



Chancery Bulletin - Vol. 7, No. 9.2 | September 13, 2022

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Officials

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

The Very Reverend **William A. Dhein**, Vicar General, Moderator of the Curia and Chancellor, is also appointed Priest Moderator of Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Big River, effective September 13, 2022.

Deacon **Daniel A. Gannon**, serving as Deacon at Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Big River, is also appointed Primary Assistant to the Priest Moderator of Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Big River, effective September 13, 2022.

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Chancery Office

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

The Annual Mass Counts will be conducted again this year during the month of October. Please find more information and the form [here](#).

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Events

As of Sept. 13

Wednesday, September 14

6:00pm Father and Son Dinner - Richland Center

Thursday, September 15

6:30pm Why a Catholic Classical Education - Wausau

Friday, September 16

7:00pm Married Love: Two Becoming One Retreat - Chippewa Falls - Sept. 16-17

Saturday, September 17

6:00pm Immaculate Conception Parish Festival - Eau Claire - Sept. 17-18

Sunday, September 18

Catechetical Sunday 2022

11:00am St. Joseph Parish Fall Festival - Prescott

Tuesday, September 20

11:00am Tune In Tuesday Recurring Zoom Meeting for all DREs, CREs & Youth Ministers

Wednesday, September 21

10:00am 41st Annual Rural Life Day

Friday, September 23

6:00am St. Andrew Parish Pancake Breakfast - Warrens - Sept. 23-25

Saturday, September 24

7:00am St. Mary Parish Pancake Breakfast - Gays Mills - Sept. 24-25

9:30am 2022 Marian Conference - Edgar

2:00pm St. Peter Parish Family Life Bake Sale - Stevens Point - Sept. 24-25

Sunday, September 25

10:30am St. Paul Parish Fall Festival - Bloomer

10:30am St. Teresa of Kolkata Parish Fall Social - West Salem

11:00am St. James Parish Charcoal Chicken Dinner - Vesper

Tuesday, September 27

11:00am Tune In Tuesday Recurring Zoom Meeting for all DREs, CREs & Youth Ministers

Wednesday, September 28

40 Days For Life Kick Off - La Crosse Campaign - Sept. 28-Nov. 6

Friday, September 30

Fall Educator Faith In-Service - La Crosse

Saturday, October 1

5:00pm St. Bronislava Parish Fall Fest - Plover - Oct. 1-2

Tuesday, October 4

Memorial of Saint Francis of Assisi, secondary patron of the Diocese

11:00am Tune In Tuesday Recurring Zoom Meeting for all DREs, CREs & Youth Ministers

Friday, October 7

Fall Educator Faith In-Services - Wausau

LFI/Deacon Formation - Wausau - October 7-8

11:00am Mary, Mother of the Church Fall Rummage Sale - La Crosse - Oct. 7-8

4:00pm St. Olaf Parish Men's Club All-You-Can-Eat Fish Fry - Eau Claire

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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Office for Catechesis & Evangelization

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

For your Parish Bulletin

Develop Strong Friendships in Christ

This fall, join with a small group to grow in your faith, while building community and the sense of belonging in your parish. Ongoing study and reflection with other Catholics is a necessary component of the Christian life. Choose a Bible Study or Faith Study that interests you at this link: diolc.org/catechesis/bible-studies-and-small-group-resources This will be time well spent.

Catechetical Leader Information

Catechetical Sunday - September 18, 2022

The theme for Catechetical Sunday is “This is My Body given for you.” Those who the parish community has designated to serve as catechists will be called forth to be commissioned for their apostolate. For free resources, visit:

usccb.org/committees/evangelization-catechesis/catechetical-sunday-2022

New Catechetical Leader Training - Friday, Sept. 16

All new DREs, CREs, and Youth Ministers are encouraged to attend training on Friday, Sept. 16 at the Holy Cross Diocesan Center in La Crosse. Join us so we can get acquainted and discuss important topics, such as: The vision for parent, children and youth formation, Guidelines for Sacramental prep that are in place, Requirements for Theology of the Body, The Certification Program, Safe Environment training, Timely topics and answer your questions about organizing, developing and coordinating the program. The registration form with further details can be found here: diolc.org/catechesis/catechetical-leaders-info

