



## Chancery Bulletin - Vol. 6, No. 5.2 | May 11, 2021

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### Officials

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

The Reverend **Barry P. Saylor**, Pastor of Christ the King Parish in Spencer and Chaplain at Columbus Catholic High School in Marshfield, is released from his responsibilities as Chaplain at Columbus Catholic High School in Marshfield, effective July 6, 2021

The Reverend **Daniel R. Williams**, Associate Pastor of St. John the Baptist Parish in Marshfield and Chaplain at Columbus Catholic Middle School in Marshfield, is also appointed Chaplain at Columbus Catholic High School in Marshfield, effective July 6, 2021.

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### Events

As of May 11

<b>Saturday, May 15</b>
Feast Day of St. Isidore, the Farmer
8:00am Married Love: Two Becoming One Retreat - Durand - FULL
<b>Sunday, May 16</b>
Solemnity of the Ascension
<b>Tuesday, May 18</b>
11:00am Tune-In Tuesdays
<b>Saturday, May 22</b>
8:00am Married Love: Two Becoming One Retreat - Eau Claire
<b>Tuesday, May 25</b>
11:00am Tune-In Tuesdays
<b>Tuesday, June 1</b>
11:00am Tune-In Tuesdays
<b>Friday, June 4</b>
Domestic Church Evangelization Retreat - Chippewa Falls - June 4-6
<b>Saturday, June 5</b>
Virtual Formation for Theology of the Body: Unlocking the Meaning of Our Humanity
<b>Sunday, June 13</b>
Virtual Franciscan CORE Youth Theology Institute - June 13-18
<b>Tuesday, June 22</b>
Religious Freedom Week - June 22-29
<b>Thursday, June 24</b>
Priest Unity Days - La Crosse - June 24-26
10:00am Chrism Mass - La Crosse
<b>Saturday, June 26</b>
10:00am Ordination to the Priesthood - La Crosse
<b>Saturday, July 10</b>
7:15am Married Love: Two Becoming One Retreat - La Crosse
8:00am Married Love: Two Becoming One Retreat - Eau Claire
<b>Sunday, July 11</b>
1:00pm A virtual 50th Jubilee Anniversary Celebration
<b>Friday, July 23</b>
Leader of Prayer - Marathon - July 23-24
<b>Sunday, August 1</b>
Peace Day - Diocese of La Crosse
<b>Saturday, August 7</b>
Virtual Witnesses for Christ Conference
<b>Wednesday, August 11</b>
Anniversary of the installation of Bishop William Patrick Callahan as La Crosse's 10th Bishop
<b>Friday, August 13</b>
Leader of Prayer - Marathon - August 13-14

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)

### Email to Parents

#### Formation in Theology of the Body

Over the next four weeks, Catechetical Leaders will receive emails, each with a different 2-minute recording from Brian Butler encouraging parents to attend the Theology of the Body Virtual Conference on Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup>. Please forward each of these emails to all parents in the Parish Faith Formation Program. Parents along with Catechists need to receive an overview of the Theology of the Body so that they can “walk with” the children in receiving this valuable formation. This teaching was given for our time so that we can go deeper into the reality of who God made us to be, while rejecting the lies from the culture of death. Register today at [diolc.org/tob](https://diolc.org/tob) for \$10. Gather at the parish or encourage people to get together with a friend.

#### Novena to the Holy Spirit

Thursday, May 13<sup>th</sup> is the first day of the 9-day Novena to the Holy Spirit. Before Jesus ascended to the Father, He told the Apostles, “Behold, I send the Promise of my Father [the Holy Spirit] upon you; but stay in the city, until you are clothed with power from on high.” The Apostles and Mary and the women returned to Jerusalem, to the Upper Room, and prayed for 9 days - the first Novena. On the tenth day – Pentecost – the Holy Spirit came upon them. For a 9-day Novena, focusing on the 7 Gifts of the Holy Spirit, [click here: diolc.org/deeper](https://diolc.org/deeper)

#### Helping College Students stay connected to God and the Catholic Church

Newman Connection is a national organization that connects your graduating seniors to college Catholic campus ministries. Cassie Campton with Newman Connection will be contacting you. Without this connection so many students drift away from their faith and relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church. You can speak with Cassie at 217-262-6571 to participate or you can use this link to sign-up now: [hso.newmanconnection.com](https://hso.newmanconnection.com). Participating in this program is so simple — you can send your student’s college information to Newman Connection, who will pass that on to the college campus ministers in the fall, plus you can encourage your 2021 high school grads to download the Newman Connect app where they can connect instantly to their college campus ministry! The app is new this year, and more than 100 college campuses are using it already, to reach Catholic students.

