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## Hermits of Mt. Carmel Hermitage Formally Join Carmelite Order

by Fr. Fabian Maria, O. Carm.

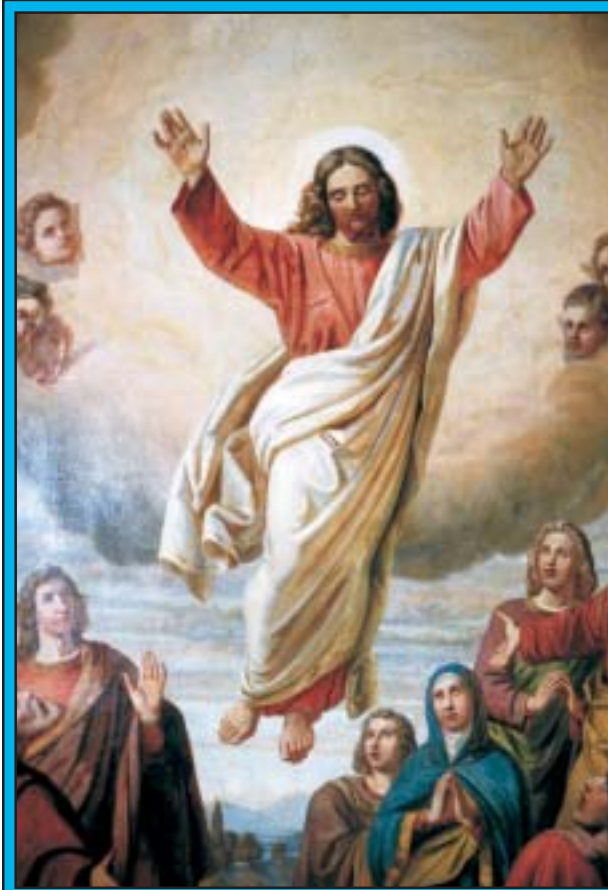
On April 27, Divine Mercy Sunday, Mt. Carmel Hermitage received some important visitors for a milestone event in the twelve-year history of the Hermitage. Most Rev. Joseph Chalmers, O. Carm., Prior General of the Order of Carmelites, and his assistant Very Rev. William Harry, O. Carm., came from the Carmelite General House in Rome to Celebrate the Aggregation of Mt. Carmel Hermitage into the Carmelite Order. Fr. Fabian Maria, O. Carm., Prior of the Hermitage, and Br. John David, O. Carm., pronounced their Solemn Vows in the hands of Most Rev. Chalmers, to whom the members of the Hermitage now owe their immediate allegiance. The personal and intimate nature of this ceremony within the solemnity of the Liturgy provided a beautiful example of the closeness of God to his people – a foretaste of the heavenly marriage banquet to come.

Other important visitors added to the solemnity of the event as well. Rt. Rev. Philip Lawrence, O.S.B., Abbot of the Monastery of Christ in the Desert in Abiquiu, New Mexico, and Rev. Christian Leisy, O.S.B., Prior of the same monastery, came to show their support of Mt. Carmel Hermitage, as both communities share monastic traditions which have been handed down through the centuries. Also present were Carmelite Friars, Her-

mits and Sisters from around the country who joined the Hermits in Christoval to extend their welcome into the worldwide Carmelite family. Although the Hermits now belong to the Order of Carmel, their presence will continue in the Diocese of San Angelo and they will continue offering prayers for the Diocese.

see "CARMELITE" page eight

The chapel of the Mt. Carmel Hermitage prior to being filled to standing room only and spilling out onto the grounds on April 27, 2003. (Photo by Pete Micale.)



(Right) U.S. Father Daniel Reardon and Kyle Fauntleroy, a Protestant chaplain, set up a cross on the flight deck of the USS Nimitz April 20 before the celebration of Easter sunrise services. The Navy chaplains were ministering to servicemen and women aboard the carrier in the Persian Gulf to support Operation Iraqi Freedom. (CNS photo courtesy U.S. Navy)

(Left) A painting at St. Peter and Paul Church in Mauren, Liechtenstein, depicts Christ's ascension. The solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord celebrates the completion of Christ's mission on earth and his entry into heaven. It is observed May 29 this year (June 1 in some dioceses) and is a holy day of obligation. (CNS photo from Crosiers)





# Mary: An Admirable Model of Smallness and Greatness

By Bishop Michael D. Pfeifer, OMI

The mystery of the life of Mary consists in her ability to harmonize smallness and greatness in her being, in her personality as a woman. She is the humble virgin of Nazareth, but in the Divine plan, she is the Mother of God, the Mother of our Messiah, Jesus Christ. Mary is the humble servant of the Lord who wants only to do God's will, and is chosen to be the Mother of the One who is God's Good News for all time – Jesus Christ. Like all of us, she is a human being, but unlike us, God has done something most special by preserving her from every touch of sin – her Immaculate Conception – in preparation for her Divine Motherhood. Mary is our sister and our mother.

Mary, in her smallness, is our sister in faith. As our sister, she is like all other Christians. Like us, she is the adopted child of God through Jesus Christ, chosen to be an heir of the Kingdom of God, ordered to be the praise of the glory of God like all those who have placed their hope in Christ. Her greatness lies in the fact that in her life, she is both our sister and our mother at the same time.

To understand and respect Mary's smallness and greatness means to preserve both aspects, because they need to be held in proper balance. In past centuries, the greatness of Mary was sometimes emphasized so much that sometimes her smallness was forgotten. In our time, perhaps we might run the opposite risk. We could see her so close to us, so small like us, a human being, that we forget about her extraordinary greatness. We must preserve

see "MARY" page eleven

# María: Un Modelo Admirable de Pequeñez y Grandeza

Por el Obispo Miguel D. Pfeifer, OMI

El misterio de la vida de María consiste en su habilidad a armonizar la pequeñez y la grandeza en su ser, en su personalidad como una mujer. Ella es la virgen humilde de Nazareth, pero en el plan divino, ella es la Madre de Dios, la Madre de nuestro Mesias, Jesucristo. María es la humilde sirvienta del Señor que solo quiere hacer la voluntad de Dios, y es escogida para ser la Madre del Uno quien es la Buena Nueva de Dios para todo el tiempo - Jesucristo. Como todos nosotros, ella es un ser humano, pero distinto a nosotros, Dios ha hecho algo muy especial por conservarla de cualquier pecado – su Inmaculada Concepción – en preparación para su Maternidad Divina. María es nuestra hermana y nuestra madre.

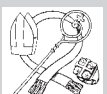
María, en su pequeñez, es nuestra hermana en fe. Como nuestra hermana, ella es como todos los otros Cristianos. Como nosotros, ella es la hija adoptada por Dios por Jesucristo, escogida para ser la heredera del Reino de Dios, ordenada para ser alabanza de la gloria de Dios como todos los que han puesto su esperanza en Cristo. Su grandeza consiste del hecho que en su vida, ella es nuestra hermana y nuestra madre al mismo tiempo.

Para entender y respetar la pequeñez y la grandeza de María quiere decir conservar los dos aspectos, porque se necesita ponerlos en equilibrio. En siglos pasados, la grandeza de María a veces era acentuada tanto que a veces su pequeñez se olvidó. En nuestro tiempo, quizás podamos correr el riesgo contrario. La podemos ver tan cerca a nosotros, tan peque-

see "MARÍA" page eleven



## The Bishop's Schedule



### May, 2003

May 1: Oklahoma City - Anniversary of the Archbishop of Oklahoma City

May 2: San Angelo, Newman Center - Appreciation Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

May 3: Abilene, Dyess AFB, Confirmation at 5:00 p.m.

