The US Bishops have strongly criticized President Trump’s executive orders targeting immigrants and refugees. As people of faith, we are called to take up the cause of the most vulnerable – through charity, through our advocacy and work for justice, and in our prayers and liturgies.

Statements from the USCCB are found here:

Here are some resources (from last month’s National Migration Week observation) that you might still find helpful:

A parish toolkit, which includes (among other resources) petitions, pulpit announcements, and homily helps, is available at:

Additional resources can be found here: http://www.usccb.org/about/migration-and-refugee-services/national-migration-week/.

See http://justiceforimmigrants.org/ for more information... and to get involved!

UPCOMING EVENTS

See the Liturgy Events webpage at: http://www.davenportdiocese.org/liturgy-events.

DIOCESAN LITURGIES

Rite of Election

We will celebrate the Rite of Election at Saint Patrick Church in Iowa City on Sunday, March 5 at 3pm (1st Sunday of Lent). Registration information was sent to the parish RCIA contacts, and were due back at the end of January. For those who direct RCIA programs: please make sure to get your registration form back to us ASAP! They are due. The forms and other information are also posted on the Liturgy Events webpage (link above) or can be found here: https://www.davenportdiocese.org/events/rite-of-election.
LiturgyNotes – February 2017

Chrism Mass

The *Chrism Mass* will be celebrated on Monday, April 3, at 5:00 p.m. Because of construction at the Cathedral, the liturgy is being moved to Our Lady of Victory (Davenport). Parishes will receive communication shortly confirming the amount of each of the sacred oils that they will need for the coming year.

Ordinations

Due to construction at the cathedral, our candidates for the priesthood will be ordained in their (adopted) home parishes this year:

- At 10am on Saturday, May 27, Rev. Mr. Dan Dorau will be ordained a Presbyter at Prince of Peace Church in Clinton.
- At 10am on Saturday, June 3, Rev. Mr. Chris Weber will be ordained a Presbyter at SS. Mary & Mathias in Muscatine.

The members of Deacon Formation Class VII will be ordained at St. John Vianney Church in Bettendorf on Saturday, July 8, at 10:00 a.m.

CONTINUING FORMATION FOR LITURGY / LITURGICAL MINISTRY

LTP & FDLC Virtual Workshop

In collaboration with FDLC, Liturgy Training Publications is presenting “Promoting the Intercultural Worship of Diverse Communities” featuring Rev. Mark Francis, CSV. Father Francis is the President of Catholic Theological Union (CTU) and is the principle author of one of FDLC’s best-selling books, *Liturgy in a Culturally Diverse Community: A Guide Towards Understanding*. The interactive virtual workshop will air on March 23 at 1:00 (Eastern) and again on June 8 at 1:00 (Eastern). The session only costs $10. For more information or to register, please visit [https://www.ltp.org/p-2987-promoting-the-intercultural-worship-of-diverse-communities.aspx](https://www.ltp.org/p-2987-promoting-the-intercultural-worship-of-diverse-communities.aspx).

Fr. Jan Michael Joncas: Here in March

Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat Center, a ministry of the Congregation of the Humility of Mary, will be hosting Fr. (Jan) Michael Joncas for two events in March: an evening workshop and a weekend retreat.

1. **Singing the Liturgy**: Thurs, March 23 | 7:00pm
   St Paul the Apostle Church 916 E. Rusholme St., Davenport
   Explore the meaning of various elements of the Mass: Introductory Rites, Liturgy of God’s Word, Liturgy of the Lord’s Table, Dismissal Rites. Discover music that helps the “full, conscious and active” participation of the faithful associated with these elements. Fee: Free will offering.

2. **Roman Catholic Thought and Practice 50 Years after Vatican II**: March 24 – 26 | Fri, 5:00 pm – Sun, 11:00am
   Fr. (Jan) Michael Joncas. Explore the meaning of the four great Constitutions of Vatican II 50 years after their publication: *Sacrosanctum Concilium* on the Liturgy; *Lumen Gentium* on the Church; *Dei Verbum* on Sacred Scripture; and *Gaudium et Spes* on the Church in the Modern World. Fee: $125
To register contact: 563-336-8414 or olpretreat@gmail.com. All programs include a delicious homemade meal prepared with local and organic ingredients. To learn more about Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat visit www.chmiowa.org.

Notre Dame 2017 – SAVE THE DATES!

June 19-23 - Liturgy and Life: Encountering Jesus Christ in the Bible and the Liturgy
June 24-26 - Notre Dame Preaching Conference: To Set the Earth on Fire-Effective Catholic Preaching
June 26-30 - Forming the Sacramental Imagination: Catechesis of the Good Shepherd-The Senses of Scripture

One Bread, One Cup 2017

Each summer, Saint Meinrad hosts several "One Bread, One Cup" gatherings. At these five-day liturgical leadership conferences, youth and adults discover the Catholic Church’s treasures of Word, Sacrament and Mission and enjoy opportunities for fellowship and fun (team building, outdoor recreation, variety show and dance). Participants come to appreciate the Benedictine balance of prayer, work and recreation.

St. Meinrad will be holding these weeks on June 12-16, June 26-30, and July 6-10. This year, for the first time, a session of One Bread, One Cup will also be hosted at Conception Seminary College on July 17-21.

For more information or to register, go to: http://www.saintmeinrad.edu/youth/summer-conferences/. Registrations are due by March 1.

