



Chancery Bulletin - Vol. 5, No. 3.3 | March 17, 2020

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A message from Bishop William Patrick Callahan

In light of the continued concern surrounding spreading the coronavirus COVID-19, and the advice of medical experts across the country and especially in our State, all public Masses in the Diocese of La Crosse will be canceled beginning 17 March 2020 at 5:00 p.m. until further notice. All fish fries, parish gatherings, etc. are also canceled.

Please note, however, churches will remain open for private prayer. I am urging the faithful to remember in their prayers all of our brothers and sisters whose personal lives and the lives of their families have been affected by this disease. Visit diolc.org/pray to send me your personal prayer intentions.

At this point we are hopeful to resume public Mass by 1 May. As you know, these plans and regulations change every day. Nothing would give me greater pleasure than to shorten this time frame or any of these regulations. This, of course, is unprecedented in our lives and we rely on the providence of Almighty God and His Holy Mother. Please stay well and take every precaution to do so. Be aware of my prayers and my confidence in our protection under the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary.



Officials

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

Deacon **Joseph Richards, Jr.**, is appointed to serve as Deacon at St. Patrick Parish in Onalaska, effective March 19, 2020.

Deacon **Samuel McCarty**, is appointed to serve as Deacon at Mary, Mother of the Church Parish in La Crosse, effective March 19, 2020.



Events

All events have been canceled until further notice. Please promote the TV Masses as you can using your parish website and social media.

Please note that [live](#) and prerecorded **Sunday Mass** is available via diolc.org, the diocesan [YouTube channel](#), [Facebook](#), and televised on the following channels:

Eau Claire, Channel 18, at 9:30 a.m. Sunday.

La Crosse, Channel 19, at 9:30 a.m. Sunday.

Marshfield (Public Access), Channel 989, at 10:30 a.m. & 5:30 p.m. Sunday.

Stevens Point (Public Access), Channel 984 at Noon and 5:30 p.m. Saturday.

Wausau, (Cable and Satellite), Channel 12 at 6:30 a.m. Sunday.

Wausau (Public Access), Channel 980, at 6:00 p.m. Saturday and 9:00 a.m. Sunday.

Wisconsin Rapids (Public Access), Channel 985 and Channel 3 at 6:00 a.m. and 1:00 pm. Sunday.

<https://diolc.org/tvmass>

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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

A Time for Fervent Family Prayer

Individual and family prayer is what is especially needed during challenging times such as these. Parishioners are invited to download a simple Prayer Card from the following link: diolc.org/prayer. Let us remember and be encouraged by these words from Scripture: “Cast all your anxiety on Jesus because He cares for you” (1 Peter 5:7).

Materials for Parents to Teach at Home [Click here](#)

With the Governor closing schools, Bishop Callahan asks that religious education programs be suspended also, beginning Wednesday, March 18th. Please consider providing parents with materials to teach their children at home each week and encourage them to gather at the

regularly scheduled time for faith formation in order to stay on a schedule. Due to this short notice for cancellation, a handout has been developed for parents with simple discussion questions to use when going through a chapter of the textbook with their child. [Click here](#). Contact Ann for a word format.

If the parish textbook has corresponding online resources, guide the parents there, if the website is easy to navigate. [Click here](#) for suggestions to teach online if any catechists have the necessary resources. The information is provided by Dr. Holly Ordway, a Fellow at the Word on Fire Institute. Holly spoke at our annual Conference in La Crosse August, 2018.

Emailing the Bulletin Insert Home [click here](#)

We have begun a new series of bulletin inserts that focus on “How God Guides Us.” The first in the series is entitled “Relationship Comes First” and is being highlighted again. With more time at home, parishioners might be looking for something positive to take their mind off of the coronavirus. This topic was requested by 12th grade students for the last several years. There are also many one-page “handouts” categorized according to the content found here: <https://diolc.org/evangelization/questions/>.

Are you seeking Spiritual Renewal in your life? [Click here](#)

Registration and Brochure are now available for the Witnesses for Christ Conference, which will be held August 28-29, 2020 at the Omni Center just north of La Crosse. Early bird registration is now open at the reduced rate of \$65. The Conference will feature Fr. Timothy Gallagher as the keynote speaker. His presentations will focus on finding freedom from one of the greatest obstacles in life – the “cage” of everyday discouragement we all experience. There will also be break-out sessions addressing our “felt needs.” Check out the list of break-out sessions here: diolc.org/witness

Reminder: Honoring Catechists for their Years of Service

Catechetical leaders are invited to complete this form and return to the Office for Catechesis and Evangelization to recognize catechists who have served 5 years, 10 years, 15 years etc. (in increments of 5 years). [Click here](#)

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Office for Communications

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

No items this week.

