



Chancery Bulletin - Vol. 5, No. 1.2 | January 14, 2020

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Officials

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

The Reverend **Prince Amala Jesuraja**, Pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish in Fountain City, St. Lawrence Parish in Alma, and St. Boniface Parish in Waumandee, is released from his responsibilities at the parishes effective July 2, 2020.

The Reverend **Francis Xavier Dias**, Pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Adams, is released from his responsibilities at the parish effective July 2, 2020.



Events

As of Jan. 14

Thursday, January 16

National Religious Freedom Day

Saturday, January 18

7:00am Married Love: Two Becoming One Retreat - Stevens Point

9:00am Given - Marriage Enrichment Retreat - La Crosse

Wednesday, January 22

Pilgrimage for Life - Washington, DC - Jan. 22 - 26

Saturday, January 25

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

Sunday, February 2

World Day of Consecrated Life - Feb. 1 - 2

Friday, February 7

Married Love: Two Becoming One Retreat - La Crosse - Feb. 7 - 8

Deacon and Lay Formation - Marathon - Feb. 7 - 8

Saturday, February 8

9:00am Given - Marriage Enrichment Retreat - Rothschild

Friday, February 14

Retrouvaille Marriage Help Weekend - Marathon - Feb. 14 - 16

Saturday, February 15

8:00am Married Love: Two Becoming One Retreat - Marshfield

8:30am Married Love: Two Becoming One Retreat - Prairie du Chien

9:00am Men of the Cross Retreat - Marshfield

Saturday, February 22

8:30am Married Love: Two Becoming One Retreat - Mauston

Saturday, February 29

8:00am Married Love: Two Becoming One Retreat - Marathon

Friday, March 6

Married Love: Two Becoming One Retreat - Arcadia - March 6 - 7

Married Love: Two Becoming One Retreat - Eau Claire - March 6 - 7

Deacon and Lay Formation - Marathon - March 6 - 7

Saturday, March 7

8:00am Married Love: Two Becoming One Retreat - Colby

To get your parish events listed on the diocesan calendar, diolc.org/calendar, and in *Catholic Life* magazine, please send an email to datebook@diolc.org. Make sure you include the following details; date, beginning/ending times, event location, description, menu and cost, etc. If you have any questions, please call Pam Willer at 608.788.1524 for more information.

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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

Catechetical Leaders

Wed. Jan. 22nd is the anniversary of Roe v Wade, the Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion nationwide. In the Religious Education sessions, you are encouraged to pray for an end to abortion on this day with age-appropriate students. Our pray for the protection of the life of the unborn and to end this tragedy is extremely important. Students could be informed that there are 6 busloads of youth, adults and families from the Diocese who will travel to Washington D.C. for the annual March for Life. See details here:

<https://marchforlife.org/national-march-for-life/> Theme: Life Empowers: Pro-life is Pro-Woman.

For your parish bulletin: Facing Our Greatest Obstacle in Life

Do you ever tell yourself: “I feel like I’ll never measure up,” or “My prayer life is not what it should be.” Do you ask: “Why am I not truly happy more often?” or “God, why are you not with me in this struggle?” Everyone has faced such things and all of us need help in the area of spiritual discouragement.

Fr. Timothy Gallagher, O.M.V. will be the keynote speaker for the Witnesses for Christ Conference. Fr. Gallagher has a best-selling book on *Overcoming Spiritual Discouragement*, the theme for the Conference. The presentations will be understandable for those with no background on this topic, interactive, concrete, applicable for everyday life and include:

- How to leave the sins, weaknesses, and failures of your past to God's mercy
- Ways you can be joyful even when you do not feel happy
- How to evade sadness, melancholy, and temptation
- Proven techniques for waging warfare against negative moods
- How to recognize the enemy, even when he presents himself under the appearance of good

The Conference will be **August 28-29, 2020**, and is open to all adults. A “Save the Date” postcard (4 per page) that provides further details is available by clicking here:

<https://diolc.org/catechesis/witness> Share a postcard with catechists, those in leadership positions and anyone who is seeking personal renewal.

