



# Communique'

[www.doy.org](http://www.doy.org)  
144 West Wood Street  
Youngstown, OH 44503-1081  
330-744-8451 fax 330-742-6448

Volume 52

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## CHANCERY OFFICE

### CONFIRMATION

Wednesday, December 2

7:00 p.m.

St. Robert Bellarmine, Cortland

### LETTERS OF SUITABILITY

Please note that no priest or deacon may exercise ministry within the Diocese of Youngstown without being granted faculties/permission by the bishop/diocesan administrator. It is the obligation of the pastor of the parish where ministry or speaking engagement will occur (or other responsible person outside a parish setting) to insure that the visiting cleric has obtained a letter of suitability. Without such a letter, the Diocese, the parish or school and the pastor or president could become legally liable should any wrongdoing occur.

The visiting cleric himself should ask his bishop or religious superior to send a letter of suitability to Rev. Monsignor Robert J. Siffrin, Diocesan Administrator. Letters of suitability are to be sent from one bishop/superior to another, not directly to a parish, since it is the bishop who is responsible for determining a cleric's suitability for ministry.

If you have any questions, please contact Msgr. John Zuraw, Chancellor

### CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

On August 1, 2020 Monsignor Siffrin promulgated the *Safe Environment Policy for the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults*. This new policy replaces our 2008 *Child Protection Policy* and will be effective on November 1, 2020. Over the coming months we will begin to gradually update our procedures. Please watch for communications from your local Compliance Officer and feel free to contact my office if you have any questions or concerns.

All Employees in our parishes, schools, and institutions are now required to be compliant regardless of their level of contact with children or vulnerable adults.

Volunteers who work alone with vulnerable adults, or who regularly minister to vulnerable adults in their homes or at health care facilities, or who are responsible for vulnerable adults on behalf of a parish, school, or institution are now required to be compliant. Please review the *Safe Environment Policy* for more details and contact my office if you have any questions.

1. Compliance Requirements

A. *Updated Authorization & Verification and Acknowledgement Forms*

All Clergy, Religious, Seminarians, Persons in Formation, and Employees, and those Volunteers who work with children or vulnerable adults, must review a paper or electronic copy of the *Safe Environment Policy* and **electronically** sign the Authorization & Verification Form and Acknowledgement Form on their VIRTUS account page. (*Coming Soon*)

B. Fingerprinting and Background Checks

All Clergy, Religious, Seminarians, Persons in Formation, and Employees, and those Volunteers who work with children or vulnerable adults, must obtain a BCI or BCI/FBI background check. Any Webcheck location may be used and locations can be found at [www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov](http://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov).

**Background check requirements** are included in this month's Communique attachments.

Background checks **must** be sent directly to the Safe Environment Coordinator at the Diocese:

Catholic Diocese of Youngstown  
Attn: Safe Environment Office  
144 West Wood Street  
Youngstown, OH 44503

As of January 20, 2020, background checks completed on or after this date for other agencies, employers, dioceses, etc., are not valid for compliance in the Diocese of Youngstown unless a copy is also sent directly to the Safe Environment Coordinator by BCI&I.

C. *VIRTUS Protecting God's Children Class*

All Clergy, Religious, Seminarians, Persons in Formation, and Employees, and those Volunteers who work with children or vulnerable adults, must complete the *VIRTUS Protecting God's Children* in-service class.

Visit the Safe Environment page on the [diocesan website](#) for a schedule of VIRTUS in-service classes and to register in either English or Spanish.

**Until the threat of covid-19 has subsided, individuals are permitted to take the VIRTUS course online.**

Child protection in-service courses from other agencies, employers, dioceses, Scouts, etc., are not valid for compliance in the Diocese of Youngstown.

2. Updating Information

Compliance Officers must submit updates for current and new employees and volunteers as they complete child protection compliance requirements on a Compliance Checklist. **A person is not compliant until the Safe Environment Coordinator receives a Compliance Checklist noting the dates that the requirements were fulfilled.** For the Compliance Checklist, email [dcolucy@youngstowndioocese.org](mailto:dcolucy@youngstowndioocese.org).

3. Reporting Child Abuse

If you or someone you know has been abused at any time by a priest, deacon, religious, seminarian, person in formation, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Youngstown, or if you believe that abuse has occurred or is currently occurring, contact civil authorities and also Mr. Dominic Colucy, Safe Environment Coordinator/Victim Assistance Coordinator, (office) 330-744-8451 x293 or (response line) 330-718-1388.