#### Reminder: Employment Contracts for Catechetical Leaders

If you would like to receive an Employment Contract for your parish DRE, CRE and/or Youth Minister, please contact Ann Lankford. It is suggested that contracts only be offered to fulltime Catechetical Leaders who work 30 hours or more, which was the original reason that contracts were established.

Keep in mind that contracts are not an absolute necessity. For example, everyone working at the Diocesan Offices are at-will employees. Note: If a pastor would like information on the benefits to be offered in hiring a new catechetical leader for 30 hours or more or if a pastor does not intend to renew a contract with any of the above-mentioned employees, please contact Ann at your earliest convenience.

### **Preparation for First Holy Communion**

- One of the most important aspects to prepare children for their First Holy Communion is to help them know what to say to Jesus after receiving Him in the Holy Eucharist. Thanking Jesus for this incredible gift and praying the Our Father slowly are a good place to start.
- The children will look beautiful to receive their First Holy Communion. Let us guide these compliments in the proper direction. The children look beautiful in order to receive Jesus.
- Inform parents that there will be time after Mass for photos of the First Communicants. The sacred moment of a child receiving Jesus for the first time is not the time to take pictures.

### **First Holy Communion Guidelines**

As preparations are being made for children to receive their First Holy Communion, please review these guidelines that have been in place. In many parishes, the well-intentioned leaders want each child to have a specific role at Mass so that the children feel a greater sense of being part of the celebration. However noble this intention may be, this desire for each child “to do” something at Mass improperly forms children and is not the way to approach coming to the table of the Lord for the first time. Those in leadership are to help Catholic School teachers and catechists teach the proper sense of active and conscious participation in the Mass as taught by the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council. You will find a brief article on “Active Participation” and “Instruction on the Most Holy Eucharist” here: [diolc.org/catechesis/sacramental-prep](http://diolc.org/catechesis/sacramental-prep). Furthermore, the reader for the Liturgy of the Word is a ministerial role. This designated role of reader should be the commissioned individuals who have been properly trained to proclaim the Word of God. Breaking up the reading into sections to be read by several children is to be avoided.

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**Office for Communications**

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

### Job Opportunities:

Receptionist

Administrative Assistant – Catechesis & Evangelization and Family Life

For more information visit [Employment Opportunities | Diocese of La Crosse \(diolc.org\)](#)

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## Office for Marriage & Family Life

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

### Domestic Church Evangelization Retreat June 4-6, 2021

This Domestic Church Evangelization Retreat begins on Friday morning at 7:30 a.m. and ends at 1:00 p.m. the following Sunday. During the retreat, couples are invited to delve more deeply into the graces of their shared spiritual journey. The goal of the retreat is to strengthen the couple's spousal union and lead them to experience complete harmony and joy in their marriage through simple formation and meaningful dialogue that intentionally places Christ in the center. The retreat will be held at **Notre Dame Parish | Goldsmith Education Center** 117 Allen St. Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

To request scholarship assistance, please send email to [heinzenalice@gmail.com](mailto:heinzenalice@gmail.com) (This is made possible through the generosity of the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women.)

Description: The retreat begins Friday morning, with registration from 7:30 a.m. and ends Sunday, at 1:00 p.m. The cost is \$335 per couple, which includes a \$125 non-refundable deposit.

[Click here to register online!](#)

### **A Virtual 50th Jubilee Anniversary Celebration**

There will be a special Mass with Bishop Callahan held via live-stream at 1:00 pm on Sunday, July 11 from the Cathedral. You will be able to view the live stream or recording by visiting [diolc.org/marriage](http://diolc.org/marriage) on and after July 11.

