



The Diocese of Venice in Florida



The Mustard Seed

Pastoral Bulletin

June 27, 2008

DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

From the Bishop's Office

Most Reverend Frank J. Dewane announces the following appointments:

Reverend Arthur Espelage, OFM, as Adjutant Judicial Vicar for the Diocese of Venice effective July 1, 2008.

Reverend Lorenzo Gonzalez as Administrator of St. Joseph the Worker, Moore Haven, effective July 21, 2008. At the same time he is relieved of his duty of the Hispanic Apostolate in the Naples area.

Reverend Jose del Olmo to the Hispanic Apostolate in Naples area, effective July 21, 2008. At the same time he is relieved of his duties as Parochial Vicar of St. Jude Parish, Sarasota.

Reverend Jiobani Batista as Parochial Vicar of St. Jude Parish, Sarasota, effective July 21, 2008. At the same time he is relieved of his duties as Parochial Vicar of Our Lady Queen of Heaven Parish, La Belle.

Reverend Luis Albarracin as Parochial Vicar of Our Lady Queen of Heaven, Labelle, effective July 21, 2008.

Reverend Vincent Llarria retires as Pastor of St. James Parish, Lake Placid, effective August 1, 2008.

Reverend Michael Cannon as Administrator of St. James Parish, Lake Placid, effective August 1, 2008.

Following the provisions of Canon Law and presentation of the appropriate religious superiors, this is to announce the following appointments:

Reverend Hector Rubin, C.S. retires as Pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Immokalee, effective June 1, 2008.

Reverend Pio Battaglia, C.S. as Pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Immokalee, effective June 1, 2008.

Reverend Julio Rivero, TOR retires as Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Bradenton, effective August 1, 2008.

Reverend Salvator Stefula, TOR as Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Bradenton, effective August 1, 2008.

Prayer for the Pauline Year. The Basilica of St. Paul Outside-the-Walls in Rome has authorized an official prayer for the use of the faithful during this year of celebration. The text of the prayer follows.

*Glorious St. Paul,
Apostle full of zeal,
Martyr for the love of Christ,
Give us a deep faith,
A steadfast hope,
And hearts afire for the Lord,
That we may say with you:
"It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me."
Help us to become apostles
Who serve the Church with a pure conscience,
Witnesses of her truth and beauty
Amidst the darkness of our age.
With you we praise God our Father,
"To him be the glory in the Church of Christ,
World without end." Amen.*

Peace & Justice Office

Climate Change. The U.S. Senate recently ended debate on global climate change without passing new legislation. However, more senators (54 out of 60 needed) were in favor of the legislation than in past years. Both Florida Senators Mel Martinez and Bill Nelson voted for the legislation. For more information, contact the Peace and Justice Office at 941-484-9543 or peace&justice@dioceseofvenice.org.

Respect Life

The August 2008 edition of the **Word of Life** series provided by the USCCB Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities is available on the Internet at: http://www.usccb.org/prolife/liturgy/wol_aug08.pdf. WOL also features Intercessions for Life and Bulletin Briefs. The Spanish version is at: http://www.usccb.org/prolife/liturgy/wol_aug08-sp.pdf.

For those parishes participating in the **July Novena of Masses for Life**, here is a suggested "Prayer of the Faithful" for Friday, July 25 (End of FOURTH Month):

For all unborn babies at the end of the FOURTH month of life in their mothers' wombs – now experiencing their first little dreams – that Our Lord Jesus, who also knew that fourth month in Our Lady's womb, will inspire all doctors and nurses to care lovingly for both them and their mothers ... Let us pray to the Lord

Worship & Ministries Department

A packet of marriage preparation materials is being mailed this week to all parishes. Included in the packet are brochures for each program and some new display cards from Marriage Encounter. There is also a Flyer for the upcoming **Married and Loving it! (Most of the Time) Day of Enrichment** that will be held at Our Lady of Lourdes in Venice on August 16. Please post this flyer. For additional information please call the Family Life Office at (941) 484-9543.

