SECTION I
A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHBISHOP

Announcements

- Please remember those affected by Hurricanes Sally and Laura. Monetary gifts can be given through the parish or by sending a donation to: Archdiocese of New Orleans, Hurricane Sally/Laura, 7887 Walmsley Ave., New Orleans, LA 70125.

- Along with other staff, I visited Lake Charles on Saturday. The area is truly devastated. Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New Orleans and Second Harvest Food Bank have partnered with the Diocese of Lake Charles. Bishop Provost is grateful for the prayers, food, etc. shipped to him, and the generous financial gifts. The people of the Archdiocese of New Orleans have been most generous.

- See enclosed my article on Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship and other the information on Faithful Citizenship in preparation for the November election on page 5. Please make this available to your people.

- 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. 6 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.

- 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.
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.

Photos from Confirmation

- As your parish celebrates the Sacrament of Confirmation, I ask that you please consider sending photos from the Mass and the group photo often taken to Sarah McDonald in the Office of Communications at smcdonald@arch-no.org so that we may highlight and celebrate the young people who have received the Sacrament. This is an opportunity for the entire archdiocese to pray for and congratulate your parish’s newly confirmed as well as a witness to the broader community of the commitment and presence of the young church. Thank you for this consideration.

Census Sunday

- The 2020 Census deadline is on September 30th. Everyone needs to be counted—from babies to the oldest people in our community. Governor Edwards is asking pastors and faith leaders to please make this Sunday, September 27th, a Census Sunday by encouraging your congregation to respond to the 2020 Census. Please ask people to respond to the Census now by either going online to my2020census.gov or by calling 844-330-2020.

- Please include in the Prayers of the Faithful:
  * 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.”
  * For all people who have been affected by Hurricane Sally, that they will persevere in the rebuilding of their homes and lives.

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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<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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Archbishop Aymond: Vote with a well-formed conscience

As we approach the upcoming local, state, and national elections, I have received many emails, calls, and letters with questions from Catholics and other people of faith regarding how to vote. I would like to take this opportunity to clarify some important points, particularly for Catholics.

Let me start off by saying that no member of the Catholic bishops, priests, deacons, religious, or laity in church leadership may endorse or oppose any candidate for office. The US Catholic Bishops document “Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship” prohibits any endorsement of a candidate by church leadership but challenges Catholics to vote with a properly formed conscience. To quote the document, “Clergy and lay people have complementary roles in public life. We bishops have the primary responsibility to hand on the Church’s moral and social teaching. Together with priests and deacons, assisted by religious and lay leaders of the Church, we are to teach fundamental moral principles that help Catholics form their consciences correctly, to provide guidance on the moral dimensions of public decisions, and to encourage the faithful to carry out their responsibilities in political life. In fulfilling these responsibilities, the Church's leaders avoid endorsing or opposing candidates.”

It is in my role as bishop, charged with handing on the Church’s moral and social teaching that I write today. It is our right and responsibility to vote with a well-formed conscience. A well-formed conscience is formed under the guidance of the Holy Spirit through prayer, scripture, and reflecting and informing oneself about the moral teachings of the Catholic Church as guided by “Faithful Citizenship”. It is our responsibility as disciples of Jesus to look carefully at the platform of each candidate and compare these principles to the teaching of Christ and the Church. There are many moral and social issues we must be aware of to form our conscience and decide how to vote. The issues of public policy concern for Catholics are listed below. Abortion and euthanasia are identified in the bishops’ document as being preeminent issues because it is upon the protection and sanctity of human life within the family unit that all other life issues are built. This does not mean we can dismiss or ignore other serious threats to human life and dignity or caring for the vulnerable among us, but we must stand firm on issues that directly attack life itself, the most fundamental good and the condition for all others. We must emphasize the need to respect all human life regardless of race, religion, cultural, or social differences. To once again quote from “Faithful Citizenship”, “The fact that much of our political rhetoric has become very negative and that political polarization seems to have grown should not dissuade us from the high calling to work for a world that allows everyone to thrive, a world in which all persons, all families, have what they need to fulfill their God-given destiny.”

As Christians, we believe in the values handed on to us by Jesus and our tradition. I invite the faithful and all people of good will to study carefully the information from the bishops’ conference and, through prayer, make a responsible decision based on a well-formed conscience in the upcoming election. Let us together pray for our country and for peace in our world.

Issues of Public Policy Concern for Catholics:
- Address the preeminent requirement to protect human life
- Protect the fundamental understanding of marriage as a life-long commitment between a man and a woman
- Achieve comprehensive immigration reform
- Help families and children overcome poverty and ensure access to education
- Ensure full conscience protection and religious freedom
- Provide healthcare that respects human life and dignity
- Oppose unjust discrimination
- Establish and comply with moral limits on military force
- Pursue peace, protect human rights and religious liberty, and advance economic justice and care for creation.

To find other helpful resources, visit https://nolacatholic.org/vote.
Deaths

**Brother Alfred Baltz, FSC, a Christian Brother** died September 9, 2020. He taught for many years at St. Paul's and was an avid gardener and part-time caretaker of landscaping on the St Paul's Campus. A private Mass will be held for Brother Alfred on Sept. 26.

