



Communique'

www.doy.org
144 West Wood Street
Youngstown, OH 44503-1081
330-744-8451 fax 330-742-6448

Volume 51

No. 12

December, 2019

CHANCERY OFFICE

CONFIRMATION

Sunday, December 1 12:00 p.m. St. Robert Bellarmine, Cortland

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

Requirements and Procedures for Employees and Volunteers

1. Authorization & Verification; Acknowledgement

All employees and volunteers must receive a copy of the Child Protection Policy and sign the Authorization & Verification Form (p. 35) and the Acknowledgement Form (p. 36).

The signed forms are to be kept on file at the location of service; the date signed is to be noted on the Compliance Checklist and sent to the Chancery. Do not send the signed forms to the Diocesan Office.

2. Fingerprinting and In-Service

Employees and volunteers who work with children, regardless of their level of contact with children, must be fingerprinted and participate in the VIRTUS in-service program.

If an employee or volunteer has attended a child protection in-service for another agency, employer, diocese, Scouts, etc., they must participate in the DOY in-service to be compliant.

Any Webcheck location may be used. Background reports are to be sent to the location of service, not to the Diocesan Office. Webcheck locations can be found at www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov.

3. In-Service Classes

Visit the [diocesan website](#) for a schedule of VIRTUS in-service classes.

4. Updating Information

Administrators must submit updates for employees and volunteers as they complete child protection compliance requirements (either on the Status Report or on a copy of a Compliance Checklist previously submitted); and must submit all information for new employees and volunteers on the Compliance Checklist. For the Compliance Checklist, email dcolucy@youngstowndioocese.org.

5. Reporting Child Abuse

If you or someone you know has been abused at any time by a priest, deacon, religious, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Youngstown, contact civil authorities and also Mr. Dominic Colucy, Safe Environment Coordinator/Victim Assistance Coordinator, 330-744-8451 x293.

6. For More Information

For more information about the Diocese of Youngstown Child Protection Policy, contact by mail: 144 W. Wood Street, Youngstown, OH 44503, phone: 330-744-8451 x293; fax: 330-744-5099; or e-mail: dcolucy@youngstowndioocese.org.

CATHOLIC TELEVISION NETWORK OF YOUNGSTOWN (CTNY)

1. Local Programming on the Ecumenical Television Channel:

Live stream ETC-Ecumenical Television Channel at [doy.org/Media/ETC-TV Live Stream](http://doy.org/Media/ETC-TV%20Live%20Stream).

2. From St. Columba Cathedral: **Mass of Our Lady of Guadalupe** on Thursday, December 12 at 6:00 p.m., can be live streamed at [doy.org/Media/Cathedral Live Stream](http://doy.org/Media/Cathedral%20Live%20Stream). It will rebroadcast in its entirety on ETC-Ecumenical Television Channel on Monday, December 16 at 10:00 a.m. & 8:00 p.m.; on Wednesday, December 18 at Noon; and, on Friday, December 20 at 10:00 a.m. & 8:00 p.m.

3. Radio Programming Wineskins

Wineskins airs every Sunday at 7:30 a.m. on WKBN 570 AM in Youngstown, WRQX 600 AM in Salem at 7:30 a.m., WILB AM Canton 1060/WILB FM 89.5 Youngstown/WILB FM 94.5 Canton at 9:30 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. Listen to *Wineskins* on the diocesan website by going to the “News and Media” bar, then, click on “Wineskins Audio Library.”

The Current Issue Segment will feature: December 1: Fr. Jim Korda speaks with John Angotti from the First Friday Club; December 8: Fr. Jim Korda speaks with Dr. Tim Collins, President of Walsh University; December 15: Jennifer Lucarelli speaks on behalf of Catholic Charities; December 22: Fr. Jim Korda speaks with Rabbi Joseph Schonberger on Hanukkah; and, December 29: Fr. Matt Roehrig, SSP, speaks about the Holy Family Institute.

Pat Kelly, Chief Financial Officer for the Diocese of Youngstown and a member of St. Charles Church in Boardman, will tell us about the Saints celebrated this month: December 1: St. Nicholas; December 8: Our Lady of Guadalupe; December 15: St. Peter Canisius; December 22: St. Stephen, Martyr; and, December 29: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

The Interview Segment will include: December 1: Fr. Jim Korda and Fr. Jeff Mickler, SSP, talks about the Vatican II document on the Liturgy; December 8: Fr. Jim Korda and Fr. Jeff Mickler, SSP, talks about the Vatican II document on Divine Revelation; December 15: Fr. Jim Korda and Fr. Jeff Mickler, SSP, talks about the Vatican II document on Social Communications; December 22: Fr. Jim Korda and Fr. Jeff Mickler, SSP, talks about the Vatican II document on the Church; and, December 29: Fr. Jim Korda and Fr. Jeff Mickler, SSP, talks about the Vatican II document on Easter Churches.

This month's Music Segment is from the CD "Our Savior if Born" by the Kellenberg Memorial High School Choir.

Fr. David Rhodes, pastor emeritus of St. Christine Church in Youngstown, will give his reflections on the Sunday Scripture Readings: December 1: First Sunday of Advent; December 8: Second Sunday of Advent; December 15: Third Sunday of Advent; December 22: Fourth Sunday of Advent; and, December 29: Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

4. See the newest of CTNY Local Programming on the Internet by linking to doy.org and click "News and Media" bar, then click on "CTNY Gallery." DVD copies of all local productions are available through CTNY for a nominal fee. Please contact us at CTNY at 330-533-2243.
5. For an ETC-Ecumenical Television Channel Schedule for winter 2019-2020, please contact CTNY at 330-533-2243, or visit www.doy.org and go to the "News and Media" bar and click on the ETC-TV schedule.
6. Like us on Facebook www.facebook.com/CTNYoungstown.

