



## Chancery Bulletin - Vol. 6, No. 1.3 | January 19, 2021

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### Officials

No items this week.

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### Events

As of January 18

**Thursday, January 21**

9 Days for Life Novena - Jan. 21 - 29

**Friday, January 22**

Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

**Saturday, January 23**

12:00pm March for Life - Chicago

**Tuesday, January 26**

11:00am Tune-In Tuesdays

**Wednesday, January 27**

Pilgrimage for Life - Jan. 27-31, 2021 - CANCELLED

**Friday, January 29**

March for Life - Washington, D.C.

**Saturday, January 30**

Pro-Life Virtual Afternoon of Reflection: "Walking with Mom's in Need"

**Tuesday, February 2**

Presentation of the Lord: World Day for Consecrated Life

9:00am Catholic Schools Week Mass - Live Stream

11:00am Tune-In Tuesdays

**Friday, February 5**

Deacon Formation - Marathon - Feb. 5-6

Lay Formation Institute - La Crosse - Feb. 5-6

6:15pm Married Love: Two Becoming One Retreat - La Crosse - Feb. 5-6

To get your parish events listed on the diocesan calendar, [diolc.org/calendar](http://diolc.org/calendar), and in *Catholic Life* magazine, please send an email to [datebook@diolc.org](mailto: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](mailto:wdhein@diolc.org)

No items this week.

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**Office for Catechesis & Evangelization**

Director: Ann Lankford – 608.791.2658 | [alankford@diolc.org](mailto:alankford@diolc.org)

**Pro-Life Teaching Resources to mark the 48th Anniversary of Roe v. Wade**

Friday, January 22nd is the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children. Prayer is the foundation of all that we do in defense of human life. For Pro-life Teaching and Prayer

Resources for various age-levels, visit: [diolc.org/catechesis/catechist-training-resources-for-teaching/pro-life-teaching-resources/](http://diolc.org/catechesis/catechist-training-resources-for-teaching/pro-life-teaching-resources/)

Resources include:

- An excellent 3 minute video entitled “[God Knew Your Name](#)” (5 ½ min.)
- Chris Stefanick’s 4 minute [YouTube for Middle and High School Students](#)
- [Chronology of a New Life](#) from Pro-Life Wisconsin

The Pro-Life March on Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup> will be a virtual event. Join in at: [marchforlife.org](http://marchforlife.org)

### **Reminder: For Parish Communications**

#### **Bulletin insert for the weekend of January 24<sup>th</sup>**

##### **How God Guides Us**

“God Guides Us through the Experience of Peace in Our Heart” is the sixth in a series on the ways God will guide us. Go to [diolc.org/insert](http://diolc.org/insert) to download the bulletin insert in either a pdf or jpeg format. Contact Ann Lankford if a Word document is preferred.

#### **Save The Date: Witnesses for Christ Virtual Conference – August 7<sup>th</sup>**

A compelling virtual conference is being planned for Saturday, August 7<sup>th</sup>. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Petroc Willey, the Director of the Catechetical Institute and Franciscan at Home online learning system. Schedule will be 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. Cost will be \$10 per person. More details to follow.

Here is the Facebook link for this event.

<https://fb.me/e/lxDMVD96>

Please share this on your parish Facebook.

#### **Save The Date: Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup> for a Virtual Theology of the Body Training**

Training will be provided for those who teach the following grades in parish programs: Grades 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> and Grades 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup>. Brian Butler, a gifted speaker and one of the producers of Theology of the Body for Middle School and YOU: Life, Love and the Theology of the Body by Ascension Press, will provide an interactive, virtual training on Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. with an hour for lunch. DRE’s, CRE’s and Youth Ministers are asked to organize a group at the parish so that The Theology of the Body can be implemented in the fall. Parents are most welcome to be part of a parish group so they can “walk with” their child in this formation. Cost is \$10 per person. Registration details to follow.

