talking about saints!)

After Sophia fell asleep, I couldn’t help thinking of the words of Isaiah once again, “A little child shall lead them.” And then it hit me — my daughter was leading *me!*

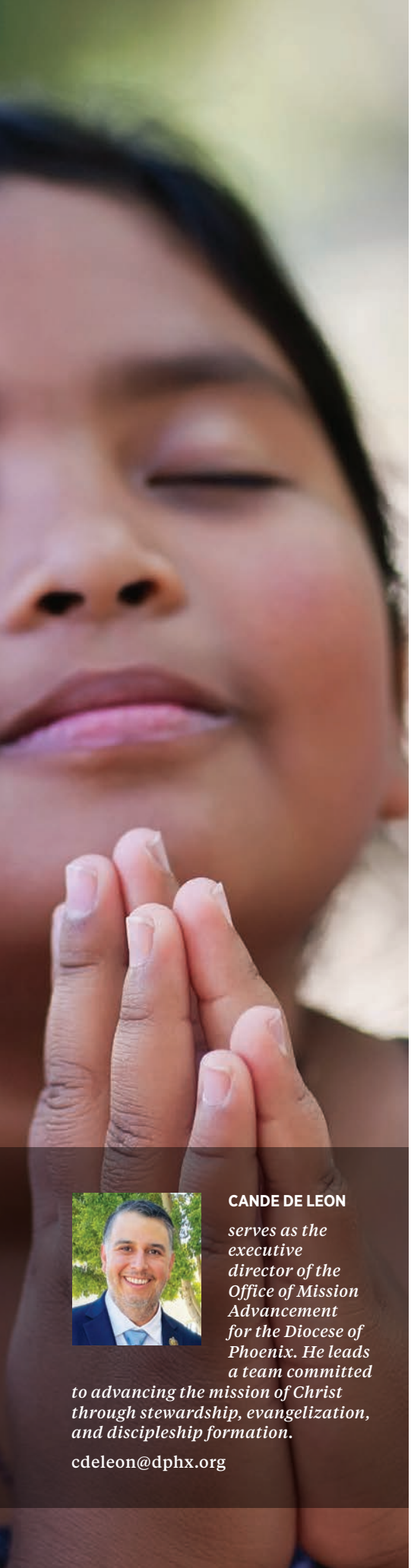
Children naturally lead people to Jesus because it is built into their soul. From the time they are young, they have a honing device in our hearts that draws them to Jesus! But as we grow up and get knocked around by this world, it can get knocked off course. And sometimes, we even choose to turn it off.

God guides us on how to get back on track through Scripture. In the Gospel of Matthew, He says, “Amen, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.”

Our children lead us to Jesus and have so much to teach us, even when they aren’t trying! We can look to them in the same way that they look to us. We have so much to teach each other!

I’m so glad Sophia asked me to pray with her that night. In that simple moment, my daughter helped my homing device stay on track. God also confirmed how much Rosemary and I were helping Sophia stay on course by putting her in Catholic school. Our relationship with our kids is a two-way street!

I encourage you to ask the question: As I am listening to my children (that includes adult children too!), what is Jesus teaching me through them? You may just be amazed by the answer! ✝



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CHURCHING LIKE A PRO

There was a time when Catholics would "hear" the Mass — they might show up to church and spend their time watching and listening to the priest. After the Second Vatican Council, Pope St. Paul VI promulgated the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, which expressed the desire "that all the faithful should be led to that fully conscious and active participation in liturgical celebrations, which is demanded by the very nature of the liturgy." (14) The passive participation of a spectator became our actual participation in the work of Christ as we unite ourselves to Him who does the work of sacrifice and worship.

Just a few decades later, we Catholics live our actual participation in the holy Mass in a very active way. If it's been a while since you've been to Mass or if you are ready to bring a friend with you for the first time, here is an overview of what to do and when.

Stretch your church muscles and hit those kneelers

STAND: for the entrance procession through the opening prayer, for the *Alleluia* and the Gospel, for the creed and the Prayers of the Faithful, after the Offertory hymn as the priest says, "Pray, brothers …"until after the "Holy holy," from after the Great Amen through the Lamb of God, and from the Prayer after Communion through the end of Mass.

SIT: for the first reading, responsorial psalm, second reading, homily, offertory, and after Communion if you can't kneel.

KNEEL: from the Eucharistic Prayer until after the Great Amen, after the Lamb of God, and after receiving Communion.

GENUFLECT AND BOW: Genuflect, touching your *right* knee to the ground, any time you pass before the tabernacle. Bow your head when the Trinity is named together, at the name of Jesus and the Blessed Virgin Mary, and before receiving Communion. Bow at the waist (a "profound bow") when praying the Creed: "And by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary ..."

What's that you say?

The easiest way to know what to say during Mass is to use the *Missal*. That red book in the pew in front of you isn't just your go-to for songs! It includes the Sunday Mass readings and the Order of the Mass. Can't find it? You can buy personal missals online (and you can get it in an app on your phone, but try to ignore the hairy eyeballs from the people who think you're scrolling Twitter).

How to receive Communion

You arrived on time, you've been to confession recently, and you're ready to receive the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of our Lord, Jesus Christ, in the Eucharist. Amen! Wait, that's your line. If you're receiving in the hand, make your throne — left hand flat above your right, so you can pick Jesus up carefully. Be sure to consume Him right there in front of the priest or extraordinary minister. If you're ready to try receiving on the tongue, bend your head back, open wide, and touch the tip of your tongue to the part of your chin just below your bottom lip.

I don't know what to do with my hands!

Speaking of hands … If you are ever wondering what your hands should be doing, look to the deacon. Any time he's not doing a specific job, you'll see him with his hands folded in prayer. This is the best place for our hands too! Sometimes, it's more comfortable to clasp them together in front of or behind you. Sometimes, you're juggling toddlers, and you have no say in what your hands are doing. But generally, keep your hands folded in prayer. Yes, even during the Our Father; even "and with your spirit"; even lifting your heart to the Lord. Check that deacon!

Snacks

Coronatide made it hard to go an hour or two without snacking, but we're past that now, and Mass is definitely not the place for the munchies. Remember: an important part of receiving Communion is fasting for the hour before Mass. Did you know this used to be a full fast for the day, breaking your fast on the Eucharist? Now it's just an hour before, plus the length of Mass, and then you can grab lunch on the way home. Hey, be sure to double check for gum on the way in!

We're happy to see you!

Sometimes, we're distracted or forget what to do, and that's OK. No matter what, your parish community would rather have you in the pew than not, present and praying with them! Thank you for being with us in prayer. The Body of Christ, the Church, is not the same without you as a part of it. ✝



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St. Thérèse of Lisieux & St. Teresa of Ávila



FEAST DAY: OCTOBER 1

St. Thérèse of Lisieux, also known as St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, entered a Carmelite convent in France at the age of 15. Through her "Little Way" of love, prayer, and sacrifice, St. Thérèse became known for her great holiness. Her book, *The Story of a Soul*, is the autobiography of her life. She died of tuberculosis when she was 24.