CANONICAL SERVICES

Tribunal In-Service Available

The Tribunal staff has made available an ongoing, in-service for pastors, associates, deacons, religious, directors of religious education, religious education coordinators and counselors in order to prepare them in facilitating pleas for nullity for persons within the community whose marriages have broken down and who may be seeking a second union recognized by the Church.

The in-service focuses on preparation of case histories, compilation of documents, witnesses and determining of the appropriate grounds of nullity. Covered also are other types of nullity procedures.

Size of the in-service is in small groups of between 8-12 participants and generally runs approximately two hours. The in-service is offered at either the offices of the Tribunal of the Diocese of Youngstown or at a parish in the Canton area.

Interested parties, who have not already registered or who need a “refresher” should call the Tribunal at (330) 744-8451, ext. 252, to have their names placed on the registrant list. You would then be contacted when there are at least eight registrants for a particular location.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES SERVICES

1. Catholic Charities Celebrates the “Season of Giving”

Shop our seasonal solutions to poverty. Catholic Charities is offering many ways to get involved with Catholic Charities Season of Giving:

- PRAY for those in need in our communities, Diocese and in our country.
- VOLUNTEER your time and talents to various projects and events.
- SEND a gift that gives back this Christmas through our CHRISTMAS GIFTING PROGRAM.

You make a gift; we send a customized greeting card to the recipient(s) of your choice.

- READ our NEWSLETTER to see what’s happening at Catholic Charities.
- FOLLOW us on SOCIAL MEDIA.

2. Buy a Bracelet to Support Catholic Charities’

Catholic Charities’ bracelets and necklaces will once again be sold this holiday season! The necklaces (on a black cord with a stone cross) and the bracelets—in various designs, sizes and colors - make great gifts for teachers, sitters, neighbors and friends. The cost for products is \$5.00 per item, three for \$12.00 or five for \$18.00. All proceeds will support our Catholic Charities programs and services. For more information, or to order your bracelet over the phone, contact Nikole Baringer at 330-744-8451, ext. 323.

3. It’s Time for Christmas Gifting

Catholic Charities’ Christmas Gifting Project is a great way to support the work of Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Youngstown, while giving a gift that has real meaning. All you have to do is make a donation in any dollar amount, and we will send a personalized, customized greeting card to the recipient(s) of your choice, acknowledging your gift in their honor (but not mentioning the specific dollar amount).

Visit our website www.ccdoy.org for more information and to make your gift online.

Hurry! All donations must be received by December 13, 2019 in order for your gift acknowledgement to be sent before Christmas.

4. #GIVINGTUESDAY

#GivingTuesday is quickly becoming one of the largest giving days and one of the most successful social media campaigns all over the world. You can participate and make a difference by visiting our website (www.ccdoy.org) on Tuesday, December 3, 2019.

Proceeds from #GIVINGTUESDAY will help support the many programs and services offered by Catholic Charities. You DO make the difference! You can also follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Thank you for your support.

5. First Step for Change Wrap-Up

Catholic Charities' 2019 First Step for Change campaign ended October 31. If you have not already done so, please collect all envelopes, baby bottle bags and/or baby bottles from your parishioners, count the money collected, and send one check to Catholic Charities, 144 West Wood Street, Youngstown, Ohio 44503. Be sure to make your check payable to "Catholic Charities" and write "First Step for Change" in the check's memo line.

A survey was also emailed to all parishes regarding this collection. Please provide your feedback regarding the "changes" to this campaign. Thank you for your continued support!

6. Poverty Awareness Month / Keep the Kids Warm to Take Place in January

January is poverty awareness month. Living in poverty means swallowing your pride when you are asked why you just don't move to a better apartment, or get your kid's teeth fixed, or a hundred other things that cost money you just don't have. It is a feeling of hopelessness; because people who have better lives are convinced you did something to deserve your poverty.

It also means getting assistance with clothing, food, shelter and other basic needs.

Heat during the winter season is one of those needs. With the early start to winter this year, this urgent need for heat and utility assistance continues to rise.

Keep the Kids Warm helps Catholic Charities provide direct utility assistance to families with children. Catholic Charities Keep the Kids Warm campaign will take place in January along with Poverty Awareness Month. Schools participating in Poverty Awareness month activities will receive their information in January. Information for Keep the Kids Warm will be sent out to parishes in early January. If you have any questions, please contact Nikole Baringer at 330-744-8451, ext. 323 or nbaringer@youngstowndiocese.org.

Please support the Keep the Kids Warm collection this year.

7. Harriet's Cupboard: Helping Clients Keep Warm this Winter

Harriet's Cupboard is a "taxable item pantry" for individuals and families who come to Catholic Charities for assistance. Providing people with personal care items and other basic necessities can go a long way toward helping a person regain their self-esteem and motivation when they feel hopeless.

During the month of December, Harriet's Cupboard is collecting blankets, hats, gloves, (new) socks and personal hygiene items. Items are accepted at all Catholic Charities locations. For a complete listing of Catholic Charities' service sites, visit www.ccdoy.org. Thank you for supporting this important Catholic Charities project!

8. Catholics in the Community

Save the date for a wonderful joint service project of the Catholic schools in the Mahoning Valley and Catholic Charities Regional Agency. A large rummage sale will be held on Saturday, January 25, 2020 at Ursuline High School.

OFFICE FOR SOCIAL CONCERNS

1. Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

You're all invited to our Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 12th, 2019 at St. Columba Cathedral. The celebration begins at 5pm with a cultural program including a traditional Aztec dance and the history. Mass will follow at 6pm with Live Mariachi. The Feast will commence at 7pm in the reception hall next to the Cathedral. We hope to see you all there!

Están todos invitados a celebrar con nosotros la Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe el 12 de diciembre en la Catedral de San Columba. La celebración empezará a las 5pm con un programa cultural incluyendo a un baile Azteca Tradicional y la historia. Misa Solemne empezara a las 6pm con Mariachi. La Fiesta será a las 7pm en el cuarto de recepción junta la Catedral. ¡Esperamos verlos a todos!

2. Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) – Grants Available

CCHD is the domestic and anti-poverty program of the bishops of the United States. CCHD works to break the cycle of poverty by helping low-income people participate in decisions that affect their lives, families and communities. CCHD offers a hand up, not a hand out.

CCHD was created with two goals in mind: to raise money to support self-help projects that address the causes of poverty; and to educate the Catholic community and the general public about poverty, its causes, effects and the rationale for the Church's involvement in working for justice.

CCHD funded programs enable all people to work together for long-range solutions to poverty in the area of social and economic development, housing, health, education and communications.

Community Grants are also available on a local level. If you feel your organization may qualify for a CCHD funded grant, contact Nikole Baringer at 330-744-8451, ext. 323 or email nbaringer@youngstowndiocese.org.

CLERGY AND RELIGIOUS SERVICES

OFFICE OF VOCATIONS

1. Vocation Awareness Week

Thank you to all of our parishes, schools, religious education programs and other places where vocations were promoted during National Vocation Awareness Week, the first week of November. A very special thank you to the parishes that hosted Adoration for Vocations during the week. Your calling people in a special way to pray for vocations is most appreciated.

2. Bowling for Vocations

On December 27 from 11 am to 2:30 pm kids in grades 8 to 12 are invited to come to Park Center Lanes in North Canton for a fun day of bowling with our diocesan seminarians and religious serving in our diocese. While there is no cost to attend, each participant is asked to donate either baby food or formula as part of the admission. All donations will be given to the St. Joan Arc Food Cupboard in Canton. Pizza, pop and snacks will be provided. Please RSVP by December 20th to Deacon Randy Smith at rsmith@youngstowndiocese.org.

3. Come and See Weekends

Come and See weekends allow young men the opportunity to experience what seminary life is like. During these weekends participants have the opportunity to attend classes with seminarians, experience the prayer life, participate in community recreation, and learn how to find their vocation. Following is the Come and See weekend for the fall semester

St. Mary Seminary – Cleveland
- December 6-8, 2019

The weekend is open to men 17 to 44 years of age. Register at clepriesthood.org - go to the Discernment and Discovery tab.

If you know of a man who may be interested, please encourage him to register for a weekend.

4. Pastoral Internship Year

In the new academic year (2019-2020), two of our seminarians will be on pastoral internship.

Connor Hetzel
Francisco Ogbonna

Christ Our Savior, Struthers
Our Lady of Peace, Ashtabula

Fr. Martin Celuch
Fr. Ray Thomas

They will serve at their parishes and in other capacities throughout our diocese.

5. Seminary Field Trips

Please remember that our diocese has an established relationship with St. Mary Seminary in Cleveland. Because of its close proximity to our diocese, consider taking a day for young men and women to have a field trip to St. Mary's. Children from 6th thru 12th grades can find out firsthand what life is like in a seminary. Depending on when your tour is arranged, we hope to have a Youngstown seminarian guide the tour. This is a great opportunity for kids in our Catholic schools, CCD programs and youth ministry programs. The Vocation office may be able to help with transportation costs. For more information or to schedule a tour, please call the Vocation Office at 330-744-8451.

6. Help Needed

In an effort to keep a current roster of men and women from our diocese who are studying for a religious order (inside or outside of the diocese), your help is needed. If you know of someone in this situation please email their name, order they are studying for and local contact information. We are hopeful to start a poster similar to our seminarian poster that shows all the men and women from our diocese who are studying for a religious order. To do so, we will need a current photo of each discerner for the poster. If you have this information, please email Fr. Chris Luoni at cluoni@youngstowndiocese.org.

7. Vocation Lessons

Please do not forget to make use of Vocation Lessons for your school, religious education or youth ministry program. It is a vocation curriculum that has lessons and instructions online that you can download and use in your classroom/meeting setting. It is FREE for your use and can be accessed as many times as you want throughout the year. If you do not already have a brochure that contains the access codes, please request one by contacting Fr. Christopher Luoni at the Vocations Office at 330-744-8451 or by email at cluoni@youngstowndiocese.org.

8. Vocation Intercessions and Bulletin Blurbs for December

Attached to the Communiqué are vocation intercessions and bulletin blurbs for the month of December. Please use these in your bulletins and at Mass to help promote vocations to the priesthood and religious life in your parish community and school.

OFFICE OF VOWED RELIGIOUS

1. World Day for Consecrated Life

Please mark your calendars. On Sunday, February 2, 2020, Bishop George V. Murry, S.J. will celebrate the gift of religious life at St. Columba Cathedral, at the 10:30 a.m. liturgy. All religious who have or are currently living and or working in the diocese are encouraged to attend. Parishes are encouraged to send representatives of youth and adults to join in the celebration.

2. Retirement Fund for Religious

On behalf of the 30,000 retired religious nationwide, thank you to all who participated in the Retirement Fund for Religious Appeal. Special thanks to pastors who graciously conducted the Appeal in your parishes, to the Religious presenters who spoke with conviction and genuine concern, and to all who listened and generously responded to this pressing need in the Church. May God abundantly bless each of you. – The RFR Committee

3. Religious Jubilee Celebration

Please mark your calendars. Bishop George Murry, S.J. will celebrate the jubilees of religious who have, or are currently serving in the diocese, on Saturday, February 29, 2020 at the 4:30 p.m. Mass at St. Paul's parish, Salem.

4. Religious Returning or New to the Diocese

If you know of any religious sisters, brothers, or priests, who are new or returning to the diocese, and are living, working, or studying within the diocese, kindly ask them to contact this office at (330) 744-8451, ext. 238 or 237.

