



The Mustard Seed

Catholic Center 1000 Pinebrook Road Venice FL 34285

*Pastoral Bulletin**Vol. 5, No. 2**January 26, 2007***ANNOUNCEMENTS****Office of the Bishop**

Bishop Frank J. Dewane announces the following appointments effective Jan. 19:

Very Reverend Edward D. Moretti, pastor of Sts. Peter and Paul the Apostles Parish, Bradenton, appointed Vicar General of the Venice Diocese while retaining all other appointments.

Dr. Volodymyr Smeryk appointed Chancellor of the Venice Diocese.

Very Reverend John V. Dolciamore appointed Judicial Vicar of the Venice Diocese.

Very Reverend Gerard Finegan appointed Vicar for Clergy of the Venice Diocese.

**Department of Education**

Our schools will be celebrating "The Good News in Education" during Catholic Schools Week, Jan. 28-Feb. 3. Each school will be celebrating in a variety of different ways including open houses, ice cream socials, prayer and awards ceremonies, potluck lunches, and vocation and career days. Contact your local school directly for a schedule of events.

**Planning and Development**

The next Planning and Development meeting will be held on Monday, Feb. 26. If your parish or school would like to present any needs to the committee, please send a written request to the Bishop's Office. Future meetings are tentatively scheduled for Apr. 30, Sept. 17 and Dec. 3.

Department of Communications

Sickness and suffering are inescapable dimensions of all our lives. Held each year in February, the **World Day of the Sick**, sponsored by the Vatican Pontifical Council for Health Pastoral Care, is an opportunity to focus on the needs of people who are sick and recognize the key role that health care workers and volunteers play in our communities. The National Association of Catholic Chaplains has developed resources to help with the planning and celebration of World Day of the Sick which falls each year on **February 11**. To view these resources, visit <http://www.nacc.org/resources/wds/default.asp>. The Message of his Holiness Benedict XVI for the fifteenth World Day of the Sick can be read by visiting the Vatican Web site http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/messages/sick/documents/hf_ben-xvi_mes_20061208_worl-day-of-the-sick-2007_en.html

**Legal Development**

PLEASE NOTE THE CORRECTED TELEPHONE NUMBER

Effective immediately, the Florida Catholic Conference office is prepared to process your **sales tax exemption certificate requests for missions**.

Background: In the past, missions have used the sales tax exemption certificate of another church which has typically been a neighboring parish or in some cases has been provided by a "mother church" that gives the mission financial and administrative support. However, during a recent meeting with Department of Revenue personnel, we learned it is incorrect for a vendor to accept a sales tax exemption certificate with the name of a church that doesn't match with the name of the mission which is the purchaser of the item.

A recommendation: In conjunction with this change, we would strongly recommend you ensure that all entities (your schools, parishes and missions) maintain separate Federal Employment Identification Numbers (FEIN), as well. Please contact Ken Roeder with any questions at 850-205-6818.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please publish the following in your parish bulletins:

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

CRS “Raise Money Right” Contest for schools and parishes continues until **Feb. 14**. CRS will sponsor a trip to Africa for the student who sells the most chocolate and the educator/catechist/youth minister who brings Fair Trade into the classroom in the most creative way. Resources to support students and faculty who wish to participate are now available online at crsfairtrade.org.

CRS Fair Trade Weekend Workshop in Americus, Georgia, Feb. 23-24. Learn more about the Fair Trade movement from some of the best and brightest in the field at a real fair trade coffee company and become an advocate for fair trade coffee, chocolate and handcrafts in your parish. Limited space available. For additional information, please contact this office at 941-484-9543 or kirley@dioceseofvenice.org.

Catholic Relief Services has produced **Sudan: Remembering, Responding and Rebuilding**, a DVD and CD ROM resource tool which can be used for prayer, education and advocacy on Darfur, Sudan. This is available in this office and can be reviewed at: <http://sudan.crs.org/>. Speakers are also available to assist your parish or parish organization learn more about CRS humanitarian efforts in the Sudan.

