We continue to get questions about the Equality Act, which has passed the US House and will go for debate in the US Senate. To quote the USCCB, “The bill is well-intentioned but ultimately misguided. The Equality Act discriminates against people of faith, threatens unborn life, and undermines the common good.” The LCCB has released a statement that can be found online here. Those looking for more information can find it online at https://www.usccb.org/equality-act. In particular I would like to draw your attention to a very helpful Q & A document that can be found here and a letter the US Bishops sent to Congress that can be found here. These documents can help you to be informed of the issue so that, if you choose to do so, you may speak or communicate about it with your parishioners. For those wanting to be in touch with our Senators, you can share with them the link to Voter Voice at https://www.votervoice.net/USCCB/campaigns. Let us continue to pray for the protection of religious freedom in our country!

We have received several requests for the full response from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith to a dubium regarding the blessing of the unions of persons of the same sex released yesterday, March 15, 2021. You may find the full response online by clicking here.

Announcements

- Questions have been raised about the Family Prayer and its place in Sunday liturgy. When we added the Prayer to St. Michael at the end of Mass, the Family Prayer remained a part of our worship. It is suggested that:
  - St. Michael Prayer is prayed at the end of Mass.
  - The Family Prayer is prayed at the end of the General Intercessions (Universal Prayers) or before Mass.
It is expected that both the Family Prayer and St. Michael Prayer be a part of the Sunday Liturgy. No more prayers will be added.

- Thanks to Chris O’Neill, James Behan, Cathy Francis, Betty-Ann Hickey and all who celebrated the First Annual “Silver Anniversary of Marriage.” Thirty-five Couples participated and it was a very special event. We will celebrate it next year and include others who have recently celebrated their Silver Jubilee.

- Thanks to Donald McKay and Vince Liberto of the New Orleans Serra Club, and Fr. Colm Cahill for the Altar Server Awards Mass. Sixty-eight Young people were recognized for their fidelity to altar serving. The awards ranged from elementary school through college- Very impressive!!
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.

- Confessions will be available in all parishes from 5:00 p.m.—6:30 p.m. on the following Wednesdays during Lent: March 17, 2021 and March 24, 2021.
- The Order of St. Louis Awards will be held on Sunday, March 21, 2021 at 2:30 p.m. at St. Catherine of Siena Church in Metairie.
- We will celebrate the Chrism Mass on Tuesday, March 30, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Louis Cathedral. All priests, deacons, religious and seminarians are invited to attend, as well as two lay people from each parish. Due to COVID restrictions and to provide safe seating for those in attendance, all who are attending are asked to complete the RSVP form found here: https://nolacatholic.org/chrismrsvp. Note that COVID guidelines enacted in the future may affect the number of people who can attend.
- In observance of the Sacred Triduum and the celebration of Easter, Archdiocesan Offices will close at noon on Holy Thursday, April 1, 2021, and will remain closed through Easter Monday, April 5, 2021. Archdiocesan Offices will reopen on Tuesday, April 6, 2021.

Please include in the Prayers of the Faithful: “For the Elect and the Candidates preparing to enter the Catholic Church, that this Lenten journey may lead them closer to Christ”, we pray to the Lord.

Mark Your Calendars

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 17, 2021</td>
<td>Confession available in all parishes 5:00 PM-6:30 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 24, 2021</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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<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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Good Friday Solemn Intercessions

The Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments has asked that an intercession for the end of the pandemic be added to the Solemn Intercessions at the Good Friday Liturgy. The attached text, provided by the USCCB, should be included in the Good Friday intercessions in every parish of the Archdiocese of New Orleans.

The complete Lent and Triduum guidelines can be found here. Please contact the Office of Worship with any questions at 504-861-6300.

Seminarian Education Fund

On March 20 and 21, the Archdiocese of New Orleans will host a very important second collection to raise funds to offset the costs of educating seminarians at Notre Dame Seminary and St. Joseph Seminary College. This is the first time this collection has been held in the archdiocese and all funds will go directly to supporting the educations and formation of the 30 men currently studying to be priests in the Archdiocese of New Orleans. The annual cost to fund one seminarian is $45,000 and this total is one of the largest budgetary items in the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Please continue to pray for these men and those who work with them on their priestly formation and please give generously to this very important fund that will provide monetary support to those men who will minister to the people of God in New Orleans for many years to come. (Parishes are asked to insert the this graphic (available online here) in their bulletins or use online the weeks of March 15 and March 21.)

Second Collection for Central and Eastern Europe

The Second Collection for Central and Eastern Europe, scheduled to be taken up on the weekend of March 20-21, 2021 will NOT be collected this year. The Seminarian Education Fund Collection will be taken in its place.