May 4: Midland, St. Ann - Confirmation at 11:00 a.m.

May 5: San Angelo, Diocesan Pastoral Center - Mass for Staff at 8:30 a.m. Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart - Rosary Rally of all San Angelo parishes at 7:00 p.m.

May 6: San Angelo, Diocesan

Pastoral Center - Meeting of the Diocesan Liturgy Commission at 10:30 a.m. Knickerbocker, Immaculate Conception/Eldorado, Our Lady of Guadalupe/St. Peter, Mertzon - Confirmation at 6:30 p.m.

May 7: San Angelo, Diocesan Pastoral Center - Staff Meeting at 11:00 a.m. Sonora, St. Ann - Confirmation at 6:30 p.m.

May 8: Ft. Stockton, St. Agnes/St. Joseph - Confirmation at 7:00 p.m.

May 9: San Angelo, Holy Angels at Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart - Confirmation at 6:30 p.m.

May 10: Big Spring, Sacred Heart, Immaculate Heart, St. Thomas, Coahoma - Confirmation at

5:00 p.m.

May 11: Abilene, St. Vincent - Confirmation at 11:00 a.m.

May 12: Coleman, Sacred Heart - Confirmation at 6:30 p.m.

May 13: Abilene, Sacred Heart - Confirmation at 6:30 p.m.

May 14: St. Lawrence, St. Lawrence, Confirmation at 6:30 p.m.

May 15: Crane, Good Shepherd/McCamey - Confirmation at 6:30 p.m.

May 16: Ballinger, St. Mary - Confirmation at 6:30 p.m.

May 17-18: Dallas, Knights of Columbus Convention

May 19: Brady, St. Patrick - Confirmation at 6:30 p.m.

May 21: Odessa, Holy Redeemer - Confirmation at 6:30 p.m.

May 22: Brownwood, St. Mary - Confirmation at 6:30 p.m.

May 25-26: Boston

May 27: Midland, Our Lady of San Juan - Confirmation at 6:30 p.m.

May 28: San Angelo, West Texas Boys Ranch Board of Directors - meeting at 5:00 p.m.

May 29: San Angelo, Diocesan Pastoral Center - Meeting of Presbyteral Council and Diocesan Finance Council at 10:30 a.m. Budget Review.

May 30: San Angelo, Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart - Graduation Mass for Students of Angelo Catholic School at 8:30 a.m. Christ the King Retreat Center - Prayer with Priests of the San Angelo Deanery from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

May 31: San Angelo, Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart - Priestly Ordination of Joey Faylona and Rodney White at 10:00 a.m. Andrews, Our Lady of Lourdes - Confirmation at 6:00 p.m.

### June 2003

June 1: Sanderson, St. James - Confirmation at 11:00 a.m.

June 2-3: Dallas, Meeting of Bishops of Region X

June 3: San Angelo, St. Joseph at Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart - Confirmation at 7:00 p.m.

June 4: San Angelo, Diocesan Pastoral Center - Staff Meeting at 11:00 a.m. St. Mary - Home Mass at 6:30 p.m.

June 5: Colorado City, St. Ann - Confirmation at 6:30 p.m.

June 6: San Angelo, St. Mary - Confirmation at 6:30 p.m.

June 7: Big Spring, Immaculate Heart - Confirmation at 5:00 p.m.

June 8: San Angelo, Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart - General Confirmation for Adults at 1:30 p.m.

June 9: San Angelo, Diocesan Pastoral Center - Mass for Staff at 8:30 a.m. Bishop's Residence - Dinner for all Priests and Sisters and Bishop's Staff at 6:00 p.m.

June 13-14: San Antonio - Priestly Ordination

June 15: San Angelo, Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart - Marriage Jubilee Mass at 2:30 p.m.

June 18: San Angelo, Diocesan Pastoral Center Presbyteral Council at 11:00 a.m.

June 19-21: St. Louis - Meeting of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

June 22: San Angelo, Christ the King Retreat Center - 20th anniversary of Retreat Center, Mass and reception at 6:30 p.m.

June 23: Mertzon (near) on Hwy 915, Mass for Ranchers and Farmers on Case Ranch at 6:30 p.m.

June 24: San Angelo, Diocesan Pastoral Center - Staff Luncheon in honor of Sister Joan Markus, SSND at 11:30 a.m.

June 26: San Angelo, Christ the King Retreat Center - Speak at Womens' Cursillo at 9:30 p.m.

June 27-29: San Angelo, Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart - Youth 2000

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# Vocation Circle

## Seminarian Education Collection 2003 – Thanks

by Fr. Tom Barley  
Director of Vocations and Seminarians

We wish to offer a huge thank-you to everyone who contributed to the Special Collection for Seminarian Education on the weekend of January 25-26, 2003. As of April 28, 2003, \$28,537.81 has been collected. After four years of continued increase in this collection, this is a 30% decrease from last year. While a few parishes were able to give more this year, hard economic times seem to have affected most

of our parishes and missions. We need to keep each other in our prayers. We thank God that each parish or mission is generous within their circumstances. Contributions ranged from small to large – each contribution is valuable and helpful. The amount helps, but your intention to lovingly share your resources to educate the seminarians is more important. Most important are your continued prayers for our seminarians and your promotion of vocations in your family and church community.

Thank you to these parishes and missions that have submitted their collection. Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart, Holy Angels, St. Joseph, St. Margaret, & St. Mary (San Angelo); Holy Family & Sacred Heart (Abilene); Our Lady of Lourdes (Andrews); St. Mary, Star of the Sea (Ballinger); Sacred Heart & St. Thomas (Big Spring); St. Patrick (Brady); St. James (Bronte); St. Therese (Carlsbad); Sts. Joachim & Ann (Clyde); Sacred Heart (Coleman); St. Ann (Colorado City); Good Shepherd (Crane); St.

Charles (Eden); Our Lady of Guadalupe (Eldorado); St. Agnes & St. Joseph (Fort Stockton); St. Theresa (Junction); Immaculate Conception (Knickerbocker); St. Isidore (Lenorah); Sacred Heart (Menard); Holy Family (Mereta); Our Mother of Mercy (Merkel); St. Thomas (Midkiff); Our Lady of Guadalupe, Our Lady of San Juan, St. Ann, & St. Stephen (Midland); St. Thomas (Miles); Our Lady of Guadalupe (Millersview); Holy Redeemer, St. Anthony, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, St. Joseph, St. Mary, & San Juan (Odessa); St. Boniface (Olfen); Our Lady of Perpetual Help (Ozona); Our Lady of Guadalupe (Robert Lee); St. Albert (Roscoe); St. Lawrence (St. Lawrence); St. Joseph (Rowena); St. James (Sanderson); Good Shepherd (Sheffield); St. Ann (Sonora); St. Joseph (Stanton); St. Paschal (Sterling City); Holy Family & Immaculate

Heart of Mary (Sweetwater); St. Ambrose (Wall); and Our Lady of Mount Carmel (Winters).

The result of the years of contributions and prayers will be the ordination to the priesthood of Rev. Mr. Rodney White and Rev. Mr. Joey Faylona on May 31 at 10:00 am at Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart in San Angelo. Come and celebrate this great day with us.

Every prayer and every contribution is helpful and appreciated. Keep all of our seminarians in your prayers. You will be in their prayers. At this time we have several young men who are in the process of applying to begin studying in college seminary for our diocese. With their addition we will have six seminarians next year.