DEVELOPMENT/STEWARDSHIP

1. Studies indicate that most people address their will or estate plan during the “inside” winter months. **SO NOW is the time to plan a Life & Estate Seminar.** End of life issues and Estate Planning are discussed in a one-hour power-point presentation. Participants are encouraged to remember their parish, a Catholic school or favorite Catholic cause in their plan. The seminar is FREE! Call for information...330-744-8451 ext. 325.
2. Parishes are contacting us now to plan an **Increased Offertory Program** or **Capital Campaign** in 2020. What about your parish? Call Luke Politsky...330-744-8451 ext. 298.
3. **In-pew offertory envelopes** - Enhance your evangelization and stewardship efforts with custom in-pew offertory envelopes for visitors. Call Luke Politsky...330-744-8451 ext. 298.
4. Your parish, Catholic School or Catholic Agency can **Leave A Legacy** for the future by establishing an endowment fund in the **Diocese of Youngstown Foundation.** Call us about the revised policies for creating a perpetual gift...330-744-8451 ext. 325.

- Please remind parishioners aged 70 ½ or older about the Charitable IRA provision available to them for giving to one's parish or favorite Catholic cause. The following bulletin insert is suggested:

Special tax-free IRA gifts

For those aged 70½ or older, a total of up to \$100,000 a year can be transferred directly from traditional or Roth IRAs to qualified charities such as your parish, a Catholic School, Catholic Charities or your favorite Catholic cause free from federal income tax. Amounts given in this way count toward required IRA minimum withdrawal amounts for the year of the gift. Many Catholics are taking advantage of this provision for their charitable giving. Please contact Mr. Pat Palombo, Diocesan Director of Development & Stewardship, for information and assistance... 330-744-8451 ext. 325 or ppalombo@youngstowndiocese.org.

- Stewardship Bulletin Inserts Attached

PASTORAL AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

OFFICE OF EVANGELIZATION

- Conference for Pastoral Planning and Council Development Summit – Save the date

The Conference for Pastoral Planning and Council Development is returning to Northeast Ohio for their annual Summit in 2020. The summit will be at the Jesuit Retreat Center in Parma from April 26-29. More information on topics and speakers will be available in the New Year.

- October Weekend Mass Attendance – Thank You!

Thank you to all Pastors and Parish Leaders for submitting their October 2019 Weekly Mass Attendance Form. While parishes are encouraged to continue keeping counts for planning purposes, parishes will only be asked to submit the counts to the diocese every October.

- Information on the Plan for Pastoral Regions Plan available

Full details of the Plan for Pastoral Regions, including statistical information, all the letters of Bishop Murry, details for each region and a map of the regions, are on the diocesan website, www.doy.org. Click on the Pastoral Planning Process banner or go directly to <https://doy.org/pastoral-planning-process/>. An episode of Spotlight on Pastoral Planning is also available to view. DVD copies of that episode for parish use can be obtained by contacting CTNY. Further information will be posted as it becomes available.

OFFICE OF LAY MINISTRY FORMATION

Winter and Spring Lay Ministry Formation Events – input needed!

The Office of Lay Ministry Formation is planning more formation opportunities around the diocese for the Winter and Spring, including retreats, Scripture courses, and more. **If you would like to be involved in hosting, planning, or presenting a Lay Ministry Formation event, please contact Pete Schafer at (330) 744-8451 ext. 275 or pschafer@youngstowndiocese.org.**

OFFICE OF PRO-LIFE, MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE

1. Project Rachel Outreach – December Message for Bulletin/Newsletter/Website:

Jesus came for all of us and knows our pain. There is Hope and Healing from abortion. For CONFIDENTIAL help contact *Project Rachel of N.E. Ohio* at 888-259-4806 or support@projrachneo.zohosupport.com.

2. Intercessions for Life and Pro-Life Bulletin Briefs

Recommended intercessions and bulletin briefs for December 2019, prepared by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities may be found at <http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/word-of-life/index.cfm> and on the Office of Pro-Life, Marriage and Family Life page of www.doy.org.

3. Marriage Moments & Parenting Pointers by Susan Vogt

Author and speaker Susan Vogt has graciously provided us with “Marriage Moments” and “Parenting Pointers” for parish bulletins, newsletters, etc. (see the attachments section of this Communique). More information may be found at www.susanvogt.net.

4. Two Masses for Life Scheduled this January 2020

Each year in January we recall the infamous Supreme Court decision *Roe v. Wade* that effectively legalized abortion on demand throughout the United States. Our diocese hosts two Masses for Life as a prayerful reminder that we “must protect and nurture human life at every stage of its existence.” Bishop Murry will preside at the Masses for Life on:

- Sunday, January 19, at 10:30 a.m. at the Basilica of St. John the Baptist, Canton (627 McKinley Ave NW)

- Sunday, January 26, at 4:00 pm at St. Columba Cathedral, Youngstown (154 W. Wood St.).

Each Mass for Life will include a Blessing of Children in the Womb and will be followed by a reception. All are welcome – no reservations needed. For more information contact dschmidt@youngstowndiocese.org or 330-744-8451 ext.272.

5. 9 Days for Life: Prayer, Penance, Pilgrimage – January 21-29, 2020

On January 22 our nation marks the 47th anniversary of Roe v. Wade, the Supreme Court decision that made abortion legal throughout the United States. Each year the US Catholic Bishops call for nine days of prayer for life during the days leading up to the anniversary of this tragic decision. Thousands of Catholics across the country will join together in prayer for a culture of life from Tuesday, January 21 to Wednesday, January 29, 2020. The prayers in this novena address many Respect Life issues – “Precisely because all issues involving human life are interdependent, a society which destroys human life by abortion under the mantle of law unavoidably undermines respect for life in all other contexts.” For more information go to www.9daysforlife.org.

6. January 22, Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM), no. 373, designates January 22 as a particular day of prayer and penance, called the "Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children": "In all the Dioceses of the United States of America, January 22 (or January 23, when January 22 falls on a Sunday) shall be observed as a particular day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion." Additional information and resources may be found at <http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/resources/january-22-day-of-prayer-leader-resources.cfm>.

7. March for Life, January 24, 2020, Washington, D.C.

Is your parish, school or organization organizing a trip to the March for Life on January 24, 2020 in Washington D.C.? If so, please contact Dave Schmidt at 330-744-8451, ext.272 or dschmidt@youngstowndiocese.org if you have not already done so.