4. Questions or Concerns

For more information about the Diocese of Youngstown Safe Environment 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](mailto: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](http://doy.org/Media/ETC-TV) Live Stream.**

**Live stream of the Mass for the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary from St. Columba Cathedral on [doy.org/Media/Cathedral](http://doy.org/Media/Cathedral) Live Stream at 12:10 p.m. on December 8, 2020.**

**Live stream of the Mass of Our Lady of Guadalupe from St. Columba Cathedral on [doy.org/Media/Cathedral](http://doy.org/Media/Cathedral) Live Stream at 6:00 p.m. on December 12, 2020.**

2. 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 6: Fr. Jim Korda speaks with Mary Fiala, Superintendent of Schools; December 13: Fr. Jim Korda speaks with Sr. Jean Orsuto, HM, on Emmanuel Community Care Center; December 20: Fr. Jim Korda speaks with Jill Valentic on Catholic Charities in Ashtabula County; and, December 27: Fr. Jim Korda speaks with Sr. Ann McManamon, HM, on Dorothy Day House.

Marianne Yeager, a member of St. Christine Church in Youngstown, will tell us about the Saints celebrated this month: December 6: Our Lady of Guadalupe; December 13: St. John of the Cross; December 20: St. Stephen Martyr; and, December 27: St. Thomas Becket.

The Interview Segment will include: December 6: Fr. Jim Korda speaks with Sr. Pat McNicholas, OSU, on Beatitude House; December 13: Fr. Jim Korda speaks with Jessica Anthony on St. Vincent de Paul Society; December 20: Fr. Jim Korda speaks with Chorbishop Anthony Spinosa on the Lebanon Shrine; and, December 27: Fr. Jim Korda speaks with Sr. Barbara O'Donnell on the environment.

This month's Music Segment is from the CD "Come Let Us Adore Him" by the Kellenberg Memorial High School Choir in Long Island, New York.

Fr. Nick Mancini, pastor emeritus of Sacred Heart of Mary Church in Harrisburg, will give his reflections on the Sunday Scripture Readings: December 6: Second Sunday of Advent; December 13: Third Sunday of Advent; December 20: Fourth Sunday of Advent; and, December 27: Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

3. See the newest of CTNY Local Programming on the Internet by linking to [doy.org](http://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.
4. For an ETC-Ecumenical Television Channel Schedule for fall/winter 2020-2021, please contact CTNY at 330-533-2243, or visit [www.doy.org](http://www.doy.org) and go to the "News and Media" bar and click on the ETC-TV schedule.
5. Like us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/CTNYyoungstown](https://www.facebook.com/CTNYyoungstown).

## 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. 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 along with a handmade ornament. Great gift for family members or friends. Visit [www.ccdoy.org](http://www.ccdoy.org) for information.
- READ our NEWSLETTER to see what’s happening at Catholic Charities.
- FOLLOW us on SOCIAL MEDIA.

Thank you so much for your support not only during our Season of Giving, but throughout the entire year!

### 2. Looking for a special GIFT?

Purchase a handmade BRACELET, NECKLACE, or ORNAMENT as a gift for a teacher, friend, sitter and neighbor. The necklaces feature a stone cross on a black cord and bracelets in various colors and designs. All handmade by volunteers. Ornaments are transparent snowflakes. To purchase, go online at <https://15181.thankyou4caring.org/bracelets> or call Nikole at 330-744-8451, ext. 323.

### 3. Christmas Gifting - An Extra Special Gift for those you love

You make a gift to Catholic Charities (which helps to serve so many in need) and we will send a customized greeting card with small gift included to your loved one. It’s so simple and meaningful! Call Jennifer Lucarelli today – 330-744-8451, ext. 323.

## **DEPARTMENT FOR JUSTICE & CHARITY**

### 1. Bishop's Appeal

Announcement weekend for the 2021 Annual Bishop's Appeal is February 13 and 14, 2021. An email was recently sent regarding a few adjustments to the appeal. Please note, pew envelopes will be sent directly to the parishes. Look for this shipment to arrive in December. Additional details regarding the 2021 Annual Bishop's Appeal will be announced soon – so please check your email regularly. Please contact Jennifer Lucarelli or Nikole Baringer at 330-744-8451 if you have any questions. Thank you very much for your continued support.

