

Bishop Gallegos...

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workers and others who lacked support from the community. He often spent his summers living with farm workers in California's Central Valley.

Born in Albuquerque, New Mexico, he grew up the eighth of 11 children in the Watts area of Los Angeles. He served as pastor of San Miguel and Cristo Rey parishes in the Los Angeles area, and then moved to Sacramento in 1979 and served as the founding director of the Division of Hispanic Affairs of the California Catholic Conference. He began mobile ministry teams that served the state's farm workers, and he started a Spanish-language radio program to reach farm workers in California and Mexico.

In 1981, St. Pope John Paul II appointed him auxiliary bishop of Sacramento, where he lived until his death. He served as vicar general, vicar for the Hispanic apostolate and vicar for ethnic communities in the diocese. He served at

St. Rose parish in Sacramento and was pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine in Sacramento. At the time, he was the first Hispanic bishop in the California state capital since 1861.

Born with a severe myopic condition and nearly blind, Bishop Gallegos had several eye surgeries before entering the seminary.

With his amiable demeanor, he could often be found on weekend nights on Franklin Boulevard in Sacramento talking to the drivers and owners of the area's famed lowriders (cars with modified suspension systems), blessing their vehicles and offering pastoral advice as he listened to their problems and concerns. An estimated 300 lowrider cars participated in a procession in his honor before his Funeral Mass at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral in Sacramento.

The bishop's sister, Senaida Kane, in written material provided by sainthood advocates, was quoted as saying, "The family environment in the Gallegos' household was devout and lov-

ing. Our parents showed great concern for our religious upbringing. In an orderly fashion the older children taught catechism to the younger siblings and all gathered daily for the praying of the Rosary." The five boys and six girls included the bishop's twin brother, Eloy; their parents were Jose Angel Gallegos, a carpenter, and Caci-ana Apodaca, a homemaker.

Material from the Sacramento Diocesan Archives describes Bishop Gallegos' accidental death this way: On the night of Oct. 6, 1991, the bishop and his driver were traveling on Highway 99 from Gridley back to Sacramento. The car suddenly lost power as it neared Yuba City. As Bishop Gallegos got out of the car to push the vehicle off the road, a young woman driving the same road came over the hill and didn't see the stalled car. She crashed into the vehicle, striking Bishop Gallegos and hurling his body, killing him instantly.

In 1997, the City of Sacramento erected a monument in his memory.

Toussaint Scholarship Fund Virtual Gala Set Nov. 2

Multi-platinum recording artist Vanessa Williams will be the special guest performer at the Pierre Toussaint Scholarship Fund Virtual Gala Monday, Nov. 2, at 5:45 p.m.

Carla Harris, vice chairman, managing director, senior client advisor at Morgan Stanley, will serve as master of ceremonies. The honoree is Keisha Sutton-James, chair of the Percy Sutton Foundation, named for the late political leader, civil rights activist and attorney.

A portion of gala proceeds will benefit parish food pantries in the archdiocese for Thanksgiving.

The Pierre Toussaint Scholarship Fund, established by the archdiocesan Office of Black Ministry, is a program of support and mentorship for college student-leaders from more than 40 parishes. The scholarship is named after Venerable Pierre Toussaint, a Haitian-born New Yorker, whose cause for canonization is being promoted by the archdiocese.

The program is assisting 85 undergraduate and graduate scholars during the 2020-2021 academic year.

Sister Patricia O'Brien, Taught at Holy Trinity

Sister Patricia O'Brien, I.H.M., who taught at Holy Trinity Elementary School in Poughkeepsie for six years, died Oct. 14 at Our Lady of Peace Residence in Scranton, Pa. She was 91.

Sister Patricia taught at Holy Trinity, 1953-1959. She also served in New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Maryland.

Born in Baltimore, she entered the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in 1947 and professed final vows in 1953.

She received a bachelor's degree in English/social studies and a master's in counselor education, both from Marywood College, Scranton. She also earned a master's in social work from the University of Maryland, College Park, Md.

A Funeral Mass was celebrated in the IHM Center, Scranton. Burial was in St. Catherine's Cemetery, Moscow, Pa.

Armenians...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

in opening his interview with Bishop Findikyan on "Conversation With Cardinal Dolan."

"Armenian people who have come to the United States are so worried about their homeland. But it's important to all of us, Bishop Daniel. It's one of the most venerable and historic Christian communities in the world.

"It has a long history of suffering, persecution and invasion. It looks again as if war and trembling of human rights and a destruction of religious freedom might be on the horizon for Armenia."

Mike Pompeo, the U.S. secretary of state, was scheduled to meet with the foreign ministers of both countries in Washington, D.C., Friday, Oct. 23.

"I would welcome any interest on the part of the United States," Bishop Findikyan said. "The United States being a major power and it's interest in bringing a cease-fire or peace to this region can only be seen as something positive."

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Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads so that I may attain my goal. You who give me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me, and that in all instances of my life you are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never want to be separated from you, even in spite of all material illusion. I wish to be with you in eternal glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine. Amen. H.F.M.

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