FEAST DAY: OCTOBER 15

St. Teresa of Ávila, who lived in 16th-century Spain, was also a Carmelite nun. She was a great reformer of her age. She was so displeased with the lax lifestyle of her convent that she founded a new reformed convent, called the Discalced Carmelites. St. Teresa was a contemplative and mystic, and she received great raptures and visions. The artist Gian Lorenzo Bernini portrayed one of her mystical experiences in a famous sculpture titled "The Ecstasy of Saint Teresa" in Rome's Santa Maria della Vittoria. ✝

St. Thérèse of Lisieux: Wikimedia Commons | St. Teresa of Avila: Getty Images/arssecreta

CAN YOU TELL THEM APART? TAKE THE QUIZ!

1. Which saint is known as the Little Flower?
2. Which saint was a friend of St. John of the Cross?
3. Which saint was a spoiled child before she entered the convent?
4. Which saint is a doctor of the Church?

See the answers on page 28



Adapting to change

When I was in college, my mother put a pink Post-it Note on my door. It remained there even after I married and had a home of my own, for written on the note in blue pen was a reminder we both needed during that time of transition:

A bend in the road
is not the end of the road
unless you fail to make the turn.

It was a reminder that change is merely part of life, to be expected and even embraced. And just as I now teach my teens to accelerate through the curve as they learn to drive, we too need to learn to accelerate through the curves in our life.

Change is an essential catalyst for growth in life. In scientific terms, we are always either growing or dying — nothing living is ever truly static. In medical terms, atrophy refers to the death or decay of a cell or some aspect of the human body. The opposite of such is to ameliorate, improve, enhance, or become better.

Developmental psychologists describe cognitive growth as a process by which the brain is stressed and stretched, and growth results as an outcome of this pressure. Brains which are not challenged do not face the same level of growth.

Athletes know this to be true of the body as well. In order to get a muscle to grow and become stronger, the muscle fibers themselves must be shredded through exercise. They must undergo pressure in order to grow stronger; this growth is uncomfortable and even painful at times. I recently came across some research on what is called the "athlete's heart." Cardiologists report that some endurance athletes have a heart with greater mass, different heart sounds, and even some restructuring of the actual organ. The intense training leads to a changed heart.

It's true, too, of our spiritual life! Change can draw us closer and deeper to Him; however, it can also turn us inward and fill us with despair. How can we embrace change rather than let it overwhelm us? How can we help our children to deal better with the inevitable changes that come in everyday life?



MARYRUTH HACKETT, PHD,

is a mom of four with a doctorate in educational psychology, specializing in child development. She hosts the Parenting Smarts podcast and blogs at Parenting with Peer Review.

DO'S AND DON'TS OF CHANGE

1. **Do:** give your children plenty of warning when a change is coming and present it with optimism, not fear.
2. **Do Not:** ask them for their opinions or permission for the change, if the matter has already been decided. This actually increases stress.
3. **Do:** listen to your children's fears and worries. Ask them if there are any small things that you could do to help them adjust to the change.
4. **Do Not:** try to convince them that they shouldn't feel as they do.
5. **Do:** make their role in the change clear — i.e., you will be expected to pack your room, be ready to go on time, help me in this specific way. This helps them to see what they can control and are responsible for doing.
6. **Do Not:** give into the drama when the things are out of your control. If decisions have already been made at a higher level, don't fret about them. Accept them and move on.
7. **Do:** look for the silver linings. Sometimes, that silver lining will simply be that you are going to grow as individuals and together as a family through the change.

Sometimes, our children's inability to accept change is a reflection of our own inability to deal with our own change. When we cannot change the actual situation, we need to change our reaction to the situation. Therefore, when faced with change, we must make sure to first get a hold of our own emotional reaction to change. Take your struggle to the Lord in prayer and ask the Lord to help you identify what virtue is being challenged. Invite Him to help you grow in that area and learn to accelerate through the curves on the road ahead.

The most intense growth occurs under pressure, when we are made to think and act in new ways. One of the clearest ways we can grow in the face of challenges is in our trust. We must recognize that God wants us to succeed in holiness and then trust that He will equip us for the struggles that come, regardless of how difficult the challenges may be. (Matruin 2016)

We need to develop a deeper trust in Him, in the reality that we are created for a purpose, and that He has given us all that we need for the work He has put before us. Change can bring us closer to the Lord because it creates an opportunity for us to grow in endurance and character, which leads us to hope. And that hope becomes a trust in the Lord. ✝

**Aspects of this piece were adopted from Dr. Hackett's new book Daughter by Design: Discovering Your Identity as God's Beloved Daughter, available now at www.maryruthhackett.com.*

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The Eucharist and THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

If we hope to lead others to faith in Christ, there is simply no other way except by faithfully echoing the word of God in both word and deed. Only the word can awaken and bring forth the Word. God alone is both the source of the kingdom of heaven within us (created as we are in the image and likeness of God) and the One who brings this reign to fruition in our lives and in our world. This is the essence of the principle of "like for like."

This means having the same mind, love, heart and thought as Christ, who is in perfect communion with the Father and the Spirit. We can do this, through the power of the Holy Spirit, by doing as Christ did, that is, by becoming obedient, even unto death. However, this means we must give up our own will to the will of the Father, just as Jesus did.

S. OLSON

DOUG CULP

is the CAO and secretary for pastoral life for the Diocese of Lexington, Kentucky. He holds an MA in theology from Catholic Theological Union in Chicago.

The first step: DESIRE

The first step to surrendering our will to the will of the Father is having a burning desire for the kingdom of God. The kingdom of God is a state of communion with God. It is the state that Jesus made present to his disciples during His earthly ministry. Each of the apostles was invited into a relationship of ever-deepening communion with Jesus that reached its climax at Pentecost when they received the Holy Spirit.

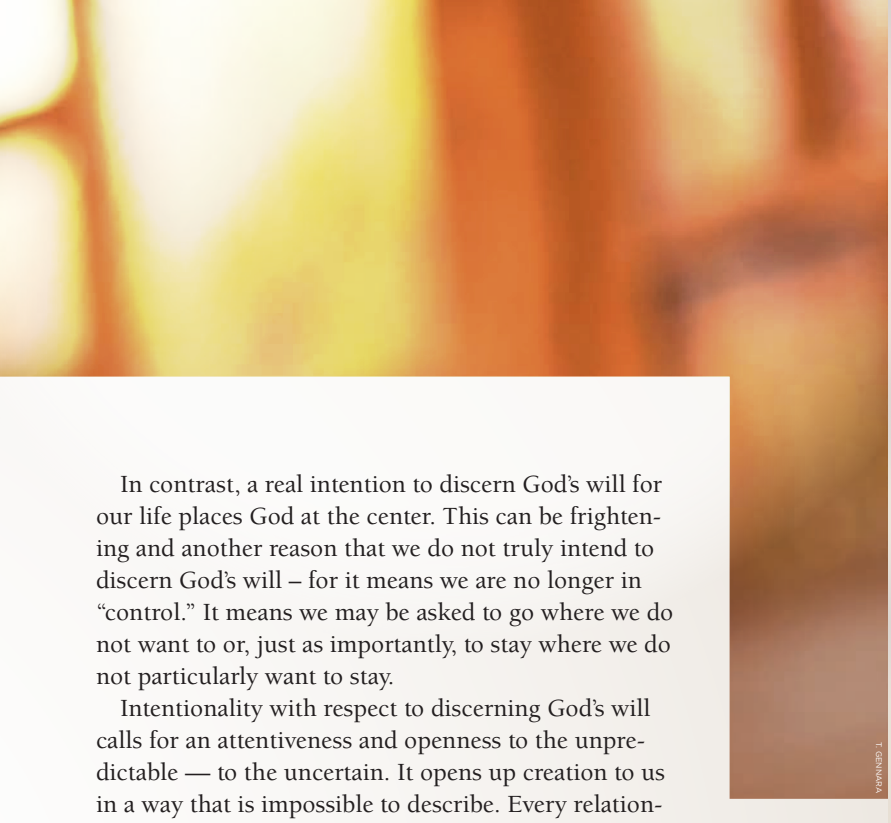
Jesus speaks in many of His parables about the kingdom of God. For example, according to the Gospel of Matthew, the reign of God is like the yeast that causes the whole mass of dough to rise (13:33); like a buried treasure in a field (13:44); like the search for a fine pearl (13:45); like the good wheat that grows up among the weeds (13:30); and like a mustard seed (13:31).

