

Entrepreneurs find business in new kickball league

written by Dwain Hebda |



Kickball Arkansas, a youth kickball league in Little Rock, was founded by Matthew Matchett and Grant Nolan. The league aims to offer a fun and inclusive sports experience for children of all ages and abilities.

Guatemalan mother, daughter start anew in Arkansas

written by Arkansas Catholic Staff |



Rosabla and her daughter Liceli, refugees from Guatemala, arrived in Little Rock, Arkansas, in October 2024 through the Refugee Resettlement Program. They are currently adjusting to their new life, with Liceli working to complete her nursing degree.

Learning to love and trust God's divine timing

written by Special to Arkansas Catholic |

Caroline Koch, a junior at Mount Saint Mary Academy in Little Rock, has learned to trust in God's timing and plan for her life, which has helped her overcome hardships and develop a

deeper relationship with God.

Amid aid cuts, support for CRS collection ‘very urgent’

written by OSV News |



The Catholic Relief Services Collection, an annual initiative to aid the vulnerable in the U.S. and abroad, has gained “a very urgent significance” amid the Trump administration’s extensive cuts to overseas humanitarian aid. Donations to the 2025 collection will be crucial for Catholic efforts to demonstrate Christ’s love to those in need.

Catholic Charities adjusts to refugee,

immigration changes

written by Special to Arkansas Catholic |



Catholic Charities agencies and the USCCB have been affected by the new administration's immigration policies. Despite this, they remain dedicated to serving immigrants and refugees, advocating for comprehensive immigration reform.

Are sacramental records public?

written by Aprille Hanson Spivey |

While you might hope to glimpse your great-great-grandfather's baptismal certificate, the confirmation record of a distant cousin or the sacramental marriage certificate of your long-forgotten ancestors, the Catholic Church generally does not supply them.

Father John Antony, pastor of Immaculate Conception Church in Fort Smith and a canon lawyer, said sacramental records are confidential. They are typically only requested by the subject of the record or a guardian if they are minors.

"We don't make those registries available for genealogists. That's not the purpose for them. The purpose for them is sacramental and spiritual. It's great people investigate their family histories ... but that's not typically what we're holding sacramental registries for," he said. "You have been changed forever when you are baptized. ... Because a person's baptism is so crucial, we're very, very careful."

All sacramental records — baptism, confirmation, holy orders, marriage — or if an annulment is approved, are notated on the back of a baptismal certificate at the parish where the person was baptized. Father Antony said it is typically the pastor’s responsibility to contact the pastor at the church of the person’s baptism to update those records.

“The records are in a sealed vault. Every church should ideally keep their registries in a fireproof room,” Father Antony said, adding that his parish has a room of metal interior walls that few people can access.

‘A minority within a minority’: DACA recipients in limbo

written by Katie Zakrzewski |



DACA recipients in Arkansas, such as 31-year-old Jenny Calvario, face uncertainty regarding their immigration status. Despite these challenges, they remain hopeful through their faith and the possibility of achieving citizenship.

Catholic High School well-represented at Super Bowl LIX

written by Dwain Hebda |



Two former Catholic High School students, Maj. Nathan Sampson and Jonah Monroe, participated in the recent Super Bowl flyover as an MV-22B Osprey pilot and an NFL official, respectively, highlighting their journey from high school to the ultimate game.

Who's your abbot? Seeking rebukes of the wise

written by Special to Arkansas Catholic |

As a Catholic, accepting wise rebuke is crucial for growth and genuine joy with God, necessitating a heart conversion and an openness to correction from those who can identify and articulate faults.

Diocese helping immigrants despite political pressure

written by Katie Zakrzewski |



Catholic leaders in Arkansas are voicing concern and support for immigrants and refugees experiencing uncertainty and fear under the new federal administration's immigration policies, stressing the need for understanding and compassion for those in need.