Are you or a member of your parish, school or organization interested in attending the March for Life on January 24 2020 in Washington D.C. but unsure how you will be getting there? Again, please contact Dave Schmidt at dschmidt@youngstowndiocese.org or 330-744-8451, ext.272 or go to www.doy.org.

8. Marriage Preparation Engaged Couple Retreat Day

The next diocesan-sponsored one-day marriage preparation retreat day for engaged couples will be held Saturday, February 1, at St. Columba Cathedral Hall, Youngstown. Reservations are required. For more information contact dschmidt@youngstowndiocese.org or 330-744-8451, ext.272. A complete list of 2020 dates for Engaged Couple Retreats was mailed to priests and deacons at the end of October and may be found at www.doy.org by clicking on the Office of Pro-Life, Marriage and Family Life tab under “Ministries.”

9. Annual White Mass for all Health Professionals Including Mental Health Workers

The Annual White Mass – celebrating and recognizing the ministry and work of those in the health professions – will be held on Sunday, February 9, 2020 at 10:30 a.m. at the Cathedral of St. Columba located at 154 W. Wood St. in Youngstown. Bishop George V. Murry, S.J., will preside. A reception will follow in the Cathedral Hall. All are welcome. For more information call 330-744-8451 ext.272 or contact dschmidt@youngstowndiocese.org.

10. World Marriage Day

Sunday, February 9, 2020 is World Marriage Day. World Marriage Day occurs each year on the second Sunday of February, obviously intended to occur near the celebration of St. Valentine's Day. The day was originally called "We Believe in Marriage Day" and started in Baton Rouge, Louisiana in 1981, and was quickly adopted by World Wide Marriage Encounter who is the chief promoter of World Marriage Day. Materials for celebrating World Marriage Day at your parish may be found by going to <http://wmd.wwme.org/>.

11. *The Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide* at St. Paul Parish North Canton

The Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide will be offered on Wednesday Evenings, February 19, 26, March 4, 11, 25, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, with a date in May to be determined, from 6:45 to 9:00 pm at St. Paul Parish, 241 S. Main St., North Canton in North Room A (lower level of the Church). *The Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide* is a DVD-based series with accompanying materials created to bring hope and healing to divorced and separated Catholics. In addition to top Catholic experts on Church teachings, relationships, love, sex, marriage, divorce and annulment, the presentations also feature the personal testimonies of twelve divorced Catholic men and women who share their real-life stories of hope and healing.

No cost. To ensure your space or to learn about additional ministry to the divorced contact the Office of Pro-Life, Marriage and Family Life at dschmidt@youngstowndiocese.org or 330-744-8451 ext.272.

12. Finding Peace Together Support Group

Finding Peace Together is a safe confidential support group with other on the journey of healing after an abortion experience. For details, in confidence call: Samantha Rinehart MA, LPC at 330-257-9445 or Christy Ballor MS Ed at 330-206-6250.

OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

1. Ethical Trade Shopping for Christmas — Shopping with a Good Conscience!

You are invited to make a list, check it twice, then visit the Ethical Trade experience in the Office of Religious Education. With a wide variety of household gifts, religious articles, jewelry, coffee, spices, Christmas ornaments and more, there is something for everyone. All purchases have a direct impact on the artisans and growers from Ethical Trade cooperatives throughout the world.

2. Adult Faith Formation Opportunities

First Friday Club of Greater Youngstown
 Avion on the Water
 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Lunch
<http://www.firstfridayclubofgreateryoungstown.org>
 For reservations: 330-720-4498

Thursday, December 5, 2019
 Sr. Carolyn Capuano H.M.,
 VP for Mission and Ministry
 at Mercy Medical Center, Canton
 “Ministry Changed Not Ended:
 The Mercy - St. Paul Square Story”

3. Christmas DVDs

Looking for Advent and Christmas DVDs? The Diocesan Library has many videos for children including Advent with St. Nicholas, The Angels’ Advent Lesson, The Christmas Bunny, The Crippled Lamb, Martin the Heavenly Tree and more! Call 330 744-8451 ext. 297 or email library@youngstowndioocese.org to borrow.

Please visit us anytime between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, or by appointment. You can access the collection 24/7 at <https://doylelib.follettdestiny.com>.

4. Religious Education Certification for Catechists and Teachers

A listing of the Religious Education Certification Opportunities for Catechists and Teachers is available at Catechist Cafe. Core courses, general courses, parish-sponsored, college/university-hosted, and other regional organizations are included in the list of online and onsite sessions. Visit catechistcafe.weebly.com, hover on “For Catechists” for “Catechist Courses.”

These diocesan online courses will begin in the new year:

Church History, GENERAL COURSE, 12 HOURS

January 13 - March 2, 2020

Online facilitator: Joan Lawson. Contact Joan by email for password:

jlawson@youngstowndioocese.org \$28 fee includes book

Elementary Catechesis, CORE COURSE, 10 HOURS

January 20 - March 16, 2020

Online facilitator: Marcy Fessler. Contact Marcy by email for password: [marcy-](mailto:marcy-stpatricks@neo.rr.com)

stpatricks@neo.rr.com

\$25.00 fee includes book

Lent Prepare and Share, GENERAL COURSE, 6 HOURS

January 27 – February 24, 2020

Online facilitator: Carla Hlavac. Contact Carla by email for password:

chlavac@youngstowndioocese.org

\$15.00 fee (no book)

5. Online Learning Centers

These online learning centers have late fall/Advent offerings. *Contact the Office of Religious Education for information about catechist certification hours for these and other courses, webinars, and other online catechist formation opportunities. Visit CatechistCafe/For Catechists/Catechist Courses for connections to these learning centers and courses:*