Each of these (yeast, buried treasure, a pearl that lies in the belly of an oyster, the wheat and the seed) is hidden from sight in the beginning but is bountiful and of immense value when it is revealed in full. Of course, the discovery of things that are hidden and the valuation of things that are small presuppose a strong desire to seek such things out and to act in the faith that great things lie within.

The second step: DECIDE

We also learn from the images given as likenesses to the reign of God that something must be done in order to facilitate the springing forth of this reign. The yeast must be kneaded into the dough; the buried treasure and fine pearl must be uncovered; and the seed must be planted. In other words, a decision to take action is required.

The decision to strive to discern the Father's will in all that we do is a matter of honestly establishing the point from which we are beginning our discernment process. All too often, we articulate a desire for our life first from a "self"-centered stance. We make choices that may lead us to greater wealth, notoriety or influence.



T. GENNARA

In contrast, a real intention to discern God's will for our life places God at the center. This can be frightening and another reason that we do not truly intend to discern God's will – for it means we are no longer in "control." It means we may be asked to go where we do not want to or, just as importantly, to stay where we do not particularly want to stay.

Intentionality with respect to discerning God's will calls for an attentiveness and openness to the unpredictable — to the uncertain. It opens up creation to us in a way that is impossible to describe. Every relationship, every activity, every thought, every spoken word is brought into an awareness centered on God. However, it all starts with the conscious decision to act on our desire to make God's will the criteria for our life's direction.

The third step: RESOLVE

The kingdom of God requires a total commitment on our part. We are to purge from our lives the weeds that separate and obscure our view of the good wheat. We must remember where our real treasure lies, and it's not in this world.

The Gospels make this even clearer in the story of the rich young man, "If you wish to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." (Mt 19:21) One could also peruse the passages about the cost of discipleship found in Matthew 10:37-39 and Matthew 16:24-25.

Once a decision is made, it is necessary to give the decision time to produce fruit. The reign of God does not blossom instantly. It reveals itself over time.
The seed produces first the blade, then the ear and finally the ripe wheat in the ear. (Mk 4:28)

Panic, doubt, apathy and reversal will cut the potential life of the decision at the root. If we have been intentional and prayerful, we need to resolve to trust the decision until it has had sufficient time to produce its fruit. It is only with a resolve that comes with the desire and the decision to choose, and choose every day, to discern and follow the Father's will that we can share the experience of those first apostles in whom the "mind of Christ" had welled up through the power of the Holy Spirit to the point it was no longer they who lived but Christ through them. ✝

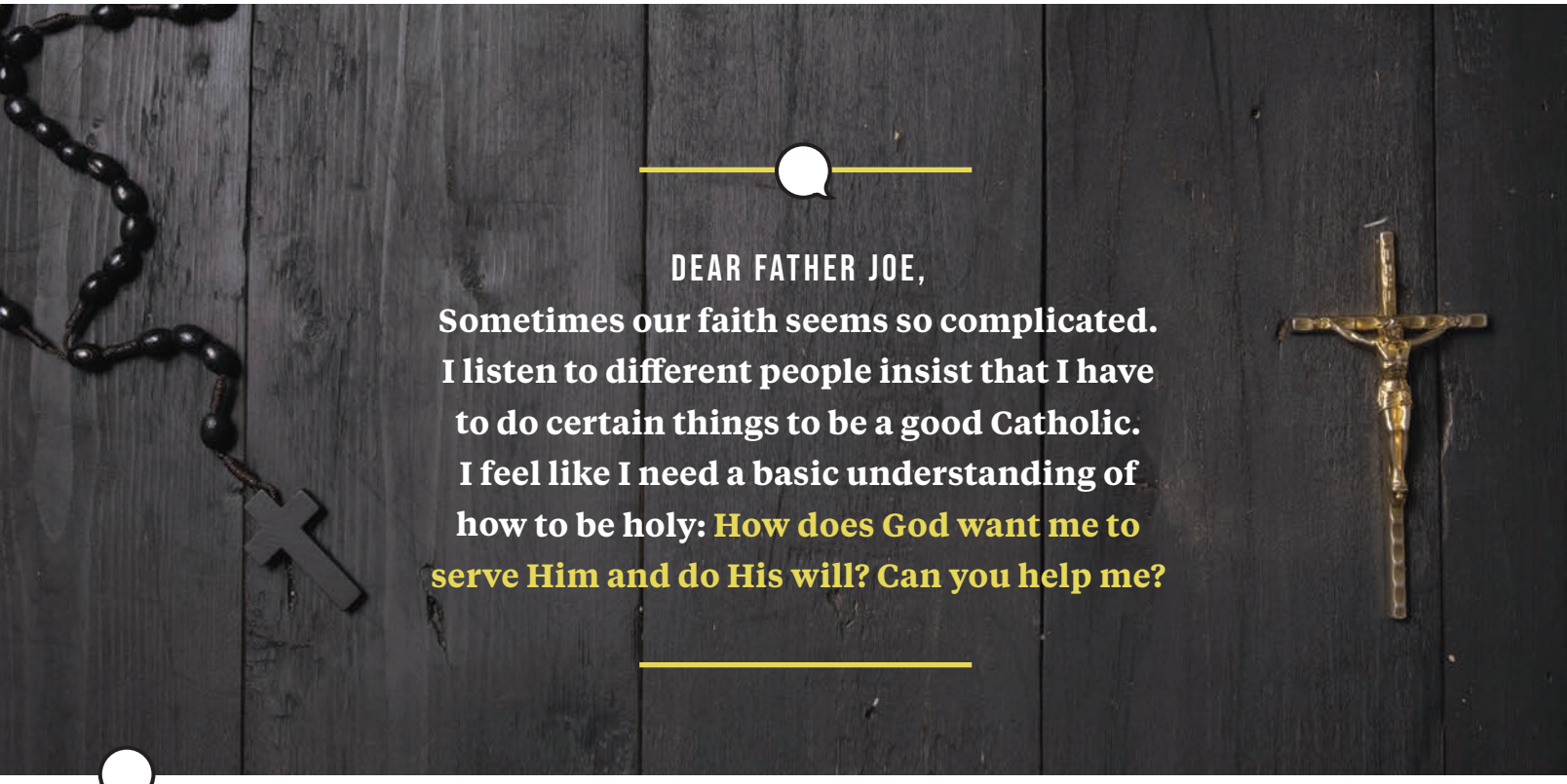
THE EUCHARIST AND THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

According to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (1325-1331), the Eucharist is both the "efficacious sign" and the "sublime cause" of that communion with God for which we were made. The Eucharist is the efficacious sign and sublime cause of the kingdom of heaven. It is precisely through the eucharistic celebration that we unite ourselves to Christ and with the heavenly liturgy in anticipation of eternal life in communion with God. It is through this intimate union with Christ, as sharers in His body and blood, that we can most directly share the same mind, heart, love and thought of Christ.

