



NORTHERN NEVADA CATHOLIC

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2013

SERVING THE DIOCESE OF RENO

Dominican nuns leave Reno

Sisters of San Rafael lived and worked in the city for 136 years

By Sean M. Grady

While smoke from fires in California filled Reno's skies, Sister Jeremy Carmody and Sister Cyndie Cammack — of the Dominican Sisters of San Rafael, Calif., who ran Saint Mary's Regional Medical Center until last year — were busy closing their small convent just down the street from the hospital.

"It's very difficult; good-byes are always hard," said Sister Jeremy, who came to Reno in 1992 and stayed past her retirement a decade later.

With other sisters having left for the community's mother house or for new ministries in Nevada and California, the end of September marks the end of a connection between Reno and these dedicated sisters of the Order of Preachers that stretched back to 1877.

"Over the past few years, as the members of the congregation have grown older and economic needs have risen, the sisters have reexamined the entire scope of their work and the places they serve," Sister Cyndie said a month before their planned departure. "Now that Saint Mary's has been sold by

Dignity Health to Prime Healthcare, and quality accessible health care and choice in health care has been maintained, it was time to move on."

It actually was a sister from Kentucky, Mother Dolores O'Neale, who brought the female Dominicans to Reno in July 1877, following a year's sojourn with the sisters in California (who at the time were located at Saint Catherine's Convent in Benicia, 26 years after their congregation's founding in Monterey).

Mother Dolores and two sisters were returning east when one fell ill as their train crossed the Sierra Nevada, forcing them to find a doctor in Reno. As the ill sister recuperated, Father Merrill of St. Mary's Church asked the trio, all teachers, to stay and establish a Catholic school.

Over the next 15 years, a large academy named Mount Saint Mary's arose and went bankrupt as the city's fortunes rose and fell.

A smaller school named Saint Mary's opened, only to be turned into a hospital in 1908 when then-pastor Father Thomas Tubman, an opponent of church-run schools, extracted a promise from the sisters to make the change.

From that point on, the development of Saint Mary's Hospital (first named Sisters' Hospital and formally affiliated with the Dominican Sisters of San Rafael in 1912) was a matter of devout tenacity,



PHOTO BY SEAN M. GRADY

Sister Jeremy Carmody (seated) and Sister Cyndie Cammack look at a statue of Saint Dominic in the entryway of the Dominican Sisters of San Rafael convent.

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NORTHERN NEVADA CATHOLIC

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Diocesan Synod

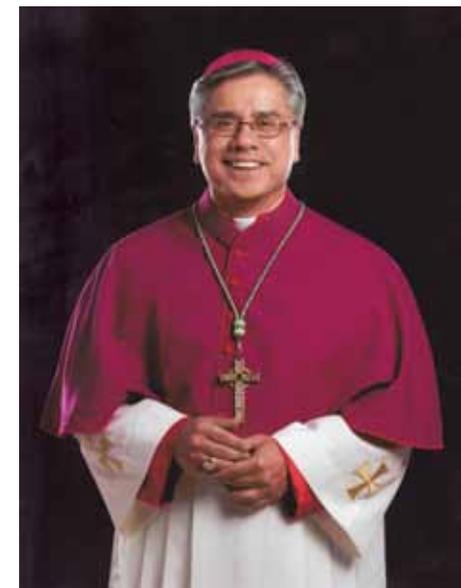
By Bishop Randolph Calvo

On May 19 — Pentecost Sunday — I announced, in a letter read at all the Masses, the convocation of a diocesan synod. Most people have never heard of one, since the last diocesan synod in Reno was held in 1958. In the church's lexicon, a synod is an assembly convened to address important issues and concerns. Its roots go back to the earliest centuries of the church, and it is regarded in canon law as the privileged forum in a diocese to assist the bishop in his pastoral leadership.

The idea of calling a diocesan synod came from prayer and reflection during my annual retreats. Two of my major responsibilities as a bishop are to foster the unity of the Catholic faithful and to carry out our mission in the particular circumstances of the church in the 12 counties of Northern Nevada. The Directory for the Pastoral Ministry of Bishops states, "The bishop, visible principle of unity in his diocese, is called to build up the particular church unceasingly in the communion of all its members, and to ensure that their diverse gifts and ministries, in union with the universal church, serve to build up all the faithful and to spread the Gospel."

By our baptism, all of us — clergy, religious and laity — are responsible for the mission Christ has entrusted to us as a body. How do we prayerfully discern together the way we are to fulfill this mission here and now? How can we listen together to the prompting of the Holy Spirit so that we may walk together where the Spirit leads? These were the questions I placed before God in my prayer and thus came the thought of calling a diocesan synod. As required by canon law, I brought this idea to the diocesan Presbyteral Council which, after discussion, recommended I convoke a synod.

Organizations engage in strategic planning every three or five years. This is vital for setting directions and keeping the organization focused on its mission in the face of changing circumstances, needs and resources. Without doing this, an organization could just drift along.



The same can be said of the local church, the diocese. From time to time we need to take a moment prayerfully to assess what we've been doing and to set a vision of where we're going. A diocesan synod, however, is more than strategic planning, even though this could be an eventual fruit of its work. It is more expansive in its scope. There are instructions from the Vatican on how a synod is conducted and these we are following. But the outcomes of a synod are left open-ended.

There are three main phases to the synod process: preparation, consultation and the actual synod gathering. We are currently in the first phase, involving the establishment of a preparatory commission whose tasks are set forth in the Vatican instructions. This group will guide the consultation phase and the procedures for the selection of the members of the synod. The second phase will involve the participation of all Catholics in Northern Nevada. Finally, in two years time the synod will convene and reflect on what surfaced in the consultation phase and make its recommendations.

Throughout this process, I invite all Catholics to pray. Prayer is an essential aspect of the diocesan synod, for without it, reflection on where the Spirit leads us would be impossible. As an act of faith, prayer strengthens the bond forged by our baptism that unites us and calls us to walk together as Christ's disciples.

Nuns

From page 1

mixing prayers and elbow grease to overcome extended periods of short funds, overcrowded facilities, competition from private and public hospitals, and various other challenges.

It wasn't all hardship, though. There were many periods during which the hospital greatly improved its services and facilities, often with private and public support — even during the Great Depression, when Sierra Pacific Power Co.'s president arranged to install an emergency lighting and power system in the hospital's basement.

