

May 2020
MONTHLY DIOCESAN NEWSLETTER

Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee. Blessed are



pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen

thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God,

LINKS

[May Serra Calendar \(PDF\)](#)
[2020 Special Collections revised April 2020 \(PDF\)](#)
[2021 Special Collections \(PDF\)](#)

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CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Please feel free to put the Sunday TV Mass

The following events are subject to change pending status of state and federal health mandates/guidelines.

May 30 ♦ Confirmation for Baptized Catholics – Bishop Kettler will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation for adults (18+) at the Vigil of Pentecost on Saturday, May 30 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. Register [here](#). (Please note: Please plan as though this liturgy will be taking place. Should it need to be canceled or postponed, we will notify all involved.)

Measures implemented to curb the spread of the coronavirus have led to the cancellation of public events in most places around the diocese at this time.

Future Dates – *The following dates subject to change pending status of state and federal health mandates/guidelines.*

Priest ordinations: June 6, 2020 at 10:30 a.m. at the Cathedral of St. Mary, St. Cloud
Diaconate ordination: June 13, 2020 at 10:30 a.m. at the Cathedral of St. Mary, St. Cloud

Save the Date – August 31 ♦ Clergy Golf Outing & Dinner – This event is sponsored by Catholic United Financial and will be held at the Territory Golf Club in St. Cloud.

2020 JUBILARIANS

65 YEARS

- Reverend Edwin Kraemer (Ordained June 4, 1955)
- Reverend Kenneth Thielman (Ordained June 4, 1955)

60 YEARS

- Reverend Roger Botz, OSB (Ordained June 4, 1960)

55 YEARS

- Reverend Frank Tomasiewicz (Ordained June 5, 1965)
- Reverend Paul Folsom (Ordained June 5, 1965)

50 YEARS

- (Most Reverend) Bishop Donald J. Kettler (Ordained May 29, 1970)

40 YEARS

- Reverend Thomas Becker (Ordained June 6, 1980)
- Reverend David Maciej (Ordained June 13, 1980)

25 YEARS

- Reverend Gregory Mastey (Ordained June 3, 1995)
- Reverend George Michael, VC (Ordained December 30, 1995)
- Reverend Oswaldo Roche Gerdel (Ordained October 14, 1995)

NOTES FROM THE CHANCERY



The Chancery



Office of the Vicar General ♦ Fr. Robert Rolfes ♦ (320) 251-2340

The votes have been tallied for the Priests' Pension Plan Trustee Board and the Clerical Aid Association Board.

I am pleased to announce that the members of the clergy have elected Father Virgil Helmin and Father Arlie Sowada to serve on the Priests' Pension Plan Trustee Board.

You have also elected Father Derek Wiechmann and re-elected Father Robert Kieffer to serve on the Clerical Aid Association Board.

I wish to thank Frs. Richard Aubol, Timothy Gapinski, Aaron Nett and Mark Stang for their willingness to have their names on the ballots.

NOTES FROM THE DIOCESAN OFFICES



Catholic Education Ministries



David Fremo ♦ (320) 251-0111

Catholic Schools – Catholic school principals have come together each week to pray, discuss pressing issues, share wisdom, and reflect on their work in supporting families in their school communities. Many schools have shared creative projects and videos on social media, particularly Facebook. We celebrate the care our Catholic schools are showing for students! We are so thankful for parents, who have taken on so much in this pandemic. In this time, more than ever, the parent and school partnership is something we seek to celebrate and to make stronger.

In the days ahead, we will know more about how the 2019-2020 school year will wrap

up. It has been a Spring of unprecedented challenges, and some true disappointments. For the class of 2020, our schools have plans to celebrate them. We are missing breezy Spring days on the ballfield, at the track, tennis courts and all the places our children have brought to life. It's so important that we all come together to acknowledge these things, and to see opportunities before us.

We welcome the new President of Catholic Community Schools, Scott Warzecha! Scott brings tremendous gifts and enthusiasm that will be a blessing to our community. He was recently featured in [The Central Minnesota Catholic](#).

On behalf of our Catholic schools, we ask your continued support and prayers.

