An Important Message from Archbishop Aymond

As we move into the celebration of Respect Life Month, I am pleased to announce a formal partnership between the Archdiocese of New Orleans and Catholic Charities to continue our very important work to support the dignity of all human life. This partnership will support the day-to-day functions of the Respect Life Office in close collaboration with me and leadership of other ministries in the Archdiocese of New Orleans. In this new model, the Respect Life Office will continue to offer resources and regular programming in support of the many life issues we face as a society from abortion and euthanasia to capital punishment, stem cell research and cloning, human trafficking and may other issues that threaten the dignity of human life from conception to natural death.

I am grateful to Sr. Marjorie Hebert, Catholic Charities President and CEO and her staff for being open to bringing the services of the Respect Life Office together with the many life-affirming services Catholic Charities already provides to support the most vulnerable in our communities. Michelle Black, who has led ACCESS Pregnancy Services for Catholic Charities for many years will direct these important activities and services.

This Respect Life Month, let us pray together that God may grant us the wisdom and courage to lovingly protect his gift of human life at every stage so that we may “Live the Gospel of Life”. Please click here to read my letter about Respect Life Month.
Announcements

- Please see the attached policies pertaining to political activity issued by the LCCB and Archdiocese of New Orleans. These may be helpful as you navigate your way toward the impending November 3rd election. Click on the attached LCCB Policy Regarding Political Materials and Activities on Church Property, and on the attached Archdiocese of New Orleans Policy on Parishes and Political Activity.

- Voters in Louisiana will vote on the Love Life Amendment (No 1 on the ballot) on November 3. Catholics are encouraged to learn more about this amendment and to vote yes on this amendment to the Louisiana Constitution. There are more information and resources about the Love Life Amendment on p. 5 of the bulletin.

- The Presbyteral Council will meet Thursday October 1, 2020, at Notre Dame Seminary at 10:00 AM.

- The 16th Anniversary Mass for God’s Special Children will take place Sunday, October 4, 2020, at St. Francis Xavier at 2:00 PM. Thanks to Joy and Jay Zainey for their leadership.

- The annual Red Mass, dedicated to prayer for judges, lawyers and all those in legal professions will be held on Monday, October 5, 2020, at 9:30 AM at St. Louis Cathedral.

- Mrs. Cynthia Finley Nolan, the 2020 Regina Matrum recipient, will be honored for her devotion to family and church on Monday, October 5, 2020, at 7:00 PM, at St. Andrew the Apostle Church in Algiers.

- Catholics are invited by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops to join in a unique witness of prayer on October 7, the Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary, for a virtual prayer event with the intention of uniting Catholics across the country in a moment of prayer for America at this time when there is so much unrest and uncertainty. It will premiere on the USCCB’s YouTube channel and Facebook page on Wednesday, October 7 at 2:00 pm Central Time. Go to https://www.usccb.org/rosary-america for more information.

- There will be a morning of reflection for parents of New Orleans seminarians followed by a luncheon on Saturday, October 10, 2020, at Notre Dame Seminary. Please keep these parents in your prayers as they support their sons’ formation and discernment.

- We will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of St. Benedict Parish on Sunday, October 11, 2020, at 10:30 AM.

- World Mission Sunday will be celebrated on Sunday, October 18, 2020, throughout the world. Please see the attached letter to share with your parishioners the weekend of October 10-11, 2020. You may download English here and Spanish here.

- We will offer a special Mass for Victims and Survivors of Violence on Sunday October 25, 2020 at 11:00 AM at St. Louis Cathedral. Please see attached letter from the Office of Marriage and Family Life regarding instructions.
Mark Your Calendars

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>May 22, 2021</td>
<td>Transitional Diaconate Ordination</td>
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<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>May 21, 2022</td>
<td>Transitional Diaconate Ordination</td>
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<tr>
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<td>September 7-9, 2022</td>
<td>Priest Convocation for the Archdiocese of New Orleans</td>
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<td>September 6-8, 2023</td>
<td>Priest Convocation for the Archdiocese of New Orleans</td>
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SECTION II
ACTION REQUESTED
Pastors and parish secretaries are asked to please ensure response and follow-up on the items below.

Faithful Citizenship: What Does It Mean to Form My Conscience?

As Catholics we are called to act in all that we do with properly formed consciences. Having a properly formed consciences when exercising our civic responsibility and right to vote is especially important as we are called to witness our faith in the public square, but what does it mean to have a properly formed conscience? Forming a conscience is a life-long task, and the Civilize It campaign from the USCCB has created a useful tool that can be printed and shared digitally about what it means to form one’s conscience and a short guide for doing so. Please find this helpful resources online here and make it available to your parishioners as you see fit.
Catholic Community Foundation Hosts Virtual ParishSOFT Family Directory - Sacraments Training

Another training opportunity! At 1 p.m. on Tuesday, October 13, Ryan Adams (CCF ParishSOFT & Data Coordinator) and Ann Gauthier (St. Ann Parish) are offering Archdiocese of New Orleans parishes a virtual training on ParishSOFT Family Directory – Sacraments. Click here to register. You may also reach Ryan with training inquiries at radams@ccfnola.org or 504.527.5796.

