



The Diocese of Venice in Florida



The Mustard Seed

Pastoral Bulletin

August 24, 2007

DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Office of the Bishop

Most Reverend Frank J. Dewane announces the appointment of the new College of Consultors, following the provision of Canon Law (c.502), effective August 15, 2007:

Very Reverend Edward D. Moretti, Vicar General
Very Reverend Stephen E. McNamara, V.F.
Very Reverend Esteban Soy, V.F.

Reverend Joseph Connolly, TOR
Reverend Normando Feliz
Reverend Marcial Garcia
Reverend Fausto Stampiglia, SAC.

Office of the Chancellor

We are saddened by the death of *Reverend Benjamin Gorr* (88) on Saturday, August 18. Father Gorr died in Orlando after a long illness. He was ordained for the Diocese of St. Petersburg, served as Parochial Vicar at St. Jerome Parish, Indian Rocks Beach, and at St. Joseph Parish, Bradenton. He was appointed Administrator of St. Bernard Parish, Holmes Beach, in 1984 and as Pastor of that parish from 1985 until his retirement in 1995, after which he assisted for a short time at St. Mary, Star of the Sea Parish, Longboat Key. Visitation will be Friday, August 24 from 5:00 to 8:00 P.M. at Brown and Sons Funeral Home, 604 43rd Street West, Bradenton. Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, August 25 at 10:00 A.M. at St. Bernard Church, 248 South Harbor Drive, Holmes Beach. Priests wishing to celebrate, please bring alb and stole, and notify the parish secretary of your attendance.

Communications Department

License Renewals - The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles is once again reminding us to buckle up and be safe out on the road. The state is also sending out information on driver's license and identification card renewals, so please see the attached flyers in both English and Spanish.

Employment -the Communications Department is looking for people with communications experience, so if you are interested in a career with the diocese, please contact the Human Resources department at 484-9543.

CCHD/Catholic Relief Services

JustFaith Workshop – JustFaith founder Jack Jezreel will be conducting a workshop hosted by Epiphany Cathedral on Saturday, October 27 from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm, so mark your calendar. Look for more information in the next issue of *The Mustard Seed*.

Help Needed - The *Florida Coalition Against Human Trafficking* in Bonita Springs needs furniture and other household items to furnish five apartments for victims. Items needed include: beds, couches, tables, cribs, pots, towels, plates and utensils, bed sheets, blankets, microwave ovens, toasters, coffee makers and bicycles. For more info call the CRS office or go to: <http://www.stophumantrafficking.org>.

Office of Stewardship and Development

International Catholic Stewardship Conference – If you are planning to attend the International Catholic Stewardship Conference in Miami, September 23rd-26th, please call Mary Campo at 941-441-1117 and let her know because we'd like to plan a diocesan gathering. Call also if you need additional information on the conference.

Stewardship Day - The Diocese of Venice Stewardship Day is scheduled October 30th at St. Thomas More in Sarasota from 9am-3pm and it will include a Mass. Bishop Robert Morneau will be our Key-note speaker. Please promote this event by encouraging your parish leaders to attend. Flyers have been sent to the parishes, and if you need more, please call the development office.

Peace and Justice Office

Ensuring Human Rights of Farmworkers - The Peace and Justice Office recently signed on with more than 60 member organizations of the Alliance for Fair Food urging 36 leading corporations in the retail food industry to work with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers to implement socially responsible purchasing practices, such as those adopted by the McDonalds Corporation and Yum! Brands. The letter states in part: "Working with the CIW will enable your company to ensure to your consumers that your company's tomatoes are not picked by farmworkers who are exploited or enslaved, but instead that your company is part of the movement for fair food."

Help Promote Ecological Justice - "At its core, global climate change is not about economic theory or political platforms, nor about partisan advantage or interest group pressures. It is about the future of God's creation and the one human family." (Global Climate Change, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2001) To find out more about the Diocesan Environmental Justice Commission and how you can join, contact the Diocesan Peace and Justice Office at 941-484-9592 or peace&justice@dioceseofvenice.org

Respect Life

All parishes and organizations in the Diocese of Venice are invited to participate in an "all faiths" prayer campaign this fall in Sarasota, part of a national effort called *40 Days for Life*. This event will consist of a prayer vigil in front of Planned Parenthood's Sarasota abortion facility from September 26 through November 4. This Planned Parenthood organization covers 15 counties, including Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee, Hardee, Highlands and DeSoto. Parishes throughout the diocese are invited to take responsibility for one 12-hour day (or at least half a day for those outside the immediate area).

