



# THE DIOCESAN CHRONICLE

THE OFFICIAL NEWS OF THE DIOCESE OF BAKER

Published every two weeks for the sake of the unity of the Diocese and the  
“greater good of souls”

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**PARISH SCHOOL NEWS:** St. Peter Catholic School, which started 31 years ago, has a great vision of excellence in a Christ-based educational system. St. Peter Catholic School strives to reach its *goal of excellence* by beginning each day with a prayer and Bible reading.



We are very proud of our teachers and bright and loving students and we all use teamwork to lead our children of God to excellence. Our small class sizes make it possible to achieve that goal by giving each child one-on-one teacher contact each day. Our activities reinforce our commitment to build strong and faithful students by introducing them to the community and the ways in which each person can be a part of a strong unit in Christ. Come see us!

-- Father Jude Nwachukwu, Administrator and Pastor



**RETREAT CENTER NEWS:** This summer, our first full year at Powell Butte, was enjoyed by youth from all over the Diocese and outside the Diocese as well. It proved that the need for spiritual and social gathering far outweighed the challenge of traveling in Eastern Oregon. Many of the youth were sponsored by their home parish through parish scholarships and not surprisingly, many youth returned to attend The Day of the Son and The Day of the Spirit retreats held during October. We take this opportunity to list the parishes that sent their youth during the year: *St. Francis de Sales–Baker City, St. Francis of Assisi–Bend, St. Augustine–Bonanza, Holy Family–Burns, Holy Family–Christmas Valley, Holy Family–Fort Rock, St. Patrick–Heppner, Our Lady of Angels–Hermiston, St. Pius X–Klamath Falls, Sacred Heart–Klamath Falls, Our Lady of the Valley–La Grande, St. Patrick–Lakeview, Holy Redeemer–La Pine, St. Patrick–Madras, St. Francis of Assisi–Milton Freewater, Blessed Sacrament–Ontario, St. Mary–Pendleton, St. Joseph–Prineville, St. Thomas–Redmond, St. Edward–Sisters, Holy Trinity–Sunriver, St. Peter–The Dalles, and St. Mary–Wasco.* Camp Connolly also attracted Oregon youth from Portland, Corvallis, Eugene, and Grants Pass and in Washington from Clarkston, Richland, West Richland, Vancouver, and Washougal, and California. If we missed your parish we apologize!

## ENGAGED PARISHIONERS:



Almost 100 Finance Council members and Parish Representatives throughout the Diocese gathered with their pastors to hear Rev. Dan Mahan speak on *Building an Engaged Parish* on October 12 at the John Paul II Conference Center at Powell Butte.

**MIND AND HEART OF BISHOP VASA:** The month of October has come and gone and soon the snows of winter will descend upon us. So goes another year. Hopefully, we are able to recognize it a year of grace.

Every year brings with it its own joys and blessings, trials and sorrows, challenges and opportunities. One of the ongoing challenges in the Church is to stimulate and retain greater involvement of our people in the works of the Church. This is something which the Diocese has decided to tackle in a more comprehensive way during the coming year. This initiative has already begun and a vast majority of our priests seem to be excited about what we hope to do. The first phase of the initiative began last year when we brought Father Daniel Mahan from the Center for Catholic Stewardship in Indianapolis to speak to both priests and laity about a fuller understanding and appreciation of stewardship. He was very well received and so we brought him back this year to offer a fuller treatment of the subject, primarily for our priests, but also for involved laity. Father was given the entire time of our Annual Presbyteral Assembly to lay out the groundwork for what we hope to continue this winter and into next year.

Father began with an explanation of human dynamics and explained that in most groups, whether in the Church or in business, there is a certain portion of the people really engaged in and excited about what they are doing. This is almost universally 16%. This is the percentage of people most likely to step up and say, Yes, we can do this! We recognize, however, that 16% participation is hardly sufficient to continue to move forward in an energetic and proactive fashion.

This then leads to a recognition that another 49%, again in both Church and industry, would be described as not engaged. These folks go to work faithfully and even participate, but perhaps in a less than enthusiastic fashion. This is the group more likely to stand back and say, "Well, I suppose if we have to do this then we should but don't expect too much from me". There would not be many active regular volunteers from this group.