Catholic Community Foundation Hosts Virtual ParishSOFT New Staff Training

Mark your calendars! On Tuesday, October 6, at 10 a.m., Ryan Adams (CCF ParishSOFT & Data Coordinator) is offering a complete “how-to” training on using ParishSOFT Family Suite. While this virtual class is designed for new Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New Orleans parish staff members, those needing a refresher are invited to attend. Click here to register. You may also reach Ryan with training inquiries at radams@ccfnola.org or 504.527.5796.

SR. BRIEGE MCKENNA HEALING MINI-CONFERENCE

CCRNO welcomes Sr. Briege McKenna for a Healing Mini-Conference, November 13-14, 2020, at St. Angela Merici Church in Metairie. Sr. Briege is well-known around the world for her ministry of healing. She was originally scheduled for the CCRNO March 2020 Conference, which had to be canceled. This Mini-Conference is for the benefit of CCRNO, a self-supporting Office of the Archdiocese of New Orleans.

Sr. Briege will speak on a different topic and pray for healing at each session. Attend all three. The Healing Mini-Conference will consist of three separate and distinct sessions, Friday night from 7:00 – 9:30 p.m., Saturday morning from 9:30 – noon, and Saturday night from 7:00 – 9:30 p.m. Pre-registration is required at ccrno.org. Adults: $15 per person, per session; Youths (under 18): $5 per person, per session. Because of social distancing, seating is limited to approximately 300. No onsite registration. Masks required. Check in one half-hour before each session. We anticipate this Mini-Conference will be well-attended, so pre-register early for all three sessions. Registration closes at noon on November 11. Click here for flyer.

SECTION III
PARISH PUBLICITY

Announcements below are made available for publicizing to parishioners via placement in parish bulletins, on parish websites and social media, or other appropriate means

POPE FRANCIS' OCTOBER PRAYER INTENTION

The Laity’s Mission in the Church: “We pray that by the virtue of baptism, the laity, especially women, may participate more in areas of responsibility in the Church.”
LOVE LIFE AMENDMENT TO THE LOUISIANA CONSTITUTION

The Louisiana Bishops Support the LOVE LIFE AMENDMENT TO THE LOUISIANA CONSTITUTION. Louisiana citizens will be able to affirmatively state that they “Love Life” on November 3—the same day as the United States presidential election, Louisiana citizens Click here to read the statement from the Louisiana Conference

LOVE LIFE AMENDMENT PARISH RESOURCES

Catholics are encouraged to vote yes for the Love Life Amendment (No. 1 on the ballots) in Louisiana on November 3. As you may be aware, the Louisiana Catholic Bishops have come out in strong support of this amendment because it will “amend the Louisiana Constitution and thereby continue to strengthen our commitment to end abortion in our state.” The Louisiana bishop’s statement reads, “Passage of the Love Life Amendment will have a dual effect. Primarily it will ensure that the state of Louisiana cannot establish the right to abortion at present or if Roe v Wade is overturned in the future. Secondly it will prohibit the funding of abortion through tax payer dollars within our constitution. Without such an amendment, the invalidation of the many anti-abortion laws we have all advocated so strongly for in Louisiana remains a possibility.”

Louisiana Right to Life has designated October 18, 2020: Love Life Sunday #1 because early voting begins Tuesday October 20. In Louisiana, as much as 40% of the electorate choose to vote during the “early voting” period, so parishes are encouraged to share information and the bishops’ support of the Love Life Amendment as early voting begins. The archdiocesan Office of Communications has curated materials for use in print and electronic media from the Louisiana Right to Life toolkit for churches online here. For those parishes wanting to do more, you can visit the Louisiana Right to Life Sponsored page at https://lovelifevoteyes.com/churches/.

68th ANNUAL RED MASS OCTOBER 5, 2020

The Saint Thomas More Catholic Lawyers Association, in conjunction with the Archdiocese of New Orleans, announce the celebration of the 68th Annual Red Mass, invoking the Holy Spirit upon the bench and bar of the State of Louisiana, on Monday, October 5, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. at St. Louis Cathedral in New Orleans. Most Reverend Gregory M. Aymond, Archbishop of New Orleans, will be the principal celebrant. Reverend Mike Kettenring, a priest of the Archdiocese of New Orleans, will be the homilist. Members of the bench and bar of the State of Louisiana, as well as the public, are invited to attend. Masks are required and social distancing will be observed in the Cathedral.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING 101

The year 2020 has strained the faith of even the most devout Catholics! To get our bearing, it can be helpful to reflect upon the deep tradition of our faith and how it continues to speak to the needs of our world today. Please consider joining Catholic Charities Office of Justice and Peace for any one, or all of the sessions about critical issues of our day. See link to flyer for dates and times.
ARCHDIOCESAN NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING CLASSES

With professional instruction, Natural Family Planning has proven itself to be safe, effective, and a moral way for couples to plan their families. It is a method which respects the meaning of human sexuality as God created it and thus marital love is enhanced and strengthened.

