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DIOCESE EVENTS

On March 13, 2020 Bishop Bradley had written a Letter to the Faithful in regard to the coronavirus COVID-19. This letter was in last week's bulletin (March 14/15) and is also available on the Diocesan website:

<https://www.dioceseofkalamazoo.org/>

In light of the continued progression of the coronavirus COVID-19, and in keeping with our need to protect all God's people, Bishop Bradley has directed the following steps be implemented at the Parishes:

Parish Programming:

1. All non-essential Parish programs are to be postponed through Easter Sunday, April 12. These include social gatherings, Council meetings, etc. Bishop Bradley's parish visits through April 12 have been postponed and will be rescheduled at a later date.
2. All Catholic schools and Religious education classes are to be temporarily suspended through Easter Sunday, April 12.
3. The celebration of the Sacraments, including the Sacrament of Penance, Baptism, Marriage, Anointing of the Sick, Funerals and Eucharistic Adoration certainly should continue, with the addition of following the below guidelines, and should be kept under 100 people.

The Mass:

1. Bishop Bradley has given a general dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass through April 12. While this suspends the faithful's obligation to attend Mass, all regularly scheduled liturgies will remain open to the public for those who wish to attend.

Guidelines are continued on remainder of letter, see above website.

I AM A KNIGHT

We are Catholic men building a bridge back to faith.

There is much work to be done in this world. Good work. Necessary work. And that's what the Knights do. Every day.

Assisting the sick and disabled. Protecting those who can't protect themselves. Whether they are next door or halfway around the world. This is the journey we are on. Our path.

We do it to be better husbands, fathers, sons, neighbors and Catholics.

We invest our time, our effort, and our resources into our values: Charity, Unity, Fraternity, Patriotism.

We come from many places. And backgrounds. And stages in our lives. But we are all of one faith. A fraternity of men striving to better ourselves and our world.

It's one thing to say who you are. It's another to live it. To put your values into action. That's what we do at the Knights of Columbus.

That's who we are.



"It is impossible to play out every scenario where there will be unavoidable loss in the coming months. What is certain, however, is that there will be plenty of loss to go around, whether loss of life or health, comfort or security, money or supplies. The questions yet to be answered concern who will lose and why. And the other question is: Can we all share the loss together, bearing the burden collectively? Consumer-thinking does not typically allow for that kind of consideration, but Catholic thinking does: It is called 'solidarity.'"

~ Dr. Leonard J. DeLorenzo, Theology professor at the University of Notre Dame

2020 Lenten Luncheon Talks

The annual Lenten luncheons held at St. Jerome Parish Hall in Battle Creek have been suspended until further notice.

The Diocese of Kalamazoo encourages individuals to report clergy sexual abuse of minors and vulnerable adults – no matter when the abuse occurred. If abuse by anyone connected to the Church is suspected, please contact the police. You are also encouraged to contact the Diocesan Sexual Abuse Report line at (877) 802-0115. Every effort will be made to return the call within an hour. If the suspected abuse is by a bishop, please contact the police, as well as Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Christophe Pierre at (202) 333-7121 and Archbishop Allen Vigneron, the Archbishop of Detroit at (313) 237-5800.

The Diocese of Kalamazoo has and will continue to cooperate with the Michigan Attorney General's investigation and encourages anyone with information related to misconduct to call the reporting number set-up by the Michigan Attorney General's office at: 844.324.3374

For any other questions pertaining to protecting our children, please contact the Diocesan Safe Environment Coordinator Marina Hentz Shoup at (269) 903-0171, mhentz@diokzoo.org. More information and resources regarding the Diocese of Kalamazoo's efforts to address child sexual abuse and create safe environments for all, may be found at

<https://protect.diokzoo.org>

To the Parents of Our Youngest Disciples:

Sometimes children wiggle. Sometimes children make noises. Don't worry! Children are a gift to the Church and we are so pleased they are with us at Mass!

