



Communique'

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

Volume 53

No. 4

April, 2021

CHANCERY OFFICE

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY LAND

Good Friday Collection will be held on April 2, 2021. The pontifical collection supports Christians in the Holy Land. Please see flyer included in this month's *Communique* attachments for more information.

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. 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 Bishop Bonnar. 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

SAFE ENVIRONMENT POLICY

1. Who needs to be compliant?
 - A. All active clergy, religious, seminarians, and persons in formation are required to be compliant.
 - B. All employees in parishes, schools, and institutions are required to be compliant regardless of their level of contact with children or vulnerable adults.

- C. Any volunteer who has unsupervised access to a child or vulnerable adult, or who works directly with a child or vulnerable adult, or who is responsible for a child or vulnerable adult on behalf of the Diocese, must be compliant.

2. Compliance Requirements

- A. Signed Authorization & Verification and Acknowledgement Form submitted to local Compliance Officer.

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 sign the Authorization & Verification Form and Acknowledgement Form. A signed copy must be submitted to your parish, school, or institution Compliance Officer.

- 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. **Background checks are only valid for five years and must be renewed to maintain compliance.** Any Webcheck location may be used and locations can be found at www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov.

Background check requirements and codes 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 Account and *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 create a VIRTUS account with the Diocese of Youngstown and 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/Vulnerable Adult protection in-service courses from other agencies, employers, dioceses, Scouts, etc., are not valid for compliance in the Diocese of Youngstown.

3. 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.** Visit the Safe Environment page on the [diocesan website](#) to find the Compliance Checklist.

4. Reporting Child/Vulnerable Adult 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.

Visit the Safe Environment page on the [diocesan website](#) to find our most up-to-date *Reporting Requirements and Procedures* in English and Spanish.

5. 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@youngstowndiocese.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.

Live Stream from St. Columba Cathedral the Chrism Mass on Tuesday, March 30 at 10:30 a.m. Mass will rebroadcast on ETC-Ecumenical Television Channel on Tuesday, March 30 at 8:00 p.m. and Wednesday, March 31 at 10:00 a.m.

Chrism Mass will broadcast in Stark County on Thursday, April 1 at 10:00 p.m. on WIVM TV 39 and Spectrum Cable Channel 989. In Conneaut please check the Sunday bulletin.

“With a Father’s Heart,” produced by CTNY, is a four-part series highlighting the Year of St. Joseph announced by Pope Francis in honor of the 150th Anniversary of the saint’s proclamation as Patron of the Universal Church. The series premiered on March 19, 2020. It airs every Friday at 12:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. & 8:00 p.m. through December, 2021. Guests include: Fr. Jack Lavelle, Fr. Mike Swierz, Dr. Tom Sauline and Bishop David Bonnar.

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: April 4: Fr. Jim Korda speaks with Sr. Ann McManamon, HM, from Dorothy Day House; April 11: Fr. Jack Lavelle on Life Issues (This is a new series that will air on the second Sunday of each month); April 18: Nikole Baringer on Catholic Charities; and, April 25: Fr. Scott Kopp on Vocations.

Martha Coulter, a member of St. Jude Church in Columbiana, will tell us about the Saints celebrated this month: April 4: St. Vincent Ferrer; April 11: St. Teresa de Jesus de los Andes; April 18: St. Anselm; and, April 25: St. Catherine of Siena.

The Interview Segment will include: April 4: Fr. Jim Korda speaks with Christa Blasko on Catholic Cemeteries, Part II; April 11: Fr. Jim Korda speaks with Christa Blasko on Catholic Cemeteries, Part III; April 18: Fr. Jim Korda speaks with Guy Vogrin on Retrouvaille; and, April 25: Fr. Jim Korda speaks with Matt Abramowski on the Villa.

This month’s Music Segment is from the CD “Triumph of the Cross: Music for Easter” by the choir from the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC.

Deacon Chad Johnson will give his reflections on the Sunday Scripture Readings: April 4: Easter Sunday, Resurrection of the Lord; April 11: Second Sunday of Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday; April 18: Third Sunday of Easter; and, April 25: Fourth Sunday of Easter.

