



Chancery Bulletin - Vol. 2, No. 11.4 | November 28, 2017

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Officials

The Most Reverend William Patrick Callahan, D.D., Bishop of La Crosse, makes the following announcement:

CORRECTION: The Reverend **Arokia Amirtha-Raj Stanislaus**, with the permission of the Most Reverend J. Susaimanickam, Bishop of Sivangangai, India, is appointed Parochial Administrator of Immaculate Conception Parish in Alma Center, St. John Cantius Parish in Fairchild, and St. Joseph Parish in Fairview, effective November 30, 2017.

The Reverend **Baskaran Sandhiyagu**, with the permission of the Most Reverend Antony Devotta, Bishop of Tiruchirapalli, India, is appointed Associate Pastor at Queen of the Apostles Parish in Tomah, effective December 1, 2017.

The Reverend **Richard C. Dickman**, has requested the status of senior priest and it has been granted, effective December 1, 2017.



Events

As of Nov. 28

Friday, December 8

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Curia Offices Closed

Monday, December 11

7:00pm Webinar - Teaching the Way of Love: Choose Charity

Monday, December 25

Christmas Day-- Curia Offices closed

Tuesday, December 26

Curia Offices Closed

Monday, January 1, 2018

New Year's Day-- Curia Offices closed

Tuesday, January 9, 2018

School Administrators' Winter Meeting - La Crosse

Saturday, January 13, 2018

7:30am Married Love: Two Becoming One Retreat - Stevens Point (One Day)

Sunday, January 14, 2018

March for Life - Chicago

Tuesday, January 16, 2018

National Religious Freedom Day

7:00pm Webinar - Teaching the Way of Love: Expect Correct Behavior

Wednesday, January 17, 2018

8:00am Pilgrimage for Life - Washington, DC - Jan 17-21

Saturday, January 27, 2018

Brains and Brawn Middle School Competition - La Crosse

8:30am Married Love: Two Becoming One Retreat - Richland Center (One Day)

Monday, January 29, 2018

Catholic Schools Week - Jan 29-Feb 2

Thursday, February 8, 2018

7:00pm Webinar - Surviving Valentine's Day

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Chancery Office

Chancellor Very Rev. William Dhein – 608-791-2655 | wdhein@diolc.org

No items this week.

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Office for Catechesis & Evangelization

Director: Ann Lankford – 608-791-2658 | alankford@diolc.org

BULLETIN INSERT for the weekend of December 10 [click here](#)

This insert is the 6th in a series on the Blessed Virgin Mary regarding the teaching on Spiritual Motherhood. The content is related to the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Living as Missionary Disciples, A Resource for Evangelization (USCCB)

This helpful booklet provides parishes, schools, and other church ministries with a road map for evangelization. It offers principles (but is not a program) that can be applied to efforts in evangelization and missionary discipleship within a particular pastoral context and as part of an existing planning process. Available from the Office for Catechesis and Evangelization for \$8 plus s/h. Contact Ann at alankford@diolc.org

Info on The Advent Wreath [click here](#)

Reminder: Safe Environment Lesson Plans

Kindergarten through 4th grade lesson plans are available on the Safe Environment webpage in the Library. [Click here](#). The training for students focuses on the dignity of the human person, safety and respect.

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Office for Communications

Director: Jack Felsheim – 608-791-2663 | jfelsheim@diolc.org

For Your Bulletin:

Bishop's Advent Prayer Request Phone Message - Dec. 7

Bishop Callahan will be sending out his Advent Prayer Request via an automated call on December 7, 2017. To submit an intention, you can leave it as a message when you receive the call, you can call 608-352-9565, or you can go to www.diolc.org/pray to submit your request. All intentions will be presented and prayed for at his Christmas Masses.

Reminder: Bishop's Advent Message and supporting graphics

Bishop Callahan's recorded Advent video message [is available here](#). Please share on your Facebook page and link it to your website.

Advent website and Facebook banners have also been created and are available for your use at the [diocesan media resources page](#).