### 2. CRS RICE BOWL

Each Lent, Catholic families across the country unite to put their faith into action through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Through CRS Rice Bowl, families learn about how our sisters and brothers across the globe overcome hardships like hunger and malnutrition, and how through Lenten alms, we have the power to make the world a better place for all. 25% of the Rice Bowl collection remains in the Diocese of Youngstown for hunger and poverty alleviation efforts.

Lent begins February 17. Rice Bowl materials for 2021 should start arriving at your parishes. If you have not received your materials or you have any questions about the 2021 Rice Bowl collection, please contact Nikole Baringer at 330-744-8451, ext. 323 or [nbaringer@youngstowndiocese.org](mailto:nbaringer@youngstowndiocese.org).

## **CLERGY AND RELIGIOUS SERVICES**

### **OFFICE OF VOCATIONS**

#### 1. Posters and Prayer Cards

The new 2020-21 Posters and Prayer Cards are in. Our seminarian interns are organizing delivery to all institutions. If you would like additional copies, please contact the vocations office.

#### 2. Vocation Director at Your Parish

Diocesan Vocation Director Fr. Scott Kopp is coordinating his calendar for high school and college visits and Masses. If you have a special youth ministry, parish, or vocational event, consider asking him to attend or speak. 330-744-8451 or by email at [skopp@youngstowndiocese.org](mailto:skopp@youngstowndiocese.org).

#### 4. Come and See Weekends

There are tentative plans for a Come and See Discernment weekend in December at St. Mary Seminary in Cleveland. More details to follow as plans develop. Pontifical College Josephinum has cancelled their December discernment weekend but are looking at one for the Spring.

5. Seminarian Visits to Your School or Parish

As you make plans for the reopening of school in the fall or when things hopefully reopen fully in the Spring, please remember all of the seminarians we have currently studying in our diocese. They are all willing and available to come and speak at your parish or school. To schedule one, please contact Father Scott Kopp at 330-744-8451 or by email at [skopp@youngstowndiocese.org](mailto:skopp@youngstowndiocese.org).

6. 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 6<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup> 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. Hopefully there will be renewed opportunities for these visits at some point this new school year. For more information or to schedule a tour, please call the Vocation Office at 330-744-8451.

7. 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.

8. Vocations Social Media

Facebook: [doyvocations](https://www.facebook.com/doyvocations)  
 Website: [www.doy.org/vocations](http://www.doy.org/vocations)

## **OFFICE OF VOWED RELIGIOUS**

1. World Day of Consecrated Life

World Day for Consecrated Life liturgy will be celebrated **at St. Columba Cathedral on Sunday, February 7, 2021** at the **10:30 a.m.** Mass. Be sure to mark your calendars for this annual diocesan celebration of Consecrated Life.

2. New and Returning Religious

This is a reminder for any religious (involved in ministry, student, or retired) who is new, or has recently returned to the Diocese of Youngstown, and has not yet contacted the Office of Vowed Religious, to kindly do so as soon as possible. Please also note that there are some new requirements for our Child Protection Policy. Please call (330) 744-8451, ext. 238 or e-mail [sjcandidi@youngstowndiocese.org](mailto:sjcandidi@youngstowndiocese.org)

3. 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

4. Religious Jubilee Celebration

If it is safe to gather in person, the Diocese of Youngstown plans to celebrate the jubilees of those religious who generously served the people of this diocese on **Saturday, March 20, 2021 at Holy Family** parish in Poland, Ohio. The day would begin at 1:15 p.m. with registration and a social. Ursuline Sister Regina Rogers will be our presenter. In addition we will have a catered dinner, concluding with Holy Mass at 4:30 p.m. and a group photo.

<b>DEVELOPMENT/STEWARDSHIP</b>
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1. NEW One-Time Gift Direct Mail Program

The Office of Development & Stewardship is pleased to offer a NEW program for parishes and schools to solicit one-time gifts through direct mail services to parishioners, donors, and friends. We develop the content (either a letter or a brochure), have them printed, and you tell us who to send them to! For more information, contact Luke Politsky at [lpolitsky@youngtowndiocese.org](mailto:lpolitsky@youngtowndiocese.org) or 330-744-8451 x298.