3. 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.
4. For an ETC-Ecumenical Television Channel Schedule for spring 2021, 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.
5. Like us on Facebook 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. Catholic Charities Regional Agency Opens Voice of Hope Shelter

Catholic Charities Regional Agency opened the Voice of Hope Shelter in Youngstown in January of 2021. The shelter is for homeless women and children. Within three days of opening, the shelter was full and currently has a waiting list. Clients, when admitted, are then followed by a case manager to help with placement in permanent housing and with connection to other community resources. To make a donation to the shelter, call 330-744-3320.

(See flyer attached to this edition of the Communique)

The Voice of Hope Shelter is currently accepting the following donations:

- Towels and washcloths - new or gently used
- Dish rags and dishtowels- new or gently used
- Socks of all sizes- new
- Twin Comforters - new
- Pillows - new
- Scrubs - all sizes new or used
- Cleaning supplies
- Snacks and drinks
- Bibles and rosaries

2. First Step for Change 2021

First Step for Change 2021 will be held Mother’s Day through Father’s Day. We will provide the following information to parishes as a “FIRST STEP PACKET” for each participant:

- NEW “visual” for each family to take
- Improved collection method for First Step Coordinators
- “Support Life” decals for all participants

We are very excited about our rejuvenated campaign. More information will be mailed to parishes within the next few weeks. *See 2021 Bulletin Announcements and Flyer attached to this edition of the Communique.* For more information, contact Nikole at 330-744-8451, ext. 323 or email nbaringer@youngstowndiocese.org.

3. Volunteers Needed

Catholic Charities is excited to be able to welcome volunteers back after a long year with many safety procedures and protocols in place. We are looking for volunteers to assist with processing mail at the administrative offices. Contact Jennifer for more information 330-744-8451, ext. 316 or email jlucarelli@youngstowndiocese.org.

4. “Testify to the Light” ART and COLORING CONTEST

As part of its First Step to Service project, funded in part by a grant from Catholic Home Missions, Catholic Charities is sponsoring a “**Testify to the Light**” Art Contest. The contest is open to any school aged student who attends a Diocese of Youngstown parish or Catholic School. Artwork submission must be an original creation and the work of the contestant.

Contestants must fill out the entry form attached to this issue of the Communique or found on our website www.ccdoy.org to enter the contest.

Please see the sheets attached to this issue of *The Communique* for details. Winners of the art contest will have their submissions displayed in the waiting rooms of Catholic Charities service agencies throughout the Diocese of Youngstown. Contact Nikole Baringer with questions at 330-744-8451, ext. 323 or email nbaringer@youngstowndiocese.org.

DEADLINE FOR ALL SUBMISSIONS IS APRIL 30, 2021

5. Catholic Charities is here to help your parish “spring into service”

In Bishop Bonnar’s first pastoral letter, *Testify to the Light*, he designates SERVICE as a priority, and invites the Catholic faithful in the Diocese of Youngstown to partner with him in creating a Servant Church. To this end, Bishop Bonnar is asking every deanery to conduct a needs assessment process to identify ways in which parish communities and deaneries can reach out to those most in need of the love and compassion we can offer as followers of Christ.

Catholic Charities has developed a Deanery Needs Assessment Process that begins at the parish level and ends with the deanery’s selection of 3-5 priorities to carry forward for action. The Deanery Needs Assessment outline and step-by-step process is available as an addendum to *Testify to the Light* on the diocesan website (www.doy.org), and as a link on Catholic Charities’ website (www.ccdoy.org).

If you would like assistance from Catholic Charities in developing a local needs assessment process that is right for your parish, please contact Nikole Baringer, Catholic Charities’ Communications Coordinator in the Diocesan Department of Catholic Charities, at 330-744-8451 or nbaringer@youngstowndiocese.org.

6. Hispanic Ministry/Immigration Services Survey

Catholic Charities is surveying pastors, priests, and parish staff on their needs regarding Hispanic ministry and outreach to Hispanic and immigrant populations. If you would like to provide feedback and need the survey link emailed to you, please contact Rachel Hrbolich at Catholic Charities at rhrbolich@youngstowndiocese.org.

7. CRS Rice Bowl

Through CRS Rice Bowl, we journey with members of our human family around the world, and commit our Lenten prayers, fasting and almsgiving to deepening our faith and serving those in need. For information or resources, visit <https://www.csricebowl.org/>

8. Grants Available

CRS Rice Bowl grants are available for projects that help to alleviate poverty and hunger within the Diocese of Youngstown. Rice Bowl grant applications are attached to this issue of the Communique or by contacting Nikole Baringer at 330-744-8451, ext. 323 or nbaringer@youngstowndiocese.org.