There will also be some special "kickoff" events in Sarasota with guest speaker Dr. Alveda King, niece of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., on the weekend of September 22-23. Dr. King is the African American Outreach Director for Priests for Life (www.priestsforlife.org/staff/alvedaking.htm) and speaks about abortion as the new civil rights. She also gives her personal testimony as a member of the *Silent No More Awareness Campaign*.

Tribunal

RCIA Programs will begin shortly in our diocesan parishes, and we expect several hundred non-Catholics will be baptized or enter into full communion with the Church.

With this knowledge, and the approval of Bishop Dewane, RCIA Directors, Pastors, and other clergy participating in the RCIA are reminded of the norms of canon law, so we ask that you read carefully the attached document. For questions, please contact Tribunal at 484-9543, ext. 3056.

Worship and Ministries

Marriage Preparation Programs - You should have received a packet of brochures and schedules for the 2007-2008 season. Please discard all copies for 2006-2007 as they are outdated.

Vocations

Discernment Retreat - Join the Sisters of the Good Shepherd as they take a deeper look at the call to religious life, the steps of discernment, and the skills needed to live religious life well. The retreat is scheduled Sept. 21 - 23, 2007 in Wickatunk, NJ. There is no fee, and meals and lodging are provided. Contact Sr. Debbie Drago at 732-946-777, ext. 422 or e-mail her at www.goodshepherdsisters.org. Information is also available at www.goodshepherdsisters.org.

Regional Safe Environment Training

The Diocese of Venice is committed to protecting children and vulnerable adults through our Safe Environment Program. Our promise is to prevent abuse, to respond to allegations and to reach out to victims. Our program includes background checks and screening, awareness training and victim assistance, and all priests, religious, deacons, lay employees, and volunteers who work with children or vulnerable adults must participate. All are required to attend a Safe Environment training session offered in various locations throughout the Diocese, and attendance is mandatory.

Contacts for the Safe Environment Program are **Art Fleischer, program coordinator** and **Dr. Kathy Kleinlein, training director**. They can both be reached at the Catholic Center 941-484-9543.

Schedule is as follows. Please contact the parish secretary for selected location at least two weeks prior to the training. These are the only regional training sessions available this Fall, please make plans to

Date/Time	Northern	Central	Eastern	Southern
Sept 13, 2007 6- 8 pm		St. Columbkille Parish Ft. Myers		
Sept 15, 2007 9:30 am—11:30 am		St. Columbkille Parish Ft. Myers		
Sept 27, 2007 6—8 pm				St. John the Evangelist Naples
Sept 29, 2007 9:30 am—11:30 am				St. John the Evangelist Naples
Sept 27, 2007 6-8 pm	Incarnation Sarasota			
Sept 29, 2007 9:30 am—11 am	Incarnation Sarasota			
Sept 29, 2007 9:30 am—11:30 am			English and Spanish Our Lady Queen of Heaven, Labelle	

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS (Please publish in your bulletins)

Office of Stewardship and Development

Bishop Robert F. Morneau will be the Keynote Speaker at our Diocesan Stewardship Day, October 30th, 9am-3pm, at St. Thomas More Parish in Sarasota. Bishop Morneau is a nationally recognized expert and speaker in the field of stewardship. Workshops for parish leaders will be held throughout the day. All are welcomed, and parishioners who wish to only attend the keynote address and Mass may certainly do so. The cost to attend is \$10, which covers a continental breakfast and lunch. For additional information or to register, please call Deborah Shafer at 941-486-4719.

Respect Life Department

National Prayer Vigil - You are invited to join **40 Days for Life**, a national pro-life prayer vigil, from September 26 through November 4. The local event will be held outside the Planned Parenthood abortion facility in Sarasota daily from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM. For details, go to www.40daysforlife.com. Watch for additional information to come.

State Conference - The registration brochure for the 2007 **Statewide Florida Respect Life Conference**, Oct. 12-14 in Tampa, is now available at . You can also call 941-441-1112 for a copy. Scheduled speakers include Deirdre McQuade and Richard Dorflinger from the USCCB Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities. Deadline for conference registration is September 28th.