An email will be sent to all parishes that will have an electronic registration form to provide to our office the names of couples who are celebrating 50th wedding anniversaries this year.

### **Reminder: Family Life and Men of the Cross Facebook Pages**

We hope to increase our communication and outreach to the people of the diocese. One way to do this is through social media, specifically Facebook. We have combined our "Marriage and Family Life" and "Youth and Young Adult Ministry" Facebook pages into one page called "Diocese of La Crosse Family Life," which can be found [here](#).

Also, there is a Facebook page for the men of the diocese called "Men of the Cross," found [here](#).

Please Follow, Like, and Share these pages.

### **Reminder: Diocesan Website for Clergy and Marriage Ministers Regarding Marriage Preparation**

FYI, [here is the link](#) that goes directly to the section of our website containing resources for clergy and marriage ministers. There are step-by-step instructions, downloadable guidelines, downloadable forms, and much more!

Please let us know if we can assist you in this ministry.

### **Reminder: 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**

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.

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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)

**Mission Co-op Program, Summer 2021:** Last year the program experienced some great challenges due to COVID restrictions here and abroad. We are obviously not out of the water yet, so the challenges continue. Still, we are forging ahead with the plans for June-August 2021. Assignments have been made and sent out to parish pastors and organizing missionaries. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call. Making the connects and setting the dates for the appeals is important even if they are tentative and require confirmation later. If international travel complicates the plans, the Mission Office can help with creating alternate forms for the appeal. We appreciate any work that is done to welcome the missionaries or promote their work to the faithful in the diocese.

**Note to Secretaries and Bookkeepers:** Donations for the Mission Co-op Program should be recorded with regular contributions and are deposited in the parish accounts. The totals are later forwarded from the Parish to the Mission Office and we do not keep any records of individual donations. The program is designed to protect the donor information so their offering remains anonymous and does not generate continued solicitation for support. The notice, Please Return to the Parish, should be printed in the bulletin and/or on envelopes used for the Mission Co-op Program from the Parish or missionaries.

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## Office for Sacred Worship

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

### Reminder: Prayers for Farming and Rural Life

As the temperatures rise, remember to support those who grow our food and fulfill God's command to "till the earth and keep it." Please find below possible intercessions for the Universal Prayer which can be used at Sunday Masses around the time of spring planting or throughout the year; a prayer to St. Isidore, the patron saint of farmers and rural life, which can be used when blessing a farmer's fields or the crosses to be placed in fields, gardens, etc., or during the weekend Masses of May 15-16 (his feast day is Saturday, May 15, 2021); and other blessing prayers. For more information, please contact Father Daniel Sedlacek, Chaplain of the Diocesan Rural Life committee.

*Sample Intercessions for Sunday Mass*

For a favorable weather during planting season: that the fruits of the earth may provide food enough for all people and provide for the livelihoods of farmers and growers. Let us pray to the Lord.

For farmers and their families, and for those who work in agriculture: that they be good stewards of the goods of the earth and receive what they need for their spiritual and material wellbeing. Let us pray to the Lord.

For farmers who are struggling to make ends meet: that they may be encouraged by the support of their neighbors, their Parish, and all of God's people. Let us pray to the Lord.

For a greater knowledge and love of rural life: that its values, traditions, and faith be nurtured in our communities. Let us pray to the Lord.

#### *Prayer to St. Isidore*

Good Saint, we are told that your devotion to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass was so great that you would rise before it was light in order to be able to attend Mass before beginning your work in the fields. Obtain for us, we pray, some of that loving devotion to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. There it is that the fruits of our farm labor, bread and wine, are brought and offered to God by the priest. Then, in the Consecration, Christ Himself, Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity, becomes present on our altars under the appearances of this same bread and wine. And in what was the altar bread, He comes to us to be the very food of our souls. If we deeply realize the value and beauty of Holy Mass, we will be very happy to attend as often as we possibly can. Help us to understand that in the Mass we offer ourselves to God with Christ by the hands of the priest. There we can bring to God all that we do, and offer it to Him in union with His Holy Sacrifice. The more often we do this now, the happier we shall be hereafter. Good Saint Isidore, bless us and our labors, that we may someday reap the reward of good works with you in heaven. Amen.