#### **Excellent Lenten resources for parish Small Groups**

***Overcoming Spiritual Discouragement*** by Fr. Timothy Gallagher O.M.V. is a very helpful book to read, especially during these challenging times. Four recorded presentations by Fr. Gallagher that correspond with the book, along with discussion questions, are available for \$15. Participants could watch a presentation and read a chapter of *Overcoming Spiritual Discouragement* and then discuss the content on a weekly ZOOM meeting for 40 minutes. (ZOOM is free for 40 minutes) Contact Paula Boyle at [pboyle@diolc.org](mailto:pboyle@diolc.org) to purchase materials.

#### **Consecration to St. Joseph** by Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC

During this Year dedicated to St. Joseph, a six-week preparation ending March 19<sup>th</sup> on the Solemnity of St. Joseph would be a most-timely study during Lent. The book is arranged for the consecration with 10-15 minutes of reading per day. Books can be purchased by clicking:

[shopmercy.org/consecration-to-st-joseph-the-wonders-of-our-spiritual-father.html?source=cts](http://shopmercy.org/consecration-to-st-joseph-the-wonders-of-our-spiritual-father.html?source=cts) It works well to meet on ZOOM to discuss the questions.

### **Bible Studies and Faith-building Resources**

Formation of adults is the principal form of teaching, because it is addressed to persons who have the greatest responsibilities and the capacity to live the Christian message in its fully developed form. Take a look at the wide variety of excellent resources that are available on the market, some for free rental from the Office for Catechesis and Evangelization. For an extensive list of Bible Studies and Faith-building Resources that have/are being used at parishes, click here: [diolc.org/catechesis/bible-studies-and-small-group-resources/](http://diolc.org/catechesis/bible-studies-and-small-group-resources/)

### **Reminder: BEET Grants**

BEET Grant are due Friday, February 5, 2021. The grant application instructions and application for the upcoming 2021-2022 year are available at: [diolc.org/schools/beet-grant/](http://diolc.org/schools/beet-grant/).

**Catechetical Leader:** If your parish has not yet implemented Theology of the Body in Middle School and/or High School, consider submitting a grant, if there is a financial need, for a digital subscription from Ascension Press. This would allow parents the opportunity to watch the session that their son or daughter is studying. Visit: [ascensionpress.com/pages/teen-faith-formation](http://ascensionpress.com/pages/teen-faith-formation) Training will be provided on Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup> for those who will be teaching TOB in the fall, in Middle School or High School.

### **“Year of St. Joseph”: Votive Mass of St. Joseph on Wednesdays**

A long-standing tradition in the Church has designated each day of the week with a particular theme to be recognized at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Priests are encouraged to offer a Votive Mass in honor of St. Joseph every Wednesday, so long as the liturgical calendar allows (see GIRM 374-376 or the ordo). Prayer texts for the Votive Mass of St. Joseph can be found in the Roman Missal. This Votive Mass of St. Joseph every Wednesday will help parishioners to draw closer to our spiritual father. In light of the titles from the Litany of St. Joseph, “Head of the Holy Family”, and “Pillar of Families”, a suggested prayer intention at the Votive Mass could be for a strengthening of marriages and family life.

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### **Office for Communications**

Director: Jack Felsheim— 608.791.2663 | [jfelsheim@diolc.org](mailto:jfelsheim@diolc.org)

### **Bishop Callahan's Catholic Schools Week Video**

Catholic Schools Week starts Sunday, January 31, 2021. 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 #CSWDIOLC21 so we can share your excitement!

Catholic Schools Video Link: <https://youtu.be/IOOn3KRRgQFA>

## Events for April Catholic Life

If your parish has an event, i.e., parish program, fall festival, parish dinner, etc., that is scheduled in April, and you would like it included in that issue, please send the information to [pwiller@diolc.org](mailto:pwiller@diolc.org) , no later than Feb. 5.

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## Office for Consecrated Life

Director: Sr. Donna Krzmarzick, ISSM – 608.791.2690 | [dkrzmarzick@diolc.org](mailto:dkrzmarzick@diolc.org)

### Reminder: World Day for Consecrated Life (Celebrated in Parishes February 6-7)

In 1997, Pope St. John Paul II instituted a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. This celebration is attached to the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2. This Feast is also known as Candlemas Day, the day on which candles are blessed symbolizing Christ who is the light of the world. So too, those in consecrated life are called to reflect the light of Jesus Christ to all peoples. The celebration of World Day for Consecrated Life is transferred to the following Sunday in order to highlight the gift of consecrated persons for the whole Church.