2. Life & Estate Planning Seminars

NOW is the time to plan a Life & Estate Planning Seminar. End of life issues and estate planning are discussed in a one-hour presentation. Participants are encouraged to remember their parish, a Catholic school, or favorite Catholic cause in their plan. The seminar is FREE! For more information, contact Luke Politsky at [lpolitsky@youngtowndiocese.org](mailto:lpolitsky@youngtowndiocese.org) or 330-744-8451 x298.

3. In-Pew Offertory Envelopes

Enhance your evangelization and stewardship efforts with custom in-pew offertory envelopes to welcome visitors and invite them to share their gifts with the parish. For more information, contact Luke Politsky at [lpolitsky@youngtowndiocese.org](mailto:lpolitsky@youngtowndiocese.org) or 330-744-8451 x298.



4. Endowments with the Diocese of Youngstown Foundation

You are invited to Leave a Legacy for your parish, Catholic school, or Catholic ministry by establishing a perpetual endowment fund within the Diocese of Youngstown Foundation. The income from these funds is available to the designated parish, school, or ministry, and is restricted to the purpose(s) which the donors establish. For more information, contact Luke Politsky at [lpolitsky@youngtowndioocese.org](mailto:lpolitsky@youngtowndioocese.org) or 330-744-8451 x298.

5. Increased Offertory Programs and Capital Campaigns

Contact us TODAY to plan a Parish Increased Offertory Program or Capital Campaign for 2021. For more information, contact Luke Politsky at [lpolitsky@youngtowndioocese.org](mailto:lpolitsky@youngtowndioocese.org) or 330-744-8451 x298.

6. Stewardship Thoughts for parish bulletins are attached.

**PASTORAL AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

**OFFICE OF PRO-LIFE, MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE**

1. Intercessions for Life and Pro-Life Bulletin Briefs

Recommended intercessions and bulletin briefs for December 2020, prepared by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities, may be found at <https://www.respectlife.org/word-of-life> and on the Office of Pro-Life, Marriage and Family Life page of [www.doy.org](http://www.doy.org).

2. 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](mailto:support@projrachneo.zohosupport.com).

3. 2021 March for Life and Related Events – Alternative Options

COVID-19 has necessitated making alternative plans regarding the National March for Life in Washington DC and events normally associated with it. Included in the attachments section of this Communique is a list of options for groups and individuals to stand united for Life and educate themselves on the need to protect life from the moment of conception until natural death. As additional details are learned, updated versions of this list may appear on the webpage of the Office of Pro-Life, Marriage and Family Life at <https://doy.org/ministries-2/pro-life-marriage-family-life/> in the “Upcoming Events” box. For more information contact [dschmidt@youngtowndioocese.org](mailto:dschmidt@youngtowndioocese.org) or 330-744-8451 ext. 272.

4. Walking with Moms in Need: A Year of Service

Pregnant and parenting moms in need are in our parishes and our neighborhoods. As Pope Francis reminds us, our parishes need to be “islands of mercy in the midst of a sea of indifference.” Everyone in a parish community should know where to refer a pregnant woman in need.

This year, as the Church celebrates the 25th anniversary of *Evangelium Vitae (The Gospel of Life)* by Pope St. John Paul II, we are invited to assess, expand, and communicate resources to pregnant moms and families in need. This nationwide effort entitled “Walking with Moms in Need: A Year of Service” is sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on Pro-Life Activities.

To learn more about how your parish can take part in this effort contact our diocesan Office of Pro-Life, Marriage and Family at [dschmidt@youngstowndiocese.org](mailto:dschmidt@youngstowndiocese.org) or 330-744-8451 ext. 272, or visit [www.walkingwithmoms.com](http://www.walkingwithmoms.com).

5. Marriage Preparation Engaged Couple Retreat Day

The next diocesan-sponsored one-day marriage preparation retreat day for engaged couples will be held Saturday, January 9 at St. Columba Cathedral Hall, Youngstown. Reservations are required. Social distancing protocols will be followed. Registration information may be found at [www.doy.org](http://www.doy.org); go to the “Ministries” drop-down menu and press on “Pro-Life, Marriage & Family Life.”

For more information on these, and other opportunities for marriage preparation formation, contact [dschmidt@youngstowndiocese.org](mailto:dschmidt@youngstowndiocese.org) or 330-744-8451, ext.272.