Operation Rice Bowl (ORB) 2007 materials integrate Catholic Social Teaching with the traditional themes of Lenten prayer, fasting and almsgiving, and introduce participants to the realities of our global community. Please contact this office should you need to make any changes in your parish or school order.



Worship and Ministries Department

The Separated and Divorced Ministry will be holding a workshop, “A Day of Healing: Beyond Divorce,” at Epiphany Parish, 9 a.m.- 4 p.m., March 24. Marianne Skrobiak, M.S., M.A., LPC, a well-known author, retreat director, inspirational speaker and spiritual mentor will be the presenter. Come find spiritual nourishment, identify excess baggage, name your losses, reconnect with God, self and others - get rebalanced and recharged. The cost for the program is \$25 per person and will include continental breakfast and lunch. For information and/or reservations please call Louise or Betty K in the Family Life Office, 941-484-9543.

Centering Prayer Introductory Workshop will be held at Epiphany Cathedral in Venice on **February 24, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.**, Soy building room 109 on Nassau Street. This workshop will cover the basics of Centering Prayer for those who may be new to this practice and are seeking a deeper relationship with God by means of a meditative practice. You will be invited to explore this way of praying that takes us step by step on a journey that leads inward to the place where we can rest in God and allow him to work through us. It is to be open to the Infinite and hence to infinite possibilities. The cost is \$10; drinks and snacks will be available; bring a brown bag lunch. The presenters, Ed Savoy and Bob Fasulo, have been certified to conduct these workshops by Father Thomas Keating, Trappist Monk, the founder of Contemplative Outreach. To register please call the church at 941-485-2325. For more information about the workshop please call Bob Fasulo at 341-778-3091.



Department of Communications

Sickness and suffering are inescapable dimensions of all our lives. Held each year in February, the **World Day of the Sick**, sponsored by the Vatican Pontifical Council for Health Pastoral Care, is an opportunity to focus on the needs of people who are sick and recognize the key role that health care workers and volunteers play in our communities. The National Association of Catholic Chaplains has developed resources to help with the planning and celebration of World Day of the Sick which falls each year on **February 11**. To view these resources, visit <http://www.nacc.org/resources/wds/default.asp>. The Message of his Holiness Benedict XVI for the fifteenth World Day of the Sick can be read by visiting the Vatican Web site http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/messages/sick/documents/hf_ben-xvi_mes_20061208_worl-day-of-the-sick-2007_en.html



Respect Life Department

This January marked the 34th anniversary of the Roe vs. Wade Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion. Since then, more than 47 million unborn babies have died. The **Pennies for Babies Fund** supports women in stressful pregnancies who need financial help and often are contemplating abortion. Exercise your beliefs in respecting life and please consider making a donation to the program by sending a check to Catholic Charities Pennies for Babies Fund, P.O. Box 2116, Venice, FL 34284. For more information about the Pennies for Babies Fund, contact the Diocese of Venice Respect Life Department at 941-484-9543.

If you're struggling after an abortion, don't struggle alone. For confidential help, call Project Rachel in Florida toll-free at 877-908-1212 or e-mail project.rachel@dioceseofvenice.org.

Did You Know? In their statement, *A Culture of Life and the Penalty of Death*, the U.S. Catholic Bishops write: "Growing doubts about the fairness, effectiveness, and impact of capital punishment are contributing to increasing unease about its use." 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.

A Valentine Concert for Life featuring Paul Todd - Paul performs spiritual and popular music. He composes his own music, sings and entertains. Join us on Monday, Feb. 12, at 7 p.m. in St. Michael the Archangel Church, 5394 Midnight Pass Road, Siesta Key, FL 34242. Admission is \$20. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Proceeds to benefit the Gabriel Project of Sarasota. Concert is sponsored by St. Michael's CCW and the Respect Life Ministry. For ticket information, call 941-346-0229 or the parish office at 941-349-4174.

SOUTHERN DEANERY

The Life Cycle Series: Rights, Responsibilities and Resources

San Marco's Respect Life Committee announces two presentations on cutting edge topics as part of *The Life Cycle Series: Rights, Responsibilities and Resources*. Both presentations will be held on Wednesday mornings at the Parish Center. Whether it's cloning, eugenics, or death and dying, these programs are guaranteed to provide insight in helping you shape your personal response. You are invited to attend these FREE presentations at San Marco Parish Center, 851 San Marco Road, Marco Island, 9:15 a.m., Wednesdays. (Beverages will be served.)