Please pray for consecrated persons at Holy Mass in the *Prayers of the Faithful* and include a mention in your parish bulletin (samples are below). For more information: [USCCB](#), [NRVC](#)

### 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 to the Lord...

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. We pray to the Lord...

### For your Parish Bulletin

World Day for Consecrated Life will be celebrated in parishes on the weekend of February 6-7, 2021. Please pray for all those who have made commitments in the consecrated life, and be sure to thank them on their special day. May they continue to be inspired by Jesus Christ and respond generously to God's gift of their vocation.

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## Office for the Diaconate

Director: Deacon Bryan Hilts – 608.791.2665 | [bhilts@diolc.org](mailto:bhilts@diolc.org)

No items this week.

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## Office for Human Resources

Director: Margaret Ebner – 608.791.2670 | [mebner@diolc.org](mailto:mebner@diolc.org)

### Full Time Director of Music and Liturgy

St. Mary (Altoona, WI) and St. Raymond of Peñafort (Fall Creek, WI) parishes are looking for a Full-Time Director of Music and Liturgy. All questions and applications must be directed to the parish. For more details on the position, including contact information visit: [diolc.org/job-posting/director-of-music-and-liturgy-st-marys-altoona-st-raymonds-fall-creek/](http://diolc.org/job-posting/director-of-music-and-liturgy-st-marys-altoona-st-raymonds-fall-creek/)

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## Office for Marriage & Family Life

Director: Christopher Rogers – 608.791.2659 | [crogers@diolc.org](mailto:crogers@diolc.org)

### For Your Parish Bulletin

#### Retrouvaille Marriage Help Weekend Coming Soon!

Whether your marriage has simply drifted apart, or has arrived at separation or divorce, Retrouvaille \Retro- vī\ offers hope. The next program begins with a weekend away at St. Anthony Spirituality Center in Marathon, WI, February 12-14. Fr. Joseph Redfern, a priest of our diocese, is on the presenting team, along with 3 couples who share their personal stories of healing and reconciliation. This highly successful program is fully confidential, affordable (all volunteer-run), and open to couples of all faiths or no faith background.

Please follow these links to download and share the [Cover Letter to Churches](#), [Bulletin Announcements](#), and [Flyer to share with your parish](#). You can also follow this [link](#) to learn more about Retrouvaille.

### Save the Date! February 20, 2021 Virtual Men's Lenten Retreat

We will have a virtual lenten retreat for men talking about looking to St. Joseph as a model for being a great husband and father. The retreat will feature speakers Fr. Sam Martin and Mr. Pat Brueggen. More information is coming soon.

Here is the Facebook link for this event.

<https://fb.me/e/cPMROcgmE>

Please share this on your parish Facebook

### Heroic Men Website

If you haven't done so, check out the Heroic Men website [here](#), and let the Catholic men in your parish know about this great site. It is a 100% free Catholic streaming platform designed especially for men who want to discover (or re-discover) the truth, beauty and goodness of the Catholic faith. Offering more than 100 feature-length films, TV shows, documentaries and short films, Heroic Men seeks to source the best Catholic media available and bring it all to you, all in one place.

### Reminder: Process for Training FOCCUS Facilitators

It has been exciting to hear about couples who are stepping forward, wanting to become FOCCUS Facilitators! The process for training FOCCUS Facilitators is as follows: each parish needs to contact FOCCUS directly to set up an account for your parish, if one has not already been set up, and then train your couples directly through FOCCUS. The contact person at FOCCUS is Max Allen. He is happy to work directly with your parish priest or contact person. His contact information is: Email: [mrallen@foccusinc.com](mailto:mrallen@foccusinc.com) or phone 402-827-3735 ext. 1317

### **Reminder: Teaching the Way of Love Newsletter**

The first newsletter for this year's Teaching the Way of Love series is posted for either viewing or download. The link is [twl4parents.com/newsletter](http://twl4parents.com/newsletter).

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### **Office for Ministries**

Director: Christopher Ruff – 608.791.0161 | [cruff@diolc.org](mailto:cruff@diolc.org)

No items this week.