The sisters even maintained their role as teachers: running their own nurse-training program in the hospital's early years; forming a training partnership with the University of Nevada, Reno's Orvis School of Nursing when it opened; and staffing many Reno diocesan schools, including Bishop Manogue Catholic High School.

As Saint Mary's Hospital grew throughout the 20th century along West Sixth Street, its effects went beyond Reno's city limits and covered both sides of the Nevada-California border — in the 1980s and early 1990s, the Dominican Sisters either owned or managed hospitals in Fallon, Carson City, Yerington and Susanville, Calif.

In Reno, they also established the Mission programs, with Sun Valley and Neil Road medical clinics and a fleet of medical and dental treatment vans. At the time of the sale of the hospital, the Mission programs merged with HAWC Community Health Centers to form the Community Health

Alliance.

Additionally in Reno, Sister Peter Damian and a group of lay women founded Casa de Vida, a maternity house for pregnant teens and later its transitional living facility, the House of Hope. A sister still remains on the board, Sister Carmody said.

At the same time, the sisters encouraged staff members to see their own work as a ministry.

"We have educated our employees through the years to realize they, too, are the mission of Saint Mary's," said Sister Maureen McInerney, prioress general of the San Rafael community, who worked at Saint Mary's in the 1980s and later was on its board of directors.

"They, too, are living reminders of God for others," she said. "They, too, are healing people — we are all called to be healers."

The sisters believe this point of view will remain, even though Saint Mary's Hospital is no longer a Catholic organization.

"Saint Mary's was really in difficult straits," Sister Jeremy said. "So to keep the doors open, to provide for quality, compassionate health care for anyone who comes through the doors is truly a blessing."

"I think the spirit of the Dominican Sisters will forever be here, even without us physically being present," Sister Cyndie said. "The legacy that is here will remain."

Note: Some information came from "Commitment to Caring: A History of Saint Mary's Hospital" by David W. Toll, and "Strength of Our Roots/Faith in Our Vision: Brief Histories and Biographies," published by the Dominican Sisters of San Rafael.

Diocese of Reno mourns passing of Sister Rosario

By Maureen Angel

Sister Maria del Rosario Jaureguizar, or "Sister Rosario" as she was fondly known in the Diocese of Reno, passed away Aug. 23, 2013, at St. Mary's Hospital.

She was born on Oct. 7, 1932, in Havana, Cuba, to Isidoro and Maria (Garay) Jaureguizar. Sister Rosario attended Our Lady of Lourdes School and Villanova University, both in Havana.

Sister Rosario entered the convent in February 1953 in Spain. She returned to Cuba, where she taught school from December 1955 until May 1961, when she moved to Reno. She moved to Florida for a short time in the late 1960s, where she taught at St. Joseph's High School in Vero Beach, Fla., and later at St. Jerome School in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. She also worked with immigrants in Lake Wales.

She returned to Reno in 1971, and she taught at St. Albert's School, Truckee Meadows Community College and Bishop Manogue Catholic High School. She also volunteered at Casa de Vida and Little Flower Catholic Church.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Sept. 7 at Little Flower Catholic Church. The church was filled with former students and others whose



Sister Maria del Rosario Jaureguizar

lives she enriched during her years in Reno. Sister Rosario's cremated remains will be placed with her parents and beloved sister Isa at the cemetery in Bakio, Spain.

The Sisters of St. Philip Neri would like to thank everyone for their prayers, moral support and sharing their favorite memories of her.

Contributions in Sister Rosario's name may be made to Missions of Sisters of St. Philip Neri, c/o Sister Ofelia Roibas, 135 Pascus Place, Sparks, NV 89431, for missions in India.

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New thrift store donation center now open!

Our brand new donation drop off center is now open! You can now bring your unwanted furniture, clothing and other household items to 4670 Sparks Boulevard. We're located in the Scolari's parking lot near Disc Drive, right next door to Squeeze In restaurant! Open Mondays - Saturdays from 8:00 to 6:00 and Sundays from 8:00 - 5:00.

For details, call St. Vincent's Thrift Shop at (775)322-7073.
www.CatholicCharitiesNorthernNevada.org

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Business owner pays it forward to St. Vincent's

By Auburn Harrison

Misty Young, owner of local restaurant chain Squeeze In, said the irony of it all continues to amaze her.

"I think back in my life and how many times St. Vincent's has helped me. Whether it was clothing my children, putting furniture in my house or putting food on my table, St. Vincent's never asked anything of me. That's an incredibly valuable example that I still continue to live by," she said.

Young, who now lives in a small fishing town in Oregon, bought the original Squeeze In location in Truckee in 2004, and she grew the business into the four-location, multimillion dollar business it is today. Her daughter and co-owner, Shila, now operates the restaurants while Young and her husband, Gary, focus on their next big goal of franchising their business throughout the West Coast.

Young also is touring and promoting her new book, "From Rags to Restaurants: The Secret Recipe," which outlines her history as a business owner and how loving her restaurant and her customers helped her achieve success. While Young and her family now are financially comfortable, things weren't always easy for them. In fact, Young said she remembers standing in the monthly food lines at St. Vincent's in the late 1980s in order to pick up food commodities like butter, cheese and canned meat.

"We were so poor. Some of my daughter's first memories were of us standing in those lines. The concept of



PHOTO PROVIDED BY CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF NORTHERN NEVADA

Shila and Chad Morris, left, and Misty and Gary Young are co-owners of the Squeeze In chain.

owning a restaurant wasn't even in my head at that time. I was just trying to serve my family," Young said.

Now more than 25 years later, Young's restaurants are giving back to St. Vincent's Programs by holding a food and hygiene drive to collect nonperishable goods and toiletry products for local people in need. During August, all four locations of the Squeeze

In offered free breakfast to guests who donated one of these items.

"I make it part of my business to always give back to my community. St. Vincent's is what inspired me to do that," Young said.

Her restaurants donate to about 350 local nonprofits and causes each year by giving free gift baskets, gift certificates and auction items, she said. "People

come to us daily and we never say no. It makes me very happy to be able to do this."

Young said she's amazed that while she once came to St. Vincent's for food and furniture out of necessity, she now comes to the thrift store to purchase fun, retro pieces to furnish her restaurants.

"I like the fact that the money I spend at St. Vincent's goes back to the community and serves a purpose," she said.

