The Catholic Extension Photo Issue

Our Journey Across America

In this Issue

Roundtable of Bishops from Mission Dioceses
Spotlight on Donor Christine Manlove
Presenting the Lumen Christi Finalists
Dear Friends,

Nine months ago, as brutal winter winds were whipping around our Catholic Extension offices in Chicago, we decided to embark on a Journey Across America — and to take you with us.

From our earliest days more than a century ago, representatives of Catholic Extension have traveled the country to assess needs in places where the Catholic Church was gaining a foothold. They also bore witness to the stories of remarkable people using Catholic Extension funding to transform their communities by building faith, inspiring hope and igniting change.

I know I can speak for everyone who has ever traveled to these inspiring places that the experience is powerful. To see faith at work in some of the most forgotten corners of our nation — from the frigid mountains of Montana in January to the humid coasts of Mississippi in August — is to be deeply moved. And to feel part of that good work by being affiliated with Catholic Extension is to be personally transformed.

That’s why, many months ago, we outfitted ourselves with cameras and notebooks as we set out on our latest Journey. We wanted you, who are so vital to our mission, to “Taste and See the Goodness of the Lord” even if you could not be physically with us. We wanted you to experience the transformation you are helping to create.

This issue of Extension, our first photo essay, is the culmination of our commitment to show you what we saw and heard. It is our gift from the road. Taste and See!

Yours in Christ,

Faith Jack Wall
PRESIDENT
Welcome to the latest issue of Extension!

We hope you’ve enjoyed our magazine’s evolution over the past two years. Our shift to publishing quarterly is allowing us to focus intently on bringing you compelling stories and vivid photographs from across America of lives and communities transformed by faith. And of people like you whose generosity makes transformation possible.

This issue also introduces you to Catholic Extension’s revised logo, which delivers a strong message to Catholics everywhere that we are deeply invested in the future of our faith. This message is conveyed verbally by our assertion that we seek to build faith, inspire hope and ignite change in places where the Church is growing and resources are scarce. It is conveyed visually by a dynamic burgundy map and cross that illustrates faith extending to every corner of our great country.

Catholic Extension remains committed to its century-old mission of helping Catholic communities flourish. We hope our bold declaration of that commitment not only inspires you to continue to support the work we do together, but encourages a new generation of Catholics to join us. So please help us spread the message: faith is at work across America. Be a part of it!

ON THE COVERS (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT): Photos from Pascagoula, Mississippi (pg. 12); Campo St. John, Tennessee (pg. 16); Anderson, South Carolina (pg. 26); El Cenizo, Texas (pg. 22); Elberta, Utah (pg. 18); Gastonia, North Carolina (pg. 20); and Browning, Montana (pg. 32).
DIOCESE OF BELLEVILLE FIGHTS CHRONIC POVERTY WITH CATHOLIC EXTENSION FUNDS

Catholic Extension donors are supporting the Daystar Community Center and Holy Angels Shelter in the Diocese of Belleville in their efforts to serve needy and homeless populations that are growing. In light of the rising cost of goods and services, declining contributions from other sources and state budget cuts, Catholic Extension has provided each organization a grant of $25,000 that will contribute to purchasing food and supplies and covering operational expenses.

“Twenty-six of our diocese’s 28 counties have an unemployment rate higher than the national average,” said Judy Phillips of the Diocese of Belleville’s Office of Development. “We are home to the poorest of the poor. So many of our programs to aid the needy would disappear were it not for help from Catholic Extension.”

Founded by the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ in 1979, the Daystar Community Center provides food, shelter and clothing as well as financial assistance, crisis intervention and advocacy services to people from
the six southernmost counties of Illinois, and bordering counties in Kentucky and Missouri. The Kitchen Table, Daystar's soup kitchen, receives upwards of 200 visitors each day, and its mobile food pantry delivers food to hundreds of elderly and homebound annually.

Holy Angels Shelter, a ministry of Catholic Urban Programs and the only 24-hour transitional Christian shelter in East St. Louis, has provided emergency food, clothes and shelter to families since 1984. With 58% of East St. Louis children living below the poverty line, a child abuse rate of 27% and a violent crime rate of 62%, the demand for advocacy ministry in East St. Louis continues to climb. Holy Angels' supportive services include domestic violence intervention, substance abuse counseling, healthcare, childcare and financial planning assistance designed to stabilize clients’ lives and get them back on track.

Our Lady of the Assumption Church Poised to Celebrate

Our Lady of the Assumption Church in Jemez Springs, New Mexico, in the Archdiocese of Santa Fe has been awarded $30,000 from Catholic Extension to help advance parishioners’ 12-year capital campaign to construct a multi-purpose building for large celebrations and meetings.

Twelve years ago, church members began raising funds to build a new structure for the celebration of the liturgy that would also include rooms for religious and faith formation programs. Their goal? $247,345.

The average weekly collection at Our Lady of the Assumption is just under $400 a week and parishioners worked for more than a decade to collect $166,000 toward their new building. With the funds from Catholic Extension and a loan from the Archdiocese, they were able to finally erect their new gathering space, which opened in May.

Catholic Extension has helped build or renovate more than 230 parish structures in the Archdiocese of Santa Fe since 1905.
Nearly 3,700 Catholic inmates will benefit from a $40,700 Catholic Extension grant to expand prison ministry services in 16 dioceses in California, Florida, Ohio and Texas. These funds will support a one-year pilot program that provides Bible study to Catholic inmates in 269 prison facilities, from federal prisons to juvenile detention centers, located in impoverished areas across these states.

DISMAS Ministry, a national Catholic organization that ministers to the imprisoned, and the American Bible Society, which is dedicated to increasing accessibility to the Bible, are partners in this outreach program. It is designed to offer Catholic Bible study sessions that deepen the spiritual life of inmates and encourage personal transformation to help them re-enter society.

