

MICAH 6:8

Live justly. Love tenderly. Walk humbly with your God.



Diocese of
Green Bay

Department of Living Justice

SEPTEMBER 2016

“The Department of Living Justice of the Diocese of Green Bay, rooted in Catholic Social Teaching, ignites passion for the sanctity of human life and advocates for marriage, family life and justice for the oppressed.”

In this Issue

Calendar of Events
Prayer to the Archangels
The Archangels
October: Respect Life Month
Resources on *Laudato Si'*
Year of Mercy Monthly Resources
Diaper Drive

Legislative Advocacy
Living Justice Board of Trustees
F.O.C.C.U.S. Facilitator Training
Encouragement and Enrichment for Your
Marriage
“A Marriage in the Lord”
The Serenity Prayer

Pope Quote
The Pope’s Monthly Prayer Intentions
Prayer Resources
Family and Married Life Resources
Database Updates
Diocesan Website and Social Media Links

Calendar of Events

SEPTEMBER

- ◆ 28th - November 6th - [40 Days for Life](#)

OCTOBER

- ◆ 1st - 31st - [Diocesan Wide Diaper Drive](#)
- ◆ 15th - [FOCCUS Facilitator Training](#), Diocesan Campus, 8:45 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
- ◆ 27th - [Convocation](#) @ KI Convention Center

SAVE THE DATE!

- ◆ November 1st - Due date for CCHD Pre-applications for Community and Economic Development
- ◆ November 12th - Anti-Human Trafficking Conference @ Peace Lutheran Church in Kunesh, 8 a.m. - Noon

Prayer to the Archangels

Heavenly Father, you have given us archangels to assist us during our pilgrimage on earth.

Saint Michael is our protector, I ask him to come to my aid, fight for all my loved ones, and protect us from danger.

Saint Gabriel is a messenger for the Good News, I ask him to help me clearly, hear your voice and to teach me the truth.

Saint Raphael is the healing angel, I ask him to take my need for healing and that of everyone I know, lift it up to your throne of grace and deliver back to us the gift of recovery.

Help us O Lord to realize more fully the reality of the archangels and their desire to serve us. Holy Angels pray for

us.

Amen

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The Archangels

On September 29, we celebrate the Feast of Saint Michael, Saint Gabriel and Saint Raphael: The archangels. Though we cannot know of all the many times these magnificent spirits and powerful allies have entered into history to accomplish God's will, protecting us, driving away demons, and bearing forth messages of God's plan of salvation, some of their specific actions are recorded in Sacred Scripture, and, in each case, we obtain a glimpse into their ardent love for God, intently focused wills and formidable intellects.

Michael (Who is like God?) was the archangel who fought against Satan and all his evil angels, defending all the friends of God. He is the protector of all humanity from the snares of the devil. Gabriel (Strength of God) announced to Zachariah the forthcoming birth of John the Baptist, and to Mary, the birth of Jesus. His greeting to the Virgin, "Hail, full of grace," is one of the most familiar and frequent prayers of the Christian people. Raphael (Medicine of God) is the archangel who took care of Tobias on his journey.

Angels are pure, created spirits. The name angel means servant or messenger of God. Angels are celestial or heavenly beings, on a higher order than human beings. Angels have no bodies and do not depend on matter for their existence or activity. They are distinct from saints, which men can become. Angels have intellect and will, and are immortal. They are a vast multitude, but each is an individual person.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church explains to us that, "The existence of the spiritual, non-corporeal beings that Sacred Scripture usually calls "angels" is a truth of faith. The witness of Scripture is as clear as the unanimity of tradition." St. Michael is a patron: Against Temptations, against powers of evil, battle, endangered children, dying, paramedics, police officers, the sick, security forces, soldiers and those who need protection.

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October: Respect Life Month

We begin our new Respect Life Program on Sunday, October 2. This year's theme is: Moved By Mercy.

The following is the reflection offered to introduce the theme:

He lay helpless and alone on the roadside, half dead from the robbers' merciless beating. Two travelers came upon the injured man, but rather than offer assistance, they simply avoided him. Finally, a third passerby was moved with compassion at the sight of him (Luke 10:33) and went out of his way to help.

In the Parable of the Good Samaritan, we can see ourselves in each person. Like the priest and the Levite, we have failed to show compassion. Like the injured traveler, we have suffered in body and spirit, feeling rejected and alone. Yet God never stops offering each of us his mercy, a concrete reality with which he reveals his love"(MV 6).

We have been treated with mercy ourselves, and Jesus tells us to go and do likewise"(Luke 10:37), giving us the roadmap of the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy.

