

November
MONTHLY DIOCESAN NEWSLETTER



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CALENDAR

November 1 ♦ All Saints Day – The Solemnity of All Saints is a Holy Day of Obligation.. The Chancery and all Curial Offices will be closed. The offices will reopen on Friday, Nov. 2.

November 10-11 ♦ Mass for Honoring Veterans – Please remember our veterans, those currently serving in the military and their families on this weekend. For the blessing during the concluding rite, visit <http://omf.stcdio.org/from-the-director/clergy-resources/recognition-veterans-mass/>.

November 25 ♦ Christ the King materials – The USCCB has prepared materials to help educate the faithful about the Solemnity of Christ the King, which the Church celebrates on November 25, 2018, and its connection to religious liberty. For resources, go to

<http://omf.stcdio.org/from-the-director/clergy-resources/christ-the-king-materials/>.

November 30 ♦ Study Day – A study day is scheduled at Christ our Light Parish in Princeton. The topic is “Mary of Nazareth”. For more details:

http://cem.stcdio.org/th_event/study-group-cultures-of-formation-mary-of-nazareth/.

NOTES FROM THE CHANCERY



The Chancery

Office of the Vicar General ♦ Fr. Robert Rolfes

Letter of Suitability requests – Please email requests for Letters of Suitability to Kari Pfannenstein, the Chancery receptionist, at kpfannenstein@gw.stcdio.org. Make certain to include information about the event or ministry; date, location (parish and diocese) and purpose. Please submit your request in a timely manner, with funerals being an exception.



Regional Ministry Gatherings

Thank you to everybody who attended the first Regional Ministry Gathering in Fergus Falls on October 25. We were pleased to be joined by about 75 participants from 25+ parishes around the diocese. We had a great inaugural event full of prayer and meaningful conversations and connections.

This was the first of 12 events between now and next September, leading up to Diocesan Ministry Day. These events are planned to gather parish leaders and diocesan leaders in particular regions across the diocese to discuss important topics to parish leaders and to continue to foster relationship between parishes and between the diocese and parish leaders. The diocese has taken information gathered from the survey and is currently crafting a schedule to get all of our diocesan offices out to talk about topics parish leaders identified as important. To learn more about these events, please see this article in the *The Visitor*

(<http://stcloudvisitor.org/regional-ministry-pilot-program-set-to-launch-in-october-in-fergus-falls/>)

Please keep your eye out for the upcoming schedule for future ministry gatherings.

Attached is the prayer card from the event to be printed and distributed in the parishes.

NOTES FROM THE DIOCESAN OFFICES



Catholic Education Ministries



Linda Kaiser ♦ (320) 251-0111

November is the month of giving thanks. We are especially grateful for all who serve in various ministry roles in the parishes and Catholic Schools.

CEM Scholarship – Catholic Education Ministries has a scholarship grant for those in parishes who want to continue their theological and ministerial formation. The new diocesan pastoral plan will be looking for well-prepared lay leaders to assist in many parishes. Contact Linda Kaiser at CEM if you need more information: lkaiser@gw.stcdio.org.

Safe Environment – The Diocese is asking all parishes and Catholic Schools to have their safe environment training completed by **December 1**. Everyone does the training this year. After this year, training will take place at the time one renews his/her background check. Thanks to everyone for their patience in setting up accounts. We encourage you to look at your profile to make sure it is accurate.

Diocesan Education Council meets on **November 29** to continue discussion on lay leadership and how we prepare lay leaders. The Council is reading a book entitled "Everyone Leads" by Chris Lowney. The goal for the council this year is to develop some guidelines/requirements for lay leaders for ongoing formation.

Watch this link if you are interested in this topic:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qivtJ80SaRg>.

Castaway – Parish enrollment forms are due by **November 30**. Here is the link:

<http://cem.stcdio.org/youthministry/retreats-conferences/>.



Office of Communications

Joe Towalski ♦ (320) 258-7624



The Visitor announced in its Oct. 19 edition the beginning of the process to transition to a magazine format, starting in January 2019. If you haven't seen the story, you can read it here: <http://stcloudvisitor.org/newspaper-to-adopt-magazine-format-starting-in-january>. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Election Day, Nov. 6, is drawing closer. The Minnesota Catholic Conference has an "Elections Resource Page" (www.MNCatholic.org/Election) with prayers and other resources, including a video featuring Bishop Kettler and Minnesota's other bishops.

The diocesan website also features Election 2018 resources, including bulletin inserts from the USCCB: <http://stcdio.org/faithful-citizenship-2018>.



Safe environment-related stories – The Visitor has published several local articles in recent months related to safe environment and abuse issues. You can find all of them in a special section on The Visitor's website at: stcloudvisitor.org/safe-environment-articles.