“For I was... in prison and you visited me... whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.”
MATTHEW 25:36-4

Bible Study for Prisoners in 16 Dioceses

Catholic Extension awarded a $25,000 grant to support the Diocese of Charlotte’s Hispanic Evangelization Center. Established in 2009 by Father Julio Dominguez, the Center helps meet the growing needs of Charlotte’s nearly 300,000 Hispanic Catholics. Teachers at the Center educate and train lay leaders to work across the diocese and help priests who do not speak Spanish meet the pastoral needs of parishes with large Latino populations.

Catholic Extension funds will support the Center’s operational expenses, including supplies for conferences, workshops, retreats and the School of Faith curriculum. Operating out of St. Francis of Assisi Church in Lenoir, North Carolina, the Center expects a Fall 2010 enrollment of more than 35 students.

This grant is the latest in a series of awards over the last 10 years totaling $750,000 that has enabled the Diocese of Charlotte to emerge as a leader in Hispanic ministry. In 2006, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Committee for Hispanic Affairs for Excellence recognized the diocese for its well-established diocesan office and regional structure, Hispanic youth and young adult ministry, and strong pastoral plan for Hispanic Ministry.
Order Your Christmas Cards from Catholic Extension and Help American Catholics in Need

Our Christmas Cards Tell His Story

100% of proceeds from card sales benefits poor and isolated Catholic communities throughout America.

Personalizing is simple!
Include your family photo!
Ordering is easy!
Delivery is fast!

Visit catholicextensioncards.org today.
Questions? Please call 888-473-2484.

Catholic Extension
Building Faith | Inspiring Hope | Igniting Change
EVER SINCE SHE WAS YOUNG, every significant choice Christine Manlove has made in life has been inspired by Christ’s invitation to “love one another as I have loved you.”

She had just turned 19 in 1968 when she entered the convent of the Franciscan Sisters of Baltimore to follow Christ’s call. While a sister, she pursued a career in speech pathology and special education. Since 1987, she has been the Executive Director/Principal of Baltimore’s St. Elizabeth School for students with special learning needs. After much prayer, Christine left the convent in 1991 and ultimately married Jack Weber, a man who shares her passion for service and ministry. And, unable to be everywhere at once, she contributes purposefully to Catholic organizations that she knows will minister to those in need on her behalf.

Catholic Extension is prominent among these select organizations. “It’s tried and true, with a wonderful track record,” says Christine, who’s been a loyal donor for two decades. “I’m moved by the stories and the mission. Its purpose is to build the Catholic faith as well as build churches and support crucial ministries.”

Christine wasn’t always in a position to make monetary contributions. “Prior to 1991, I had no money to give,” she says. “I had taken a vow of poverty. In 1991, I received my first paycheck and began donating to charities. I decided to set a goal for myself — to give more each year than the year
Be secure.

55 or older? Secure lifetime fixed annuity payments while supporting Catholic Extension.

Benefits include:

- Lifetime fixed payments at favorable rates
- Immediate and future tax benefits
- Payment frequencies that meet your needs

Charitable Gift Individual Annuity Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Payment rate</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Payment rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>55-59</td>
<td>5.0 - 5.2%</td>
<td>75-79</td>
<td>6.4 - 7.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-64</td>
<td>5.2 - 5.4%</td>
<td>80-84</td>
<td>7.2 - 7.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65-69</td>
<td>5.5 - 5.8%</td>
<td>85-89</td>
<td>8.1 - 9.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-74</td>
<td>5.8 - 6.3%</td>
<td>90+</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We request a minimum gift of $5,000 to participate.

Calculate your gift annuity benefits at catholicextension.org/annuities.

TO LEARN MORE, contact Judy Blackmer at 312.795.6088 or jblackmer@catholicextension.org.

“I run a wonderful school in Baltimore for children with special needs. This is my calling,” she says. “So I can’t be in North Carolina in a parish that has no running water. But I can assist Catholic Extension to help the priests, sisters and lay people who are doing important spiritual and humanitarian work.”

Christine and her husband remain very close to the Franciscan sisters, whom she still calls “my sisters.” She treasures the lessons they taught her.

“Sr. Mary Gray, OSF, was my Major Superior when I was in the convent. She used to say, ‘Where one of us is, all of us are.’ In this spirit, Catholic Extension ministers for me by feeding bodies and souls around the country while I am ministering here at St. Elizabeth School in Baltimore, MD.”

“Catholic Extension ministers for me by feeding the bodies and souls around the country while I am ministering here at St. Elizabeth School.”

CHRISTINE MANLOVE

before. I soon realized I also needed a plan in the face of so many worthy causes.”

Active in her parish since 1991 and committed to volunteering close to home, Christine’s plan was to contribute to Catholic causes projecting outward geographically: from Baltimore, to the U.S., to this hemisphere, and world-wide.

Committed to supporting the Church in the U.S., she chose Catholic Extension for its mission to help under-resourced Catholic communities across our country flourish, and now contributes approximately $1,500 a year. Beyond the U.S., she decided on Food for the Poor with its focus on Latin America and the Caribbean. She also selected Catholic Relief Services for its global reach. They all minister in places she cannot.

Christine Manlove, Executive Director and Principal of St. Elizabeth School in Baltimore, a school for 10- to 21-year-olds with special needs, celebrates with a medal winner at a Special Olympics competition.

“Sr. Mary Gray, OSF, was my Major Superior when I was in the convent. She used to say, ‘Where one of us is, all of us are.’ In this spirit, Catholic Extension ministers for me by feeding bodies and souls around the country while I am ministering here at St. Elizabeth School in Baltimore, MD.”
house built on a strong structural foundation can weather even the heaviest storm. And a diocese or parish built on a strong fiscal foundation can serve its people even during the sharpest economic downturn. That’s why Catholic Extension, on behalf of its donors, is committed to helping Catholic communities effectively manage their fiscal needs and wisely plan for the future.

Over the past year, Catholic Extension has helped 59 dioceses and their parishes in the United States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and the Pacific Islands support vital fundraising, diocesan planning, and financial and facility management programs.

“Dioceses and parishes are better able to accomplish their missions when their leaders soundly manage assets, plan for the future, communicate well and raise money,” said Joseph Boland, Senior Grants Director for Catholic Extension.