# Schola Cantorum New Sounds at Assumption

by Raymond McDaniel,  
Diocese of Fort Worth  
(Courtesy of Bridge Builder)

New sounds began to be heard around Assumption Seminary last fall, when 16 enthusiastic seminarians formed a new choir dedicated to the best of the choral art and to preserving what Vatican II called “a treasure of inestimable value” - the musical tradition of the universal Church.

In the spirit of Vatican II and its document on the liturgy “Sacrosanctum Concilium,” the Schola Cantorum strives to foster the art of full participation by those blessed by the gift of music, especially in the venerable tradition of choral singing which the document calls to be “assiduously devel-

oped.” In addition, the choir addresses the Council’s instruction that “great importance be attached to the teaching of music in seminaries.” In that spirit, the group has committed to rehearse weekly for ninety minutes.

The choir sang its public debut at the Ordination of Deacons last November, and since then has performed a Christmas concert, at the seminary’s annual Festival of the Arts, and at a wedding in the Motherhouse Chapel at Incarnate Word University. The music performed ranges from Gregorian Chant, (another mandate from Vatican II which gave chant “pride of place” amongst all music), to contemporary classics.

Seminarian Raymond McDaniel



Pictured row 1 (l-r) Francisco Jimenez, Diocese of Lubbock; Edwin Vigil, Archdiocese of San Antonio; Ariel Lagunilla, Diocese of San Angelo; Joey Faylona, Diocese of San Angelo; and Raymond McDaniel (Director), Diocese of Ft. Worth. Row 2 (1-r) Juan Martinez, Archdiocese of San Antonio; Mario Barragan, Diocese of Gary; Oscar Siordia, Diocese of Lubbock; Javier Rivera, Diocese of Amarillo; Matt Barnum, Diocese of Grand Rapids; and Martin Garcia, Diocese of Tucson. Row 3 (1-r) Eusebio Martinez, Diocese of Brownsville; Jonathan Wallis, Diocese of Ft. Worth; Nick Gerber, Diocese of Amarillo; James Flynn, Diocese of Ft. Worth; and Ruben Covos, Diocese of San Angelo.

directs the group. He is studying for the Diocese of Fort Worth and spent ten years as a professional church musician before entering the seminary in 2000.

Most importantly, the Schola aspires to a standard of excellence, so that in all that it does, God may be praised by our offering of our best. It is our prayer that the

Council’s words on the role of music may be fully actualized: “the glory of God and the sanctification of the faithful.”

# KC’s Support Seminarians

by Carl A. Anderson, Supreme Knight

The Knights of Columbus has for years made the promotion of vocations a top priority, with heartening results. In solidarity with our

priests and bishops, we must act now to encourage those who are called to give themselves entirely to the service of God’s people through ordained ministry or religious life. We must seek out and

encourage those who may have religious vocations and say to them “Be Not Afraid!” whether they be our neighbor, our child or, perhaps, ourselves.

Therefore moral and material support must be given to those in discernment and formation while we stand in prayerful solidarity with those who have already answered God’s call to direct service in the Church. With a variety of scholar-

ships and loans available, the Order does not want financial issues to burden their decision to enter the seminary.

The Order’s scholarships include:

The Father Michael J. McGivney Vocations Scholarship. It is available to seminarians enrolled in major seminaries while preparing for ordination as priests. It is an annual grant of \$2,500 per

person, based on financial need and renewable up to four years during the first four years of theology for tuition, room and board. Scholarships are not available during the philosophy year(s), the spiritual year, or the year devoted to pastoral internship (often carried out during the diaconate). To be eligible for the scholarship, men must

see “SUPPORT” page eleven



# What Do People Expect From A Cathedral?

by Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI

The main church of a diocese is the cathedral. It holds a place of primacy among the churches of a diocese as the chair of the Bishop is located in the cathedral and is a focal point of celebrations and concerns for the entire diocese. In this article, I share with you some of the results of a national study that was done recently about cathedrals in a report entitled, "What do people expect from a Cathedral?"

The major findings and possible implications of this study are summarized below:

- All groups of those who shared in this study affirm by a wide margin an expectation that the cathed-

ral has the four-fold role of serving a local parish community, being the site of diocesan celebrations, modeling good liturgy, and being a center of spiritual life in the broader community.

- All respondents were convinced that all four roles taken together make a cathedral what it is, so there was reluctance to diminish any of them.

- There was a very high level of expectation among all respondents that the cathedral provides customary parish services to members of its parish community, though this felt need is tempered by the reality of having to serve a much larger population from time to time and

in varying ways.

- The concepts of the cathedral as a "second home" was accepted by 90% or more of the respondents in all types of dioceses, with the exception of pastors of other parishes in more spread out dioceses, for the distance seems to be the issue.

- At least nine out of ten respondents, across the board expect the Cathedral to be an example of good liturgy. This requires cathedral staff to be mindful of providing a variety of models to fit different circumstances, and requires those in other parishes to experience what is going on at the cathedral.

- The cathedral is to be the place where the Church speaks out for

causes of social justice. Close to eight people out of ten look to the cathedral to lead in combating social injustice.

- Ecumenical activities receive the second most support as the way for the cathedral to be a spiritual center for the community, though there were a lot of unsure respondents.

The Bishop's chair or cathedra in Greek from which we get the word, cathedral, goes back at least to the third century. It is a reminder of the bishop's teaching office, where it seems that in the early Church the bishop would preach from his chair with priests, deacons, and people sitting around him. The chair, or cathedra, is a sign of the bishop's authority to teach and govern in his diocese.

The Cathedral should be a jewel. Its purpose is to evoke the hopes of a people, to call forth the

desire for all that is noble in the human spirit. The bishop's chair is a metaphor of the bishop's relationship to the whole local Church. For this reason the cathedral is the center, the heart and soul of liturgical life and ministry of the Diocese.

Cardinal Mahony states that "The Cathedral – precisely as a place, a physical focus, a sacramental resource, a sign lifted for all peoples-is a prophetic structure that signals the Church's ongoing commitment to the city as a living icon of how men and women share in the life and goodness of a world created and blessed by God."

The study points out that most people expect the cathedral church to serve its parish community like any other parish. It also brings out that the cathedral is to be the site of major diocesan liturgical celebrations, and is to model all aspects of good liturgy for the entire diocese.

# Happy Mother's Day For All Mothers

by Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI

The beautiful month of May is dedicated in a special way to Mary, the mother of Jesus, who is also our spiritual mother. As we all realize, in May we also remember the special ones we call our mothers. So, good mothers, as you celebrate your special day on May 11, 2003, I wish all of you the abundance of Christ's blessings, and may Mary, our mother always watch over you. She is your great model.

Yes, May is Mary's special month, so as we honor our earthly mothers, let us remember first and foremost to honor our wonderful, spiritual mother who is constantly doing so many great things for us. A special way of honoring Mary is by praying the Rosary each day, and of course by imitating her life-especially her spirit of faith, trust, and humility.

# Feliz Día De Las Madres

por el Obispo Miguel Pfeifer, OMI

El mes hermoso de Mayo es dedicado en una manera muy especial a María, la Madre de Jesús, quien es también nuestra Madre espiritual. Como todos nos damos cuenta, en Mayo también recordamos a esas personas especiales que llamamos nuestras madres. Así pues, queridas mamas, mientras celebren su día especial el 11 de Mayo, 2003, les deseo a todas la abundancia de las bendiciones de Cristo, y que María, nuestra Madre siempre las guarde. Ella es su gran model.

Sí, Mayo es el mes especial de María, y así que honramos nuestras madres terrenales, recordemos primero y principalmente honrar nuestra Madre maravillosa y espiritual quien es constantemente haciendo gran cosas para nosotros. Una manera especial de honrar a María es rezando el Rosario cada día, y por supuesto imitando su vida - especialmente su espíritu de fe, confianza y humildad.

