PARISH NEWS: “Measuring Up”, a 4-H Sewing Club whose members nearly all belong to Our Lady of Angels Parish in Hermiston, recently presented a beautiful Easter banner to Father Paul Mbatia, Pastor. The sewing club, led by Cathy Pedro, chose to create the banner to fulfill their hand sewing project requirement. Normally the group meets once a month, but for this project the girls met four times in two weeks to complete the banner for Easter. The banner was prominently displayed in the foyer of the church so parishioners could enjoy it during the Easter season.

Pictured with Father Paul are: Mattelynn Moon, Grace Klein, Marie Klein, and Anna Klein (in front).

RIGHT TO LIFE: Local winning entries from the Pendleton Right to Life billboard poster contest were sent on to the Oregon Right to Life Education Foundation state drawing contest. The theme this year was "Welcome Life, Protect It by Law."

State winners from St. Mary’s include: Kindergarten-First Place, Anna DeSomber, 1st-2nd Grade-Second Place, Kendall Moore, 6th-8th Grade-Third Place, Erin Monagle.

Please congratulate these youth for their dedication to the Sanctity of Life. You can view all the winners and their drawings on the Oregon Right to Life website at www.ortl.org then go to annual contest.

RECENT VISIT TO BISHOP THOMAS CONNOLLY:
Mary Ann Davis and Father Leo Weckerle recently made the trek to Maryville to visit with Bishop Connolly. They stayed for lunch and had a very nice visit with him. Also pictured (right) is the chapel at Maryville that Bishop Connolly is able to attend and sometimes concelebrate Mass. They also say the Rosary every day and during the Lenten Season have the Stations of the Cross, which Bishop usually leads. Please continue to send him cards and keep him in your prayers.
REFLECTIONS FROM THE BISHOP… The Power of the Spirit

This Easter season is filled with the celebration of the sacrament of confirmation throughout the Diocese. As I write this, I will be in St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Milton Freewater this weekend and the following weekend in St. Katherine Parish in Enterprise.

The ritual for confirmation is simple, yet very meaningful and powerful. The anointing with sacred Chrism as the candidates are sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit is the occasion of each one encountering the Lord Jesus through the power of His Holy Spirit. In the early Church, the signs were also clear as the disciples gathered together - the tongues of fire settled on each and a strong wind in the room. The sign of the sacrament of confirmation is also very clear for us: the anointing and the words, “Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

The occasion of confirmation is always special with usually a reception afterwards. The newly confirmed frequently receive gifts. As they say about the sacrament of marriage: the wedding is a day but marriage is a lifetime. We can also say that the confirmation celebration is a day, but living a life in the spirit is a lifetime as well. God just doesn’t fill us with the Holy Spirit on one day and then cut us loose on our own. As Jesus told the Apostles, “The Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in my name, will instruct you in everything.” (John 14:26) All of us continue to be taught -

SAINTS AND FEASTS: St. Charles Lwanga – If modern Catholics think the days of heroic martyrdom are in the distant past, they only have to consider the 22 Ugandan men who died for the Faith in the 19th century. Charles Lwanga, their leader, was baptized the night before he was burned alive, with only one thing on his lips “Kotanda!” (Oh, my God!).

Before he was executed, Charles baptized several others of the young men, one only 13. As they died one by one at the hands of Mwanga, a king who had been tolerant of Catholicism until he became superstitious about its power, each professed their joy at going to God and prayed for forgiveness for their torturers and killers.

Charles died on June 3, 1886, and, in a longstanding tradition, the Ugandan martyrs are celebrated on that date. St. Charles Lwanga is the patron saint of the African Youth of Catholic Action.

“Martyrs of Uganda, pray for the faith where it is in danger and for Christians who must suffer because of their beliefs. Give them the same courage, zeal and joy you showed.” Amen

PRIESTLY ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES: Congratulations to the following as they celebrate their ordination anniversaries during June:

Rev. Austin Cribbin, Retired, Klamath Falls June 03, 1956
Rev. Leo Weckerle, Retired, Terrebonne June 10, 1958
Rev. Noel Hickie, Retired, Eugene June 11, 1967
Rev. Cornelius Kiely, Ecuador June 11, 1967
Very Rev. Stan Strzyz, Burns June 09, 1968
Most Rev. Bishop Emeritus Thomas Connolly, consecrated Bishop of Baker June 30, 1971
Rev. Joseph Reeves, Retired, Redmond June 16, 1972
Very Rev. Richard Fischer, Klamath Falls June 15, 1976
Rev. Julian Cassar, Baker City June 19, 1977
Rev. Todd Unger, Redmond June 29, 1982
Rev. Robert Greiner, Prineville June 24, 1993
Rev. John Jasper, San Jose, CA June 23, 2000
Rev. Charles Nnabuife, The Dalles June 03, 2005
Rev. Luis Flores-Alva, Madras June 17, 2006
Rev. Arsenius Anachoreta, Annunciation Hermitage June 17, 2006

We are most grateful for the years of service of all our Priests and Bishops. Please keep them in your prayers.