Worship and Ministries

“To Trust Again” - Challenges in a second marriage are very different from those in a first marriage and couples planning re-marriage will benefit more from this program. There is a great wealth of information in “To Trust Again” to help them prepare for a second marriage. The program is being offered from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at San Pedro Parish in North Port on September 29, 2007, and Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Parish in Sarasota on January 26, 2008. The cost is \$65 per couple. For information and reservations please call Betty Karsokas at (941) 484-9543.

Renew Your Commitment - A weekend of discovery, a lifetime of love. From September 21-23, experience a World Wide Marriage Encounter Weekend in Venice. Married couples can get away from jobs, kids, phones and chores and focus only on each other. If you would like greater depth, growth and enrichment in your relationship, you'll like the difference a World Wide Marriage Encounter can make. For information and reservations call (888) 560-1854.

Is your marriage hurting? A Retrouvaille Weekend (for troubled marriages) will be held at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat Center in Venice on November 16 - 18. We invite couples to attend this program which offers help to hurting marriages. Retrouvaille places strong emphasis on communication techniques. For information and/or reservations please call (800) 470-2230 or (239) 395-0810. All inquiries are held in strict confidence.

For couples planning marriage:

Venice – A one-day Marriage Preparation Program will be held on Saturday, October 20 at Epiphany Cathedral Parish. Engaged couples will have the opportunity to discuss their future life together within the Sacrament of Marriage.

Fort Myers - a Pre Cana Conference is scheduled Saturday, September 15, 2007 at S. Vincent dePaul Parish to help engaged couples prepare for the Sacrament of Matrimony.

The **cost for each event** is \$65 per couple which includes a continental breakfast and lunch. This fee is non-refundable. For reservations please call Betty Karsokas at (941) 484-9543.

“OUT AND ABOUT” IN THE DIOCESE

**Catholic Young Adults (20’s and 30’s), If You Live in the Sarasota Area,
Come join us for an informal meeting/gathering.**

When: Wed., August 29 @ 7:00p.m.

Where: Incarnation Parish Hall, 2901 Bee Ridge Rd., Sarasota.



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

e-mail: newsletter@dioceseofvenice.org

(no later than seven days prior to publication date.)

The pastoral bulletin is available at

www.dioceseofvenice.org/specialissues/parishbulletin.cfm



*DIOCESE OF VENICE IN FLORIDA
THE TRIBUNAL*

August, 2007

RCIA Programs will begin shortly in our diocesan parishes. Come next Easter, God willing, several hundred non-Catholics will be baptized or enter into full communion with the Church. These new Catholics will receive the other Sacraments of Initiation during the same celebration. What a day of joy that will be for them and of course for the Church herself. However, there may be obstacles in the way of such a joyous celebration. Given the almost exclusive number of non-Catholics in the program, it is, regrettably, a moral certainty that a number of catechumens or candidates will be bound by a prior marriage presumed to be valid both by canon law and natural divine law.

In this connection, with the knowledge and approval of Bishop Dewane, RCIA Directors, Pastors, and other clergy participating in the RCIA are reminded of the following:

- 1) Any person, Catholic, Christian, or not-baptized with a previous marriage who is divorced and remarried or who intends to marry must request that the office of the diocesan tribunal study the prior union to determine if there are possible grounds for determining the ecclesiastical invalidity of the prior union. **No solution other than a positive tribunal one can declare the free status of such a person.**
- 2) The reception of any Sacrament of Initiation is not to be celebrated by anyone in the situation mentioned above. The permanency of marriage is a matter of divine law. Unless and until a prior marriage may be declared invalid by proper Church authority, the presumption of validity remains, and the Sacraments are not to be received. This has been declared frequently by Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI.
- 3) Petitions for the examination of a prior marriage must be submitted to the tribunal as soon as possible. Even if this be done, it does not ensure the case will be completed before the Easter Vigil, and most certainly, it does not ensure that the decision will be an affirmative one. The personnel of the tribunal promises only that everything will be done to process the case as quickly as possible.
- 4) No wedding date, not even a tentative one, is to be given to the party unless and until a double affirmative decision has been rendered.
- 5) Lastly, and as soon as possible, please call the tribunal office (941-484-9543) regarding questions on marriage/divorce/remarriage or any related topic.

Reverend John Dolciamore
Reverend Joseph Amato
Reverend Anthony Hewitt
Reverend Jarek Sniosek

*P.O. Box 2006, Venice, Florida, 34284-2006
www.dioceseofvenice.org/tribunal*

(941) 484-9543

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