#### *Blessings*

*Sample Bulletin Announcement—Blessing of Crosses for Fields and Gardens:* Planting season is underway! There is an old tradition of blessing crosses which are then placed in our fields and gardens during the growing season. It is a sign of our faith and trust in Jesus Christ with one of the fundamental necessities of life: food. The blessed cross at the edge of our fields or gardens remind us of God's care for us, especially in the things outside of our control (like the weather). Jesus said, "Look at the birds in the sky; they do not sow or reap, they gather nothing into barns, yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are not you more important than they?" (Matthew 6:26). And so, I will be blessing crosses at the weekend Masses of \_\_\_\_\_. Make (or buy) a cross that you can place in your garden or field, bring it to the Mass that weekend, and I will bless it for you.

*Texts:* Celebrate the blessing of the crosses after the Post-Communion prayer and before the final blessing. For the words of the blessing, use Chapter 44 of the *Book of Blessings*, "Order for the Blessing of Religious Articles"; or from *The Roman Ritual: The Blessings*, Number 24: "Blessing of Crosses to be set in fields."



A priest or deacon could also bless farm fields individually before or after the spring planting. Use either of these options from the *Book of Blessings*: Chapter 26: "Order for the Blessing of Fields and Flocks" or Chapter 27: "Order for the Blessing of Seeds at Planting Time." Alternately, please find blessings (to be said in Latin) from *The Roman Ritual: Volume II The Blessings* by Fr. Philip Weller: Number 105: "Blessing of Young Crops and Vineyards," Number 106: "Blessing of Fields or Pastures."

### St. Michael Hymnals

The Stout Catholic ministry in Menomonie has 150 new [St. Michael Hymnals](#), plus organ accompaniment, for sale. If interested, please contact Steven Rael-Flores, Director, at [director@stoutcatholic.org](mailto:director@stoutcatholic.org).

### Corpus Christi Processions

*Corpus Christi* this year falls on Sunday, June 6, and in many places a procession with the Blessed Sacrament will be held. "The annual procession on the feast of *Corpus Christi*...has a special importance and meaning for the pastoral life of the Parish or city.... When the Eucharist is carried through the street in a solemn procession with singing, the Christian people give public witness of faith and devotion toward the sacrament (Roman Ritual)." Questions and Answers about *Corpus Christi* and its procession are available [here](#)

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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. Teresa Brown, Complaint Intake Agent, at the Diocese of La Crosse, P.O. Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602-4004. Alternatively, you can contact Mrs. Brown 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](http://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).



**Diocese of La Crosse Complaint Intake Agent change:** As of May 1, I have taken on the role of Complaint Intake Agent for the Diocese of La Crosse in addition to all duties of the Office of Safe Environment. Karen Becker has done the job for many years and has decided to step down. New report forms and posters can be found on the Diocesan website with my name as the contact. The above Diocese of La Crosse Guidelines have also been updated. Please begin using the above message in your bulletins.

Each Parish and school should have current Red and Green books, report forms and Protect and Heal posters visibly displayed in public areas. Report forms should be accessible so they can be picked up without the need of asking for one.

If you need new posters or forms mailed to your location, email or call the Office of Safe Environment at 608-791-2679 or [tbrown@diolc.org](mailto:tbrown@diolc.org).

**Updated Background Check Form / Authorization for Release of FBI Information Form.**

The Background Check Form and the FBI Release form have been combined into one form. If the top of your form does not look like the example below, you are not using the most current form and will not be accepted.

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>DIOCESE OF LA CROSSE</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">AUTHORIZATION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK &amp; AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF FBI INFORMATION</p>	
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**2020-21 Annual Reports are now more than 2 months past due.** As of May 10, 45 parishes have not sent in their reports. I will begin contacting parishes this week to schedule the date and time that I can come to you to complete the report. If you have questions or need help, contact Teresa Brown at [tbrown@diolc.org](mailto:tbrown@diolc.org) or 608-791-2679.

