



Chancery Bulletin - Vol. 2, No. 12.2 | December 12, 2017

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Officials

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

The following priests have been elected to the Presbyteral Council for a three-year term, effective December 3, 2017:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Rev. Allan L. Slowiak | Diocesan Priests Ordained 1963-1979 |
| Rev. William P. Felix | Diocesan Priests Ordained 1980-1984 |
| Rev. Alan T. Burkhardt | Diocesan Priests Ordained 1986-1993 |
| Rev. Brian D. Konopa | Diocesan Priests Ordained 1994-1998 |
| Rev. Robert C. Thorn | Diocesan Priests Ordained 1999-2001 |
| Rev. Keith J. Kitzhaber | Diocesan Priests Ordained 2002-2008 |
| Rev. Robert M. Letona | Diocesan Priests Ordained 2009-2013 |
| Rev. Daniel L. Thelen | Diocesan Priests Ordained 2014-2017 |
| Rev. William G. Menzel | Senior Priests |
| Rev. Louis Britto Susairaj | International Priests |
| Rev. Georgekutty Thayilkuzhithotto | Religious Order Priests |



Events

As of Dec. 12

Tuesday, December 12

8:15am Solemnity of Our Lady of Guadalupe - La Crosse

4:00pm Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe - Wisconsin Rapids

Wednesday, December 13

9:00am Franciscan Day of Solitude - La Crosse

3:30pm Taste of Tilden and more! - Tilden

Sunday, December 17

9:30am Bambinelli Sunday - La Crosse - Latin, Spanish and English Masses

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

Wednesday, January 3, 2018

Pilgrimage for Life "Early Bird" Registration Deadline

Tuesday, January 9, 2018

School Administrators' Winter Meeting - La Crosse

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

10:00am School Administrators' Wisconsin Parental Choice Meeting - La Crosse

Friday, January 12, 2018

4:00pm "All You Can Eat Fish Fry" - Eau Claire

Saturday, January 13, 2018

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

8:30am Catholic Scout Retreat 2017: Spiritual High Adventure - Sparta

Sunday, January 14, 2018

March for Life - Chicago

3:30pm Sunday Mass and Healing Service - Wausau

Tuesday, January 16, 2018

National Religious Freedom Day

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

[<<Top >>](#)**Chancery Office**Chancellor Very Rev. William Dhein – 608-791-2655 | wdhein@diolc.org

Official Catholic Directory Updates. Letters have been mailed from the *Official Catholic Directory* to parishes, school systems and institutions currently listed. This letter contains instructions on how to set up an account to update your information. This method is replacing the forms that you have received in the past that were updated and sent to the

Chancery Office. The deadline for making your changes online is December 31, 2017. If you have any questions about the letter you received or the updating process, please contact us for assistance. Thank you for your cooperation with the updating process.

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Office for Catechesis & Evangelization

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

[Bulletin Insert for the weekend of December 24 click here](#)

“The Holy Gift Exchange” explains how Jesus, in His Incarnation, effected a wonderful exchange with us that restores our life! This holy exchange allows us to share in the divinity of Christ who humbled Himself to share in our humanity.

Does your parish offer programs for 11th or 12th grade formation?

If your Parish offers any type of faith formation for youth in 11th or 12th grades or even through 11th grade, please respond by email to Ann at alankford@diolc.org

BEET Grants

The Bishop’s Education Endowment Trust (BEET) provides grants that support Catholic school and parish education in the diocese where there is financial need. The grant instructions and application for the upcoming 2018-2019 year are now available. Please read the instructions page to determine if your project meets the grant requirements. If so, submit your application on or before Friday, February 2, 2018. For the instructions page and grant application [click here](#).

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Office for Communications

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

Bishop Callahan’s Christmas Message and supporting graphics

Bishop Callahan’s Christmas video greeting is available here <https://youtu.be/CBCX7It-W6s>
Please share his message on your Facebook page and link to your website.

Christmas website and Facebook banners are available for your use at the [diocesan media resources page](#).

Sesquicentennial Coffee Table Book to arrive this week

The 150th anniversary book *Feed My Lambs* will be arriving at your parish this week. Some parishes have already received delivery. Your parish will receive a direct shipment of the number of books ordered last summer. If you have questions on payment, please [click here to learn more](#).

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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

NFP Registration Document – Handout for the Engaged

Want to make it easier to get your engaged couples registered for their NFP education course? Just click [here](#) to download a document that you can print off and give to your couples.