For further reflection

Jesus said to them,"Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you do not have life within you. Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. For My flesh is true food, and My blood is true drink. Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood remains in me and I in him. Just as the living Father sent Me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on Me will have life because of Me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died, whoever eats this bread will live forever." (Jn 6:53-58)

How might this passage help us to understand the centrality of the Eucharist in living in communion with the Holy Trinity?



DEAR FATHER JOE,

Sometimes our faith seems so complicated. I listen to different people insist that I have to do certain things to be a good Catholic. I feel like I need a basic understanding of how to be holy: How does God want me to serve Him and do His will? Can you help me?

Good heavens, I hope I can help. I type that because I know this fight. I have a busy, busy brain. I have a busy, busy life, and I have no shortage of experts all around me telling me how a priest should be, what a priest should preach on and how a priest should act. I often tell people that everyone is an expert on priesthood except me.

For years, I've wrestled with this. I have spent so much time in prayer and reading and thinking, trying to figure out how to be holy — how to be the priest that Jesus wants me to be.

To me, your question is exactly what all of us who want to love Jesus struggle with, and so I'm blessed to share with you what I've learned so far.

The foundation of the answer is in remembering that God is your judge.

Humans look at you and see what you are doing. The only information they know about you is the information you give them. God looks at you and sees it all: your intention, your desire, your struggles. He sees you at the deepest part of you and He will be the one to judge you. You will not be judged by that gal who wrote a book. You will not be judged by the opinionated person with a podcast. You will be judged by God and God alone. This is who you want to make happy. This is who you want to approve of you.

> "WE ARE CALLED EACH DAY TO THINK OF AND ACT ON THE WORD LOVE."

And here is the good news: God approves of you. He delights in you. He has stacked the deck in favor of you getting to heaven. Your goal is to pray for the grace to be humble, prayerful and concerned with the poor and vulnerable. Your goal is to make sure you call on the Holy Spirit to help you live like Jesus.

It's also important to remember that you are not called to every fight. The reason God made so many of us and made us all so different is because one person can't do it all. Some are called to pro-life ministry, some are called to visit the sick or imprisoned. I've noticed that some folks take their personal call from God and assume it should apply to everyone. Be careful of those who do so; they usually mean well, but they can also make it seem as though their specific pursuit is the only one that truly matters. This leads me to my next point: Passion does not equal rightness.

I love passionate people: I'm one of them! But if I have learned anything about us passionate people it's that we need to be careful of pretending that just because we feel strongly about something, everyone else should. Passionate people can convince us that their call



FATHER JOE KRUPP

is a former comedy writer who is now a Catholic priest.

@Joeinblack

should be ours as well, and we want to be sure and keep our eyes on that.

It's a balance between challenging ourselves to be holy, and not confusing holiness with pretending we are God's Only Answer to each and every problem.

In terms of what we believe and how it all works, the crazy part is this: In the end, it's pretty simple. When you strip away the layers, quiet the noise and immerse yourself in Scripture and the *catechism*, you can soak in the core of it all and the core of it all is this:

We believe that God is a community of life and love. We believe that this community of life and love created the human race. This Trinity of Persons made humans for one purpose — to love. You could quite literally say that we were created by Love, for love, to love.

This is the core of our existence: **love.**

The problem is that, at some point, we humans "broke ranks" and decided that we would go our own way. We decided to disobey God and in the process, our human nature was broken.

In the breaking of our human nature, we became self-obsessed. We moved God off His throne and placed ourselves there.

Jesus came to take on that human nature, restore it and give us victory over the two primary fruits of the breaking of human nature: sin and death.

He took on our sin and put it to death with Him on the cross.

He rose from the dead and made heaven a possibility for us.

He did this because He is Love and could quite literally do no other.

For you and me, then, our life is a response to this incredible love. It's an awareness of how we can distort what love is and, in the process, draw ourselves away from God.

For we who long to love God, the noise can drown out the simple truth: Our faith is a response of Love to love. We are called each day to think of and act on the word Love, growing in our understanding of how God loves, how we love and how the gap between that is filled with mercy and grace. We can never, at any point, grow content with our understanding of love. We can never say, "I've done it!" There is more of love and less of us to throw into every equation.

If we spend our life doing nothing but reflecting on what love is and how to love like God, we will be saints.

In the end, I hope that you can take a breath today and be at peace, knowing that God sees you. He sees what you do, and why you do it. He sees how much you want to follow Him and love Him well, and this is all He needs to get you closer to Him each day.

Love God, grow in love and be at peace. ✝

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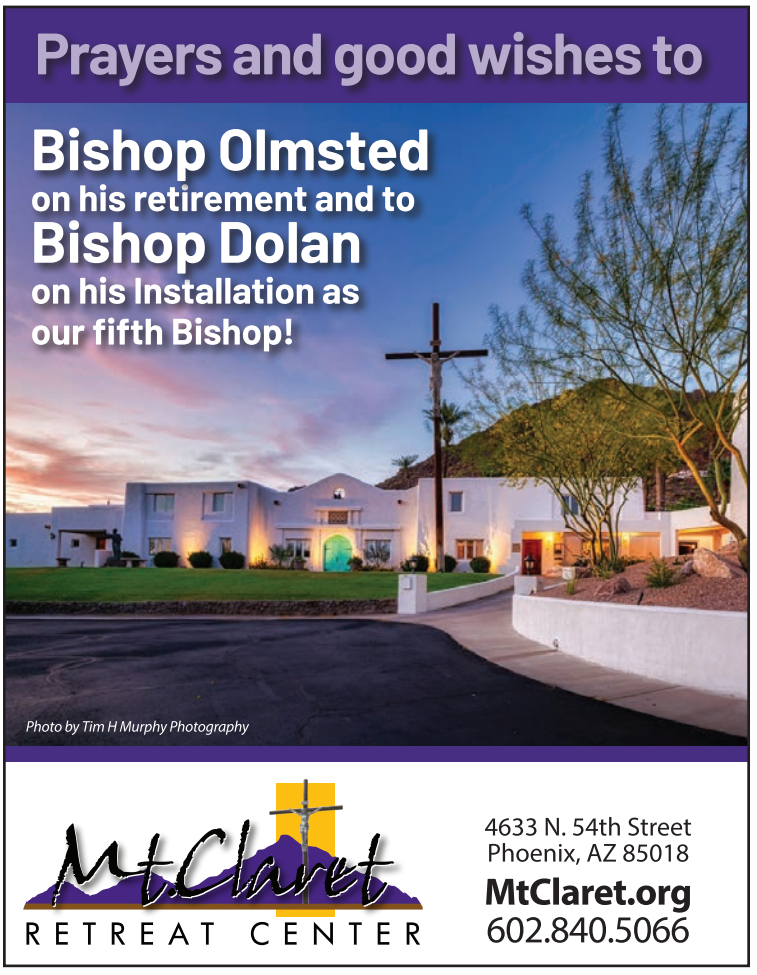





BEARING LOSS TOGETHER — with Christ and in community



LAUREL HILLIKER

holds a doctorate in sociology with a research specialization in grief studies along with a certification in thanatology. She teaches at the University of Michigan-Flint and is the owner of Bearing Loss: Grief Education and Consulting, LLC.

