



The Diocese of Venice in Florida



The Mustard Seed

Pastoral Bulletin

August 22, 2008

DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

From the Bishop's Office

Most Reverend Frank J. Dewane announces the following appointments:

Reverend John Dolciamore retired as Judicial Vicar of the Diocese of Venice, effective September 1, 2008.

Reverend Arthur Espelage as Judicial Vicar of the Diocese of Venice, effective September 1, 2008. At the same time he is relieved of his duties as Adjutant Judicial Vicar of the Diocese of Venice.

Reverend Remigious Ssekiranda as Parochial Vicar of St. Andrew Parish, Cape Coral, effective September 15, 2008. At the same time he is relieved of his duties as Administrator of Jesus Obrero Mission, Ft. Myers.

Reverend Robert Dziedziak as Administrator of St. Patrick Parish, Sarasota, effective September 1, 2008. At the same time he is relieved of his duties as Parochial Vicar at St. Jude Parish, Sarasota.

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

Reverend Dennis J. Harten, O.S.A., as Pastor of St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Naples, effective September 1, 2008. At the same time, he is relieved of his duties as Administrator of St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Naples.

Communications Department

Faithful Citizenship Campaign – As we near election time this is a reminder to all parishes and schools to keep sharing the Faithful Citizenship message from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). **Faithful Citizenship** is the Bishops' campaign to help Catholics develop well-formed consciences for addressing political and social questions.

Bulletin Editors: The campaign web site www.faithfulcitizenship.com is available as a valuable resource for Church teachings on the issues, guidelines for parish political activity, planning ideas, clip art and much more. Parishes, schools, committees, educational programs, youth and young adult ministries, and other groups who want to be involved in spreading the message of **Faithful Citizenship** are urged to visit the website and take advantage of the resources.

Education Department

Safe Environment Training: All diocesan employees—clergy, religious, laity and volunteers who have routine contact with children or vulnerable adults are reminded that you must undergo Safe Environment Training. If you have not attended an awareness training, you should make plans to attend a class soon, as your relationship with the diocese is predicated by this training. Contact the parish secretary at the location you wish to attend with your name and telephone number at least two weeks prior to the training.

Bulletin editors: Attached is a Fall schedule of upcoming training sessions, please post and share this information with all parish/school staff and volunteers.

Respect Life

40 Days for Life - The Diocese of Venice will once again join other local churches and Christians in 173 cities across the country and Canada in the fall *40 Days for Life* campaign to pray for an end to abortion. Churches are encouraged to “Sign Up for Life” by committing to a full day or at least a half day between September 24 and November 2 to pray outside the Planned Parenthood abortion facility in Sarasota. Go to www.40daysforlife.com/sarasota or call (941) 716-6510 to register.

Bulletin editors: A downloadable insert is available at www.beinghumanshow.com which can be used as a poster or bulletin insert to promote the new episode of “**Being Human**” which will air on EWTN on Sunday, September 21 at 9:00 PM. The new TV show will help people understand the importance of *40 Days for Life*.

For those parishes participating in the September Novena of Masses for Life, here is a suggested "**Prayer of the Faithful**" for Thursday, September 25 (End of SIXTH Month):
For all unborn babies at the end of the SIXTH month of life in their mothers' wombs – their tiny lungs now strong for possible survival outside the womb – that Our Lord, Who also knew that sixth month in Our Lady's womb, will give everyone in public office the courage to protect all human life, born and unborn ... Let us pray to the Lord

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS (Please publish in your bulletins)

Communications Department

Election Novena Available for Download- The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) invites U.S. Catholics to pray before the November election a novena for life, justice, and peace called *Novena for Faithful Citizenship*. The special novena is a podcast available for download and it is part of the Bishops' campaign to help Catholics develop well-formed consciences for addressing political and social questions. It is hoped that the novena, which emphasizes the dignity of life, justice, and peace, could help Catholics enter into prayerful reflection as they prepare to vote. The *Novena for Faithful Citizenship* runs for nine days and can be used consecutively, one day each week, for nine days prior to the election, or in any way that works best for a community or individual.

The novena will be available for download until the election and it can be downloaded online at <http://fc.mach1media.com/resources/podcasts>. For other *Faithful Citizenship* resources and materials visit www.faithfulcitizenship.org.

Respect Life

“Being Human” Episode - A new episode of “Being Human” will air on EWTN on Sunday, September 21, at 9:00 PM. Watch and learn more about the importance of the national *40 Days for Life* campaign to pray for an end to abortion (September 24-November 2). For details go to www.beinghumanshow.com or www.40daysforlife.com/sarasota.