Community grants area available and attached to this issue of the Communique. Community grants are available through the Office of Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Youngstown. Community grants are made possible by generous donations to our Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD). CCHD was established with two goals in mind: to raise money to support self-help projects that address the cause 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. The community grant application is attached to this issue of the Communique or by contacting Nikole Baringer at 330-744-8451, ext. 323 or nbaringer@youngstowndiocese.org.

CLERGY AND RELIGIOUS SERVICES

OFFICE OF VOCATIONS

1. Seminarian Posters and Prayer Cards

If you would like additional copies of the 2020-21 Seminarian Posters and Prayer Cards, please contact the vocations office: 330-744-8451 or by email at skopp@youngstowndiocese.org.

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.

3. Come and See Weekends

As alternate plans for Come and See Weekends, Fr. Kopp has been taking a couple of men at a time to visit the seminary for an overnight visit. Please contact the vocation office to schedule yours: 330-744-8451 or by email at skopp@youngstowndiocese.org.

4. Seminarian Visits to Your School or Parish

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.

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. 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.

6. Vocation Intercessions and Bulletin Blurbs for April

Attached to the Communiqué are vocation intercessions and bulletin blurbs for the month of April. 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.

7. Vocations Social Media

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

The Facebook page includes weekly video interviews with our current seminarians sharing about their lives and experiences.

OFFICE OF VOWED RELIGIOUS

1. Religious Retirement Fund

The Retirement Fund for Religious netted \$ 232,606.91. Thank you to all who generously supported the RFR despite the effects of the pandemic. Thank you to the pastors who graciously welcomed the religious presenters. Thank you to all of the religious who made the appeal in the name of the thousands of elderly religious in need of care during their twilight years. Now that all of the returns have been collected, a check has been sent to the National Retirement office.

2. Religious Jubilee Celebration

Please adjust your calendars. The Religious Jubilee celebration scheduled for April 18, 2021 has been cancelled due to the continued threat of COVID 19. We rescheduled the celebration for Saturday, October 23, 2021 at Holy Family Parish in Poland. The event will begin at 1:00 p.m. and conclude with Mass at 4:00 p.m.

Bishop David Bonnar will be the principle celebrant. SAVE the date. Official confirmation will take place at a later date after we receive a “Safe to gather” memo from the offices of the Governor and Bishop.

DEVELOPMENT/STEWARDSHIP

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP'S APPEAL

2021 Annual Bishop's Appeal

Please remember that Annual Bishop's Appeal materials are shared digitally *only* with the diocesan email addresses within the @youngstowndiocese.org domain. Each parish, pastor, administrator, parish leader, and bookkeeper has a diocesan email account assigned for their use, and it should be checked regularly for updates and pertinent information. For help with access to your diocesan email account or more information about the Annual Bishop's Appeal, contact Luke Politsky at lpolitsky@youngstowndiocese.org or 330-744-8451 x298.

OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT & STEWARDSHIP

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@youngstowndiocese.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@youngstowndiocese.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@youngstowndiocese.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@youngstowndiocese.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@youngstowndiocese.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. Homily Hints for April: Pro-Life and Pro-Family Ponderings

The Sunday Scripture Readings often present opportunities for the homilist to incorporate pro-life or pro-family insights into their overall message. The following “Homily Hints” are suggestions in doing so:

April 11 – Second Sunday of Easter/Sunday of Divine Mercy* -- Gospel: John 20:19-31 – After the resurrection, when Jesus appears to the disciples he conveys his peace and, through the power of the Holy Spirit, gives them the power to forgive sins.

Homily Hint: There is no sin greater than God’s power or willingness to forgive it; not even the grave sin of abortion. The Church has a ministry called *Project Rachel* specifically to bring hope and healing to those with an abortion in their past (<https://hopeafterabortion.com/>). No one who seeks healing and reconciliation is beyond God’s mercy.

(* The USCCB’s Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities provides additional resources for Divine Mercy Sunday at <https://www.usccb.org/resources/divine-mercy-action-guide.>)

April 18 – Third Sunday of Easter -- First Reading: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19 –Peter, in speaking to the people, identifies Jesus as the author of life whom they, out of ignorance, put to death.

