



# The Mustard Seed

Catholic Center 1000 Pinebrook Road Venice FL 34285

*Pastoral Bulletin**Vol. 4, No. 21**November 3, 2006***ANNOUNCEMENTS****Office of the Bishop**

Bishop John J. Nevins announces the following clergy appointments:

**Reverend Leo J. Smith**, ordained to the priesthood by Bishop John J. Nevins on Oct. 25, 2006, appointed Parochial Vicar of St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Port Charlotte.

**Reverend Tomasz Zalewski**, ordained to the priesthood by Bishop John J. Nevins on Oct. 25, 2006, appointed Parochial Vicar of St. Francis Xavier Parish, Fort Myers.

**Reverend Gordon Zanetti**, ordained to the priesthood by Bishop John J. Nevins on Oct. 25, 2006, appointed Parochial Vicar of Ss. Peter and Paul the Apostles Parish, Bradenton.

**Office of Stewardship and Development**

**Planned Giving:** Brochures to encourage gift annuities will be sent this week to each parish. Please leave them in the gathering spaces of your church and offices. Don't forget to encourage bequests to your parish through your weekly bulletins.

**CFA:** Immediately following Thanksgiving final letters will be mailed to all those who have not yet given to the CFA for 2006.

**Stewardship:** "New Beginnings," a leadership guide and instructional DVD by Paul Wilkes is available for borrowing from the development office. Other resource materials are also available.

**Peace and Justice Office**

Florida Catholic Conference: **Issues Commentary on "Cultivating Care For All Creation"**

Tallahassee - "Cultivating Care For All Creation", a commentary by the Environmental Justice Committee of the Florida Catholic Conference, has been published to call Catholics to embrace the seventh principle of Catholic Social Teaching. An Action Guide for Parishes and Parishioners outlines specific action to help the faithful become active stewards of the resources God has entrusted to them including simple living, education, conservation and advocacy. To view action guide, go to:

<http://www.flacathconf.org/Publications/Commentaries/Environmental%20appendix.pdf> **Ecologist**

Deron E. Lawrence of Tallahassee, Florida, along with other consultants, participated in the development of the commentary.

Fifteen years ago, the Bishops of Florida issued a statement, "Companions in Creation," to urge individuals and families to "recycle, reuse and reduce," recognizing our responsibility to make decisions that will support life by sustaining the environment. The new commentary focuses on two pressing problems of our time: global climate change and mercury contamination. "Given our responsibility as stewards of the earth, we must work to promote policies that preserve the environment for future generations, keeping in mind the common good," said Sheila Hopkins, Associate for Social Concerns and Respect Life for the Florida Catholic Conference.

"This commentary comes at an opportune time," said Hopkins, noting that the Bishops of Florida in collaboration with the Catholic Coalition on Climate Change have approved a convening. The convening, to take place in early 2007, will bring together theologians, scientists, and Catholic leaders in business, agriculture, tourism, labor, and social ministry to better understand the issue of climate change and what the response of the faithful should be based on Catholic Church teaching and tradition.



### Worship and Ministries Department

Christmas falls on Monday this year, thus Christmas Eve is on Sunday. There should be a distinction between the 4th Sunday of Advent Masses done on Sunday morning and the Christmas Eve Masses beginning no earlier than 4 p.m. Sunday evening. It may be helpful to remind your assembly that going to one Mass on Sunday does not satisfy the obligation for the 4th week of Advent and for Christmas.

Please note that January 1st is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year since it falls on a Monday.

A program is available for couples contemplating re-marriage in the Catholic Church after one or both have experienced a prior marriage or death of a spouse. This program is designed for re-marriage. It is important that all priests and deacons preparing couples for re-marriage have them attend these sessions if possible as there is a wealth of information offered to help prepare for this occasion. **"To Trust Again"** (re-marriage preparation program) will be held at our Lady of Mount Carmel in Osprey on January 27, 2007. If you need additional information please call Betty K. at 941-484-9543.



### Communications Department

**Free Playground Equipment:** Well-constructed, heavy duty playground equipment in excellent condition. Available in the Venice area. Requires removal and disassembly. Please contact Jack Kenaughton, 941-484-6146

### **BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Please publish the following in your parish bulletins:*

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

##### **For the Weekend Before the Collection- Nov. 11-12**

In his first encyclical letter, God is Love, Pope Benedict XVI stated that "within the community of believers there can never be room for a poverty that denies anyone what is needed for a dignified life." In our own country, 37 million Americans struggle in poverty, many despite working full-time. Within our community of believers we do make a difference-when we support the work of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. CCHD is committed to helping people create permanent solutions to the problem of poverty in their community. You can help break the cycle of poverty. Please give generously to the CCHD appeal next weekend. Visit [povertyusa.org](http://povertyusa.org) to learn more.

