



The Diocese of Venice in Florida



The Mustard Seed

Pastoral Bulletin

September 5, 2008

DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

From the Bishop's Office

Most Reverend Frank J. Dewane announces the following appointments:

Reverend Luis Pacheco as Parochial Vicar of St. Leo Parish, Bonita Springs, effective September 15, 2008. At the same time he is relieved of his duties as Parochial Vicar at St. Andrew Parish, Cape Coral.

Reverend Sophonias Ortiz as Administrator of Jesus the Worker Mission, Ft. Myers, effective September 15, 2008. At the same time he is relieved of his duties as Parochial Vicar at St. Leo Parish, Bonita Springs.

Development and Stewardship

Fourth Annual Diocesan Stewardship Day: October 21st, at Our Lady of Light Parish, Fort Myers, from 9am until 3pm, cost \$10. Bring your parish leadership! Speakers include author Leisa Anslinger (Forming Generous Hearts: Stewardship Planning for Lifelong Faith Formation), Michael Murphy, Executive Director of the International Catholic Stewardship Council, and several others who will offer practical tools to promote stewardship. For the first time, we are pleased to offer a workshop in Spanish. For info or to RSVP, please call Deborah at 941-486-4719.

CFA: The summer is over and the Northerners will be returning soon. If you have not met your CFA goals now is the time to plan for Fall activities. Call the Development office if you need assistance.

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: All parishes and organizations are invited to participate in an "all faiths" prayer campaign this fall in Sarasota, part of a national effort called **40 Days for Life**. The event focuses on a silent, peaceful prayer vigil in front of Planned Parenthood's Sarasota abortion facility from September 24—November 2. This Planned Parenthood organization covers 15 counties, including Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee, Hardee, Highlands and DeSoto. Parishes are invited to take responsibility for one 10-hour day (or at least half a day for those outside the immediate area). For details go to www.40daysforlife.com/sarasota or call the Respect Life Department at (941) 441-1112.

2009 Novena of Masses for Life Parish Participation: We are beginning to plan for the Second Annual Diocese of Venice/Laity for Life Novena of Masses for Life, which will begin on March 25, 2009. The first Novena of Masses for Life this year has been very successful, with 29 parishes around the Diocese participating. For 2009, we hope to have even more parish participation. Please let us know if your parish would like to be part of this beautiful 9-month celebration of Our Lord's development in His mother's womb. All that is necessary is that you designate one of your regularly-scheduled Masses on the 25th of one or more months from April through November 2009 to be offered for the special intention of "A greater respect for all human life." Additional details and the full schedule will be provided to you when they become available. Contact Patricia Bucalo at Laity for Life (239-248-0694) as soon as possible with your selected dates.

Respect Life Collection - Bulletin editors: attached is a letter from Bishop Dewane for the October 5 collection for Respect Life.

Worship and Ministries

Liturgical Calendar Advisories: An insert of Liturgical Calendar advisories is available at www.dioceseofvenice.org/pdf/files/pdf_worship/liturgicalcaladvisories08.pdf.

As a reminder, **All Saints Day** falls on a Saturday and is **not** a Day of Obligation this year. Please read the insert about the rules pertaining to having funeral and wedding Masses on this day. Also read about the changes on how to do the Liturgy of the Hours for All Saints Day and All Souls Day. Even though All Saints Day falls on a Sunday this year, we do not say or sing the Gloria.

December 8 is the **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception** and falls on Monday this year. It is a Holy Day of Obligation this year even though it falls on a Monday. Since many parishes have Sunday evening Mass, the parish needs to decide if it is celebrating a Mass for the Second Sunday of Advent or the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. It must be made clear to the faithful in advance that you cannot attend only one Mass to fulfill both your Sunday obligation and Holy Day obligation. See the insert about doing the Liturgy of the Hours on that day.

On Sunday, January 25, 2009 we celebrate the **Conversion of Saint Paul**. Since it is the 2000th

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Please publish in your bulletins)*

Communications Department

Gearing Up for November Elections: As the November election approaches, Catholic dioceses in Florida, as well as around the country are stepping up efforts to help Catholics understand Church social teaching. We want you to vote with a well-formed conscience. Our efforts revolve around "**Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship**," the document approved last November by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). Please visit www.faithfulcitizenship.org to stay informed.