Note: This Conference is geared toward those who hand on the Faith, but new participants generally return to their parish and get involved!

Here is the diocesan Facebook link for this event.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/2216728398621141/>

Please share this on your parish Facebook

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Office for Communications

Director: Jack Felsheim – 608.791.2663 | jfelsheim@diolc.org

Bishop Callahan's Catholic Schools Week Video Greeting: Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.

Catholic Schools Week starts Sunday, January 26, 2020. Please take time to celebrate with the Catholic School students and their families in our diocese, and please pray for the continued success of our Catholic Schools. Here is [Bishop Callahan's Catholic Schools Week greeting](#). As you celebrate in your parish and schools, please tag your social media posts with the hashtag #CSWDIOLC20 so we can share your excitement!

Catholic Schools Video Link: <https://youtu.be/AxKoWeZCR7I>

Thank you for supporting our Catholic Schools!

Reminder: Deadline for [Fish Frynder](#) events for the March issue of Catholic Life – 1/15/20. Email your fish fry information to datebook@diolc.org. Please include the date, beginning/ending times, event location, description, menu and cost.

Reminder: Deadline for parish events to be listed in the April Catholic Life – 2/5/20. In order to get your April and May parish events listed in the April issue of Catholic Life, please make sure we have received your event information by February 5, 2020. To get your parish events listed on the diocesan calendar, diolc.org/calendar, and in Catholic Life magazine, please send an email to datebook@diolc.org. Make sure you include the following details; date, beginning/ending times, event location, description, menu and cost.

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Office for Consecrated Life

Director: Sr. Donna Krzmarzick, ISSM – 608.791.2690 | dkrzmarzick@diolc.org

Reminder: World Day for Consecrated Life

World Day for Consecrated Life is February 2, and is to be celebrated in parishes the weekend of **February 1-2**. Please pray for consecrated persons at Holy Mass in the *Prayers of the Faithful* and please include a mention in your parish bulletin. Samples are below and more information can be found [here](#).

Here is the diocesan Facebook link to this event.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/460155034867956/>

Please share this on your parish Facebook

Prayers of the Faithful

We pray for those who have answered God's call to consecrated life. May they always reveal the love and joy of Christ to those they encounter, and may they continue to enrich our world by dedicated lives of prayer and service.

We pray for those who are discerning the vocation to consecrated life. By the grace of God and the support of family and friends, may they hear God's call and respond with love and generosity.

For your Parish Bulletin

World Day for Consecrated Life will be celebrated on the weekend of February 1-2. Please pray for all those in consecrated life, and for many more persons to answer God's call to this vocation.

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Office for the Diaconate

Director: Deacon Kevin Ray – 608.791.2665 | kray@diolc.org

No items this week.

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Office for Marriage & Family Life

Director: Dan Kitzhaber – 608.791.2673 | dkitzhaber@diolc.org

For your parish bulletin: Men's Renewal Retreat – Feb. 15 in Marshfield

What does it mean to “be a man of the cross”? Find out by joining us for a one-day retreat focusing on practical ways to live out the Gospel call to be a disciple of Jesus Christ daily. We'll receive great insights from Deacon Ralph Poyo, who was a favorite speaker from the fall Men of the Cross Conference, to embrace our crosses and learn of ways to become the man, father, husband and son that God intended.

Details:

When: February 15, 9am– 3pm

Where: St. John the Baptist Parish, 201 W Blodgett St, Marshfield, WI

Cost: \$25/person (Includes morning snack and lunch) - \$30 at the door

For more information and to register, go to: <http://menofthecross.org/>

Here is the diocesan Facebook link to this event.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/926342061081312/>

Please share this on your parish Facebook

Reminder: TWL Parent Newsletter for January

The TWL parent newsletter for January is ready for distribution. Go to <https://twl4parents.com/twl-newsletter/> to access this month's issue which focuses on having a conversation with your children about God's plan for human sexuality.