September Novena of Masses for Life - The Respect Life Department, in collaboration with Laity for Life, is pleased to announce the September schedule of the Novena of Masses for Life. On Thursday, September 25th, the sixth month of Jesus’ development in the womb of Our Lady will be celebrated with a Mass at the following parishes: **St. Patrick in Sarasota at 8:00 am; St. Francis of Assisi in Grove City at 8:30 am; St. Peter the Apostle in Naples at 8:00 am; and St. James in Lake Placid at 9:00 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 their statement *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, the U.S. Catholic Bishops say: "We hope Catholics will ask candidates how they intend to help our nation pursue these important goals: Keep our nation from turning to violence to address fundamental problems—a million abortions each year to deal with unwanted pregnancies, euthanasia and assisted suicide to deal with the burdens of illness and disability, the destruction of human embryos in the name of research, the use of the death penalty to combat crime, and imprudent resort to war to address international disputes." The entire statement may be found online at: <http://www.faithfulcitizenship.org/church/statements>. For further information, please contact the diocesan Respect Life Department at 941-441-1112.

Worship & Ministries

Day of Recollection: Prison Ministry Volunteers are invited to a Day of Recollection on Saturday, October 4, at St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish in Port Charlotte, from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. Guest Speaker will be Rev. Deacon John Alvarez. For reservations, please contact Betty Karsokas, Diocese of Venice Ministries Office – 941-484-9543.

NORTHERN DEANERY

For couples planning marriage - The Diocese of Venice will hold a one-day Marriage Preparation Program on Saturday, October 4, 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. Registration is \$65 per couple and it includes breakfast, lunch and printed materials. This fee is non-refundable. For information please call Betty K at (941) 484-9543.

CENTRAL DEANERY

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. Registration is \$65 per couple, and it includes a continental breakfast and lunch. This fee is non-refundable. For reservations please call Betty K at (941) 484-9543.

ALL DEANERIES

For couples planning marriage – The Diocese of Venice will hold a Pre Cana Program on Saturday, October 18, at St. Catherine Parish in Sebring, to help engaged couples prepare for their future together and to gain insights into married life. Registration is \$65 per couple, and it includes a continental breakfast and lunch. This fee is non-refundable. For reservations please call Betty K at (941) 484-9543.

****Retrouvaille helps improve troubled marriages*** - Retrouvaille is an international program to help overhaul marriages that are in danger of dissolving. Retrouvaille places strong emphasis on the communication techniques needed to repair hurting marriages, including a concentrated weekend and six post-weekend Sunday afternoon sessions. There is still hope. The next **Retrouvaille weekend will be held in Venice on October 31 - Nov. 2.** Please call Steve and Linda Smith at (239) 395-0810 or (800) 470-2230. All inquiries are held in strict confidence.

World Wide Marriage Encounter September 12-14, in Venice - Renew your romance ... a weekend of discovery...a lifetime of love! Plan to experience a Marriage Encounter weekend, where 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 this weekend can make. For information call Ernie and Mary Bartels at 941-962-9904 or email: Ernieandmaryme@aol.com.

Preparing Couples for who are marrying again - “**To Trust Again**” Challenges in a second marriage are very different from those in a first marriage and couples planning to remarry 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** Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Parish in Sarasota on September 27.



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. **Please e-mail information to:** newsletter@dioceseofvenice.org

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

Regional Safe Environment Training - Fall 2008

The following parishes will hold regional Safe Environment Awareness training sessions. **All** diocesan employees...clergy, religious, laity..and those volunteers who have routine contact with children or vulnerable adults, **MUST BE TRAINED** in safe environment awareness issues. If you have not attended an awareness training, you should attend one of these sessions, as your relationship with the diocese is predicated by this training. **Please contact the parish secretary at the location you wish to attend** with your name and telephone number at least two weeks prior to the training. Please share this information with all parish/school staff and volunteers.

| Date/Time | Northern | Central | Eastern | Southern |
|---|-----------------|----------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Aug. 14 th 6:00pm to 8:00pm | St. Joseph | | | |
| Aug. 16 th 9:30am to 11:30am | St. Joseph | | | |
| Aug. 14 th 6:00pm to 8:00pm | | | | St. Agnes |
| Aug. 16 th 9:30am to 11:30am | | | | St. Agnes |
| Aug. 21 st 6:00pm to 8:00pm | | St. Charles Borromeo | | |
| Aug. 23 rd 9:30am to 11:30am | | St. Charles Borromeo | | |
| Aug. 21 st 6:00pm to 8:00pm | | Ascension | | |
| Aug. 23 rd 9:30am to 11:30am | | Ascension | | |
| Aug. 21 st 6:00pm to 8:00pm | | | St. Michael | |
| Aug. 23 rd 9:30am to 11:30am | | | St. Michael | |
| Sept. 11 th 6:00pm to 8:00pm | | | | St. William |
| Sept. 13 th 9:30am to 11:30am | | | | St. William |
| Sept. 14 th 12noon to 2:00pm | | | | Our Lady of Light |
| Sept. 18 th 6:00pm to 8:00pm | | San Antonio | | |
| Sept. 20 th 9:30am to 11:30am | | San Antonio | | |
| Sept. 25 th 6:00pm to 8:00pm | St. Martha | | | |
| Sept. 27 th 9:30am to 11:30am | St. Martha | | | |
| Sept. 25 th 6:00pm to 8:00pm | | St. Cecilia | | |
| Sept. 27 th 9:30am to 11:30am | | St. Cecilia | | |

These are the only regional trainings that will be held in the fall. The next trainings will be scheduled in the Spring 2009. Awareness trainings in Spanish will be announced.