For example, a three-year grant to the Diocese of Tyler in Texas supported creating a stewardship program designed to increase the diocese’s fundraising capabilities. In the Diocese of Jefferson City in Missouri, Catholic Extension funding helped parish leaders establish fundraising programs to support critical ministries.

Additional grants ensured that nearly 20 under-staffed dioceses were able to join the Catholic Conference for Facility Management. Catholic Extension also helped broker the creation of a facility management resource center that connected the dioceses with facility experts who can offer guidance on best practices for the care and construction of church facilities.

“Many dioceses have become stronger this year because they have accepted our offer for and made the most of Catholic Extension grants specifically developed to ensure ongoing sustainability during challenging times,” Boland added.

To learn how you can support the many programs and initiatives Catholic Extension extends to strengthen faith communities, visit catholicextension.org or call 800-842-7804.
Our Journey Across America

Over the past year, we have traveled to some of the most beautiful and remote corners of our country. We have found faith in abundance everywhere we’ve turned. We have heard stories of lives transformed because a church emerged where none was before. Because a Sister of Mercy founded a youth ministry. Because a deacon took the time to visit every Catholic in his far-flung parish. Your support for Catholic Extension helped these stories of faith, hope and change to unfold.

Please enjoy the journey with us in the pages that follow...
On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina forever changed the lives of the people of Pascagoula, Mississippi. It destroyed homes, businesses, churches and schools. Five years later, the memories are still raw. Life in the small town has now been categorized into two eras: before Katrina and after Katrina.

In the Diocese of Biloxi, more than 90 percent of diocesan properties sustained damage from the storm. Our Lady of Victories Parish and Resurrection Catholic School were no exception. Destruction at Resurrection was catastrophic. The people of the parish community feared they had not only lost their school, but their future. Yet their faith in each other — and the faith of the Catholics from across the country in them — made the difference. Legions of volunteers, donations and support — including help from Catholic Extension — poured in.

Teachers, administrators, parents and parish leaders were overwhelmed by the support. But what impacted them most was the transformation of their young people. “The kids learned a real lesson about the universal church,” says Bragg Moore, diocesan Director of Youth Ministry. Now they know that their faith will always be there for them no matter what happens, he says, and they have embraced it.
RISSING TO THE CHALLENGE. Five years ago, students at Resurrection Catholic School were tested — living in trailers, eating packaged military meals, losing virtually all their material possessions. Unbowed by adversity, they emerged leaders. “You can’t underestimate the power of a small community or a small class — look at what we’ve done,” says one student.

“Extension’s been a great part of not only our school, but the entire diocese.”

Bragg Moore, Director of Youth Ministry in the Diocese of Biloxi, is a 1960 graduate of Resurrection Catholic School and native of Pascagoula. “I think in terms of my family and then this school,” said Moore. Five years after Katrina struck, Moore surveys all that the community has accomplished with well-earned pride. Some wounds are still open, he says, but faith is healing them.
“Sitting here talking about all the stuff we went through together — it makes me so happy to have this family.”

STUDENT
RESURRECTION HIGH SCHOOL

INSPIRED BY GENEROSITY. “I can’t believe someone would give up their Spring Break to sleep on our gym floor and help us rebuild,” says a student from the Resurrection Class of 2011 — the last remaining group to have attended the school during Hurricane Katrina. This outpouring of support left a lasting impression. “I want to be part of a group like the people who came to help us,” added another student. Ressurection’s new principal Kay McKenna, seen here in the background with students in the class, echoes their sentiments. “The students have become givers. They are leaders now.”
Darnell Cuevas bought a house, moved to the unfamiliar town of Pascagoula and began serving as principal of Resurrection School less than one month before Hurricane Katrina smashed into the Gulf Coast. Like many in the community, her new home was destroyed. But to this day, Cuevas does not regret the purchase — or the job. “It brought me to this community,” says Cuevas, who retired in 2010. Cuevas was the leader the school needed to survive, and says it was faith that carried her through. The past five years have seen the school emerge stronger and more vibrant than before, with an increase in enrollment of nearly 100 percent. “People came looking for faith — and that’s the element we have here.”

Searching for Safety. Our Lady of Victories Parish, located on the Resurrection Campus, sits nearly six feet above the ground. Knowing the church had never flooded before, one local man came to the parish for safety during the storm. When he saw water pouring into the elevated building, he went immediately to the Blessed Sacrament. He weathered the storm as the waters rose, floating with and protecting the Blessed Sacrament until the winds and flooding subsided.
The Diocese of Knoxville is located in the heart of Appalachia. This area has the smallest percentage of Catholics of any U.S. diocese. Yet the population’s recent growth has nearly doubled the number of Catholics in the region. Thanks to Catholic Extension donors, these Catholics now have resources they need to deepen their faith — and build our faith — in this remote part of the country.

A HOME AWAY FROM HOME. To the occasional passerby, Campo St. John is nothing more than three meager cinder block buildings off the highway cutting through rural Washington County, Tennessee. But to the seasonal migrant workers who live there, all of them men, it is their home away from home during the long months they spend separated from their families while under contract to work the area’s fields.
SISTER ISABEL GONZÁLEZ travels to Campo St. John frequently to pray the rosary with residents, encouraging those who feel alone and isolated and providing spiritual comfort. “I tell them ‘You are not alone. God the Father is with you. He is present and manifests Himself in each one of you. And I am your family and I am near you.’”

ROSAIRO SALVADOR, standing next to Sister and holding his rosary, is one of dozens of men who are dressed by 8 a.m. each Saturday to pray the rosary and sing together with Sister Isabel. Her visits are the highlight of his week, which is otherwise consumed with hard labor in the fields and worry about his pregnant wife back home.

FAMILY TIES. Many parents arrive at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Chattanooga, Tennessee, with no previous experience in building a family life rooted in faith. Sister Celia Sanchez has worked at the church for 16 years. These families turn to her for guidance. She helps young parents, such as Flor de Maria Vazquez, cultivate peaceful, loving, God-centered family lives for their children.

REAPING JOY. The smile of a young parishioner at Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapel, Scott Farms, Unicoi County, Tennessee.
The mission churches of the Diocese of Salt Lake City, built with funding support from Catholic Extension, are a testament to the power of faith to create thriving communities from the ground up.

