



Chancery Bulletin - Vol. 5, No. 9.1 | September 1, 2020

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Officials

No officials this week.



Events

As of September 1

Tuesday, September 811:00am [Tune-In Tuesdays](#)**Friday, September 11**[LFI/Deacon Formation - Marathon - September 11-12](#)**Saturday, September 12**1:00pm [National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children - Stevens Point](#)**Tuesday, September 15**11:00am [Tune-In Tuesdays](#)**Saturday, September 19**8:00am [Married Love: Two Becoming One Retreat - Marshfield](#)**Sunday, September 20**[Catechetical Sunday](#)**Tuesday, September 22**11:00am [Tune-In Tuesdays](#)**Wednesday, September 23**[Rural Life Day Celebrated in the Diocese of La Crosse](#)**Sunday, September 27**[Annual Appeal Kickoff Weekend 1 - Sept. 26-27](#)**Friday, October 2**[Married Love: Two Becoming One Retreat - Arcadia - Oct. 2-3 - CANCELLED](#)**Sunday, October 4**[Memorial of Saint Francis of Assisi, secondary patron of the diocese](#)[Pro Life Sunday](#)**Friday, October 9**[LFI/Deacon Formation - Marathon - October 9-10](#)**Saturday, October 10**[Annual Appeal Kickoff 2 - Oct. 10-11](#)**Sunday, October 18**[World Mission Sunday](#)

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

Due to the Labor Day holiday, we will not be publishing the Chancery Bulletin on Tuesday, September 8, 2020. The next publication will be on Tuesday, September 15.

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Office for Catechesis & Evangelization

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

For Parish Communications

Join a Small Group This Fall to Grow in Your Relationship with Jesus Christ

Here are five good reasons to join with some people from your parish for a Bible Study or Faith Study Group:

- It builds community and the sense of belonging in your parish.
- It develops strong friendships in Christ.
- It provides a specific time to deepen your relationship with the Lord through greater understanding of the Faith.
- It strengthens you as you discover others with whom you can “walk” on the journey of life.
- It helps you to accept others and yourself as imperfect persons who are seeking God.

Consider what is being offered at your parish, or get a few friends together to meet in your home. The most important thing is to find something that interests you and then be committed. It will be well worth your time!

For Parish Communications

A Compelling Resource for Parish Small Groups

Watch Fr. Brian Konopa, pastor of Mary, Mother of the Church Parish, and four of the parish facilitators discuss the fruits of using Catholic Christian Outreach resources in parish small groups. Participants are led to encounter the Person of Jesus Christ, develop a deeper relationship with Him and learn how to put Him at the center of their lives, while growing in their love for the Church. Parish small groups have multiplied from 2 groups the first year, 4 groups the second year to 9 groups for this fall. Click here: diolc.org/witness and scroll down to “A Compelling Resources for Parish Small Groups.”

A list of other excellent resources can be found here: <https://diolc.org/catechesis/bible-studies-and-small-group-resources/> Contact your parish.

For Your Parish Communications

Coming to Know more about our Spiritual Father, St. Joseph

During this important year of St. Joseph, we have the opportunity to come to know more about our spiritual father through a compelling book entitled *Consecration to St. Joseph: The Wonders of Our Spiritual Father*, by Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC. St. Joseph is the Patron of the Universal Church and the Terror of Demons. We need his father protection during these challenging times. If you are interested in forming a parish group to embark on this initiative, visit consecrationtostjoseph.org for information and speak with your pastor. For further

assistance, including a list of suggested discussion questions, you can also contact diocesan curia staff members Ann Lankford alankford@diolc.org or Christopher Ruff cruff@diolc.org.

Growing in Your Relationship with Jesus Christ through Reading the Catechism in a Year

Sign up to read through the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* in the next 10 months. From year-to-year, there are always more than 100 people who participate. We begin Monday, September 14th and end mid-June, with a week off for Thanksgiving and two weeks off for Christmas. A modest schedule of 15 paragraphs per night (roughly 3 pages) has been arranged that will take about 10-15 minutes of reflective reading, 5 nights a week for 38 weeks. It is worth the effort. If interested, email Ann Lankford at alankford@diolc.org and put “read the Catechism” in the subject line.