- The Boston College Crossroads online program is offering these courses that begin in January:
 - Sacraments: The Fabric of Catholic Life*
 - A Catholic View of Today's Families*
- The Vibrant Faith Institute program on Adult Faith Formation begins in January.
- The University of Notre Dame Satellite Theological Program has 30 courses beginning January 13, including:
 - Catholic Faith and Tradition for School Teachers*
 - Faith and Science: The Catholic Approach*
 - Liturgy: A Guide for the Perplexed*
 - The American Catholic Experience*
 - The Intercultural Church: Theological Foundations and Pastoral Practices*
- The Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation from the University of Dayton has more than 40 courses beginning January 12, including:
 - Advanced Catholic Social Teaching*
 - Images of Jesus*
 - Introduction to Paul's Life and Letters*
 - Reflections on Faith and Finance*
 - Spirituality in Adult Learning*

6. Online Bachelor's Degree in Ministry and Theology from Loyola New Orleans

Did you know that Loyola University New Orleans now offers a Bachelor's Degree in Ministry and Theology totally online? The program requires two or more years of full-time work or volunteer experience for admission, allows students to transfer up to 90 credit hours of coursework from accredited colleges and universities, and requires 120 credits for completion. To learn more, visit <https://online.loyno.edu/online-bachelor-of-arts-in-ministry-and-theology/> or email Carla Hlavac, LIMEX liaison, at chlavac@youngstowndiocese.org.

7. Library Membership

Did you know that **Diocesan Library Mailing Memberships are available for only \$75.00 per year?** For this low cost, we will mail any requested library books, DVDs, and audiobooks to your staff, teachers, catechists – and all your parishioners! For more information, email Carla Hlavac at chlavac@youngstowndiocese.org.

OFFICE OF WORSHIP

1. Implementation Date for New Order of Baptism of Children, *second edition*

The Congregation for Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments has confirmed the new *Order of Baptism of Children, second edition* for the dioceses of the United States. Cardinal DiNardo, USCCB President, has indicated that the new *Order of Baptism of Children* may be used beginning on **February 2, 2020**, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord and its mandatory use begins **April 12, 2020**, Easter Sunday. From this date forward, no other translation of the rite is to be used in the dioceses of the United States. .

2. Liturgical Calendar Advisory

December 8 – Feast of the Immaculate Conception: This year the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, normally December 8, falls on a Sunday. However this year, Sunday, December 8 is to be celebrated as the Second Sunday of Advent. In accordance with no. 5 of the *Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the Calendar*, the observance of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception will be transferred to Monday, December 9. This is seen as a pastoral concession to observe the Solemnity even though it is impeded liturgically by a higher observance. The obligation to attend Mass remains attached to the day itself (December 8), and therefore does not transfer. As a result, the obligation to attend mass on December 9 for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is dispensed for this year.

3. Pope Francis announces “Sunday of the Word of God”

On September 30, 2019, a Motu proprio (“of his own initiative”) Apostolic Letter “*Aperuit illis*” was issued by Pope Francis establishing that “*the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time is to be devoted to the celebration, study and dissemination of the Word of God.*” Recalling the importance given by the Second Vatican Council to rediscovering Sacred Scripture for the life of the Church, Pope Francis says he wrote this Apostolic Letter in response to requests from the faithful around the world to celebrate the Sunday of the Word of God. This is more than a temporal coincidence, he explains: the celebration has “ecumenical value, since the Scriptures point out, for those who listen, the path to authentic and firm unity”. Pope Francis invites local communities to find ways to “mark this Sunday with a certain solemnity”. He suggests that the sacred text be enthroned “in order to focus the attention of the assembly on the normative value of God’s Word”. In highlighting the proclamation of the Word of the Lord, it would be appropriate “to emphasize in the homily the honor that it is due,” writes the Pope. “Pastors can also find ways of giving a Bible, or one of its books, to the entire assembly as a way of showing the importance of learning how to read, appreciate and pray daily with Sacred Scripture”.

The Pope concludes his Apostolic Letter by defining what he describes as “the great challenge before us in life: to listen to Sacred Scripture and then to practice mercy.” God’s Word, writes Pope Francis, “has the power to open our eyes and to enable us to renounce a stifling and barren individualism and instead to embark on a new path of sharing and solidarity”. The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time will be the weekend of January 25-26, 2020. Other ideas for celebrating the “Sunday of the Word of God” will be forthcoming

4. The Light Is On For You ~ An Evening of Reconciliation

“The Light is On for You” ~ An Evening of Reconciliation” will be held on Wednesday, March 11, 2020. All parishes are asked to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation **either** individually from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. **or** by scheduling your Lenten Communal Reconciliation Service with neighboring parishes on this day. This event will coincide with a similar evening for the Cleveland diocese.

5. Rite of Election – March 1, 2020

Bishop George V. Murry, S.J. will celebrate the Rite of Election of Catechumens and the Call to Continued Conversion of Candidates on the First Sunday of Lent, March 1, 2020 at Saint Columba Cathedral at 1:30 p.m. and at Saint Joseph Church, Canton at 6:00 p.m. Information regarding the submission of names of catechumens and candidates will be sent in early January.

6. Easter Vigil – April 11, 2020

The Easter Vigil will be on Saturday, April 11, 2020. The *Roman Missal* states that, *“the entire celebration of the Easter Vigil must take place during the night, so that it begins after nightfall...”* Furthermore, the Priest Policy Handbook states that the Easter Vigil *“is not to take place at the time of the ordinary anticipated Mass for Sunday,”* (cf. Faculties and Permissions, Section V, pg. 10). In the Diocese of Youngstown, sunset on April 11, 2020 will be at **7:58 p.m.** and the end of civil twilight will be at **8:27 p.m.** Bishop Murry has instituted a universal starting time for the Easter Vigil throughout the diocese of 8:00 p.m. or later. This universal starting time respects the current liturgical guidelines and diocesan policy. Furthermore it makes the Easter Vigil distinctive from the ordinary anticipated Mass for Sunday and alleviates any confusion among parishes. **Therefore the Easter Vigil is not to begin before 8:00 p.m.** *Please note that because daylight savings time begins each year in early March, the recommended start time of Easter Vigil will never be before 8 p.m.*

7. Diocesan Youth Choir Festival

The annual Diocesan Youth Choir Festival will be held in conjunction with the 2020 Pueri Cantores Choir Festival at St. Paul Cathedral in Pittsburgh on Saturday, March 21, 2020 for all students (grades 4-12). Rehearsals will be held prior to the festival and transportation to/from Pittsburgh will be provided. For more information contact the Office of Worship.

