



# The Mustard Seed

Catholic Center 1000 Pinebrook Road Venice FL 34285

*Pastoral Bulletin**Vol. 4, No. 15**Aug. 11, 2006***ANNOUNCEMENTS****Office of the Chancellor**

**Collection for the Church in Latin America** – Please find enclosed a letter from Bishop Nevins on the annual Collection for the Church in Latin America. Please include this letter in your bulletin of Aug. 29-30. The collection is to be taken up the weekend of Sept. 2-3 and the proceeds sent to the Finance Department no later than Sept. 20.

**Respect Life Department**

The English version of the September 2006 edition of the **Word of Life series** provided by the USCCB Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities is on the Internet at: [www.usccb.org/prolife/liturgy/Sept06final.pdf](http://www.usccb.org/prolife/liturgy/Sept06final.pdf). It features *Intercessions for Life* and *Bulletin Briefs*. The Spanish version is at: [www.usccb.org/prolife/liturgy/sept06spfinal.pdf](http://www.usccb.org/prolife/liturgy/sept06spfinal.pdf).

**Office of Ministries**

**To Trust Again—Preparation for re-marriage in the Catholic Church** – The Ministries Office will be offering two classes for those contemplating re-marriage in the Catholic Church. In the past, we have had couples entering valid re-marriages attending marriage preparation classes designed for first marriages. Challenges in re-marriage are very different to problems encountered in a first marriage. It is important that these couples attend the re-marriage sessions, if possible, as there is a great wealth of information offered to help prepare for this occasion.

Please see that this information is made available to all priests and deacons who are preparing couples for marriage. Brochures will be sent to the parishes within the next two weeks.

January 27, 2007 - Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Osprey

May 5, 2007 - Epiphany Cathedral, Venice

For information and/or reservations please call Betty Karsokas in the Ministries Office at 941-484-9543. Also check *The Mustard Seed* for any updates or changes in these programs and make the priests aware of these changes.

**BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Please publish the following in your parish bulletins:*

**Catholic Campaign for Human Development/Catholic Relief Services (CCHD/CRS)**

**Coalition Against Human Trafficking fund-raiser** – The Florida Coalition Against Human Trafficking is hosting a fund-raiser and dinner gala featuring the world premiere of *Lives for Sale*, a human trafficking documentary film produced locally by Lightfoot Films, Inc. and Maryknoll Productions, at the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort, Saturday, Sept. 9. The reception will begin at 5:45 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m. Formal attire is suggested. Ticket donations are \$185 and \$145 for preferred and general seating, respectively. For additional information and to RSVP, call 239-390-3350 or 239-947-2452.

**CRS Humanitarian Relief Effort continues** – Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and its local partner, Caritas Lebanon, have aided 85,530 displaced people throughout Lebanon. Thus far, more than 900,000 Lebanese have been displaced because of this crisis, which is nearly 25 percent of the total population. In addition to the internally displaced, there are also more than 100,000 migrant workers in the country who are in desperate need of help. Since the crisis began, these workers have been left without work and are finding it difficult to leave Lebanon and return to their countries of origin. For more information, go to [crs.org](http://crs.org).

**CRS presentations coming to Fort Myers, Naples** – CRS regional staff officers are to present CRS development and relief efforts throughout the world and opportunities for parish involvement 7 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 16, at St. Columbkille Parish in Fort Myers and 10 a.m., Thursday, Aug. 17, at St. William Parish in Naples. Reservations requested. Please call 239-489-3973 and 239-261-4883, respectively. For details regarding a Venice presentation Aug. 16, please contact this office at 941-484-9543 or [kirley@dioceseofvenice.org](mailto:kirley@dioceseofvenice.org).

**CCHD National Grant Eligibility Quizzes now being accepted for 2007 Funding Cycle** – Organizations interested in applying for a community organizing grant or an implementation grant from CCHD's economic development program are required to submit an Eligibility Quiz which can be accessed at: [www.usccb.org/cchd/grant.shtml](http://www.usccb.org/cchd/grant.shtml). Eligibility Quizzes are accepted on a rolling basis between Aug. 1 and Nov. 1. **Organizations are strongly encouraged to submit their quiz prior to the Nov. 1 deadline.**



### **Department of Communications**

**Morning Prayer** – Every morning at 9 a.m. the staff of *The Florida Catholic* newspaper offers prayers for our Catholic Church and world leaders, prayers for peace, and personal intentions of our readers. If you have an intention you would like us to offer up in prayer, please submit it from our home page at [www.thefloridacatholic.org](http://www.thefloridacatholic.org) or through the mail: The Florida Catholic, P.O. Box 609512, Orlando, FL 32860-9512, or fax it to 407-660-2977.

**Just in Time for Back to School: Unique writing contest for high school students** – *True Girl* magazine is providing an opportunity for high school students to share their thoughts and see their names in print. The magazine has plans to feature an article titled "I Love My School," composed of writings by students who attend Catholic, public, or home schools. In an effort to highlight the unique and diverse learning environments from which our Catholic youth receive their education, the feature article will give students a choice to voice what they love about their school in their own words.