Over the years, her restaurants have donated leftover food to the St. Vincent's Dining Room. Her goal always has been to do even more, she said.

"It has always been my business goal to be able to give out a million dollars a year to charity. We're going to get there one day."

While Young lovingly refers to her days of standing in food lines as the "Top Ramen days," she said she feels so grateful to have achieved business and personal success in her later life. But what sets her apart from other successful business owners is she always remembers her history and where she came from.

"I love what St. Vincent's is and what it does and how it serves people. I mean, really, it's just such a beautiful testament to human kindness," she said.

Squeeze In and Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada are hoping to turn this year's food and hygiene drive into a larger, annual event. For more information about Squeeze In, visit www.squeezein.com. To learn about the St. Vincent's Programs, go to www.catholiccharitiesnorthernnevada.org.

Little Flower School increases its student enrollment

By Bri Thoreson

We are off to a wonderful start of the 2013-2014 school year at Little Flower School.

Over the summer, the school completed a number of facilities projects to aid our teachers and students and accommodate a larger student body.

Thanks to a successful 2013 auction hosted by our Parents' Club, each classroom was outfitted with a new SMARTboard to enhance instruction and student learning.

A new computer system was installed that closely mirrors the system at Bishop Manogue Catholic High School. This system allows students and parents to access grades, assignments and general school information online. Applications, donations and hot lunch purchases can also be completed on-line.

The hallways of our elementary school and several of our classrooms have been recarpeted, and a new classroom was reconstructed from our library to add a second class of first-graders.

Little Flower enrollment has increased by 18 students

this year, and we hope to continue adding to our growing family.

Due to our growth, several outstanding teachers have joined our team or accepted a new role, and we are grateful for their work. Greg Curry is the school resource officer. Angela Moore is teaching in our new first-grade classroom. Ashley Peregrin is teaching in our third-grade classroom. Kathie Russell is working as a special needs administrator. Samantha Scott is teaching elementary computers, art, music and literacy intervention.

Parables reveal vital messages for living

“Once upon a time, a long time ago...” — we all recognize how stories begin.

The liturgy for the Sundays of September have highlighted the “stories” of Jesus. In the Gospel context, the stories of Jesus are known as parables, and the previous weeks’ readings have gathered parables that have comparable themes: compassion, piety, love, forgiveness, social justice and gentleness.

■ (Luke 14:7-14): “When you hold a banquet invite the poor, the cripple, the blind...” (Sept. 1)

■ (Luke 15: 1-32): “What person among you having 100 sheep and losing one of them would not leave the 99 in the desert and go after the lost one.... A man had two sons and the younger one squandered all his property but at his return, the Father said: ‘Celebrate and rejoice, my son has come to life again; he was lost and has been found...’” (Sept. 15)

■ (Luke 16: 1-13) “You cannot serve both God and money.” (Sept. 22)

■ (Luke 16: 19-31) Jesus said to the



Sister Maria's column

Pharisees: “There was a rich man who dressed in purple garments and fine linen and dined sumptuously each day. And lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores.... When the poor man died, he was carried away by angels to the bosom of Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried.... (tomorrow)

The Scriptures are composed of many literary genres. Over the course of the books of the Bible (the Hebrew

Testament and the New Testament) we encounter prose, historical accounts, letters, poetry, parables and many others. It is important to know which genre is being employed.

Parables are comparisons, and they are meant to reveal to the listener an important message related to Gospel living. A parable is told to personally enlighten the person to whom the parable is told — to raise consciousness to a new level, to call to conversion. A parable compares someone in the story to someone who is listening and gets its meaning from its social context. Since this genre belongs to our oral tradition, the social context has not always been passed along, but tomorrow’s story is as contemporary as the day it was first told.

The parable told in tomorrow’s Gospel about the “rich man” and Lazarus, the beggar, undoubtedly was told to Luke’s early Christian community to remind the listeners of a central tenet of our faith. We are all incorporated into Christ’s body by our Baptism, and everyone belongs at the table of the Lord. No one sits at the door of the church, and

everyone has a role in the assembly.

The first scripture of the Liturgy is from the prophet Amos and the reading both recalls a distinctive feature of Israelite religion and orients us to the deeper meaning of the coming Gospel passage. Amos recalls the interconnection between the relationship to one’s neighbor and to God established by the Covenant.

The quality of one’s relationship to God depended to some extent on how one related to fellow members of the Covenant community. The foremost sin involved in the cultic life of Israel was its separation from concern for the neighbor.

In this Internet age of connections, this Sunday’s Liturgy is a grace-filled opportunity to be linked in to a deeper view. Life on earth is not a stand-alone reality but part of a continuum that links life here and now to eternal life. We are called to live this Covenant reality. Our ritual activity forms, creates, shapes, molds and brings into being a church that takes seriously the truth that God loves and cares for everyone.

New CFO hopes to position diocese for the future

NNC STAFF REPORT

It was a long and extensive search, but the Diocese of Reno has a new chief financial officer to succeed Tim Wanner, who retired June 14 after more than 17 years of service to the Diocese. Fred Weber assumed the position in early July and brings more than 30 years of financial expertise to the Diocese.

Weber attained his undergraduate degree from Niagara University in Niagara Falls, N.Y.; and a master’s degree in business administration from the University of Buffalo. He is a certified public accountant.

Weber, along with his wife, Debbie, and his son, Derek, relocated to Reno from Chicago in early July. But it was a short stop for Derek, who went down to Los Angeles to begin his junior year at Loyola Marymount University as a

chemistry major.

“I am honored to be part of the Diocese of Reno and have an opportunity to contribute to the church in such a meaningful way,” Weber said. “and I wish to thank my predecessor, Tim Wanner, for more than 17 years of service in building an excellent staff and guiding the Diocese through the worst recession in U.S. history.

“Tim worked tirelessly to ensure the financial stability of the Diocese, and his efforts over many years have put me in a position to succeed, and for that I am very grateful,” he said.

Weber said he sees his role as continuing Wanner’s work while bringing a new perspective to the CFO position.

“I will call on all elements of my 30-plus years of experience ranging from Fortune 500 companies to

smaller organizations in the mining, manufacturing and distribution industries,” he said. “There are many commonalities between for-profit and nonprofit organizations, particularly with respect to critical initiatives such as responsible budgeting, facilities construction/management and investment performance.

