

NEW

New Evangelization Convocation November 6, 2021

We are pleased to offer once again a New Evangelization Convocation led by the Franciscan Institute from Franciscan University. This institute also powers the free online catechetical content offered through the diocesan Institute of Missionary Discipleship (IMD) which trains and evangelizes parish staffs and key volunteers.

This daylong event features keynotes and breakout sessions geared to lay leaders, parish staff and clergy. One of the featured speakers scheduled is Chris McKenna from Protect Young Eyes joining us on this day to share the Protect APP, designed for parents and youth to keep them safe from online predators. For more information and to register, visit www.imdisciple.com

Second Collections

Catholic Campaign for Human Development

Week After the Collection - Sept. 26, 2021

Thank you for your generous support last week for the collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development! As a parish, we raised \$[amount] to support those on the margins who live in poverty in the United States. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give! Visit www.usccb.org/nationalcollections and click "How to Give" under "Resources."

**** Previously included events are listed first followed by general announcements****

EVENTS

40 Days for Life begins Sept. 22

The next 40 Days for Life campaign runs from September 22 to October 31. We pray in front of the Planned Parenthood, 4201 W. Michigan Ave., on the public sidewalk. Join with our brothers and sisters from area parishes to help to end abortion in Kalamazoo. Our prayers and fasting make a difference by changing hearts. Please consider signing up for one hour a week. You can sign up online at <https://www.40daysforlife.com/kalamazoo>, emailing 40daysKALAMAZOO@gmail.com, or calling Joe Magalski at 989-992-6085.

Celebrating Workers of Mercy

All those involved in doing the Works of Mercy in any of our parishes, agencies or other institutions are invited to an evening of celebration, thanks and reflection on Monday, September 27, 2021 at St. Augustine Cathedral. Bishop Bradley will celebrate Mass at 6 p.m. followed by a reflection from Dcn. Don Bouchard and a simple dinner from 7 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. in the Crowley Center. RSVP by Sept. 20 to Lisa Irwin, lisairwin@ccdok.org or info@ccdok.org.

Diocesan 50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration

The Diocesan 50th Wedding Anniversary Mass and reception will be held Sunday, October 3, 2021, starting with Mass at 2 p.m. with Bishop Bradley followed by a reception. If you or someone you know is celebrating 50 years of marriage anytime in 2021, or celebrated in 2020 and didn't participate last year, please let your parish know, fill out the form at diokzoo.org/50th-anniversary, or mail in your information attn.: 50th Anniversary Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Celebration, 215 N. Westnedge Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49007 by September 15, 2021, to receive a personal congratulatory certificate signed by Bishop Bradley. Please email Socorro at struchan@diokzoo.org with any questions.

Stewardship Retreat: "ENCOUNTERING CHRIST: JOYFULLY UNLEASHING YOUR GIFTS"

Are you interested in exploring what it might mean to be a Stewardship Leader within your parish?

The diocesan office of Stewardship and Development is hosting a day of prayer and reflection on October 9th. The day-long retreat is designed to help participants encounter Christ more deeply while encouraging the joy of generous giving. The program will open with Mass celebrated by Bishop Bradley followed by talks and reflections from Rev. Ken Schmidt, Marcy McCarthy and Jay Landry.

This event offers a light breakfast, lunch (a \$5 free-will lunch donation is suggested), and childcare at no cost. Please register online at www.diokzoo.org/stewardship-and-development

Widowed Friends Mass – October 11th

A special Mass for all men and women who have been widowed will be celebrated on Monday, October 11, 2021 at St. Augustine Cathedral, Kalamazoo, 4 p.m. with Bishop Bradley as the main celebrant. A small reception will follow in the Crowley Center.

The widowed friends is a diocesan-sponsored group that currently meets virtually the third Wednesday of every month from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. via ZOOM. Contact: Socorro Truchan at 269-349-8714 ext. 1112 via email: struchan@diokzoo.org.

Joy-filled Marriage retreats announce 2022 dates

Planning to get married in 2022? A marriage formation weekend for engaged couples. The Joy-Filled Marriage process is a comprehensive marriage preparation program rooted in virtues as well as Theology of the Body. The program incorporates rich Catholic theology with sound psychology.

JANUARY 15-16

MARCH 19-20 (SPANISH)

MAY 14-15

SEPTEMBER 10-11

To register, visit diokzoo.org/marriage-preparation

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stop Tax Payer Money From Funding Abortion

Stop your tax dollars from going to abortion. Act now and sign the petition to Congress at <https://www.notaxpayerabortion.com>. This initiative is sponsored by the United States Catholic Conference.

US Bishops are calling on Catholics to let Congress know that taxpayer dollars should not fund abortion. Sign the petition now at <https://www.notaxpayerabortion.com>. Learn more at www.respectlife.org/no-taxpayer-abortion

Evite que el dinero de sus impuestos vaya al aborto. Actúe ahora y firme la petición al Congreso en <https://www.notaxpayerabortion.com>. Esta iniciativa está patrocinada por la Conferencia Católica de los Estados Unidos.