All Pastors/Administrators Reminder that training for Boy Scouting Religious Award Counselors will be held on Saturday, August 9, 2008, at the Church of the Incarnation, Sarasota, FL. Pastors should fill out a religious counselor nomination form for each counselor and forward it to the Scouting Department, Office of Worship and Ministries, no later than July 15. For those who cannot attend, a follow up training date will be established, but it will be later in the year, so encourage your people to attend this one if they can. For further information, contact Jim Fetterman 941-484-9543, 941-321-8237 or fetterman@dioceseofvenice.org.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Please publish in your bulletins)*

Respect Life

July Novena of Masses for Life - The Respect Life Department, in collaboration with Laity for Life, is pleased to announce the July schedule of the Novena of Masses for Life. On Friday, July 25th, the fourth month of Jesus' development in the womb of Our Lady will be celebrated with a special Mass at the following parishes: **Incarnation in Sarasota at 7:00 am; Resurrection in Fort Myers at 8:00 am; St. Peter the Apostle in Naples at 8:00 am; and St. Michael in Wauchula at 8:30 am.** Please join us at one of these parishes for our continuing meditation on the very beginnings of Our Lord's life - as an unborn child in the womb of His mother. The Masses will be offered for the special intention of "a greater respect for all human life." The complete list of scheduled Masses through November is available at: <http://www.dovrespectlife.org/2008NOVENAFORLIFESCHEDULE.pdf> or www.LaityforLife.org or call (239) 352-6333 for additional information.

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 email project.rachel@dioceseofvenice.org.

Did You Know? In the recent case *Baze v. Rees*, United States Supreme Court Associate Justice John Paul Stevens stated in his concurring opinion: "The risk of executing innocent defendants can be entirely eliminated by treating any penalty more severe than life imprisonment without the possibility of parole as constitutionally excessive." For further information, please contact the diocesan Respect Life Department at 941-441-1112.

NORTHERN DEANERY

SUNCOAST PEOPLE ON THE GO (SpotGO), a group for Persons with Physical Disabilities between the ages of 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 should call Laurel or Barb at 941-727-4327 for additional information.

Peace & Justice Office

Save the Dates for Upcoming Social Justice Events.

On **November 15, 2008**, the Environmental Justice Commission of the Peace and Justice Office will sponsor a forum on water conservation issues in southwest Florida. Cynthia Barnett, author of *Mirage: Florida and the Vanishing Water of the Eastern U.S.*, will be the principal speaker. The event will be held at Epiphany Cathedral Parish in Venice.

On **March 7, 2009**, the 15th Annual Leaven Conference, with the theme, *World Hunger: The Christian Response*, will be held at Our Lady of Light Parish in Fort Myers. For more information, contact the Peace and Justice Office at 941-484-9543 or peace&justice@dioceseofvenice.org

Worship & Ministries Department

MARRIED AND LOVING IT! (MOST OF THE TIME) -- Please save August 16th for a very special one day marriage enrichment program. Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Venice is hosting this day for all married couples to "get away" and rekindle the passion for your marriage. Breakfast, lunch and all materials are provided -- cost per couple for the day is \$25. For more info, call Larry and Sue Haag at 941-927-3481. Watch for registration info in upcoming bulletins.

Couples planning marriage: The Diocese of Venice will hold a one-day Marriage Preparation Program on Saturday, August 2, at Epiphany Parish in Venice, to give engaged couples the opportunity to speak honestly about their future within the Sacrament of Marriage. The fee is \$65 per couple and this non-refundable fee covers breakfast, lunch and printed materials. For information please call Betty K at (941) 484-9543.

Marriage preparation in Spanish language: The Diocese of Venice will hold a one-day Marriage Preparation Class in Spanish on Saturday August 2, at St. Jude Parish in Sarasota. For information please call Frances at (941) 955-3934.

FOR CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN DEANERIES

For couples planning marriage: The Diocese of Venice will hold a Pre Cana Conference on Saturday, September 13, at St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort Myers to help engaged couples prepare for the Sacrament of Matrimony. The fee is \$65 per couple and this non-refundable fee includes a continental breakfast and lunch. For reservations please call Betty K at (941) 484-9543.



The Mustard Seed is an official pastoral bulletin of the Diocese of Venice, published bi-weekly on Fridays by the Department of Communications. Notices of general interest will be considered for inclusion. Send information to:

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**The pastoral bulletin is available at
www.dioceseofvenice.org/specialissues/parishbulletin.cfm**