## **OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

1. Adult Faith Formation is Key! A Gift of the Pandemic

Major Church documents on catechesis and evangelization have emphasized the primacy of the catechesis of adults, yet in many parishes the financial resources allocated to the ministry has been minimal. In this time of the pandemic, many parishes have designed hybrid catechetical processes that involve parental oversight of their children’s faith formation. The home kits have included background information to assist adult comprehension of the faith topics in addition to the perspective of the child’s age and development. Here is an opportunity to distribute these adult faith resources to the entire parish – not just to parents of young children! Allow the parish community to have access to resources that will enrich their faith knowledge and strengthen their practice of the faith!

2. Fair Trade Shopping by Appointment

The Office of Religious Education has a wide selection of hand crafted items from the Holyland Handicraft Cooperative Society and SERRV, which may be purchased for the upcoming seasons of giving. Christmas ornaments, nativities, rosaries, jewelry, household items and the other very lovely gifts are available.

This is a perfect alternative to visiting big stores or shopping online while supporting Fair Trade Cooperatives around the world, especially communities hit hardest by the worldwide pandemic and ban on tourism. Please contact the Office of Religious Education at 330 744-8451 to make an appointment for a private and safe shopping experience!

3. Evangelizing Outreach: the Parish Work

Each of our parishes can take advantage of the seasons of Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas to develop and implement evangelizing outreach to the parish community. Messages of support and care to all, but especially to those isolated from friends and family are always welcome and appreciated during the holidays. Young people can design and contribute to a larger parish project of “gifting” those most in need. As we prayerfully remember those who are absent from the weekend liturgies, we can also pastorally prepare to welcome back those members of our parish community at the time when it is safer. Advent is a time of Waiting, but can be a purposeful period of waiting when we take the steps of the parish working for all the parish community, those present, and those “waiting” to be present.

4. 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 <http://cnh.loyno.edu/lim/ba-ministry-and-theology> or email Carla Hlavac, LIMEX liaison, at [chlavac@youngstowndiocese.org](mailto:chlavac@youngstowndiocese.org).

5. Master’s Degree or Certificate in Ministry and Theology from Loyola New Orleans

We are currently gathering a list of interested persons for a possible Fall 2021 LIMEX learning group. Many LIMEX graduates currently minister in Religious Education or Pastoral Ministry. This local program features a small group format in which participants meet for one day/evening per week for about 3 hours or so. This discussion-centered learning includes extensive reading assignments each week. To learn more, visit <http://cnh.loyno.edu/lim/study-options> or email Carla Hlavac, LIMEX liaison, at [chlavac@youngstowndiocese.org](mailto:chlavac@youngstowndiocese.org).

6. 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 <https://catechistcafe.weebly.com/catechist-courses.html>. **(CHECK THIS PAGE OFTEN FOR LINKS TO FREE WEBINARS and ONLINE EVENTS FROM CATHOLIC UNIVERSITIES, ORGANIZATIONS, AND PUBLISHERS. NEWS IS ADDED WEEKLY.)**

*These diocesan online courses are offered for Advent:*

**Songs of Advent**, General Course, 10 hours credit;  
November 23 – December 21, 2020;  
Online Facilitator: Sister Therese Anne Rich, OSU

**Jesus' Birth in the Gospels**, General Course, 6 hours credit;  
November 30 – December 21, 2020;  
Online Facilitator: Carla Hlavac

## 7. Online Learning Centers

These online learning centers have Advent/winter 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:*

STM Crossroads (Boston College School of Theology and Ministry) has registration open now for these courses running November 25 – December 15:

- o People of Hope
- o Mary, the Mother of Jesus

VLCFF (Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation) from the University of Dayton has registration open now, closing November 25, for these courses running November 29 – December 19:

- o Advent: A Holy Waiting
- o Pastoral Letter: In the World, Not of the World
- o Reflections on Faith and Finance
- o Theological Reflection: Key to Connecting Faith and Life

Registration is open now and closes December 30, 2020 for 36 VLCFF courses that run January 3 – February 6, 2021, including these:

- o Christology
- o Ecclesiology: Beginnings of the Church
- o Echoes of Racism: Whispers of Healing
- o Emotional Intelligence and Its Impact on Faith Formation
- o Faith and Human Development
- o Hope in Times of Crisis
- o Survey of Catholic Social Teaching

The University of Notre Dame Satellite Theological Program has registration open now for 13 courses that begin January 4, 2021, including these:

- o Jesus Christ: Yesterday and Today
- o The Papacy
- o Faith and Science: The Catholic Approach
- o The Intercultural Church: Theological Foundations and Pastoral Practices
- o Liturgy: A Guide for the Perplexed

## OFFICE OF WORSHIP

### 1. Liturgical Directives for the Celebration of Mass during the Pandemic

The Liturgical Directives/Guidelines for the Resumption of Public Mass published in early June remain in effect. Updates and revisions to the guidelines/directives will be issued as needed. Parishes are to follow any new directives and mandates issued by the Governor of Ohio or local officials within your jurisdiction. The wearing of face coverings for all liturgical ministers and especially during the distribution of Holy Communion is required.