"Help one another. This is what Jesus teaches us."
POPE FRANCIS (2013)

Moving through the grief process after the death of a loved one has a large social component. Although we live in a society where individualism is highly valued and some grieving in isolation is necessary, too much is incredibly lonely and painful. Knowing that our God is there alongside us is a comfort, but we are also wired for human connection. How do we help others to bear loss?

Recognize and acknowledge the loss. Loss needs our attention and people need our compassion. Show up to support the mourners. In our frantic return from the pandemic, many of us are trying to make up for time lost and have filled up our lives. The bereaved will remember those who attended services and those who reached out through cards, letters, phone calls, texts, etc., in the months and years after the death. They will also remember those who stayed distant as well as those who carried them through without judgment.

"Loss needs our attention and people need our compassion."

Remind those grieving that you are there for them. Then, be there. Let go of reservations about what to say or do. Your quiet presence and your witness to their pain will be valued. I was asked to "be there" for a devastated mother who lost her adult daughter suddenly in 2020. She did not want to "talk" or "be" with anyone; however, she was open to texting. I check in with her frequently, never giving advice, just a simple message, photo or comforting meme. Her responses include excruciatingly painful accounts of memories of her sweet daughter, a person with disabilities. One day, I read a story of a bereaved woman and felt she might relate to it. I prayed a quick prayer and then sent the story by text. Her reply was timely: "You have no idea how many times you have brought me back from the edge, the brink, the ultimate decision." Our support can be lifesaving.

Remember the deceased. Do not be afraid to use their name, as most mourners appreciate the gesture. Visit the parish of the family and request a Mass for the soul of the deceased. Reminisce with the mourner/s about the person who died and suggest ways that all of you can integrate their good qualities into your own lives.

As followers of Christ, we are called to bear loss together, with Him and in community. By acknowledging loss, being there for the bereaved and remembering the deceased, we can provide support, strengthen community bonds and help one another as Jesus taught us. ✝

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DARE TO BE DIFFERENT

There is often virtue in having the courage to be different. History is usually shaped by those people who did *not* follow just what the crowd did. And, of course, we, as Catholics, know the greatest of saints earned their holiness by standing very much alone at times or by steadfastly defending their faith despite persecution. In large ways and in small, it can be daunting to go against societal norms.

Allow me to step away for a moment from our treasured saints and great historical figures and let's talk about going against the crowd with desserts. Desserts? Well, yes — Thanksgiving desserts.

For Americans, Thanksgiving is one of the most beloved of holiday traditions. And why shouldn't it be? It revolves around food. Excellent food. Turkey, stuffing, gravy, sweet potatoes and other delicious recipes are consumed each November until there is simply no more room. There is a traditional inventory and sequence to America's Thanksgiving menu, and deviating from that list can cause disappointment and even elicit sneers from people. But there is one thing I've always found wanting at Thanksgiving: chocolate. Why can't there be any chocolate desserts?

Don't get me wrong, I love a good apple, pumpkin or pecan pie as much as the next person. But how nice it would be to break away from the norm and include the deliciousness of a chocolatey sweet ending to the Thanksgiving repertoire! So I announced I would try it and bake a rendition of chocolate brownies. Needless to say, my family was skeptical. But I told them it would have a "Thanksgiving-ish" twist because it would incorporate elements of pecan pie and still solicit that flavor we associate with late autumn.

The rest is history, and they can't wait to enjoy them again on Thanksgiving! Looking to mix things up this fall? Give pecan pie chocolate brownies a try for Thanksgiving dinner ... How can you possibly be disappointed? ✝



MICHELLE DIFRANCO

is a designer and the busy mom of three children.

PECAN PIE CHOCOLATE BROWNIES

2 boxes chocolate brownie mix
3 eggs
¼ teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 cup brown sugar
¾ cup light corn syrup
¼ cup melted butter
3 cups pecan pieces

Preheat oven to 350 degrees and spray a 9 x 13-inch pan with non-stick cooking spray. Prepare brownies according to box instructions. Pour into the pan and place in the oven. Set the timer for 35 minutes.

While brownies are baking, prepare the pecan topping: whisk the eggs, salt, vanilla extract, brown sugar, corn syrup, and melted butter until combined. Gently mix in the pecan pieces.

At 35 minutes, check the brownies with a fork. If they are mostly done and just slightly under-baked in the center, it's time to add the pecan topping (they may need a few more minutes, depending on the brownie mix). Carefully pour and spread topping evenly over the brownie layer. Bake for an additional 25-35 minutes or until set. Let cool completely for at least 2 hours or chill in the fridge before cutting and serving. Top off with vanilla ice cream and/or drizzled caramel.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY SHANE FOLKERTSMA



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Abide

A CALL TO LIVE IN GOD'S GOODNESS, LOVE, AND BLESSEDNESS AS DOLAN BECOMES DIOCESE'S FIFTH BISHOP

AVONDALE — In a joyous transition punctuated by Church tradition — rich, uplifting music and a call by the new bishop to abide in God's goodness, love, and blessing — the Most Reverend John Patrick Dolan was installed as the fifth bishop of the Diocese of Phoenix on Aug. 2.

Dolan, the former auxiliary bishop of San Diego, took on his new role during a 2.5 hour Mass before an estimated 1,400 worshippers at St. Thomas Aquinas Church in this growing suburb west of Phoenix. The congregation included lifelong Catholic and Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey, Arizona House Speaker Rusty Bowers, and representatives of numerous lay organizations operating within this diverse, nearly 44-square-mile diocese of 1.1 million Catholics.

Among clergy in attendance were Roger Cardinal Mahony, archbishop emeritus of Los Angeles; then Cardinal-designate Robert W. McElroy, bishop of San Diego; and other bishops from the southwestern United States. Also present were priests, seminarians, and deacons from Phoenix and San Diego, as well as consecrated religious and the lay faithful.

"The Holy Father has now called you to be the chief shepherd here in Phoenix. And he asks you to be courageous in imitating the heart of the Redeemer," said Monsignor Luca Caveada, secretary of the Apostolic Nunciature in the United States, who represented apostolic nuncio, Archbishop Christophe Pierre.

Then, reading from the papal bull — or official letter from the pontiff — declaring Dolan the ordinary of the diocese, Monsignor Caveada told Dolan, "The transition from the oceanfront diocese you have known to a desert diocese will be a challenging one. But Christ, Who taught and worked miracles on both the water and in



N MY



Love

the desert, will be with you and will surely give you the needed strength for the great mission ahead of you."

Following canon law (382, section 3), the papal letter was then shown by the moderator of the curia, Father Fred Adamson, accompanied by Chancellor Maria Chavira, Ph.D, to the diocesan College of Consultors and the congregation.

Monsignor Caveada, continuing the process, then asked Dolan if he was "willing to serve the people of the diocese in the tradition of apostolic faith of the Church?"

Dolan responded, "With faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and with the love of God in my heart, I do accept the pastoral care of the People of God in the Diocese of Phoenix. I resolve to serve faithfully the spiritual needs of this local Church."