“My goal is to contribute to improving the financial strength of the Diocese to give us as much flexibility as possible to serve our parishioners, the children attending our schools and the community at large, while ensuring there is a balance between our principles of faith and those tough business decisions we continually face,” he said.

“I use the word ‘contribute’ because if there is one thing my experience has taught me, it is that no one person can do it alone. We have a great team at the



Fred Weber

Diocese, and every individual I have met has offered their support, so I am confident we will attain that goal.”

Nevadans join pilgrims in Rio for World Youth Day

By Colleen Wozniak

Twenty-three Nevada pilgrims departed for Brazil on July 16 for World Youth Day, which had the theme “Go and make disciples of all nations.” (Mt 28:19).

Sent with instructions from Father Bob Chorey and Bishop Randolph Calvo to allow our hearts to be changed, we arrived in Rio, where we were whisked away to Valenca, a small town northwest of Rio de Janeiro.

We lived with host families during ‘Semana Misionaria’ where we met, worked and worshipped with other pilgrims from Brazil, Malaysia, Cameroon, Tanzania, Philippines and the Congo.

We were greatly cared for by the people of Valenca, most of who would not continue on with us to Rio. They joined us as we walked neighborhoods visiting the sick and elderly, and we will never forget their hospitality as they cared for us, simply, yet with great love.

Our mission week concluded with a procession through the city



en route to Mass on the steps of the Valenca cathedral, and a Western-style hoedown ‘festa’ with music, dance and performances by people from different countries.



PHOTOS BY COLLEEN WOZNIAK

Left: Pope Francis waves to the crowds who awaited his arrival for World Youth Day events in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Above: Members of the Diocese of Reno’s group pose with other pilgrims and Rio police officers in downtown Rio.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY BISHOP MANOGUE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Bishop Manogue Catholic High School graduates Tyler Cobb and Sierra Esau pose for a photo while waiting along the Pope’s route in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Upon arrival in Rio, our first stop was Corcovado, where we stood at the foot of the Christ the Redeemer statue, its arms open wide as we, too, opened our arms and hearts to welcome Pope Francis and pilgrims from all corners of the earth.

We befriended and exchanged trade items with the policia as we awaited Pope Francis’s arrival.

We stood in awe as the Pope passed within several feet and looked our way. Three million strong, we knelt with our Pope during Eucharistic adoration on the wet Copacabana beach.

Pope Francis, “Humble Francis,” stopped and accepted a sip of tea from a pilgrim’s drink and tried on a Mexican sombrero.

“Go. Do not be afraid. Serve,” he told us. He compared our being on the beach to the call of the first disciples at the Sea of Tiberius and spoke with zealous enthusiasm, acknowledging our waiting saying, “You are showing that your faith is stronger than the cold

and rain.”

He said he came as well, “to be confirmed — built up by the enthusiasm of our faith!” “Bota fei,” — put on faith — he instructed. When “Campus Fei,” Campus Faith, our vigil location site flooded, Pope Francis responded by saying we are the field of faith — athletes of Christ, living stones — a living church so large that it can hold all humanity, a home for everyone!

Pope Francis challenged us to not just observe life but to be involved, bringing Christ into every aspect of life to build up a new world. “Go. Do not be afraid. Serve. Believe this!”

In the days since our return, we have continued to share our stories in our homes, our home parishes, in the classroom, at our worksites and on the sports field.

The word is out — “bota fei” — we have put on faith and we follow the example of Pope Francis to go, unafraid, serving and making disciples of all people, of all nations!

Kachurak will build on Manogue's foundation

By Jackie Allen

If Mo Kachurak could have just one word on her professional resume, she might choose "builder."

After all, she helped build the fundraising machine for the University of Nevada's athletic department. She helped build the staff of the Truckee Meadows Boys and Girls Club from seven employees to 30. And she helped build a stronger community through corporate giving at Western Nevada Supply Co.

Now, as president of Bishop Manogue Catholic High School, she's looking forward to still more construction work, guiding the school through the changes of the past few months and making the most of the opportunities of the future.

"I'm doing lots of road building," Kachurak said. "No walls, just roads. We are starting with such a strong foundation here, and we're building on that as a team."

Together with new Principal Rick Harris, she is emphasizing unified leadership and communication as the school year begins.

"We're calling it the year of 'Make it Happen' here at Manogue," Kachurak



PHOTO PROVIDED BY BISHOP MANOGUE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Bishop Manogue Catholic High School Principal Rick Harris, left, Manogue President Mo Kachurak and former University of Nevada football coach Chris Ault had a reunion when Ault spoke to the student body Aug. 26. Harris played for Ault as a center on the Nevada football team in the 1980s, while Kachurak worked with him in the university's athletic department.

said, "and I'm convinced that begins by building a culture that values and respects everyone's ideas and input, and that encourages regular communication and open conversations. If everyone's included, we move forward in the same,

positive direction."

That this "culture of community" is taking hold was evident at an Aug. 24 barbecue sponsored by the Alumni Association, at which more than 200 gathered despite the smoke-filled skies

and cancelled sporting events. It also was clear in the student turnout for the Welcome Back Dance held that same evening, with about 75 percent of the student body in attendance. In addition, there was a record crowd at the Sept. 9 Grandparents' Day Mass, and the annual Jim Williams Golf Classic held Sept. 20 was a sellout.

"Our students and our parents are fabulous, and they are feeling the positive energy this year, without a doubt," said Kachurak, adding the freshman and sophomore classes are filled to capacity. "We're writing a new story in a really great book."

Before joining Bishop Manogue, Kachurak worked for Western Nevada Supply as the administrator of that company's corporate giving program. She is a graduate of Bishop Gorman High School in Las Vegas, and she graduated from the University of Nevada, Reno in 1989 with an arts and science degree.

"I'm very fortunate to have been an active part of the Reno-Sparks community for 32 years," she said, "and I'm so blessed to now to be a part of this very special chapter in the Bishop Manogue community."

Diocese hires associate director of Faith Formation

By Monique Jacobs

The Diocese of Reno is happy to announce the hiring of James Rizza as the new associate director of Faith Formation.

Rizza comes to the diocese from Worcester, Mass. He has done extensive work with teens in parish ministry and high school education, and with young adults via College Campus Ministry and Campus RCIA, as well as multi-cultural parish ministry and catechesis.