### 2. Dispensation from the Obligation to attend Sunday Mass during the Pandemic

The Catholic faithful who reside in the Diocese of Youngstown and all other Catholics in the diocese and especially those who are sick, or at high risk of becoming sick continue to be dispensed from their Sunday obligation until further notice. The Easter Duty obligation is extended for a period of one year from the end of the Easter Season 2020.

### 3. Christmas Mass

With the understanding that the dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass will continue through the Christmas season, the current dispensation also applies to the celebration of Christmas and New Year's Day for this year. Pastors have been sent information outlining possible strategies, options, and guidance for parishes to consider for the celebration of Christmas this year. Parishes are encouraged to tailor plans accordingly and communicate with parishioners as soon as possible. All current Directives/Guidelines for the Resumption of Public Mass and all directives and mandates issued by the Governor of Ohio and local officials are to be followed.

### 4. Sunday of the Word of God

On September 30, 2019, a Motu proprio Apostolic Letter "*Aperuit illis*" issued by Pope Francis established the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time as the "Sunday of the Word of God." This year, January 23/24, 2021 will be designated as "Sunday of the Word of God" and 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 explains the celebration has "ecumenical value, since the Scriptures point out, for those who listen, the path to authentic and firm unity." Parishes are invited to find ways to mark this Sunday with a certain solemnity. For more resources:

<https://www.usccb.org/committees/divine-worship/sunday-word-god>

### 5. Rite of Election – February 21, 2021

The Rite of Election of Catechumens and the Call to Continued Conversion of Candidates is scheduled on the First Sunday of Lent, February 21, 2021 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 the coming weeks.

## 6. Easter Vigil – April 3, 2021

The Easter Vigil will be on Saturday, April 3, 2021. 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 3, 2021 will be at **7:51 p.m.** and the end of civil twilight will be at **8:19 p.m.** Two years ago Bishop Murry instituted a diocesan starting time for the Easter Vigil throughout the diocese of 8:00 p.m. or later. This 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. 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. Virtual Advent Retreat Opportunity on December 1 with Mike Patin

A number of our parish ministers enjoyed the August “Prayer and Preparation” gathering with Mike Patin as our speaker, so here is another opportunity with him sponsored by the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry. Take an hour for yourself to reflect, relax (and likely laugh along the way!)

“As We Wait in Joyful Hope: An Advent Retreat”  
 Tuesday, December 1, 2020,  
 Online live at 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.  
 (Recording to be posted later)

This is free and open to all interested.

Register at:

<https://nfcym.org/calendar-event/as-we-wait-in-joyful-hope-an-advent-retreat-with-mike-patin/>

## 2. National Leadership Forum and Ministry with Young Adult – Virtual

“Arise: Ministry with Young Adults in a Time of Innovation”  
 December 7-10, 2020

The week of online and offline events will include presentations, conversations, networking, prayer, and continuing formation for people interested in ministering to and with young adults.

Presented by the USCCB National Advisory Team for Catholic Young Adult Ministry along with St., Meinrad Young Adult Ministry Initiative and the Catholic Apostolate Center.

Cost: \$30 if registered before Dec 1 (\$40 after Dec 1)

For more info, visit: [www.natyamforum.com](http://www.natyamforum.com)

Register at: [www.bit.ly/natyamforum2020reg](http://www.bit.ly/natyamforum2020reg)

3. Youth Ministers Virtual Epiphany Party on January 6

On Wednesday, January 6, 2021, adults serving in youth ministries are invited to socialize, network, pray and share ideas during an adapted YM Epiphany Party, online from 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. Bring your own beverage and something that symbolizes what made your Christmas season so special. Please RSVP to Cindee at < [ccase@youngstowndiocese.org](mailto:ccase@youngstowndiocese.org) > for the log-in information. (And to whoever has the “white elephant” from past Epiphany Parties, please bring it along!)