Most Reverend John C. Wester, archbishop of Santa Fe, New Mexico, and metropolitan to Phoenix, presented Dolan the crosier, a hooked staff carried as a symbol of pastoral office, before leading Dolan to the *cathedra*, the bishop's chair, as the congregation broke out in applause.

A SIMPLE CALL

The new bishop's homily offered no sweeping plans or dramatic proposals, but a simple call to live in the goodness, love, and blessedness of God, Who created all things and loves mankind.

Referencing the first reading from the Book of Genesis (1:26-31 and 2:1-3), the bishop said, "God made all things in His own image and likeness, which is good. We should recognize that good and live in it … Not by our own efforts, but, as Pope Francis reminds us, 'in a gratuitous and unmerited way.'"

Dolan also told the congregation, citing the second reading from the First Epistle of St. John, that "God is love. And whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him." (1 Jn 4:16)

"You cannot give what you have not first received," the bishop said. "We are called to remain in Divine love before we set about doing loving things."

Finally, Dolan said to be blessed is to live as "highly favored and holy" in the presence of God, "who is highly favored and holy," clothing oneself with the "'garment of Christ.' ▸

JEFF GRANT

is a writer for Together Let Us Go Forth ~ Juntos Sigamos Adelante.



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"Let us go forth," he concluded. "And as we do so, let us draw close to this altar, the source and summit of all that is good, all that is love, and all that is blessed."

'JUST LISTEN'

The message resonated with worshippers.

"You could hear the voice of the Holy Spirit speaking through him. You just felt joy in this church today," said Stephen J. Zabilski, executive director of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in Phoenix.

"These are beautiful foundations," said Father Antony Tinker, community servant of the Franciscan Friars of the Holy Spirit, which serves the area's Native American population. "Love God above all else, love your neighbor as yourself; experience the great love of God and abide in that love. Be good to other people, and that will be a blessing to this community," Father Antony added.

"It seems like he's including everyone. That is what's beautiful," said Rose McHenry, parishioner at St. Catherine of Siena in south Phoenix and a member of the Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary. The Knights are the largest historically African-American Catholic lay organization in the United States.

Chris and Carey Gass of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish in Tempe were celebrating the new bishop on the day they also marked 25 years of marriage.

"We need to see Christ's face in others. [The bishop] mentioned in his reference to Genesis that we're made in the image and likeness of God, and we have to recognize that in everybody we meet," Chris Gass said.

"He's a great listener," said Bishop Dolan's brother, Matt, of San Diego, who drove with his family a day earlier for the installation. "He really sits down and listens to what people say. He works with people."

Bishop Dolan said his appreciation for listening is derived largely from his experience in mental-health ministry.

"I had the opportunity to walk with people. I have a deeper appreciation for spiritual ministry and counselors," he explained. "I say, 'Just listen rather than making a judgment.' It goes a long way. Just listen and get to know a person."

A San Diego auxiliary bishop since 2017, Dolan served there also as vicar general, vicar for clergy and moderator of the curia. He was ordained a priest in 1989 and spent time in various San Diego parishes for the next 28 years.

He succeeds the Most Reverend Thomas J. Olmsted, who led the Diocese of Phoenix since 2003 and is now its bishop emeritus. ✝

> "WE ARE CALLED TO REMAIN IN *Divine love* BEFORE WE SET ABOUT DOING LOVING THINGS."
>
> -BISHOP JOHN P. DOLAN, IN HIS HOMILY

LEARN MORE

Go behind the scenes of the installation Mass, watch the installation in full, and get to know Bishop Dolan at **YouTube.com/PhoenixDiocese.**

Bishop Olmsted

Reflecting on the past and looking to the future with

Since the announcement of Bishop Olmsted's retirement, *The Catholic Sun* and "The Bishop's Hour" paid tribute to him with a series of stories and interviews. Below are highlights from a July 30 interview on "The Bishop's Hour" that have been edited for length and clarity.

***The Bishop's Hour*: How did you feel when you got the call accepting your resignation — was it a call?**

Bishop Olmsted: "You know, I've never had an assignment that I anticipated from the time I was ordained. But this one I did, because I turned 75 in January and I had already written my letter to Pope Francis. I had heard from my very dear friend Bishop Felipe Estevez that the Holy Father had received his just shortly before that, since we're the same age, since we were appointed the same day — I was appointed here in Phoenix, he was appointed in Florida. That made me more anticipate that it could be coming soon. So, when I received it, I took a deep breath, and I said to myself: I think I need to just go down and spend some time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, and then I probably should give a call to Bishop Dolan."

We want to get your reactions on a "top 5" list we came up with for your time in Phoenix. The first is how you have kept the Church current in the modern world, for example by supporting Catholic radio coming to Phoenix and making the televised Mass a live broadcast.

Before I ever came here, I knew that it was very important that we engaged the media for two reasons. One is that I lived in Rome for 16 years. I used to listen to Vatican Radio, and it was a lifesaver for many countries where there was not any other way for them to hear anything about Christianity. There is something about listening on the radio and taking it in. When I got here, I really wanted to have radio stations in Spanish and English. Broadcasting the TV Mass live was important for me, too, because I want the people praying at home to feel like a part of the community. Plus, it is important for the Mass to be the Mass and not a performance.

Your commitment to vocations has been one of your important initiatives. You enriched marriage prep, encouraged family life, and made changes to priestly formation. Why have marriage, family, and good discernment been so important to you?

I suppose I was affected by working with St. John Paul II for 9 and a half years — these things were so important in his life. All that he taught about marriage and everything left such a deep impact on me. We had very few programs of marriage preparation that were really solid 20 years ago, but we had the richness of the Theology of the Body, which St. John Paul II had given us. I also remembered well in St. Louis in 1999, when St. John Paul II said, "As the family goes, so does the nation." I really believe that's true, so, we had to be really preparing people well for marriage. But we also need to prepare people for whatever the vocation is! Much of my life was involved with seminary formation. It's a very important priority for me and a great joy to walk with the young men God is calling to the priesthood.

You really took your role as a teacher seriously, writing regular columns for *The Catholic Sun*, pastoral letters, and exhortations on a variety of topics. How were you inspired to teach through your writing, and how did you choose what to teach about?

The last words of Jesus before he ascended into heaven were "Go teach all nations" — what we call the "Great Commission." That was said to the apostles, and I'm a successor of the apostles, so it was very clear in my mind. It was also very clear because St. John Paul II reminded every bishop he ever met, I think, that teaching was their first duty. The topics came out of conversations with priests, deacons, and lay leaders



here in the diocese, sometimes just out of my prayer. Some things needed to be addressed more urgently, and I didn't see anyone else addressing them. One example would be the identity and mission of men. I had felt for a long time that it needed to be dealt with. I also thought it was important always to address my messages, my exhortations, to those who are my children in the Diocese of Phoenix, my sons and daughters here. It helped me be very concrete: I wasn't talking to people in other places. If they found it helpful, thanks be to God, but the people are the ones I know, the ones I serve.

A defining attribute of your ministry is your unwavering commitment to life.