For more opportunities, see the Liturgy Events webpage at: http://www.davenportdiocese.org/liturgy-events

THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

RCIA: MYSTAGOGY

In the Period of Postbaptismal Catechesis (or Mystagogy), a number of rites can be celebrated—the most important of which are the “neophyte Masses” in which all those who have been baptized at the Vigil gather together again to celebrate the liturgy. Pentecost Sunday and the anniversary of their baptism would be other special days to keep in mind. Please see RCIA #244-251. The National Statues for the RCIA (# 24) state that this period should last a year, with at least monthly meetings.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

National Marriage Week (Feb 7-14) and World Marriage Day (Feb 12)

National Marriage Week USA – Lastly, National Marriage Week, now in its eighth year, is a collaborative effort to influence the culture by faith communities, business, media, education, and non-profit groups. It promotes marriage as a benefit to husbands and wives and to the nation, as well as the best environment in which to raise children. Information and resources are at http://www.nationalmarriageweekusa.org.

The USCCB has also made available homiletic resources and a bulletin insert; they are available on our Liturgy Events page, or directly at:

World Day of the Sick (Feb 11)

Feb. 11 is World Day of the Sick, an observation introduced by Pope Saint John Paul II as a way for believers to offer prayers for those suffering from illnesses. The day coincides with the commemoration of Our Lady of Lourdes and is an important opportunity for those who serve in Catholic health ministry to reflect on caring for those who are sick as well as those who provide care to them. Resources are available at: https://www.chausa.org/prayers/prayer-library/liturgical-prayers-and-reflections/solemnities-feast-days-and-memorials/world-day-of-the-sick.

According to our Church, health care is a right, not a privilege. For those interested in the USCCB response to calls for repealing the Affordable Care Act, please see: http://www.usccb.org/news/2017/17-013.cfm.

Easter Time and Pentecost

- The days of the Easter Octave are celebrated as solemnities. The double alleluia is added to the dismissal and its response (just for the octave and on Pentecost; not for the entire season). The Sequence is required on Easter Sunday but optional on the other days of the octave.
- The Second Sunday of Easter is also celebrated as Divine Mercy Sunday. See the Liturgy Events webpage for resources.
- Have the neophytes (the newly baptized) sit in a special place during the Easter Season. Remember them in the intercessions. Please see RCIA #244-251.
- The paschal candle should be kept by the altar or ambo, and lit during liturgies until Evening Prayer II on Pentecost.
- The Easter Season is a great time to celebrate infant baptisms at the Sunday liturgy, and to use the Sprinkling Rite instead of the Penitential Rite.
- This is also a traditional time for home blessings (see Book of Blessings #1597-1621).
- Remember: we “fast for 40” but we “feast for 50!!”

Eastertime and Judaism

26. The readings of the Easter season, especially those from the book of Acts, which is used extensively throughout this liturgical period, require particular attention from the homilist in light of the enduring bond between Jews and Christians. Some of these readings from Acts (e.g., cycles A and B for the Third and Fourth Sundays of Easter) can leave an impression of collective Jewish responsibility for the crucifixion (“You put to death the author of life....” Acts 3:15). In such cases, the homilist should put before the assembly the teachings of Nostra Aetate in this regard (see no. 22 above), as well as the fact noted in Acts 3:17 that what was done by some individual Jews was done "out of ignorance" so that no unwarranted conclusion about collective guilt is drawn by the hearers. The Acts may be dealing with a reflection of the Jewish-Christian relationship as it existed toward the end of the first century (when Acts was composed) rather than with the actual attitudes of the post-Easter Jerusalem Church. Homilists should desire to convey the spirit and enthusiasm of the early Church that marks these Easter season readings. But in doing so, statements about Jewish responsibility have to be kept in context. This is part of the reconciliation between Jews and Christians to which we are all called.

INTERCESSIONS

Sample intercessions:

For immigrants and refugees, especially those denied the safety of these shores; for their families awaiting them, brokenhearted again. We pray to the Lord.

For Muslims around the world, especially those facing persecution and violence for their beliefs. We pray to the Lord.

That, remembering the Shoah and the slaughter of 6 million Jews, we would recommit ourselves to building a world in which such evil could never happen again. We pray.

For the Native Peoples of this country; that their rights and integrity would be respected. We pray.

For the safeguarding of all human life; for the upholding of the dignity of all persons. We pray.

For the sick and suffering, especially those in this country at risk for losing their access to health care. We pray.

That our common home would be safeguarded for future generations, and not sacrificed on the altar of short-term gain; we pray to the Lord.

For those in public office, that they would commit themselves to careful deliberation and respectful dialogue, to the path of diplomacy, and to the way of peace. We pray.

That those looking for work would find what they seek, and receive a just wage for their labor. We pray.

For journalists, especially those who place themselves in danger for the sake of truth. We pray.

For the end to tyranny everywhere; we pray.
Here are resources for the Universal Prayer:

(1) Intercessions for various life issues may be found on the USCCB website at:
   http://usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/prayers/intercessory-prayers-for-life.cfm

(2) Intercession for vocations (in English and Spanish) keyed to the lectionary cycle may be found at the
    Diocese of Arlington website:
    http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/vocations/voc_intercessions.aspx

(3) The Center for Liturgy website offers general intercessions for each Sunday as well:
    http://liturgy.slu.edu/

(4) The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops offers intercessions and homily ideas as part of their
    Pastoral Initiative for Life and Family:
    family/3296-documents-and-activities-proposed-by-the-cccb

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contact Laurie Hoefling at the chancery and request to be removed from our distribution list.
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