Notes from the November 12 Youth Ministers Gathering have been posted at:

<https://youngstownoyam.weebly.com/office-blog/111220-ym-gathering-notes>

4. *Momentum: Gen Z: Protagonists in the Church and the World - January 12*

Who are this next generation of young people? What new attitudes, hopes, desires, and gifts do they bring to the conversation about the convergence of life and faith? And perhaps most importantly, how well are our current ministry structures and models empowering them to be the protagonists and leaders that Pope Francis has invited them to become? On Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, join ministry colleagues from across the country to examine, discuss, and reflect on these questions.

For more information, visit: [https://nfcym.org/calendar-event/momentum-gen-z-protagonists-in-the-church-and-world/?rsvp\\_sent=1](https://nfcym.org/calendar-event/momentum-gen-z-protagonists-in-the-church-and-world/?rsvp_sent=1)

5. Diocesan Youth Un-Convention 2020 – Resources to remain available through 2020

As requested all the resources will remain posted at: <https://dyc2020.weebly.com> for parish and school use through at least the end of the year, so feel free to continue to plan to make use of them or even share for families to use during Christmas break. Saints are timeless!

A HUGE note of thanks goes to everyone who helped develop ideas, find links, or create content/videos to make it a dynamic page of resources. You can find a list of these folks at the bottom of the Youth Ministers Page, but a special shout-out goes to Tina McCue at St. William and Nicky Uerling at St. Michael for going over-and-above to assist me. I also want to thank OCP and Steve Angrisano for adding some great insights and music as an alternative to a keynote presentation. Here’s hoping we can gather in person for DYC 2022!

6. “Cultivating a Culture of Encounter for Adolescent through Evangelization, Catechesis and Faith Community” - Youth Ministry Online Training Course 2 coming soon

“Fundamentals of Evangelization and Catechesis with Adolescents” (YMOT 2-A) will begin with an orientation week, January 18-24, 2021, then active coursework January 25 – February 14.

Read, watch videos, and participate in discussions on your own time within the timeframe. This module can earn you ten religious education certification hours for basic certification in Adolescent Catechesis. Cost: \$40 includes Coursebook and online materials.

“Forming a Consequential Faith” (YMOT 2-B) will run February 22 – March 14. Again, students Read, watch videos, and participate in discussions on their own time within the timeframe. This module can earn you ten general religious education certification hours. Cost: \$40 includes Coursebook and online materials.

Instructors for both are Bob Barto and Cindee Case.  
See flier and registration form in the Attachments of this Communique.



## MISCELLANEOUS

### **VIRTUAL CATHOLIC MAN NIGHT**

*Coming to a computer screen near you;* join the Catholic Men’s Fellowship for the third "virtual" **Catholic Man Night**. The next “Man Night” is on **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2020 @ 6:30 pm**. We will be presenting the third session in the Knights of Columbus “Into the Breach” series. These professionally produced videos focus on various aspects of authentic Catholic manhood. This third video is titled “Leadership”. If you’re not a leader, you’re a follower. Be a leader.

The Man Night will be a “Zoom meeting” and last about an hour. Go to our website **CMFDOY.org** for the link to the meeting. You can attend via computer or phone; with or without video. It is Advent and a great time to “lead others to greatness”. See you on Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>.

### **CATHOLIC EXPONENT**

Publication dates and special sections for the Exponent are as follows: Nov. 27 – Priest Jubilarians/Christmas Gifts; Dec. 11 – Christmas Recipes/Christmas Greetings; Dec. 25 – 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.

Due to mail delivery schedules, some of our subscribers receive 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 that everyone will have the information in a timely manner.

The Exponent is your source for doctrinally sound news stories, features, and commentary, keeping you up to date on local events such as advent activities and Christmas programs as the diocese continues to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. To subscribe, call 330-744-5251 or email [exposubscriptions@youngstowndiocese.org](mailto:exposubscriptions@youngstowndiocese.org) to request subscription information.

Thank you for supporting your diocesan newspaper.

### **ST. COLUMBA CATHEDRAL -- LIVE STREAM**

[Doy.org/Media/Cathedral](http://Doy.org/Media/Cathedral) Live Stream

- Tuesday, December 8, 2020 @ 12:10 p.m.
- Saturday, December 12, 2020 @ 6:30 p.m.

*Please see flyer in this month’s Communique attachments.*

<b>IN MEMORIAM</b>
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	<u>December</u>
<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