Feb. 7, 9:15 a.m. – Topic: Reproductive Cloning and The New Eugenics Movement – Dr. Daniel J. Pepin explores the alarming growth of biotechnology in today's society and identifies the potential threats and moral dilemmas.

Mar. 21, 9:15 a.m. – Topic: Decisions for Living – Dr. Mary B. Stegman will discuss pain management, end-of-life decisions while offering guidance regarding advance directives (living will/health care surrogate forms). Daniel Pepin, Ph.D., is professor of anatomy and physiology, instructor in human biology and a consultant on bioethics. Mary Stegman, M.D. is Medical Director of HOPE Hospice of Southwest Florida, Inc., Fort Myers, and chairs the End of Life Issues Committee for the Respect Life Department, Diocese of Venice. For more information contact the co-chairs of San Marco's Respect Life Committee: Janet Knudson, 239-394-3620, or Mary Ann Hansen, 239-394-2864.



Catholic Charities

Bishop Frank Dewane will be the guest of honor at the **8th Annual Venetian Charity Ball**, to be held **Saturday, Feb. 3, at 6 p.m.** A dinner with Bishop Dewane also will be auctioned at the charity event, which will take place at the Sanibel Harbour Resort. Save the date for a fun-filled evening that benefits the programs of Catholic Charities of Lee County. The ball will feature a social hour, dinner, and dancing to the music of Alter Ego, along with silent and live auctions. For more information or to receive tickets to attend, please call Gerrie Weaver at 239-225-0264 or Catholic Charities at 239-334-4007.

The **18th Annual Catholic Charities Ball** will be held **Saturday, Feb. 3, 6 p.m.** at Michael's On East. The event will feature a social hour, dinner and dancing to the Tony DiBianca Band, along with silent and live auctions and casino entertainment. Bishop Frank Dewane will meet and greet ball patrons and a dinner with Bishop Dewane, as the guest of honor, will be auctioned. Tickets are limited so get them early. All proceeds benefit the Financial Assistance Program of Sarasota and Manatee counties. Sponsors and volunteers are needed for the ball. For more information, please call Catholic Charities of Sarasota County at 941-379-5119.

Peace and Justice Office

LEAVEN Conference March 10 – The 13th annual LEAVEN Conference, with the theme of “Weaving the Gospel and Vision of Peace,” will be at St. Joseph Parish in Bradenton on Saturday, March 10. Bishop Frank J. Dewane will deliver the keynote address. Numerous workshops on relevant peace and justice topics will be included. For more information contact the Diocesan Peace and Justice Office: 941-484-9543 or peace&justice@dioceseofvenice.org.



Out and About the Diocese

“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 **eighth concert** features Chorus Angelicus. The 8 to 16 year-old choristers in this choir receive training in the art of singing, reading, and understanding music and music theory. Through singing, they learn self-respect, confidence, and the willingness to strive for results of the highest caliber in all aspects of their lives. Their *a capella* music will enchant you. Performance is 4 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 25.

Father Richard McAlear, OMI, will be at St. Katharine Drexel Catholic Church in Cape Coral, on Friday, Mar. 9, 6:30 p.m., to preside at a **healing Mass**. His gifts of teaching and healing have put him in demand as a speaker for retreats, conferences, and seminars for clergy and laity. All are invited. Free will offering. For more info, call the parish office at 239-283-9501.

St. Martha School will be hosting a **“Luck of the Irish Casino Night” Saturday, March 17, 6 p.m.** The event committee is excited to be bringing our school and surrounding communities an evening of dancing, music and casino gaming in Saint Anne’s Hall, Bishop Nevins Academy, 4380 Fruitville Road, Sarasota, FL 34232. The evening will include roulette, blackjack or Texas hold’em with professional dealers in a fun and relaxed atmosphere. Please call 941-552-3586 for tickets or more information.