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### **Office for Missions**

Director: Fr. Woodrow Pace – 608.791.2676 | [wpace@diolc.org](mailto:wpace@diolc.org)

No items this week.

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### **Office for Sacred Worship**

Director: Christopher Carstens – 608.791.0161 | [ccarstens@diolc.org](mailto:ccarstens@diolc.org)

### **Information on how to celebrate "Sunday of the Word of God" on January 24**

On September 30, 2019, the feast day of Saint Jerome, Pope Francis instituted a new celebration on the Third Sunday of Ordinary time: the Sunday of the Word of God. Cardinal Sarah has recently issued a note from the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments that offers practical ideas on how pastors and the faithful can observe the day, celebrated next on January 24, 2021. See [here](#) for more information.

### **Cancelled: Diocesan celebration of the Rite of Election, February 21**

After receiving input from other dioceses around the country and in the state of Wisconsin, and after hearing from RCIA Coordinators from within the Diocese of La Crosse, Bishop Callahan has cancelled the diocesan celebration of the Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion at the Cathedral this year. Instead, Bishop Callahan will delegate to each pastor with catechumens and candidates permission to celebrate the Rite in the parish. The Rite can take place either within or outside of Mass, usually on the First Sunday of Lent (February 21)



or the week preceding or after. If only unbaptized catechumens will be elected, see the RCIA book at number 118; if only baptized candidates will be called, see the RCIA book at number 446; if both catechumens and candidates will participate, see the combined rite at RCIA, number 547. More information about the Rite of Election has been sent to parish RCIA coordinators. Please contact the Office for Sacred Worship (ccarstens@diolc.org or (608) 791-2674) with any questions.

### **Lenten Regulations**

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17. Lenten regulations are as follows:

1. Catholics who have celebrated their 14th birthday are to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, all Fridays in Lent, and Good Friday.
2. In addition to abstaining from meat, Catholics who have celebrated their 18th birthday, until they celebrate their 59th birthday, are to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Those who are bound to this regulation may eat only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

### **Distribution of Ashes on Ash Wednesday**

The Congregation for Divine Worship in Rome recently released the following instructions for the distribution of Ashes during the present pandemic conditions: "The Priest says the prayer for blessing the ashes. He sprinkles the ashes with holy water, without saying anything. Then he addresses all those present and only once says the formula as it appears in the Roman Missal, applying it to all in general: 'Repent, and believe in the Gospel', or 'Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return'. The Priest then cleanses his hands, puts on a face mask, and distributes the ashes to those who come to him or, if appropriate, he goes to those who are standing in their places. The Priest takes the ashes and sprinkles them on the head of each one without saying anything."

The US Bishops' Committee on Divine Worship continues: "These changes minimize the necessity of physical contact between minister and recipient and remove the need for the minister to speak while in close proximity to the recipient. The distribution of ashes via sprinkling is a common practice in some countries but is not well known here. Therefore, the Committee encourages ministers to provide some explanation to the faithful, to avoid unnecessary confusion."

The faithful ought to be alerted to this alternative manner of distributing ashes in 2021. As the Bishops' Committee on Divine Worship notes, while sprinkling ashes upon the top of the head is not customary in the United States, this legitimate manner of giving ashes is practiced in other countries around the world. The Ash Wednesday texts from the Missal themselves speak variously of ashes "put on our heads" "receive[d] upon our heads," and "place[d] on the head." The practice also recalls Old Testament accounts of "the Israelites gathered together while fasting and wearing sackcloth, their heads covered with dust" (Nehemiah 9:1).

### **Feast Day of Blessed James Miller: February 13**

Blessed James Miller was declared "blessed" on Saturday, December 7, 2019 in Huehuetenango Guatemala. (Read Bishop Callahan's tribute to his life, [here](#).) While there are



no proper liturgical texts for Mass or the Liturgy of the Hours on his February 13 feast day (the anniversary date of his death), Blessed James may be celebrated using texts from the "Common of Martyrs: For One Missionary Martyr" at Mass and the "Common of One Martyr" at the Liturgy of the Hours. Readings at Mass may be taken from the weekday or from the similar sections of the Lectionary.