8. Flu Season and Liturgical Celebrations

During flu season parishes may receive requests from parishioners to make changes to liturgical celebrations in order to prevent the spread of the flu and other viruses. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, in consultation with the Center for Disease Control, recommends that the following measures be taken in the celebration of the liturgy:

- a. Priests, deacons, and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion should be especially reminded of the need to practice good hygiene. All Ministers of Holy Communion are encouraged to wash their hands using an alcohol based anti-bacterial solution before Mass begins and immediately after Mass.
- b. Pastors should instruct people who feel ill not to receive from the cup.

- c. Those who are sick should stay home, and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them.
- d. All should be encouraged to follow good everyday healthy actions:
 - of covering your nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing;
 - avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth after shaking hands or touching any surface;
 - avoid close contact with those who are sick.

At the present time, the Bishop's Committee on Divine Worship of USCCB has not issued directives considering any changes, adaptations or restrictions of options in the celebration of the Liturgy.

9. Save the Date – 2020 Notre Dame Liturgy Week

The McGrath Institute for Church Life will sponsor the 2020 Liturgy Week “*The Liturgical Orientation of Catholic Education*,” June 22-25, 2020 at the University of Notre Dame. Discover how the task of Catholic Education unfolds in the school, parish and family. Explore the role of liturgical prayer in forming young people in Catholic life. Early-bird discounts through April 5, 2020. For more information: www.mcgrath.nd.edu/liturgyweek.

10. Liturgical Directory

The Liturgical Directory contains valuable information about Liturgy Committees; liturgical minister formation guidelines; guidelines for the celebration of sacraments; music in liturgical celebrations; and art and architecture directives. The directory can be accessed and downloaded from the diocesan website by clicking on “Worship” under the “Ministries” tab.

OFFICE OF YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

1. Eagle of the Cross Nominations now open

If you know an outstanding high school junior or senior in our diocese, be sure to nominate him/her for the 2020 Eagle of the Cross Awards. Recipients will be honored at a Mass and Banquet on April 29 in Youngstown, and all nominees receive a certificate of acknowledgement.

The form has been posted at:

<http://youngstownoyyam.weebly.com/eagle-of-cross-awards.html>

Nominations are **DUE by 3 p.m. ET on Friday, February 14** (please mail by Feb. 12th). But now is the perfect time to complete and return nominations!

2. CMD National Workshop: **Radiate Christ - Forming Youth for Discipleship** set for March 3rd

Save the date for this in-service day scheduled for 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 3, 2020. This session will incorporate Christus Vivit and help us to take the Apostolic Exhortation to another level of implementation in our faith communities. Great for all in middle school and high school, parishes and schools. Look for further details in the January Communiqué.

3. Parish Youth Ministry Report Forms Due January 31

Parish Coordinators/Directors for Youth Ministry are reminded to complete and submit the annual Parish Youth Ministry Report posted at <http://youngstownoyyam.weebly.com/key-forms.html> by January 31, 2020 for the 2019 year. This form, in addition to providing necessary information to the diocese, can be a useful tool for evaluating your current youth ministry efforts and to plan for the future. Thank you to those who have already submitted the report!

4. Free Webinars for Continuing Education

With the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry, we are proud to offer quality webinars with experts from around the country on topics of keen interest to adults serving in youth ministries (and often young adult ministries as well.) To register for the upcoming sessions (and view recordings from past webinars), please visit:

<http://nfcym.org/webinars>

Next webinar: **FALLING INTO GRACE- AN ADVENT RETREAT**

Tuesday, December 3, 2019 at 2:00 pm ET

Presented by Steve Angrisano

As ministers, it's especially easy to feel the pressure to "do good". We become discouraged because so many things seem to depend on us; we find ourselves propping up a lot of people and programs and that can become dangerously exhausting. You are invited to take one hour during the busy Advent season to step back and breathe deeply and allow yourself to fall into God's grace. Falling Into Grace is a unique webinar opportunity for ministry leaders to remember to make space for Grace; to remember that we are effective ministers not because of who we are but who we're NOT! In doing this, we become reflections of God's grace, and messengers of His hope and mercy.

Steve Angrisano is one of the most effective and inspiring ministry leaders in the Church today. The passionate message of faith, hope and love woven throughout his inspiring music and gifted storytelling is an inspiration to all. He has been featured at countless Parish, Diocesan, and National events. Steve recently received his Masters in Theology from St. Meinrad Seminary and School of theology. Steve's easy, honest style of ministry is born from whom he is: a committed witness to the life and love of Jesus Christ.

5. 2019 National Catholic Youth Conference Pilgrims return to the diocese

After a four-day pilgrimage to Indianapolis, the 110 delegates to the 2019 National Catholic Youth Conference Pilgrims, returned Thanksgiving week with increased awareness of their blessings, how God heals their brokenness and how they are to give of their talents and God's love to our communities. Thank you for your prayers for the high school teens and their chaperones. May their renewed faith and enthusiasm for community be contagious!

