



The Diocese of Venice in Florida



The Mustard Seed

Pastoral Bulletin

September 19, 2008

DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

From the Office of the Bishop

Most Reverend Frank J. Dewane announces the following appointments:

Reverend Paul McLaughlin as Administrator of St. Joseph Parish, Bradenton, effective October 1, 2008. At the same time he is relieved of his duties as Parochial Vicar of St. Joseph Parish, Bradenton.

Reverend John (Jack) Costello as Rector of Epiphany Cathedral, Venice, effective October 1, 2008. At the same time he is relieved of his duties as Pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Bradenton.

Reverend George Ratzmann as Pastor of St. William Parish, Naples, effective October 1, 2008. At the same time he is relieved of his duties as Rector of Epiphany Cathedral.

Reverend Robert M. Murphy as Parochial Vicar of St. William Parish, Naples, effective October 1, 2008. At the same time he is relieved of his duties as Temporary Administrator of St. William Parish, Naples.

From the Chancellor's Office

All Pastors and Administrators that have been newly appointed this past year will be receiving an invitation to attend an informational meeting with various Department Heads at the Catholic Center on Friday, October 24, 2008. Please save the date.

Communications Department

Election Information – As we count down to election day the Bishops of Florida are working to ensure that; the faithful are well educated on Church teachings about issues on the ballot; that they know where candidates stand on these issues; and that they prepared to vote their conscience. The Bishops' have released an Election Year Statement and a Marriage Statement. The Florida Catholic Conference has also developed a question and answer flyer on Amendment 2 – the Marriage amendment for pastors and priests. A packet of printed material has been mailed to pastors and administrators, and the Bishops are asking all parishes to support the effort by including inserts of their statements in church bulletins on upcoming weekends.

Bulletin Editors: Please make plans to insert the **Bishops' Election Year Statement in your bulletins the weekend of October 11 & 12. The Marriage Protection Statement should be inserted in bulletins on "Marriage Sunday," October 18 – 19.** If you use a bulletin company, please ask the company about the statement because the Florida Catholic Conference is making a copy available to all bulletin companies used by state dioceses. Both the Election Year statement and the Marriage statement can be accessed in PDF form on the Florida Catholic Conference web site at: <http://www.flacathconf.org/Election2008.htm>.

Respect Life and Florida Catholic Collections: The Diocesan Respect Life Special Collection is scheduled for October 5, 2008. The Florida Catholic Special Collection is scheduled for November 2, 2008. The newspaper mailed informational packets to all parishes over the summer, so you should have information available.

Office of Stewardship and Development

Stewardship Day – Our Fourth Annual Diocesan Stewardship Day is being held October 21st, at Our Lady of Light Parish, Fort Myers, from 9am until 3pm, fee is \$10. 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.

Catholic Faith Appeal: 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 must all undergo Safe Environment Training. Volunteers who have routine contact with children or vulnerable adults are reminded that attendance of Safe Environment Training is required. 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.

Finance Department

Consumer Sales Tax Exemption Certificates: Every five years, each Diocesan entity will be required to renew their Consumer Sales Tax Exemption Certificate with the Florida Department of Revenue. This certificate allows Diocesan entities to be exempt from paying Florida State Sales Tax. There are specific steps required during the application for such a certificate and at the time of renewal. If you have any questions or need any assistance, please contact Dan Twerion, in the Diocesan Finance Department.

Diocese of Venice Employee Savings Plan (401k): Enrollment Meetings will be held at the following locations:

- Bishop Verot High School, October 6th, 3:30pm
- St. John Neumann High School, October 13th, 3:30pm

If you have any questions about enrolling or general questions about the 401k plan, please contact the Diocesan Finance Department at 941-484-9543.

Respect Life

The October 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_oct08.pdf. **WOL** also features *Intercessions for Life* and *Bulletin Briefs*. The Spanish version is at: http://www.usccb.org/prolife/liturgy/wol_oct08-sp.pdf. This month's edition also includes *Preaching for Life* for Respect Life Sunday on Oct. 5.

Respect Life Sunday is October 5: Suggested talking points are provided by the USCCB Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities on page 3 of the Liturgy Guide found in the 2008 Respect Life program packet. The Liturgy Guide is also available online at: <http://www.usccb.org/prolife/programs/rlp/08liturgyguide.pdf>.

Worship and Ministries

Liturgical Calendar Advisories: An insert of Liturgical Calendar advisories is available at www.dioceseofvenice.org/pdffiles/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 Souls Day** falls on a Sunday this year, we **do not** say or sing the Gloria **but we do say the Creed**.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Please publish in your bulletin)*

Communications Department

Catholic Bishops of Florida Release 2008 Election Year Statement:

The Bishops are urging the faithful to vote with a properly formed conscience in order to defend human life and protect dignity. They remind us that participation in elections requires careful discernment and prudential judgment in light of moral principals and values of our faith. To read the Bishops' Election Year Statement, please visit www.flacathconf.org.

The Bishops of Florida Support Amendment 2 - Marriage Protection:

In their statement *The Union of One Man and One Woman*, the bishops educate Catholics on the true nature and meaning of marriage as established by God and honored by Catholic teaching and tradition. The Church teaches that "the marriage covenant, by which a man and a woman form with each other an intimate communion of life and love, has been founded and endowed with its own special laws by the Creator. By its very nature it is ordered to the good of the couple, as well as to the generation and education of children. Christ the Lord raised marriage between the baptized to the dignity of a sacrament." Catechism of the Catholic Church, No. 1660) The Bishops' marriage statement is available at: <http://www.flacathconf.org/Marriage.htm>.