Get in the Spirit of the News—subscribe to The Florida Catholic: Our diocesan newspaper is consistently engaged in reporting about important matters such as faith education, social justice, real-life problems, economic issues, and solutions to every day problems. This year, we enter the next phase of innovative journalism as we launch a more complete newspaper with a biweekly print edition

accompanied by a daily online edition. For balanced news coverage, join more than 300,000 Catholics in Florida who receive the *Florida Catholic*. Cost: 1 year in-state, \$24; 2 years in-state, \$46; 1 year out-of-state, \$30; 1 year foreign, \$95. Subscribe to the Florida Catholic today and support your parish. Call (toll-free) 1-888-275-9953 or visit us at www.thefloridacatholic.org and subscribe day or night (check, Visa, MasterCard and Discovery accepted).

Catholic Charities

Catholic Charities food pantries desperately need donations:

Catholic Charities of Lee County is experiencing a 75% increase in demand for food from clients suffering from the current state of economy. Catholic Charities food pantries are extremely low in supplies. Basic food commodities are needed such as rice, dry beans, pasta, cereal, macaroni and cheese, canned meats and fish, tomato sauce, cooking oil and corn flour. Please consider dropping off a donation of food items to one of the Catholic Charities offices in Lee County at the following locations:

- 4235 Michigan Ave. Link, Fort Myers, FL 33916
- 5597 Sunrise Drive, Fort Myers, FL 33919
- 3430 Cleveland Ave., Fort Myers, FL 33901
- 27050 Old 41 Road, Bonita Springs, FL 34135

For more information, please call Catholic Charities of Lee County at 239-337-4193.

Respect Life

40 Days for Life: Planned Parenthood--the largest provider of abortions in the U.S.--will soon be moving into one of the top 5 largest megabortuaries in the U.S. in Sarasota. It's time to join forces and storm the heavens with prayers to end abortion. Join us at 40 Days for Life from September 24 through November 2. To sign up or to volunteer to help, go to www.40daysforlife.com/sarasota or call the Respect Life Department at (941) 441-1112.

2008 Statewide Florida Respect Life Conference: Registration brochure for the Oct. 10-11 conference in Tallahassee is now available at <http://www.dovrespectlife.org/RL%20Event%20Brochure.pdf> or call (941) 441-1112. This year's theme is "Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of Humanae Vitae." Scheduled speakers include the Most Reverend Victor Galeone, Bishop of St. Augustine, and Theresa Notare, Assistant Director of the NFP Planning Program at the USCCB. Deadline for conference registration is September 30th.

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.

Did You Know? The scheduled execution of Richard Henryard on September 23, 2008 is the 66th in Florida since the reinstatement of the death penalty in 1976 and the 2nd in 2008. For further information, please contact the diocesan Respect Life Department at (941) 441-1112.

Peace and Justice Office

Save the Date — November 15, 2008 for Water Forum: The Environmental Justice Commission of the Peace and Justice Office is sponsoring: *Water Issues — Responsible Action: Religious and Civil Partners* on November 15 at Epiphany Cathedral Parish. The program will begin with a Mass celebrated by Bishop Frank J. Dewane at 8:30 AM. The forum will focus on the problem of increasing demand for water in Florida as water supplies diminish, and on what local groups can do to conserve the valuable resource and avoid costly waste. Cynthia Barnett will deliver the keynote address. She is the author the 2007 award winning book, *Mirage: Florida and the Vanishing Water of the Eastern U.S.* All interested

in preserving Florida's natural water resources are invited to attend. A registration fee of \$15 includes a continental breakfast and box lunch. For more information, contact the Peace and Justice Office at 941-484-9543 or peace&justice@dioceseofvenice.org.