Priests Invited For Order Of St. Louis Ceremony On March 21

Archbishop Aymond will present the Order of St. Louis medallion to 225 members of the laity in a prayer service and ceremony Sunday, March 21, 2021, at 2:30 p.m. at St. Catherine of Siena Church, 105 Bonnabel Blvd., Metairie. Pastors and administrators are to contact their nominees to make sure they have received the letters from Archbishop Aymond and from Mrs. Foltz with instructions and seating. Also, priests are cordially invited to attend the ceremony. Those who wish to take part in the procession and sit in the sanctuary are asked to bring choir dress (cassock and surplice). Please arrive at the church no later than 2:15 p.m. The procession begins promptly at 2:30 p.m. Please be advised that the ceremony will also be live-streamed, so please share the following link to view with your parishioners: https://bit.ly/3jwKr1f If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Foltz, Ceremony Coordinator, at (504) 596-3036.
Evening of Exposition, Adoration & Reconciliation – March 24

Just a quick reminder that our Archdiocesan Evening of Exposition, Adoration, and Reconciliation is Wednesday, March 24.

- As we plan to gather on this special evening throughout the archdiocese to adore Christ, present in the Blessed Sacrament, we desire also to encounter him in those in need, giving worship to him through acts of charity.
- To this end we are partnering with Second Harvest Food Bank to collect non-perishable food items throughout March.
- If you so choose, it would be very powerful to reverently display some of these items in front of the altar on the Evening of March 24 to highlight this essential connection between Eucharist and Mission.
- A flyer is attached that can be placed on your website or distributed via email to your parishioners.

Boxes for food items along with 11x17 posters can be requested from Second Harvest by calling Mary Netzhammer at (504) 729-2859. A flyer that can be printed in the parish is available by clicking here.

Here is a sample bulletin/Mass announcement that you may wish to use:

On Wednesday, March 24, every parish in the archdiocese will be having an Evening of Exposition, Adoration, and Reconciliation. Because the same Jesus we worship in the Blessed Sacrament is present in the poor, we are connecting this evening to a food drive throughout March to help our neighbors in need. Please bring your non-perishable food items to the church throughout this month and join us for a special evening of worship on Wednesday, March 24 beginning at 5pm.

World Day of Prayer for Vocations

The annual World Day of Prayer for Vocations will be observed on April 25, 2021 (Fourth Sunday of Easter). All the people of the Archdiocese are encouraged to participate in prayer, both for an increase in vocations and for those men and women who have committed themselves to a religious vocation. All parishes will be sent liturgy aids and materials helpful for this occasion.

Archdiocesan Mass For Vocations

The Archdiocese of New Orleans will celebrate the annual Mass for Vocations on Sunday, April 11, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Louis Cathedral. Archbishop Aymond will preside. All priests, sisters, brothers, deacons and people of the Archdiocese are cordially invited to attend. Seminarians, women and men in formation for consecrated life and diaconate candidates will join together in thanking God for their vocation. Everyone present will be invited to pray for those who serve the Archdiocese of New Orleans as priests, sisters, brothers and deacons. For more information, contact the Vocation Office 504-861-6298.

Holy Father’s Good Friday Collection

Pope Francis has asked each Catholic parish around the world to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land. Through the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, you stand in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land as a witness of peace, supporting Catholics there in parishes and schools, maintaining Christian shrines and caring for refugees in the Holy Land. For more information and parish resources, email Chris Dwyer at christopher.d@myfranciscan.com, and for digital resources go to https://myfranciscan.org/good-friday/
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.

National Association of Pastoral Musicians Convention in New Orleans

The 2021 National Association of Pastoral Musicians Convention will be held in New Orleans. Focusing on the Eucharist, the theme,"Christ: Broken, Shared, Sent", provides opportunities for musicians, priests, deacons, catechists to engage in study, reflection, dialogue and song as we seek to grow in musician, theological, and liturgical formation. Registration information as well as a list of presenters can be found here.

Volunteers are needed! If you would like to volunteer, please contact the Betty-Ann Hickey at the Office of Worship at worship@arch-no.org call 504-861-6300. Volunteers can be eligible for free conference registration.

Upcoming workshops and classes at Abbey Art Works

- **What Went Wrong After Raphael - The Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood and the Quest to Bring Back Good Art**, Lecture by Br. Christopher Schaefer, O.S.B., Saturday, March 20 at 1 p.m.
- Drawing for Beginners with Chryl Casso Corizzo, Fridays in April & May.
- Advanced Drawing Techniques with Jaclyn Warren. Wednesdays, April 7—June 2 from 9 a.m. to noon.
- Artist Retreat, Monday - Friday, August 2-August 6
- The Art of Illumination Workshop, Oct. 4-8

Registration and other details for these classes and more are available at www.saintjosephabbey.com/abbeyartworks. Abbey Art Works can also be contacted at 985-327-1021 or info@abbeyartworks.com. See attached flyer for more information.