Each person has a place in God's heart from all eternity"(AL 168). Within this context, Pope Francis reminds us, We are called to protect our humanity, and this means, in the first place, accepting it and respecting it as it was created"(AL 56).

Like the Good Samaritan, may we always treat each person with merciful love and respect the gift of his or her life.

The packet contains helpful materials to use both during Respect Life Month, as well as throughout the entire year.

The Resource Guide offers homily helps, intercessions for life, 9 Days for Life materials, Adoption Novena and other prayer resources, ideas on how to utilize the Respect Life Program, and more.

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The Archangels (cont.)

Saint Gabriel is a patron: Ambassadors, broadcasting, childbirth, clergy, communications, diplomats, messengers, public relations, secular clergy and telecommunications.

Saint Raphael is a patron: Blind, bodily ills, counselors, druggists, eye problems, guardian angels, happy meetings, healers, health inspectors, health technicians, love, mental illness, nurses, pharmacists, physicians, against sickness, therapists, travelers, young people and young people leaving home for the first time.

Things to Do:

- This is a good feast to learn more about the angels. A good place to start is the Catechism of the Catholic Church, nos. 328-336 to see the teachings of the Church on angels. John Paul II also did a Catechesis on the Angels during his General Audiences from July 9 to August 20, 1986.
- Find the passages in the Bible about angels, in particular the passages about Michael, Gabriel and Raphael.
- Memorize the prayer to St. Michael the Archangel. Although no longer formally recited after Mass, our Holy Father John Paul II has encouraged us to recite this prayer daily.
- In honor of St. Gabriel, learn the Angelus and recite it daily. Traditionally, the prayer is prayed at the 6:00 and 12:00 hours (am and pm).
- Read the Book of Tobit for the story of St. Raphael helping Tobit and Tobias.

God Bless,
Eric

2016 Catholic Culture (Trinity Communications)

Resources on *Laudato Si'*

[Full text](#) of Pope Francis' encyclical, *Laudato Si'*

[Discussion guide](#) on *Laudato Si'*

[Liturgy, Preaching and Taking Action resources](#) on the theme, "Care for God's Creation"

NEW! [Catholic Rural Life One Year Anniversary Resources](#)

Year of Mercy Monthly Resources

[March, 2016](#)

[April, 2016](#)

[May, 2016](#)

[June, 2016](#)

[July, 2016](#)

[August, 2016](#)

October: Respect Life Month (cont.)

There are 6 articles, and those are available for download or purchase through the USCCB website. The titles of those articles are:

- Bridges of Mercy for Post-Abortion Healing
- Caring for Loved Ones at Life's End
- Every Suicide Is Tragic
- 7 Considerations While Navigating Infertility
- Serene Attention to God's Creation
- Supporting Expectant Mothers Considering Adoption

For more information visit the USCCB website under Pro-Life Activities then go to Respect Life Program. Click [here](#) for the website.

Blessing on this new Respect Life Program year! May we continue to rely on the Holy Spirit for guidance as we work to build a culture of life in our parish communities and beyond!

Diaper Drive

Join us for our second annual diocesan-wide diaper drive, a collaborative effort between Catholic Charities and the Diocesan Offices of Catholic Social Justice, Dignity of Human Life and Family Life Ministries.

Let's help stock the shelves at our local crisis pregnancy centers and Catholic Charities Parenting Support Programs with diapers and wipes! Larger sized diapers are most needed.

The drive will be held throughout the month of October: Respect Life Month. You can find all the details, as well as downloadable flyers at: www.gbdloc.org/diaperdrive

Legislative Advocacy

Action Alerts - [Speak Out Against Payday Loans](#)

[\[Call to Action\] HHS Contraceptive Mandate](#)

[WCC Capitol Update](#) - from June 2016

["Notes for Neighbors"](#) - USCCB-JPHD

[Resources for Responsible Catholic Citizenship During Election Season](#)

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Living Justice Board of Trustees

Human trafficking is the second worst crime in our country today. It victimizes thousands of people around the world, and most of all, right here in Northeast Wisconsin. This past summer the *Green Bay Press Gazette* featured an article talking about sex trafficking along Highway 41. This happens in our own back yard and we need to make the eradication of it a priority. Each month we receive an update on what is happening in the Green Bay Diocese. We would like to share some information with you regarding this topic.