The last segment (35%), again in Church and in the workplace, are those whom Father describes as the actively disengaged. For those with a "glass-half-empty" view this means that 84% of the people are typically not engaged in Diocesan, Parish or Community activities. On the other hand, a "glass-half-full" view rejoices that 65% of the people are at their posts, doing their jobs and perhaps simply in need of a little encouragement.

Over the coming year, in four separate day-long exercises, our priests will be encouraged by Father Mahan to find their own strengths as well as the strengths of their engaged parishioners with the hope and goal of expanding the ranks of the engaged group. This "energizing" of those who seem to be non-engaged represents the best hope of generating an increasingly engaged parish. Pray that this initiative bears fruit for our priests and parishes. Ask your pastor about it.

**NOTICIAS HISPANIAS:** Después de que hemos reflexionado en la apelación del Señor Obispo y después de ver hecho oración y hemos contribuido con lo que el Señor nos ha iluminado, ahora nos toca reflexionar en qué podemos participar en nuestra parroquia, Dios no, nos ha dado solamente dinero sino que nos ha dotado con muchos talentos y muchas cualidades y nos las ha dado para que nos beneficiemos nosotros mismos y para que compartamos esos dones y esas cualidades con nuestros hermanos y no hay nadie que pueda decir que no tiene algo que compartir con los demás.

La semana del 11 de octubre fue la reunión anual presbiteral de nuestra Diócesis es una semana de reunión para los sacerdotes a la que están invitados los diáconos, este año el martes 12 de octubre también fueron invitados los comités financieros y líderes de varios ministerios parroquiales y hubo asistencia de varias parroquias a la presentación del padre Daniel Mahan del Centro para la corresponsabilidad Católica de Indianapolis, la presentación fue bien recibida por los sacerdotes y por los laicos, esta presentación ayuda a comprender y apreciar la corresponsabilidad a la que somos llamados. El padre dice algo que es muy real tanto en la iglesia como en las empresas comerciales; 16% de los feligreses en las parroquia como de los empleados en las empresas son entusiastas y están dispuestos a participar en cualquier proyecto 49% están presentes en todo pero dicen está bien ese proyecto pero tal vez no cuenten conmigo y el 35% restante definitivamente dice yo no participo podemos ver que el 84% podríamos decir que están desconectados, pero esos 49% con un poco de ánimo podrían sumarse al 16% lo cual es alentador pues ya serian un 65%, platiquemos con nuestros párrocos y preguntémosles de que manera podemos ayudar para alentar a esas personas que tal vez decena involucrarse en la parroquia.

Quiero comentar un poco de la oficina para el Ministerio Hispano que está en la Diócesis y que es para tratar de solucionar las necesidades de los Hispanos en nuestras parroquias, esta oficina existe para servirles a ustedes tal vez muchos de no sabían de su existencia pero ahora que lo saben pueden llamar al teléfono de la Diócesis que es el 541 388-4004 y el fax es 541 388-2566 la dirección electrónica es [gart@dioceseofbaker.org](mailto:gart@dioceseofbaker.org) y pueden dirigirse o preguntar por Gustavo Ruiz soy Diácono Permanente y estoy para servirles en todo lo que me sea posible. En los meses pasados me han invitado a algunas parroquias a impartir una clase de Preparación Pedagógica para los Catequistas clase que toma unas 20 horas unas de las parroquias que han tomado estas clases son Hood River, The Dalles, Klamath Falls y Milton Freewater. También llevamos Retiros Kerigmaticos (iniciación), ejercicios cuaresmales o de adviento, Retiros para los Lectores y ministros Extraordinarios de la Sagrada Comunión, también tenemos material para catequesis de adultos, por supuesto todo esto con la aprobación y petición de su párroco en fin sabiendo sus necesidades podremos buscar soluciones.

**ALL SOULS DAY:** November 2nd we celebrated Mass for the poor souls in purgatory. This is a good opportunity to remember the deceased Bishops and Priests of the Diocese.