Los Obispos estadounidenses están pidiendo a los católicos que le hagan saber al Congreso que los dólares de sus impuestos no deben financiar el aborto. Firme la petición ahora en <https://www.notaxpayerabortion.com>. Obtenga más información en www.respectlife.org/no-taxpayer-abortion

Donations for the / Donaciones para el Centro Alemán

Migrant Ministry, Diocese of Kalamazoo - St. Thomas More Catholic Student Parish, starting on June 1st will be accepting

donations for the Aleman Center. Food items needed are: rice, flour, sugar, cooking oil, canned tomatoes and packs of water. Other items that can be used are: sheets, blankets, pillows, towels, diapers of all sizes and wipes, toiletries: especially toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap and shampoo. No other items than the ones listed can be accepted at this time due to COVID restrictions. Donated items may be brought to the St. Thomas More parish office Garage at 1333 West Lovell St. (corner of Monroe and Lovell) from 9:00a.m. – 1:00p.m. We will be collecting donations until July 17th. If you have questions about times, please call the parish office at 269-381-8917. You can also contact the Office of Hispanic Ministry of the Diocese of Kalamazoo at 269-349-8714, Extension 1240.

Ministerio Migrante – La Parroquia de St. Thomas More, a partir del 1º de junio, aceptará donaciones para el Centro Alemán. Los alimentos necesarios son: arroz, harina, azúcar, aceite de cocina, tomates enlatados y paquetes de agua. Otros artículos que se pueden utilizar son: sábanas, cobijas, almohadas, toallas, pañales de todos los tamaños y toallitas (wipes), artículos de uso personal: especialmente cepillos de dientes, pasta de dientes, jabón y champú. No se pueden aceptar en este momento otros artículos además de los mencionados debido a las restricciones de COVID. Las donaciones se pueden llevar al garaje de la oficina parroquial de St. Thomas More en 1333 West Lovell St. (esquina de Monroe y Lovell) a partir de las 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Estaremos recolectando donaciones hasta el 17 de julio. Si tiene preguntas sobre los horarios, llame a la oficina parroquial al 269-381-8917. También puede comunicarse con la Oficina del Ministerio Hispano de la Diócesis de Kalamazoo al 269-349-8714, Extensión 1240.

LANGUAGE FOR REPORTING SEXUAL MISCONDUCT:

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

The **Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service (CBAR)** has been established to receive reports of sexual abuse and related misconduct by bishops and to relay those reports to proper Church authorities for investigation. To make a report, visit ReportBishopAbuse.org or phone (800) 276-1562. When a report includes a crime, such as the sexual abuse of a minor, it will also be reported to civil authorities. Otherwise, reports will be kept confidential.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Way

The Way is a free and easy to use online faith-formation program designed to provide an innovative solution for any family to learn, pray and live the faith together. Lessons are available for 1st through 8th grade students with additional resources for those who want to learn more about a certain subject. Access this diocesan created program and learn more at diokzoo.org/theway.

Aquinas College Scholarship

Aquinas Colleges and The Diocese of Kalamazoo offer three opportunities for post traditional learners to access 50% tuition reduction in any course of study. Learn more at diokzoo.org/bulletin-announcements.

Worship guidelines during the pandemic

Guidelines and FAQs for Mass being held during the pandemic may be found at diokzoo.org/public-return-to-mass. The dispensation from the Sunday obligation to attend Mass was lifted May 22.

Many Masses will continue to be live streamed, you may find a list of local live stream Mass times at diokzoo.org/live.

The National Association of Catholic Nurses

The National Association of Catholic Nurses is pleased to announce the start of a local council in our diocese. The main goals of the council are to provide spiritual nourishment, ethical support, networking and friendship with fellow Catholic Nurses. Join <https://NACN-USA.org> and as a member of the national association you will be automatically enrolled as a member in our local council and will receive updates on council formation. Questions? Contact Janet C. Munday, BSN, RN, Regional Director, at JanetMunday@gmail.com

Immigration Assistance Program Limited Services

Due to the recent spike in coronavirus cases and the recently issued orders from the MDHHS, beginning November 18, 2020, our office will be CLOSED to walk-in consultations and most in-office appointments. We will be offering the following services remotely:

1. DACA Renewals
2. Green Card Renewals
3. Citizenship if your green card expires within 6 months
4. Consultations

Other services will be postponed until further notice except in situations where time is of the essence.

To schedule a remote service or for questions, please email Miguel Rosas at mrosas@diokzoo.org or Attorney Samantha Lindberg at slindberg@diokzoo.org.

Please follow us on Facebook (facebook.com/DOKimmigrationassistanceprogram) for up to date information about our program.

Programa de Asistencia de Inmigración Servicios Limitados

Debido al reciente aumento en los casos de coronavirus y las órdenes emitidas recientemente por el MDHHS, a partir del 18 de noviembre de 2020, nuestra oficina estará CERRADA para consultas sin cita previa y la mayoría de las citas en persona en la oficina. Ofreceremos los siguientes servicios de forma remota:

1. Renovaciones de DACA
2. Renovaciones de tarjetas verdes
3. Ciudadanía si su tarjeta verde expira dentro de los 6 meses
4. Consultas

Otros servicios se pospondrán hasta nuevo aviso, excepto en situaciones en las que el tiempo sea esencial.

Para programar un servicio remoto o si tiene preguntas, envíe un correo electrónico a Miguel Rosas a mrosas@diokzoo.org oa la abogada Samantha Lindberg a slindberg@diokzoo.org.

Síguenos en Facebook (facebook.com/DOKimmigrationassistanceprogram) para información actualizada sobre nuestra oficina.