Just before joining the Diocese of Reno staff, he attended World Youth Day in Rio with a group of college-age adults.

He said his love for ministry comes from his own appreciation of the

Catholic faith that always has been a guiding light in his life.

"Catechetical ministry is a joy that I'm passionate about. In college campus ministry and as a high school religion teacher, I have had the opportunity to work toward the goal of helping students build a lasting relationship with God," he said.

"Fostering the spiritual development of families and witnessing the work of the Holy Spirit in their lives is what I appreciate most about working in the church," he said.

Early on in his life, Rizza worked in performing arts. He met his wife of 11 years, Sarah, while acting in a summer stock theater. They have two sons, Luke, age 5 and Sebastian, age 11 months.

Shortly after he and Sarah were

married, he began teaching religion at his parish high school, while at the same time working as service director and parish RCIA director at his church.

After receiving his master's degree, Rizza and his family lived in Europe for two years while he worked on obtaining a Licentiate in Sacred Theology from the International Theological Institute in Austria.

Immediately prior to joining our diocese, he worked as the director of campus ministry at Assumption College in Worcester, Mass., where he said he enjoyed implementing his theological knowledge into young adult ministry.

Rizza joined our diocesan staff on Sept. 1. He said he is looking forward to ministering to the young people of Northern Nevada.



James Rizza

Life Peace and Justice works on 2 social issues

By Rita Sloan

The social order requires constant improvement. It must be founded on truth, built on justice and animated by love; in freedom it should grow every day toward a more humane balance. An improvement in attitudes and abundant changes in society will have to take place if these objectives are to be gained" (Gaudium et spes, No. 26).

Ever highlighting the "preferential option" for the least among us, the Life Peace and Justice Commission of the diocese continues its mission to bring awareness of the many social issues of our day that "require constant improvement," and there seems to be no lack of such issues. Two major areas have come to the forefront: immigration reform and climate change.

Immigration

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Justice for Immigrants campaign is focusing heavily on the U.S. Congress. The momentum to achieve comprehensive immigration reform, to see all our immigration laws made more just and humane and to find a common-good answer to the 11 million undocumented persons in our communities, continues to pick up speed.

The basic tenants of comprehensive reform include:

■ Restoration of the due

process protections of all people.

■ A reasonable path to citizenship for immigrants living in the United States.

■ Simplified guest-worker program that is employer- and worker-friendly.

■ An emphasis on keeping families unified.

■ A serious look at root causes of our immigration influx.

Catholics should contact their congressman to encourage legislation that supports this approach to our national problem. Go to www.justiceforimmigrants.org to send an electronic postcard and to learn more about the issues. Consider making a follow-up phone call.

Global Climate Change

As climate change continues to escalate, the urgency to face the facts and get busy doing something should be upon each of us individually and all of us collectively. Climate change affects us all, but the effects take the biggest toll on the poor of the world.

All are invited to a free adult education session, "Catholics and Climate Change," from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Oct. 12 at St. Rose of Lima Church, 100 Bishop Manogue Drive.

Everyone in the Diocese of Reno is invited to learn more about the Life Peace and Justice Commission. Contact Rita Sloan at rwrksloan@hotmail.com.

"There is no justification then for despair or pessimism or inertia." (Sollicitudo rei socialis, No. 47)

Educators instill sense of Catholic Identity in students

By Karen Barreras

There is a consistent emphasis on Catholic Identity in Catholic education. It is an accreditation factor for the Western Catholic Education Association. It also is prevalent in the publication "Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools," compiled by leaders and scholars in Catholic institutions of higher education, superintendents, principals, bishops, congregational sponsors, pastors, National Catholic Education Association members and others, who are committed to the success of Catholic schools.

But what does Catholic Identity mean? How does it look? How does it impact day-to-day activities and interactions in a school?

Catholic Identity is a factor in each of the Diocese of Reno Catholic Schools' mission and philosophy statements. The mission of Bishop Manogue Catholic High School reads the high school is committed to educating through faith, leadership, knowledge and compassion.

The philosophy states, in part,

"Catholic values and ideals are the basis for all instruction and interaction."

Little Flower School, Our Lady of the Snows School, St. Albert the Great School and St. Teresa of Avila School also are clear in their commitment to Catholic Identity.

Sister Margaret Oates, retired principal of Little Flower School once said, "Our schools today have to work much harder at Catholic Identity than they ever had to in the past."

With the transition from religious to lay leadership and teachers in Catholic education, we do have to work harder but our individual and collective formation, and faith journey is worth the effort, especially in the roles of evangelization and infusing Catholicity into all curricular studies for our students.

With all of these factors in mind, the Diocese of Reno Catholic Schools are focusing on increasing Catholic Identity through professional development and faith formation for school leaders and teachers.

Each school administrator has been provided the book, "Building a Spiritual Community among

Educators: Processes to Explore the Catholic Identity of Your School," by Marcy Fox, Ed.D. and Gini Shimabukauro, Ed.D., published by NCEA.

Monique Jacobs, director of Faith Formation for the Diocese, gave an inspiring workshop on this topic for all school administration and faculty at the back-to-school meeting.

Topics that school administrators can include in faculty meetings and faith formation include "Made in God's Image and Likeness," "Seeing God in All Things," "Relationship and Community," "Commitment to Catholic History and Tradition," "Valuing Intelligence as God-Given," "Spirituality: an Invitation to Holiness," "Justice Based on Gospel Values" and "Catholic Openness."

Having school leadership and faculty working together to build this bond undoubtedly will be witnessed by the students and parents, enhancing the gift of Catholic education and assisting all school staff in furthering a rich Catholic Identity that infuses Catholicity into all activities and interactions in our Catholic schools.

St. Albert uses new core academic standards

By Maizie W. Pusich

St. Albert the Great School's staff and students enthusiastically began its new school year. We are implementing the new common core academic standards.

During our first PTO meeting, parents and teachers discussed the new standards' impact. Our goal is to educate children in an interactive way that teaches how to get information, solve problems and function effectively both in their schoolwork and future jobs.

The students will learn how to access resources to identify and verify information they need for their assignments. We hope to teach the children to access and embrace all options for learning, not merely to

memorize information from a single text.

Some of the common core-enhanced texts have been introduced. Other classes will use supplemental materials in addition to the texts. As we use the new Common Core approach, we will continue to teach using our Catholic approach of uncommon compassion.

