A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHBISHOP

Committee for Racial Equity and Justice

Like many of you, I have been shocked and at times horrified by the racial injustices that have become evident in our country over the past few months. We can never tolerate racism and injustice, either personal or systemic. The church has, and will continue to call out racism for the sin that it is even as we admit that our church has at times been complicit in individual and systemic racism. For this I am truly sorry. To make every effort to assure that the Archdiocese of New Orleans is doing its best to eliminate racism, I am announcing the creation of the Committee for Racial Equity and Justice. This committee, composed of archdiocesan administrative staff and external stakeholders will examine the policies and practices of the archdiocese in the areas of Diocesan Administration, Parishes, and Formation on the Social Justice teachings of the Church for clergy, staff and lay faithful. Some of the particular areas that will be examined are diocesan hiring policies, diversity training for clergy and diocesan staff, and support for our Black Catholic community and all Catholics of Color. I know there will be some who feel that this is not enough, but my hope is that this is a definitive step in the right direction. May God grant us the grace to live up to his command to Love One Another.

Announcements

- Saturday, August 15, 2019, is the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Because it falls on a Saturday, there is no obligation to attend Mass.
- The Ministerial Council will meet on Tuesday, August 18, 2020, at 9:00 AM at Notre Dame Seminary Pastoral Center.
- I will be in Alexandria on August 19th and 20th for the Episcopal Ordination of Bishop-elect Robert Marshall as the thirteenth bishop of Alexandria.
- The “Order for the Blessing of Students and Teachers” from the Book of Blessings can be accessed here. Please consider using this as you deem appropriate. This time of the year is a great opportunity to connect our parishioners to our Catholic schools, public schools and our Parish Schools of Religion.
- Please be reminded that we will offer “Confession” (Sacrament of Penance) in as many churches as possible in the Archdiocese of New Orleans on Wednesday, September 9, 2020, beginning at 5:00 PM. Please see attached memo and pastoral letter in English and Spanish to be made available to the people if you choose to offer confession.
• Impelled by Christ’s call and inspired by the Holy Spirit through the work 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 of the parishes, schools and organizations of the archdiocese in enabling them to encounter Jesus and to witness with joy.

• Please include in the Prayers of the Faithful:
  * For school administrators, teachers, catechist, and students, that they may grow in knowledge and become more faithful disciples of Jesus. We pray to the Lord.
  * Please include in the Prayers of the Faithful for the duration of the hurricane season: “That through the intercession of Our Lady of Prompt Succor we will be spared damage to life and property during the hurricane season.”

• Pope Francis’ Monthly Intention: for August: “We pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families.”

• Adult Confirmation will be celebrated on Sunday, August 16, 2020, at 3:00 PM at St. Louis Cathedral. If your parish has candidates, please contact the Office of Worship at 504-861-6300 or worship@arch-no.org.

• Regarding the tragic explosion in Beirut, individuals who wish to make a donation for our sisters and brothers in Beirut, Lebanon, may send their contributions to me at the Chancery, and I will forward them to Catholic Relief Services.

---

**Mark Your Calendars**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 9, 2020</td>
<td>Confession available in all parishes  5:00 PM-6:30 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 22, 2021</td>
<td>Transitional Diaconate Ordination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 5, 2021</td>
<td>Priesthood Ordination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 20-22, 2021</td>
<td>Louisiana Priests Convention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 21, 2022</td>
<td>Transitional Diaconate Ordination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 4, 2022</td>
<td>Priesthood Ordination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 7-9, 2022</td>
<td>Priest Convocation for the Archdiocese of New Orleans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 6-8, 2023</td>
<td>Priest Convocation for the Archdiocese of New Orleans</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SECTION II
ACTION REQUESTED
Pastors and parish secretaries are asked to please ensure response and follow-up on the items below

New NOLACatholic eBulletin Submission Procedure

Starting last week, the Office of Clergy and the Office of Communication began collaborating to publish the weekly NOLACatholic eBulletin. Please send all submissions to communications@arch-no.org. In the subject line please include “NOLACatholic eBulletin Submission”. In the body of the message please include in what section the announcement should be placed and the complete announcement and please attach any flyers as pdf documents to the email. Please submit all information by 12 noon on the Monday prior to publication.

Shine the Light!

In this time of uncertainty, help us “shine the light”! The Office of Communications is launching a new social media program titled Shine the Light to feature the ministry, contributions, and history of the Catholic churches and communities of faith in the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Fr. Jared Rodrigue, Parochial Vicar of St. Margaret Mary in Slidell will partner with Sarah McDonald of the archdiocesan Office of Communications to work with parishes, schools, and ministries who would like to participate to feature their story on the archdiocesan Instagram and Facebook accounts for an entire week to go and be media missionaries to make digital disciples! To learn more about how your parish, school, or ministry can help us “shine the light” of the local Catholic Church on social media, click here or contact Fr. Jared at jrodrigue@arch-no.org or Sarah McDonald at smcdonald@arch-no.org or (504) 596-3023.

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

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 of Catholic Bishops.
Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship,
Three Talks at St. Francis Xavier Church – Aug 26, Sept 2 and Sept 9

Important national, state and local elections are coming up this fall. To help Catholics understand their political responsibility in voting, St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, 444 Metairie Rd., Metairie, LA, will host three talks on the U.S. Bishops’ document, “Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship.” Youth Minister and Theologian Ron Courtade will give the presentations in St. Francis Church on three successive Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:00 pm: August 26, September 2 and September 9. It will be beneficial to attend a talk even if you can’t make all three talks. Ron Courtade has a Masters of Theology degree from Notre Dame Seminary and has served in the Archdiocese as a Director of Religious Education and High School Religion Teacher. Come be informed on key principles for consideration in preparing to vote. **Please see this flyer for more details.**

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 September 5, September 19, 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](https://nolacatholicfla.regfox.com/sympto-thermal-nfp-course).

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.

The first event, **Developing a Catholic Lens: The Church as a "Creative Minority,"** takes place on **Wednesday, September 2**, 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. [Click here to register for the events.](https://nolacatholicfla.regfox.com/sympto-thermal-nfp-course) Questions? Please contact Dr. Susie Veters at **sveters@ccfnola.org** or 504.596.3042.
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.