So far, these articles include:

- "Victim assistance coordinator talks about her role in supporting and advocating for survivors of abuse" (Oct. 5)
- "Seminar safety, formation top priorities for diocese" (Sept. 21)
- "Local priests respond to clergy abuse scandals" (Sept. 7)
- "Pain, sorrow of abuse revelations must be followed by action" – Bishop Kettler column (Aug. 24)
- "Diocese launches streamlined safe environment platform" (Aug. 10)

The Visitor also is currently planning a story about how the Diocesan Review Board works.



Office of Stewardship & Development

Bishop's Annual Appeal Update – As of October 16, the Bishop's Annual Appeal has raised cash and pledges totaling \$1,054,022 toward this year's goal of \$1,300,000 (82%). The total compares to \$1,021,542 (79%) in cash and pledges at this time in 2017. Efforts continue to further promote the appeal and reassure donors that all funds donated will only be used to support diocesan ministries.

The year-end solicitation is scheduled to mail in mid-November. There will also be an envelope insert in the November 30 edition of the Visitor.

If you have questions, or to learn more about how your parish is progressing on toward its goal, you can contact Anna Kampa, Office of Stewardship and Development, 320-258-7654 or akampa@gw.stcdio.org.



Marriage & Family Office



Chris Codden ♦ (320) 252-4721

40 Days For Life Campaign, September 26 to November 4, 2018

View the St. Cloud 40 Days for Life website for details -

<https://40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/st-cloud/>.

Hispanic Marriage Course, Saturday, November 10 – Held in St. Cloud at the Pastoral Center from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Couples should register at least *two weeks* before the course (November 2) and include the \$110 registration fee per couple. For more information, contact the Office of Marriage & Family at 320-252-4721.

Retrouvaille – February 16, 2019 – As a peer ministry of couples helping other couples who are living in hurting marriages, the Retrouvaille program focuses on teaching couples communications skills that can help them work on their differences.

Catholic Men's Conference, Saturday, February 23, 2019 – New location: Sacred Heart Church in Sauk Rapids. This year's theme is Men of Integrity, Mentoring Disciples, with an emphasis on evangelizing youth and young adults. Our Keynote speaker will be Deacon Ralph Poyo.

Safe Haven Sunday, March 2/3, 2019 – Safe Haven Sunday: Thank you for picking up your Safe Haven Sunday Implementation packets at the Clergy Conference at Arrowwood. The bishops of Minnesota decided to have Safe Haven

Sunday on the weekend of March 2/3 to bring awareness throughout dioceses and parishes in the United States regarding the negative impacts of pornography on individuals, marriages, families and society. Safe Haven Sunday weekend is set aside by dioceses and parishes to directly address the harms of pornography in an appropriate way. Within the context of the Mass, dioceses and parishes are able to provide teaching and resources that will support and protect individuals, marriages and families in making all homes a safe haven. It is inspired by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' formal statement "Create in Me a Clean Heart: A Pastoral Response to Pornography," where they explain, "The use of pornography by anyone in the home deprives the home of its role as a safe haven and has negative effects throughout a family's life and across generations."

The packet is provided for each parish, which includes general Intercessions, homily notes, bulletin blurbs and inserts, and resources parishes can purchase to give to their parishioners. Resources will be ordered in bulk through the Office of Marriage & Family to save postage and handling. It is encouraged that these resources are available for this campaign. An order form is in your packet and **due by December 1**.

Please share this information with your staff and decide what materials you want to distribute and how you want to promote the initiative. All the information in the packet can be found at: <http://omf.stcdio.org/from-the-director/clergy-resources/safe-haven-sunday-march-2-3-2019-resources/> If you need assistance, please contact me at ccodden@gw.stcdio.org.



Mission Office



Elizabeth Neville ♦ (320) 251-1100

Please remember the Mission Office on 'Give to the Max', **Thursday, November 15**. As a separate entity and 501c3, we receive no funding from the diocese to assist in our ministry, partnerships, missionaries, mission education,... Please look for us as the Society for the Propagation of the Faith - St. Cloud and consider a charitable contribution of support. Thank you in advance!

Our office operates on a calendar year and therefore we process all year end contributions, donations and designations before 2018 comes to a close. Please remember to send in any collections, appeals, Masses **before December 17**. Thank you!

We still have a few openings on the calendar for our office to come to your parish(es), school, staff meetings, faith formation programs to help with your mission education programming (Catholic social teachings, solidarity, fair trade; global church.) Please let us know if we can come spend some time with you!

Our annual Advent and Christmas Open House is set for Thursday, December 6 from 8 a.m.-3 p.m.. Come and check out the new fair trade foods, crafts, artifacts as well

as sample some tasty fair trade treats! Everything 10% off!