##### **For Collection Weekend- Nov. 18-19**

When we hear that 37 million Americans live in poverty-that many families are two paychecks away from becoming poor themselves-are we overwhelmed? Paralyzed? We can make a difference. We can give a hand up to people struggling to change their lives and communities. The Catholic Campaign for Human Development supports self-help projects of poor and low-income people working together to break the cycle of poverty. Please give generously to CCHD in today's collection.

**Lives for Sale**, the Maryknoll Productions Human Trafficking and Immigration documentary, funded in part by Catholic Relief Services and the Catholic Communications Campaign, will air on PBS stations in January. To assist in getting the program in your community, contact your local station's programmer or audience services department. Your local station information can be found by going to [pbs.org](http://pbs.org), clicking on station finder and entering your zip code.

##### **For Lee County- Nov. 12-18, Lee County Homeless Awareness Week**

**Opening Ceremony, Sunday, Nov. 12, 1 p.m.-** You are invited to participate in the reading of the Proclamation on the Lee County Courthouse steps located at 2120 Main Street in downtown Fort Myers. Additional events are planned throughout the week, please contact Dean Blietz at 239-479-7698 for information.

Nov. 14, 10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. - **Statewide Human Trafficking Task Force meeting** at Sheriff's Core Center, 2501 Ortiz in Fort Myers. Reservations required. Please contact Carol Nelson at 239-390-3350 or [roxiekim@comcast.net](mailto:roxiekim@comcast.net)



### Department of Communications

**Prayer Vigil for Life**, Nov. 13. Led by Msgr. Philip Reilly, Founder of the Helpers of God's Precious Infants, with Father Dennis Cooney, pastor of St. Raphael Parish of Lehigh Acres. Begins with 8:15 a.m. Mass and adoration at St. Francis Xavier Parish, Fort Myers, then procession by car to 3900 Broadway, Fort Myers, for quiet, fervent prayer (no picketing, no protesting) at the abortion site. Msgr. Reilly will also offer a **two-hour workshop** Nov. 12, following 12:15 p.m. Mass at St. Francis Xavier in preparation for vigil. All welcome. Information: Angela. 239-549-5416. or e-mail [angela@matteographics.com](mailto:angela@matteographics.com).

**DVDs** of the July 25, 2006, **Ordination of Coadjutor Bishop Frank J. Dewane** are available for \$10 per copy (including postage and handling) from the diocesan Department of Communications. Please send your name, address, phone number and the number of DVDs requested to Diocese of Venice Communications Department, 1000 Pinebrook Road, Venice FL 34285-6426 with a check made payable to **Diocese of Venice**. Any questions, contact Janine McCarthy via e-mail [jmccarthy@dioceseofvenice.org](mailto:jmccarthy@dioceseofvenice.org) or call 941484-9543 ext. 3081.

**“Music for Everyone” 2006-2007 Concert Series** – St. Thomas More Parish, Sarasota, is hosting a concert series featuring a variety of performances. For tickets, call 941-923-1691. No tickets will be sold at the door.

- The third concert will feature the Key Chorale, a seventy-voice choir, with Daniel Moe, “Dean of Choral Conductors,” in his last year of conducting. Their intent is to perform compositions as the composer conceived them, with the instruments that the composer intended. They will perform at St. Thomas More Parish at 4 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 19.
- The fourth concert, The Christmas Concert, will feature the choirs of St. Thomas More, directed and accompanied by Alex Dilan. Among Sarasota's most beautiful choral groups, the choirs are well-known for their a capella and gospel renditions as well as traditional church music. A sing-a-long of favorite carols will be one of the highlights of the evening. Cantors Dora Cardona and Sara Jeffrey will solo as well. Performance is Sunday, Dec. 3, 7:00 p.m.



### Respect Life Department

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 leaders of a community of faith and as participants in our democracy, we are committed to contribute to a growing civil dialogue and reassessment of the use of this ultimate punishment." The entire statement may be found online at: <http://www.usccb.org/sdwp/national/penaltyofdeath.pdf>. For further information, please contact the diocesan Respect Life Department at 1-941-484-9543.