Help for Undecided Voters: To help parishioners become informed on where candidates stand on key issues, the Florida Catholic newspaper, Florida Catholic Conference, Florida Knights of Columbus and Florida Council of Catholic Women have teamed up to question those running for state and federal office. To see how candidates on the August 26 Primary Election ballot responded in the Candidate Questionnaire Project, visit www.informedcatholicvoter.com.

Faithful Citizenship—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.

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Respect Life

Catholic Bishops of Florida Urge Mercy for Richard Henyard and Implore Governor Crist to End Executions: The bishops of Florida continue to plead for an end to the use of the death penalty in our state. The September 23 execution of Richard Henyard will be another example of our failure to recognize the inherent dignity of every human being, even those guilty of horrible crimes. While the untimely deaths of the two young victims and serious injury to their mother cry out for justice, we are reminded that executions diminish us as a civil society and perpetuate a culture of death instead of a culture of life that acknowledges all are created in God's image. We must respect all life, even those who have done great wrong. For more go to www.flacathconf.org.

40 Days for Life: You are invited to join people of all faiths and all ages in the national 40 Days for Life Campaign September 24 through November 2 to pray for an end to abortion. Let's pray and work together to speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves. Spread the word to others about this important life-saving effort. To sign up or to volunteer to help, go to www.40daysforlife.com/sarasota or call (941) 716-6510.

Last Chance to Register for the 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.

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 bulletin insert Death Penalty Facts and Catholic Church Teaching, the Florida Catholic Conference states: "Our witness to respect for life shines most brightly when we demand respect for each and every human life, including the lives of those who fail to show that respect for others. The antidote to violence is love, not more violence." The entire bulletin insert may be found online at: <http://www.flacathconf.org/AdvocacyAreas/RespectLife/DeathPenalty/DeathPenaltyFactsTeaching9-13-07.pdf>. For further information, please contact the diocesan Respect Life Department at 941-441-1112.

NORTHERN DEANERY ONLY

Now is the time to learn what you need to know about making moral medical decisions. "Decisions for Living" will be presented by Mary Stegman, M.D. on Saturday, October 11 at 10 a.m. in Our Lady of the Angels Parish, Bradenton. Dr. Stegman is the End-of-Life Issues Chairman for the Diocese of Venice Respect Life Department. With wit and wisdom, she will cover such topics as pain management, nutrition and hydration, living wills, health care surrogates, physician-assisted suicide, individual and family concerns. Anyone 18 and older is encouraged to attend. Bring your questions. For more information, call Rosanne O'Byrne at 941-739-8010.

Worship and Ministries

White Ribbon against Pornography (WRAP) – This campaign from October 16 through November 2, 2008 is a prime opportunity to educate the public about the extent of the pornography problem and what can constitutionally be done about it. Fighting pornography however, is a year-round challenge. A great way to do this, as an individual or with a group, is to wear or display a white ribbon during WRAP week or all year long. People will see the ribbon and ask why you are wearing or displaying it. The Family Life Office has a supply of ribbons. Please contact Betty K or Louise at (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 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, November 8, 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.

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.

Preparing Couples for who are marrying again "To Trust Again": Couples planning to remarry will benefit from this program. There is a great wealth of information in ***"To Trust Again"*** to help them prepare for the sacrament of 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.

Separated and Divorced: A discussion group for separated and divorced people will be offered at San Antonio Catholic Church in Port Charlotte on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 – 9:00 starting October 15. To register, please contact Sr. Colleen McGinnity at 941/624-3799. All are welcome.

OUT AND ABOUT THE DIOCESE

NADD MEETING – The National Association of Diaconate Directors is meeting in Sarasota on Friday, Oct 31 and featured speaker is Deacon Bill Ditewig, associate professor of theology at St. Leo University in St. Leo, FL. The event is taking place at the Sarasota/Bradenton Airport Marriott Courtyard Motel. For more information contact Deacon Bill Ladroga, NADD Region XVI Representative, at the Diocese of Venice, 941-378-7070 or cell 941-544-4131.

Golf Tournament to Support Cardinal Mooney High School's Athletic Program

Don't miss the fun and food at Cardinal Mooney High School's Annual Golf Tournament on Saturday, Oct. 25, at Waterlefe Golf & River Club in Bradenton. The tournament begins at 8:00 a.m. with a shotgun start. The \$150 registration fee includes 18 holes of golf, cart fees, drinks, goodie bag, and a buffet lunch. There will be many free contest holes, including a hole-in-one contest sponsored by Coast Cadillac & Saab. All proceeds from the event benefit

the school's athletic program. To register and for sponsorship opportunities, please call Amy Bronston at the Office of Advancement 379-2647, or e-mail abronston@cmhs-sarasota.org before October 10, 2008.

Organist Needed : St. Jude Parish in Sarasota needs an organist for three Masses and other parish events. Please contact Father Celestino Gutierrez at 941-955-3934 or e-mail FrCelestino@st-jude-parish.org

Youth Minister Needed: The Church of Incarnation in Sarasota is currently interviewing for a Youth Minister for full time employment. Call (941)924-9566 and ask for John Garisto.



The Mustard Seed is an official publication of the Diocese of Venice, published bi-weekly on Fridays by the Department of Communications. General news and notices will be considered. Please e-mail copy to: newsletter@dioceseofvenice.org

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. 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.