



Chancery Bulletin - Vol. 5, No. 4.1 | April 7, 2020

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[Parish COVID Resources Page](#)

Here you will find many resources to help your parish during this pandemic.



Officials

No officials this week.



Events

All events have been canceled until further notice.

The Cathedral Live Stream Schedule is available at diolc.org/live

Live Holy Thursday with Bishop Callahan – 5:00 p.m.

Live Good Friday with Bishop Callahan – Noon

Live Holy Saturday with Bishop Callahan – 7:00 p.m.

Live Easter Sunday with Bishop Callahan – 9:30 a.m.

Live Daily Mass (Monday-Saturday) from the Cathedral

Mass in English – 8 a.m.

Mass in Spanish – 8:30 a.m.

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

***Please note that the prerecorded Mass for this week was recorded before the present**

COVID-19 guidelines.

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.

We have a Spiritual Communion prayer available for posting and sharing. It can be found at diolc.org/spiritual-communion

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Chancery Office

Chancellor Very Rev. William Dhein – 608.791.2655 | wdhein@diolc.org

We will not be publishing a Chancery Bulletin on Tuesday, April 14, 2020. We will resume the normal schedule on Tuesday, April 21.

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Office for Catechesis & Evangelization

Director: Ann Lankford – 608.791.2658 | alankford@diolc.org

Announcement for your Parish Communications

Easter Prayer Card

If you would like to prayerfully ponder the Scripture passages for the Resurrection of Jesus, you are invited to download an Easter Prayer Card. For adults go to diolc.org/deeper and click on Praying with Scripture or the Mysteries of the Rosary. For parents with children at home, go to diolc.org/prayer and click on 4th Grade or 9th Grade.

Caution using ZOOM and Webex Video Conferencing

There are news reports that people using ZOOM video conferencing have dealt with a new form of harassment in which intruders hijack video calls that do not use a password and post hate speech and offensive images such as pornography. To avoid such interruptions, use a password for your meetings. [Click here](#) for more information.

Connecting with Families/Youth in a Way that is Bearing Good Fruit

One Catechetical Leader received this idea from watching the [NFCYM Webinar](#) about ministering in a crisis. She is contacting the Confirmation candidates, phoning 5 a day. The young people greatly appreciate the personal contact and it's a great way to keep them connected to their parish. "I listen to their personal stories and hear how they are doing, make sure they know how to find Mass online, pray with them over the phone when they seem to

need that and usually end with "What else can our parish do, that we aren't doing already? It's been wonderful!"

The suggested questions:

- Open with: How are you/your family doing?
- Follow with: What is challenging for you?
- Next: What's been a blessing?
- Then: Where is Jesus in all of this, for you?
- Finally: What else can our parish do for you/your family that we aren't doing already? (This question usually lets me know how much they know about what the parish IS doing and if they know how to find information about everything)

So far, the youth and/or their parents have been very open to answering these questions and it's been an amazing opportunity for evangelization, faith sharing and planning for follow-up to individual families with specific needs.

Excellent free Online Resource for Kindergarten through Grade 5

Ruah Woods has developed a program focused on the dignity of the human person. It consists of two hard-bound story books for each grade level to be read aloud to children. Then through simple discussion, the children are drawn to see the truth about their identity.

In light of COVID-19, Ruah Woods has one book online for each grade level (Kindergarten through 5th grade) at the link below. The book is read aloud in a very engaging way. There are a few simple questions with each book for parents to discuss with their child. Please feel free to pass this link on to all parents. Click here: <https://app.ruahwoodspress.com/register/account> to sign up and to view /hear the book for each grade.

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Office for Communications

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

Bishop Callahan's Easter message can be [viewed here](#). Please share as appropriate.

Easter resources can be found at diolc.org/media-resources

If your parish has a daily or Sunday live stream and would like to get it included on diolc.org/parishes, let us know. Thank you to all who are providing this valuable ministry during this time of separation.

USCCB President Calls for National Moment of Prayer on Good Friday

Faithful are encouraged to pray the Litany of the Sacred Heart

Friday, April 10, 2020 (Good Friday) 11:00 AM CDT

Livestream: [USCCB](#) and [Archdiocese of Los Angeles](#)

Text of Litany of the Sacred Heart: [English](#) / [Spanish](#)

Social Media: [Invitation](#)

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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 Digital Communication:

New Webpage COVID At Home Resources: Find a wealth of resources for families during this time of quarantine: diolc.org/marriage/at-home-family-faith-building-resources/ A specific resource is being created with activities and ideas for families to celebrate Holy Week at home.