Proven Tools to help Children, Youth and Adults to encounter Christ

- Praying with Scripture (lectio divina) prayer worksheet: diolc.org/catechesis/catechist-training-resources-for-teaching/praying-with-scripture
- Teaching for Conversion lesson plan format: diolc.org/catechesis/catechist-training-resources-for-teaching/lesson-plan-format
- Going Deeper in Prayer for each grade level with a major focus on one prayer: diolc.org/catechesis/prayer
- One-page formational handouts for correspondence with parents: diolc.org/evangelization/questions
- Theology of the Body Summaries for Parents with children in Middle and High School: diolc.org/evangelization/questions
- Diocesan Virtue Program which includes explanation, a saint who modeled this virtue, activities and recommended resources for 12 virtues: diolc.org/catechesis/understanding-and-living-the-virtues

Surveys of Catholic Attitudes and Practices

For parishes who were not able to take these last year, the surveys will be given in 4th, 8th and 10th grades (and 9th if grades are combined). Surveys will be given the last week of October or one of the first 3 weeks in November. The purpose of the surveys is to allow the catechetical leader, the pastor, catechists and parents to recognize the Catholic attitudes that students have

toward the Faith and how they are practicing (or not practicing) the Catholic Faith in their daily lives. Each student will need access to a computer or laptop and if that is not possible, then they can use a paper copy. The surveys can be completed in about 15 mins. There must be at least 6 students in the grade to take the surveys, as total confidentiality must be ensured. To confirm, only parishes that did not take the surveys last year will take them this year. Note: The Faith Knowledge Assessments will not be given this year.

Confirmation Retreat - Dec. 3rd

Students preparing for Confirmation need to attend a retreat. There will be an opportunity on Dec. 3rd at St. Olaf Parish in Eau Claire. See further info under [Youth and Young Adult](#).

Contemporary Teaching Strategies

Do your catechists and Catholic school teachers need guidance in forming children, youth and parents in today's culture? The workshop, Contemporary Teaching Strategies on *Franciscan at Home* online learning system, provides principles that are *the best* of contemporary teaching strategies, meaning these strategies have been shown to be *highly effective*.

Subscribe to Franciscan at Home for free. Workshops are 6-10 minute videos followed by application questions.

1. Visit franciscanathome.com/diocese-la-crosse and scroll to the bottom of the page.
2. On the right, click the middle blue button: "My parish or school is already registered, and I would like to set up my individual free account..."
3. Click "Create an Account." Complete the information and click Save. Select the Diocese of La Crosse from a drop-down menu, and then your Institution = your parish | school, listed first by city and name. Finally, click on the "Sign Up" button; you will have a Dashboard. Scroll down to "**Franciscan Tracks**" under "Start Learning" on the left and select the "**Catechist Track**" (A Track is a collection of workshops.) Click on "Start this track." Click on "**Foundational Catechist Track**, and then "**Contemporary Teaching Strategies**" for a helpful workshop. Small groups are the ideal way to experience workshops.

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Office for Communications

Director: Erik Archer– 608.791.2661 | earcher@diolc.org

Parish/School staff email accounts

We are expanding the offering of [Google Workspace for Nonprofits](#) accounts to all parish and school staff in the Diocese of La Crosse. Now you can get diocesan secure accounts branded with diolcparish.org and coupled with your six character parish/city identifier; these accounts create unique email domains linked to your particular parish. As an example, the email address for Holy Family Parish in Poniatowski is parishoffice@hfppon.diolcparish.org. If you have multiple parishes, we have options for constructing your parish prefix. Many parishes are still using gmail.com, hotmail.com or other Internet service provider based accounts. This is a chance to update and standardize your parish email scheme while taking advantage of the Google Workspace platform without incurring any additional expenses. To get started, simply send Zach (ztudahl@diolc.org) the unique names for the people who wish to have parish email

accounts. Some examples to consider: secretary@, bookkeeper@, parishoffice@ or dre@. You could also choose to use people's names or abbreviations (first initial, last name) to construct your email addresses. You will have complete flexibility as to what you can use before your @xxxxxx.diolcparish.org domain. We suggest standardizing the naming convention to simplify matters. Keep in mind, these are fully functioning [Google Workspace for Nonprofits](#) accounts, complete with email, video calling, calendar, drive, contacts and productivity apps. There is no setup or recurring cost for these accounts. Also, utilizing these accounts will not require you to change your existing Internet service provider. These accounts are not dependent on any particular service and will work with mobile devices.