The contest will run Sept. 1- Dec. 1. Submissions must be written by a high school student and should include the author's name, address, e-mail contact, phone number, school name, school address and school phone number. Articles should be 500 words. Three winners will be chosen for publication – one Catholic school student, one public school student, one home-schooled student. Winners will have their names, pictures and school information published along with their article. Send submissions to Brandi Lee, Editor-in-Chief, *True Girl*, 703 Michigan Avenue, Suite 2, LaPorte, IN 46350 or via e-mail to [brandi@truegirlonline.com](mailto:brandi@truegirlonline.com).

**Candidate Questionnaire correction** – The Website address on the Candidate Questionnaire information sent to the parishes for the parish bulletins in the last edition of *The Mustard Seed* was incorrect. Please find below corrected bulletin announcements with the correct Website information. We apologize for the error. Thank you.

To be used at the parish's discretion throughout August:

**What is the Candidate Questionnaire Project?** To help inform voters and candidates of issues important to Catholics, the Florida Catholic Conference, in cooperative with The Florida Catholic newspaper, the Florida Council of Catholic Women and the Knights of Columbus Florida State Council, offers the Candidate Questionnaire Project. It offers all gubernatorial and state and congressional candidates for the offices of representative and senator the opportunity to answer 11 questions relevant to issues of life, death, education, health care and social justice. Candidates answer the question with a "support" or "oppose" response.

Results from the poll are available 24/7 at [www.informedcatholicvoter.org](http://www.informedcatholicvoter.org) and will be published by *The Florida Catholic* Aug. 18.

Need more information? Call Jean Gonzalez at 407-929-8350 or e-mail at

[jgonzalez@thefloridacatholic.org](mailto:jgonzalez@thefloridacatholic.org)

Aug. 19-20 and Aug. 26-27:

#### **Checklist before going to the polls:**

- Voter registration card.
- Driver's license or ID.
- Information on issues of importance to make every vote count.

Need help with that last item? Results from the Candidate Questionnaire Project (CQP) can help. Where is that info available? Go online at [www.informedcatholicvoter.org](http://www.informedcatholicvoter.org) and follow the prompts to find out how Florida senate and Florida and U.S. representative candidates in your district and for the offices of U.S. senate and Florida governor answered 11 questions important to the Catholic faithful.

Need something to take to the polls? Checkout the CQP insert available at your parish.

**Stories of the Kingdom** – Six-week guided Bible study on the Parables beginning Aug. 22, 7-8:30 p.m., Resurrection Parish Center, Fort Myers. All are welcome. Call 239-482-6883 to register for a guide.

**ROOTS & WINGS and BOUNCE** – *Roots and Wings: Raising Resilient Children*, an interactive and dynamic parenting program, will be offered 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Sept. 10-Oct. 15 at Resurrection Parish Center, Fort Myers. Come meet other parents and share the joys of parenting while learning how to reset standards, use teachable moments, and re-establish rituals and traditions. Meanwhile, the program *Bounce: Be a Resilient Kid*, for children 6-12 years will take place while the parents are attending Roots & Wings. Registration contact: Joanne MacPeck 239-482-6883 or Mimi Chatterton 239-645-1004.

(FOR LEE COUNTY PARISHES)

**A meeting of the Sub-Committee of Churches – Lee County Coalition on Homeless** will be held at Resurrection Parish, Fort Myers, 1:30 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 21. All are welcome. Register with Joanne MacPeck at 239-482-6883.

**Homeless Recognition Week, Nov. 12-18 – Young People’s Art Contest** – Lee County Coalition on Homeless Project. Open to children in Lee County, ages 6 -14. All submissions must include: name, address, phone number, title of work and any explanation needed. Art work can include: Drawings, posters, music, poetry. Submissions must be sent to: Resurrection of Our Lord Parish, Fort Myers, and be received by Nov. 10. Judging is Nov. 12 and distribution of awards will be Nov. 13-14. Awards include: Certificate and donation to homeless shelter in the child’s name.



### **Stewardship and Development**

**The Episcopal Ordination of our new Coadjutor Bishop** was truly a beautiful celebration due to the time, talent and treasure of so many throughout the diocese. Committees dealt with everything from planning the liturgy to transportation and security. Volunteers polished the church, joined the choir, ushered and greeted guests, organized the feast, contributed financially and PRAYED! To all who helped in any way, we thank you most sincerely! Our special thanks to Father George Ratzmann, his staff and all those at Epiphany Cathedral who worked so hard to prepare for this great occasion.