As soon as these humble sacred spaces are erected in the high desert country surrounding Salt Lake City, they fill to capacity with grateful parishioners delighted to be in communion with one another.

Guadalupe and Janice say most of their children’s friends are Mormons whose Ward Houses offer myriad activities for young people. “We feel a real responsibility to teach our kids about their faith so that they know and appreciate why they are Catholic,” says Guadalupe.
From his earliest days, Msgr. Terrence Fitzgerald understood that he and his Irish Catholic family were minorities in heavily Mormon Utah. A native son of Salt Lake City and the only member of his clan to attend college, he eventually came to believe that the Catholic community’s small size was in many ways an advantage. Now Vicar General of the Diocese of Salt Lake City, Msgr. Fitzgerald is renowned for making the most of the talents, ideas and energies of Utah’s lay Catholics. “We don’t have time for egos and pecking orders,” he says. “Everyone has a role and every role is important.”

**Keepers of Our Faith.** From left to right, Contessa Bautista is a Eucharistic Minister at San Isidro Mission; Father Jose Rausseo is the parish’s beloved visiting priest, who spends as many weekends as he can on the premises; Raul Castillo is San Isidro’s Parish Council President, who hopes one day to become a deacon; Rogelia Castillo, his wife, organizes the lectors for Mass and loves to cook for the parish’s many celebrations; and Ezekiel, Raul and Rogelia’s grandson seated between them, is the community’s future. “Because we have this church, we have a huge opportunity to reach out to our kids and keep them in our faith,” says Raul.
Just miles outside Charlotte, North Carolina, is the rural community of Gastonia. Though it has fallen on hard times since the area’s primary employer, a textile mill, closed a few years back, family ties run deep — especially in the local Catholic community. St. Helen Catholic Church is the joyful heart of that community.

Originally built in 1910 and expanded in the 1920s, St. Helen is an historically African-American parish that traces its roots back to five Catholic families who constructed the current chapel by hand. Descendants of the founding families are leaders of the church today. The spirits of their determined ancestors guide them as they forge a hopeful path for the parish’s future.

With the help of programmatic funding from Catholic Extension, the parish continues to grow despite the area’s shrinking economy. Today, almost 100 families from diverse backgrounds call St. Helen their spiritual home. They come for the sense of peace that grows from an understanding that their hope springs from the abundance of faith.

_MUSSETTA GLENN (LEFT) AND ANNIE BELL GARDIN (RIGHT)_ are descendants of the families who built St. Helen in the 1920s. They proudly share the history of the church with the growing congregation. “It’s hopeful to see new faces and young people come to the church,” says Glenn. “I pray that one day one of them will be called to a vocation.”
A SPIRITUAL FAMILY. Sallie Rollinson first entered St. Helen Parish 41 years ago as a mother who was raising five children on her own and facing difficult times. A Protestant at that time, she walked into the doors of the church and felt the presence of God. Today, Rollinson considers the Catholic faith and the parishioners of St. Helen her family.

“When I walked into this church, God met me here.”

SALLIE ROLLINSON
PARISHIONER, ST. HELEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

A HISTORY OF CRAFTSMANSHIP. The wood paneling covering the interior walls of St. Helen was handcrafted by parishioners in the early 1920s.
On the banks of the Rio Grande in south central Texas, the isolated community of El Cenizo is home to 3,500 residents who struggle each day with desperate poverty, few employment opportunities and substance abuse.

Santa Monica Mission resonates with spiritual abundance amid great scarcity. The church serves nearly one third of the town’s citizens and unites families and neighbors. It has created a spirit of hope in El Cenizo and fosters a vibrant and growing faith community.

Catholic Extension donors have contributed to this spirit of hope by providing salary support for a sister to serve the parish.
SISTER THERESA SARICH, OSU, has an infectious joy and faith that inspires the El Cenizo community. As religious education coordinator and youth ministry leader since 2003, Sr. Theresa has infused the community with a sense of pride and hope. Though she recently retired, her influence and spirit will live on in the new leaders she has trained. When asked about the role women religious play in communities such as El Cenizo, Sr. Theresa said, “Sisters are part of an orchestra bringing the Word to the people.”

THE FUTURE OF EL CENIZO. Santa Monica Mission has a particular significance to the children of El Cenizo. The parish has thriving programs that reach all ages, including the youngest parishioners, allowing them to experience the fullness of the Catholic faith. Young parishioners touched by Santa Monica often bring their parents and siblings into the church.

A HOME in El Cenizo.
**MONICA QUINTANA** is a bundle of infectious enthusiasm. Pictured here with her mother Maria, Monica was trained by Sister Theresa to lead Santa Monica’s youth group. This year, she passed that baton to Ray Palacios. It is time for Monica to move on. With support from Sr. Theresa and others at the church, Monica is now studying psychology at Texas A&M International University. The community has placed its hope in her, and she carries it forth into the wider world.

**FREE TO BE A KID.**
Santa Monica is not only a refuge in a poverty-stricken community, it is a place where kids can be carefree.
“It’s not me. It is God working through us. Just give yourself to God, and He will guide you.”

MONICA QUINTANA
OUTGOING YOUTH LEADER, SANTA MONICA MISSION

RAY PALACIOS is the new leader of Santa Monica’s youth group. Thoughtful and compassionate, he cares for the elderly in El Cenizo and is pursuing a nursing degree at Texas A&M International University. Ray is an inspiration to youth and adults alike throughout El Cenizo. He is passionate about making a difference in his hometown and embodies the tremendous impact that Santa Monica’s youth programs have on the area’s children and teens. “Now these kids have a spiritual future with God,” he says.
On the edge of Anderson, South Carolina, the bells of St. Mary of the Angels chime every hour and sing out the presence of the Catholic parish in the predominantly Protestant community.

Built in the 1940s segregated South, St. Mary of the Angels was founded by Franciscans of the Holy Name Province as an African-American church. Today, the parish is home to more than 360 families from a diverse range of backgrounds. Guided by St. Francis of Assisi’s dictum to “Preach the gospel at all times and, when necessary, use words,” St. Mary of the Angels draws people from other denominations to the Catholic faith through the good work and welcoming aura of the congregation.