Marriage Building Idea:

Celebrate Anniversaries - Send a personal note of congratulations to couples who are celebrating milestone anniversaries; 5, 10, 15...

For Parish Digital Communication:

Free Online Couple Retreat: Watch these 4 short videos, together with your spouse, about the virtues that help us keep sanity in our life: Prudence, Justice, Courage, and Temperance. These habits help you mature as persons, grow in holiness, and strengthen your marriage. To access this free program, click this link. the-virtues.net/online-free-program/

TWL Parent Newsletter for April

The TWL parent newsletter for April is ready for distribution. Go to twl4parents.com/twl-newsletter/ to access this month's issue which focuses on Teaching Community during the COVID-19 pandemic with your children.

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Office for Ministries

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No items this week.

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Office for Missions

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

Update: Mission Co-op Program Summer 2020: A few assignments are yet to go out, but the majority have made it to the desks of pastors and missionaries. The uncertainties caused by the novel coronavirus pandemic and each nation's response may affect the mission appeals. If the suspension of the public celebration of parish Mass remains in place longer than expected, we will issue new instructions involving an online service through MISSIO.org. Any federal or state guidelines limiting international or domestic travel still in effect as the summer arrives, must also be followed. In the meantime, please continue to schedule the appeals in your parishes. Most of the missionaries we welcome have priests either working in our diocese or have representatives already living and working in the United States. If missionaries traveling from abroad are unable to enter the country, we will offer further suggestions as the summer nears. Once again, thank you for all you are doing to support the faith of your parishioners and share concern for the Church's worldwide mission. I am certain that the missionaries we support are also affected by the novel coronavirus, which increases their dependence on our prayers and support.

Mass Stipends for Mission Territories: The local parish is the first place we turn to for having Masses offered for our deceased loved ones or for any other reason. Parishes should frequently remind parishioners of this powerful form of prayer. During the time of the coronavirus pandemic, priests and pastors are offering private Masses honoring the intentions given. In some places, however, the number of Masses that can be offered has decreased under the "Safer at Home" restrictions. No Masses are currently said, for example, in nursing homes or care centers. Furthermore, our mission territories, also suffering from the pandemic in extreme ways because of underdeveloped healthcare systems, are in increasing need of funds for pastors working in poverty-stricken areas. Therefore, if there are stipends that need to be offered sooner rather than later, parishes can send the extra intentions and stipends to the Mission Office. We are happy to forward them to those with whom we stay in closer contact, ensuring that the prayers are raised as soon as possible.

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Office for Pontifical Ceremonies

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

Until further notice, this office is not accepting any liturgical items/appointments for the

Ceremonials Restore Room until the COVID-19 pandemic has receded. Thank you for your kind understanding and consideration.

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Office for Sacred Worship

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

Celebrating Holy Week Liturgies without a Congregation

The Holy See had issued general guidelines for the celebrations of Holy Week and the Triduum amidst the COVID-19 pandemic on [March 19](#) and [March 25](#). More specific guidelines were sent from Bishop Callahan and the Office for Sacred Worship via email on March 30 to pastors to help them celebrate as fittingly as possible the Mass of the Lord's Supper, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil with no or minimal participation by the faithful. Additionally, Mass formularies and readings "in Time of Pandemic" were emailed to pastors on April 2. Please contact Christopher Carstens at (608) 791-2674 or ccarstens@diolc.org with any questions.

Virtual Parish Mission for Holy Week and Easter

Most of the faithful will likely be unable to participate in the Holy Week and Triduum liturgies this year because of the restrictions resulting from the coronavirus outbreak. However, the good news is that these sacred events will still be celebrated locally and around the world. Jesus and his Paschal Mystery will be in our midst, and his saving grace will be available to us.

To help the faithful share in this grace, Christopher Carstens has posted a **Virtual Parish Mission** that uncovers Easter's powerful mysteries. We travel with Christ from Ash Wednesday through Palm Sunday and look especially at the Triduum's Mass of the Lord's Supper, Good Friday liturgy, and Easter Vigil. In the course of this journey through the highpoint of the Church's sacred year, we also consider what divine life in God looks like during the Easter season to Pentecost—and beyond.