For Your Bulletin: Marriage Problems? We can help. Post Dec. 17, 24, 31

Retrouvaille is for couples with marital problems that want marriage help. Those who are considering marriage separation and those who are already separated or divorced are encouraged to consider the Retrouvaille Program. There is always hope of reviving your relationship.

The next Retrouvaille weekend retreat will be held February 9-11, 2018 at St. Anthony's Spirituality Center in Marathon, WI. Space is limited. Email centralwi@retrouvaille.org for more information.

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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

Director: Christopher Carstens – 608-791-0161 | ccarstens@diolc.org

USCCB Offers Advent and Christmas Online Resources for Prayerful Preparation

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) is offering online resources for prayerful preparation for Advent and Christmas. In addition to a clickable online Advent calendar, with each click opening “doors” to a page of suggested reading, the online page also offers daily reflections, prayers, suggested activities and bilingual calendars that can be printed.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) provides the online Advent and Christmas resources at <http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year/advent/index.cfm> and <http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year/christmas/index.cfm>.

This year, in addition to the traditional bilingual calendar for Advent that can be printed out, the USCCB is also offering a second bilingual Advent calendar specifically for families, with daily suggestions for prayers and activities to do as a family in preparation for Christmas. Suggestions include creating a Jesse Tree, blessing the family Nativity, and taking time to learn about Advent traditions around the world.

Other Advent resources on the website include liturgical notes on the season, a commentary on the proper prayers of the Advent season from the Roman Missal, and prayers and blessings from the USCCB publication *Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers*. Also included are lectio divinas for the four Sundays of Advent.

For Christmas, in addition to the clickable calendar and the bilingual calendar that can be printed, there are lectio divinas for four feast days during the Christmas season—the Solemnity of Christmas; the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph; the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God; and the Solemnity of the Epiphany. The lectio divinas are also available in English and Spanish.

Advent begins on December 3 and continues until the evening of December 24 when the Christmas season begins. The Christmas season will conclude with the Baptism of the Lord on Jan. 8, 2018.

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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.

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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: Volunteer for mission trip to rebuild after Hurricane Harvey

A group of volunteers from St. Henry Watermark Mission, an ecumenical initiative from St. Henry Parish in Eau Galle, will be traveling to Houston, TX, this spring to help with rebuilding efforts for residents most in need in the wake of Hurricane Harvey. The group 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](tel:715.283.4451) or rasher@wwt.net.

For Your Bulletin: Help Refugees this Christmas

This Christmas, consider donating to help the millions of persons and families who have been displaced by the violence in Syria and Iraq. Here are three excellent Catholic organizations you can choose from.

Catholic Relief Services – www.crs.org

Knights of Columbus – www.kofc.org (click on “Give Through Us”)

Aid to the Church in Need – www.churchinneed.org

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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

Year-End Giving

The last collection for the calendar year of 2017 will be the weekend of December 30-31. Contributions are to be applied in the year received. If contributions are mailed, the envelope must be postmarked before the end of the year in order to be applied to this year.

Holiday Gift Giving

Tis the season to give employees gifts. Please remember that gifts of Scrip, gift cards, or money are considered to be taxable income by the IRS and would need to be applied to the employee's W-2.

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Office for Vocations

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

Please include the following intercession for vocations for your Sunday prayers of the faithful.

December 17 – 3rd Sunday in Advent Year B

That young men and women will listen to the Holy Spirit in their hearts and respond to the cry from deep within to vocations of marriage, priesthood and religious life.

Reminder: Winter Admissions Boards are coming up on December 20. We have 1 young man applying to seminary and one seminarian applying for Theology. Please keep them in your prayers.

REMINDER: All clergy are welcome to attend the Seminarian Christmas Dinner on December 29th.

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Office for Vicar for Clergy

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

No items this week.

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Office for Youth & Young Adult Ministry

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

Pilgrimage for Life to Washington, DC

Reminder: the deadline for the "Early Bird" Registration is January 3, 2018. All of the information can be found on our website at <http://diolc.org/yya/youth-opportunities/pilgrimage-for-life/>

If you are planning to bring a group on the Pilgrimage for Life in Washington, DC please let our office know of your intention so that we may start the next phase of planning.

March for Life in Chicago with Pro-Life Wisconsin

This will be held Jan. 14, 2018. Round trip bus ride \$30 per person or \$85 a family. Register/pay online: www.prolifewi.org/get-involved/events/ Deadline Dec 12 or at capacity. Call 262-796-1111 ext. 14 with questions.

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. The La Crosse Life League is offering five \$30 "scholarships" for the March for Life Chicago. Contact Marie Allen at (608) 799-9196 or marie.v.allen@charter.net to apply for a scholarship.

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