Listing your parish events in December Issue of Catholic Life

If your parish has events for inclusion in the December issue of Catholic Life, please submit them by Sept. 30. 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 to 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.

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Office for Consecrated Life

Director: Sr. Donna Krzmarzick, ISSM – 608.791.2690 | dkrzmarzick@diolc.org

For your parish bulletin



Secular Carmelite Discernment: Are you attracted to Carmelite spirituality or the writings of Saints Teresa of Jesus, John of the Cross, or Therese, the Little Flower? Do you desire to deepen your prayer life, to seek the face of God? Do you desire the support of a community? The Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites in the Diocese of La Crosse meets once a month in Marshfield and will begin a new formation cycle in October. Please call Lori Slattery at 715.213.2732 for more information.

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Office for the Diaconate

Director: Deacon Bryan Hilts – 608.791.2665 | bhilts@diolc.org

Upcoming Events:

Ongoing Deacon Formation Oct. 8, 2022 - Holy Name of Jesus Parish, Wausau

Fall Ministry Conference for all Priests and Deacons: Monday noon through Tuesday lunch, Oct. 10-11. Registration can be done online or by calling Teresa Brown @ 608.791.2679. This year, we will be featuring an evening cruise on the Mississippi River. Be aware it can get chilly in October, so bring a jacket. Online registration can be found at: diolc.org/vicarforclergy/fall-ministry-days/

Diaconate Discernment Retreat will be held on Nov. 5 at Holy Cross Diocesan Center, La Crosse: Is Deacon Formation for You?

Deacon and Wives Retreat - Feb. 17-19, 2023 Schoenstatt Center, Waukesha. Retreat leader is Deacon Dan Gannon. Priests and Deacons - Please help identify men for the next formation class that will begin in the fall of 2023. I'd be happy to talk to any prospective aspirants. The discernment retreat is in November.

Bishop's Day with deacons and their wives, Aug. 12, 2023 Holy Cross Diocesan Center, La Crosse - attendance expected.

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Office for Marriage & Family Life

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

Save the date! Men of the Cross Conference

This conference will be held on Saturday, Nov. 12, 2022 at the La Crosse Center. More information is coming soon.

For your parish bulletin:

NFP Class – Billings Ovulation Method

- Taught by student doctor Ruby Gravrok, Billings Ovulation Method Instructor
- Starts 2:30 PM, Sunday Oct 9th and will meet biweekly on Sundays. This course includes an introductory session and 4 chart follow-ups.
- Cost: \$115 - \$25 off regular \$140

For engaged couples:

- Satisfies diocesan requirement for NFP class after successful completion of three complete cycles with follow up
- Registration closes Sunday Oct. 2

To register

- Go to diolc.org/nfp. Choose Billings Ovulation on pre-registration form or Email: rubygravrok@gmail.com

What is included

- Initial teaching sessions
- Follow up sessions through 3 complete cycles
- Certificate of Completion (for engaged couples*)
- Paper charts and stickers
- Review booklet

To Post or Display at your parish

Domestic Church Retreat Oct. 15-16

Have you and your spouse ever been on a couples' retreat? There will be a two-day Domestic Church Retreat for sacramentally married couples on Oct. 15-16 at St. John the Baptist Parish in Marshfield. For questions, or to register, go to diolc.org/marriage/marriage-enrichment/ or email region7.couple@domesticchurchfamilies.com.

- Flyer link: diolc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/2022-Retreat-Flyer-Detailed-for-Churches-5.5x8.5.pdf
- Brochure link: diolc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Domestic-Church-Brochure.pdf

Natural Family Planning - For Pastors: Please have people interested in becoming Natural Family Planning instructors contact the FamilyLife/NFP office.