These four, 1-hour sessions are available on-demand, free of charge, at facebook.com/AdoremusSociety

[Novena to St. Roch – from Catholic Life](#)

[Spiritual Communion](#)

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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.

Are you teaching your students remotely?

If you have any questions regarding the use of social networking and technology, our guidelines are [found here](#). You should never be communicating one on one with a student through email, phone call, Facebook or any other form of electronic communication. It is inappropriate for personnel to include minors and vulnerable adults within their own social circle, online or otherwise.

Be responsible: You are personally responsible for posted content and will be held accountable for such. Be selective – use the right medium for your message. Always identify yourself with your real identity and not a nickname. Respect the privacy of others. Don't publish personal information of others without their permission.

Important audit information:

The USCCB has declared that there will be no extensions on the 2019-20 Safe Environment Audit. Therefore, when you send in your parish or school report, all background checks must be current and all training must be complete. Training must take place during the audit period of July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020. Paid employees, coaches and janitors need fingerprinting done.

Erica and I are still working everyday so you can continue to send in your information.

If you have volunteers or staff that are not trained, tell them they need to go to the [Diocese of La Crosse website](#) and train online. Last year many of you did not have training dates because of the weather issues we experienced. This is why it is best to do your training right away at the beginning of the school year or at the start of your religious education programs. New hires and volunteers should be trained prior to any involvement at a parish or school. You should not wait until spring to train spring and summer coaches. If needed, I can set up a ZOOM Meeting and we can do a large group training.

If you have questions or concerns let me know.

Reports are now more than a month past due. I still need 51 parish reports, 4 system school and 4 parish school reports.

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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 Communications:

COVID-19 – A Time to Grow in Prayer and Love

How can we grow in love of God and neighbor during this pandemic? How can we stay united at this time of social distancing? Visit diolc.org/social-concerns for continually updated news and practical suggestions on how you can make a difference. Read what [Catholic Charities](#) is doing to help the homeless, and more. You will be inspired!

For Your Parish Communications:

Tell our Governor: Abortion is NOT “Essential Health Care”

Governor Tony Evers and several other governors around the U.S. have deemed abortion to be part of “essential health care” that should remain open while other elective procedures are shut down to allow the medical community to focus on COVID-19. The U.S. Bishops’ Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities is circulating a statement signed by 30,000 pro-life physicians calling for an end to this tragic absurdity. To sign a petition calling for Governor Tony Evers to shut down abortion during the COVID-19 pandemic, visit diolc.org/social-concerns.

Faithful Citizenship – Election 2020

We are in an election year, making it that much more important to form our consciences in light of Catholic teaching and principles. For resources on this topic, visit diolc.org/faithful-citizenship.

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Office for Stewardship & Development

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

Guiding principles for generosity in a crisis

Many parishes and parish leaders are [seeking guidance](#) on how to proceed during this time of uncertainty. During my professional career and educational training, I have had some experience in addressing times of crisis, economic stress, and natural disasters. Also, I am continually reviewing websites and information from colleagues, professional crisis communicators and other professionals in various industries and specialties. These are some lessons, tips, and strategies I have gleaned from those experiences and resources.

It **all starts with gratitude**. Being a sinner, I am forever grateful for our Lord's mercy, as He rains grace and mercy down on both good and bad alike. Before addressing the crisis, we are profoundly thankful for the long legacy of generosity among our parishioners. Whenever possible, give personal witness to that generosity.

The impact of Coronavirus (COVID-19) is real. The fears, uncertainty, anger, and denial are all legitimate responses. These are common responses to change and are part of the stages of grieving. We are a world that is grieving. Our institutions, our lifestyles, and our grasp of the world around us is being challenged and changed.

Our primary care is the holiness of our parishioners, but the Church has always been concerned with the mental and physical well-being of the person as well. Made in the image of God, we are mind, body, and soul. There is a natural balance to the trinity of a person: it is why the Church has been the moral leader -- and also a leader and innovator in health care and education for centuries.

Stewardship has three components: time, talent, and treasure. Time is the most valuable of these; it is finite and unknown. Where and when people invest their time their talents, and treasures follow.

