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# The Mustard Seed

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Pastoral Bulletin

April 17, 2009

## DIOCESAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Office of the Bishop**

*Most Reverend Frank J. Dewane announces the following:*

**Transitional Diaconate Ordination** - Seminarians Bernard Chojnacki and Cory Mayer will be ordained to the Diaconate on May 8, 2009 at Epiphany Cathedral. The Diaconate Ordination Mass will begin at 11:00 a.m. with a reception to follow in the Parish Hall. All are invited.

Paul D'Angelo and Russell Ruggiero will also be ordained to the Diaconate April 25 at St. Vincent de Paul Seminary in Boynton Beach.

*Let us remember them in our prayers as they prepare for ordination.*

**Confirmations** - On Pentecost Sunday, May 31st, at Epiphany Cathedral, Bishop Frank J. Dewane will be conferring the Sacrament of Confirmation on those adults and young people who have been prepared in their parishes but because of unusual circumstances were not able to be Confirmed in their home parishes. The Mass will be celebrated at 11:00 AM. In order to have an accurate count of the number of Confirmandi, please provide the following:

**Confirmation Form Required for Epiphany Cathedral:**

<http://www.epiphanycathedral.org/> Click on Religious Ed. Forms (on the 1<sup>st</sup> page of the website) Depending whether it is an adult or youth, pick the **Adult Confirmation Candidate Form** or **Youth Confirmation Candidate Form** and print.

**Send completed form to:** Sr. Christa Cunningham, OP at Epiphany Cathedral, 310 Sarasota Street, Venice, FL 34285 FAX: 941-488-9333, Phone: 941-485-2325 Religious Education Office or you may email your form to Alice Keough at [keough@epiphanycathedral.org](mailto:keough@epiphanycathedral.org).

**Humanity Working to End Genocide** - On Sunday, April 19 at 3:00 p.m. Bishop Dewane will co-chair **Rally for Darfur** at the First United Methodist Church in Sarasota. The event is being held by **Humanity Working to End Genocide** a coalition of over 55 civic, religious, business and community organizations in Sarasota and Manatee Counties. The coalition's mission is to create and maintain a community of conscience calling for action to stop genocide in Darfur and throughout the world. For more information go to [www.humanityworkingtoendgenocide.org](http://www.humanityworkingtoendgenocide.org).

***Catholic Home Missions Appeal*** - There are many places right here in the United States and in its overseas dependencies where the Church is poor, communities are scattered, and priests are few. Money given to the **Catholic Home Missions Appeal** helps Catholic communities across America survive and thrive, by underwriting evangelization, religious education, education for future priests, training for lay ministers, and poor parishes that would have to close their doors without outside help. **Bulletin editors:** please note attached letter from the Bishop regarding the Catholic Home Missions collection.

***Earth Day*** – Americans observe Earth Day on April 22, and this is a good time to focus on environmental needs here in Southwest Florida, such as water conservation. The Diocese Commission on Environmental Justice has valuable suggestions being good stewards of water use. **Bulletin editors:** please note attached letter from the Bishop on Earth Day observation.

***A prayer of preparation for Pope Benedict XVI's trip to Jerusalem*** - May 8-15, 2009 the Holy Father will visit Bethlehem, Nazareth, Jerusalem and Jordan. Published by the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, it was asked that all would pray the following:

*“Lord Jesus, history has always had in the Successor of Peter a guide and a pastor who has shown the way to fulfilling the will of the God the Father. We entrust to you these months of preparation for the visit of our Pope Benedict. Give us your Holy Spirit that we might know how to prepare ourselves in prayer so that this visit may be a time of renewal and particular grace for the Holy Land.”*

In order to collaborate with the works of the Franciscan Foundation for the Holy Land and with Christians who live there, visit [www.catholicnewsagency.com/holyland](http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/holyland).

### **Office of the Chancellor**

***Reminder for priests*** - Please mark your calendars with the upcoming Priests' Retreat scheduled for May 18-21, 2009 at OLPH. Speaker will be Rev. Ivan Cormac-Marsh, O.Carm. of St. Cyril of Alexandria Parish in Tucson, AZ. Father Cormac-Marsh will share various insights for prayer life and for deepening our own relationship with the Lord as we serve and care for others.

### **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 Spring schedule of upcoming training sessions, please post and share this information with all parish/school staff and volunteers.

### **Respect Life Department**

The May 2009 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\\_may09\\_eng.pdf](http://www.usccb.org/prolife/liturgy/wol_may09_eng.pdf). WOL features *Intercessions for Life* and *Bulletin Briefs*" for weekly use. The Spanish version is at: [http://www.usccb.org/prolife/liturgy/wol\\_may09\\_sp.pdf](http://www.usccb.org/prolife/liturgy/wol_may09_sp.pdf).

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

**Communications Department**

***Masses for Victims of Child Abuse*** - April is Child Abuse Prevention Month, and in conjunction with the Secretariat of Child and Youth Protection of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), Bishop Frank J. Dewane will celebrate two Masses for Victims of Child Abuse. The first Mass will be at Epiphany Cathedral in Venice on Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m. The second Mass is scheduled at St. John the Evangelist Parish in Naples on Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m.