Pictures have been posted on the office Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/Youth-and-Young-Adult-Ministry-Diocese-of-Youngstown-155428204509463/?ref=settings>

Participating groups were from:

Ashtabula County:

St. John School (Assumption, St. Joseph and Our Lady of Peace)

St. Mary, Orwell

Sacred Heart, Rock Creek

Columbiana County:

Holy Trinity

St. John the Evangelist

St. Jude

Our Lady of Lourdes

Mahoning County:

St. Brendan

St. Patrick

Portage County:

St. Joan of Arc

Stark County:

St. Thomas Aquinas School (St. Paul, St., Louis)

Holy Spirit

St. Anthony/All Saints

St. Joseph, Canton

St. Joseph, Massillon

ECUMENISM

Catholic-Lutheran Advent 2019 Scripture Reflections

The Lutheran-Catholic Covenant Commission invites Catholics and Lutherans to use the Advent Reflections 2019 for personal or group prayer. See the attachments for a copy ready edition of this ecumenical resource for praying the Sunday Readings Advent Cycle A. NEOS Lutheran Churches outside the geographical boundaries of the Diocese of Youngstown are welcome to use this resource.

MISCELLANEOUS

GIA COMPREHENSIVE GATHER HYMNAL

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in Vienna is upgrading their music books and now have available to anyone who wants/needs the green GIA Comprehensive Gather Hymnal. The books, which contain the readings, are just \$1 each. Call the parish office at 330-394-2461 for placing your order or for more information.

MISCELLANEOUS (CONTINUED)

CATHOLIC EXPONENT

Publication dates and special sections for the Exponent are as follows: November 29, Christmas recipes/Christmas gifts; December 13, Christmas greetings; and December 27, Caring for Creation (Pets). The normal deadline for each issue is 12 days before the publication date. We try to get late information into the issue, but are sometimes limited by lack of available space.

The December 27 issue will have an early deadline, December 10, due to the diocesan offices being closed for the holidays.

Due to mail delivery schedules, some of our subscribers get their papers on Saturday or even Monday, instead of Friday. If you have a big event planned for the weekend the paper is published, we recommend submitting items for publication in the previous issue so everyone will have the information in a timely manner. Please see flyer in this month's attachments for a copy of this information.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The Youngstown Area Community Concert Band presents a Christmas Concert under the direction of Joseph Pellegrini. Saturday, December 7th at St. Luke Catholic Church following 4:30 p.m. Mass. Please see flyer in this month's attachments.

AN AFTERNOON WITH MARY

A celebration in honor of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Sunday, December 8, 2019 at 2:30 p.m. -4:30 p.m. at St. Brendan Parish, 2800 Oakwood Ave., Youngstown is hosting *An Afternoon with Mary*. Please see flyer in this month's attachments.

5TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS MUSIC EVENT

The Knights of Columbus and St. Luke Church present "Power of Praise" and the St. Luke Adult Choir. Saturday, December 14, 2019. St. Luke Sanctuary following 4:30 Mass and Light refreshments. Music and signing from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Please see flyer in this month's attachments.

CHRISTMAS PRESENCE

St. Patrick Church, 357 N. Main Street, Hubbard, hosts Christmas Presence, presented by Fr. Gary George, C.S.s.R. The presentations will be 6:30-7:30 p.m., December 10-13, 2019. Please see flyer in this month's attachments.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY

Saint Joseph Parish, Austintown is currently looking for a Director of Music Ministry. The position is part-time. Interested parties should contact the Parish Office, 4545 New Road, Austintown, 330-792-1919 for details and a job description.

IN MEMORIAM

	<i>December</i>
<i>Rev. William Shipe</i>	1/04
<i>Rev. Joseph R. Lucas</i>	2/95
<i>Rev. William J. McLaughlin, OP</i>	3/58
<i>Deacon George Mastrovich</i>	4/03
<i>Rev. Joseph Czaja</i>	5/14
<i>Rt. Rev. Msgr. Gordon G. Gutman</i>	6/98
<i>Rev. A. Patrick Dempster</i>	7/97
<i>Rev. Clement Falter, CPPS</i>	8/42
<i>Rev. Valentine Fleckenstein, CPPS</i>	10/61
<i>Rev. John J. Pallante</i>	10/71
<i>Rev. John Lyons</i>	10/11
<i>Rev. Richard Reis</i>	12/98
<i>Rev. Bartley J. Kennedy</i>	13/91
<i>Rev. Matthew Herttna</i>	13/06
<i>Rev. George R. Bobal</i>	14/51
<i>Rev. Cyrill M. Stolarik</i>	14/90
<i>Rt. Rev. Msgr. Andrew A. Prokop</i>	15/95
<i>Rev. Paul Hill, MSC</i>	16/02
<i>Rev. William J. Keefe</i>	17/45
<i>Rt. Rev. Msgr. James Eischen</i>	17/53
<i>Rev. J. Robert Coleman</i>	17/86
<i>Rev. Charles Crumbley</i>	17/16
<i>Rt. Rev. Msgr. Alfred J. Heinrich</i>	18/64
<i>Rev. Theodore T. Coward</i>	18/87
<i>Rev. Francis J. Palm</i>	19/54
<i>Rev. Robert J. Novotny</i>	19/92
<i>Rt. Rev. Msgr. Anthony P. Boeff</i>	20/73
<i>Rev. Robert Brengartner</i>	21/99
<i>Rev. Joseph Raible, CPPS</i>	22/96
<i>Deacon Robert Rapp</i>	23/15
<i>Rev. Austin W. Scully</i>	25/53
<i>Deacon Thomas Shay</i>	25/10
<i>Rev. Ernest Smith</i>	26/53
<i>Rev. Patrick O'Leary</i>	26/10
<i>Rev. Edgar R. Landy, OP</i>	27/47
<i>Rev. Joseph R. Bennett</i>	27/85
<i>Deacon David Beil</i>	27/13
<i>Rt. Rev. Msgr. John H. Lenz</i>	28/59
<i>Rt. Rev. Msgr. John L. Bardon</i>	29/70
<i>Rev. Edward J. Dierker</i>	29/91
<i>Rev. Maron Abi-Nader</i>	29/96
<i>Rev. Gabriel Takacs, OFM</i>	30/73
<i>Rev. Daniel Higgins, sP</i>	30/82
<i>Rev. Albert Klein</i>	30/01
<i>Rev. William J. Fitzgerald</i>	31/85
<i>Rev. William Ellis, MSC</i>	31/95