A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHBISHOP

Please see the statement below released Tuesday evening January 7, 2020, by the President of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Archbishop José H. Gomez of Los Angeles.

“In the face of the escalating tensions with Iran, we must pray urgently that our world’s leaders will pursue dialogue and seek peace. Please join me in asking our Blessed Mother Mary, the Queen of Peace, to intercede, that Jesus Christ might strengthen the peacemakers, comfort the suffering, and protect the innocent and all those in harm’s way, especially the men and women in our military and diplomatic service.”

Announcements

- Happy New Year! God’s blessings in 2020!
- The opening Mass for the Gulf Coast Faith Formation Conference at 9:00 AM on Friday, January 10, 2020, at the Pontchartrain Center. To register go to https://go4th.faith/2020register/. It is a great opportunity for continuing education for those in ministry.
- An interfaith prayer service and memorial for the homeless who have died on the streets of New Orleans in 2019, will be held on Tuesday, January 14, 2020, at St. Joseph Church, 1802 Tulane Avenue, New Orleans, at 5:30 PM.
- All are welcome to pray with us at the Memorial Service for the Unborn in the Holy Innocents Prayer Garden (St. Patrick #1 Cemetery, 5000 Canal St., NOLA) on Wednesday January 15, 2020, at noon. We will be praying for those lost to miscarriage, stillbirth, or abortion and those who mourn them.
- Louisiana and New Orleans Right to Life will sponsor a special evening to celebrate 50 years of the pro-life movement in Louisiana on Saturday, January 18, 2020, at the Hyatt Regency, 601 Loyola, in downtown New Orleans. The reception hour will begin at 6:00 PM; the dinner begins at 7:00 PM. Go to www.ProLifeLouisiana.org/gala or call 504-835-6520 for more information.
- On Sunday, January 19, 2020, seminarians Antonio Cercena, Joseph DiMaggio III, David Doyle, Cory Ford, Ajani Gibson, Andy Gonzalez, Michael Lamy, Jeffrey Merritt, William Mumphrey, Henry Nwaeze, Long Pham, Truong Pham, Joseph Rivera, Andrew Sanchez, Kevin Seay, and Jason Songe for the Archdiocese of New Orleans, Thomas Bamoah for the Diocese of Yendi and Jude Friday, Clement Manjas and Joseph Odongo from the Archdiocese of Tororo will celebrate Admission to Candidacy for the Orders of Deacon and Presbyter during the 11:00 AM Mass at St. Louis Cathedral.
**Mission Statement for the Departments and Offices of the Archdiocese of New Orleans**

**Impelled by God’s call and inspired by the vision of the Ninth General Synod, the ministries of the Archdiocese of New Orleans, in union with the Archbishop and with one another, serve the people, parishes, schools and organizations of the archdiocese, enabling them to encounter Jesus and witness his love with joy.**

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**Mark Your Calendars**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event/Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 18, 2020</td>
<td>Confession available in all parishes 5:00 PM-6:30 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 25, 2020</td>
<td>Confession available in all parishes 5:00 PM-6:30 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 1, 2020</td>
<td>Confession available in all parishes 5:00 PM-6:30 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 16, 2020</td>
<td>Transitional Diaconate Ordination</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 30, 2020</td>
<td>Priesthood Ordination</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 9, 2020</td>
<td>Confession available in all parishes 5:00 PM-6:30 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 15-17, 2020</td>
<td>Priest Convocation for the Archdiocese of New Orleans</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 22, 2021</td>
<td>Transitional Diaconate Ordination</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 5, 2021</td>
<td>Priesthood Ordination</td>
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<td>September 20-22, 2021</td>
<td>Louisiana Priests Convention</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 7-9, 2022</td>
<td>Priest Convocation for the Archdiocese of New Orleans</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 6-8, 2023</td>
<td>Priest Convocation for the Archdiocese of New Orleans</td>
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- The Administrative Offices of the Archdiocese of New Orleans will be closed on Monday, January 20, 2020, in observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. The offices will re-open on Tuesday, January 21, 2020.
- In connection with the celebration of Catholic Schools Week the last week of January, we will take up a second collection in all parishes on January 25-26, 2020, to support Catholic schools. Please click [here](#) to view my letter in both English and Spanish. Thank you for your support and generosity in this effort.
- The Institute of Lay Ecclesial Ministry (ILEM) at Notre Dame Seminary will Commission several graduates on Sunday, January 26, 2020, at the 11:00 AM Mass at St. Louis Cathedral.
SECTION II
ACTION REQUESTED
Pastors and parish secretaries are asked to please ensure response and follow-up on the items below.