***Yom Hashoah – Yom Hashoah***, the annual “Hour of Remembrance” for the victims of the Holocaust will be held at 2:30 pm on Sunday, April 26 at Epiphany Cathedral, 350 Tampa Avenue West in Venice. Holocaust survivors and people of all faiths are invited to the service where candles will be lit in memory of the millions who perished during the Holocaust. Guest speaker for this year’s service is His Eminence Cardinal William Keeler, Archbishop Emeritus of the Archdiocese of Baltimore.

**Development and Stewardship**

***Pilgrimage to Italy with Bishop Frank Dewane*** - In honor of the anniversary of the Diocese, Bishop Dewane will lead a pilgrimage to Italy, visiting Venice, Assisi, Florence and Rome from September 28<sup>th</sup> until October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009. For details on the trip, please call Mary Campo, 941-441-1117.

***Win a trip to Italy for two for only \$100!*** The Central Deanery Council of Catholic Women is holding a drawing for two tickets for the Pilgrimage to Italy with Bishop Frank J. Dewane in September. Donation per ticket for the drawing is \$100 and is limited to 250 entries. Tickets may be obtained by calling Fran Patterson at (239) 540-7116. The drawing date is June 9, 2009. The CCW is mailing two tickets to each parish in the Central Deanery. If unsold by May 1<sup>st</sup> please return them in the envelope provided.

**Worship and Ministries Department**

***Engaged Encounter Weekend*** - The Diocese of Venice will hold an **Engaged Encounter Weekend at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat Center June 5-7, 2009**. This weekend offers a unique opportunity for couples to discover a deeper appreciation of their relationship and God's call to unite them. The Retreat Center is in a beautiful wooded setting on the Myakka River. The \$275 non-refundable fee includes separate overnight accommodations for men and women plus meals and materials. For more information and/or reservations, please call Betty Karsokas at (941) 484-9543.

***Is your marriage hurting? A Retrouvaille Weekend*** (for troubled marriages) will be held at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Retreat Center in Venice on May 15-18. We invite couples to attend this program which offers help to hurting marriages. Retrouvaille places strong emphasis on communication techniques. For information and/or reservations please call (800) 470-2230 or (239) 395-0810. All inquiries are held in strict confidence.

***For couples planning marriage*** - The Diocese of Venice will hold a one-day Marriage Preparation Program on Saturday, June 6, at St. Raphael Parish in Englewood, 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 which includes breakfast, lunch and printed materials. This fee is non-refundable. For information please call Betty K at (941) 484-9543.

(CENTRAL DEANERY AND SOUTHERN DEANERY)

***Follow the Way of Love*** – The Diocese of Venice will hold a marriage preparation program on Saturday, April 25, at St. Peter the Apostle Parish in Naples from 8:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., for all couples planning marriage who desire a richer, fuller life together. The program is designed to deepen and enrich the couple’s relationship with each other. The non-refundable registration fee is \$65 per couple, which includes a continental breakfast and lunch. For reservations call Betty K at 941-484-9543.

### **Peace and Justice Office**

***Care for God’s Creation*** - Bishop Dewane has written a letter to all the faithful in the Diocese, reminding them that Care for God’s Creation should be an everyday commitment. Both the late Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI have made it clear that preserving our environment is a moral imperative. Accompanying his letter was a list of “action steps” that can be undertaken to address our concern for the critical shortage of water in Southwest Florida. Each of us and our parishes should increasingly see to it that we follow practices which preserve this precious natural resource.

***Poster Contest Deadline April 22, Earth Day*** - The Diocesan Department of Education and the Environmental Justice Commission have joined hands to sponsor a poster contest among students of Catholic schools and religious education classes in the Diocese. As part of Care for God’s Creation and Earth Day observance (April 22) awards will be presented to three winners at the diocesan level. For more information contact the Peace and Justice Office at 941-484-9543 or [peace&justice@dioceseofvenice.org](mailto:peace&justice@dioceseofvenice.org).

### **Respect Life**

***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](mailto:project.rachel@dioceseofvenice.org).

**Did You Know?** On the “Question and Answer” page of the USCCB *Catholic Campaign to End the Use of the Death Penalty* web site, it states: “The test of whether the death penalty can be used is whether society has alternative ways to protect itself, not how terrible the crime was.” All questions and answers may be found online at: [http://www.usccb.org/deathpenalty/questions\\_answers.shtml](http://www.usccb.org/deathpenalty/questions_answers.shtml). For further information, please contact the diocesan Respect Life Department at 941-441-1112.

## OUT AND ABOUT THE DIOCESE

**Women's Convention** - All women (members and non-members) are invited to attend the Venice Council of Catholic Women's 3-day convention, "*Alive with the Gifts of the Holy Spirit,*" at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Ft. Myers, May 4-6. Bishop Frank J. Dewane will be the main celebrant of the Mass and banquet speaker on Monday. For information and registration, contact Dolores Garvis, (941) 575-4274 or go to [http://home.catholicweb.com/VENICE\\_DCCW](http://home.catholicweb.com/VENICE_DCCW).

**Daughters Of Isabella Information Meetings** - All Catholic women, 16 years and older, are invited to *Daughters of Isabella* meetings on April 28 at 7 p.m. at Our Mother's House in Venice and April 30, 7 p.m. at St. Thomas More Parish in Sarasota. Contact Elaine Leger, 941-795-1260 or [Info@daughtersofisabella.org](mailto:Info@daughtersofisabella.org).



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