# Special Weekend Of Prayer For Rain, May 10-11, 2003

by Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI

As we all realize, we are in desperate need of rain in West Texas. The drought we are in has reduced the water levels of so many of our communities, and impacts all of our lives.

I know that we are constantly

praying for rain, but more than ever, we need as a diocesan community - all of our parishes and missions - to not only offer prayer but to offer fasting and sacrifice to our God for this special gift. The "Drought Demon" can only be driven out by prayer and fasting.

Hence, I am declaring the weekend of May 10-11 as a special weekend of prayer, fasting and sacrifice for the much needed gift of rain. First and foremost, we want to make sure we include prayers for rain at

*see "RAIN" page eleven*

## Christ the King Retreat Center 20th Anniversary Celebration!

June 22, 2003

*Everyone Invited*

Eucharist - 6:30 pm

Presider: Bishop Michael D. Pfeifer, OMI

Homilist: Fr. John Gonzales Castro, OMI

Reception - 7:30 pm



# Will You Sponsor A Child For \$20 A Month?

by Rev. Prasad Gallela, St. Joseph's Catholic Church

Say yes! And light a lamp in the life of a child in the diocese of Kurnool, A.P. India.

The missionary diocese of Kurnool is comprised of two civil districts of Kurnool and Ananthapur, which are the drought prone areas of Andhra Pradesh State in South India. Christianity is growing in spite of the persecutions.

98% of the Catholics in this diocese are called "dalits" (Which means the oppressed untouchables of the Indian Society that is based on Caste system). When they become Christians though their social status remains the same as the Hindus but they lose the benefits such as scholarships for their children's education and job reservations from the state. If they remain as Hindu dalits then the State

Government gives them those benefits. So the Church in Kurnool diocese is trying its best to educate these dalit children by accommodating as many Catholic children as possible with your support.

At present we are able to provide ten months (School Year) of room and board for over 2,452 children by giving them food, clothing, education, and a solid foundation in the Catholic faith. Still there

are 2,400 and above who wait for help. A girl child is much neglected in Indian Society. So your help, love, and support would make a big difference in their life and in the future of the Church in Kurnool, India.

On behalf of these little children, I kindly appeal to you and your friends in the USA to Sponsor a child and give them Christian hope for a bright future.

Your \$20 a month will provide a child:

- A chance to attend a Catholic School
- Food, clothing, and medical care.

• A good Catholic education and formation.

For one year (and more) commitment, you will receive.

• A photograph of your sponsored child

• Two personal letters from your sponsored child per year.

• The joy of knowing you helped a child that really needs it.

Contact person in USA: Rev. Prasad Gallela, Mission Procurator Diocese of Kurnool, St. Joseph's Catholic Church, P.O. Box 96, Rowena, TX 76875, (325) 442-2362, email address: prasadgallela@aol.com

## Vicar Prioress Elected at Our Lady of Grace Monastery

by S. Madonna of the Assumption

On March 21, 2003, at 8:00 pm, Friday, the Most Reverend Michael D. Pfeifer, Bishop of San Angelo, presided at the triennial election of the Vicar Prioress, convened in the Nun's Choir. The electoral body is composed of: Sister Imelda of Jesus, Sister Mary Grace of the Trinity, Sister Mary Michael of the Holy Family and Sister Madonna of the Assumption.

The Bishop spoke a few words

followed by a few minutes of silent prayer. Sister Imelda of Jesus and Sister Mary Michael were appointed as Tellers. Sister Madonna was appointed secretary. The Veni Creator Spiritus was chanted. The Secretary read Article# 185 of our Constitutions, stating the qualities for the office of Vicar Prioress. The Tellers then took their oaths of fidelity. The Sisters then each cast her ballot in order of precedence. Afterward the Bishop called the two Tellers forward to count the

ballots to determine if the number of ballots corresponded to the number of electors. That being verified, Bishop Pfeifer having counted the ballots announced that an absolute majority had been obtained in favor of Sister Mary Grace of the Trinity. Out of four votes Sister Grace received 3 votes.

Sister Grace knelt for Bishop Pfeifer's blessing. The Te Deum was then sung.

## Crowning Of Mary To Be Celebrated In Abilene With Corpus Christi Procession

by Debra Vasquez

Sacred Heart Church in Abilene will continue the fourth year of a tradition to honor Our Lord's mother, Mary, on Mother's Day following the honoring of her son in a Corpus Christi procession on Sunday, May 11, 2003 at 6 p.m. The event has grown each year, as planners add elements of May crowning traditions carried out in other parts of the United States. This year parishioners from the Abilene churches of St. Francis, St. Vincent and Holy Family will be invited to

decorate one of the three outside altars on which the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed during the procession. The clergy and religious members of the Abilene deanery are being invited to participate in the celebration.

The procession will include altar servers from area churches, Sacred Heart First Communicants and a Queen's Court of young women of the parish, and area parishioners. At each altar there will be singing, adoration, a reading, homily, and benediction as the Blessed Sacra-

ment is presented.

A reception and fellowship will follow in the parish hall. The parishioners of Sacred Heart invite everyone to make this "mini" pilgrimage to Abilene to "walk with Our Lord" during this Corpus Christi procession and honor his mother, Mary, on Mother's Day by crowning her with your presence. Sacred Heart is located at 837 Jeanette St., at S. 7th and Jeanette in Abilene.

## An Opportunity To Further Our Love For Christ's Poor

by Douglas Eichorst

President, Abilene Conference St Vincent de Paul

On May 17, all parishes in the Abilene area will have an opportunity to participate in a seminar at Sacred Heart. The seminar will give an overview of the organization, spirituality and works of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. The purpose of this seminar is to provide you with the information needed to make an informed and prayerful decision about becoming involved in St Vincent de Paul.

The Society had it's beginning in Paris in 1833. It was then that 6 young students at the Sorbonne, who had a concern for the poor of the city, formed a Conference and began to bring spiritual and material aid to the very needy. Today there are 960,000 Vincentian men and women who continue this mission of the Church in 132 countries. In the U.S., there are 108,000 members in 4,500 parishes.

The Conference is an integral part of the parish and with the blessing of its pastor helps to carry out the parish responsibility to help care for the poor within it's parish boundaries. In doing so, the core work of the Conference are "home visits".

see "OPPORTUNITY" page eleven

## Unique Opportunity

Notre Dame Catholic School in Kerrville seeking qualified candidates for position of principal. PreK-8, 220 students, located in beautiful Texas hill country, part of a vibrant Catholic community, salary negotiable. Requirements: masters degree, Catholic, 18 hours in admin/supervision. Five years experience teaching/admin preferred. Submit resume to Dwayne Mosser, Search Committee Chairman, 1206 Tanager, Kerrville, TX 78028. Applications accepted until position is filled.



# Annual Diocesan Chrism Mass



(Below) Sacred oils to be used for the administration of Sacraments for each parish of the Diocese were blessed by Bishop Pfeifer at the Chrism Mass during the first week of Lent at the Cathedral Church of the Sacred Heart.



Deacon Neff presents one of the sacred oils to the Bishop.



(Left and far left above) Most priests of the Diocese concelebrated the Mass with the Bishop.



(Right) The Cathedral Choir enhanced the celebration. (Photos by Pete Micale.)

# Way of the Cross at Christ the King Retreat Center

(Right) Children help Bishop Pfeifer carry a cross from St. Margaret Church to Christ the King Retreat Center Grotto of the Stations of the Cross.