Reminder: Retreat for those in a struggling marriage

Has Marriage Lost that Loving Feeling? The Married Singles Lifestyle describes couples who have lost a sense of closeness they once had as marriage partners and are living more like roommates. The Retrouvaille program (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) offers hope and healing! Couples who have been through it share their personal stories and the tools to rediscover yourself, your spouse, and a loving relationship in your marriage. For confidential information or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on February 14-16, 2020, call toll free 1-877-922-HOPE (4673), or visit the website: www.HelpOurMarriage.com

Did you know that the USCCB has many resources that teach about the unique nature of marriage? Podcasts, free videos, blogs, and more can be found at [Marriage: Unique for a Reason!](#)

Reminder: Marriage Enrichment Retreat for Couples

When is the last time you experienced a COUPLE retreat? Every healthy relationship needs renewal and GIVEN is a powerful opportunity with proven results. Each couple is able to focus on their relationship with each other and with God in an interactive, engaging manner. Plan to attend a GIVEN retreat Feb. 8 in Rothschild. For more information, go to:

<https://diolc.org/marriage/marriage-enrichment/>

Here is the diocesan Facebook link to the February event.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/470858483538468/>

Please share this on your parish Facebook.

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**Office for Ministries**

Director: Christopher Ruff – 608.791.0161 | cruff@diolc.org

For Your Parish Bulletin:**Discerning a Vocation to the Permanent Diaconate?**

If you are a man between 30 and 60 years of age and think God may be calling you to be a permanent deacon, there will be a Diaconate Discernment Retreat on Saturday, April 4, 2020. The first step is to contact Deacon Kevin Ray, Director of the Office for the Diaconate. Email kray@diolc.org, or call 608.791.2665.

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**Office for Missions**

Director: Fr. Woodrow Pace – 608.791.2676 | wpace@diolc.org

The Missionary Childhood Association and its Lenten Mite Box program is soon underway! Principals, DREs and coordinators, please let the Mission Office know as soon as possible if you have any changes to make regarding the number of mite boxes, posters and prayer cards

we have on order for your parish Religious Education Program or Catholic Elementary and Middle School. They are sent out of our national office in NYC, but we can make changes to the order until January 23. We will send a final letter of encouragement and instruction to you as Ash Wednesday and the season of Lent approaches.

Mission Coop Program, Summer 2020 is also in preparation. Assignments are usually made in February. If pastors have specific requests, please let us know by the end of January. For the international priests generously serving in our diocese, please make sure that the MCP coordinators have submitted the letters of application and necessary forms to the Mission Office by the end of January. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to let us know.

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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

Reminder: Clergy Study Day on the revised *Order of Baptism of Children*

The *Order of Baptism of Children, Second Edition* is now available for purchase. It *may be used* as early as the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2; it *must be used* beginning Easter Sunday, April 12, 2020.

Workshops will be held for priests and deacons in three locations in February and March (a workshop for DRE's and other parish staff will be offered on another occasion in 2020):

- February 18 at St. Joseph Church in Stevens Point
- March 3 at St. Olaf Church in Eau Claire
- March 17 at St. Patrick Church in Onalaska

The day will begin at 10:30 and conclude by 3:00, and the schedule will include an in-depth look at the revised ritual (Chris Carstens), clarifications on frequently-asked canonical questions surrounding baptism (Vicars General), lunch, and a review of the second edition of the Diocesan baptismal preparation program (Ann Lankford).

The ritual text is available (in many cases in both English and Spanish) from [Catholic Book Publishing Company](#) (\$27.95), [USCCB Publishing](#) (\$44.95), [Liturgy Training Publications](#) (\$39.95), [Liturgical Press](#) (\$39.95), and [Magnificat](#) (\$29.95).