Here are some suggestions for you:

- ⇒ Sit towards the front of the church. It's easier for young ones to see and hear what's going on.
- ⇒ Young children learn what's expected of them at Mass by watching you. Sing the hymns. Voice the responses. Follow the homily.
- ⇒ If you have to leave Mass with your child, please feel free to do so, but come back! We need to see your smiling faces!

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RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE SIGNED UP TO PRAY DURING THE 40 DAYS FOR LIFE CAMPAIGN.

We have many hours still available if you would like to participate. Please see the sign-up sheet and commit to an hour of praying either on the sidewalk or at home. This hour in prayer could very well save the life of an unborn baby.



BABY BOTTLE FUNDRAISER is a great way to incorporate Lenten almsgiving while helping mothers in need in the Kalamazoo area. During these 40 days of Lent, put extra change or dollars in the baby bottle. All proceeds will be given to Caring Network. Bottles should be returned by Sunday, April 5 (Palm Sunday). **If you would prefer to donate by check, please make check payable to Caring Network.** We would love to have 100% of the bottles returned even if you are unable to give at this time. There will be a collection box for the baby bottles in the vestibule for all bottles (filled or unfilled).

THE SPIRITUAL ADOPTION PROGRAM IS IN ITS FIFTH MONTH. Please continue praying for the baby you have spiritually adopted.

THE KALAMAZOO RIGHT TO LIFE ANNUAL FOCUS ON LIFE DINNER will be held on Thursday evening, May 14. Tickets are \$30 per person or \$10 for children/students. Please go to www.kazoortl.org for more information or to get tickets.

THE RESPECT LIFE MEETING that was to be held on March 22 is cancelled. This meeting will be rescheduled sometime after Easter.



“For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother’s womb. I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvelous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well.” Psalm 139:13-14

Enrollment is open at the Catholic Schools of Greater Kalamazoo.



If you are considering Catholic education for your family next school year, enrollment is open at the Catholic Schools of Greater Kalamazoo. Contact St. Augustine Cathedral School, St. Monica Catholic School, and Hackett Catholic Prep

directly if you are interested in a tour – there are fliers in the narthex with their phone number.

No child will be denied a Catholic education due to financial need. Scholarships and tuition assistance are available at all three of our local Catholic schools.

Readings for the week of Mar 22 - Mar 29

- Sunday Fourth Sunday of Lent**
1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41 or Jn 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38
- Extraordinary Form: The Fourth Sunday in Lent**
Epistle: Galatians 4: 22-31
Gospel: John 6:1-5
- Monday Saint Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop**
Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b; Jn 4:43-54
- Tuesday** Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16
- Wednesday Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord**
Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38
- Thursday** Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23; Jn 5:31-47
- Friday** Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
- Saturday** Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12; Jn 7:40-53
- Sunday Fifth Sunday of Lent**
Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 or Jn 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45
- Extraordinary Form: Passion Sunday**
Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-15
Gospel: John 8:46-59

“Do not look forward about what may happen tomorrow. The same everlasting Father who cares for you today will take care of you tomorrow. Either He will shield you from suffering, or He will give you an unfailing strength to bear it. Be at peace then, and put aside all anxious thoughts.”
~St. Francis de Sales.

K of C, Council 1616, Lenten Fish Fries

All Lenten Dinners have been cancelled, or at least postponed. Please check weekly bulletins for updates. We thank our patron’s for attending the dinners that we had. Your patronage helps us to continue our charitable works!



The St. Mary Knights of Columbus have suspended their final Pasta-Pasta Dinner.

Our last dinner on March 6 collected approx. \$630.00 which will be donated to the K of C Ultrasound Initiative Program. (We are helping to place a mobile 3D ultrasound machine at the Pregnancy Helpline Center in Three Rivers.) We are thinking of hosting a pasta and meat ball dinner after Easter to continue this project - stay tuned. *Thank You! Your continued patronage helps us to do our charitable works!*