(Left) Deacon Ray Smith carries an amplifier behind Bishop Pfeifer as he proclaims the prayers of the Stations of the Cross. (Photos by Pete Micale.)



(Above and left) The Bishop leads prayers of the Stations of the Cross for the Pilgrims at the Stations of the Cross Grotto at the Retreat Center.



# Holy Angels Youth Hold Stations of the Cross

by Lori Hines

Traditionally, Lenten devotions in parish churches have drawn attention to the suffering and death of Jesus. Perhaps the most popular devotion is the *Stations of the Cross*. During the time of the crusades, pilgrims to the Holy Land walked in the footsteps of Jesus to Calvary. When this became too dangerous, a substitute pilgrimage, the *Stations of the Cross*, became a popular outdoor devotion throughout Europe. Each station represents a critical event from Scripture or tradition of Jesus' journey to Calvary.

Each year, Holy Angels Youth Organization prepares a special drama that takes one on a spiritual journey leading to a greater appreciation of what Christ did for mankind. This year, the seventh, the journey was experienced as seen through the eyes of both Jesus and Mary on Wednesday, April 16, 2003. Forty-nine youth in grades Pre-K-12 came together to lead those in attendance on this special journey through prayer, drama, and music.

(Right) Mrs. Lori Hines, Director of Religious Education and Youth Minister of Holy Angels Parish receives a congratulatory bouquet from Cortney Sebesta and Nancy Valis.



Station VI: Veronica (Kyrie Potter) wipes Jesus' (Matt Huro) face as Roman Soldier (C. J. Scott) watches.



Station XI: Jesus is nailed to the cross.



Station V: Simon (Eric Emerson) helps Jesus carry his cross.



(Above) Station VIII: Jesus comforts the women of Jerusalem.



(Left) Station XIII: Jesus is taken down from the Cross and placed in Jesus' Mother's (Calle Sebesta) arms.

(Right) Entire cast receives applause from the congregation. (Photos by Pete Micale.)





# CARMELITE

from page one



(Left) Most Rev. Joseph Chalmers, O. Carm. prays the Blessing of the Professed.



(Right) Marco Melendez and Logan Wright sing the "Ave Maria".

(Below) The chapel prior to the liturgical celebration of the Aggregation into the Carmelite Order.

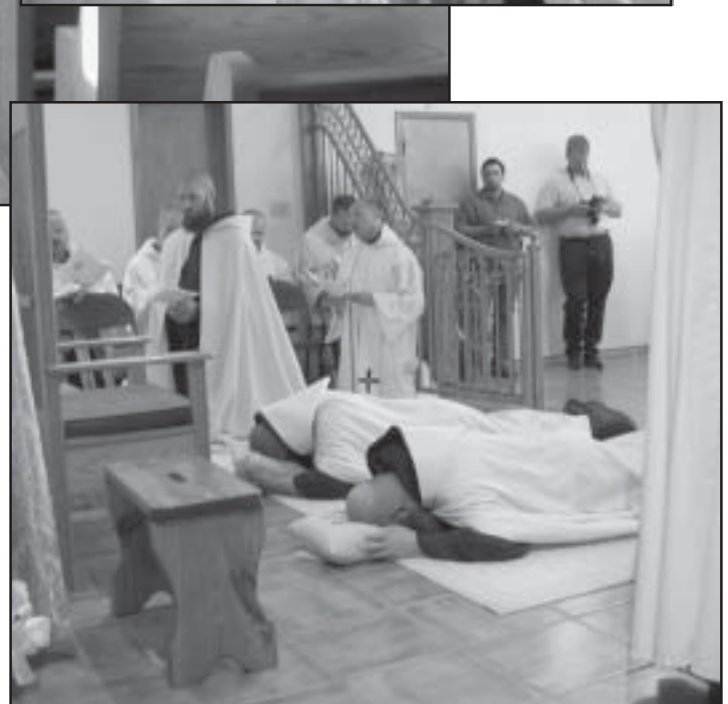
(Below) Fr. Fabian is congratulated by the nuns of the Our Lady of Grace Monastery.



(Above right) Brother John David reads the Formula of Profession while kneeling before Most Rev. Chalmers.

(Left) Fr. Fabian Maria signs the Formula of Profession witnessed by Most Rev. Chalmers and Very Rev. William Harry.

(Right) Fr. Fabian Maria and Br. John David lie prostrate as the Litany of Saints is recited by the congregation. (Photos by Pete Micale.)







# Bishops: Standing During Eucharistic Prayer Should Be Rare Exception

by Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Standing during the eucharistic prayer at Mass in U.S. dioceses is permitted “only on exceptional and extraordinary occasions ... and never on a regular basis,” the U.S. bishops’ Committee on Liturgy said in its latest newsletter.

The committee’s September newsletter, made public in mid-October, said “the only licit posture” during the eucharistic prayer is kneeling, unless Catholics “are prevented on occasion from kneeling due to ‘health, lack of space, the large number of people present, or some other good reason.’” The newsletter was quoting from the General Instruction of the Roman Missal.

The determination of what is a “good reason” is left to bishops in each diocese, the newsletter said.

Msgr. James P. Moroney, executive director of the bishops’ Secretariat for Liturgy, said Oct. 24 that the bishops’ decision to mandate kneeling during the eucharistic prayer in the United States was aimed at “assuring a uniformity of posture so that this central action of the entire Mass would not be a moment when division was manifested, but unity in Christ.”

He said the posture at the eucharistic prayer was one of three

exceptions from general practice in the universal church at Mass that had been approved by the U.S. bishops and ratified by the Vatican. The others involve kneeling from the words “Behold, the Lamb of God” until the distribution of Communion and the bow of the head called for before receiving Communion.

Msgr. Moroney said he did not know how many other bishops’ conferences had asked the Vatican to approve such changes. He noted, however, that a 2002 Vatican document said the posture of kneeling during the eucharistic prayer had been “laudably retained” in some places.

Since the Vatican-approved U.S. adaptations of the Roman Missal took effect April 25, the bishops’ Secretariat for Liturgy has received “several inquiries” about the proper posture during the eucharistic prayer, the newsletter said.

“A certain confusion in this regard is understandable,” it added, because of the “wide variety of practice” before the U.S. adaptations took effect.

The newsletter said the words “on occasion” were specifically chosen by the bishops “in order to establish a uniform posture of kneeling during the eucharistic prayer.”

“The General Instruction of the

Roman Missal notes that the posture of the people ‘ought to draw things together in such a way that the entire celebration shines with beauty and noble simplicity, the true and full meaning of the different parts of the celebration is perceived, and that the participation of all is encouraged,’” the committee said.

“Therefore, closer attention should be paid to the postures prescribed by the liturgical books than to ‘private inclination or arbitrary choice,’” it added, again citing the General Instruction.

Msgr. Moroney said the mandate to kneel required some churches built without kneelers to install them. But that obligation had already been pointed out in the U.S. bishops’ 2000 document on church art and architecture, “Built of Living Stones,” which called kneelers “an indispensable part of any Catholic church,” he said.

“To assist in catechesis for the proper common posture at Mass,” the committee issued the following summary of U.S. practice:

- From the beginning of Mass until the first reading: Stand.
- From the first reading until the Gospel acclamation: Sit.
- From the Gospel acclamation until the end of the Gospel: Stand.
- During the homily: Sit.