Students already are getting busy performing service hours in the community, earning money for the school with the jog-a-thon and working at the Fall Festival on Sept. 29.

Another fun social activity will be the Junior High Dance we will host Oct. 4. The Summer Reading Program hosts a party Sept. 23.

Everyone looks forward to a productive, fun year.

Snows remodel finished in time for school start

By Jalie Porter

Two years ago, Father Tony Vercellone, Principal Tim Fuetsch and several members of Our Lady of the Snows School and parish took a tour of the new science and technology addition of our school. It was an exciting day, and the project exceeded expectations. But as the group stood at the intersection between the structure and the original 60-year-old school building, it was clear there still was work to be done.

In one direction, the future was clear. Visually attractive with brightly lit hallways, state-of-the-art computer, technology and science labs; handicap accessibility; and safe, secure doors and windows. An outstanding setting for higher learning was in place.

In the other direction, the original building was showing its age. The hallway was poorly lit and 60-year-old carpet ran across the floors and halfway up the walls. The electrical, heating and air conditioning were dated and highly inefficient. Classrooms, doorways, bathrooms and office spaces needed updating. In short, the old girl was in need of a major remodel.

This group moved quickly and developed a plan. Good stewardship of resources resulted in left over monies from the expansion project that provided a jump start funding needed for a remodel. A building committee, led by Kyle Collinworth, was formed, teachers were consulted, and needs were assessed. Our Snows community blessed

our school with the remaining funds necessary to complete the project in full. Our prayers were answered.

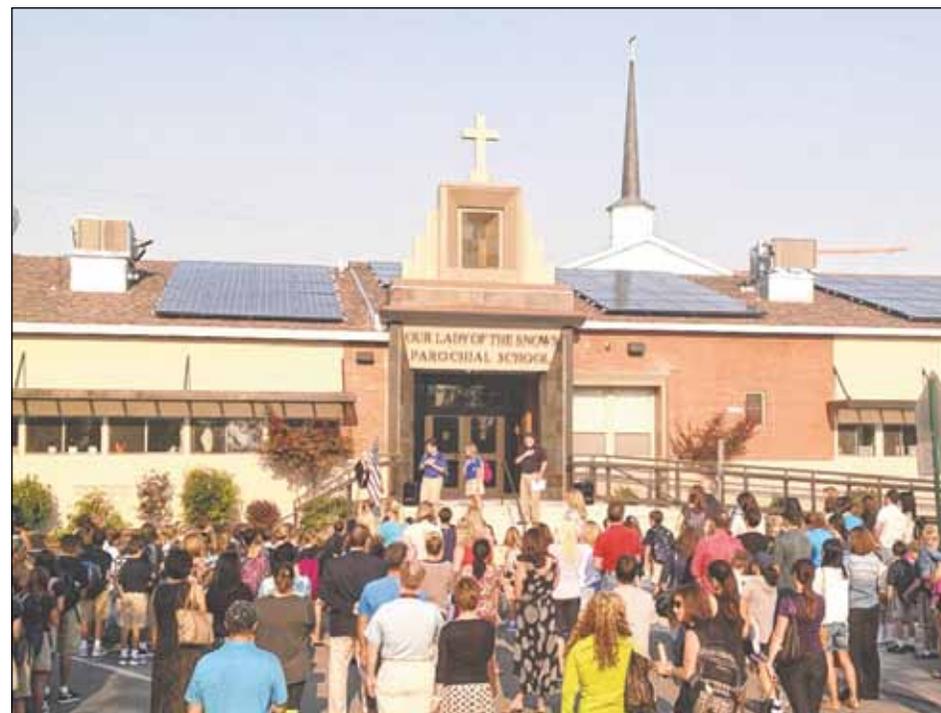
In order to minimize school disruptions, the project took place over two summers. It was finalized just in time for teachers to begin preparing their classrooms for school in August.

Now, old matches new. We have new ceiling, lighting, heating and cooling throughout with energy savings being realized. Classroom, restroom and cafeteria upgrades are in place.

And while no traces of worn carpet can be seen, deep traditions remain. Our historical photos with the smiling faces of teachers and students from each graduating class hang in groupings with stone columns. Our Lady still welcomes newcomers as they arrive at the new entrance of our school. Our flagpole has been moved to the front steps, where it is now part of our morning prayer and assembly.

We want to extend a special thank you to Mike Quilici of the Diocese of Reno, to Brian Kernan and Joel Tieslau of Q&D Construction, and to architect Greg Erny for their excellent work and thoughtful dedication to this project. They were able to deliver this project on time and under budget, and we are grateful for their service.

We also wish to thank the many donors and individuals who contributed their special talents to the beautiful remodel of our grand old school, including several major donors, all who wish to remain anonymous. It's truly been a labor of love.



Top: Students and adults gather for an assembly in front of Our Lady of the Snows School. Left: One of the remodeled classrooms.

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS SCHOOL

News in brief

New website up and running

To better serve the people in the Diocese of Reno, a new, easier-to-navigate website has been launched. We urge you to visit the new site at www.renodiocese.org.

To keep up with all the new social media and other changes that have occurred since the previous website was developed, the Diocese has worked hard to freshen-up and modernize its Web page.

Scholarship dinner and concert

Bishop Manogue Catholic High School is hosting the D.O.R.S. concert from 6-9 p.m. today, Sept. 28 at the school.

D.O.R.S. is a \$2,000 renewable scholarship for students most in need.

It was established through the gift of an anonymous donor. In 2013, that same donor has pledged to match all D.O.R.S. donations received, dollar-for-dollar, up to \$100,000.

The fundraiser includes a tri-tip dinner

by the Miner Diner and Belgian waffle ice cream cones from the Waffle Wagon.

Music will be performed by Joseph and Cheryl DeRosa of Our Lady of the Snows Parish, Bishop Manogue's Faith Choir and Band, and choirs from Little Flower, Our Lady of the Snows, St. Albert the Great and St. Teresa of Avila schools.

Tickets are available at the door. Reserved floor seating is \$40. Adult bleacher seating is \$20. Bleacher seats for

ages 4 through eighth-grade students is \$10. Senior bleacher seating is \$15.

Holy Cross fundraiser

The Holy Cross Catholic Community will have a wine and beer tasting from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Nov. 8 at the church, 5650 Vista Blvd. in Sparks. There also will be silent and live auctions, and a cash raffle. Tickets are \$25. For more information, call 775-358-2544 or visit online at www.holycrosssparks.com.