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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)*

No items this week.

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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:**

Our next direct mail piece is targeted for the week of May 24, 2021.

- All people who gave Last Year But Unfortunately have Not yet given This year (LYBUNTs) will receive a mailing.
- Any parish under goal on May 15, 2021, all members, regardless of giving history, will receive a mailing; this includes LYBUNTs, SYBUNTs, and New/Never givers.
- **Final Reminder:** Any parish wishing to include a note regarding the Diocesan Annual Appeal from their pastor, or a council is welcome to submit a letter. Please submit the letter in a Microsoft Word document and include an image of the corresponding signature(s). The email subject line should also have the parish name, city, and number to readily identify the parish. Please submit your letter by the end of the business day, **May 12, 2021**

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."

Whether you made your goal or are still working on it, there is something for your bulletin or social media. Check the Appeal Portal for resources at [appeal.dioc.org](http://appeal.dioc.org). If you cannot find something or would like something different, let us know, and we will do our best to meet your needs.

#### **Stewardship Bulletin Reflections:**

Stewardship Bulletin reflections for weekends:

- 5/16 [Click Here](#)
- 5/23 [Click Here](#)
- 5/30 [Click Here](#)

#### **Stewardship Homily Reflections:**

Stewardship reflections to assist you in your homily development:

- [Click Here for the weeks 05/16 – 05/30](#)

#### **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. If you would like more information or ads for your parish bulletin, please contact our office. Our Planned Giving website is [dioclegacy.org](http://dioclegacy.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@dioc.org](mailto:jreider@dioc.org)

**Mutual of America 403(b)**

Mutual of America is hosting six webinars. The fifth webinar in the series is "Ready for Retirement" webinar. As you get closer to retirement, it's vitally important to ensure you're on track to have the assets you'll need for the kind of life you want.

That's why I encourage you to attend Mutual of America's **"Ready for Retirement"** webinar. You'll get in-depth planning tools and insight designed to help you:

Objectives:

- Understand your sources of retirement income
- Calculate how much income you'll need in retirement
- Make the most of your retirement plans

May 12 at Noon – [Click here to Register for "Ready for Retirement" May 12 at Noon](#)

May 27 at 4 p.m. – [Click here to Register for "Ready for Retirement" May 27 at 4 p.m.](#)

### **ParishSOFT Accounting Payroll Setup video and PNQ Transition Guide Update**

Accurate payroll setup is critical to a successful transition. [Click here](#) to watch a new 25 minute video, Payroll Setup for ParishSOFT Accounting. The video offers step-by-step Payroll setup, with examples of Pay Groups, of Pay Items, how to customize parish Deductions/Benefits and how to find Account Distribution examples for each parish Chart of Accounts Salary&Wage account.

Similarly, [click here](#) for the newest version of the PNQ Transition Guide, revision 5-7-2021. The new version focuses on payroll setup. It offers new links to Support articles for both QBO and PSA software. It has been updated with definite general ledger account references, examples and recommended setups. These references will be helpful for all parishes. Those planning to attend PNQ Transition Training in June must review and become familiar with the Transition Guide prior to attending. [Click here](#) to signup for PNQ Transition Training.

Review all available PNQ Accounting Project resources by visiting [diolc.org/temporalities](http://diolc.org/temporalities). Contact Nick Lichter, [nlichter@diolc.org](mailto:nlichter@diolc.org) with any questions.

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### **Office for Vocations**

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

Priestly Ordination of Deacons Eric Mashak, Timothy Reither and Arturo Viguera will be June 26, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at the Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman, La Crosse. Due to COVID19 restrictions there will be no reception after the Mass. If you are unable to attend the ordination in person, the Mass will be livestreamed at [diolc.org/live](http://diolc.org/live)

Here is the Facebook link for this event:

<https://fb.me/e/2bG1R9MWe>

Please share this on your Parish Facebook

Please include the following intercession for vocations for your Sunday prayers of the faithful:

For an up-building of all vocations in the Church and in a particular way for priestly vocations to for the Diocese of La Crosse from our Parish.