For more information, contact David Fremo, dfremo@gw.stcdio.org or call 320-251-0111.

Emmaus Institute – Are you interested in learning more about your faith? Are you looking for ideas and skills to enhance your ministry? Are there ministers in your parish who would benefit from ministerial formation? If so, the Emmaus Institute for Ministry Formation is the place to be! New cohorts in Spanish and English will be starting in September and applications are being accepted now. Current students have given feedback on their experience in the first year of the institute:

- "I've learned a lot since starting my studies at the Emmaus Institute about my faith, and the rich tradition that goes along with that, but one thing I will always cherish is my time spent in community with the people I have met, and attend these classes with. In the seven months that we have been together, they have become like family to me. We have also had the opportunity to share ideas and experiences with each other to help us grow our own ministries in our parishes. Without the Emmaus Institute, we wouldn't have had these invaluable opportunities to connect with one another."
- "I joined the Emmaus Institute because I want to learn more about my faith. I have enjoyed spending time with a wonderful group of people and instructors. We all have something different to bring in to class but we all have our faith in common."
- "I look forward every month to our time at Emmaus Institute. We started out as strangers, but it didn't take long for us to become comfortable with each other, and now are a community (cohort) of disciples, learning about our Catholic faith as well as learning practical ways to help us perform our ministries right now. Very economical!! If you are not from the St. Cloud area, you can stay at St. John's Guesthouse."
- "Why do I like Emmaus Institute? I like Emmaus Institute because it is a great atmosphere and the group learning is key to helping me learn more. I love the class size and the teachers. I also love that we have formed a family among us and trust each other in this journey. Why did I decide to go? It was exactly what I was looking for when it came to going back to school. It was in a classroom and the layout of it was perfect for my work / personal life schedule as well as it is helping me grow as a person / leader / Catholic. The support you receive from the group and the staff is remarkable. I miss everyone when we are not together and I look forward to learning with everyone when we are. I don't regret this decision one bit and I am sure that if you would choose to go, you won't either."

The deadline for applications is June 30, 2020. Applications can be found on the diocesan website: <http://stcdio.org/emmaus-institute/>

If you are interested or need more information, please contact Kristi Bivens

at kbivens@gw.stcdio.org or 320-251-0111.

Faith-Formation, Young Adult and Youth Ministry – See our resources for the domestic church! www.familytogether.stcdio.org has prayer and activities for each Sunday during our stay-at-home measures.

We continue to partner with ministers in our diocese, through weekly video meetings, featuring many guest speakers, musicians and friends. We are looking forward to new events and gatherings to support our families and young people. Stay tuned for more details.

For more information, contact Kent Schmitz at kschmitz@gw.stcdio.org or 320-251-0111.



Communications & Development Office



Joe Towalski ♦ (320) 258-7624

Please visit the diocese's coronavirus updates and resource page (<http://stcdio.org/coronavirus-update>) for the latest messages from the diocese as well as for links to prayer and spiritual resources. The page also includes links to Bishop Kettler's weekly video messages.

The May issue of The Central Minnesota Catholic magazine, which will be arriving soon, features short stories about how parishes and people around the diocese have responded to the challenges of the pandemic with creativity and compassion.

Diocesan staff have been recording short videos over the last few weeks highlighting how they are approaching their ministries while working remotely. You can view the videos at: <https://bit.ly/2xYZiOs>.

If you have other resource ideas, or if there is any other way our office can help you at this time, please contact me at jtowalski@gw.stcdio.org or 320-258-7624.

As of April 20, the Bishop's Annual Appeal for 2020 raised total cash and pledges of \$865,481 toward our goal of \$1,300,000 (66.58%). This was made possible through the donations of 5,812 people throughout the 16 counties of our diocese.

Thank you to everyone for the work you are doing to support the Bishop's Annual Appeal in these challenging times. Please submit any appeal gifts collected in the offertory at this time to the development office. Many of the gifts contain time-sensitive gifts and pledges. Any questions can be directed to Anna Kampa at akampa@gw.stcdio.org or 320-258-7654.