**Brother Louis of the Cross Welker, FSC, a Christian Brother** died on his patronal feast, September 14. Brother was a Campus minister at Archbishop Rummel High School for a number of years. He served as superior during Katrina, and was Vicar for Religious in the Lafayette Diocese as well as Coordinator of Catholic Schools for Diocese of Lafayette. He came to St. Paul's in 2011 where he began building up the St. La Salle Auxiliary, a work that helps with the care of our elderly brothers. A private Mass will be held for Brother Louis Oct. 3, 2020. Both Brother Alfred and Brother Louis will be cremated and buried at St. Joseph’s Abbey.

**Sister Gracelyn Soignet, CSJ** died on September 14 in Wichita, KS at the CSJ Congregational Center. Sister Gracelyn managed Nazareth Inn and cared for the senior sisters in NO before moving with them to Wichita after Katrina.

**Sister Leyla Patricia Cerda-Sanchez, C.S.J.,** a Sister of the Congregation of St. Joseph, died unexpectedly at the age of 60, on the anniversary of her first profession, September 14, 2020, at the Congregation of St. Joseph Center, LaGrange Park, Illinois. She ministered in New Orleans at Catholic Charities Immigration Legal Services and St. Monica Social Service Center, and at Loyola University New Orleans in University Ministry and as Residential Chaplain. A Mass of Resurrection and burial will be held in Baton Rouge at a later date. May she rest in peace.

**Sister Jane Louise Arbour, C.S.J.,** a Sister of the Congregation of St. Joseph, died September 17, 2020 at Mount St. Mary Convent in Wichita, Kansas at 95 years of age. Sister taught in New Orleans at St. Ann School, Our Lady of the Rosary School, and at St. Joseph Academy as well as her many other ministries in Baton Rouge and New Roads. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated Tuesday, September 29 in Wichita with burial to follow immediately in the convent cemetery.

**Sister Rosanne Stump, S.L.W., a Sister of the Living Word,** died peacefully on September 9 in Chicago. Sister Rosanne ministered in the Archdiocese of New Orleans for 20 years as teacher, principal and secretary for the Office of Religious Education here in New Orleans. Her blood sister, **Sister Julia Stump SLW** is presently teaching here at St. Edward the Confessor School. A Memorial Mass will be held at a later date. Please keep Sister Rosanne, Sister Julia, and all the Sisters of the Living Word in your prayers.

Please remember our departed brothers and sisters and our living Christian Brothers, Sisters of Saint Joseph, and Sisters of the Living Word in your prayers.
Evening of Healing - Experience Freedom from Fear, Worry & Anxiety

Experience freedom from fear, worry, and anxiety by calling to mind God’s great love and care for us through acknowledgement, meditative song and exhortation of God’s Word. Presented by Deacon Larry & Andi Oney. Music by Ryan Foulon and Garrett & Shannon Fried. Wednesday, September 30, 2020 at 7 PM – 8 PM at Divine Mercy Parish. Click here to see flyer.

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.

Faithful Citizenship Resources

The USCCB has created several blurbs regarding “Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship” and the accompanying “Civilize It” campaign. The blurbs are available online here. While they are titled as “Bulletin Blurbs” parishes are invited to not only use these blurbs and the links associated with them in their bulletins but also on their websites and in social media. If you have any questions about how to use this material, please contact Sarah McDonald in the Office of Communications at (504) 596-3023 or smcdonald@arch-no.org.

CLARION HERALD Wedding Information Review/Response Needed

The Clarion Herald will publish the quarterly list of wedding information in parishes in the bridal pages of the October 10 issue which goes to print on October 5. We appreciate your taking a moment to review/update your April listing here of the Catholic Wedding Guide. Please send an email to jfoltz@clarionherald.org indicating whether it is: “OK AS IS” or indicating changes. If would like to add your parish, please send PARISH NAME, ADDRESS, WEDDING TIMES, WEDDING COORDINATOR AND PHONE NUMBER. Please send all responses by WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30. Thank you very much, Jonelle Foltz, (504) 596-3035.
POPE FRANCIS’ SEPTEMBER PRAYER INTENTION

Respect for the Planet’s Resources: “We pray that the planet’s resources will not be plundered, but shared in a just and respectful manner.”

LOVE LIFE AMENDMENT PARISH RESOURCES

Catholics are encouraged to vote yes for the Love Life Amendment (No. 1 on the ballot) 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.
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

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.

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.
#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 ckmath@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

Current Listings:

- Communications and Special Events Coordinator, De La Salle High School, New Orleans.
- Grounds Keeper/Maintenance Manager, St. Cletus Church, Gretna
- Director of Early Learning Center, Ursuline Academy, New Orleans
- Accounts Receivable Clerk, Archdiocese Administrative Office, New Orleans
- Maintenance Crew Member, St. Joseph Parish, Gretna
- Aftercare Staff, Early Childhood Program, Ursuline Academy, New Orleans

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.