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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 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 Parish Bulletin:

Family Prayer Time Idea – During this time of quarantine, keep your family together and focused with this simple 3-step nightly ritual: 1. Share how you experienced God’s blessings today. 2. Share your concerns of tomorrow. 3. Pray together in thanksgiving and petition: with a prayer that is spontaneous, memorized or both.

For Parish Bulletin:

Engaged retreat rescheduling –In response to COVID 19 restrictions, some upcoming Married Love: Two Becoming One retreats for engaged couples may need to be rescheduled. Please consult the Marriage Preparation webpage on diolc.org for the latest.

For Parish Bulletin:

7-Day Text challenge –To make your home a safe haven against the dangers of pornography, begin the text challenge immediately by texting the word “secure” to 66866. If you do not have a cell phone, go to <https://cleanheart.online/courses/safe-haven-challenge> and begin the challenge.

For Parish Leaders:

Equip Parent to Address Pornography resource

UNFILTERED is a video based workshop for parents to foster an ongoing dialogue about the dangers of pornography within families. Video can be viewed at:

<https://www.covenanteyes.com/prepare-family-world-without-filters/>

For Parish Digital Communication:

Integrity Restored Podcast addressing pornography

[Why Don't We Talk About Porn](#) Jim O’Day shares why porn is so pervasive, even among those who know the harm it causes. In this intriguing conversation, Jim shares why the problem of porn is ignored in churches, communities, and the mainstream media, plus what you can do about personal struggles regarding sexual integrity.

For Clergy and Marriage Ministers:

Access to marriage preparation online resources

The site for clergy and marriage ministers is now accessible from the Office for Marriage and Family Life page under Marriage Preparation or here: <https://diolc.org/marriage/marriage-preparation/marriage-preparation-for-ministers/> One new item worth highlighting is a chronological marriage preparation checklist that can be accessed [here](#) and is a valuable resource for parishes and couples.

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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

MISSION CO-OP PROGRAM 2020: The mission appeals for the summer 2020 are fast approaching. We appreciate the recent correspondence from the international priests finalizing the application for your home dioceses and religious orders. The roll out of the assignments for missionaries and pastors has begun. It is a complicated process as communication begins and weekend dates for the appeals are negotiated and set. Thank you for your patience and persistence. The Mission Co-op Program is unique in that it helps our parishioners come to know in a personal way through the missionaries, the life and needs of the Catholic Church and her ministry around the world. A note to pastors and appeal organizers: once you have mutually finalized the dates for the appeal, please let us know by [e-mail](#) or phone call. Our records help us answer questions and follow up once the appeals are complete. May God inspire generosity and multiply the good accomplished by our gifts.

Travel of missionaries: We are blessed to have mission representatives for most dioceses and religious orders living and working in the United States. However, there are some who come from abroad in order to conduct the mission appeals. Since the spread of the Coronavirus is now affecting airlines and country borders with official closings, we will try to stay in contact with those traveling. There may be last minute changes as a result, so please bear with us as we try to make the Mission Co-op Program the best experience possible.

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Office for Pontifical Ceremonies

Director: Michael Haight – 608.791.2697 | ceremonies@diolc.org

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Office for Sacred Worship

Director: Christopher Carstens – 608.791.0161 | ccarstens@diolc.org

For the next few weeks, please share diolc.org/live as a way to view daily and Sunday Mass.

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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.

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Office for Catholic Schools

Superintendent: Thomas Reichenbacher – 608.788.7707 | treichenbacher@diolc.org

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Office for Social Concerns

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

A Forage & Seed Corn sale, supported by the Diocesan Rural Life Committee, offering high quality, low cost seed in the midst of a challenging economy. Seed corn is offered in both conventional and glyphosate tolerant varieties. There will be alfalfa and clover ready for sale

and non-GMO seed can be ordered. Comparable yields make this seed an attractive alternative. Sale dates and locations: March 14 in Richland Center; March 21 in Stanley; March 28 in Colby; April 4 in Cassel; all Kendall area sales will be directed to Richland Center. Full details can be found at <https://diolc.org/social-concerns/rural-life/project-seed/>

Here is the diocesan Facebook link to this event.
<https://www.facebook.com/events/209337490127431/>
 Please share this on your parish Facebook

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

We are working to put in place an electronic offertory processing for parishes that are unable to host electronic giving. If you are interested in a parish specific encrypted page that will be on the diolc.org domain, please contact us at your earliest convenience.