Catholic Extension donors have supported a number of building and outreach projects at St. Mary of the Angels, most recently awarding a $60,000 matching grant to help expand the parish hall.

**Mayor Terrence Roberts**, an Anderson native, is not only the town’s first African-American mayor, he also is its first Catholic mayor. Roberts was raised in a Protestant family, but has fond memories of coming to St. Mary of the Angels as a child to participate in the community boys’ club established by the church. He converted to Catholicism in 1992 and is now proud to witness, from his position as mayor, the wonderful impact of the church on his community.
People come to this church because it’s always been open — the people are very loving.

TERRENCE ROBERTS
MAYOR, ANDERSON, SOUTH CAROLINA
CAROLA BAPTISTE and her husband, Butch, retired to Anderson in 2007 from Cape Coral, Florida. Shortly after their move, her husband was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Baptiste recalls not knowing a single person when they arrived at St. Mary of the Angels and being touched by the overwhelming support they immediately received from parishioners. When her husband died less than two years later, the church remained her family. Above, Carola poses with the memory brick she purchased for her husband in the newly completed parish hall.

FATHER AUBREY MCNEIL, OFM, moved to Anderson five years ago from New York’s South Bronx. His exceptional leadership at St. Mary of the Angels inspires parishioners to be active in their faith.
A MURAL depicting Leopold Rum exerumquunt, oditatur alis verumqu oditium et am am que delent. Otatur? Quis eictur sit etur aut.

Igniting Change

Rick Brosche is a member of St. Mary of the Angels and a regular volunteer at the parish’s Clean Start program. The profound impact of this ministry has reached people beyond the church’s congregation. Community members who are not affiliated with St. Mary of the Angels or the Catholic Church have become increasingly aware of the wonderful work in which parishioners are engaged and have joined the ministry by volunteering and donating supplies. Above, Rick accepts clothing donations from community member Gloria Bryant and her granddaughter.

Annie Thompson simply said, “No,” the first time the council approached her about taking charge of stewardship for the parish. But she says the Holy Spirit changed her mind. Even though she had no fundraising experience, Annie’s first undertaking was to help meet Catholic Extension’s $60,000 challenge grant for the expansion of the parish hall. She spearheaded the “memory brick” project, in which bricks were sold to parishioners in honor and memory of loved ones. The project met Catholic Extension’s challenge in a mere two months.
“COUSIN RUSS” Five years ago, Russ Dennis moved to Anderson with his wife, Ann, to enjoy retirement closer to one of their daughters. He was looking forward to days filled with golf swings and relaxation. Then he was introduced to Clean Start, a St Mary of the Angels parish ministry to homeless people. It provides showers, laundry service, telephone use and a mailing address to those working to get back on their feet. Today, he is chairman of Clean Start and is affectionately known by program regulars as “Cousin Russ.” He hasn’t picked up a golf club in five years. In 2009, a Catholic Extension grant enabled the parish to keep Clean Start alive by helping purchase the building in which they operate the program.

THE SHOWER ROOMS at Clean Start.
I don’t think Anderson would be what it is today without the church.”

MCLESTER MCDOWELL
VOLUNTEER, CLEAN START

MCLESTER MCDOWELL turns 81 this year and, with the exception of serving in the Korean War, has spent his entire life in Anderson. He has attended St. Mary of the Angels for 20 years. Four years ago, he converted to Catholicism. McLester’s relationship with the church goes back much further, though. He remembers Fr. Francis Gorman, St. Mary of the Angels’ founding pastor, visiting his non-Catholic family when he was little and including children and families of all denominations in parish events and programs. Today, the only reason McLester would miss daily Mass is to volunteer at Clean Start and the neighboring community soup kitchen.

BREAKING BARRIERS. St. Mary of the Angels’ Parish Council is a study in diversity. Crossing cultural, generational and socio-economic barriers, this group represents all faces of the community. Leading by example, council members engage parishioners and non-Catholic community members in a variety of community-based, educational and outreach ministries.
Browning, Montana. A place of vast beauty and great struggle. Most families in Browning, which is the capital of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, live below the poverty level. Unemployment in the area is estimated at more than 70 percent. As many as 30 percent of residents have faced drug or alcohol addiction.

Yet in this little town of just over 1,000 residents, Little Flower Parish is a source of great optimism. Its parishioners share a vision for their community and are driven to change Browning for the better.

Catholic Extension donors have helped support the people of Little Flower Parish for nearly four decades and provided more than $400,000 for a range of projects that have helped the parish, school and surrounding community thrive. These include constructing a new church building, rectory and community development center as well as providing operational support for parish activities.

**TONI RUNNING FISHER AND VALERIE HEPTNER**

lean on each other. Both are staff members and parents of students at the parish’s De La Salle Blackfeet School. They are also there to support the children of Browning, who often have nowhere else to turn. “I know these kids. These kids are me,” Toni says.
“As a young girl, the church made a difference in my life. As an adult, the school and the church make the difference in my family’s life.”

TONI RUNNING FISHER
COUNSELOR, DE LA SALLE BLACKFEET SCHOOL
YOUNG PARISHIONERS OF LITTLE FLOWER. Every week, students at the De La Salle Blackfeet School pause from their school work and make the short walk across the street to Little Flower Parish for Mass. These children are being taught that faith can transform their lives and that people living in communion with one another can shape a better tomorrow. Fourth grade teacher Anne Grant says, “We are instilling faith at younger and younger ages. We see changes and we have hope that we can reach more people and change more lives.”

“We want more people to have the faith that we’ve been gifted with and realize it is the cornerstone of overcoming.”

ANNE GRANT
TEACHER, DE LA SALLE BLACKFEET SCHOOL
Floyd Middle Rider and Ronald Running Crane are core members of the Cursillo Movement at Little Flower Parish, which brings adult Catholics together to strengthen their faith and experience God in the company of each other. Ninety percent of parishioners have participated in these powerful retreats, causing a ripple effect that has inspired other parishes within the diocese to initiate their own Cursillo Movements.