### **Respect Life Department**

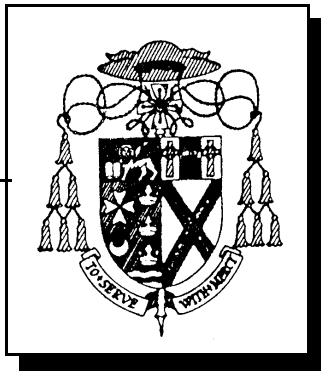
**Attend the State Respect Life Conference** – The registration brochure for the 2006 Florida Respect Life Conference, Oct. 13-15 in Palm Beach Gardens, is now available at [www.dovrespectlife.org](http://www.dovrespectlife.org) or call 941-484-9543, ext. 3048. Scheduled speakers include Father Tad Pacholczyk, Father Frank Pavone and Dr. Alveda King.

**Struggling after abortion?** Project Rachel, a confidential healing ministry for women and men who have been touched by abortion, can help. Call Project Rachel in Florida toll-free at 877-908-1212 or e-mail [project.rachel@dioceseofvenice.org](mailto:project.rachel@dioceseofvenice.org).

Did You Know? In their November 2005 statement, *A Culture of Life and the Penalty of Death*, the U.S. Catholic Bishops state: “As teachers, we have the obligation to share our Catholic faith and moral tradition, including teaching on the death penalty.” The entire statement may be found online at: [www.usccb.org/sdwp/national/penaltyofdeath.pdf](http://www.usccb.org/sdwp/national/penaltyofdeath.pdf). For further information, please contact the diocesan Respect Life Department at 941-484-9543.

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***The Mustard Seed*** is an official publication of the Diocese of Venice, published bi-weekly on Fridays by the Department of Communications. Notices of general interest will be considered for publication. Send copy to: Department of Communications, 1000 Pinebrook Road, Venice FL 34285 OR via e-mail (preferred method) to: [newsletter@dioceseofvenice.org](mailto:newsletter@dioceseofvenice.org) no later than **seven days prior** to publication date. The pastoral bulletin is available at [www.dioceseofvenice.org/specialissues/parishbulletin.cfm](http://www.dioceseofvenice.org/specialissues/parishbulletin.cfm)



***DIOCESE OF VENICE IN FLORIDA***  
***Office of the Bishop***

September, 2006

My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Each year, the annual **Collection for the Church in Latin America** is held in parishes across the country. Historically, no less than 87% of the proceeds from this collection have gone to support the work of pastoral projects in Mexico, Central and South America, and the Caribbean. When we contribute to this fund, we are actively participating in a work of solidarity with our brothers and sisters throughout the American hemisphere.

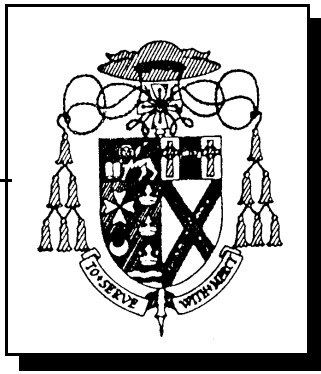
Last year, more than \$6.3 million was raised in the United States to provide collaborative funding for 470 projects in 210 dioceses in 21 countries. These programs included catechetical and lay leadership programs, youth ministry, and evangelization projects, as well as formation programs for religious, priests, and deacons. Further information on the work of the USCCB Committee on the Church in Latin America can be found at [www.usccb.org/latinamerica](http://www.usccb.org/latinamerica).

I ask you to consider contributing to this Collection, and I am grateful for your generosity. Together, let us ask Our Lord to continue to bless us in all that we do.

Sincerely in Our Lord,

  
+ John J. Nevins, D.D.

Bishop of Venice in Florida



***DIOCESE OF VENICE IN FLORIDA***  
***Office of the Bishop***

septiembre 2006

Queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo:

Todos los años se lleva a cabo la Colecta para la Iglesia en América Latina en las parroquias de todo el país. Históricamente, no menos del 87 por ciento de los fondos recaudados se destinan a apoyar el trabajo de los proyectos pastorales en México, América Central, Sudamérica y el Caribe. Cuando contribuimos a este fondo, participamos activamente en un trabajo de solidaridad hacia nuestros hermanos y hermanas de todo el hemisferio americano.

El año pasado, se recaudaron más de 6,3 millones de dólares en Estados Unidos para proporcionar fondos de ayuda para 470 proyectos, en 210 diócesis de veintiún países. Entre estos proyectos se cuentan programas de liderazgo catequético y laico, de pastoral juvenil, proyectos de evangelización, así como también programas para religiosos, sacerdotes y diáconos. Se puede encontrar más información sobre el trabajo del Comité para la Iglesia en América Latina de la USCCB en el siguiente sitio [www.usccb.org/latinamerica](http://www.usccb.org/latinamerica).

Les ruego que consideren contribuir con esta Colecta, y les agradezco su generosidad. Juntos pidamos al Señor que continúe bendiciéndonos en todo lo que hacemos.

Sinceramente suyo en el Señor,

John J. Nevins, D.D.  
Obispo de Venice en Florida