To see ALL Priestly Ordination Anniversaries, please go to http://dioceseofbaker.org/clergy_ordinations_dates.htm.
IN MEMORIAM: Reverend W. Ramond Jarboe passed away on Wednesday, May 4, 2011, after a fall at his residence in Boise, Idaho. There was a vigil for Father Jarboe at Blessed Sacrament Parish in Ontario at 7 P.M. on Sunday, May 8. Mass of Christian burial was held Monday, May 9, at St. Mary Catholic Church in Boise. Father W. Thomas Faucher officiated. Father Jarboe was laid to rest in the family plot in Maryland.

Father Jarboe was born June 29, 1940, in Saint Mary’s City, Maryland, to a farming family with roots going back to the settlement of Maryland in 1630. He attended college at Sienna Heights College in Michigan obtaining a BA in Fine Arts, MA in Fine Arts, MA Counseling & Psychology and a MA in Divinity. After spending some time with the Dominican Brothers and in discernment he was ordained for the Diocese of Baker at Blessed Sacrament Church, Ontario, Oregon, by The Most Reverend Thomas J. Connolly on March 16, 1989. He served with the Diocese of Baker until April 18, 2005.

While with the diocese, Father Jarboe served as Associate Pastor for Blessed Sacrament Church in Ontario beginning immediately after his ordination. He became Pastor of Blessed Sacrament Church June 30, 1990. He served as Dean of the Eastern Deanery beginning July 25, 1994.

Father Jarboe was deeply loved by the people of Blessed Sacrament Parish for his tireless work and dedication to all aspects of priestly ministry. He became well known for his exceptional preaching ability, and his love for the sick, dying, and the poor. He was deeply dedicated to the needs of those from other cultures and backgrounds who were increasingly involved in the Ontario parish.

Father Jarboe had a famous sense of art and decoration, and a deep appreciation of Roman Catholic liturgy. He will always be remembered for his work in decorating the church for the different seasons and feasts of the Catholic liturgical year. He designed and made many of his own vestments.

Father Jarboe retired from active duty with the Diocese of Baker on April 18, 2005.

RECORD CENTER EVENTS IN JUNE:
June 18 – 23 High School Kick-Back Camp
—School is finished for the year and now it is time to Kick-Back and have some good fun. That means fun without guilt because Jesus is right there kicking-back with us. So we play and pray with the Lord, while growing in old friendships and growing with new friendships that frequently last a lifetime.

June 24 – 26 Mother/Daughter Retreat
—Hosted by the Sisters of Mary, this is a time for mothers and daughters to grow in their relationship with one another and especially with God. Using Mary the Mother of God, women of the Sacred Scriptures and Saints of the Catholic Church, the Sisters of Mary will help participants to use these heroines as mentors and role models to inspire their lives. The participants of this retreat will also be strengthened by the powerful intercessions these Holy women provide.

THE SISTERS OF MARY OF KAKAMEGA now have a website that provides the public with information about the activities of the nuns and details how others can become involved in their apostolate.

The congregation was founded in Kenya in 1932, and now numbers more than 330 members. They work in several African countries to help girls and women become self-sufficient and to bring the message of the Gospel to all through catechesis and work in schools, orphanages, hospitals and parishes.

At the invitation of Bishop Robert F. Vasa, seven of the Sisters now reside and work in the Diocese of Baker, in Bend, Redmond and Ontario. This is in keeping with an emphasis of the Sisters of Mary in recent years to go out to other lands to spread the love of Christ.

The website address is www.somkakamega.org. It has several pages, including one that offers ways to donate to the efforts of the organization to help others, especially those in the most need. There is also a page for those who might be interested in joining the congregation and pages detailing the range of activities of the Sisters of Mary apostolate.

The congregation emphasizes community and persevering service. The members are characterized by their joy in their mission and their love of the Lord and His people.