Continuing Education for Clergy



Fr. Joe Herzing ♦ (320) 258-7624

Wednesday, July 15 – Clergy day for priests (including Jubilarian celebration) at St Paul's (St Cloud) starting at 1 p.m. Bishop Quinn of Winona-Rochester will talk on issues facing clergy. 4:00 p.m. Mass, after Mass a reception time, at 5:30 p.m. we will have a meal honoring our Jubilarians.



Marriage & Family Office



Patrick Flynn ♦ (320) 252-4721

Humanae Vitae Mass & Award Reception on Friday, July 24 – Held at Saint Mary's Cathedral, Saint Cloud. Bishop Donald Kettler will celebrate Mass at 7:00 p.m. The award reception will follow.

Catholic Women's Conference, Saturday, September 19 – This event will be held at St. Peter's Church in St. Cloud from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Bishop Donald Kettler will be celebrating Mass. This event will feature many local speakers as well as keynote talks from international Catholic speaker Sarah Swafford as well as Christine Simpson and Maria Spears from His Own.

Honoring Marriage Day, POSTPONED to Saturday, September 26 – This event will be held at the Cathedral of Saint Mary in Saint Cloud at 1:30 p.m. for couples celebrating their 5th, 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60 plus anniversaries in 2020.

Parishes are asked to send names and addresses of parishioners celebrating 5, 25, 40, 50, 60 & 60 plus years of marriage in 2020 to the Office of Marriage & Family, 305 7th Avenue North, Suite 100, Saint Cloud, MN 56303 or email Jan at jzylia@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

Thank you to all for your support, promotion and donations for the Catholic Relief Services and Rice Bowl collections during Lent. We understand that these collections occurred during a difficult time in our parishes and communities with the pandemic, but we greatly appreciate all you have contributed and will contribute to assist with these programs.

We have received MANY grant requests from throughout the diocese for Local Rice Bowl assistance at our local food shelves, food pantries, homeless youth emergency assistance and the requests are continuing to come in at this time of uncertainty.

Please remember that 25% of what is contributed in our parishes for Rice Bowl stays right here in our diocese to help those in need. Thank you for your generosity!

Many of you have Missionary Appeals scheduled this year in your parish/es whether voluntary, as a special request this year with the ACC changes or on your three-year rotation. Thank you to those who are still open to the appeals happening sometime later in the summer and into the fall. Please keep me updated on changes in scheduling and feel free to contact me with any questions/concerns you may have at 320-251-1100 or enmission@cloudnet.com.



Safe Environment



Linda Kaiser ♦ (320) 251-2340

This is a good time for parishes and school site administrators to go through the data on the CMG connect system. I have looked through each parish and school site and have notified some parishes and schools of people who need training or perhaps never volunteered or were employed this past year. One thing I am noticing is that parishes and schools need to be more diligent about people who are employed or volunteering. No one should be working with children or youth until a background check and training is completed.

I will be contacting more parishes and schools in the upcoming weeks. Please note that background checks are not being processed until the courts of various states open again. Nonetheless once they open, they will be processed in a timely manner. Usually, background checks take a very short time to process and that is why the diocese is asking that no one work or volunteer with children and youth until this background check has cleared.

Children and youth training data should be added to the system soon. It is highly unlikely that we will have any more classes for schools or faith formation. If you weren't able to do training this year, just note that for your location. If you are having any trouble accessing the system or putting in data, please feel free to call or contact me. 320-251-2340 ext. 106 or lkaiser@gw.stcdio.org.

Thank you for all you do to protect children, youth and vulnerable adults in the Diocese of Saint Cloud.



Social Concerns Office

Kateri Mancini ♦ (320) 229-6020

We're here for you! We know that these have been unprecedentedly difficult times for many of our community members. Even as we look to



the possibility of lifted restrictions, we are aware that the long-term effects of the COVID-19 pandemic will continue to impact our parishes and communities, especially those already struggling. At Social Concerns want to remind you that we are here for you and your parishes! If you have questions about how to meet the expanding needs of your community, or how we at Catholic Charities are continuing to aid those most in need in our community, please [contact us](#). We would be happy to brainstorm ideas, share resources or pray for you and those you serve!