THE BLESSED KATERI TEKAKWITHA
Her statue symbolizes Browning’s rich Native American culture as well as its growing Catholic community.

UNBREAKABLE BONDS. Floyd Middle Rider and Ronald Running Crane are core members of the Cursillo Movement at Little Flower Parish, which brings adult Catholics together to strengthen their faith and experience God in the company of each other. Ninety percent of parishioners have participated in these powerful retreats, causing a ripple effect that has inspired other parishes within the diocese to initiate their own Cursillo Movements.
BEGINNING A NEW CYCLE. Little Flower Parish’s De La Salle Blackfeet School is a beacon of inspiration that is helping the people of Browning imagine a brighter future. Each classroom contains reminders of the role of faith in education. Every young mind is taught self-respect, an appreciation for their rich cultural heritage and vital life skills to help them succeed. This Catholic school’s environment and curriculum instill a belief that faith can transform students’ lives and help break a disheartening cycle of poverty and hardship that has plagued Browning for generations. To date, 27 of the school’s 29 alumni have uate high school, a vast departure from the current 56 percent high school graduation rate among Native Americans in Montana.
"The De La Salle School is a form of hope, a form of healing. It’s a light."

VALERIE HEPTNER
LIBRARIAN, DE LA SALLE BLACKFEET SCHOOL
Father Jack Wall, president of Catholic Extension, recently convened a panel of bishops from America’s mission dioceses to discuss their experiences in remote, underserved and sometimes forgotten places across the nation.

Panel participants included Bishop Kevin Boland of Savannah, Georgia; Bishop Mike Driscoll of Boise, Idaho; Bishop Placido Rodriguez of Lubbock, Texas; and Bishop John Wester of Salt Lake City, Utah.
FR. JACK WALL: Can you share with the readers something about your family and church roots?

BISHOP KEVIN BOLAND OF SAVANNAH: I was born in Cork, Ireland in 1935. We all went to the same Catholic church every Sunday. I had this desire to be a priest and to go to a place where there was need for priests. So I finished college in Dublin and volunteered to go to Savannah, Georgia. I was ordained in 1959 and have been in Georgia 51 years. Fifteen years ago, I was appointed bishop of the diocese. It’s kind of an amazing story that this little guy from Ireland came out here and served for 50 years and became the bishop. I’ve been blessed in so many ways.

BISHOP PLACIDO RODRIGUEZ OF LUBBOCK: I was born in Mexico as one of 14 children. Through the persecution, my father was involved in protecting priests and bishops in the underground. In 1953, the family had to flee. We went to Chicago. That’s where I joined the Claretian Missionaries. I was called back to Chicago from New Jersey to be an auxiliary bishop of Cardinal Joseph Bernardin in 1983. In 1994, I came to the beautiful Diocese of Lubbock. I’m an immigrant and someone who had to undergo persecution and then settle in the land of freedom.

BISHOP MIKE DRISCOLL OF BOISE: I am a great grandson of an immigrant from Ireland, but I was born and raised in Long Beach, California. In the first year of high school, I joined the seminary and, after 12 long years, I was ordained. This year I celebrate 45 years as a priest. I went to Orange County in 1975 and was put in charge of charities. The new bishop of Orange got me into charities, and I thought I would be there for the rest of my life. He asked me to resign within three days to become his chancellor and help him start a new diocese. So that’s what I did. In 1990, I was made the auxiliary bishop in Orange. I came to Boise in 1999.
“It’s kind of like the missionary and the apostles going forth and doing what we are called to do in a way that’s very practical, very real, very tangible.”

BISHOP JOHN WESTER

BISHOP JOHN WESTER OF SALT LAKE CITY: I was born and raised in San Francisco. I am a fourth generation San Franciscan. I went to the seminary after eighth grade and [spent] 12 years. I had some wonderful assignments in parishes and high schools and in a pastoral center and as auxiliary bishop. Here I am now in wonderful Utah in Salt Lake City, a very extensive, very large missionary diocese.

FR. WALL: How would you describe leaving home and coming to a new diocese?

BISHOP WESTER: It’s kind of like the missionary and the apostles going forth and doing what we are called to do in a way that’s very practical, very real, very tangible. And the people are very warm, welcoming, supportive, encouraging and affirming. Any fear or apprehension is quickly dissipated, or at least minimized, by the obvious goodwill of the people.

BISHOP DRISCOLL: The hard part for me was not going to Idaho, but knowing that I was leaving my family and close friends. Idaho is a very hospitable place and so welcoming. I was quickly accepted and welcomed by the priests and the people and I’ve really enjoyed being here.

BISHOP RODRIGUEZ: I remember being at our Lady of Guadalupe in Chicago when the steel mills were still operating and the neighborhoods were a lot tougher. Changing to the Diocese of Lubbock, a new diocese with very few resources, was a contrast with Chicago. It was a big change.
that gave me an opportunity to be responsible for growing a young, young diocese in West Texas.

BISHOP BOLAND: I had never been in the United States before. In those first six months, I thought I made a terrible mistake because I felt so lonely until I got to know the people and the priests and found them so accepting. So after six months, I felt at home and I have been at home now for 50 years. I consider Georgia my home. Becoming the bishop is an extraordinary experience in your own diocese. I knew everyone already. They were so proud of the fact that one of their own was made a bishop.

FATHER WALL: What do you think mission dioceses have to teach the rest of the country? How is your diocese a gift to the larger Church?

BISHOP DRISCOLL: The people here are so appreciative of what they receive and what they are able to do as a result. They know in their own communities it is very difficult to raise money for the things they need. They are so excited by the help they receive, and realize personally what it means to be a part of a bigger Church — that people from all over the country have helped them to be able to be the community they are.

BISHOP WESTER: People really appreciate the presence of the Church here. I have heard the phrase “holy stubbornness” — that the people have to drive long distances to get to church, but they are stubborn. Catholic Extension money has been so helpful to us because it helps us offer a physical place where people can be together for the sacraments and just to socialize. It’s so important to them.
Include us.