|      |                                 |      |                              |      |                             |
|------|---------------------------------|------|------------------------------|------|-----------------------------|
| 1908 | John Heinrich                   | 1952 | Thomas Brady                 | 1984 | Msgr. George A. Murphy      |
|      | John Joseph Landry, S.J.        | 1955 | Edward O'D Hynes             | 1985 | William Coughlin, OFM, Cap. |
| 1909 | John Bradley                    | 1958 | Patrick J. Stack             | 1988 | Patrick J. Lunham           |
| 1918 | John Moriarity                  |      | Robert Kennedy               |      | Leo Stupfel                 |
|      | Msgr. Alphonse Bronsgeest       | 1959 | Felix L. Geis                | 1989 | A. Robert Miller            |
| 1919 | John Kerr                       | 1960 | Thomas McTeigue              | 1991 | Thomas Endel                |
| 1920 | Patrick Driscoll                | 1964 | Vincent Egan                 | 1992 | Charles Graves              |
| 1927 | Thomas Cantwell                 |      | Michael Ahearne              |      | Jocelyn St. Arnaud          |
| 1928 | Joseph M. Cataldo, S.J.         | 1965 | John T. Curran               | 1993 | Msgr. Timothy Casey         |
| 1929 | Hugh Marshall                   | 1967 | Otto Nooy                    |      | Msgr. Charles Timothy Grant |
| 1933 | Patrick O'Rourke                |      | Daniel Duffy, OFM, Cap.      | 1995 | John Murphy, M.Afr          |
| 1934 | Joseph Schmidt                  | 1970 | Celestin Quinlan, OFM, Cap.  |      | Joseph B. Hayes             |
|      | Thomas M. Neate, S.J.           | 1971 | William Roden                | 1996 | Henry A. Beegan             |
| 1935 | Dominic O'Connor, OFM, Cap      |      | Benjamin Kiernan             | 1997 | John Baumgartner            |
| 1936 | Joseph Schell                   | 1973 | Msgr. Michael J. McMahon     | 1999 | Msgr. John F. Phelan        |
| 1937 | Luke Sheehan OFM, Cap.          | 1975 | Peter J. Duignan             | 2000 | Juan Turula, S.J.           |
|      | M.J. Kelly                      |      | Donal Sullivan, OFM          | 2001 | Msgr. William S. Stone      |
|      | James Walsh                     |      | Simon Coughlan, OFM, Cap.    | 2002 | Robert E. Simard            |
| 1939 | Harold A. Reiley, S.J.          |      | George French, S.J.          | 2004 | Msgr. Bernard Keating       |
| 1941 | James L. McKenna, S.J.          | 1976 | Thomas J. Moore              |      | Carl H. Gillen              |
| 1942 | John Wand                       | 1977 | John M. Kenney               | 2005 | Cletus Kirkpatrick          |
|      | Michael Dalton                  |      | Francis McCormick            |      | John F. Cunningham          |
| 1943 | Denis Sheedy                    | 1978 | Edmund M. Fern               | 2006 | Richard J. Conway           |
| 1945 | August F. Loeser                |      | James M. O'Connor            |      | Joseph Kelbel               |
| 1946 | James H. Maloney                |      | Msgr. Patrick J. Gaire       | 2007 | Timothy Collins             |
| 1948 | John O'Donovan                  | 1980 | John B. O'Connor             |      | Martin Quigley              |
| 1950 | John Delahunty                  | 1981 | Most Rev. Francis P. Leipzig |      | Francis Hebert              |
|      | Most Reverend Leo F. Fahey      | 1982 | John A. O'Brien              |      | Msgr. Raymond Beard         |
|      | Most Reverend Joseph F. McGrath | 1983 | David J. Hazen               | 2009 | Msgr. Matthew Crotty        |

**CLERGY ASSEMBLY:** Seen any CAVE people lately? Those who attended this year's Clergy Assembly will now be on the lookout for them. Why? Because it is the CAVE people who contribute to so many of our parishes being dragged down to the brink of failure.

So who are these CAVE people? CAVE people are those members of our parish who Complain About Virtually Everything! You know who they are. Whenever you try to do anything in your parish they are the ones who make it clear to anyone who will listen that it will never work. The problem is that too many listen to them. What we need is more of those who do not spend all their time complaining, but are spending more of their time growing in holiness, to have a greater influence in our parishes. These people we will refer to as being "engaged" in their parish.

The priests of the Diocese were to invite parish representatives to attend a Tuesday afternoon presentation at the Assembly. Those who came gained important insights into how to help the number of people engaged in their parish to grow. Father Daniel Mahan, the moderator of this year's Assembly, made it very clear that this will help drown out the incessant whining of the

CAVE people. The priests of the Diocese of Baker will meet with Fr. Mahan four more times in the next year to learn how to make all the parishes in the diocese engaged parishes. Keep watch for this process to begin in your own parish . . . and don't let the CAVE people stop it! -- Fr. James Radloff

**GENERAL INFORMATION:** We encourage more parishes to send in news items that would be of interest to the other parishes of the Diocese. We encourage pictures of Confirmation classes, First Communions, Retreats, Parish Socials and the like which occur regularly in our parishes. It is also possible that other parish and other diocesan organizations such as the Catholic Daughters or the Knights of Columbus of particular parishes may want to note special Fourth Degree Exemplification Ceremonies or provide a picture when they provide an Honor Guard at the parish. This is your newsletter, please get involved and spread the good news.