Jesus works with faith

By Father David Mercer

When Pope Francis spoke to 3 million listeners at July's World Youth Day in Brazil, he spoke to us all: "The Gospel is for everyone, not just for some. Do not be afraid to go and to bring Christ into every area of life, to the fringes of society, even to those who seem farthest away."

His message echoes Jesus' call to Christians of every age to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth. Whether we take the Gospel to the end of the street or to the ends of the earth, Jesus' call might seem daunting to some. For those who think they bring little to this task, Jesus' words to us in October offer hope.

On the first Sunday in October, the Gospel reminds us that faith the size of a mustard seed can move a tree. In other words, Jesus works with the faith we bring forward, even if we think it is too little.

Our faith is our greatest asset, but we need to carry it with us each day, wherever we go. Often, we only need to adopt simple habits that keep our faith nearby.

For example, I grew up Catholic, but my family prayed before meals only in the house, never in a restaurant. Only after I was ordained a priest did I see people saying grace before eating in public.

Out for dinner with parish young adults, I picked up my fork and began eating as soon as the food was placed on

the table. "Father, don't you say grace before you eat," one of the group asked. I put down my fork, joined hands with the others, bowed my head and began a new habit to keep my faith with me.

But we need not stop with meals. More than a century ago, English author, G. K. Chesterton, wrote, "You say grace before meals. All right. But I say grace before the play and opera, and grace before the concert and pantomime, and grace before I open a book, and grace before sketching, painting, swimming, fencing, boxing, walking, playing, dancing, and grace before I dip the pen in the ink."

Simple habits of faith stand to keep faith at hand for whatever God puts before us each day. Jesus stands ready to work with the faith we bring forward.

In the Gospel, there is a context for Jesus reminding us our faith can move a tree, even if only the size of a mustard seed. Just before that passage, he directs us to forgive a repenting sinner, even if the person "wrongs you seven times in one day and returns to you seven times, saying, 'I am sorry.'"

Although we might think our faith is small, if we keep our faith with us daily, Jesus will work with it to help us forgive those who might hurt us.

Say grace, and bring your faith with you. Your faith is your greatest asset, and Jesus pledges to do something wonderful with it.

Father David Mercer is affiliated with St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Church in San José, Calif.

Patron saints intercede on behalf of Catholics

By Maizie W. Pusich

Catholics view being a saint as the goal for all believers. Saints are joyful. They act with confidence in their God, knowing they can accomplish and withstand anything.

Catholic saints are associated with certain life situations and certain places. Known as patron saints, they intercede with God for us. We can take our special needs to them and know they will listen to our prayers, and pray to God with us. Sometimes one saint is considered the patron of many causes or places. And some names belong to several different saints. Many saints are not considered patron saints. Sometimes there is disagreement about which saint is patron of what situation.

Among the many patrons represented by our staff are the following saints and their causes: Albert, scientists; Patrick, Ireland and engineers; Margaret, pregnancy and childbirth; Mark, Venice and, notaries; Honesto, truthfulness; Theodore, sacred images; Lisa (Elizabeth Ann Seton), Catholic Schools; Cecilia, music; Richard, coachmen; Meredith, the deaf; Kellee, Ireland; Julie, Sisters of Notre Dame; David, Wales; Andi (Andy), fishermen and Scotland; Jeffrey, pilgrims; Wendy, fertility;

Katie, learning; Christine, mentally ill; Jodi, workers; Michelle, mariners and Cornwall; Kristin, mentally ill; Molly (Mary), mothers and the United States; Greg, teachers; Erin, Ireland; Robert, catechists; John, scholars; Nina, Georgia; and, Lori, victims.

Patrons for children: Blaise, Gabriel, Joseph and Raymond
Academics: Brigid, Catherine, John the Apostle, Nicholas and Thomas Aquinas

Athletics: Sebastian
Good health: Raphael

Catholics do not pray to saints, but through them, believing when a saint intercedes on our behalf, our prayers are stronger. As we begin our new school year, we pray for the blessings of God, that our children will learn and grow, remain or become healthy, and live the love of God.

St. Augustine prayed God always would watch over us:

Watch, O Lord, with those who wake, or watch, or weep tonight, and give Your angels and saints charge over those who sleep.
Tend Your sick ones, O Lord Christ.
Rest Your weary ones.
Bless Your dying ones.
Soothe Your suffering ones.
Pity Your afflicted ones.
Shield Your joyous ones, and all for Your love's sake. Amen.

In memoriam

Our Mother of Sorrows Cemetery asks you to please remember in your prayers the following who were laid to rest.

June

- Campos, Jesus G.
- Jensen, Mary L.
- Lyons, Michael Murray
- Pascoe, Robert J.
- Hare, O'Dell
- Young, Arnold H.
- Pompa, Robert
- Bishop, Elizabeth J.
- Acevedo, Elmerina I.
- Depaoli, Mary
- Bautista, Renato G.

- Lea, William J.
- Stewart, James
- Fuqua, Barbara
- Arenas, Milagros S.

July

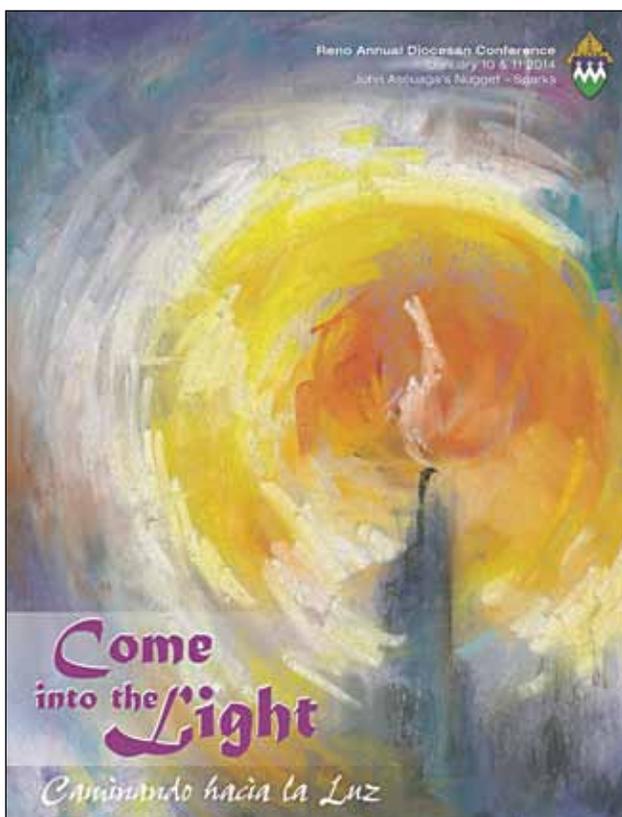
- Ho, Kristen
- Smith, Karen F.
- Winn, Lynette
- Rivera, Joe E.
- Fosselman, the Rev. Albert
- Fuqua, Barbara
- Raad, JoAnn K.
- Martin, Dolly O.
- Ingram, Heidi M.

