

December
MONTHLY DIOCESAN NEWSLETTER



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CALENDAR

December 6 ♦ Mission Office Annual Advent Open House – This annual event will be on Thursday, December 6 from 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Please come and join us for some tasty treats and 10% off everything in the store!

December 8 ♦ Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

December 12 ♦ **Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe** – patroness of the Americas, unborn children, and the New Evangelization.

December 24, 25 & 26 ♦ **Merry Christmas**

December 31 & January 1 ♦ **Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God** – January 1 is the Feast of the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God.

NOTES FROM THE CHANCERY



The Chancery

Office of the Vicar General ♦ Fr. Robert Rolfes

The Chancery and curial offices will be closed December 24, 25 and 26 and will be open again December 27 and 28, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

The Chancery and curial offices will be closed December 31 and January 1 and will reopen January 2, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

NOTES FROM THE DIOCESAN OFFICES



Catholic Education Ministries



Linda Kaiser ♦ (320) 251-0111

2019 Middle School Youth Rally has moved from Saint John's University to Cathedral High School. The rally takes place on Sunday, January 27 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The theme, "Dream Small" will be presented by Luke Spehar, a local musician and speaker. More information about the event can be found [here](#).

2019 Catholic School Week will kick off on Sunday, January 27 and continue through February 2. This is a great time for our parish communities to focus on the values instilled and the Church and community contributions that come from Catholic education. Resources for CSW are available [here](#).

2019 Castaway Planning – Parishes that intend to participate in Castaway should have already submitted their forms. The first planning session will be on Monday, Jan. 7, 9:00 a.m. at St. Benedict's in Avon. It is essential that each parish sends a delegate to the planning meetings, as this is where information is collected and handed out. Castaway is a unique retreat for our youth, where the retreat is run exclusively by the parish leaders in the diocese. The second planning meeting is on Monday, March 4 at 9:00 a.m. at Holy Spirit in St. Cloud with leader training on Sunday, March 24 from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. at Holy Family School in Sauk Centre. More information and registration materials can be found [here](#).



Office of Communications



Joe Towalski ♦ (320) 258-7624

Magazine transition — We continue our transition to a magazine format starting in January; the new monthly publication will be named The Central Minnesota Catholic. There still will be one issue of The Visitor in December (Dec. 14).

If you missed any of the information we've published so far about the change, you can catch up here:

- "Newspaper to adopt magazine format starting in January"

<http://stcloudvisitor.org/newspaper-to-adopt-magazine-format-starting-in-january/>

- "Calendar, advertising deadlines will change with new magazine"

<http://stcloudvisitor.org/calendar-advertising-deadlines-will-change-with-new-magazine/>

We will post a full 2019 schedule of edition dates and deadlines in the near future. In the meantime, if you have questions about deadlines for the magazine's calendar section or paid advertising (including the new rates), please don't hesitate to contact me: jtowalski@gw.stcdio.org or 320-258-7624.

Minnesota Catholic Podcasts — Our office recently began podcasting. Podcast episodes feature interviews with local and national guests on topics and themes of interest to Catholics. You can subscribe to "Minnesota Catholic Podcasts" on iTunes and Google Play. You also can access episodes on The Visitor's website: www.stcloudvisitor.org.

Have an idea for a podcast? Please contact me with your suggestion(s).



Marriage & Family Office



Chris Codden ♦ (320) 252-4721

Fully Engaged Sponsor Couple Training – St. Cloud: English - Fully Engaged sponsor couple training will be **Saturday, January 26**, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Pastoral Center in St.

Cloud. Registration for couples (names, address, phone number, parish and email address) should be made at least one week (January 18) before training. Call Janet at 320- 252-4721 extension #320 or email jdusek@gw.stcdio.org to register. The parish will be billed \$110 per couple for the cost of training (which includes Fully Engaged supplies).

Vespers For Life, Sunday, January 20 – Held at the Church of St. Anthony, 2405 N 1st St, St. Cloud. Rosary at 3:30 p.m. and Vespers at 4:00 p.m. Bishop Donald Kettler will preside at the Vespers service. The service includes music, prayer, scripture and reflection for the over 60 million children who have been aborted since 1973. Monetary donations accepted to Mother Mary's Fund to assist crisis pregnancy centers in the Diocese of Saint Cloud. For more information, visit http://omf.stcdio.org/th_event/vespers-for-life-4/.

March For Life, Tuesday, January 22 – Join us on the bus for a prayer service and the March for Life on January 22 at the Cathedral of St. Paul. The bus will leave after the 7:15 a.m. Mass at St. Anthony Parish parking lot in St. Cloud, picking up at several locations in the diocese. Check our website for the most up-to-date information.

A free-will offering will be accepted to help defer the cost of the bus. To reserve a space for the bus ride, register online, contact the Office of Marriage & Family at 320-252-4721 or visit: http://omf.stcdio.org/th_event/march-for-life-3/.