Homily Hint: Do we, in our ignorance, act against the author of life, in thought or in deed, by tolerating contraception, abortion, racism, capital punishment, etc.? What sins against life do we need to repent from, and be converted, that our sins may be wiped away?

April 25 – Fourth Sunday of Easter -- Second Reading: I John 3:1-2 “*See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God.*”

Homily Hint: Just as God is a loving Father who bestows his love on us, his children, may our families be places where we bestow love upon one another, despite our imperfections and limitations. “Amid the hurt and scars that are part of every family, God’s fingerprints are imprinted on every family.” (Bishop Bonnar, *Testify to the Light*)

2. No Taxpayer Funding of Abortion Campaign

With the current presidential administration and congress Americans' tax dollars are in real danger of being used to pay for abortion. The Hyde Amendment, which has been credited with saving 2.5 million lives is now facing the most serious threat to its existence since being enacted forty-five years ago. For instance, the recently passed American Rescue Plan Act was passed without critical protections needed to ensure that billions of taxpayer dollars are used for life-affirming health care and not for abortion.

In response to this the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) is asking that this simple announcement to be published far and wide beginning the **weekend of April 11**—in parish bulletins, newsletters, radio spots, diocesan newspapers, pastors' columns, etc.:

Keep your tax dollars from going to abortion! www.notaxpayerabortion.com

The website listed is in the process of being created and will be built out and ready to help visitors take action at that time.

For more information contact 330-744-8451ext.272 or dschmidt@youngstowndioocese.org.

3. FOCCUS Training & Refreshers

Item #3 of the Marriage Preparation Policy of the Diocese of Youngstown calls for “a pre-marriage inventory tool” such as FOCCUS (which is the most widely used in our diocese). FOCCUS is offering facilitator training on their Catholic edition via Zoom on the following dates and times:

- April 8 from Noon to 4:00 pm;
- May 8 from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm
- June 10, from Noon to 4:00 pm.

The cost is \$115 per individual (& spouse attends free) and includes one FOCCUS Manual and one REFOCCUS Manual and shipping.

Similarly, FOCCUS is offering “refresher training” via Zoom for those already certified as facilitators, on the following dates and times:

- April 6 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm
- May 4 from 7:30 to 9:30 pm
- June 8 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm

The cost is \$39 per individual (& spouse attends free) but does not include manuals.

For more information or to register contact FOCCUS at foccus@foccusinc.com or 877-883-5422.

Note: Training is also available in Spanish.

4. Marriage Preparation Engaged Couple Retreat Day

The next diocesan-sponsored one-day marriage preparation retreat days for engaged couples will be held Saturdays, April 10 in the hall at the Basilica of St. John the Baptist, Canton and May 8 at St. Columba Cathedral Hall, Youngstown. Reservations are required. Social distancing protocols will be followed. Registration information may be found at 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 or 330-744-8451, ext.272.

5. Wedding Anniversary Celebrations

Couples observing their 25th, 40th, 50th and over wedding anniversaries will be honored at a wedding anniversary celebration at St. Columba Cathedral on Sunday, June 13, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. The celebration includes Mass with Bishop Bonnar, renewal of marriage vows, and a personalized certificate for each couple. A second anniversary celebration will take place at the Basilica of St. John the Baptist Church in Canton on Sunday, October 17, 2021; at 2:00 p.m. Registration information for the June celebration will be sent to parishes by the end of March.

As long as COVID-19 concerns persist, the celebration will be open only to the couples celebrating anniversaries, with no other family members or guests present. Also, there will be a limit on the number of couples that can be accommodated in with proper social-distancing. Furthermore, when registering for the Wedding Anniversary Celebration couples may opt not to attend the Mass in person (but participate remotely via live-streaming) and request that their certificate be mailed to them. For more information contact 330-744-8451 ext.272 or dschmidt@youngstowndiocese.org.

6. Intercessions for Life and Pro-Life Bulletin Briefs

Recommended intercessions and bulletin briefs for April 2021, 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.

7. Walking with Moms in Need

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. We are encouraged 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 or 330-744-8451 ext. 272, or visit www.walkingwithmoms.com.

8. Project Rachel Contact Information Being Updated

A new telephone number and website are being developed for Project Rachel of Northeast Ohio. Updated materials promoting Project Rachel will soon be mailed to all priests, deacons, parish leaders, parish ministers and parishes. Please dispose of any Project Rachel materials that have the “888” number or email from “zohosupport.”