To register for a study day, please return the information requested on [this form](#) no later than Monday, February 10, to Jen Mickschl via email (jmickschl@diolc.org), phone (608-791-0161), or US Post (PO Box 4004, La Crosse, WI, 54602). There is no cost for these study days.

Reminder: Rite of Election Retreat, February 22

In preparation for the Rite of Election and of the Call to Continuing Conversion (March 1, 2020), many parishes (or groups of parishes) offer retreats for their catechumens and candidates. For those parishes that do not offer a retreat in the parish, there will be three retreats open to catechumens and candidates on the morning of Saturday, February 22: at St. Peter Parish in Stevens Point, St. Mary Parish in Altoona, and the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in La Crosse. Although schedules may vary slightly at each retreat site, the day will include Mass, three spiritual talks, time for reflection, and lunch. A site-specific schedule will be sent upon registration or upon request. Registration form is available [here](#); deadline is February 14. Please encourage those in your RCIA process to reserve this date.

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord: Sunday, February 2

The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord falls on a Sunday in 2020, and its celebration outranks a Sunday in Ordinary Time. As a reminder, the Roman Missal calls for the blessing of candles before Mass, with either a procession or solemn entrance occurring after the blessing. The faithful should be encouraged to bring candles to be blessed at the Mass. A parish can distribute candles to those in attendance, and the candles intended for the use of the church throughout the year might also be blessed at Masses on this day. (From the Bishops' Committee on Divine Worship *Newsletter*, December 2019)

Here is the diocesan Facebook link to this event.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1264816780574037/>

Please share this on your parish Facebook.

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Office for Safe Environment

Director: Teresa Brown – 608.791.2679 | 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 (bishop, priest, deacon, employee, religious, vendor or volunteer). Anyone wishing to make a report of an allegation of sexual abuse should send that report to Mrs. Karen Becker, Complaint Intake Agent, at the Diocese of La Crosse, P.O. Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602-4004. Alternatively, you can contact Mrs. Becker at 608.791.0179 or intakeagent@diolc.org. The reporting form is available through the Diocese of La Crosse Office of Safe Environment or on the diocesan website at: diolc.org/safe-environment/reporting. **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 Teresa Brown, Diocese of La Crosse, at 608.791.2679; or tbrown@diolc.org.

Please check your parish and school's posting of the safe environment guidelines: —the most current announcement is above. This must be published in your parish bulletin at least once a quarter, and 2 bulletins need to be sent in with your yearly Safe Environment Report.

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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 Parish Bulletin:

January, recalling *Roe v. Wade*, is the month of Pro-Life Prayer, Action and Penance

For timely events, news, links and action items, visit the Diocesan Respect Life website at diolc.org/respect-life.

From the US Bishops – Respect Life Mass on January 22

See the [USCCB website](http://USCCB.org) for Intercessions, Homily Helps, etc.

In all dioceses of the United States of America, January 22, shall be observed as a particular day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion. The liturgical celebrations for this day may be the “[Mass for Giving Thanks to God for the Gift of Human Life](#)” (no. 48/1 of the Masses and Prayers for Various Needs and Occasions), celebrated with white vestments, or the Mass “For the Preservation of Peace and Justice” (no. 30 of the Masses and Prayers for Various Needs and Occasions), celebrated with violet vestments.”

January is also National Human Trafficking Prevention Month

See the [USCCB National Human Trafficking website](http://USCCB.org). It has valuable information and shares ways you can work to end human trafficking in your community. Consider joining the [Become a SHEPHERD community](#) and adding human trafficking to your parish ministries and activities.

Unplanned on DVD – Maximize the Impact

Learn how your parish can obtain DVDs of this life-changing pro-life film for as little as \$10 each. Discover how your parish or organization can get a free license to stage public showings of the movie. Visit diolc.org/respect-life for more information.