### Posture at Mass

Proper posture of the congregation at Mass in the United States

	From the start of Mass until the first reading		From the end of the Holy, Holy, Holy until after the amen of the eucharistic prayer
	During the first and second readings		From the start of the Our Father until the end of the Lamb of God
	From the Gospel acclamation until the end of the Gospel		From “Behold the Lamb of God” until the distribution of Communion
	During the homily		When receiving Communion
	From the profession of faith until end of the general intercessions	OR	During the silence after Communion
	From the preparation of the gifts to the end of “Pray, brethren ...”		From the start of the prayer after Communion until the end of Mass
	From the start of the people’s response to the end of the Holy, Holy, Holy		

Adapted from the newsletter of the U.S. bishops’ Committee on Liturgy.  
© 2002 CNS Graphics

Chart shows when the congregation should stand, sit or kneel during Mass. Editors note: Chart is applicable to celebration of Mass in the United States only. (CNS graphic by Anthony DeFeo)

- From the profession of faith until the end of the general intercessions: Stand.
- From the preparation of the gifts to the completion of “Pray, brethren ...”: Sit.
- From the beginning of the people’s response (“May the Lord ...”) to the end of the “Holy, Holy”: Stand.
- From the end of the “Holy, Holy” until after the amen of the eucharistic prayer: Kneel.
- From the beginning of the Our Father until the completion of the Lamb of God: Stand.
- From the completion of the Lamb of God (at “Behold the Lamb of God”) until the distribution of Communion: Kneel.
- When receiving Communion: Stand.
- During the silence after the distribution of Communion: Sit or kneel.
- From the beginning of the prayer after Communion until the end of Mass: Stand.

# Vindicated

by Fr. Frank Pavone, Priests for Life

I wasn’t even a priest yet when the “NOW vs. Scheidler” case began in June of 1986. During the 17 years since then, the National Organization for Women (NOW) has attempted to penalize Joseph Scheidler, Director of the Pro-life Action League, and others who work in union with him.

For doing what, you ask? That question is the heart of the case.

Joe Scheidler and company have labored ceaselessly to save children from abortion and to help their par-

ents find the resources to care for their children. They have gone to the very places where those children were scheduled to be killed, and have peacefully intervened for their lives. They have provided the final refuge for those lives, the final intervention for the parents who were not moved by all the political, legislative, religious, multimedia and educational work of the pro-life movement. Armed with nothing but the rosary, the pro-life activists endured heat, cold, ridicule and rejection in order to be there for those in need, and to stand in solidarity with the poorest of the poor. And many lives were in fact saved.

But in the eyes of the National Organization for Women, the pro-life activists engaged in “violence” and “harassment.” In fact, NOW tried to use the RICO (Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations) statutes against the pro-lifers. RICO laws were crafted to stop organized crime and drug trafficking, not the peaceful, non-violent intervention of those who are trying to save lives.

After 17 years of litigation, the Supreme Court gave the final word on February 26, 2003, deciding by an 8 to 1 majority that RICO cannot be used against the pro-life activists, even if their activities de-

prived the abortion mills of business. This is a victory for common sense and, in its implications, a victory for the pro-life movement and for the unborn.

There is still an unresolved issue, of course, that goes beyond the technical boundaries of the case. The fact is that abortion is not a legitimate business in the first place. While the Justices wrestled with the notion of “property,” and whether it could be said that pro-life activism deprived the abortion mills of their property, nobody addressed the fact that the abortion mills deprive God of His property! The pro-abortion forces com-

plained that Joe Scheidler trespassed into the “clinics.” But the crime of trespassing into the sacred space of the womb, and violating it with bloodshed, was never raised.

Yes, this decision is a victory. But it is only a first step. The reputations of these pro-life activists must be fully restored. They never committed any violence. Moreover, the path they have forged must be followed by the rest of us. Presence at the abortion mills, sidewalk counseling, street preaching, and good old-fashioned American picketing are honorable activities,

see “VINDICATED” page eleven



# The Bishop and the Atheist

by Fr. Frank Pavone, *Priests for Life*

Bishop William Weigand of Sacramento has something to say to pro-abortion politicians who claim to be Catholic. So does Doris Gordon, an atheist and the founder of "Libertarians for Life."

On January 22, 2003, Bishop Weigand preached the following words: "As your bishop, I have to say clearly that anyone - politician or otherwise - who thinks it is acceptable for a Catholic to be pro-abortion is in very great error, puts his or her soul at risk, and is not in good standing with the Church. Such a person should have the integrity to acknowledge this and choose of his own volition to abstain from receiving Holy Communion until he has a change of

heart."

He made explicit that fact that his words have direct application to Gray Davis, the Governor of California, who is pro-abortion and says he is Catholic. The bishop's homily made national news. And many of the faithful are saying it's about time.

Yet to speak this way is the duty of a bishop. More surprising to many is that an atheist would say the same. My friend, Doris Gordon, founded "Libertarians for Life" ([www.L4L.org](http://www.L4L.org)) and recently wrote an article, "A Libertarian Atheist Answers 'Pro-Choice Catholics.'" She issues this challenge:

"The Church holds that such children are human persons with rights, yet the "personally opposed" hold that it should be a

## Intentions Of The Holy Father For May

*General* – Mary, Mother of Life. That children in difficulty and their caretakers may find in Mary, support and help.  
*Mission* – The evangelization of Asia. That in the local Churches the Holy Spirit may kindle renewed ardor for evangelizing the entire continent.

woman's choice to destroy them. If there is a credible reason for such a position, what is it? Opposition to legal abortion cuts across the religious and political spectrum. I'm an atheist. I was born and raised Jewish. Catholicism had nothing to do with my coming to understand why abortion is a wrong, not a right, and why it should not be legal."

Both Bishop Weigand and Doris Gordon are calling for consistency. If one claims to be Catholic, he/she should accept the teachings of Catholicism. It's as simple as that. Holy Communion, moreover, reinforces the need for consistency. Commun-

ion means "union with." To receive Communion is not magic. It is, rather, the summit and source of all our efforts to think, desire, choose, and live in union with Jesus Christ. When one knows the definitive teaching of Jesus as expressed in the Church, and deliberately refuses to accept it, he/she rejects "communion" at that moment. It no longer makes sense to receive physically the One whom you have rejected by clinging to your own conflicting doctrine.

Moreover, both the bishop and the atheist are saying that abortion is wrong not because the Church

says so, but because of what abortion is. The taking of a child's life is simply not a civilized act. Nor is stealing. The Church teaches against stealing, but we don't hear people complain that laws against stealing are an imposition of religious doctrine. They realize that stealing does not only violate religious doctrine; it violates basic human rights. So does abortion. That truth isn't so hard to understand. But if we forget, then fortunately, we have both bishops and atheists to help us.

## El Obispo Y La Atea

por P. Frank Pavone, *Priests for Life*

El obispo de Sacramento, William Weigand, tiene algo que decirles a los políticos pro-aborto que dicen ser católicos. Doris Gordon, atea, fundadora de "Libertarios por la vida" (Libertarians for Life), también.

El 22 de enero de 2003, el obispo Weigand predicó las siguientes palabras: "Como su obispo, tengo que decir claramente que cualquiera, político o no, que piensa que es aceptable para un católico ser pro-aborto comete un grave error, pone su alma en peligro y no está en buenas relaciones con la Iglesia. Esa persona debería tener la integridad de reconocer esto y elegir voluntariamente abstenerse de recibir la Santa Comunión hasta que cambie su corazón."

Explícitamente señaló que, de hecho, sus palabras tienen aplicación directa a Gray Davis, el gobernador de California que es pro-aborto y dice ser católico. La homilía del obispo fue noticia a nivel nacional. Y muchos de los fieles dicen que ya era hora.