There has been an increased interest in NFP around our diocese and we would like to get these interested instructors connected to our office. Thank you for promoting Natural Family Planning during NFP Awareness Week and throughout the year. The diocesan contact person is Christy Kitzhaber at ckitzhaber@diolc.org.

Information on NFP Providers for Pastors and Marriage Prep Coordinators

There are two new NFP providers in the diocese. Ruby Gravrok, rubygravrok@gmail.com, is a medical student in the La Crosse area. She is in her practicum for teaching the Billings method. Michelle Werner, michelle@tcnfp.org, is a nurse from the Eau Claire area and is in her practicum for teaching the Creighton method. Couples can use the pre-registration form online at diolc.org/nfp to sign up for classes with these teachers. They will be providing in-person and virtual instruction.

Reminder: NFP Support Groups

In conjunction with Natural Family Planning Awareness Week, the Office for Family Life, through the NFP coordinator, would like to pilot a few NFP support meetings throughout the diocese. Please contact Christy Kitzhaber at ckitzhaber@diolc.org if you would like more information on this blossoming idea.

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

Use this link: diolc.org/marriage/marriage-preparation/marriagepreparationfor-ministers/ to go 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: 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 or phone: 402.827.3735 ext. 1317.

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Office for Ministries

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

No items this week.

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Office for Missions

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

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. 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. 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.

I'd like to thank all the schools and parishes that invited me to do their annual Safe Environment training either in person or through Zoom. I think I was able to connect with almost 1,000 people. If you still have not done training and would like me to assist, please let me know.

Before you submit a background form or print cards, look them over for missing information. This only causes delays in the process if they need to be sent back.

A Resource Guide has been created with important contact information for each deanery in our diocese. Please see the attached link to print a copy to use at your parish or school.

diolc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/SF_RESOURCES_2022.pdf

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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 Bulletin:

Join us for Rural Life Day - Sept. 21



The Diocese of La Crosse will hold its 41st annual Rural Life Day on Wednesday, Sept. 21, hosted by Jack and Pat Herricks at 12130 Hwy. 33, Cashton. Come celebrate the farmers in our midst, who benefit us all by their good stewardship of the land. The day begins with Mass at 10 a.m. celebrated by Bishop William Patrick Callahan, followed by awards, recognitions, the blessing of crops and machinery, and a catered lunch. For a flyer or brochure, visit diolc.org/rural-life. For more information, contact Deacon Bob Zietlow, Rural Life Committee Liaison, rzietlow@diolc.org.

For La Crosse Area Parish Bulletins:

40 Days for Life, La Crosse – Opening Rally Sept. 20

40 Days for Life is the largest internationally coordinated pro-life mobilization in history. This year we will stand in prayerful witness outside Planned Parenthood, 1201 Caledonia Street in La Crosse, 7 a.m.-7 p.m., Sept. 28-Nov. 3. Sign up for vigil hours at 40daysforlife.com/en/lacrosse. Attend the Opening Rally on Tues. Sept. 20, at 6:30 p.m. at the Black River Beach Neighborhood Center, 1433 Rose St. in La Crosse. Brian Gibson, Executive Director of Pro-Life Action Ministries, will be the featured speaker. Refreshments served. Sponsored by La Crosse Life League. Questions? Call Marie Allen at 608.784.5189.

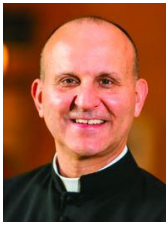
For Your Parish Bulletin:

March for Life Wisconsin - Sept. 24, 2022 - Buses from Wausau and La Crosse

Commemorate this historic year with thousands from around the Midwest. Saturday, Sept. 24, 1:30-3:30 p.m. - Wisconsin State Capitol (2 E. Main St., Madison). Hear from inspirational pro-life speakers, march at the capitol, and pray together for an end to abortion. Pro-Life Wisconsin signs will be available, but bring your own, too! Bus tickets from Wausau or La Crosse: \$30 + \$3.46 Fee (\$10 discount if you bring a pack of diapers). Depart at 10:15 a.m., arrive back at 6 p.m. Children must be accompanied by an adult. See transportation details and purchase tickets at ProLifeWI.org/marchforlife.