The Office of Marriage and Family Life is offering a class series in the SymptoPro™ Method of Natural Family Planning. This series will be conducted by Kelly Donahue of the Archdiocese of New Orleans. This is a virtual class series utilizing Zoom. The dates of the class series are October 3 and October 31, 2020. The Zoom class hours are 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. The class on October 31, 2020 will be in-person rather than via Zoom. The cost is $105.00 and includes all classes and materials.

Preregistration is required. Register online https://nolacatholicfla.regfox.com/sympto-thermal-nfp-course.

OFFICE OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE MARRIAGE PREPARATION

The Office of Marriage and Family Life is again offering programs for Marriage Preparation with limited enrollment to allow for appropriate social distancing. Upcoming dates for the Engaged Encounter, Days for the Engaged, and the Special Marriage programs can be found at this link. Descriptions of the various programs as well as online registration links can be found here.

As always, couples are encouraged to take advantage of parish-based mentor couple programs whenever available. Online marriage Preparation is also available for those who are separated by distance or are otherwise unable to take advantage of an in-person marriage preparation program. Please contact the Office of Marriage and Family Life with any questions. mfl@archdiocese-no.org, (504) 861-6247

SECTION IV

NEWS AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

Following is news and information of general interest to the local Church

Catholic Lens Series: Living the Gospel in a Fractured Culture

Join us! The Catholic Community Foundation and Notre Dame Seminary are co-hosting the Fall 2020 Catholic Lens Series: Living the Gospel in a Fractured Culture. In the four-part series, speakers will explore the foundational principles that guide our Catholic mission of unity in the world and bring a message of hope and encouragement.

Archbishop Alfred Hughes will lead part two of the series, Living the Truth in Love: Two Sides of the Same Coin, on Wednesday, October 7, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. You may attend the series in-person or virtually. In-person events will be held at Schulte Auditorium at Notre Dame Seminary, and they will be socially-distanced with a 100 attendee maximum per event. Please see this flyer for more details.

Registration is required. The registration deadline for Living the Truth in Love is by 5 p.m. on October 6. Click here to register for the event. Questions? Please contact Dr. Susie Veters at sveters@ccfnola.org or 504.596.3042.
Respect Life Month

Each October, Catholics across the country join together to celebrate life in the observance of Respect Life Month. This year’s theme is “Live the Gospel of Life”. Please find resources from the USCCB for your parish to use online here. Additionally please find a list of intercessory prayers for use this Respect Life Month and beyond here.

#iGiveCatholic 2020 Online Registration is OPEN!

Parishes, schools, and nonprofit ministries of the Archdiocese of New Orleans are invited to participate in the sixth annual #iGiveCatholic Giving Day, which takes place on #GivingTuesday, December 1, 2020. New this year, organizations must register and apply to participate to have a page on the #iGiveCatholic website. Registration closes October 30. Returning organizations, or those that have participated in the giving day before, click here for step-by-step registration instructions. New organizations, or those that have never participated in #iGiveCatholic, click here for your registration instructions. Questions? Please contact Callie Kamath of the Catholic Community Foundation at ckamath@ccfnola.org or 504.527.5788.

Hanging Onto Hope (Book by Sr. Melannie Svoboda, SND) (Zoom)

Our world is yearning for signs of hope. Sr. Melanie helps us open our hearts to hope even in the darkest of times. Hope is rooted in our deepest longings and desires. “Hope begins with the awareness that we are not yet fulfilled – no matter how successful we may be or how many items we have checked off our bucket list.” Join facilitators, ASC Associate Directors Jeanne Burmaster and Janet Trahan as we find “Good” in an imperfect world. Thursdays: October 1, 8, 15, 22, 2020, 10:00am - Noon. Please purchase the book and read the introduction and pages 1-21 for the first class. Cost $40.00 (Adjustments can be made.) Please see attached flyer for more information. Register on the web: https:nolacatholic.org/asc Email: archspirctr@arch-no.org or call (504) 861-3254.

Praying with Your Issues

We will spend the evening discussing ways to bring the nitty-gritty of your life into your daily meditation and contemplation. How can I bring the stuff of my everyday life—my worries, joys, preoccupations, decisions, and so on—into my quiet time with God? All are welcome from beginners in prayer to those who have been at it a while. The evening will contain a short presentation by Father Mark Thibodeaux, STJ, a discussion and Q&A, and a little time prayer. Friday, October 2, 7:00-9:00pm at the Archdiocesan Spirituality Center Cost $25.00 (Adjustments can be made.) Please see attached flyer for more information. Register on the web: https:nolacatholic.org/asc Email: archspirctr@arch-no.org or call (504) 861-3254.

Employment Opportunities

Job opportunities are currently listed on our HR page: https://nolacatholic.org/employment

Please refer to our Job-Link often and share with qualified referrals!

For any submissions or inquiries on the NolaCatholic e-Bulletin, please contact communications@arch-no.org.