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)

**Congratulations to the new transitional deacons** in the diocese. Saturday, May 1, 2021, on the Feast of St. Joseph the Workman, Bishop Callahan ordained two seminarians in formation for the priesthood as transitional deacons in service to the Church. Deacon Steven Weller is from St. Florian Parish, Hatley and will be serving this summer at Queen of Apostles Parish, Tomah and Warrens with Msgr. David Kunz and Fr. Sam McCarty. Deacon Matthew Bowe is from St. Paul Parish, Bloomer and will be serving this summer at St. Florian Parish, Hatley and St. Agnes Parish, Weston with Fr. Greg Bohren. Please keep them and all our seminarians in your prayers. Congratulations Deacon Weller and Deacon Bowe.

The recording of their ordination Mass and photos for general use are available at: [catholiclife.diolc.org/2021/05/03/two-ordained-to-the-office-of-diaconate/](http://catholiclife.diolc.org/2021/05/03/two-ordained-to-the-office-of-diaconate/)

**Priest Unity Days, June 24-26, 2021:** [Information](#) and [Online Registration](#) are available on the Vicar for Clergy website. The uncertainty of the pandemic delayed the final decisions;

however, we are moving forward with plans for the in-person gathering. Unfortunately, hotels in the area have been difficult to arrange because the later than usual State Track meet was moved to the same weekend. Information about the rooms we were able to block for reservations will be in the registration packet. Shared rooms in the House of Formation wing of Holy Cross Diocesan Center are available on a first come first serve basis by contacting Mary Lou Berg, Vicar for Clergy Office. Priest Unity Days begin with Chrism Mass, 10 am Thursday, June 24, 2021 and conclude with the Mass of Ordination, 10 am Saturday, June 26, 2021, both at St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral. All other events will be at Holy Cross Diocesan Center.

**Speakers for Priest Unity Days are Dr. Petroc Willey and Dr. William Keimig**, the Director and Assistant Director of the Catechetical Institute at Franciscan University, Steubenville. Their combined study and international experience in the new evangelization and catechetical activities of the Church bring relatable insight to their presentations. They are finally coming to us after years of planning and COVID related delays, but they are not strangers to the Diocese of La Crosse. They have presented to our administrators, parish leadership and catechists during the past few years. They have also advised pastors and parishes who have consulted with them through various outreaches and leadership training. We welcome them back to present to priests and deacons with the theme: **Priest as Teacher**.

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### Office for Youth & Young Adult Ministry

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### Newman Connection

Our diocese participates in Newman Ministry's high school outreach program, called Newman Connection, that connects 2021 grads to college campus ministries across the US, and we want all of our parishes and Catholic high schools to participate. You will be receiving an email in the near future to participate from Newman Ministry. Please sign up to participate or you can use this link to sign-up now: [hso.newmanconnection.com](https://hso.newmanconnection.com) Participating in this program is so simple — you can send your student's college information to Newman Connection, who will pass that on to the college campus ministers in the fall, plus you can encourage your 2021 high school grads to download the Newman Connect app where they can connect, instantly, to their college campus ministry! The app is new this year, and more than 100 college campuses are using it already, to reach Catholic students.

### Franciscan CORE Youth Theology Institute at Viterbo University

Franciscan CORE 2021 will be June 13th - 18th in a hybrid format offering virtual gatherings and a one-day on-campus immersion into Catholic Social Teaching and the life of St. Francis of Assisi as a model of service we can offer in our own communities. Franciscan CORE invites rising 10th, 11th, and 12th students to discern their call to leadership and service for the Church and the world. Investment for this amazing experience is only \$50. Registration is open! Visit their website [viterbo.edu/franciscan-core](https://viterbo.edu/franciscan-core) for more information and a link to register.

Here is the Facebook link for this event:

<https://fb.me/e/2afZVsvxv>

Please share this on your parish Facebook!

**National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry (NFCYM) Membership**

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: 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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