### **Prayer for the Intercession of Blessed Brother James Miller, FSC**

February 13, 2021, will mark the second annual observance of the feast day of Blessed James Miller. A prayer for his intercession has been approved by Bishop Callahan:

"O Blessed Brother James Miller, you heard God's call to become a Brother of the Christian Schools and so became a sign of faith to youth in the United States and in Central America. You placed your life and your trust in Divine Providence and, for spreading the faith, merited the crown of martyrdom. In a world that denies the dignity of the human person, obtain for us from Divine Providence an ever increasing love of God and our neighbor, especially the poor and oppressed. Obtain for us also the favor we are now asking for *[mention request]* and the grace and strength to be a witness to Christ's love to all. Amen."

*Imprimatur:* +William Patrick Callahan, OFM Conv., Bishop of La Crosse—February 7, 2020

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### **Office for Safe Environment**

*Director: Teresa Brown – 608.791.2679 | [tbrown@diolc.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](https://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](mailto:tbrown@diolc.org).

**April is Child Abuse Prevention Month** ~ it's not too early to start planning. Organize a Mass for survivors/victims of clergy child sexual abuse at your parish and live stream via your diocesan social media channels.

## **Child Abuse Prevention Month Homily Helps**

Throughout the Gospel, Christ calls upon his followers to care for the most vulnerable among us, especially children.

Our faith also calls for us to uphold the value of human life and the dignity of the human person. The protection of children is the responsibility of the entire Church, including the faithful. The protection of children and youth from abuse and other harm is a respect life issue, and we must all do our part to uphold this ideal.

During Child Abuse Prevention Month, we are reminded of the call to be instruments of justice, working for the common good of all, which includes the protection of children. As Jesus entrusts to Peter the care of the flock, we are reminded that this responsibility belongs to everyone as a matter of charity and justice.

Child Abuse Prevention Month should lead to heightened awareness of the need to be vigilant about providing a safe environment for all within the Church and for our communities.

Recent statistics tell us one out of every four girls, and one out of every six boys, are assaulted before they turn 18. If those statistics are correct, on every Sunday in our congregation are people who have been abused and are feeling the pain of that abuse. Reaching out to all victims/survivors of abuse is critical in bringing hope and the love of Christ to them. Our diocese is here to provide anyone suffering from abuse with steps towards healing.

We are all part of a larger culture of protection and healing within the Church. As members of this culture, we value the prevention of abuse and the support of those who have been abused. Each one of us can play an important role in strengthening this culture. For example, we can better prevent abuse by ensuring that the signs of abuse are identified and reported. Noticing these warning signs, taking them seriously, and reporting them could prevent abuse in the future. Even when we witness inappropriate behavior or something that just doesn't seem quite right, we must report our concerns through the appropriate channels.

We can also play a role in victim outreach by offering support, compassion, and prayers to those close to us who have been abused. The importance we place on carrying out these acts of charity will go a long way in creating a culture within our Church where children are safe, and victim/survivors find healing.

### **Other ways to promote Child Abuse Prevention Month**

Have a rosary led by the pastor with special intentions for victims/survivors of clergy child sexual abuse.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is one of the most beautiful ways to pray. Organize a livestream of adoration celebrated at your parish to commemorate child abuse prevention efforts.

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## Office for Catholic Schools

Superintendent: Thomas Reichenbacher – 608.788.7707 | [treichenbacher@diolc.org](mailto:treichenbacher@diolc.org)

No items this week.

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## Office for Social Concerns

Director: Christopher Ruff – 608.791.0161 | [cruff@diolc.org](mailto:cruff@diolc.org)

### **9 Days for Life – January 21-29**

A [Novena](#) from the US Conference of Catholic Bishops, this initiative consists of nine days of prayer for the protection of human life. Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life. Visit [www.9daysforlife.com](http://www.9daysforlife.com) to sign up for daily prayers sent by email or text message, or download the free mobile app!