Project Rachel, the Catholic Church's ministry to those who have been involved in abortion, is a diocesan-based network of specially trained priests, religious, counselors, and lay persons who provide a team response of care for those suffering in the aftermath of abortion. In addition to referring for Sacramental Reconciliation, the ministry provides an integrated network of services, including pastoral counseling, spiritual direction, support groups, retreats and referrals to licensed mental health professionals. Project Rachel of Northeast Ohio is the name under which Project Rachel functions in the Diocese of Youngstown.

For more information contact 330-744-8451 ext.272 or dschmidt@youngstowndiocese.org.

9. Mental Health First Aid Training

Mental Health First Aid teaches adults how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders. Utilizing a five-step action plan, participants learn to assess for risk of suicide or harm, listen nonjudgmentally, give reassurance and information, encourage appropriate professional help, and encourage self-help and other support strategies. Participants also receive detailed information regarding local providers, community services and national resources available for support and recovery.

The Office of Pro-Life, Marriage and Family Life hopes to arrange Mental Health First Aid Training for those who work with adults such as in Project Rachel, bereavement ministry, homebound ministry, etc. For more information contact Dave Schmidt at 330-744-8451 ext.272 or dschmidt@youngstowndiocese.org

10. Faith & Family Festival Delayed Until September of 2022

Due to COVID-19 concerns, the Eleventh Annual Faith & Family Festival of the Diocese of Youngstown will not be taking place in September of 2021 but on September 25, of 2022 at Walsh University. The featured presenter will be Fr. Leo Patalinghug, the "cooking priest" from Plating Grace. For more information contact Dave Schmidt at 330-744-8451 ext.272 or dschmidt@youngstowndiocese.org.

OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

1. Resources to Implement Bishop Bonnar's First Pastoral Letter

With Bishop Bonnar's letter, "Testify to the Light" many parishes may embark on new or enhanced efforts in the five areas he has prioritized.

The Office of Religious Education/Evangelization has curated a list of resources which may be reviewed on the home page of www.catechechistcafe.weebly.com. Please feel free to contact the staff of the Office of Religious Education/Evangelization to borrow these and other resources to develop Faith Formation, Evangelization, Pastoral and Catechetical processes.

2. Pastors Seeking New Personnel

Pastors hoping to hire new or additional Parish Ministers to serve Pastoral Ministry, Religious Education, Youth Ministry and Young Adult Ministry are invited to contact Barbara Walko for assistance. The Office will prepare the posting for advertising, assist with screening applicants, recommend position descriptions and compensation. The Office supports academically prepared, personally suitable candidates for consideration.

3. Persons Seeking Positions in Lay Ecclesial Ministry

Persons wondering about serving in a parish as a Pastoral Minister, Director or Coordinator of Religious Education, Evangelization, Youth Ministry or Young Adult Ministry are asked to contact Barbara Walko for assistance. Academic, Administrative, and Personal qualifications will be explored with options to consider for further preparation. The call to serve the Church as a Lay Ecclesial Minister may be discerned, and mentoring is available.

4. Featured Resources in the Diocesan Library

Easter, Season of Life and Fire. Barry Hudock. Little Rock Scripture Study, Liturgical Press, 2017. This 3 session bible study for adults includes questions for group discussion. In the ancient church, the season of Easter was known as the laetissimum spatium—"the most joyful space" in the church's calendar. In Easter, Season of Life and Fire, Barry Hudock looks at the resurrection of Jesus and the wonderful season that celebrates it through the lens of three key Scripture passages. Each one sheds new light on both who Jesus is and what it means to be a Christian today.

On Easter Day in the Morning. Vicki Howie and Honor Ayres. Liguori Publications, 2011. An illustrated adaptation of the biblical story of the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ for children K-3.

Angels in the Bible. Little Rock Scripture Study. Liturgical Press, 2021. "In Angels in the Bible, George Smiga examines some of the Bible's passages about angels, exploring their ministry on God's behalf and drawing insights for our own spiritual lives. Because angels are mediators of God's presence and action, studying angels is studying God."

Apostle of the Exiled: St. Damien of Molokai. Margaret Bunson and Matthew Bunson. Our Sunday Visitor, 2009. The story of St. Damien, who served the outcast colony of lepers on the island of Molokai, Hawaii. A riveting account of how a humble Congregation of the Sacred Hearts priest found his vocation in caring for these outcasts. The poorly educated son of a hardworking, religious Belgian farm family, Damien was thought to be ill suited for the priesthood. However, the desire to serve God burned so fiercely in him that he took his vows at the age of twenty.