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Office for Consecrated Life

Director: Sr. Donna Krzmarzick, ISSM – 608-791-2690 | dkrzmarzick@diolc.org

No items this week.

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Office for Marriage & Family Life

Director: Alice Heinzen – 608-791-2673 | aheinzen@diolc.org

Teaching the Way of Love December Newsletter – Distribute Widely

The December TWL newsletter for parents is ready for you. Click [here](#) to read it or to download a PDF of the document that can be sent home in school packets, distributed in RE programs or added to your bulletin. Thank you for sharing this with every parent in your parish family.

Reminder: NFP Mandate Begins Dec. 3rd - Are you Ready?

Where can I find information about the NFP training and resources?

All information regarding NFP education (how to register, further information, methodology) can be found at diolc.org/nfp. Specific resources for the priest or deacon can be found by clicking [here](#). If you have any other questions, please email Alice Heinzen at nfp@diolc.org.

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Office for Ministries

Director: Christopher Ruff – 608-791-0161 | cruff@diolc.org

No items this week.

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Office for Missions

Director: Fr. Woodrow Pace – 608-791-2676 | wpace@diolc.org

No items this week.

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Office for Pontifical Ceremonies

Director: Michael Haight – 608-791-2697 | ceremonies@diolc.org

No items this week.

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Office for Sacred Worship

Liturgical Calendar Dates for 2018

Click [here](#) for a listing of significant dates in the 2018 liturgical year.

Christmas Mass Schedule

The Fourth Sunday of Advent this year falls on December 24. Masses during the day will celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Advent, while Masses on Sunday evening will observe the Vigil for Christmas. Catholics are to attend Mass twice that weekend, once to observe Sunday and once for Christmas.

One week later, Sunday, December 31, will celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family during the morning, while Sunday evening Masses can observe either the Feast of the Holy Family or the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God; either Mass will fulfill the faithful's Sunday obligation. Monday, January 1, is not a Holy Day of obligation in 2018.

Blessing of Advent Wreath

The Blessing of the Advent Wreath is found in the *Book of Blessings* beginning at n.1509. "If the Advent Wreath is to be used in church," says the rite, "it should be of sufficient size to be visible to the congregation.... If it is placed in the presbyterium, it should not interfere with the celebration of the liturgy, nor should it obscure the altar, lectern, or chair." The wreath is blessed on the First Sunday of Advent in conjunction with the Universal Prayer; the first candle is lit after the blessing. On succeeding Sundays, the remaining candles are lit before Mass, without additional blessing prayers.

Blessing and Placement of Nativity Scene

The following directives on the blessing and placement of the nativity scene come from the *Book of Blessings*, nn. 1542-4:

"The blessing of the Christmas manger or nativity scene, according to pastoral circumstances, may take place on the Vigil of Christmas or at another more suitable time. The blessing may be given during a celebration of the word of God, during Mass, or even during another service, e.g., a carol service. If the manger is set up in the church, it must not be placed in the presbyterium [sanctuary]. A place should be chosen that is suitable for prayer and devotion and is easily accessible by the faithful."

RCIA: To Pastors, Pastoral Associates, and RCIA Coordinators

Bishop Callahan wishes to send Christmas greetings and words of encouragement those currently participating in the RCIA process. Please return [this form](#) requesting the names of catechumens preparing for entry into the Church at the Easter Vigil and candidates seeking full communion.