Graphics to promote the 9 Days for Life are found here: [diolc.org/media-resources/](http://diolc.org/media-resources/)

### **January 22 Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children**

#### **From the General Instruction of the Roman Missal:**

In all the 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". [The USCCB has more information and resources here.](#)

### **January 23, 1:00 pm – Chicago March for Life:**

A Car Procession Rally in Downtown Chicago. Includes a Diaper Drive to benefit local Pregnancy Resource Centers. Decorate your car with pro-life signs, purchase diapers to donate to the massive diaper drive, and decide whether you are going to drive with your household or by Caravan.

Here is the Facebook link for this event.

[facebook.com/events/1333731626962011](https://facebook.com/events/1333731626962011)

Please share this on your parish Facebook

### **January 24, following 10:30 am Live-Streamed Mass ([diolc.org/live](http://diolc.org/live))**

**"Fathers and Abortion."** Clare Ruff of Hosea Initiative, along with pediatrician Dr. Charles Peters, will share the incredible story of the "Father" of the abortion industry, Dr. Bernard Nathanson, a man who converted from atheism, repented of 75,000 abortions, and was later baptized Catholic. They will also explore the role of fathers – especially in light of our "Year of St. Joseph" – as protectors of life. No registration or fee required. Sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council #839.

[Facebook Event please share.](#)

**For Your Parish Bulletin:**

**January 29, Starting 10:00 am – [Virtual March for Life](#) from Washington, D.C.**

**"Together Strong: Life Unites!"**

The March for Life in Washington, D.C. has shifted to a virtual event out of safety concerns. It will still feature inspiring speeches from pro-life leaders, information on how to stay involved in the pro-life movement all year long, and a performance by Christian singer and songwriter Matthew West. To register for the January 29 live stream, visit [marchforlife.org/2021-virtual-events](https://marchforlife.org/2021-virtual-events).

Here is the Facebook link for this event.

[facebook.com/events/1002688566830861](https://facebook.com/events/1002688566830861)

Please share this on your parish Facebook

**For Your Parish Bulletin:**

**January 30 – Pro-Life Virtual Afternoon of Reflection: "Walking with Moms in Need"**

Some people accuse pro-lifers of caring only about the child in the womb and not women in need. This is not true, as you will see from this virtual afternoon of reflection on January 30, 2021, with keynote speaker Bob Perron, Executive Director of JMJ Pregnancy Center in Orlando, FL. You will also hear about the 14 Pregnancy Resource Centers in the Diocese of La Crosse and what you can do to help one near you. This afternoon of reflection is a free event and will have broad appeal for families, adults and teens. To register, visit [diolc.org/respect-life](https://diolc.org/respect-life). **For a complete listing of Pro-Life Initiatives this month, visit [diolc.org/respect-life](https://diolc.org/respect-life).**

Here is the Facebook link for this event.

<https://fb.me/e/3RGErZGKC>

Please share this on your parish Facebook

**For your Bulletin:**

**Wisconsin Bishops issue Statement on Morality of COVID-19 Vaccines**

There are three COVID-19 vaccines that are available (currently only for the most vulnerable populations), or likely to be available in the coming months. They are from Pfizer, Moderna, and AstraZeneca. Neither Pfizer nor Moderna used morally compromised cell lines in producing the vaccine, but they did use a morally compromised line (from kidney cells taken from an aborted child in the Netherlands in 1972) for confirmatory testing. The AstraZeneca vaccine used that cell line in the design, development, and production stages of that vaccine, as well as for confirmatory testing. Where possible, then, the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are to be preferred. But the US Bishops Conference has recently stated that all three are morally permissible because of the remoteness of the material cooperation in the evil of abortion. Catholic moral theology has always made a distinction between formal and material cooperation in an act which is morally compromised. Formal cooperation with a moral evil such as abortion is always sinful. An example of this kind of cooperation might be the doctor or nurse who directly assists with, and intends, the abortion itself. Material cooperation can be different in that it does not intend the evil act and is often more distant or remote from the act itself. To read the Bishops' full assessment of the vaccines and for a document answering "Frequently Asked Questions," visit [diolc.org/respect-life](https://diolc.org/respect-life) and click on the tab for "COVID Vaccines – Ethics."