Planning Office



Brenda Kresky ♦ (320) 529-4611

The planning office shared a draft of the vision and map of Area Catholic Communities at the clergy conference. There was an invitation to share this with staff, pastoral councils and the entire parish in the form of an open town hall meeting. If there are any significant changes or adjustments that need to be made please to send them to the planning office by Thanksgiving.



Social Concerns Office



Kateri Mancini ♦ (320) 229-6020

Special thanks to Fr. Glenn Krystosek and his parish, along with Bishop Kettler, for their hosting and presence at the annual Parish Social Ministry Gathering last month! Thank you also to those of you who attended or encouraged parishioners to attend. The feedback from the day has been very positive, and myself and my social concerns team are so appreciative of the hospitality we received and all that everyone put into making it such a powerful day!

Social Concerns Team Available – Just a reminder that I will be on leave for much of November and December. However, the rest of our Social Concerns team will continue to be available and doing great work around the diocese during that time! Please do not hesitate to reach out to them with questions or if you are seeking speakers, resources or support for yourself and your community.

JoAnn Braegelman,
Rural Life Coordinator (Western Region)
320-250-5070
Joann.Braegelman@ccstcloud.org

Barb Ryan,
Rural Life Coordinator (Eastern Region)
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Barb.Ryan@ccstcloud.org

Karen Hernandez,
Immigrant Outreach Coordinator/Community Organizer
320-229-6022
Karen.Hernandez@ccstcloud.org

MiLee Peavey, CCHD/social concerns intern

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Sudi Hussein,

Refugee Outreach Coordinator/Community Organizer

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Sudi.Hussein@ccstcloud.org

Rural Life Initiative Cohort starting *THIS MONTH* – Bishop Kettler has expressed his desire that every parish have a social concerns team; if you do not yet have one, or you would like to strengthen your existing team, we can help! We still have room for more people interested in making a difference and empowering others to be a part of the Rural Life Initiative training series. This series of formation sessions focuses on community-building and parish/committee support in light of the Catholic social teaching, as well as the chance to join in prayer, meal and fellowship with participants from other parishes. It is available **free** of charge, and participants also have the option to receive Certification in Parish Social Ministry by Bishop Kettler following the sessions. The first session will be on **Tuesday, November 27** at St. Ann's Parish in Wadena; subsequent sessions will be set that night and will take place in the northern region of the diocese. Any pastors, parish staff or parishioners interested in learning more, or aware of someone with a heart for service and social ministry who would be a great fit, should contact social concerns staff to share names of potential cohort members as soon as possible. Thank you for your help in developing the diocese's 5th cohort of Parish Social Ministry Leaders, and helping reach Bishop Kettler's goal!



Tribunal Office



Fr. Virgil Helmin ♦ (320) 251-6557

All divorced persons who want to now marry in the Catholic Church need an annulment. There are three different annulment processes to determine the validity/invalidity of marriage.

1. **Lack of Canonical Form** – this annulment process is used when a baptized Catholic marries without a dispensation from form in a setting other than a priest and two witnesses.
2. **Previous Bond** – this annulment procedure is used when a person enters a marriage with another who has been previously, presumably validly married and is not divorced.
3. **Formal Process** – this annulment procedure is used when a Catholic is married in a Catholic ceremony or a Protestant is married in a ceremony that is accepted by the state. [With the timely cooperation of the petitioner, this process is normally complete within twelve months.] **DO NOT SET A WEDDING DATE UNTIL THE ANNULMENT PROCESS IS COMPLETE.** It can take up to 9 months to be completed.

Information concerning annulments and printing of these forms are available on the diocesan website: The forms necessary to apply for an annulment are on this

website. <http://tribunal.stcdio.org/>. Please print your forms from the above website.

If you are uncertain about which annulment process should be petitioned for, you can call our office @ (320) 251-6557 from 8:30-12:00 and 1:00-4:30, Monday through Friday.

As of July 1, 2016, the Tribunal of the Diocese of St. Cloud no longer charges a set fee for annulments. If anyone wishes to make a donation to help defray the cost(s) of the work of the Tribunal, it would be greatly appreciated. Please make checks payable to: Tribunal of the Diocese of St. Cloud or you may go to: www.stcdio.org/pay to make an online donation, under "Tribunal – Annulments". Thank you for your kind donation.



Vocation Office



Fr. Scott Pogatchnik ♦ (320) 251-5001

National Vocation Awareness Week – November 4 – 10. Please consider doing one of the following:

- Saying the vocation prayer at the conclusion of the petitions.
- Preaching on vocations.
- Offering your vocation story. People love to hear them!