Catechetical Leader Resources

The Directives and Guidelines for Re-opening in the fall are available here diolc.org/catechesis/catechetical-leaders-info and include the following:

- Protective Measures
- Hygiene and Cleaning
- Policy and Procedures for COVID-19 Exposure and Positive Tests

For templates of the following, click here diolc.org/catechesis/catechetical-leaders-info:

- Parent’s Information for Re-opening the Parish Faith Formation Program and must be posted on the parish website
- Parent’s Compliance Form

Since formation of the whole person is accomplished most effectively in-person, and, since formation of our youth is at the heart of our mission of leading people to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church, all parishes should plan to provide in-person Faith Formation for both grade school and high school students beginning in the fall. We realize that some parents will choose not to send their children and there might be extraordinary exceptions that limit full scale in-person, weekly sessions.

If Parents choose to teach their children at home, the following information is to help prepare them for this noble responsibility:

- Helping Parents to lead their Children to Jesus Christ

Best Practices for Parish Programs and Catholic Schools are available here diolc.org/catechesis/catechetical-leaders-info that focus on

- Guiding Students to a Relationship with Jesus and His Church
- Involving Parents which includes a list of Boundaries for walking with Parents
- On-line Resources
- Evaluating a Religion Textbook. What is Essential?

Catechetical Sunday 2020 – September 20th

Catechetical Sunday will be celebrated on Sunday, September 20th. The theme for this year’s Catechetical Sunday is “I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you.” (Corinthians

Those who the Community has designated to serve as catechists – most importantly parents – will be commissioned for their ministry. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith. Go to the US Bishops Conference at usccb.org for posters, liturgical resources etc.

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Office for Communications

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

Sep/Oct Catholic Life supporting graphics can be found at diolc.org/media-resources.

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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 Bryan Hilts – 608.791.2665 | bhilts@diolc.org

Deacons - Thank you to those deacons who have volunteered to serve as representatives to the Deacon Community Board. Please watch your email for your election ballot. We have three positions to fill. The terms will be staggered: a one-year term, a two-year term and a three-year. I hope to have the ballots out to you by the end of the week.

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Office for Marriage & Family Life

Director: Christopher Rogers – 608.791.2659 | crogers@diolc.org

No items this week.

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Office for Ministries

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

Attention: Leaders of Prayer in Need of Four-Year Commission Renewal

Parish Leaders of Prayer who were commissioned in 2015 or earlier were asked to participate in the Saturday, Aug. 29, virtual Witnesses for Christ Conference featuring Father Timothy Gallagher, as a requirement for getting their four-year commission renewed. Any Leader of Prayer in need of renewal who was not able to participate in this conference should email Christopher Ruff at cruff@diolc.org in order to make other arrangements for renewal.

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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 Sacred Worship

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

No items this week.

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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.

Recording of the August 12 ZOOM training

If you were unable to attend the August 12 ZOOM training, you can watch it [here](#). More than 175 people tuned in for the live event. The recording is "unlisted" but anyone with this link <https://youtu.be/5TjzE5a-V3M> can watch it.

Important Notice about Student Training:

Whether your Religious Education program is in person or online this year, all students still need to be Protect and Heal trained. Grades 1-5 have power points lesson plans and Grades 6-12 have a pdf lesson plan. They can be found [here](#), on the diocesan Protect and Heal website in the Library. Scroll to the bottom of the page to find the appropriate [training documents](#).

The new Protect and Heal videos have been added to the Diocesan website. Take a few minutes to watch the updated material.

Upcoming Vacation: Teresa Brown will be out of the office beginning August 31 and returning on September 8. If you need assistance with a Letter of Suitability or have a Protect and Heal question, please contact Mary Lou Berg in the Office of the Vicar for the Clergy at mberg@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 Parish Communications:

Archbishop ListECKI Statement About Kenosha Shooting

Milwaukee Archbishop Jerome ListECKI released a statement on Aug. 24 in which he voiced his prayers for healing, mercy, peace and justice and noted that the Church stands as a beacon of hope and a voice for the protection and care of every human person and of the common good. The statement can be found [here](#), or by visiting www.wisconsinatholic.org.

For Your Parish Communications:

Voting as a Christian

As November approaches, our political landscape boils down primarily to two opposing worldviews – two radically different visions of the meaning and direction of our lives. What are they, and what is a Christian to do? Visit diolc.org/faithful-citizenship to learn more.

For Pastors and Bulletin Editors:

A bulletin insert on “Voting as a Christian” can be found [here](#).

No to COVID-19 Vaccines from Abortion Cell Lines; No to Federal Executions

The US Bishops encourage the faithful to contact Congress on a number of important matters, including development of a COVID-19 vaccine that does not use cell lines from aborted babies, and opposition to the resumption of federal executions. Visit votervoice.net/USCCB/home to see how you can make your voice heard.

