In an effort to better serve the faithful of the Archdiocese of New Orleans, I am pleased to announce the creation of the **Department of Catholic Education and Faith Formation**.

The Department of Catholic Education and Faith Formation will include Catholic schools, parish schools of religion, RCIA programs, evangelization, adult education, and catechist certification programs focused on a shared ministry of forming life-long disciples. Dr. RaeNell Houston will serve as Executive Director and Superintendent of Catholic Schools and will be supported by Deputy Superintendents, Deacon Michael Whitehouse and Mrs. Martha Mundine along with additional professional staff. By creating this department, it is our hope to eliminate a duplication of efforts enabling us to focus resources on Catholic education and religious education for all ages in both our parishes and our Catholic schools.

The mission statement of the **Department of Catholic Education and Faith Formation** is:

*Led by the Holy Spirit and centered in the person of Jesus Christ, the mission of the Department of Catholic Education and Faith Formation is to provide service, support and guidance to all parish and school communities in the shared ministry of evangelizing, catechizing and educating with standards of excellence to form life-long Disciples who witness God’s love with joy.*

**Announcements**

- The Ministerial Council will meet on Tuesday, August 18, 2020, at 9:00 AM at Notre Dame Seminary Pastoral Center.

- Due to COVID-19, we have reached the decision that it would not be safe to hold the 2020 Priest Convocation.

- 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.
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.

- 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 every church in the Archdiocese of New Orleans on Wednesday, September 9, 2020, beginning at 5:00 PM.

- 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.”

- The Seminarian Summer Gathering will take place on Wednesday, August 5, 2020, through Friday, August 7, 2020, at the Archdiocese of New Orleans Retreat Center in Metairie. Please pray for our seminarians and for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life and consecrated virginity. I look forward to this gathering.

- The blessing of the fleet for Delacroix Island will be Saturday, August 8, 2020, at the Delacroix Fishing Pier at 1:00 PM.

- 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.

### Mark Your Calendars

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<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>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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<tr>
<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>
<td>June 4, 2022</td>
<td>Priesthood Ordination</td>
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<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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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 this week, the Office of Clergy and the Office of Communication will collaborate 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.

Catholic Community Foundation Hosts Virtual ParishSOFT Training
Training opportunity! At 1 p.m. on Thursday, August 13, CCF ParishSOFT & Data Coordinator Ryan Adams is offering Archdiocese of New Orleans parishes a virtual in-depth review on using ParishSOFT’s Religious Education module. Click here to register for this online training. You may also reach Ryan with training inquiries at radams@ccfnola.org or 504.527.5796.

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

KIDS’ CLARION Turner 20!
Kids’ Clarion, the Clarion Herald’s nationally acclaimed monthly section produced for and by students in grades K-7, will be celebrating its 20th anniversary in the 2020-21 school year! Click here to read more about the Kids’ Clarion and what they will be offering in the Fall.

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.
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. Questions? Please contact Dr. Susie Veters at sveters@ccfnola.org or 504.596.3042.

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.

SECTION IV
NEWS AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

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

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.