God made it very clear to me, I think, that I should be involved with life issues, because the year of *Roe v. Wade* was the same year that I was ordained a priest, 1973. The date after *Roe v. Wade* was the day after my birthday. Just those coincidences, which are never just coincidences, gave me a deep sense that this was an issue of our time which I could not ignore. My family treasured life, too, and I felt I was ordained to the same purpose for which I was born: to serve. My participation here, praying in front of abortion places, was something I've done in other places where I served as a priest. I was invited by some lay leaders here, who just on the third day I was here said, "We're going to be praying in front of abortion places, would you like to come?" It was something I was familiar with, and I was so glad we had a group that had already been doing this, was organized, and who knew that you had to approach it in a way that was loving, compassionate, and centered in prayer. I was thrilled about that, and I was really happy about the number of people who came. It was amazing how many were there, and it was a chance to meet some of our future priests, because they were there as well.

What personal memories stand out to you from your time here?

There are mostly memories about being a spiritual father because that is what gives the most joy to my heart. I am also aware as I retire that fatherhood doesn't end. I was named after both my grandfathers, so I've been thinking about that a lot. They were both retired at a time I really got to know them well. My greatest joys come from fatherhood — celebrating confirmations, giving the sacraments at the Easter Vigil. I am just grateful to God.

What is next for you?

Well, I've been hearing Jesus say to me, "Come aside and rest a while," so I see most of the next five to six months as time for prayer. I will go home first and be with my mom and family. The first thing I have to do is disconnect from all the stuff I've been doing, and then I am going to be making a 30-day directed retreat, the Ignatian Retreat. I am really looking forward to that because I want to know from the Lord what He wants me to do. It could be primarily prayer. There is certainly a need for prayers of reparation, prayers of petition, and intercession and praise of God for his goodness. But there may also be some other things he wants me to do. But I don't want to anticipate that and make the decision myself, I want to spend time with Him in prayer. So, I plan to do that. I'll probably, when I get back to Phoenix from the 30-day retreat, spend some time at Merciful Heart Hermitage because it's such a great place for prayer.

Do you have any final words you'd like to share?

Well, I love St. Faustina. We should say, "Jesus, I trust in You" every single day. I also really love St. Charles de Foucauld — he was just canonized a saint on May 15, and his prayer of abandonment is how I begin every day. I encourage people to surrender each day to the Lord, every part of that day. When we do that, when we trust in the Lord, He brings good out of everything. ✝

Read more about Bishop Olmsted's contributions to the faithful at catholicsun.org

Bishop leaving legacy as humble shepherd with rock-solid commitment to God:

A legacy of human formation: Bishop Olmsted models discernment:

The lasting legacy of Bishop Olmsted: Leadership in political, cultural, and educational arenas lauded by local Catholics:

Families made stronger during Bishop Olmsted's tenure:



"The principal function of a leader is to help the members of a community grow to become the living presence of God in the world."

FATHER ADOLFO NICHOLAS, S.J.
30th Superior General of the Society of Jesus

Brophy College Preparatory thanks Bishop Thomas Olmsted for his stalwart leadership and welcomes Bishop John Dolan as the fifth Bishop of the Phoenix Diocese. We look forward to continuing our friendships and to working together *for the greater glory of God — AMDG.*

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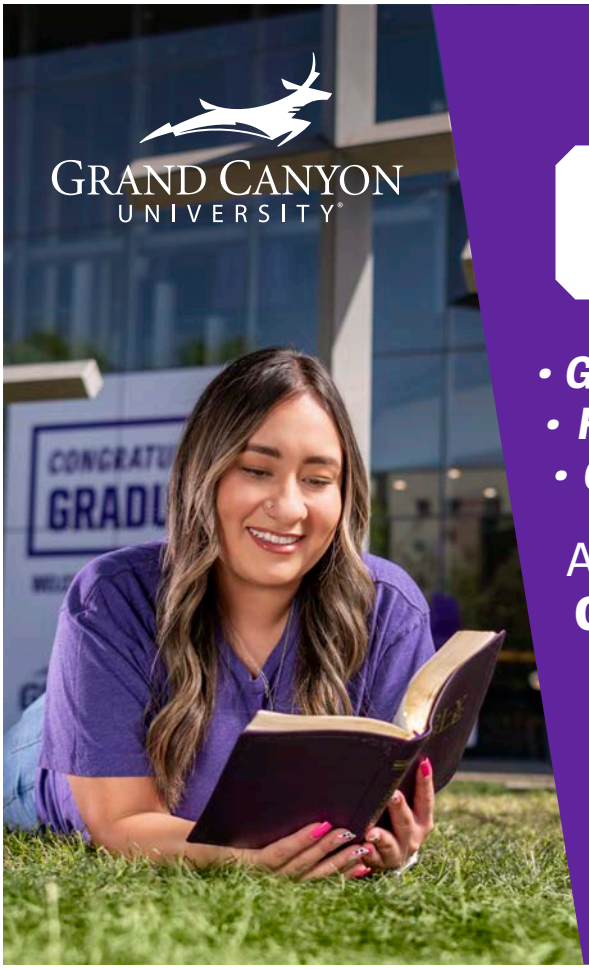

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-Matthew 5:16

We thank Bishop Thomas J. Olmsted for his service as the Bishop of Phoenix
and we welcome Bishop John P. Dolan as he begins his ministry to the faith of our diocese.

Bishop John P. Dolan

Congratulations and prayerful best wishes on your installation as the fifth Bishop of the Diocese of Phoenix.

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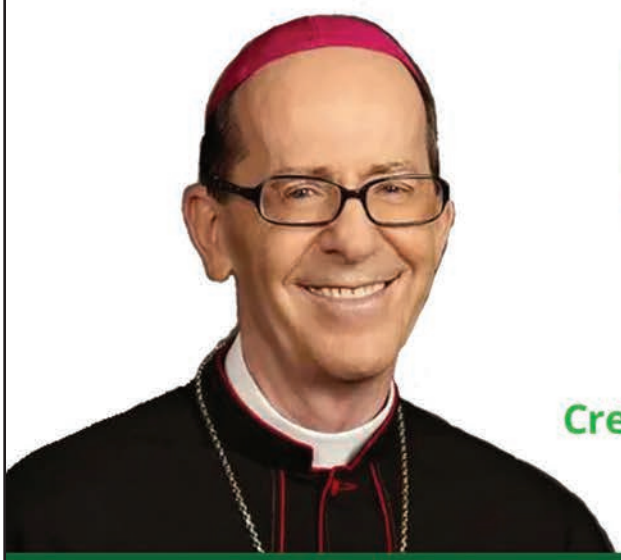

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Thank You & Welcome

Thank you, Bishop Olmsted, for your strong faith, leadership, and dedication.
Bishop Dolan, congratulations and welcome to the Diocese of Phoenix!

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Bishop John P. Dolan



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Photo by Peter Jordan.

Items for the calendar of events are due eight weeks prior to publication: catholicsun.org/events/community/add. All calendar items must include the name, date, time, address of the event and a phone number or website for additional information.

