



The Diocese of Venice in Florida



# The Mustard Seed

Pastoral Bulletin

Date: MAY 16, 2008

## DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Office of the Bishop

**May 24th: Day of Prayer for China:** Pope Benedict XVI has asked that May 24th be kept as a day of prayer for the Church in China. This day is dedicated to the liturgical memorial of Our Lady, Help of Christians, who is venerated with great devotion at the Marian Shrine of Sheshan in Shanghai.

### CRS/CCHD

**Myanmar relief efforts:** Catholic Relief Services is supporting emergency relief and response efforts of the Caritas Internationalis network in the most affected areas of Myanmar after Cyclone Nargis brought a deadly tidal surge across the low-lying coastal areas of the country on Saturday. The level of devastation is still difficult to assess as communications remain spotty and news trickles out of the country. Conditions are dire. Food, water and basic shelter are urgently needed. For additional information, please go to [www.crs.org](http://www.crs.org). Caritas Internationalis is a confederation of 162 Catholic relief, development and social service organizations.

### Information Technology

**Reminder:** The Diocese of Venice is in the last phase of implementing the LOGOS software system with all parishes. LOGOS is the industry-leading supplier of application software for faith based organizations, and the software is designed to meet the operational needs of both the Catholic Center and its church entities. If you have not already done so, please purchase the following LOGOS modules as soon as possible. We would like to have everyone registered to be using LOGOS by June 1, 2008.

The LOGOS modules that need to be purchased include:

- **LOGOS II Church Management**  
*Helps with tracking the parish families, individuals, giving, pledges, contacts, etc.*
- **Sacramental Register**  
*Software to be used for the Sacramental Register records*
- **LOGOS Global Backup**  
*Off-site remote backup for LOGOS-related data.*

During the next two weeks, we will be contacting everyone to help with the acquisition and implementation process. The software should be purchased through the Diocese to take advantage of group discounts. Please fill out the LOGOS Purchase Requisition Form which you should have already received, and return to Judy Piper, LOGOS Project Coordinator. To help alleviate costs, the Diocese IT Department will help with training and implementation. More information on LOGOS and their products can be found at their website located at <http://www.logoscms.com/layout7.cfm?ID=104>.

### Respect Life

**Pastors:** This is the time to be sure that each parish is represented at the Annual Diocesan Coalition for Life meeting to be held on Saturday, May 31, from 10AM to 3PM, at St. Charles Borromeo Parish Hall, Port Charlotte. Advance registration is required by May 22. Bishop Dewane made the Coalition for Life our highest priority this

year and he will address the group in the morning. The Coalition's purpose is to encourage the Council of Catholic Women and Knights of Columbus to work with parish Respect Life Teams to promote a greater respect for life in the diocese. Please encourage each of the three organizations in your parish to send one or two representatives. Individuals who have been involved in the current six county Coalitions for Life have received invitations. If you do not have a Parish Respect Life Rep and choose to appoint one, please send the contact information to the Diocesan Respect Life Department ([Berdeaux@dioceseofvenice.org](mailto:Berdeaux@dioceseofvenice.org) or call 941-441-1101).

### **Peace and Justice Office**

***Forum on Immigration Issues:*** The Peace and Justice Office is sponsoring a forum for priests of the Diocese of Venice on immigration issues on Thursday, November 20, 2008 at Resurrection of Our Lord Parish in Fort Myers from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Bishop Frank J. Dewane will be joined by Randolph McGrorty, Esq., Catholic Legal Services, Archdiocese of Miami; Sister Maureen Kelleher, RSHM, Esq., Legal Aid Services, Collier County; Ms. Iraidia Contreras and Mr. Peter Routsis-Arroyo, both of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Venice. The Reverend Vicars Forane of the Diocese and the director of the Hispanic Apostolate of the Diocese will be assisting. The focus of the forum will be to dispel myths associated with immigration and to make appropriate referrals for families and individuals coping with these issues. For more information, contact the Peace and Justice Office at 941-484-9543 or [peace&justice@dioceseofvenice.org](mailto:peace&justice@dioceseofvenice.org).

### **Office for Religious**

***Retreat for Religious:*** *What is the plan for your life? Feeling unsure where to turn? Trying to sort out or deepen what nourishes you spiritually? Want a balanced path to walk as you follow Jesus?* These questions will be addressed at a retreat facilitated by Fr. Peter Sousa, C.Ss.R. at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat Center in Venice, June 9 - 14, 2008. Registration fee is \$375 per person based on having a private room. A \$50.00 non-refundable deposit per person is required by May 30, 2007.

