



VOCATION CORNER

Take time to think about God's plan



By FATHER KYLE MANNO
Vocations Director

Christmas is just days away! Can you believe it?

I imagine your house is ready for the celebration with bright lights, a decorated tree, and beautiful gifts wrapped and waiting to be placed under that tree.

Yet, is your heart ready to welcome Christ into the world on Christmas morning? What I mean by this is: have you spent time praying over the birth of Christ and meditating on the fact that the God of the Universe left His throne to become an infant who would one day save the entire world?

This prayer is crucial in the coming days because only by meditating on the birth of Christ and His mission in the world can you also discover the mission that God has for you.

No matter how hard we try, we human beings can never know why we were created. Only God can reveal that to us and He is so very eager to do so!

So make sure to spend some quiet time in prayer over the next few days, meditating on the birth and mission of Christ and, in time, God will show you your mission, as well!



(CNS photo/courtesy St. Michael's Abbey)

A Norbertine abbey, steeped in tradition, uses modern outreach

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The Norbertine Fathers at St. Michael's Abbey in Silverado, Calif., just opened their doors, so to speak, to the world at large.

The priests and seminarians who live a monastic life at the abbey recently developed an online platform for their donors

and subscribers to virtually take part in the life of the abbey — gaining access to spiritual writings of the priests, audio to their Gregorian chants and video clips.

The site, called the Abbots Circle, is akin to a digital library.

Info: www.theabbotscircle.com



(Photos provided)
"Bubbly" — Grace Ellinger

Fine Art '18



"Edgy" — Abigail Shepley



"Sam" — Rosa Finiguerra



"Double Exposure" — Sarah Slas



"Sunset Boulevard" — Grace Ellinger

St. Ed, ACC students' photos top 5th annual Kane ROE contest

KANE COUNTY—Students of Samantha Wascher at Aurora Central Catholic High School and Madeline Richmond at St. Edward Central Catholic High School in Elgin are again featured in the fifth annual Kane County Regional Office of Education photo contest.

While it took until the third week for a Catholic high school student to place, they didn't miss a week after that.

David Hill of St. Edward Central Catholic High School in Elgin had three photos place in the top 10.

Grace Ellinger, also from St. Ed,

placed two photos, including the first place image, "Bubbly" (top, page 14), in week 10.

Hannah Doherty of Aurora Central Catholic High School also placed two photos. Her image, "Float" (right), took number one in week nine.

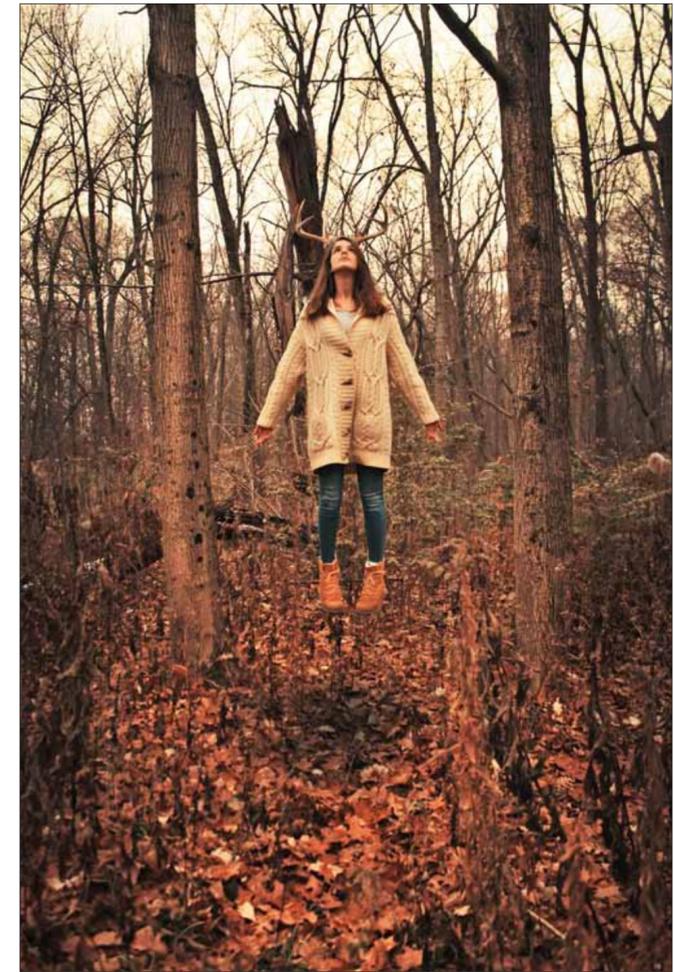
The 10-week contest produced 10 winners each week. The 100 top photos were displayed from Dec. 13 at the Batavia Art Center in Batavia.

If you missed the show, you can see all the photos online at <http://kanecountyconnects.com/?s=photo+contest>.



(Photos provided)

"DD Ad" (left) — Omar Aguirre



"Float" — Hannah Doherty

2018 photo contest winners

Week 3

9. "Sam" — Rosa Finiguerra, Aurora Catholic High School, Instructor: Samantha Wascher

10. "Bird's Eye View" — David Hill, St. Edward Central Catholic High School, Elgin, Instructor: Madeline Richmond

Week 4

7. "Everybody Eats" — David Hill, St. Edward Central Catholic High School, Elgin, Instructor: Madeline Richmond

Week 5

2. "Fall Beauties" — David Hill, St. Edward Central Catholic High School, Elgin, Instructor: Madeline Richmond

Week 6

7. "A Glimpse Into the Future" — Hannah Doherty, Aurora Central Catholic High School, Instructor: Samantha Wascher

10. "Sunset Boulevard" — Grace Ellinger, St. Edward Central Catholic High School,

Elgin, Instructor: Madeline Richmond

Week 7

9. "Double Exposure" — Sarah Slas, Aurora Central Catholic High School, Instructor: Samantha Wascher

Week 8

10. "Edgy" — Abigail Shepley, St. Edward Central Catholic High School, Elgin, Instructor: Madeline Richmond

Week 9

1. "Float" — Hannah Doherty, Aurora Central Catholic High School, Instructor: Samantha Wascher

Week 10

1. "Bubbly" — Grace Ellinger, St. Edward Central Catholic High School, Elgin, Instructor: Madeline Richmond

4. "DD Ad" — Omar Aguirre, Aurora Central Catholic High School, Instructor: Samantha Wascher

Numbers before titles indicate where the photo placed that week, 1 through 10.



"Everybody Eats" — David Hill



"Fall Beauties" — David Hill



"Bird's Eye View" — David Hill



"A Glimpse Into the Future" (left) — Hannah Doherty