- Zofrea, Joan
- Bloom, Dorothy G.
- Rodriguez, Eleanor L.
- Bolivar, Simon S.
- Everson, Beatrice E.
- Riskey, Laura Diane
- O'Neal, Maureen A.
- Kosmerl, Margaret
- Reodica, Carlito O.
- Martinez, Isaiah
- Riekenberg, Anna
- Flowers, Ona
- Harmon, Mary Lopez
- Bernal, Joseph
- McDonald, Lillian M.

- Penate-Cruz, Elasandro

August

- Manzo, Martin
- Oroz, Clara Turrilas
- Pulice, Frank Roy
- Remus, Marie
- Bowers, Barbara J.
- Cassity, Frank E.
- Cassity, Hattie B.
- Griffin, Wayne E.
- Reynolds, Bertha Lee
- Vario, Bill J.
- Belcher, Mary A.
- Ibarra, Guillermo



Save the Date

It will be here before you know it! The Diocesan Annual Conference is scheduled to take place be held Jan. 10-11 at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks. Brochures will be mailed in October, and information will be listed on the Diocese of Reno's website at www.renodiocese.org.



PHOTO BY MAUREEN ANGEL

Seminarians and parish deacons and their wives pray during Mass, celebrated by Bishop Randolph Calvo, at the annual Seminarian Barbecue. The event is put on by the Serra Club.

Lectors, eucharistic ministers play role in liturgical celebrations

By St. Francis of Assisi Church

Every Catholic parish offers a number of different ministries and volunteer opportunities for its parishioners. Some ministries are not well known to the average churchgoer, while others are a familiar sight to anyone who attends Mass each Sunday.

At St. Francis of Assisi, the parish lectors belong to the second category, standing in front of everyone to proclaim the word, and many of these individuals also serve as eucharistic ministers.

"Our lectors do the welcome, the Prayers of the Faithful and the readings at each Mass. Most of them also have the privilege of serving as eucharistic ministers, who assist our priests and deacons in giving out Holy Communion to the faithful," Pat Crow said.

Crow also has served as a lector and eucharistic minister for seven years.

"Giving out the weekly bulletins and worship aids and welcoming our parishioners and visitors before Mass is also a very important part of our ministry," she said.

But how much attention do we pay to these volunteers who are not only present every Sunday, but also actively participate in

the celebration of the Mass? It can be easy to take for granted these ministers of the Word and the important role they play in our liturgical celebrations.

There are about 60 volunteers who serve as lectors/eucharistic ministers at St. Francis of Assisi Parish, as well as three high school-age youths who serve as lectors.

The basic duties of the lectors are well known among regular churchgoers. What many people may not realize, however, is there also is the important aspect of preparation. Lectors are expected to prepare and practice the readings before scheduled Masses. This preparation gives new weight to the Liturgy of the Word for the lectors.

"I find that the readings and the Gospel stay with me during the weeks before and after the Masses at which I serve as both a Lector and Eucharistic Minister," Crow said.

For many people, public speaking can be a daunting task. Indeed, it is common to become at least a little nervous before standing up and speaking to an audience, even in church. Crow offers a few tips for those who would like to serve as a lector/eucharistic minister.

"Ask the Holy Spirit for the grace to be able to do this, and then be prepared to read, and understand by studying the readings the week previous to the Mass," she said. "If a microphone is available, it is important that it be adjusted before speaking, so that everyone in the church can hear. Also as lectors/eucharistic ministers, greet the parishioners and visitors before Mass by giving them the weekly bulletin and worship aids, it helps ensure that people realize that our church is beautiful and welcoming to all who enter."

There are many benefits for the members of this ministry — it provides a great way for members of the parish to get more involved in their parish and give back to the church. This also leads to a stronger sense of community.

"It certainly is a good way, as a lot of the time it is not taken away from the family, or an individual's job," Crow said. "All of the volunteers at St. Francis of Assisi Parish attend both Saturday of Sunday Mass with their families, and I feel that the spouse and their children really feel the closeness to our Blessed Savior when a parent is present in the sanctuary."

For more information about getting involved, please contact your parish.

Respect Life Masses planned in October

By Linda Ugalde

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in 1972 designated October as Respect Life Month in order to call attention to human life issues spanning from conception to natural death.

The Respect Life Commission of the Diocese of Reno has organized activities in October pursuant to

the designation.

Bishop Manogue Catholic High School will host this year's Respect Life Mass and Poster Contest. Bishop Randolph R. Calvo will celebrate the Mass at 10:30 a.m. Oct. 30 at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, 100 Bishop Manogue Drive. Everyone is welcome.

The Knights of Columbus will again sponsor the Respect Life

Poster Contest to coincide with the Mass, and monetary prizes will be awarded by Bishop Calvo.

Bishop Calvo will celebrate another Respect Life Mass at 9:30 a.m. Oct. 13 at St. Thomas Aquinas Cathedral, 310 W. Second St., followed by a rosary in the church. Everyone is invited.

For more information, visit www.renocatholics4life.org.

Where a healthier community is born.

The Pregnancy Center –
just one of the many ways
Renown invests in making
our community healthier.

The Pregnancy Center, operated by Renown Regional Medical Center, provides essential prenatal care to women regardless of the ability to pay. For every \$1 invested in prenatal care, \$8 is saved in costs that result from pre-term and low-weight births.

As the only locally owned, not-for-profit health network, Renown's community services, such as The Pregnancy Center, give all the babies in our area the chance for a healthy start.

If you'd like to support The Pregnancy Center, visit renown.org/support.

The Pregnancy Center
A Community Service of Renown Health