NOTICIAS HISPANAS: Juan Pablo II es ya un Beato, ya tenemos a alguien más que puede interceder por nosotros ante Dios, Karol Józef Wojtyła, conocido como Juan Pablo II desde su elección al papado en octubre de 1978, nació en Wadowice, una pequeña ciudad a 50 kms. de Cracovia, el 18 de mayo de 1920. Era el más pequeño de los tres hijos de Karol Wojtyła y Emilia Kaczorowska. Su madre falleció en 1929. Su hermano mayor Edmund (médico) murió en 1932 y su padre (suboficial del ejército) en 1941. Su hermana Olga murió antes de que naciera él.

Los cardenales reunidos en Concejo le eligieron Papa el 16 de octubre de 1978. Tomó el nombre de Juan Pablo II y el 22 de octubre comenzó solemnemente su ministerio petrino como 263 sucesor del Apóstol Pedro. Su pontificado ha sido uno de los más largos de la historia de la Iglesia y ha durado casi 27 años.

Juan Pablo II ejerció su ministerio petrino con incansable espíritu misionero, dedicando todas sus energías, movido por la "sollicitudo omnium Ecclesiarum" y por la caridad abierta a toda la humanidad. Realizó 104 viajes apostólicos fuera de Italia, y 146 por el interior de este país. Además, como Obispo de Roma, visitó 317 de las 333 parroquias romanas.

Su amor a los jóvenes le impulsó a iniciar en 1985 las Jornadas Mundiales de la Juventud. En las 19 ediciones de la JMJ celebradas a lo largo de su pontificado se reunieron millones de jóvenes de todo el mundo. Además, su atención hacia la familia se puso de manifiesto con los encuentros mundiales de las familias, inaugurados por él en 1994.
NOTICIAS HISPANAS: Para poder extender el mensaje del sacrificio de nuestro Señor, Su pasión y muerte en la cruz, el Grupo de Jóvenes Hispanos, miembros de la Parroquia de Nuestra Señora de los Ángeles en Hermiston, piadosamente revivieron las Estaciones del Vía Crucis el Viernes Santo. La recreación ha sido una tradición anual del grupo durante los últimos 15 años.

Los jóvenes se comienzan a preparar semanas antes del evento escuchando temas acerca de las últimas horas de Jesús, contemplando sobre los detalles de su sufrimiento. Después, pasan a los ensayos que tienen una o dos veces por semana. A todos los participantes, jóvenes y adultos por igual, se les anima a pasar más tiempo en oración, mientras se preparan para la presentación.

Vicente y María Treviño, los actuales Líderes del Grupo de Jóvenes, han puesto mucho tiempo y esfuerzo en traer el mensaje del Evangelio a la vida lo más auténticamente posible. La cruz, la sangre, la corona de espinas, el martillo y los clavos, la ropa, y las burlas crueles, son dolorosamente cerca de la realidad. Y los actores que representan a los personajes bíblicos se parecen y se comportan como lo hicieron en ese primer Viernes Santo, hasta el punto de que una parte de los cientos de invitados tenían lágrimas en sus ojos al ser testigos y rezar las Estaciones.

Gracias a nuestro párroco, el Padre Paul Mbatia, el Diácono Jesús Esparza, los jóvenes y los adultos voluntarios, los ministros de música, del sonido, y participantes que ayudaron a hacer posible este recuerdo anual.

PARISH NEWS: In order to spread the message of our Lord’s sacrifice, His passion and death on the cross, the Spanish Youth Group members at Our Lady of Angels Parish in Hermiston prayerfully reenacted a living Stations of the Cross on Good Friday. The reenactment has been an annual tradition of the group for the past 15 years or so.

The youth begin preparing weeks ahead of the event hearing talks about Jesus’ last hours, contemplating the details of His suffering. They then move on to having practices once or twice weekly. All of the participants, youth and adults alike, are encouraged to fast or to spend more time in prayer as they prepare for the presentation.

Vincent and Maria Trevino, the current Youth Leaders of the group, have put much time and effort into bringing the Gospel message to life as authentically as possible. The cross, the blood, the crown of thorns, the hammer and nails, the clothing, and the cruel, mocking taunts are painfully close to reality. And the actors portraying the biblical characters look and behave much as they did on that first Good Friday, so much so that a portion of the hundreds in attendance are brought to tears as they witness and pray the Stations.

Thank you to our Pastor, Father Paul Mbatia, Deacon Jesus Esparza, the youth and adult volunteers, music ministers, sound crew and participants who helped make this annual remembrance possible.

Living Stations of the Cross

Estaciones del Vía Crucis del Viernes Santo