For Your Parish Bulletin:

Oct. 18 Gospel of Life White Mass and Banquet with Bishop Callahan



Join us Tuesday evening, Oct. 18, at St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral in La Crosse. The keynote presenter, Father Paul Check, Executive Director of the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, will speak on: "Witnessing to Life, Truth and Love in a Hostile World." Schedule: 6 p.m. – White Mass with Bishop Callahan, honoring Catholic healthcare professionals; 7 p.m. – Banquet; 7:45 p.m. – Presentation. \$20/person, \$10/students, teachers & school administrators. For more information and to register, visit diolc.org/gospel-of-life.

Pastors and Parish Respect Life Representatives:

USCCB Resources for October - Respect Life Month

October is Respect Life Month, with Oct. 2 being Respect Life Sunday. The USCCB has many pro-life resources available to parishes, including a recorded webinar explaining them all. See it, along with downloadable prayer cards, posters, homily helps, action guide, graphics, and more, at www.respectlife.org/respect-life-month.

For La Crosse Area Parish Bulletins:

Participate in Life Chain on Sunday Oct. 2

Join a large and beautiful throng of Life Chain participants giving silent pro-life witness along Losey Blvd. in La Crosse on Sunday, Oct. 2 from 2:00-3:00 p.m. The Life Chain will stretch along Losey from La Crosse St. to Ferry St. Volunteers with available signs will be stationed at every corner.



For Your Parish Bulletin:

Pregnant and in distress? Confidential help is available.

Make a confidential call to Catholic Charities at 888.212.4357 or text 715.600.6391. To learn more, visit cclse.org/i-think-im-pregnant. For additional pregnancy support resources and locations, visit diolc.org/pregnancy-resources.

Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship

As we approach the midterm elections, it is appropriate to share once again some resources for forming a Catholic conscience for faithful citizenship. These can be found at diolc.org/faithful-citizenship.

U.S. Bishops - Action Alerts

Make your voice heard on legislation regarding the nature of marriage, support for parental choice in education, the protection of churches from vandalism, and other important issues. Visit www.votervoice.net/USCCB/home.

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Office for Stewardship & Development

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

Givingtrend Issues:

Due to system enhancements being pushed out in intermittent frequency, some users are encountering issues with their sign-on. If you are having a problem, the vendor recommends two methods that have proven effective in remedying the issues.

You will see your profile button in the upper right of the screen. Click on that and log out, then log back in. This usually helps clear any issues with viewing the data.

The second method is to log out as per the above fix. However, this time you will want to clear your browser cache via your browser settings, close your browser, reopen your browser and then log back into Givingtrend.

If the issue persists, please email our office and we will address it with our vendor, who may contact you to assist you in rectifying it.

Stewardship Bulletin Reflections for Weekends:

- 09/18
<https://diolc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/09.18.22-stewardship-bulletin-announcements.pdf>
- 09/25
<https://diolc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/09.25.22-stewardship-bulletin-announcements.pdf>
- 10/02
<https://diolc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/10.02.22-stewardship-bulletin-announcements.pdf>
- 10/09
<https://diolc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/10.09.22-stewardship-bulletin-announcements.pdf>
- 10/16
<https://diolc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/10.16.22-stewardship-bulletin-announcements.pdf>

Stewardship Homily Reflections:

Stewardship reflections for your homily development:

- For Weeks 09/18- 10/16
<https://diolc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Homily-Guide-09.12.22.pdf>

Planned Giving – Leaving a Legacy, Wills, Bequest and Endowments:

We have inherited such treasures from our parents, grandparents and great-grandparents, those whose shoulders we stand on today. Now it is our turn to make sure future generations can enjoy the reverence and beauty of a well-maintained parish. Leveraging the Capital Campaign and providing parishioners with information on Endowments, Trusts and Bequests are just a few ways a parish can help prepare for its future.

Our Estate Planning Guide can help people save several hundred dollars in legal and financial estate planning costs. We have sent out several hundred copies per individual request, and each

Parish has received a copy. If you would like additional copies, do not hesitate to contact our office.

Our Planned Giving website is diolclegacy.org. People can find calculators, additional information, sign up for a newsletter and request copies of specific estate planning guides and information.