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## Office for Stewardship & Development

Director: Jeff Reiter – 608.791.2653 | [jreiter@diolc.org](mailto:jreiter@diolc.org)

**2020-21 Diocesan Annual Appeal** This year's theme emphasizes the Church's relevancy, our Christ-given Mission, and our community united through our Baptism to the Cross and Resurrection. The theme is "His Church is Still Here, His Church Still Provides, His Church is You and Me." Our next direct mailing is scheduled to arrive in homes by the week's end before Holy Week (est. March 26). If you would like to include a letter from the Pastor or Parish Committee members, please send us a draft before March 5, 2021.

**United States Postal Service:** continues to experience delayed deliveries due to COVID 19. We have found that the mailings are reaching their homes seven days and more later than expected. You may be experiencing the same thing with your local mailings.

If you receive reports of parishioners not receiving mailings, please let us know who they are so that we can send them another packet. We cannot help if we do not have the names of individuals or families.

**Planned Giving -Leaving a Legacy, Wills, Bequest, and Endowments.** Our Estate Planning Guide can help people save several hundred dollars in legal and financial estate planning costs. We have seen a significant increase in requests for this guide; this increased interest in Planned Giving mirrors what we find on a national level since the COVID–19 outbreaks. If you would like more information or ads for your parish bulletin, please contact our office. Our Planned Giving website is [diolclegacy.org](http://diolclegacy.org). People can find calculators, additional information, sign up for a newsletter, and 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](mailto:jreider@diolc.org)

### Paycheck Protection Program 2 (PPP2)

Parishes that are eligible and wish to apply for the second PPP2 loan must first get the Parish Finance Councils' recommendation and approval from the Parish Corporation Board.

The Small Business Administration (SBA) will be opening the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP2) broadly Tuesday, January 13. The program is intended to support small businesses who have experienced major financial impacts from COVID. Both First and Second Draw loans are available.

[Eligibility requirements reminder](#)

**First Draw PPP loans:** Parishes who did not previously receive a PPP loan will be eligible to apply for a First Draw loan of up to \$10 million, using similar criteria from the initial round:

- Businesses and entities in operation on February 15, 2020 (and not permanently closed).
- Small businesses, 501(c)(3) nonprofits, 501(c)(19) veterans' organizations or tribal business concerns that have fewer than 500 employees or otherwise meet the SBA size standard.
- Businesses in the accommodation and food service sector that employ 500 or fewer employees per physical location.
- Entities such as housing cooperatives, tax-exempt "business league" organizations under Internal Revenue Code section 501(c)(6), news organizations, and destination marketing organizations are now eligible, subject to additional requirements.

**Second Draw PPP loans:** Small businesses, 501(c)(3) nonprofits, etc. similar to those open to First Draw loans, will be able to apply for a Second Draw PPP loan of up to \$2 million, provided they:

- Have used or will have used the full amount of their first PPP loan (including any increase, if applicable) prior to disbursement of the second PPP loan.
- Were in operation on February 15, 2020 (and have not permanently closed) and employ 300 or fewer employees.
- Can demonstrate **at least a 25% reduction in gross receipts** in any quarter in 2020 when compared against certain past quarterly results.

Review highlights of the SBA's interim final rule on PPP2 loans by [clicking here](#). I have also attached an article from the Journal of Accountancy which highlights the eligibility requirements along with additional guidance for the PPP2 loans. [Click here](#) to access the article.

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## Office for Vocations

*Director of Vocation Recruitment: Fr. Nate Kuhn – 608.791.2666 | [nkuhn@diolc.org](mailto:nkuhn@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.

Please consider adding a vocations paragraph to your parish bulletin. Below is an example - they will be changed each week. Feel free to use any or all of them. Contact Renee' at [vocations@diolc.org](mailto:vocations@diolc.org) if you'd like the full document emailed to you.

How does God speak to me?