Catholic Extension’s four planned gift opportunities bring real savings and benefits to you and your family during and after your lifetime — and strengthen America’s neediest dioceses far into the future.

Eliminate income tax payments on your retirement fund by naming Catholic Extension as a future beneficiary of your IRA, 401(k) or 403(b) plan.

Increase current income, receive a tax deduction and reduce capital gains by establishing a charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder trust OR by converting a low return on CDs and stocks into a higher lifetime payment.

‘Leverage’ a life insurance gift by naming Catholic Extension as a beneficiary of your policy. Your premiums will be tax deductible.

Build a legacy gift by remembering Catholic Extension in your will or living trust.

TO LEARN MORE, contact Catherine Marquis, Director of Planned Giving, at 800.842.7804 or cmarquis@catholicextension.org.

BISHOP BOLAND: In rural Georgia where about 3% are Catholic, it is important for people to have their own place of worship. It might be a small church holding 100 or 150 people at the most, but it is theirs. They are very proud to be Catholic and want to put their best foot forward because they are surrounded by people of other faiths.

FATHER WALL: As you think about your experiences in your dioceses, do you have a story that demonstrates the transformative power of faith?

BISHOP RODRIGUEZ: In Lubbock, one thing that’s really transforming and helping with our Catholic identity is discovering through archeological diggings in the area that, back in 1541, Francisco Vázquez de Coronado and his expedition of 1,500 men celebrated Mass here not too far from our Cathedral. Our 80,742 Catholics have realized we have roots here. This
has solidified their sense of and love for the Church and given them a great Catholic identity.

**BISHOP WESTER:** A couple of years ago, we had a terrible mining disaster down in Carbon County. Nine miners were killed. Three were Catholic. It meant so much to the people to have their parish priest and the deacons come down from Salt Lake City to be with them. The weekend [the rescue operation] had been called off and people went home, about 30 of us stayed an extra day and drove up to the last hole they had dug [to reach the miners]. We went up to the top of the mountain and were able to celebrate and have a memorial service there.

Everybody was very moved to see the presence of Christ, the presence of the Church at that time of need. They knew where their loved ones were buried, and we had the chance to bless the ground and pray for them. The presence of the Church then was just profound.

**BISHOP DRISCOLL:** I find the generosity of the people here to be most admirable. When I went to Haiti [after the earthquake], the response of our people was unbelievable. Over $700,000 was sent from Boise for the victims. People see their own needs, but they also respond to the needs of others.

**BISHOP KEVIN BOLAND:** We had a diocesan event — an invitation for all the parishes to get together for one Saturday. About 3,000 people came. Every parish brought its own banner and we had this big procession. Some of the banners were very beautiful. About six months prior to this, we established a mission of Hispanics in an isolated part of the diocese called Sandhill. They were all migrant workers and we designated it Our Lady of Guadalupe. I was waiting and watching all of these banners go by and, right in the midst of them two gentlemen in ragged clothing were carrying a branch — a single branch of a tree with a ragged piece of cloth hanging from it that just
said “Sandhill.” I said to myself, “That is what this is all about.” They were part of us. That’s the magnificent challenge of a mission diocese — making all these small communities part of the total picture.

**FATHER WALL:** When you think of the future of our Church, how do you see it playing out in your diocese?

**BISHOP WESTER:** From my perspective, the future of the church here in Utah is very positive, very optimistic. Nobody is an accidental Catholic in Utah. We are the minority religion. A Catholic here is someone who has chosen to be a Catholic.

The face of the Church here is changing rapidly and beautifully and it’s a wonderful thing to see great growth taking place. The Masses are overflowing. It’s just amazing the number of people that come and the strength of the faith of the children coming up for the catechism classes.

**BISHOP RODRÍGUEZ:** The future for us here in Lubbock is very promising. We are actually the only church that is growing in the area. I think that there were about 30,000 Catholics when they established the diocese back in 1983 and now we have 80,742.

**BISHOP BOLAND:** The future of the church is very bright. It’s upbeat. The greatest challenge, but also the great hope of the Church, is the growing Hispanic presence. It’s all around us in every part of our diocese and we are only scratching the surface. I know rural parishes that are baptizing 50 people a month, and they are primarily Hispanic. The challenge is to bring them not only
to baptism but to confirmation, to marriage and to fully fledged members of the faith. All of this is very hopeful because we are being handed a new part of the family.

**FR. WALL:** How has your diocese or the people in your diocese impacted you and shaped you as a pastor?

**BISHOP RODRIGUEZ:** One of my great desires since I went to the seminary was to be a missionary. When I was assigned here in Lubbock, it simply reaffirmed my vocation to be a missionary.

**BISHOP DRISCOLL:** Growing up as a kid I saw *Extension* magazine in my home. I used to enjoy looking at it and reading about different places and the work of the Church. I can recall wanting to be a priest since I was in the fourth grade. And I really wanted to be a parish priest. I wanted to work with people.

As bishops, we truly love our people and want only the best for them. They, in turn, are joyous that we are in their midst. I am 71 now and sort of regretting the fact that I am getting old because I see so many more things to do in the future.

**BISHOP BOLAND:** The best part of being a bishop is what I call presence. Your presence means a lot to the people and they shouldn’t be denied it — especially in the small, rural communities where they might see a bishop once every six months or 12 months. I claim there is something in the Eucharist and in the presence of priesthood and bishop that is of divine making, and if we are there for our people, they will embrace us and we should embrace them.
Catholic Extension is honored to name the six finalists for our 2010 Lumen Christi Award.

The Lumen Christi Award has been given each year for more than three decades to an individual working in one of America’s mission dioceses who has demonstrated the power of faith to transform lives and communities. Lumen Christi recipients are laudable not only for the light and hope they bring to forgotten corners of our country, but for inspiring those around them to be “Lights of Christ” as well.

The Lumen Christi Award is accompanied by a $50,000 grant — $25,000 for the honoree and $25,000 for his or her nominating diocese — to be used for enhancing a specific area of ministry.