If you would like more legacy giving information, presentations or ads for your parish bulletin, please do not hesitate to contact our office or the Catholic Foundation of West Central Wisconsin (cfwcw.org) at 608.519.9892 or email: jreiter@cfwcw.org.

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Office for Temporalities

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

Parish Annual Report Financial Data Extract Tuesday, **Sep 14, 2022**

- Data for the automated Annual Report will be extracted after close of business on Tuesday, Sept. 14.
 - We will accept data updates for parish school audits until close of business Monday, Nov. 1.
- Parishes using any nonstandard accounts, including header accounts, have been advised several times since last May to reclassify transactions into valid accounts. Beginning Sept. 6, staff will be qualifying all parish accounts to facilitate a successful extract. From Sept. 6 through Sept. 14, any nonstandard account may be reclassified by the Finance Office staff as needed, at staff discretion to complete a successful data extract. Parishes with reclassified accounts will be notified.

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Office for Vocations

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

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

That through our vocations to marriage, priesthood, single life, and religious life we may be signs of God's presence and love in the world.

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.

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 | wpace@diolc.org

Upcoming Events:

Fall Ministry Conference for all Priests and Deacons: Monday noon through Tuesday Lunch, Oct. 10-11, 2022. Registration can be done online or by calling Teresa Brown @ 608.791.2679. This year, we will be featuring an evening cruise on the Mississippi River. Be aware it can get chilly in October, so bring a jacket.

Online registration can be found at: <https://diolc.org/vicarforclergy/fall-ministry-days/>

Annual Priest Retreat: At the Redemptorist Retreat Center, Oconomowoc is required for priests in their first five years following ordination and is an option for the annual canonical retreat for all other priests serving in the diocese. There is no cost for the retreat outside of what is deducted from each participant's Continuing Ed Fund. The retreat is scheduled during the Third Week of Easter, Monday noon through Friday lunch, April 24-28, 2023.

Priest Unity Days for all Priests: The gathering begins Thursday noon at Holy Cross Diocesan Center and continues through Saturday Mass of Ordination at the Cathedral, June 22-24, 2023. Online registration, hotel discounts and further details will be posted closer to the time of the event.

No items this week.

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Office for Youth & Young Adult Ministry

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

Save the date! Sealed! Diocesan Confirmation Retreat

We will have a Diocesan Confirmation Retreat on Saturday, Dec. 3, 2022. This will be for all youth in grades 9-10. More information is coming soon.

Speaker for Youth, Young Adults, Adults, Ministry Teams, etc.

In an effort to be more present around the diocese, and as an outreach of the Office for Family Life, Chris Rogers is happy to come to your parish/school to make a presentation to Youth, Young Adults, Adults, Ministry Teams, Married Couples, Engaged Couples, Teachers, etc. Please call 608.791.2659 or email crogers@diolc.org to discuss dates and topics.

NET Ministries

Each year, NET Ministries sends more than 175 young adults across the country in teams of 8-14 to proclaim the Gospel to Catholic youth. The NET teams will share their love of Christ and the Church with more than 90,000 youth from September 2022 through May 2023 this year. They come from a wide variety of states and countries. The team members have been trained in the teachings of the Catholic Church and formed as brothers and sisters in Christ, a quality young people consistently notice and to which they are attracted. The experienced team members take care of most everything, including retreat content, set up and tear down. Your level of involvement is up to you; they partner with you to ensure a perfect match for your group's needs.

- When: Tuesday, Sept. 27-Sunday, Oct. 9 – Please contact the NET CENTER (netusa.org/retreats) to reserve your retreat!
- Where: All around the Diocese of La Crosse
- Cost: Depends on the type of retreat.

For details about hosting a retreat, including themes, costs, housing, etc., please download the Welcome Packet or see our website at diolc.org/yya/youth-opportunities/net-retreats/.

Reminder: Tune-In Tuesdays

Please join us for our Tune-In Tuesdays at 11 a.m. 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:

us02web.zoom.us/j/87591793038?pwd=cDdHWUROV29QMjY9UenJRNfZnY0Q0dz09#success.

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