Arizona Rosary Celebration

Join thousands of faithful Catholics at the 47th annual Arizona Rosary Celebration. This year we share solidarity with persecuted Christians all over the world as we honor Mary under her title of "Our Lady, Help of Persecuted Christians." Let's pray the rosary, Arizona! Celebrate Our Lady with us! Visit azrosary.net for information. **Oct. 16, 2 p.m., Phoenix Convention Center**

Vocation Fair

The Office of Consecrated Life will be having the annual Vocation Fair to raise awareness of the consecrated life and teaching children about the call to a vocation. We will begin the event with a bilingual Mass with Bishop Dolan and continue on to the parish hall for the fair. We will have prizes, a Vocation Panel, Saint Costume Contest and other fun things for the families to enjoy. All children are invited to dress as saints! **Oct. 30, 9 a.m., St. Andrew the Apostle Parish.**

All Saints' Day

Solemnity of All Saints is a day dedicated to the saints of the Church. All Saints' Day was formally started by Pope Boniface IV on May 13 in 609 AD and is a holy day of obligation. Visit dphx.org/parishes to find Mass times. **Nov. 1**

All Souls' Day

The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed is set aside to honor the dead. Praying for the dead is a spiritual work of mercy and the faithful are encouraged to gain a plenary indulgence for the souls in purgatory each day from Nov. 1-8. **Nov. 2**

Night of Hope

Be inspired by our Catholic schools at the Virtual Night of Hope, a powerful, free, 30-minute event to raise scholarships for local students who are counting on our support. Get more information and register at nightofhopephx.com. **Nov. 3, 6-6:30 p.m., virtual event**

Ordination of permanent deacons

Bishop John P. Dolan and Bishop Eduardo A. Nevares are pleased to announce the ordination of William Booth, Ramsey Echeverria, Robert Estes, Antonio Hernandez, Wayne Rich, Sean Sylvester, and Patrick Thielen to the permanent diaconate. All are invited to attend the Mass at Ss. Simon and Jude Cathedral in person or join us via the live broadcast on Facebook or YouTube. **Nov. 5, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Ss. Simon and Jude Cathedral**

First Day of Advent

Advent is a season of preparation that reminds us of Jesus' birth and coming as man. It is a season that encompasses four Sundays. This year, it begins on Sunday, Nov. 27. **Nov. 27-Dec. 24 ✝**



Catholic leaders among 2022 ATHENA nominees

Three Catholic leaders in the Diocese of Phoenix were recognized in August as nominees for the 35th annual ATHENA Awards.

The Greater Phoenix Chamber's ATHENA Awards program recognizes and celebrates the achievements of businesswomen across the Greater Phoenix region. The ATHENA Award, an internationally prized honor, recognizes women who demonstrate excellence in professional leadership, community service, and mentorship of future leaders.

The nominees for the 35th annual ATHENA Awards, which will be presented this fall, include:

- **Dr. Maria Chavira, PhD, chancellor of the Diocese of Phoenix**
- **Nancy Padberg, MBA, president and CEO of Catholic Education Arizona**
- **Mònica Villalobos, president and CEO of Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and Foundation**

Their nomination demonstrates the support and acknowledgement of their peers, as well as recognition of their professional success, leadership within the Phoenix community, and their commitment to providing opportunities for women.

Most Rev. John P. Dolan and Rev. Frederick J. Adamson joined Chavira, Padberg, and Villalobos in celebrating their nomination and offering their congratulations.

Read the full story at catholicsun.org.

READ MORE

Read full stories and more local news at catholicsun.org.

Papal ambassador's visit boosts diocese's Native American missions



BY JEFF GRANT

SCOTTSDALE — A representative of the papal ambassador to the United States has paid two visits to the Diocese of Phoenix's Native American missions.

Msgr. Luca Caveada, the secretary to the Apostolic Nunciature in the United States of America, celebrated Mass at St. John the Baptist Church in Laveen on Saturday, July 30, and at St. Francis of Assisi Mission in Scottsdale on Sunday, July 31.

Msgr. Caveada was in the Greater Phoenix area for the installation of the Most Rev. John P. Dolan as the diocese's fifth bishop on Tuesday, Aug. 2.

"I am here also because I am curious to understand how the Lord grows and feeds His Church through your culture," he said during his homily.

"It is a blessing to see how the Church lives, and how living and fruitful is the Church. Through the Church, we recognize the Risen Lord. Thank you for giving me this chance to be with you," he said.

Worshippers from the Native American community were gratified.

"It speaks volumes for Rome to be here with us on this day," said Joe Enos.

"It's tremendous," said Classene Lewis, a member of the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, about 25 miles northeast of Phoenix. Lewis said she travels regularly to worship at St. Francis.

The Arizona visit by Msgr. Caveada represented "a sincere effort by the Vatican to reach out and make a connection [with the Native peoples]," said Deacon James Trant, parish life coordinator for the Diocese of Phoenix's Native American Ministry, part of the Ethnic Ministries Office.

"We're just overjoyed. I was really impressed by the fact he wanted to do almost what Pope Francis is doing in Canada. They, as a staff, wanted to reach out to Native American communities and other minority communities. The reason [Msgr. Caveada] came a couple of days in advance [of the bishop's installation] was to spend some serious time at these missions," said Deacon Trant.

Read the full story at catholicsun.org.

ANSWERS TO THE QUIZ ON PAGE 7:

1. **Which saint is known as the Little Flower?**
   St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus — she saw herself as the "little flower" of Jesus.
2. **Which saint was a friend of St. John of the Cross?**
   St. Teresa of Ávila — St. John was also a Spanish mystic and Carmelite.
3. **Which saint was a spoiled child before she entered the convent?**
   St. Thérèse of Lisieux — she was the youngest daughter and very beautiful.
4. **Which saint is a doctor of the Church?**
   Both! St. Teresa of Ávila was named doctor of the Church in 1970, and St. Thérèse of Lisieux in 1997.

Inaugural Mass for St. Josephine Bakhita Parish Mission offers sense of belonging to African-American Catholics

BY TONY GUTIÉRREZ

Decorated with banners bearing the Pan-African colors of red, green and black and an image of St. Josephine Bakhita in the sanctuary in front of the altar, the St. Pius X Church building continued receiving visitors beyond capacity during a special liturgy Aug. 7.

Close to 300 people filled the church to participate in the inaugural Mass for St. Josephine Bakhita Parish Mission.

"This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad!" declared Auxiliary Bishop Eduardo A. Nevares, the Mass's main celebrant, during his homily, acknowledging the faithful efforts of the Diocese of Phoenix's Black Catholic community leading to that day.

After Father McNair was appointed as chaplain of the African-American Catholic Community in the diocese in April 2021, having a permanent spiritual home for the community became a long-term goal. It was suggested, Father McNair said, to erect a parish mission — canonically a "quasi-parish" — to fill that spiritual need. According to Canon 516 of the Code of Canon Law, "a quasi-parish is equivalent to a parish … a definite community of the Christian faithful in a particular church, entrusted to a priest as its proper pastor but not yet erected as a parish because of particular circumstances."

Since 1995, the community has gathered at St. Pius X for a once-a-month, Gospel-style unity Mass. The establishment of St. Josephine Bakhita now allows for such unique liturgies to occur weekly or more often.

"Today is more like belonging. Before, even though we were having great Masses, and we did a lot of great things, we were more like we were visitors," said James Lackey, Grand Knight of the local Knights of Peter Claver St. Martin de Porres Council 369. "We were looking for a permanent home. That's what it feels like a — permanent home."

Read the full story at catholicsun.org. ✝



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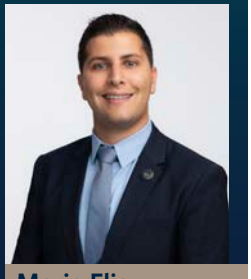

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