Catholics at the Capitol, Tuesday, February 19 – Want to make your Catholic voice heard at the Capitol? Minnesota Catholics will be gathering at the State Capitol to learn about the issues impacting our faith and daily life. You'll have the chance to hear from and meet with legislators, pray with fellow Catholics and get a window into the legislative process. These are opportunities for you to share your story and make your voice count. Pre-registration is required for this event and space is limited. Children and students under the age of 22 can register at no cost. A free-will offering will be accepted if you ride one of the buses provided by the Diocese of Saint Cloud. To register, visit: http://omf.stcdio.org/th_event/catholics-at-the-capitol-2/.

Catholic Men's Conference, Saturday, February 23 – **New location:** Sacred Heart Church in Sauk Rapids. This year's theme is Men of Integrity, "Mentoring Disciples," with an emphasis on evangelizing to youth and young adults. Our keynote speaker will be Deacon Ralph Poyo. For more information, visit: http://omf.stcdio.org/th_event/catholic-mens-conference-2019/

We are in need of priests to hear confessions at the Men's Conference. Confessions will take place from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. As a volunteer, you are invited to attend the entire conference at no cost. Before hearing confessions, lunch will be provided at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. To have an accurate count for the conference and lunch, email Janet directly at jdusek@gw.stcdio.org by February 1.

Safe Haven Sunday, March 2/3 – 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." Information 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 Chris at ccodden@gw.stcdio.org.

Honoring Marriage Day, Saturday, May 4 – This event will be held at the Cathedral of Saint Mary in St. Cloud at 1:00 p.m. for couples celebrating their 5th, 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60 plus anniversaries in 2019. **Parishes are asked to send names and addresses of parishioners celebrating 5, 25, 40, 50, 60 & 60 plus years of marriage in 2019** to the Office of Marriage & Family, 305 7th Avenue North, Suite 100, St. Cloud, MN 56303 or via email to Jan at jzylla@gw.stcdio.org or fax 320-258-7658 as soon as possible. Invitations will be sent to the celebrating couples.



Mission Office



Elizabeth Neville ♦ (320) 251-1100

The Mission Office will be doing our yearends the week of December 17-21. Please remember to send in your World Mission Sunday and any other collections and funds by December 14. Thank you in advance!



Planning Office



Brenda Kresky ♦ (320) 529-4611

Thank you for sharing the draft of the vision and map with the pastoral staff, council, and parishioners. Feel free to share the latest information on the process posted on the planning website at www.stcdio.org/planning.

Save the date! Wednesday, January 30 will be a meeting for the priests on the planning process. More information and an agenda will be coming as the date gets closer.



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 at 320-251-6557 from 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m., 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

Totus Tuus – Would you have some fabulous college student parishioners who are ripe for taking their faith to the next level? How about inviting them to apply to be a Totus Tuus Team member? Totus Tuus offers them an intense summer of growing in their faith and sharing it with the younger generation. Application deadline is January 1. There's more information at <http://vocations.stcdio.org/totus-tuus/leaders/>.

Andrew Dinner – The next Andrew Dinner with Bishop Kettler will be February 1. Do you have young men in your parish grades 8-12 who have potential for a priestly calling? Fr. Doug would love to hear from you! This simple and powerful night consists of evening prayer and dinner with Bishop Kettler while priests share their vocations story. Young men find it very meaningful and special to have a night with the bishop and priests.

Vianney Visit – Our next “Vianney Visit” to Saint John Vianney Seminary will be February 14-16. Do you have men seriously thinking about priesthood? Men ages 16 and up are invited to join these impactful days with seminarians to engage in daily Mass, adoration, discernment talks, visits to a classroom, listening to seminarians, open gym, and a night out with the seminarians of St. Cloud! When men actually meet real seminarians, all of the stereotypes break down! It is a game-changer for their ongoing discernment. Please contact Fr. Doug at the Vocation Office at 320-251-5001.

Seminarian posters/trifolds – If you need additional posters and trifolds please contact Julie at jjacobs@gw.stcdio.org or 320-251-5001. Thank you.

Vocation materials – In need of great vocational materials, check out Vianney Vocations at <https://www.vianneyvocations.com/store/>.



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 pray for the planning process. Please feel free to utilize the intercessions found on the Office of Worship webpage: <http://worship.stcdio.org/liturgical-resources/>

2018 Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion – This liturgy will be celebrated on Sunday, March 10 at 3:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Mary. All catechumens, as a part of their faith journey to the Easter sacraments at the Easter Vigil in 2019, *must* be present at the Rite of Election. The Church has gifted us with this wonderful rite and we are called to celebrate it to its fullest. If for a **serious** pastoral reason, a catechumen is unable to participate in this liturgy you must contact the Office of Worship to discuss the options available. You are asked to register all catechumens and candidates by completing the forms on the Office of Worship webpage: <http://worship.stcdio.org/catechumenate-rcia-process/riteofelectionandcall/>

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.