Sin embargo, expresarse de esta

manera es la obligación de un obispo. Más sorprendente para muchos es que una atea diga lo mismo. Mi amiga, Doris Gordon, fundó "Libertarios por la vida" ([www.L4L.org](http://www.L4L.org)) y recientemente escribió el artículo, "Un libertario ateo contesta a los "Católicos pro-elección"" lanzando el siguiente desafío:

"La Iglesia afirma que esos niños son personas con derechos, sin embargo los que se "oponen personalmente" afirman que debería ser una decisión de la mujer destruirlos. Si hay una razón creíble para tal posición, ¿cuál es? La oposición al aborto legal abarca todo el espectro político y religioso. Yo soy atea. Nací y fui criada como judía. El catolicismo no tiene nada que ver con mi comprensión que el aborto está mal, que no es un derecho, y por que no debería ser legal."

Tanto el obispo Weigand como Doris Gordon hacen un llamado a la coherencia. Si uno afirma ser católico, debería aceptar las enseñanzas del catolicismo. Es muy sencillo. Más aún, la Santa Comunión refuerza la necesidad de coherencia. Comunión significa "unión

con." Recibir la comunión no es magia. Es más bien la cima y fuente de todos nuestros esfuerzos para pensar, desear, elegir y vivir en unión con Jesucristo. Cuando uno conoce la enseñanza definitiva de Jesús expresada en la Iglesia y deliberadamente rehúsa aceptarla, en ese instante, rechaza la "comunión." No tiene más sentido recibir físicamente a Aquel a quien se ha rechazado al aferrarse a la propia doctrina contradictoria.

Más aún, tanto el obispo como la atea están diciendo que el aborto está mal no porque lo diga la Iglesia, sino por lo que el aborto es. Simplemente, tomar la vida de un niño no es un acto civilizado. Tampoco lo es robar. La Iglesia se opone al robo, pero no oímos gente quejándose que las leyes que reprimen el robo son una imposición de una doctrina religiosa. Se dan cuenta que robar no sólo viola doctrinas religiosas, viola derechos humanos básicos. También el aborto. La verdad no es muy difícil de entender. Por si lo olvidáramos, afortunadamente contamos con obispos y ateos que nos ayudan.

### MARY from page two

both her smallness and her greatness, because such was the historical reality of Mary, and thus she continues to make present the mystery of God among us. Knowing Mary's attitude of humility and surrender, she would be very happy if we contemplated her smallness without forgetting her greatness, which she attributes totally to God: "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord."

Mary is indeed an admirable model of both smallness and greatness. She is admirable because she recognizes God has done great things in her. And because she never stopped being small, a human being like us, in the midst of her sublimity and glory, she is also worthy of being imitated. As our sister and mother, Mary is worthy of our admiration, imitation, honor, respect and devotion. In becoming the Mother of the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who is our brother and savior, she also became the mother of all of us. We could not have a more beautiful mother and sister.

### MARÍA from page two

ña como nosotros, un ser humano, que nos olvidamos de su grandeza extraordinaria. Tenemos que conservar ambas su pequeñez y grandeza, porque tal es la realidad histórica de María, así que ella continua hacer presente el misterio de Dios entre nosotros. Sabiendo la actitud de humildad y sumisión de María, ella estuviera muy feliz si nosotros contemplamos su pequeñez sin olvidar su grandeza, que ella la atribuyó totalmente a Dios: "Mi alma proclama la grandeza del Señor."

María es ciertamente un modelo admirable de pequeñez y grandeza. Ella es admirable porque ella reconoce que Dios ha hecho grandes cosas en ella. Y porque ella nunca paró de ser pequeña, un ser humano, en medio de su sublimidad y gloria, ella también es digna de ser imitada. Como nuestra hermana y madre, María es digna de nuestra admiración, imitación y honor, respeto y devoción. En hacer Madre del Hijo de Dios, Jesucristo, quien es nuestro hermano y salvador, ella también la hizo la madre de todos nosotros. No podríamos tener una madre y hermana mas bella.



# Bishop Says He Would Not 'Break Off Dialogue' Over Abortion Issue

by Catholic News Service

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (CNS) — Bishop Robert J. Carlson of Sioux Falls said he has encouraged U.S. Sen. Thomas Daschle, D-S.D., a Catholic, to reconsider his support for legal abortion, but that he “would never break off dialogue or a pastoral relationship” with him or anyone else.

The bishop was responding to an article claiming that he sent the Senate minority leader a letter telling him to remove references to being Catholic in his congressional biography and campaign materials because of his public position on abortion.

Both the bishop and the senator said that beyond brief statements they would not comment on the article, which was published April 17 in the political magazine Weekly Standard. The Associated Press and the Argus Leader, a daily newspaper in Sioux Falls, have run stories about the Standard story and statements from Bishop Carlson and Daschle.

In his statement, the bishop said that as a religious leader in South Dakota he has spoken out on many issues over the years at the local, state and national levels. He also said he has talked to Daschle about his position on abortion and en-

couraged the lawmaker to reconsider his stand on it as well as his support for NARAL Pro-Choice America, formerly known as the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League.

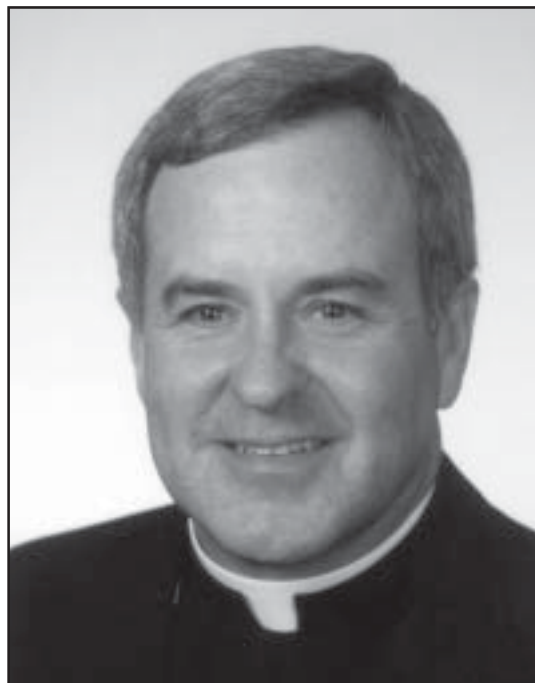
“However, other than inviting people to pray for the senator’s conversion, I do not believe it is appropriate for me to discuss my pastoral relationship with the senator or anyone else,” said Bishop Carlson’s statement. “I would never break off dialogue or a pastoral relationship with anyone.”

Bishop Carlson noted that he and Daschle have had “a number of discussions on the abortion question and many other issues” and that a 1997 round between the two of them over an abortion bill had been quite public.

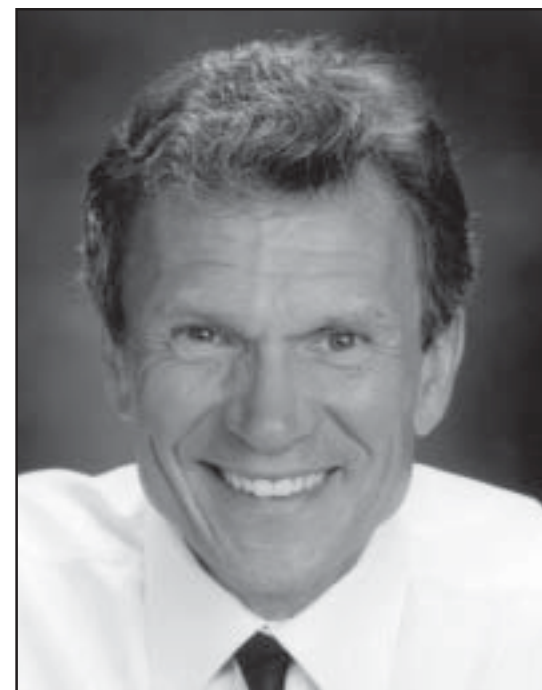
At that time, Daschle criticized unnamed church leaders for opposing his bill that would have banned some but not all partial-birth abortions. Bishop Carlson called the senator’s bill “a smoke screen for pro-abortion senators and a cover” for then-President Clinton.