Introducing the Fantastic NOLACatholic Friday Fish Fry Challenge! This year, the Clarion Herald and Office of Communications will sponsor the inaugural Fantastic NOLACatholic Friday Fish Fry Challenge. Below are basic details for parishes, schools, and ministries that choose to participate:

- All parishes have the opportunity to enter the judges’ panel and/or people’s choice challenges. Those participating in the judges’ panel have the opportunity to submit a “Lagniappe Dish” for consideration. A Lagniappe Dish is defined as a dish served other than fried fish that could be considered a main dish or a large side item (i.e. seafood gumbo).
- A three person judges panel will critique entries based on flavor of the fish as well as the overall meal. It will be a blind judging, meaning the judges will not know which parish or school the meals are coming from when they judge.
- Parishes submitting entries for the judges’ panel must commit to bringing a “fish plate” to a central location on one of two designated evenings (dates TBA). Special consideration may be given for transportation of dishes from the Northshore or River Parishes.
- People’s Choice Award will be determined by popular online vote.
- Food items may not be submitted by a restaurant on behalf of a parish.
- Winners will be announced on Wednesday, April 15.
- Winners will receive a certificate and trophy for all categories with the “rights” to display the trophy until the 2021 winners are chosen.

This is an effort to capitalize on what both church and secular media and community have latched on to as part of Lent in an effort to be welcoming to both parishioners and neighbors of all faiths. Our focus throughout the competition will be to “witness with joy” to one another and those who come to share a fish meal. We may even share a few ideas about how to evangelize through your Fish Frys throughout the competition!

So, what do you need to do? Submit your fish fry information and schedule by Friday, February 14 using the form online here. Please contact Sarah McDonald in the Office of Communications with any questions at (504) 596-3023 or smcdonald@arch-no.org for more information or with any questions AND look for materials to promote the inaugural Fantastic NOLACatholic Friday Fish Fry Challenge to your parishioners coming soon!

Permanent Diaconate Formation Group of 2025-Preliminary plans are now underway to call and form the next group. Archbishop Aymond has approved the Discernment of the 2025 Diaconate Formation Group. Four sessions will be offered to illustrate and explore the formation, life and ministry of serving as a deacon in the Church. These “Information Nights” are informal gatherings in the evenings. Those who sense God speaking to them about the possibility of serving in ordained ministry are encouraged to “Come and See”. Attendance at one of these sessions will allow the formation community to share the basic criteria for entrance into formation and will enable each participant to consider requesting an invitation to attend the more formalized “Discernment Gatherings”. Wives are encouraged to attend.

All are asked to pre-register for one of the sessions by email: pdiaconate@arch-no.org. Questions? 504-861-6329. You may choose to attend any one of the following, but attendance at one of these nights is required to attend the remaining “Discernment Gatherings” and to submit an application to enter formation.

Wednesday, January 22 - 7:00-8:30 PM | Corpus Christi – Epiphany Center
2022 St. Bernard Avenue | New Orleans, LA 70058

Thursday, January 23 – 7:00 – 8:30 PM | Infant Jesus of Prague Church | Diaconate Center
700 Maple Street | Harvey, LA 70058

Wednesday, January 29 – 7:00 – 8:30 PM | Northshore Pastoral Center
4465 Highway 190 East Service Road | Covington, LA 70433

Wednesday, February 5 – 7:00 – 8:30 PM | Archdiocese of New Orleans Administration Building
7887 Walmsley Avenue | New Orleans, LA 70125

N o l a C a t h o l i c  e - B u l l e t i n
Workshops for New Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion—Basic workshops for new Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will be presented this Spring by the Office of Worship. Attendance at this workshop is required before a person can be delegated by the Archbishop to serve in this ministry. The complete schedule can be found on the Office of Worship website at https://nolacatholic.org/basic-workshops-for-emhc. Participants are to be pre-registered by their parish before attending.

If you have any questions, please contact the Office of Worship at 504-861-6300 or worship@arch-no.org.
Pope Francis’ Prayer Intention for January 2020

Prayer intention for evangelization-Promotion of World Peace
We pray that Christians, followers of other religions, and all people of goodwill may promote peace and justice in the world.

Respect Life Focus January-Abortion/Unborn Babies

Spiritual work of mercy- Join Catholics across the U.S. as we pray the 9 Days for Life Novena January 21-29. Go here to sign up via email or text or to download the app- https://pro-life-activities.ipages.co/9-days-for-life-2020/

Corporal work of mercy- One of the corporal works of mercy is to bury the dead. Consider helping Compassionate Burial for Indigent Babies (CBIB) with their 2020 burial costs of roughly $1600 to bury each baby. Any portion of the cost would be a welcome donation! CBIB has buried over 180 babies since its founding in 2007. They bury babies who were aborted, abandoned, and babies whose families are unable to cover the cost of their babies’ burials. Go here for more information http://www.cbibinc.com/home.html or you may donate directly to CBIB at https://www.gofundme.com/f/cbibbabies.org

Interfaith Prayer Service
The 6th annual interfaith prayer service for the deceased homeless of our city will be held on Tuesday, January 14, 2020, at 5:30 PM at St. Joseph Catholic Church in New Orleans. Archbishop Aymond will officiate, and ministers of many faiths and representatives of service organizations that assist the homeless will gather together to pray and to remember the homeless who died on the streets of New Orleans in 2019.