***Note:*** Registration Forms are available for download on the diocesan website calendar (click on the dates), or call Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat Center - 941-486-0233.

## **BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Please publish in your bulletins)***

### **CRS/CCHD**

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is supporting the relief efforts of Caritas Internationalis in Myanmar in response to the devastation caused by Cyclone Nargis. CRS is the official humanitarian agency of the U.S. Catholic Church. To donate, please call 1-877-HELP-CRS (1-877-425-7277), donate online at [www.crs.org](http://www.crs.org), or send a check to Catholic Relief Services, P.O. Box 17090, Baltimore, MD, 21203-7090. Memo line: Southeast Asia Natural Disaster.

### **Department of Education**

***"Building Bridges Brown Bag Lunch Series":*** Bring your own lunch and enjoy a series of talks sponsored by the Blessed Edmund Rice School for Pastoral Ministry Alumni Association. Sr. Carla Mae Streeter, O.P will be addressing "Catholic Theology Building - An Ecumenical Bridge to Understanding World Religions" on Saturday, May 31, 2008, at St. Columbkille Parish Center. The sessions start at 9:30 a.m. with coffee and end approximately at 2:30 p.m. All are welcome to listen, discuss and learn especially parents, catechists, young adults and deacons. A free will offering will be taken to support the Blessed Edmund Rice School. For more information call 239-437-6454.

### **Respect Life**

***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 the recent case *Baze v. Rees*, the United States Supreme Court rejected the challenge that Kentucky's lethal injection protocol violates the Eighth Amendment's ban on "cruel and unusual punishments." By

a vote of 7-2, the Court upheld the Kentucky Supreme Court finding that the protocol does not violate the Eighth Amendment because it does not create a substantial risk of wanton and unnecessary infliction of pain, torture, or lingering death. For further information, please contact the diocesan Respect Life Department at 941-441-1112.

### **Peace and Justice Office**

***LEAVEN XV Planning Underway:*** The new Planning Committee for the 15th Anniversary gathering of the LEAVEN Conference held its first meeting on May 6 at Our Lady of Light Parish in Estero. Our Lady of Light is the setting for the Saturday, March 7, 2009 Leaven Conference. Topics for discussion will include: cultural diversity, world hunger, ecology, mental illness, Catholic Social Teaching and the war in Iraq. Parishes are encouraged to participate in a procession with their respective banners to depict how far LEAVEN and the Peace and Justice Ministry has grown since its first conference in 1994. The next meeting of the Planning Committee will be Tuesday, October 7 at Our Lady of Light from 1:00 – 3:00 PM. Parishioners who wish to join the Planning Committee are asked to contact Mary Raynor at the Peace and Justice Office, 941-484-9543 or e-mail [raynor@dioceseofvenice.org](mailto:raynor@dioceseofvenice.org).

### **Worship and Ministries**

(NORTHERN DEANERY)

***Couples planning marriage:*** The Diocese of Venice will hold a one-day Marriage Preparation Program on Saturday, June 21 at our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Venice. The program gives engaged couples the opportunity to speak honestly about their future within the Sacrament of Marriage. The non-refundable registration fee is \$65 per couple which covers breakfast, lunch and printed materials. For information call Betty K at 941-484-9543.

## **OUT AND ABOUT THE DIOCESE**

### **Guest Speaker at Latin Mass Conference**

The Very Rev. Fr. J. Berg, Superior General of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter will be the guest speaker at a conference on the Latin Mass and the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter being held at Resurrection of Our Lord Parish in Fort Myers, at 6:30 P.M. on Monday June 2nd. Father Berg is headquartered in Europe and is making a long trip to attend the conference. For more information contact Resurrection Parish at 239-481-7171.

### **Young Catholic Adults**

If you are a young Catholic (20's & 30's) living in the Sarasota area, and interested in joining us for social and spiritual events, e-mail [djones@dioceseofvenice.org](mailto:djones@dioceseofvenice.org).

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#### **Department of Communications**

**1000 Pinebrook Road**

**Venice FL 34285**

**e-mail: [newsletter@dioceseofvenice.org](mailto:newsletter@dioceseofvenice.org)**

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**The pastoral bulletin is available at**

**[www.dioceseofvenice.org/specialissues/parishbulletin.cfm](http://www.dioceseofvenice.org/specialissues/parishbulletin.cfm)**