Since the Weekly Standard has published its story, Daschle declined to discuss any of his communications with Bishop Carlson.

“I have been a Catholic all my life and will remain one,” Daschle



Bishop Robert J. Carlson of Sioux Falls, S.D., has had “a number of discussions” on the abortion question with Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D. In a recent article, the Weekly Standard political magazine reported that Bishop Carlson asked Daschle to remove references to being Catholic from his congressional biography. Bishop Carlson responded that he “would never break off dialogue” with the senator, or anyone else. (CNS file photo)



Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., is pictured in this undated photo. A recent article in the Weekly Standard reported that Bishop Robert J. Carlson of Sioux Falls, S.D., asked Daschle to remove references to being Catholic from his congressional biography because he supports legal abortion. (CNS file photo)

said in an April 17 statement. “Every American’s religious convictions are deeply personal and I am not going to participate in a debate that is intended to politicize anyone’s religious beliefs, especially during Holy Week.”

Daschle, who is up for re-election in 2004, said he had had “the benefit of Bishop Carlson’s guidance on many public and private issues and that relationship will continue. However, I will not discuss our private conversations in

the media.”

Neither the bishop’s nor the senator’s statement said whether the reported letter exists. The Weekly Standard article refers to a letter from Bishop Carlson but does not actually quote it.

## OPPORTUNITY SUPPORT

from page five

The details about the Seminar will soon be in the Sunday bulletins.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul adds a real “person to person” dimension as we continue to carry out our responsibility to Christ’s poor. In assisting with this mission of the Church, the spiritual growth and blessing which flow to members of the Conference are truly bountiful.

We encourage all concerned members of our parishes to participate in this Seminar, and having done so, prayerfully consider becoming active in the St Vincent de Paul Society

## OPPORTUNITY SUPPORT

from page three

have been accepted with appropriate ecclesiastical approval, at a major seminary and must be preparing for the priesthood in a diocese or religious order in the United States, its territories or Canada. Financial need must also be established.

Bishop Thomas V Daily Vocations Scholarship. A \$2,500 scholarship awarded on the basis of academic merit. To be eligible, men must be enrolled in a program at the level of a major seminary and be preparing for priestly ordination for a diocese or religious order in the United States, its territories or Canada.

The Order’s student loans in-

clude:

Federally Insured Student Loans/Guaranteed Student Loans (GSL). Available to priests, brothers, sisters, seminarians, novices, and postulants at the college, theologate, and post-graduate levels, without reference to membership requirement. This applies only to citizens of the United States and resident aliens. Eligibility requires attendance at a school qualified according to the United States Department of Education and family income that meets government guidelines.

To obtain additional information on the Knights of Columbus’ scholarships or loan programs, please contact the Supreme Council Scholarship Department at (203) 752-4332 or the Supreme

Council’s student loan division at (203) 752-4224.

## RAIN

from page four

all of our Masses, and I strongly encourage all of our people to pray in their homes and with other Christians for this much-needed gift. I also strongly recommend that we have special prayer services and devotions on this weekend, and I ask our people to do some fasting and make sacrifices for this special gift. If we pray with confidence in the name of Christ, God our Father will hear our prayers. The humble admission of our need for rain is already a prayer. Please bring this request to the attention of our people through the bulletin and

pulpit.

As we prepare for our special day of prayer for rain, I ask you to encourage our people to already pray as a community for this special gift. The Lord will answer our prayers. I am asking the mayors of the cities of our diocese to proclaim May 11th as a Day of Prayer for Rain. May God pour out many blessings upon you.

## VINDICATED

from page nine

are integral to our movement, and deserve to be promoted by pro-life groups and by the Church at every level. Thank God for those who do these things; I am honored to be among them.

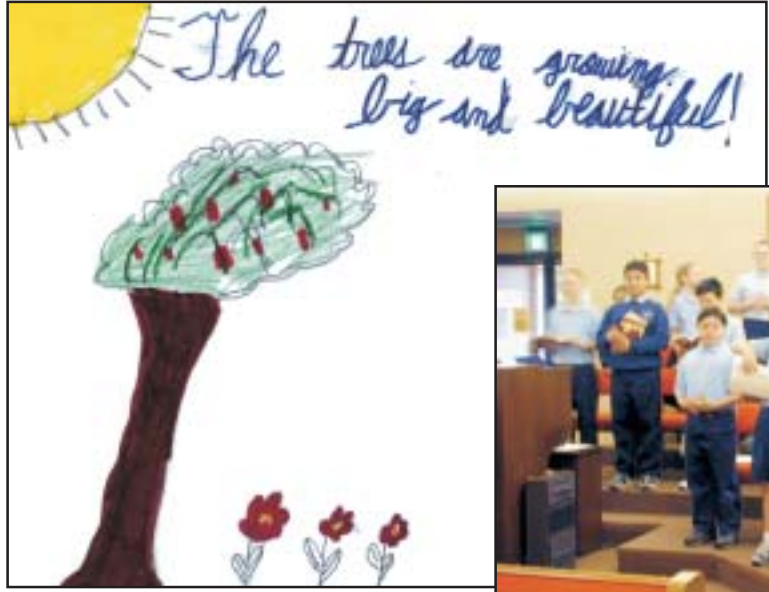


# Bishop Celebrates Earth Day

Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI, celebrated Earth Day on April 22, 2003, as a special children's Mass at Holy Angels Church in San Angelo. The theme of the Mass was: "Caring for the Earth which is our Home and Source of Life." During the Mass, some of the children shared their thoughts about this theme and the meaning of Earth Day. After the Mass the day was commemorated by planting of a tree on the grounds next to the site of the new Church Building.

(Right) Bishop Pfeifer explains to students how the planting of a tree helps "Earth Day".

(Below) Angelo Catholic Choir sings Mass at Holy Angels Church, San Angelo.



(Above) 3rd Grader's drawing of what "Earth Day" meant to him/her; unfortunately the drawing was unsigned.

(Right) Students read from their art work or poems during the "Earth Day" celebration.

**What Earth Day Means To Me**  
 By Sara Cabeza, 6th Grade,  
 Angelo Catholic School

*Earth is beautiful in every way,  
 Even on a stormy day  
 Because what comes forth from this storm?  
 A rainbow that shows the world is reborn.  
 Even if many plants die,  
 The seeds underneath survive.  
 The seeds will sprout once more,  
 Then there will be flowers galore.  
 This is how God created Earth,  
 And each Spring Earth gives birth  
 To many new beautiful things,  
 Like a butterfly's colorful wings,  
 And watching the sun rise and set each day  
 So that we, children, can come play.  
 The Earth has done so much for all,  
 So now we must answer Earth's call.  
 We must keep Earth clean and healthy,  
 So that once more Earth will be wealthy  
 With many more new delightful things,  
 Like beautiful, celestial, sun shining Springs.  
 This is how Earth should really be,  
 Keep Earth clean and you will see,  
 That this is how you would like Earth to be,  
 A wonderful home for you and me.*



(Left) Bishop Pfeifer dedicates a newly planted Palm tree, during a light mist, on the grounds of Holy Angels Church. (Photos by Pete Micale.)