The Lumen Christi Award winner will be named in October.
REVEREND MAURUS HAUER, OFM CONV
DIOCESE OF LAS CRUCES, NEW MEXICO

Father Maurus has been a powerful witness of love and service for the Church in the vast expanse of the desert in southeastern New Mexico. Not only has Fr. Maurus had a major impact on life in the Diocese of Las Cruces over the last six decades, he also is known for being young at heart.

One of his earliest accomplishments in the diocese was moving Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, formerly known as the Chapel of the Air Force and based in Carlsbad, New Mexico, to its new home in Loving, New Mexico. He has loyally served the Catholic community in southern New Mexico nearly every year since 1945. Today, at 92, Father Maurus drives himself to celebrate liturgies in several remote little towns in the rural areas of the diocese.

REVEREND EDWARD KOHLER
DIOCESE OF HELENA, MONTANA

Father Edward Kohler has been a Light of Christ among the Blackfeet Native American people of Montana. He serves as pastor at Little Flower Parish in Browning, ministers at three mission sites and, for more than a year, has served another parish — more than 25 miles away — while the pastor there recovers from ill health.

A believer in the transformative power of education, Fr. Kohler partnered with the Christian Brothers in 2001 to found the De La Salle Blackfeet School, which serves students in grades 4 through 8. Last spring the first class of students from the school graduated from the public high school. The Browning community celebrated when a De La Salle Blackfeet School student attained the rank of valedictorian.
Then Jesus spoke to them, saying,

“I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life.”

JOHN 8:12

SISTER SALLY NEALE, SSND, AND SISTER MARITIA SMITH, SSND
DIOCESE OF LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

Sisters Sally and Maritia founded Sarah’s Place in 1996 to address the needs of families in Elliott County, Kentucky, a rural area with no Catholic parishes for 800 square miles. The sisters are the only formal representatives of the Catholic Church for a population of more than 28,000.

Sarah’s Place began by providing adult education, job training and support services to help families and individuals develop new skills and economic opportunities. In 2001, Sister Maritia started the Child Development Center to provide high quality care with affordable sliding scale tuition. Today, the mission of Sarah’s Place has been expanded to include a focus on family issues, including domestic violence prevention. The sisters also have family-centered programs to teach parenting skills, anger management and negotiating skills.

In addition to their work at Sarah’s Place, Srs. Sally and Maritia work closely with congregations in the area to support Christian outreach activities.

MARINA OCAMPO
DIOCESE OF MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA

For 25 years, Marina Ocampo has dedicated her time, talent and treasure to the migrant community in the Diocese of Monterey through the Migrant Ministers program. This ministry helps with the basic needs of migrants: food, clothing, health and housing. It also welcomes them into the diocese.

She is a dedicated, persistent and persevering role model who has encouraged hundreds of Migrant Ministers to volunteer. At present, 50 Migrant Ministers serve nearly 1,700 migrant families at 19 sites — from migrant camps to apartment complexes and converted hotels.
SISTER THERESA SARICH, OSU
DIACRINE OF LAREDO, TEXAS

Sister Theresa Sarich has been an instrument of God's love, ministering to the poor and bringing children closer to Christ in a remote region of south Texas. Her ministry has been a blessing to the people of El Cenizo, where she served Santa Monica Mission the last seven years as Religious Education Coordinator and Leader of Youth Ministry until her retirement in 2010. She has been a gentle yet powerful force working on behalf of the poor, influencing volunteers and financial supporters to join her cause, and building trusting relationships with the mostly Hispanic families that she served.

Sr. Theresa also obtained food donations, made small repairs to the church's facilities, encouraged families to attend services with their children and held parent education meetings.

VER Y REVEREND DANIEL ANDRES TORRES, VG
DIACRINE OF LAKE CHARLES, LOUISIANA

Father Daniel Torres has been instrumental in making the Catholic Church a strong presence in the Lake Charles community. He is pastor of St. Henry and serves as the Vicar General and Seminarian and Vocations Director for the Diocese of Lake Charles.

Fr. Torres' work has helped ensure the highest number of seminarians for the diocese in recent years. In addition to his diocesan and parochial duties, Fr. Torres leads his parishioners on a mission trip to Nicaragua each year.

In 2005, Fr. Torres helped those displaced during Hurricane Katrina by offering his parish hall as shelter and organizing a drive to provide food for those who had evacuated. Just a month later, when Hurricane Rita devastated his own diocese, Fr. Torres remained there to provide pastoral services to those who stayed behind.

For more information on the Lumen Christi Award, and to learn about past winners, visit us online at catholicextension.org/lumen-christi-award.
Catholic Extension is pleased to announce that we’ve awarded our second grant from the Sister Marguerite Bartz Fund: $20,000 to the Dominican Faithweavers program in the Diocese of Owensboro, Kentucky. Led by Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters, this innovative evangelization and catechism training program helps women religious reach Catholics in rural and isolated parishes across western Kentucky.

Many of you have already contributed to the Sister Marguerite Bartz Fund, which we established this past spring to support the critical work of women religious and the ministries they create and inspire in the most underserved regions of America. The fund seeks to perpetuate the work of the late Sr. Marguerite Bartz, SBS, an educator, mentor, activist and community builder who had served people in poor and remote regions of the US for more than 40 years before she was murdered in her tiny convent in the Diocese of Gallup in 2009.

To date, the fund has received generous donations totaling more than $120,000. In July, Catholic Extension awarded $41,451, its first grant from the fund, to St. Michael Indian School in the Diocese of Gallup. Please consider a contribution to the fund today so that we can all continue supporting the essential ministries of our sisters!

To learn more about the Sister Marguerite Bartz Fund, visit catholicextension.org/sisterbartzfund.
86
Total mission dioceses in the United States and its territories

11 million
Number of Catholics who live in American mission dioceses

9,000:1
The Catholic-to-priest ratio in the Diocese of Brownsville, Texas

20
Average miles a Catholic in a mission diocese must travel to attend Mass

400,000
Square mileage of the largest mission diocese, Fairbanks, Alaska

184
Square mileage of the smallest mission diocese, Chalan Konoa

The sun sets over Lake Superior in the Diocese of Superior, Wisconsin.
Building Faith | Inspiring Hope | Igniting Change