Faith Companioning (Zoom)

A Faith Companion is a person skilled in spiritual conversation through faith, listening skills, shared prayer and faith sharing. A Faith Companion accompanies another in spiritual friendship. If you are a person of faith and prayer; have an on-going spiritual conversation with another Christian/Group and can commit to the entire program this course will enrich your ministry with others in your parish, school, home visitation, RCIA, hospitals, prayer groups or informal “coffee cup” faith sharing. Presenters: Sr. Gloria Murillo, STJ and Bonnie Chase

**Wednesday, April 7, 14, 21, 28, May 5, 12, 19, 2021, 6:00-8:30pm** Registration required by Wednesday, March 31, 2021 Cost: $125.00 (adjustments can be made)

Register on the web https://nolacatholic.org/asc Email: archspirctr@arch-no.org or call (504) 861-3254

Please see attached flyer for more information.
Catholic Community Foundation Offers Virtual Lenten Workshop

Lenten workshop announcement! Join the Catholic Community Foundation for "It's Not Your Money, Finding the Peace of Putting God First," which provides a pathway to explore fresh perspectives on our relationship with money. This virtual event takes place on Wednesday, March 24, from 7:00 to 8:15 p.m. In the workshop, author Joseph B. Galloway presents an engaging "world says" versus "God says" exchange that challenges commonly held beliefs about finances. By examining parables and other Bible passages, we can form a more Godly attitude about managing His gifts of time, talent, and—especially—treasure, as well as explore how putting God first in every area of life, including with money, can bring us greater peace and contentment. All registrants will receive a FREE copy of Joe's book *It's Not Your Money: Finding the Peace of Putting God First*. [Click here to sign up.](#) Please contact Callie Kamath at ckamath@ccfnola.org or 504.527.5788 for more information.

St. Agnes Church Lenten Mission—The Freedom to Believe: Becoming an Adult Catholic

St. Agnes Church in Old Jefferson will hold a Lenten Mission on Monday, March 22 thru Thursday, March 25 at 7:00pm. The theme is "The Freedom to Believe: Becoming an Adult Catholic," and the guest speaker is Fr. Simeon Gallagher, Director of the Preaching Ministry Office of the Mid-America Province of the Capuchin Order. This Mission will consider the great challenge of growth in Faith as Cardinal J. H. Newman once said: "The only evidence of life is growth." This principle must be applied to all levels of life including the Faith-Life. Using the insights of the Scriptures, Twelve-Step Recovery programs and the writings of St. Ignatius of Loyola this theme of Freedom and Growth will be explored. [Click here for flyer.](#)

St. Joseph Mission March 22, 23, & 24

Kevin Fitzpatrick from the Office of Justice and Peace at Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans will be offering a mission on the evenings of March 22, 23, and 24 at St. Joseph Church and Shrine in Gretna. The message of each evening will be the Lenten themes of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, with the proceeds going to Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans, Catholic Campaign for Human Development, and Catholic Relief Services on each respective evening. A free will offering is suggested. For time, Church location, and more details, see the flyer here.

Night of Healing

Divine Mercy Parish (Kenner, LA) is hosting an in-person Night of Healing on Tuesday, March 30th to help Catholics all around the Archdiocese prepare for the Holy Triduum. The night will be led by Fr. Anthony Odiong beginning with the 6:30pm Mass followed by a Healing Service with Eucharistic Adoration and Prayer. More information on this free event can be found on the parish website at: [https://www.divinemercyparish.org/events/time-to-rebuild-awaken-night-of-healing](https://www.divinemercyparish.org/events/time-to-rebuild-awaken-night-of-healing) or by visiting the event page on Facebook at: [https://fb.me/e/PW99dABo](https://fb.me/e/PW99dABo). [Flyer is attached.](#)

St. Joseph Seminary College Virtual Alumni Homecoming Day

The 101st Annual VIRTUAL Alumni Homecoming Day for Saint Joseph Seminary College is scheduled for Friday, April 9th. No events will take place on campus for alumni this year. The online General Assembly begins at 4 p.m., followed by Zoom Class Breakout Groups at 5 p.m. The day concludes with Live-streamed Mass from the Abbey Church at 5:30 p.m. Visit [www.saintjosephabbey.com/alumni](http://www.saintjosephabbey.com/alumni) for updates and links.

For more information, contact Scott Wallace at swallace@sjasc.edu or 985-867-2235.
Employment Opportunities

This week’s job postings include:

- **Principal**, St. Christopher the Martyr School, Metairie
- **Head of Preschool and Lower School**, Stuart Hall School for Boys, New Orleans
- **Development Coordinator**, Notre Dame Seminary, New Orleans
- **Executive Director**, Louisiana Conference of Catholic Bishops, Baton Rouge
- **Toddler 2 Short Term Substitute**, Ursuline Academy, New Orleans
- **Director of Early Childhood Learning Center**, Ursuline Academy, New Orleans

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