The service will last approximately one hour and will be followed by a reception in the vestibule of the church. The public are invited and warmly encouraged to participate. For further information please email Susan Rodriguez at surodriguez@cox.net.

Lay Enrichment Series
All are invited and welcomed to attend the first installment of the Spring 2020 Lay Enrichment Series, a free faith formation event sponsored by Notre Dame Seminary’s Institute for Lay Ecclesial Ministry, on January 15th, 2020, from 6:30-7:30 PM in NDS’s Pastoral Center. Dr. Jim Jacobs, Professor of Philosophy at NDS, will be offering a presentation entitled “How Can a Good God Allow Suffering in His World?” Register now at www.les-nds-jacobs.eventbrite.com. You may download a flyer here.

Quarterly Mass for Persons with Disabilities
Please publicize the following in your parish bulletin:
The Commission for Persons With Disabilities would like to announce it’s next quarterly Mass. It will be held on Sunday, January 26, 2020, at the 10:00 AM Mass at Sacred Heart of Jesus, 401 Spruce St., Norco, LA. The commission hosts this Mass at a parish in various parts of the archdiocese each quarter as a way to highlight the inclusion of persons with disabilities in the liturgy. Everyone is invited to attend.
Establishing Bible-based Prayer Rituals for Young Families

All young families are invited to come and learn about the different types of family prayer and how to establish prayer rituals within their family. Dr. Basil and Shyla Davis will be presenting this 5 week series on Wednesdays, January 8, 15, 22, 29, and February 5, 2020, from 6:30-8:00 PM at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church and sponsored by the Archdiocesan Office of Marriage and Family Life. Child Care will be provided. Please register for free at https://nolacatholicfla.regfox.com/establishing-bible-based-prayer-rituals-for-young-families. You may download a flyer here.

Permanent Diaconate Formation Group of 2025

Preliminary plans are now underway to call and form the next group. Archbishop Aymond has approved the Discernment of the 2025 Diaconate Formation Group. Four sessions will be offered to illustrate and explore the formation, life and ministry of serving as a deacon in the Church. These “Information Nights” are informal gatherings in the evenings. Those who sense God speaking to them about the possibility of serving in ordained ministry are encouraged to “Come and See”. Attendance at one of these sessions will allow the formation community to share the basic criteria for entrance into formation and will enable each participant to consider requesting an invitation to attend the more formalized “Discernment Gatherings”. Wives are encouraged to attend.

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Thursday, January 23 -7:00-8:30 PM | Infant Jesus of Prague Church | Diaconate Center
Wednesday, January 29 -7:00-8:30 PM | Northshore Pastoral Center
Wednesday, February 5 -7:00-8:30 PM | Archdiocese of New Orleans Administration Building

Please see Section II of this e-Bulletin for more information.

Archdiocesan Silver Wedding Anniversary Celebration

Sunday, March 22, 2020 | 3:00 PM | St. Joseph Church (New Orleans)
Each couple will receive a certificate and picture with Archbishop Aymond.

This event is for couples married in the year 1995 in celebration of their 25th Wedding Anniversary.

Please register by Monday, February 3rd by contacting the parish or going to nolacatholic.org/wedding-anniversary.

Please Note: This celebration will not be a Mass, but a prayer service. Attendance of Mass for Sunday obligation will have to be met within one’s parish.
NFP Class in Spanish

The Hispanic Apostolate is offering a two-part Natural Family Planning class in Spanish in January and February of 2020. Couples wishing to enroll should contact the Hispanic Apostolate at 504-467-2550 or hispanicapostolate@arch-no.org.

**Dates:** Wednesday, January 15 & Wednesday, February 19 at 7:00 PM  
**Place:** Hispanic Apostolate, 2525 Maine Ave., Metairie, LA 70003  
**Cost:** $35 (for materials) | **Presenter:** Karen Canales

St. Ann Church and Shrine “Date Night”

St. Ann Church and Shrine in Metairie will host “Date Night,” a function of our Marriage and Family Life Committee, January 18, 2020, at 6:30 PM. Babysitting for children ages 4 and up will be available.