Reminder: For Your Parish Bulletin:**Donate/Volunteer – Feed My Starving Children MobilePack Feb. 21-22 – Stevens Point**

Through a Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) MobilePack™ event at the Stevens Point Airport, Noel Hangar, on February 21-22, 2020, our community will provide 108,000 nutritious meals for God's starving children around the world. We invite you to join us! We need 545 volunteers to pack meals and help raise \$26,000 for this MobilePack™ event. [Click here to volunteer or donate](#) (a matching grant is being given by the Diocese of La Crosse Social Ministry Fund). Event Coordinator is Michelle Shulfer: 715-346-2780, mshulfer@uwsp.edu.

Reminder: Pastors: Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) Collection

Just a reminder that Bishop Callahan has asked parishes to take up the CCHD collection the last weekend of January or the first weekend of February. Parishes should have received the envelopes and [promotional materials](#) from the national CCHD office. The week before the collection, the following **Bulletin Announcement** should be run:

Bulletin Announcement for Weekend before Parish CCHD Collection:

Next week our special collection will support the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. More than forty-six million people in the United States live in poverty today. This collection supports programs that empower people to identify and address obstacles as they work to make permanent and positive changes for their communities. Learn more about the Catholic Campaign for Human Development at usccb.org/cchd/collection.

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**Office for Stewardship & Development**

Director: Jeff Reiter – 608.791.2653 | jreiter@diolc.org

Diocesan Annual Appeal

Rebates for parishes exceeding their target will be mailed out the week of 1/13/20 and then the 2nd week of the month thereafter. There are currently 33 parishes that have met or exceeded their goal. Congratulations!

2019 Tax acknowledgements will be mailed by 1/31/20.

The follow-up mailing to parishioners who haven't given this year was in mailboxes last week. The next mailing will be during Holy Week in April.

Please contact Sarah Komperud with any questions or concerns skomperud@diolc.org or 608-791-2653.

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**Office for Temporalities**

New Form W4 Effective January 1, 2020

The IRS has issued a new form W4 Employee's Withholding Certificate. Please [click here](#) for a PDF Fillable W4 form. Please [click here](#) for general questions/answers about the new W4 form. Bottom line is that for current employees you don't have to do anything. Only new employees or current employees who wish to make changes will need to use the new W4 form. If an employee is seeking help completing the form, it is always best to refer them to their tax professional. We can explain what information is needed to complete the form but should not offer tax advice

Church Mutual Nurse Triage Program

Catholic Mutual Group partners with Church Mutual for administration of the worker's compensation programs for the Diocese of La Crosse. As part of that program, Church Mutual offers a Nurse Triage Program through their partnership with Medcor. Medcor is an excellent, 24/7, free of charge resource that connects employers and employees with a medical professional who can advise treatment steps that an injured employee can take immediately following an injury to ensure employees get the care they need without unnecessary costs or delays. Catholic Mutual has packets that will be sent to each location with two packets being sent to those parishes with schools associated with their ledger page so each may have one. The packet contains the brochure about Medcor, a more detailed booklet, band-aid stickies for people's desks, and cards that can be detached and distributed.

All worker's compensation injury claims should continue to be reported directly to Kris Twining as you have in the past.

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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.

That families will strive to make their homes places where children can hear God call them by name.

Mark your calendars:

May 2, 2020 Diaconate Ordination

June 22, 2020 2nd Annual Golf Outing

June 27, 2020 Priestly Ordination

July 26, 2020 Priests For Tomorrow

Here is the diocesan Facebook link to the 2020 Priest Ordinations.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/576789636508983/>

Please share this on your parish Facebook.

June 26, 2021 Priestly Ordination

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Office for Vicar for Clergy

Director: Msgr. David Kunz – 608.791.2689 | pboyle@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

No items this week.

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Diocese of La Crosse | 3710 East Ave S | La Crosse, WI 54601 | 608-788-7700

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