Seeing Jesus: Social Justice Activities for Today Based on Matthew 25. Phyllis Vos Wezeman. The Pastoral Center, 2020. Using the parable of the last judgment (Matthew 25:35-45), Phyllis Vos Wezeman helps us recognize that people in need are not always remote from us. This resource offers sixty learning activities to help participants see Jesus by meeting the needs of those around them—the hungry, the thirsty, the estranged, the poor, the sick, and the imprisoned. The six chapters of *Seeing Jesus* each contain ten learning activities which explore one aspect of the chapter's theme. Each lesson plan is organized into three parts: Learn, Locate, and Lead. Learn presents a short description of the theme of the activity and describes what the students will do. Locate provides a list of supplies and preparations needed in order to present the learning experience. Lead details the directions for successfully guiding a group through the design. Although each lesson is related to the passage, Matthew 25:31-46, it is also organized around another story or verse from the Bible which further illustrates the specific topic. Sharing God's love was a task not only given to the disciples thousands of years ago, it is the responsibility of every Christian in any age. *Seeing Jesus* provides creative, concrete methods for responding to Jesus' commission. It once again challenges each and every learner with the question, "What will you do?"

5. Online Learning or Local Learning Group for Ministry and Theology Certificates and Degrees from Loyola University New Orleans

You can earn a Bachelor's Degree in Ministry and Theology from Loyola University New Orleans entirely **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 Joan Lawson, LIMEX liaison, at jlawson@youngstowndioocese.org.

A local learning group is currently forming to begin later this year for Master's Degree or Certificate in Ministry and Theology from Loyola New Orleans. 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 approximately 3 hours. The discussion-centered learning includes extensive reading assignments each week.

To learn more, visit <http://cnh.loyno.edu/lim/study-options> or email Joan Lawson, LIMEX liaison, at jlawson@youngstowndioocese.org.

6. Religious Education Certification for Catechists and Teachers

A listing of the Religious Education Certification ONLINE Opportunities for Catechists and Teachers is available on 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/>, hover on "For Catechists" for "Catechist Courses."

Registration is available at *Catechist Café* for these diocesan **online** courses for the Easter season:

Toward the Sunrise, GENERAL COURSE, 16 hours

April 5 – May 24, 2021

Online facilitator: Sister Therese Ann Rich, OSU

\$20 fee

Practicing & Teaching the Beatitudes, GENERAL COURSE, 10 hours

April 12 – May 17, 2021

Online facilitator: Joan Lawson

\$23 fee includes book

The Heart of Welcome, GENERAL COURSE, 6 hours

April 19 – May 10, 2021

Online facilitator: Carla Hlavac

\$20 fee includes book

7. Online Learning Centers

These online learning centers have Spring 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 <https://catechistcafe.weebly.com/catechist-courses.html> for connections to these learning centers:

The Boston College Crossroads online program is offering these courses that begin April 14:

- Call to Conscience
- Eucharist: The Heart of Catholic Life

The University of Notre Dame Satellite Theological Program has 14 courses beginning on April 12, including these:

- Can We Write a History of Jesus?
- Catholic Prayer: The Lord's Prayer, the Hail Mary, the Doxology
- Mary as Mother: A Symbol of Life and Hope for Christians
- Cartas de San Pablo
- Mariología: María en la Fe Católica

The Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation from the University of Dayton has registration open now for 25 courses that begin on April 11, including these:

- Echoes of Racism: Whispers of Healing
- Images of Jesus
- Mercy
- Ministering in Times of Scandals and Divisions
- Spirituality of the Missionary Disciples

Check *CatechistCafé/For Catechists/Catechist Courses* for FREE online learning opportunities from the National Catholic Partnership on Disability, McGrath Institute for Church Life, Jewish-Christian Dialogue, Catholic publishers, and others.