Diocesan Annual Appeal, out of sensitivity to the current situation, we will delay our next mailing until our communities have had time to process the current environment. Our next mailing was scheduled to be in mailboxes the Friday before Holy Week.

The target audiences vary by where your parish in comparison to your goal.

If you are at or above your parish goal, we will mail only those who invested last year but have not yet invested this year. (LYBUNTS).

If you are below your goal, we will be mailing all those we have registered in your parish, whether they have invested in the past or not. (SYBUNTS and Never/New)

If your parish would like to include or write their letter to parishioners, please let us know. We will work with as the timing becomes focused.

Current as of March 17, 2020

| | 2019-20 | 2018-19 | \$ ^ | % ^ |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|------------|
| Goal | \$ 5,675,035.00 | \$ 5,675,035.00 | \$ - | 0.0% |
| Funds Received YTD | \$ 5,226,142.15 | \$ 5,012,842.03 | \$ 213,300.12 | 4.3% |
| Funds Pledged and Received YTD | \$ 5,426,977.00 | \$ 5,075,422.00 | \$ 351,555.00 | 6.9% |
| | | | | |
| Rebates Returned | \$ 382,425.95 | \$ 358,484.69 | \$ 23,941.26 | 6.7% |
| Net to over All Goal (Received - Rebates) | \$ 4,843,716.20 | \$ 4,654,357.34 | \$ 189,358.86 | 4.1% |
| Net % to Goal | 85.4% | 82.0% | | 3.3% |
| Participants | 17,310 | 17,968 | (658) | -3.7% |

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Office for Temporalities

Diocesan Finance Officer: James Reider – 608.791.2668 | jreider@diolc.org

No items this week.

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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 the daily living of our vocation may transform our suffering world into a place of love, justice and peace.

Reminder - mark your calendars:

May 2, 2020, Diaconate Ordination

Here is the diocesan Facebook link to this event.

[Facebook.com/events/227075974975805/](https://www.facebook.com/events/227075974975805/)

Please share this on your parish Facebook

June 22, 2020, 2nd Annual Golf Outing

Here is the diocesan Facebook link to this event.

[Facebook.com/events/628032601282326/](https://www.facebook.com/events/628032601282326/)

Please share this on your parish Facebook

June 27, 2020 Priestly Ordination

Here is the diocesan Facebook link to the 2020 Priestly Ordination.

[Facebook.com/events/576789636508983/](https://www.facebook.com/events/576789636508983/)

Please share this on your parish Facebook.

July 26, 2020 Priests for Tomorrow

Here is the diocesan Facebook link to this event.

[facebook.com/events/1231212600387214/](https://www.facebook.com/events/1231212600387214/)

Please share this on your parish Facebook.

2021 Dates

May 1, 2021 Diaconate Ordination

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

Adventure Camp

Here are the dates for Adventure Camp this summer! We hope that you will bring a group and join us. This is for youth in grades 6-12. To register and get more details, please visit:

diolc.org/yva/youth-opportunities/adventure-camp/

Week 1 – June 21-26, 2020 Week 2 – June 28-July 3, 2020 Week 3 – July 19-24, 2020

Here is the diocesan Facebook link to this event.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/2278171182482792/> Please share this on your parish Facebook.

LifeTeen Catholic Youth Ministry Convention Scholarship

Over the last several years, through a generous grant, people from our diocese who work with young people have been able to attend this convention for free. There are a few more scholarships available for the convention that will be held June 7-10, 2020. If you have not attended this convention, or know of someone who has not attended this convention, please email Andrew Brueggen, our LifeTeen Area Coordinator at youthdir@stpatsonalaska.com.

Durand Deanery Youth Rally

This is an awesome annual event put on by the Durand Deanery. It will be held Sunday May 3, 2020 at St. Henry Parish Center in Eau Galle. Click [here](#) for more information!

Franciscan CORE University

Franciscan CORE is a five-day summer service camp offering education, experience, and reflection on Catholic Social Teaching themes and principles using a Franciscan lens. Each day will include prayer, intentional learning, interaction with leaders in the field, direct service, and time to process experiences. Click [here](#) for more information.

NET Retreats

The NET Team will be in our diocese October 29-November 10, 2020. More details are coming soon, However, if you would like to reserve a date, please contact our office ASAP as dates will fill up fast.

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