Date Night will be held in the transformed cafeteria and will include a Chicken Parmesan dinner and wine and entertainment at a cost of $30 per couple. Date Night is limited to 75 couples. Last year, this event sold out, so be sure to purchase your tickets as soon as possible! Tickets are available on our website or in the parish office 504-455-7071. [https://stannchurchandshrine.org/marriage-family-life-1](https://stannchurchandshrine.org/marriage-family-life-1)

Sponsors are welcome and appreciated to help offset the cost of this event. Please see our website for details or call the parish office. [https://stannchurchandshrine.org/date-night-sponsors](https://stannchurchandshrine.org/date-night-sponsors). You may download a flyer [here](https://stannchurchandshrine.org/date-night-sponsors).

Louisiana Life March South 2020

Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend the 2020 Louisiana Life March South on Saturday, January 25, 2020, in downtown Baton Rouge. Lineup for the march will be in the grassy area outside the Louisiana State Capitol at the corner of Spanish Town Road and N. 4th Street. The march will proceed on N. 4th Street to Galvez Plaza, where a program will take place.

A chartered bus will be traveling from St. Edward the Confessor to Baton Rouge and is scheduled to leave St. Edward the Confessor on the morning of January 25 at 7:45 AM. The price is $15 per seat (includes bus driver tip and 2 bottles of water). Please bring your own lunch and beverages. Royal blue and white "life" t-shirts are available for $10 each. For more info, call Yvette Fouchi at 504-874-9225. You may download a registration form [here](https://neworleansretreats.org/events/day-of-prayer-falling-in-love-with-prayer-2).

Archdiocese of New Orleans Retreat Center

The Archdiocese of New Orleans Retreat Center invites you to join us for a day of prayer "Falling in Love with Prayer" presented by Rev. Ken Smith, January 28, 2020, 9:00 AM-2:30 PM. The cost is $40 which includes lunch and snacks. You may register online at [https://neworleansretreats.org/events/day-of-prayer-falling-in-love-with-prayer-2](https://neworleansretreats.org/events/day-of-prayer-falling-in-love-with-prayer-2) or you may call Susan Halligan at (504) 267-9604. You may download a flyer [here](https://neworleansretreats.org/events/day-of-prayer-falling-in-love-with-prayer-2).

UNO Newman Center

The UNO Newman Center serves the Catholic Community at the University of New Orleans with outreach including: **Sunday Mass** (6:00 PM year round), **Daily Mass** (Monday-Thursday at noon), **Confession** (before and after all Masses and upon request), **Liturgy of the Hours** (daytime prayer following Tuesday Mass), and **Benediction** (Holy Hour following Thursday Mass).
SECTION IV
NEWS AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE
Following is news and information of general interest to the local Church

Notre Dame Seminary Bible Marathon 2020

Join us as we proclaim the Word of God! The seminarians of Notre Dame Seminary are hosting the 2nd annual Bible Marathon - a public reading of the entire Bible from Genesis to Revelation - beginning on Tuesday, January 28th at 12:30 PM continuously through Saturday, February 1st at 6:00 PM. All are welcome to listen or proclaim the Word - both individual and group sign up options are available. For more information, visit www.nds.edu/NDSBM or email biblemarathon@nds.edu. See flyer attached here.

Human Trafficking Prayer Service and Donation Drive

On Friday, February 7, 2020, St. Edward the Confessor parish (4921 West Metairie Ave, Metairie LA) will honor St. Josephine Bakhita, the patron saint of Human Trafficking Victims by praying for victims, survivors and perpetrators of this modern-day slavery.

The prayer service schedule will be as follows: Confessions 5:00-6:00 PM; Human Trafficking Rosary 5:30-6:00 PM; Mass 6:00-6:30 PM; Human Trafficking Prayer Service 6:45 PM. Immediately following the prayer service, a talk will be given by Beth Salcedo, Director of Free Indeed, a safe house for girls aged 12 - 17 who have been sex-trafficked.

A Donation Drive to benefit safe houses for human trafficking survivors will be held in conjunction with the prayer service. Attendees are invited to bring: Gift cards to Rouses, Target and Walmart, toiletries, and household cleaning products.

Previously Used Goods Available

Divine Mercy Parish has some previously used church goods available for free to another parish that can arrange to pick them up. The items include a matching altar, ambo, and credence table. There is also a tabernacle, stations of the cross, two pews, some vestments, and various other sacred vessels and items. Please email Fr. Paul Clark (pclark@arch-no.org) for pictures or more information.

Employment Opportunities

New job opportunities are currently listed on our HR page: https://nolacatholic.org/employment
Secretary, St. Joachim Catholic Church, Marrero, LA
Please refer to our job-link often and share with qualified referrals!

For any inquiries on the NolaCatholic e-Bulletin, please contact Pastoral Planning and Ministries at planningandministries@archdiocese-no.org.