OFFICE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

1. Survey for parishes, Catholic schools, agencies and offices

Catholic institutions in the Diocese of Youngstown are asked to complete a brief Social Media Profile so that we know what is being currently used around the diocese, and to help network those seeking support in various areas. Please click on the link to complete:

<https://forms.gle/6vCdiSDCXy9Ds4ta7>

2. Please like/follow/connect with our diocesan social media:

The Facebook and Twitter accounts have been active for years, but other addresses are new. Please connect your parish/school/institutional social media with ours and feel free to share with others:

Facebook: "Catholic Diocese of Youngstown"
<https://www.facebook.com/DOYoungstown>

Twitter: @DOYoungstown
<https://twitter.com/DOYoungstown>

Instagram: "Diocese of Youngstown"
<https://www.instagram.com/diocesefyoungstown/>

Pinterest:
<https://www.pinterest.com/socialmediaminister>

YouTube: "Catholic Diocese of Youngstown" channel
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCKwcSOhoUOePs1qJjTGlGxA>

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 June 2020 have been updated to reflect improving circumstances of the pandemic. Further updates and revisions to the guidelines/directives will be issued as needed. Parishes are still to follow the directives and mandates issued by the Governor of Ohio or local officials within your jurisdiction.

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. However as more and more social aspects of life approach normalcy along with an increase in people being vaccinated, those who are able should consider returning to worship.

3. Easter Vigil – April 3, 2021 – Universal Diocesan Starting Time

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.** Three years ago a universal diocesan starting time for the Easter Vigil of 8:00 p.m. or later was instituted. 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.*

4. 44th National Association of Pastoral Musicians (NPM) Convention

The 44th National Association of Pastoral Musicians (NPM) Convention will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana July 27-30, 2021. This year’s theme is “*Christ: Broken - Shared, - Sent.*” The event will be a “hybrid event,” offering both an in-person and virtual experience for an attendee to register. For more information: www.npm.org.

5. A Year of Saint Joseph

On the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, Pope Francis released an Apostolic Letter about Saint Joseph and has declared a “Year of Saint Joseph” to be observed from December 8, 2020 to December 8, 2021. The letter, *Patris corde* (“a Father’s heart”) was released on the 150th anniversary of the proclamation of Saint Joseph as patron of the Universal Church. A full text of Pop Francis’ letter can be found at:

http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_letters/documents/papa-francesco-lettera-ap_20201208_patris-corde.html.

6. 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. Mental Health First Aid (Youth) One-Day Training

Youth Mental Health First Aid teaches you how to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders. This 6 ½ hour training gives adults the skills they need to reach out and provide initial support to adolescents and transition aged youth (ages 12 -21) who may be developing a mental health or substance use problem and help connect them to the appropriate care. (Also applicable for serving adults, but will have some time focused on young people.)

Space is limited, pre-registration is required by March 28 for this FREE (\$170 value) training. Must live in or work in Ohio. Participants must have both audio and video technology.

More information can be found at: <https://forms.gle/doHhEJnnc4PfyNqm8>

2. National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) 2021

The NFCYM has decided to move forward with plans for the November 18 – 20, 2021 NCYC in Indianapolis. Theme: Ablaze.

There will be VIRTUAL options available. The in-person event will have limited capacity. Many logistics still to factor in prior to creating a diocesan package. Registration is now set to open in May. Look for information by the end of April.

3. Eagle of the Cross Awards BY INVITATION ONLY

Recipients and select guests have been invited to Evening Prayer and Awards Presentation on April 14th at the Cathedral. Live-streaming should allow for others to watch at:

<https://doy.org/media/etclive-2/>

2021 Recipients:

Columbiana County Parishes:

Victoria Flores, Holy Trinity
Manny Heestand, St. Jude
Grace Witmer, St. Jude

Mahoning County Parishes:

Aaron Ferguson, St. Michael
Alannah Hetzal, Christ Our Savior
Justin McLemore, St. Paul the Apostle

Portage County Parishes:

Brooklyn Duguay, Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Stark County Parishes:

Anthony Jones, Massillon St. Joseph
Reagan Phillips, Little Flower
Aja Shriver, Regina Coeli

Trumbull County Parishes:

Lena Dunkerley, St. Patrick
Giocanni Mileto, St. Patrick
Patrick Wilson, St. Stephen

2021 Recipients (continued):

Canton Central Catholic High School
 Blake Abbott, St. Mary
 Barrett Scheatzle, St. Michael

Cardinal Mooney High School:
 Steven Hiner, Holy Family
 Anna Hughes, Holy Family

St. John School:
 Morgan Anderson, Our Lady of Peace
 David DiSalvatore, Our Lady of Peace

Ursuline High School:
 Megan Brockway, Holy Family
 Nikolas Hackett, St. Rose

4. Youth Ministers Spring Virtual Gathering

Adults serving in youth ministries are invited to an online Youth Ministers Spring Virtual Gathering on TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Look for the meeting link in a YM Update email, or contact Cindee at ccase@youngstowndiocese.org for further information.