These lessons focus on the importance of **continuous communication and engagement (Time)** with parishioners, prudent adjustments to short-term stewardship and development plans, and a focused commitment to staying the course of our overall stewardship and development plans. Of course, it is necessary to make adjustments as needed, but never abandon asking for support. Asking them for support is inviting them to join the mission. **Strong leadership that is creative, flexible, and resilient** will help our parishes persevere through challenging times in the past; it is no different now.

In light of the current and rapidly evolving circumstances, the Office for Stewardship and Development Office offers the following guiding principles around our efforts for our pastors, staff, and volunteer leaders.

People follow leaders. Although we can take a horse to water, we can't make it drink -- but we can make it thirsty, and that is our job:

1. **Do not make assumptions** regarding parishioners' giving ability. Allow them to make their own decisions as to their level of giving. According to Scripture and the teachings of the Church, each parishioner has a spiritual need to give of their Time, their unique and intrinsic abilities (Talents), and their resources (Treasures: Skills, Experiences, and Wealth (SEW)). That spiritual need does not go away just because we are in a crisis; some would argue it becomes more critical as it can help alleviate the sense of helplessness that often accompanies times like this. We have to adjust, and we must do what we can to help them with their need to feel connected and productive. Therefore, we must continue to ask for all three: their time, their talent, and their treasure.
2. Despite the economic impact of the crisis, **people support the causes and communities where they feel the most attachment and the most connected**. Hopefully, that place is the Church. If they do not feel connected to the Church, now is an excellent time to correct that or reinforce the connection if they do feel a connectedness. The main thing is to know the main thing and keep the main thing the main thing. **The main thing is**

the relationship with God and others.

3. **God is in control**, but we must work on doing our part; these are new times; we must start by being open to creative responses to events. That is your job and mine as well.
4. **Believe in abundance** as Jesus tells us to do. Work to overcome your parishioners' perception of scarcity.
5. Encourage your parishioners to **focus on gratitude** because there is much to be thankful for; make a conscious effort to spend time thanking parishioners.
6. As you always do as pastors, staff, and volunteer leaders, **point to Jesus for what is important**. Encourage your people to focus on the Mass (even though it is online for now), scripture, prayer, faith, hope, love, family, friends, and those in need. **Increase opportunities** for people to grow in their relationship with Jesus and service to others.
7. **Talk about the impact** of your parishioners' giving regarding the parish's mission.
8. **Keep in touch with those in need** in your parish – the elderly, the sick, etc. Let your parishioners know you value them and care about them. Offer resources that might be helpful to them.
9. **Increase communication** with parishioners. Keep them fully informed and deeply engaged. Use various communication methods – letters, newsletters, emails, phone calls, web sites, podcasts, virtual briefings, etc. Use multiple channels to communicate. Step up your outreach to your parishioners.
10. **Do not be a CAVE dweller (Catholics Against Virtually Everything). Try new ways to connect**. Do not fall for myths, one being that older people are not online. The most significant and fastest-growing age group using Facebook today is 65+. Just because something did not work in the past does not mean it will not work today. Why did it work? Was the timing not right, expectations too high, execution, and commitment lacking? Learn from the past, and try it again; do nothing, and more souls will fall away.

In challenging times, churches that stay the course and engage extensively with their parishioners emerge successfully. These situations offer an opportunity for us to demonstrate our relevance and cement the importance of Christ's relationships with them.

Now is not the time to pause or delay our various efforts to connect with and engage our parishioners. Again, it is essential to note that in previous downturns, crises, economic stress and natural disasters, those who continued to push forward in their efforts ultimately succeeded, and those who took a step backward lost ground.

Thank you for all that you do to strengthen your parishes and your people. The Stewardship and Development office hopes these guiding principles, gleaned through many voices with years of experience in periods of uncertainty, are helpful as you carefully navigate your efforts in the coming months.

Please continue to check the [Diocesan Covid Response Resource Page \(diolc.org/parish-covid-resources/\)](https://diolc.org/parish-covid-resources/) page to find tips, strategies, new and creative ways to meet the people of God where they are.

God Bless you, and thank you for all you do.

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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

No items this week.

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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

Upcoming Webinars for Parish Leaders and Teams

Follow this [link](#) to see all of the upcoming webinars from various organizations that provide helpful information about effective ways of doing ministry during this time.

Resources to Minister from Home

Please use this [link](#) to find resources and support as you navigate your ministry through these challenging times. Please know that our office is always here to assist and support you.

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/vya/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.

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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