

NolaCatholic e-Bulletin

April 22, 2020

This bulletin is also available on the Archdiocesan website, www.nolacatholic.org

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Updates from the Office of Religious Education

On April 16, 2020, the Office of Religious Education hosted three Zoom meetings for school and parish catechetical leaders attended by representatives of over 40 parishes. We encourage Parish and School Catechetical Leaders to participate in the next round of virtual meetings in May once these are announced. From discussions on April 16th, the Office of Religious Education offers the following:

- The Office of Religious Education page on www.nolacatholic.org is being updated regularly with resources useful for virtual and at-home faith formation.
- The majority of parishes had to cancel their regular First Communion plans. Parish catechetical leaders should consult with their pastor about how these may be rescheduled once civil authorities provide new guidance on gatherings and the archbishop provides new direction about public Masses.
- A plan to address cancelled Confirmations is being formulated by the archbishop and the Office of Worship. Affected parishes will be consulted once more information is available.
- For parishes and schools deliberating about Vacation Bible School plans this summer, we advise waiting for new guidance from civil authorities about gatherings once the “stay-at-home” mandates ends. What may be possible or advisable will be heavily influenced by those new directives.
- Regarding catechist certification and re-certification classes that are normally held at the Archdiocesan Administration Building on Walmsley, these will continue but will be virtual, on Zoom, at no cost. Deacon Michael Whitehouse will teach the April class on Church History, and Barbara McAtee will teach the May class on Ecclesiology. The ORE page on www.nolacatholic.org has all the information on classes and registration.

Please link to Clarion Herald e-Edition

Especially during the stay-at-home mandate, it is important for parishioners to know that the e-edition of the Clarion Herald is available each week at <http://clarionherald-la.newsmemory.com>.

It would be very helpful if pastors could provide that link to the Clarion Herald e-edition in their e-bulletins and on their social media platforms. A new electronic issue of the Clarion Herald goes live every Tuesday at approximately 3:00 p.m.

Questions: Executive editor Peter Finney Jr., (504) 400-1124; pfinney@clarionherald.org.

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.

Mark Your Calendars

May 16, 2020	Transitional Diaconate Ordination
May 30, 2020	Priesthood Ordination
September 9, 2020	Confession available in all parishes 5:00 PM-6:30 PM
September 15-17, 2020	Priest Convocation for the Archdiocese of New Orleans
May 22, 2021	Transitional Diaconate Ordination
June 5, 2021	Priesthood Ordination
September 20-22, 2021	Louisiana Priests Convention
September 7-9, 2022	Priest Convocation for the Archdiocese of New Orleans
September 6-8, 2023	Priest Convocation for the Archdiocese of New Orleans

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.

This class series the Office of Marriage and Family Life is offering in the SymptoPro™ Method of Natural Family Planning will be conducted by Kelly Donahue of the Archdiocese of New Orleans. This series will be virtual by using Zoom. The dates of the class series are May 1, May 15, May 29 and June 26, 2020. The Zoom class hours are 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. The cost is \$105.00 and includes all classes and materials.

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

Sacred Oils

The Office of Worship has prepared one set of oils for each parish and these sets have been picked up by each dean. Unfortunately, due to a shipping error, we did not have enough bottles to provide each parish with two sets at this time. The bottles are on order, but the warehouse is closed and we do not know when they will be delivered. When the additional sets are ready, they will be distributed to each dean. Pastors should arrange to pick up their oils from their respective dean.

Adult Confirmation Postponed

Due to anticipated restrictions, the Adult Confirmation scheduled for May 31, 2020, at St. Louis Cathedral has been postponed. The Office of Worship will announce a new date later in the year. Once the new date is scheduled, the registration materials will be sent to parishes.

Maintenance Reminders from Catholic Mutual

During the extended closure of many parish and school buildings, it is possible that maintenance issues can develop without anyone being aware, and such issues can become costly problems if not addressed in a timely manner. Parish and school leaders are asked to please ensure that buildings getting little or no use are checked regularly, both interior and exterior, for possible problems. Issues such as, but not limited to, pipe leaks or breaks, growth of mildew or mold due to air conditioning being off, insects and animals gaining access, broken windows, and roof damage can result in costly repairs the longer they are left unattended. Also, parish and school owned vehicles that are not being used regularly should be checked and started periodically to prevent maintenance issues such as dead batteries.

Order of St. Louis Postponement

Per the email sent to all priests on April 17, 2020, the archdiocese has postponed the Order of St. Louis ceremony originally scheduled for May 17, 2020, to a future date yet to be determined due to the coronavirus work-at-home order.

Once we are back in our offices and a future date is decided, more information will be sent regarding a reschedule date.

No letters will be mailed to this year's nominees until then. All pastors will receive a copy of your nominees' letters.

God bless you all during this time of uncertainty amidst the pandemic. Any questions, please email Jonelle Foltz at jfoltz@clarionherald.org.