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

Worship & Ministries

Marriage Preparation Ministers Sought For Southern Deanery: "Follow the Way of Love," the program given for couples preparing marriage urgently needs a couple (or a team of couples) to administer the program in the southern deanery. The program is held twice a year—on a Saturday from 8:45 AM to 4:00 PM at St. William parish in Naples. Engaged couples from the southern deanery will have to travel to the central or northern deaneries to attend mandatory marriage preparation programs if local ministers are not found. Please contact Mr. Michael Mahr, St. William Parish in Naples, at (239) 261-4883, or Mrs. Betty Karsokas at the Catholic Center in Venice at (941) 484-9543, extension 3050, for further information. Training and materials will be provided for anyone interested in joining this worthwhile program.

(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 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 Cano 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.

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.

OUT AND ABOUT THE DIOCESE

Youth Rally Day: On Saturday, October 11th there will be a Youth Rally Day for ALL 6-12th grade students of the Diocese of Venice sponsored by Epiphany Cathedral's Youth Ministry from 10:00 a.m to 6:30 p.m. at Epiphany Cathedral in Venice. The cost per student will be \$5.00 which will cover the cost of food and drinks throughout the day. The Rally will feature Bryan Murdaugh, a catholic musician and youth minister from South Carolina and will conclude with the celebration of the liturgy. For more information about the Youth Rally or to R.S.V.P. for the event, contact one of the following planning members:

Cheryl Vignola, vignola@epiphanycathedral.org
Youth Minister, Epiphany Cathedral * 941 484-3505

Tim Holliday, sttmyouthrocks@aol.com
Youth Minister, St. Thomas More * 941-376-0279

Nathan Boock, nathboo5@hotmail.com
Youth Minister, San Pedro * 941-426-4729

African National Prayer Day, September 19 – 20, 2008– The National Basilica of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception is inviting you to join in this celebration sponsored by the Secretariat for Cultural Diversity in the Church (SCDC) Sub-Committee on Pastoral Care for Migrants, Refugees, and Travelers (PCMRT) of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). For further information, please contact Mr. Dieudonné Ndouga, Secretary, National Association of African Catholics ddkatv!@yahoo.fr, Sr. Joanne Okereke, HHCJ, Program Coordinator, SCDC/PCMRT-USCCB jokereke@usccb.org or Mr. Alimasi Ntal, Prersident, National Association of African Catholics at alntal@yahoo.com.

The Year of St. Paul Discussions - A series of talks on The Year of St. Paul presented by John T. Conroy, M.A. in Philosophy (Fordham University) Ph.D.(University of Notre Dame) will be held over four Thursdays from October 23 – November 13 at Blessed Pope John XXIII Parish, 13060 Palomino Lane in Fort Myers. For more information please call 239-561-2245.



The Mustard Seed is an official publication of the Diocese of Venice, published bi-weekly on Fridays by the Department of Communications. News and notices of general interest will be considered for publication. **E-mail us at** newsletter@dioceseofvenice.org

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



DIOCESE OF VENICE IN FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

September 5, 2008

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

For many years, the Catholic Church has been at the forefront speaking out on the issue of the sanctity of all human life, from conception to natural death. We need to respond to the call to do all we can in support of life, including the issue of the death penalty.

The Diocese of Venice will once again conduct a Respect Life Collection in conjunction with national Respect Life Sunday on the weekend of October 4-5, 2008. This special second collection will support various local organizations and programs that support life and that request needed financial support from the Church.

Through the generosity of those who responded to last year's collection, the Diocese was able to share more than \$68,000 with 34 facilities or organizations within the Diocese of Venice, from maternity and after-birth homes to Pregnancy Resource Centers, and programs that promote prayer for life, abstinence education and services to the elderly.

By sponsoring one collection yearly, each parish will have the opportunity to contribute to organizations that support life. The funds collected will remain within the territory of the Diocese of Venice and will facilitate our witness as a faith community to the value of all human life in southwest Florida.

The needs are increasing, especially with the present economic situation. Please be generous in your expression of respect for life. Thank you for your support of this effort. May God bless all who support the sanctity of life.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

† Frank J. Dewane
Bishop of Venice in Florida

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
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		
Dec. 4 th 6:00pm to 8:00pm		St. Maximilian Kolbe		

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.