**AT LEAST 45 BABIES ARE ABORTED EVERY WEEK IN SARASOTA COUNTY:** The Diocese of Venice and St. Martha Parish will co-sponsor the **9th Annual Prayer Walk for Life** to end abortion on **Monday, Jan. 22, 2007 in Sarasota**. Masses will be at 8:30 a.m. and noon at St. Martha Church (Orange Avenue at Fruitville Road). Prayers will continue through the day until 2 p.m. Come for an hour or the entire day. Shuttle bus service will be provided from St. Martha's to Planned Parenthood, where participants are encouraged to walk and pray for an end to abortion. More details are on the Prayer Walk flier at: <http://www.dovrespectlife.org/2007flierfinal.pdf>. Questions? Contact the Respect Life Department at 941-441-1112.

(Northern Deanery Only)

A new group for **PERSONS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES**, ages 21-40, has been formed in collaboration with the Diocese of Venice. The organization combines social, spiritual, sharing and support in a way that meets the needs of the members. Those interested are most welcome to join us at our next meeting on Saturday, Nov. 11, at 2 p.m. at the Olive Garden Restaurant, 4900 S. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota. We look forward to seeing new faces with new ideas! Reservations are necessary to assure adequate space. Please call Laurel or Barb at 941- 727-4327 by Nov. 9.



### **Worship and Ministries Department**

Retrouvaille: "**A Lifeline for Troubled Marriages**" consists of a weekend experience and a series of presentations offered within the six weeks following the weekend phase. **Retrouvaille** is helping couples piece together and rebuild loving relationships. The next weekend is Nov. 17-19 in Venice. For more information please call 1-800-470-2230. Brochures are available in most church pamphlet racks.

**Marriage Encounter** – This message is for those of you with good marriages. How would you like to enjoy talking to each other like when you first met? And how would you like to add a little more romance, excitement and passion – and make your marriage great? That is the focus of Marriage Encounter Weekends – for couples of all ages. The next weekend is Nov. 17-19 in Fort Myers. For more information call Ernie and Mary at 941-962-9904 or toll free at 1-888-560-1854.

(Central and Southern Deaneries)

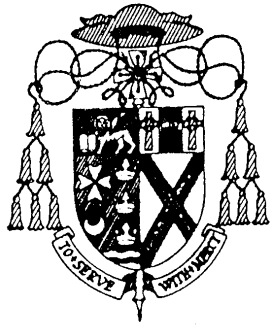
**Pre Cana Conference** - a day to help engaged couples prepare for their future life together and gain insights into married life will be held at St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Ft. Myers on Saturday, Nov. 11. The cost is \$50 per couple which covers a continental breakfast, lunch and hand-outs. For information please call Betty K. at 941-484-9543.

(Northern Deanery)

**For couples planning marriage** - The Venice Diocese will hold a one-day Marriage Preparation Program on Saturday, Dec. 9, at St Thomas More Parish in Sarasota to give engaged couples the opportunity to dialogue honestly about aspects of their future life together within the Sacrament of Marriage. The cost is \$50 per couple which covers breakfast, lunch and hand-out materials. This fee is non-refundable. For information please call Betty K. at 941-484-9543.



***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)



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

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November, 2006

My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

For 36 years, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) has helped poor and low-income people find permanent solutions to poverty. Each year, more and more people are joining local community groups to break the cycle of poverty, and Catholics across our country are part of that change.

**The annual collection to support this domestic anti-poverty program of the Catholic Church will take place the weekend of November 18-19.** Of the collection proceeds, 75% is sent to the CCHD national office to support anti-poverty projects across the United States, and 25% is retained here in our Diocese to fund local self-help initiatives to benefit local communities. These initiatives include the Coalition of Immokalee Workers whose human rights work has led to several historic victories; Interfaith Action, a broad-based network of people who work in partnership with the Coalition; and Sarasota United for Responsibility and Equity, Inc. (SURE), which has been successful in addressing community issues such as impact fees and affordable housing.

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development is committed to helping people find permanent solutions to the problem of poverty, but they cannot do it without our help. When the collection is taken up in your church, please be generous in supporting CCHD and help put an end to poverty in our nation.

May Almighty God grant you and your family every grace and blessing.

Sincerely in Our Lord,

John J. Nevins, D.D.

Bishop of Venice in Florida