**NOVEMBER PRIESTHOOD ANNIVERSARY:** Last issue our ordination date for Fr. Rogatian Urassa was incorrect. The correct date is November 20, 1983.



**VOCATIONS:** One of the new seminarians for the Baker Diocese, David Douglas Jones, was born July 14, 1989, in La Grande, Oregon. David has two older brothers, Ben (a student in Bangkok, Thailand) and Dan (a journalist in Medford, Oregon). His family enjoys hiking and participating in Renaissance Fairs, where he and his father play their violins. They also enjoy traveling.

After David and his mother were baptized in the Catholic Church in 2001, David journeyed to Toronto, Canada, for World Youth Day, where he found himself ten feet away from Pope John Paul II. In 2005 he journeyed to Germany for another World Youth Day, but this time Pope Benedict was too far away for him to see.

David remembers the exact day, June 6, 2005, when he became aware of God's wish for him to become a priest. "I was at a youth camp when I went off by myself to the chapel to pray. I was in a fallen state at the time. I prayed for forgiveness and guidance. When a feeling of forgiveness and compassion swept over me, I knew I wanted to help others know they don't have to suffer sin because they can be forgiven by confessing and receiving absolution."

David has just begun his studies at St. Gregory the Great Seminary this fall. If you would like to correspond with him, his mailing address is c/o St. Gregory the Great Seminary, 800 Fletcher Road, Seward, NE 68434-8145.



Our second new seminarian is Jaris Samayoa who writes about himself:

As I was growing up, I never considered being a priest. I wanted to get married and have a family. I've been active in Youth Group at St. Patrick's in Madras for a number of years. As a freshman, I attended my first Day-by-Day Agape Retreat and have been

going to them yearly since that time. The great thing about this retreat is that it is put on by high school students for other high school students. It was a great way for me to be involved and to grow in my faith.

In February of this year during Adoration at the Day-by-Day Agape Retreat held at the Powell Butte Retreat Center, I strongly felt God calling me to be a priest. I was really surprised by God's call. Since that time, I have been going through a discernment process with Father Jim Radloff, Diocesan Vocation's Director. I feel peaceful and unafraid as I get ready to leave for St. Gregory the Great Seminary on August 19th. Please keep me in your prayers! Jaris

**PRO-LIFE CONFERENCE:** Dr. Richard Thorne, M.D., kept discussion lively with two very informative talks about attacks on freedom of conscience Saturday, September 18, at the Diocese of Baker's annual Pro-Life Conference, held at the retreat center in Powell Butte.



His first talk dealt with attacks on freedom of conscience in regard to religious beliefs, home schooling, sex education and gender beliefs. The second presentation concerned attacks on health care providers who are pro-life. In both discussions, Dr. Thorne presented data from a variety of sources that clearly documented such attacks in the United States and countries throughout the world. These have a direct bearing on the pro-life movement, as more people try to suppress the truth regarding abortion and euthanasia. These attacks need, said Dr. Thorne, to be fought with the truth in an effort to proclaim the Gospel of Christ.

During the conference, Lois Anderson, director of political affairs for Oregon Right to Life updated those in attendance with information regarding pro-life candidates in the upcoming election on both the state and national levels. Lois reminded listeners that, even though the economy is an important issue this year, the right to life must be uppermost in our minds when examining the records of candidates.

The conference was attended by about 30 people, who left with new information to assist them in giving witness to Christ and His Gospel of Life.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:** Are you a DRE, Catechist, or Youth Minister? Have you checked out the Diocesan Religious Education website lately? You can now find many useful tools on our website, including:

- Flashcards
- Lesson Plans
- Templates
- Faith and Life downloads.

Have anything you'd like to share? Email Jill Schwartz at [jill@dioceseofbaker.org](mailto:jill@dioceseofbaker.org) and don't forget to visit us at >> <http://dioceseofbaker.org/reled.htm>.