Have you ever wondered how God may be speaking to you? Perhaps you are waiting to hear a loud, booming voice come from the heavens to tell you what to do or which way to go. While this isn't completely out of the question, often God takes a much subtler approach. In 1 Kings, we have the account of the Prophet Elijah standing at the entrance of a cave, waiting for the Lord to appear. As he waits, he encounters a strong, violent wind, a powerful earthquake, and a consuming fire, yet God was not revealing Himself in any of those powerful examples. Finally, as Elijah waited, he heard a soft, quiet whisper. At that, he knelt to the ground and prayed. God often speaks to us, not in grand and impressive ways, but in the silence. When we can still our hearts, that's when we begin to hear His voice, calling us into relationship and to follow Him. Sometimes that invitation is to follow the Lord as one who lovingly serves others in the priesthood. If you or someone you know is interested in discovering more about this call to the priesthood, please contact me at: Fr. Nate Kuhn, Director of Vocational Recruitment for the Diocese of La Crosse, 3710 East Ave. S. PO Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602; or by phone at: 608.791.2667. God bless you!

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### Office for Vicar for Clergy

Director: Very Rev. Woodrow H. Pace – 608.791.2689 | [mberg@diolc.org](mailto:mberg@diolc.org)

#### Reminder: Letters of Suitability

All letters of suitability are created in the Office for Safe Environment. Please email or call in your request **at least five business days prior to your event** to ensure your letter arrives at your location in time.

Your request should include the following:

- Where you are going, including the full church or event name and the address.
- What diocese will you be in.
- The date you will be at the event.
- Who is the contact at the parish or event.
- If it is a wedding, include the name of the bride and groom or the name of the deceased for a funeral.
- What you will be doing at the event, i.e. celebrating Mass, hearing confession, speaking, etc.

If you have any question, contact: Teresa Brown, [tbrown@diolc.org](mailto:tbrown@diolc.org) or 608-791-2679



### Office for Youth & Young Adult Ministry

Director: Christopher Rogers – 608.791.2659 | [crogers@diolc.org](mailto:crogers@diolc.org)

#### For Your Bulletin January 30 – Pro-Life Virtual Afternoon of Reflection: "Walking with Moms in Need"

Some people accuse pro-lifers of caring only about the child in the womb and not women in need. Not true at all, as you will see from this virtual afternoon of reflection on January 30,



2021, with keynote speaker Bob Perron, Executive Director of JMJ Pregnancy Center in Orlando, FL. You will also hear about the fourteen Pregnancy Care Centers in the Diocese of La Crosse and what you can do to help one near you. This afternoon of reflection is a free event and will have broad appeal for families, adults and teens. To register, visit [diolc.org/respect-life](https://diolc.org/respect-life).

### **Save the Date! Virtual Confirmation Retreats**

We will be offering two dates for Virtual Confirmation Retreats using the Young Life Catholic Retreat Team. They will be offered March 13, 2021 and April 10, 2021 from 10:00am-1:00pm on both days. More information is coming soon!

### **National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry (NFCYM) Annual Membership Meeting**

If you are a member of the NFCYM, you will not want to miss the Annual Membership Meeting (AMM). This is an opportunity for members of NFCYM to participate in professional development, networking, and communal expressions of faith while working together on projects and identifying and taking concrete steps to bring the mission of NFCYM to life. Follow this [link](#) to register!

If you are not yet a member of the NFCYM and would like to learn more about becoming a member call our office and/or click [here](#).

### **Reminder: Middle School Safe Environment PowerPointS are now available!**

We are excited to announce that the Safe Environment PowerPointS for each grade (6th, 7th, and 8th) are now available on the diocesan website [here](#)! You will find them in the section titled "Diocese of La Crosse Protect and Heal Religious Education Plans" under the "Middle School" drop down box.

### **Reminder: Tune-In Tuesdays**

We are excited to continue to offer a series of ZOOM Meetings we call "Tune-In Tuesdays." Join us as we come together to network and share how we are doing, how our ministry is going and talk about ways we can support each other. Please follow this [link](#) to join us for Tune-In Tuesdays at 11:00 am!

### **Reminder: Safe Environment– Online Meetings and Gaming**

If you are doing religious education and/or youth ministry online, whether it be ZOOM Meetings, gaming, etc., there must always be two adults who have been background checked through the Diocese of La Crosse and gone through the Diocese of La Crosse Safe Environment Training present for the duration of the online meeting/gathering.

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To unsubscribe from this e-mail message contact [mwilson@diolc.org](mailto:mwilson@diolc.org)