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Office for Safe Environment

Director: Msgr. David Kunz – 608-791-2689 | tbrown@diolc.org

DIOCESE OF LA CROSSE GUIDELINES FOR REPORTING INSTANCES OF CHILD ABUSE

The Diocese of La Crosse, through its [policies and procedures](#), seeks to provide a prompt, appropriate and compassionate response to reporters of sexual abuse of a child by any diocesan agent (employee, volunteers, vendors, religious or clergy). Anyone wishing to make a report of an allegation of sexual abuse should send that report to the Most Reverend William Patrick Callahan, Bishop of La Crosse, at the Diocese of La Crosse, P.O. Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602-4004. Alternatively, you can contact Mrs. Karen Becker, Victim Assistance Ministry, 608-519-8002 or kbecker@cclse.org. The reporting form is available through the Diocese of La Crosse Office of the Vicar for Clergy or on the diocesan website at: www.diolc.org. **Individuals are also encouraged to take their reports directly to civil authorities.** Copies of the diocesan policy are available through your local parish and on the [diocesan website](#). If you have any questions about the Diocese of La Crosse and the implementation of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, please contact Monsignor David Kunz, Vicar for Clergy, Diocese of La Crosse, at (608) 791-2679; or dkunz@diolc.org.

If you need Safe Environment forms, posters, pamphlets, dvd's, red/green books or fingerprint cards, please let us know and we will send them to your Parish or School.

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Office for Catholic Schools

Superintendent: Thomas Reichenbacher – 608-788-7707 | treichenbacher@diolc.org

No items this week.

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Office for Social Concerns

Director: Christopher Ruff – 608-791-0161 | cruff@diolc.org

For Your Bulletin:

Two Marches for Life – Washington, D.C. or Chicago

There are two excellent opportunities to march for life once again this year. The Pilgrimage for Life to Washington, D.C., sponsored by the Office for Youth and Young Adult Ministry, runs Jan. 17-21, 2018. Visit www.diolc.org/yya and click on “Pilgrimage for Life” to sign up. The March for Life Chicago is one day only, Jan. 14, and you can sign up by visiting www.prolifewi.org and scrolling down to the link. Both pro-life marches have buses leaving from locations around our diocese.

For Your Bulletin:

Volunteer for mission trip to rebuild after Hurricane Harvey

A group of volunteers from St. Henry Watermark Mission, an ecumenical initiative out of St. Henry Parish in Eau Galle, will be traveling to Houston, TX, this spring to help rebuilding

efforts of residents most in need in the wake of Hurricane Harvey. They will assist with carpentry, sheetrock, mud, tape, insulation, some electrical/plumbing, paint, flooring, finish work, and landscaping. For more information, contact Gary Asher at 715.283.4451 or rasher@wwt.net.

Pastors and Social Concerns Representatives:

Parish donations collected for Hurricane Relief should be finalized and sent to the Office for Temporalities, payable to the Diocese of La Crosse, as soon as possible. They will be disbursed to Catholic Charities USA, to help the recovery efforts of the hurricane-ravaged areas most in need, including Puerto Rico, the Caribbean, Florida and Houston. **Over \$350,000 has been collected to this point.**

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Office for Stewardship & Development

Director: Jeff Reiter – 608-791-2653 | jreiter@diolc.org

No items this week.

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Office for Temporalities

Diocesan Finance Officer Marie Gernes – 608-791-2668 | mgernes@diolc.org

No items this week.

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Office for Vocations

Director: Fr. Alan Wierzba – 608-791-2667 | awierzba@diolc.org

Winter Admissions Boards are coming up on December 20. We have 2 young men applying to start seminary and one current seminarian applying for Theology studies. Please keep them in your prayers.

REMINDER: All clergy are welcome to attend the Seminarian Christmas Dinner on December 29th. Invitations will be coming in the mail soon.

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Office for Vicar for Clergy

Director: Msgr. David Kunz – 608-791-2689 | tbrown@diolc.org

Dates for 2018

February 9-11, 2018 Deacon Retreat – St. Anthony Spirituality Center, Marathon, WI
June 28-30, 2018 Priest Unity Days – Diocesan Center, La Crosse, WI
June 30, 2018 Ordination – St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral, La Crosse, WI
August 11, 2018 Deacon Afternoon with the Bishop – Diocesan Center, La Crosse, WI
October 8-9, 2018 Fall Clergy Days – Diocesan Center, La Crosse, WI

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Office for Youth & Young Adult Ministry

Director: Christopher Rogers – 608-791-2652 | crogers@diolc.org

No items this week.

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