Thanksgiving Mass for Vocations – A Vocation Mass will be held at the Cathedral of St. Mary, in the lower crypt, on November 8 at 7 p.m. Everyone welcome!

Seminary Visits – Visit Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary, in Winona on November 10 – 12. Visit St. John Vianney Seminary, St. Paul on November 15 – 17. If you have young men interested in visiting a seminary, please contact Fr. Doug Liebsch at dougliebsch@gmail.com. Thank you.



Worship Office



Aaron Carpenter ♦ (320) 255-9068

One with the Body of Christ in Prayer – As we look forward to the coming Advent Season and look to prepare our communities for a strong future within the Diocese of Saint Cloud, we want to be able to hold each of our parish communities in prayer. One way we will be doing this is in the Universal Prayers during Mass.

We are asking each parish community to submit three to five intercessions, which will be shared with all of the parishes and prayed during weekend Masses. We will

begin using the intercessions with the First Sunday of Advent. Please submit your parish's intercessions to aaron.carpenter@gw.stcdio.org by **November 10, 2018**.

Presiders, Lectors and Musicians for TV Mass – If you would like to preside, lector or provide music for the TV Mass recordings, please follow this [link](#) and sign up online. We have just 38 of the 78 needed ministers. If you have any questions, please contact the Office of Worship.

Misal Romano – A reminder to those who celebrate Mass in Spanish that the new *Misal Romano* is to be used beginning with the First Sunday of Advent 2018.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception – This celebration (December 8) falls on a Saturday. It remains a holy day of obligation due to the fact that it is the patronal feast day of the United States. Mass would need to be celebrated outside of the regularly scheduled weekend liturgies for the 2nd Sunday of Advent.

Confirmation for Baptized Catholics – Bishop Kettler will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation for adults (18+) at the Vigil of Pentecost on Saturday, June 8 at 5:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Mary. This is for Catholic candidates who are seeking to complete their Christian initiation. Each parish that is preparing adult candidates for this sacrament is strongly encouraged to send its candidates, along with their sponsors and families, to the cathedral for this Diocesan Confirmation Liturgy. More details will be available in the coming months.



Catholic Foundation



David Eickhoff ♦ (320) 258-7657

Charitable Giving and the 2017 Tax Reform Act – The 2017 Tax Reform Act eliminated personal exemptions for individual taxpayers and most deductions in exchange for nearly doubling the standard deduction. The 2018 standard deduction is \$12,000 for individuals and \$24,000 for married couples. Taxpayers who are 65 or older have an extra \$1300 of standard deduction. Charitable contributions (such as contributions to parishes) are still deductible, but most, middle-income taxpayers will be better off using the standard deduction. For more information visit <https://www.catholicfoundation.info/2017-tax-reform-act>.

View the [2017-18 Catholic Foundation Annual Report](#) (PDF).



Health Care Ministry

Annette Jesh ♦ (320) 249-0280



Our Faith Community Nurse Partnership started with Bishop Jerome Hanus, Fr. Marvin Enneking, and Sister Michaela Byron of the Diocese of Saint Cloud and the St. Cloud Hospital 24 years ago and includes the 16-county Diocese of Saint Cloud and the CentraCare System of seven hospitals, Health Ministries of Central MN, Central MN Faith

Community Nurse Ministry, area churches of all denominations, and service agencies. This partnership assists faith communities in establishing and maintaining faith community nurse ministries and supporting all health ministries that promote spiritual, emotional and physical wellness for members of faith communities.

- **Second Class** for RN's to be trained as Faith Community Nurses is being held in early November. Next classes will be in 2019. Before our CentraCare Foundation grant to train Educators to teach this in St. Cloud we had trained 4 new FCNs per year. With the class in St. Cloud we have tripled that and have a waiting list.
- **FCN Online Directory.** 42 of 82 Churches of all denominations in the diocese have signed up for our new online Faith Community/Parish Nurse Directory. Your church phone number or the FCNs email will be the contact point. The FCNs/PNs will take calls and evaluate what church and community services they can provide and connect people to. One provider of Hospice and Palliative Care services will make referrals. This is new for them, to refer to a faith community/parish nurse.

**For those churches without a FCN/PN we continue to encourage them to ask the client if they have a faith community they belong to and then call the church for any outreach or inhouse services they offer.*

- [Join the FCN Online Directory](#)
- [Find an FCN By City](#)
- [Find an FCN By Denomination](#)

Happy Birthday to our Retired Priests

Reverend Arthur Vogel will celebrate his 95th birthday on November 7.
Country Manor
520 1st Street NE, #2131
Sartell, MN 56377
Telephone (320) 255-9179