Parish Social Ministry Certification – Catholic Charities is once again looking for those parishioners who are active in the work of Social Concerns to be recognized by Bishop Kettler for their leadership in this area through Parish Social Ministry Certification. If you have leaders in your parish communities who are involved in this ministry and have not yet been certified, please encourage them to contact Social Concerns for more information on the certification program in our diocese, or notify us at Social Concerns so we may reach out to them. Those interested can also find more information and the application form on our website at:

<https://www.ccstcloud.org/services/social-concerns> Applications for certification are requested by **May 24**, so encourage your parishioners to apply right away!

Save the Date: Rural Life Celebration, August 2, 2020 – The annual Rural Life Celebration is currently being planned for Sunday, August 2, 2020 at the Ries and Haag Farms on Lakewood Road in Eden Valley, hosted by Christ Our Hope Area Catholic Community. Mark your calendars and watch for more information to come so that you can join us and promote this fantastic event as we celebrate the beauty of rural communities and our diocese's rural dynamics. The event will include an outdoor Mass with Bishop Kettler at 10:00 a.m., followed by a free meal and family-friendly entertainment.

Please share the following information in your bulletins or parish announcements:

Catholic Century Farm Awards – Catholic Charities is proud to honor those Catholic families in our diocese who have farmed and nurtured the same land for 100 years or more! These families could be honored with the Catholic Century Farm Awards, which will be given out at this year's Rural Life Celebration in Eden Valley on August 2, 2020 (recipients need not be present to be awarded). To nominate your farm or a farm in your parish, visit the Social Concerns website for [requirements and application form for the award](#).



Tribunal Office



Fr. Virgil Helmin ♦ (320) 251-6557

ANNULMENT PROCEDURE

The Tribunal of the Diocese of St. Cloud has established a policy that the annulment process will not be started until six months after issuance of the final divorce decree.

No wedding date must be set until an affirmative decision has been rendered.

The annulment process requires the following:

A) The petitioner contacts his/her parish priest or a Tribunal staff member in order to petition and begin the annulment procedure.

1. The petitioner needs to present the following documents at the time of the application:

- a) Baptismal certificate and/or Profession of Faith of self and of former spouse.
- b) Certificate of marriage and/or Validation and/or Dispensation
- c) Divorce decree (Final Judgment).
- d) Current address of former spouse.

2. The petitioner has a recorded preliminary interview (conducted by a parish priest, deacon, parish minister or a Tribunal Staff Member) **-OR-** writes a narrative that covers in depth the following factual information about the petitioner and his/her former spouse:

- a) Description of childhood and home life of self and former spouse. Alcoholism or chemical addiction in family background?
- b) Description of dating process and maturity of self and former spouse.
- c) Description of how the decision to marry was reached.
- d) Description of ability to communicate and resolve conflicts.
- e) Description of problems that developed in the marriage and when they began.
- f) Description of attempted solutions to the problems.
- g) Description of performance of roles of husband/wife, father/mother.
- h) Description of how the decision to divorce was reached.

B) When there are ground(s) for a declaration of nullity, the Tribunal will contact both, the petitioner and the respondent.

C) Prior to the formal hearing, the petitioner must complete and return the witness list. Witnesses include 2-3 adult people who knew them prior to and during their marriage and can give us information about the marriage. At the time of the formal hearing, the petitioner must bring these witnesses in with them. A witness can be a brother, sister, parent, friend, co-worker, neighbor or a member of the wedding party. Witnesses should not all be relatives. We do not interview children of the marriage. At the formal hearing the petitioner and the witnesses will be questioned privately.

D) If the petition comes to formal hearing the following will occur:

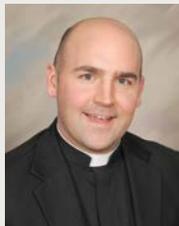
- 1. All testimony is gathered and sent to the Court Members.
- 2. The defender of the bond presents its brief to the Judge.
- 3. Judge(s) renders a decision. Petitioner and respondent are notified.
- 4. Both the petitioner and the respondent have the right to appeal the decision of the Court of First Instance. Also, both are notified of the decision and given 15 working days to review that decision and/or to appeal the decision.
- 5. If the decision is not appealed by either person, the defender of the bond signs off on the waiver. Once that is returned to the Tribunal office the process is complete and the petitioner and the respondent are notified along with the parish of baptism and parish of marriage.
- 6. A vetitum (prohibition) may be attached to the decision, requiring that either or both spouses must attend professional counseling with a counselor approved by the Tribunal before being allowed to marry in the Catholic Church.