New Diocesan Stoles – If you have yet to receive your new diocesan stole, please contact the Worship Office to plan to either pick up or have it delivered. We have just completed recording all the stoles that went out during Clergy Conference. Our goal is to have all the stoles out by the end of January 2019.

Diocesan Liturgical Calendar Overview 2019 – You can now **download** an overview of the Liturgical Calendar for 2019. You can also **download** a more complete Liturgical Calendar from the USCCB. Each parish is encouraged to purchase a complete Ordo to have available in the sacristy. These can be purchased through **Paulist Press**.

<http://worship.stcdio.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2018/11/Liturgical-Calendar-2019-Overview.pdf>

<http://worship.stcdio.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2018/11/liturgical-calendar-2019.pdf>

<http://paulistpress.com/Products/ORD-27/ordo-27--st-paul-2019.aspx>



Health Care Ministry



Annette Jesh ♦ (320) 249-0280

Second class for RNs to train as Faith Community Nurses was held in November. Ten new FCNs are entering into ministry in churches, six graduates of this class are in our diocese churches. Each has been asked to start by meeting with the pastor and staff to discern needs and gifts. All are working RNs and all are under the RN licensing rules of the MN Board of Nursing. They renew the RN license every two years. Next classes will be in 2019. We have had 16 graduate this year and one reason for the increase from 4 per year is having a class available in our diocese.

Commissioning of the FCN samples are on the FCN CentraCare website. Commissioning introduces the FCN to members. This can be done when the FCN and pastor are ready to start with the program plan. One thing a pastor and staff can do is arrange to have the Faith Community Nurse be introduced to all members this way and to all groups in your church. Many things that can be done may be collaborations within church groups.

FCN Online Directory – 52 Faith Community/Parish Nurses in 31 cities 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. Service providers can look at and refer people to the Faith Community 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 in-*

house services they offer.

[Find an FCN By City](#)

[Find an FCN By Denomination](#)

Laura Kunstleben, MS, RN, suicide education & outreach specialist, is in a new position at St. Cloud VA and is available to do speaking and training in faith communities on suicide (26-county area) . “The information I provide, can be applicable to both veterans and non- veterans. I would like to come and do a 10 minute presentation on the basics of suicide prevention education; learn the signs, ask, validate, encourage, expediate access to professional care (S.A.V.E.) or question, persuade and refer (QPR), during church services or to staff, groups in a church. You don't need to be a mental health provider to help a person thinking about suicide. I would appreciate the chance to come and educate others on how to start the conversation about a very difficult topic. We need to end the stigma of mental health.” Laura Kunstleben, BSN, MS in gerontology, suicide prevention educator-outreach, St. Cloud VAMC, 320-252-1670, ext. 6975 or email Laura.kunstleben@va.gov.

A resource booklet called “Adult Mental Health Resource Guide” and pocket guide is available free for those in Benton, Sherburne, Stearns, and Wright counties. Call Bethany Oberg at 320-968-5277.

Save the Date of June 19, 2019, 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. for our annual Central MN FCN workshop at the CentraCare Plaza. Topics will be mental health related.

FCNs around the country are asking.... what are our faith communities developing or doing in light of the violence that has entered our houses of worship? Our workshop last June on church safety and security addressed this. One question our speaker asked is how many entrances and exits do you have open into your church/school? How are they monitored?

Advent begins on Sunday, December 2, 2018. Here are some good Advent resources:

Busted Halo: <https://bustedhalo.com/video/watch-advent-two-minutes>
United States Conference of Catholic

Bishops: <http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year/advent/>

Catholic Relief Services: <https://www.crs.org/resource-center/advent-resources-your-parish>

Loyola Press Catechists'

Journey: <https://catechistsjourney.loyolapress.com/category/liturgical-seasons-feasts/advent/> *(Sign up for the free Catholic faith formation newsletter to be sent right to your email box)*

National Catholic Educational

Association: <https://www.ncea.org/advent>

Ignatian Spirituality (Loyola

Press): <https://www.ignatianspirituality.com/advent>

The Religion Teacher: <https://www.thereligionteacher.com/advent->

Happy Birthday to our Retired Priests

Reverend Nicholas Zimmer will celebrate his 87th birthday on **December 9.**

Elmhurst Commons
400 Third Street SW , Apt. 212
Braham, MN 55006
Telephone (320) 396-2293

Reverend Paul Folsom will celebrate his 79th birthday **December 12.**

39880 Crane Lake Drive
Battle Lake, MN 56515
Telephone (218) 864-5916
E-mail: pauld.folsom@gmail.com

Reverend Andrew Marthaler will celebrate his 85th birthday **December 29.**

750 Railroad Avenue, Apt. 132
Sauk Centre, MN 56378
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