MISCELLANEOUS

CATHOLIC MEN'S FELLOWSHIP***Virtual Catholic Man Night***

Is it our responsibility to protect the vulnerable of society? Join the Catholic Men's Fellowship for the sixth "*virtual*" **Catholic Man Night**. The next "Man Night" is on **WEDNESDAY, April 7, 2021 @ 7:00 pm**. We will be presenting the fourth session in the Knights of Columbus "Into the Breach" series. These professionally produced videos focus on various aspects of authentic Catholic manhood. This next video is titled "***Life***". Come enjoy the discussion of this very contemporary issue.

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. See you on Wednesday, April 7th.

MISCELLANEOUS (continued)

CATHOLIC EXPONENT

Publication dates and special sections for the Exponent are as follows: March 19 – Health Care; April 2 – Death & Grieving/Easter; and April 16 – Volunteerism/Greening Our World.

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, Monday or even Tuesday rather than 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 informative, reliable, and doctrinally sound news stories, features, and commentary – keeping you up to date on local events such as the vandalism at the Basilica of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, as well as Holy Week and Easter services.

To subscribe, call 330-744-5251 or email exposubscriptions@youngstowndiocese.org to request subscription information.

Thank you for supporting your diocesan newspaper.

IN MEMORIAM

	<u>April</u>
<i>Rev. John B. Holcomb</i>	1/66
<i>Rev. Edward A. Stanton</i>	1/84
<i>Rt. Rev. Msgr. Francis Lavery</i>	2/55
<i>Rev. Francis J. Haidet</i>	4/85
<i>Rev. Msgr. Robert Fannon</i>	5/00
<i>Rev. Clement H. Crock</i>	6/58
<i>Deacon Joseph Nohra</i>	6/15
<i>Rev. Jeffrey Stealey</i>	6/17
<i>Rt. Rev. Msgr. Ferdinand A. Hartmann</i>	7/67
<i>Rev. Joseph J. Krisko</i>	7/67
<i>Rt. Rev. Msgr. John Cunningham</i>	7/76
<i>Rt. Rev. Msgr. James P. McLaughlin</i>	7/79
<i>Rev. Paul McNally</i>	9/73
<i>+MOST REV. JAMES W. MALONE</i>	9/00
<i>Rev. John B. Fitzgerald, OP</i>	10/81
<i>Rev. William J. Olson, OP</i>	13/56
<i>Rev. Herman A. Klocker</i>	13/91
<i>Rev. Theodosius Brachman, CPPS</i>	15/64
<i>Rev. Francis X. Borrano, SSP</i>	16/93
<i>Rev. Alfred Meyer, CPPS</i>	17/61
<i>Rev. Alexander M. Blasco</i>	17/80
<i>Rev. Robert Hill</i>	17/08
<i>Rt. Rev. Msgr. George Habig</i>	18/61
<i>Rev. Msgr. Francis J. Hughes</i>	18/99
<i>Rev. Michael Chonko</i>	18/09
<i>Rev. Ralph Friedrich</i>	18/11
<i>Rev. Frank Lehnerd</i>	18/20
<i>Rev. Leo C. Gainor, OP</i>	19/67
<i>Rev. John Vasco</i>	20/68
<i>Rt. Rev. Msgr. Owen Gallagher</i>	20/88
<i>Rev. Adrian McShane, MSC</i>	20/90
<i>Rev. Msgr. George Winca</i>	20/01
<i>Rev. Nicholas Shori</i>	20/16
<i>Rev. Gerald Hellem</i>	22/91
<i>Rev. John I. Higgins</i>	24/83
<i>Deacon Joseph Fries</i>	24/14
<i>Rev. John Gubser</i>	26/05
<i>Rev. Theodore O. Martin</i>	27/67
<i>Rev. Stanley Cmich, CPPS</i>	27/85
<i>Rev. William Loveless</i>	28/20
<i>Rev. Nathan Willis</i>	29/08
<i>Rev. Francis Stulc</i>	30/77