The average length for the Tribunal to process a petition is 12 months. If the process is appealed by either parties, the process may take longer than 18 months. **No wedding date can be set until an affirmative decision has been rendered.** The Court could require that the person participate in an evaluation or counseling with their intended spouse. This requirement is made so that the future marriage may be happy and fulfilling.

As of July 1, 2016, the Tribunal of the Diocese of St. Cloud no longer charges a set fee for annulments. If you wish 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

The following events are subject to change pending status of state and federal health mandates/guidelines.

Ordinations – Deacons Patrick Hoefft, Brady Keller and Thomas Skaja will be ordained to the priesthood on June 6, at Cathedral of Saint Mary, St. Cloud, at 10:30 a.m.

2020 Summer Vocations Events

June 14: Paintball with the priests (9th grade young men and older)

June 16 – 18: Avon Vocation Camp (7th – 10th grade)

June 22 – 24: Belle Prairie Vocation Camp (7th – 10th grade)

August 8: Paschal Challenge, Sauk Centre (9th – 12th grade)

More information or to register go to <http://vocations.stcdio.org/events/>.

2020 Totus Tuus has been cancelled

Nun Run – Fr. Scott and Fr. Doug would like to invite any young ladies (rising juniors to mid-20s) who are interested in religious life to join us for a "Nun Run" June 30 - July 2. Please let us know of anyone who might be interested.

Paintball with Priest – Sunday, June 14 for 9th grade young men and older, and all priests are welcome!



Worship Office

Aaron Carpenter ♦ (320) 255-9068



RCIA – Just a reminder that as soon as we are able to gather again for Mass, parishes with Elect and candidates for full initiation should be prepared to celebrate these rites. The outline described for the Easter Vigil is where we should first look when preparing these rites. If you have questions, contact the Office of Worship.



Health Care Ministry



Annette Jesh ♦ (320) 249-0280

Faith Community Nurses and church staff have changed the way they reach out due to social distancing during Covid-19. Some people have lost the services that they depended on. Many FCNs have enlisted help of various church members in calling members who are seniors, shut-ins and those with chronic conditions. They are reassuring the seniors, helping find resources for meds, meals, supplies and connecting to services. Some FCNs are developing a system where all seniors, shut-ins and those with chronic conditions get a phone call at least once a week. Many seniors at home are caught without a plan of support if they become ill or if a caregiver is ill.

- **Foundations of Faith Community Nursing Classes for May 2020** were cancelled. Next class: **November 12-13, 19-20, 2020**. \$250 Scholarships are available from the Central MN FCN Committee and other financial support options are listed on our website. *This 38 hour class is required for currently licensed Registered Nurses who want to add the specialty of Faith Community Nursing and minister in churches.
- May 7-8 & 14-15 **CANCELLED** Foundations of Faith Community Nursing Class St. Cloud
- May 13, 2020 **CANCELLED** Central MN FCN Committee Meeting 9:30-11:30 a.m. Blessing of Hands St. Cloud Hospital Chapel. Brunch, meeting after, and Inservice, 11:45 a.m.-2 p.m. **Rescheduled to October 13 regular meeting date.**
- June 9, 2020 **CANCELLED** CMFCNMC Spring Workshop, "Developing Trauma Responsive Practices in Faith Communities," **Rescheduled to October 20**
- June 10, 2020 **CANCELLED** Central MN FCN Committee meeting by Web Ex 9:30-11:30 a.m.
- No meetings in July and August
- Resume September 9 as possible.
- [Find an FCN By City](#)
- [Find an FCN By Denomination](#)

Happy Birthday to our Retired Priests

Reverend Vincent Lieser will celebrate his 79th birthday on May 10.

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Connect with us