US and Wisconsin Bishops’ Response to Racism:

Racism has no place in the Christian heart, whether its target is African-American, Hispanic, Hmong or some other ethnicity. See what the Bishops of Wisconsin and their brother Bishops around the country are saying by visiting diolc.org/racism.

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Office for Stewardship & Development

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

Diocesan Annual Appeal

This year’s theme emphasizes the relevancy of the Church, the community, and the importance of its mission. The theme is **“His Church is Still Here, His Church is you and Me, His Church Still Provides.”**

Your parish's Appeal allocation should be arriving in the mail in the next few days. Through prayer, administrative moves, and the realities of the need for our missionary works, the overall target will remain at \$5,675,035. Individual parishes will see changes to their goal based on the portion of the diocesan aggregate.

If you would like to include a letter/postcard from your parish priest or finance council, please have a draft in Microsoft Word or Google Docs (please no pdfs) to us by September 9, 2020. Please include the Parish Name, City, and three-digit parish number in the email subject line. We will also need a good quality jpg or png file of any signatures included. This year a letter may be the only way your parishioners will hear of your support for the works the Diocesan Annual Appeal funds.

Our first kickoff weekend is September 26/27; we have a signup form on the Appeal Portal for the weekend you wish to choose to kick off. Due to the environment we are currently operating in, and our communities are not able to come together as we ordinarily do; therefore, we are not limiting the weekends available for kickoff. The weekend will be your choice for what is best for your parish community. You will need to register your parish and

tell us which weekend you want to kickoff. Our strategy this year to keep the Appeal fresh in people's minds will be to increase our marketing through social media substantially.

We will be building out the materials over the next few weeks and making them available to you as they become ready. Be sure to check the Appeal Portal at <http://appeal.diolc.org>. To further save cost and since most parishes download the video from the Appeal Portal, DVD's will be shipped upon request only.

Did you know GivingTrend now has Key Alerts on the right-hand side of your parish's page? Here all in one place, you can find New Donors, Your LYBUNTS, Large Gifts, Writeoffs, and any of your parishioners who have supported the Appeal but have since passed away. These alerts are an easy way to find and welcome and thank new supporters from a local perspective (encouraged); they may or may not be registered in your parish. Others identified are Major Investors (+\$2,000.00), and help you identify hurdles that you may need to strategize to overcome; LYBUNTS, and deceased.

Reunite, Rebuild, and Rejoice Recovery Appeal

Some of our participating parishes are entering into the final stages of the Appeal. Others are about halfway through. Overall, the participating parishes have already received more than \$487k in one-time gifts and have received pledges for an average 31% increase in the respondent's offertory. As of 8/24, the combined total dollars raised was nearly \$885,000

These are essential investments by our parishioners in their local parishes. With these increased investments, our parishes will be able to keep the lights on, keep our parish campuses in working order, and ride out the current state of affairs. More importantly, they will also be able to invest in their local missionary works, allowing them to help more of those in their parishes and communities who are suffering a more significant burden of the pandemic effects.

Planned Giving

We continue to receive requests for copies of our Estate Planning Guide.

This guide can help people save several hundred dollars in legal and financial estate planning costs. The increased interest in Planned Giving mirrors what we are finding on a national level since the COVID – 19 outbreak came to prominence. If you would like more information or ads for your bulletin, please contact our office.

Our Planned Giving website is <http://diolclegacy.org/>. There, our people can find calculators, additional information, and sign up for a newsletter, as well as request copies of specific estate planning guides and information.

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Office for Temporalities

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

Mutual of America New Employee Enrollment Form

A new version of the 403(b) enrollment form is now available by [clicking here](#). The new form is effective immediately and Mutual of America will not be able to accept the old version with signatures dated after September 1, 2020. Mutual of America has added a 2065 Retirement Fund and collapsed the 2010 Retirement Fund into the Retirement Income Fund.

Please update your files with the new form to avoid delays in processing employee's enrollment into the 403(b) Plan.

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Office for Vocations

Director of Formation: Fr. Alan Wierzba – 608.791.2667 | awierzba@diolc.org

Director of Vocation Recruitment: Fr. Nate Kuhn – 608.791.2666 | nkuhn@diolc.org

No items this week.

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Office for Vicar for Clergy

Director: Very Rev. Woodrow H. Pace – 608.791.2689 | mberg@diolc.org

Upcoming Vacation:

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No items this week.

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Office for Youth & Young Adult Ministry

Director: Christopher Rogers – 608.791.2659 | crogers@diolc.org

No items this week.

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