Since the awareness event presented at St. John the Baptist Parish in Howard, there has been a virtual explosion of awareness in Wisconsin. An upcoming conference will be presented by the East Central Synod of Wisconsin ELCA, on November 12, 2016, at Peace Lutheran Church, 1954 County Rd. U in Kunes. The keynote speaker is Theresa Flores, a human trafficking survivor. Other speakers include Sister Celine Goessl, member of the Living Justice Society Board of Trustees, and Lt. Andy Oppermann of the Green Bay Police Department. This event is open to the public and is free of charge. Pre-registration is required. You can register at: <http://trafficking11216.eventbrite.com>. You can procure more information from your local parish office or send your name, mailing address and phone number to: trafficking11216@gmail.com.

This event begins at 8:00a.m. and concludes at Noon at Peace Lutheran Church. Due to limited space, the registrations must be received no later than November 7, 2016. Pope Francis has begged us to help him eradicate this horrendous crime by 2022. Our first step in helping is to become aware of this crime so we will be able to recognize it in our own back yards.

For more information contact Sister Celine Goessl, Living Justice Society of Green Bay Board of Trustee member, at 715-457-5649 or celinegoessl@gmail.com.

The Serenity Prayer

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; courage to change the things I can; and wisdom to know the difference. Living one day at a time; Enjoying one moment at a time; Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace; Taking as He did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it; Trusting that he will make all things right if I surrender to His Will; That I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with Him Forever in the next. Amen

See more at [Prayers for Special Help](#)

Encouragement and Enrichment for Your Marriage!

Good marriages can always be made better! Pope Francis described marriage as “a project to be worked on together” and a “process of growth” (*Amoris Laetitia*, no. 218, 221). The Church provides many opportunities for spouses to deepen and refine their love for each other. The organizations listed are dedicated to creating time and space for marriages to grow, and for helping parents raise their children well. Make your marriage a priority by seeking out enrichment opportunities together. [Read more...](#)

“A Marriage in the Lord” Marriage Preparation 2016-2017

The 2016-2017 schedule is available online at www.marriageinthelord.org. In addition to the many Part I and Part II offerings, also scheduled are two Hispanic Pre-Marriage Retreats, on November 12th and May 6th and “Re-opening the Door to Marriage” for widowed or divorced couples or those civilly married on February 18, 2017.

The current brochure is also available online for downloading and printing. A small supply of printed brochures are available by calling Theresa McKenna at 920-272-8291 or sending an e-mail to tmckenna@gbdioc.org. You may also contact Theresa with any questions or help with registration.

If a couple is unable to attend in person, an online option is available and posted on our website or you may call Theresa.

F.O.C.C.U.S. Facilitator Training October 15, 2016

F.O.C.C.U.S. Training will be held on Saturday, October 15th on the Diocesan Campus from 8:45 - 2:30 p.m.

Registration Fees include the new 4th Edition FOCCUS Manual, addition training hand-outs, a continental breakfast and lunch. Parishes will be invoiced for the training.

Go online to <http://www.gbdioc.org/living-justice/office-of-marriage-ministries/foccus.html> for more information and to register.

The deadline to register is October 7th!

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Pope Quote

“I would like a world without the poor. We must fight for this. But I am a believer and I know that sin is always within us. And there is always human greed, the lack of solidarity, the selfishness that creates poverty. Therefore, would seem difficult to me to imagine a world without the poor. If you think about children exploited for slave labor, or sexually abused children. And another form of exploitation: children killed for the trafficking of organs. Killing children to remove their organs is greed. Therefore, I do not know if we will be able to make a world without poverty, because sin is always there and leads to selfishness. But we must always fight, always ...”

-- Interview with Dutch newspaper *Straatnieuws*, Nov. 6, 2015

The Pope's Monthly Prayer Intentions September 2016

Evangelization Intention - **Mission to Evangelize** *That by participating in the Sacraments and meditating on Scripture, Christians may become aware of their mission to evangelize.*

Universal Intention - **Centrality of the Human Person** *That each may contribute to the common good and to the building of a society that places the human person at the center..*

Click [here](#) to visit the Apostleship of Prayer website for children's prayer resources on the Pope's monthly intention. Be sure to click on the image next to the monthly intention.

Prayer Resources

Are you looking for ways to incorporate Catholic Social Teaching in your prayer life? Try using this [examination of conscience](#) next time you go to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Catholic Relief Services, the international humanitarian arm of the USCCB, recently published a great resource titled, *Walk With Me*, a 21-day journey around the world. Download your copy [here](#).

Family and Married Life Resources

[Christian Family Movement](#): Christian Family Movement (CFM) is a national network of parish/neighborhood small groups of Catholics and their families.

[Retrouvaille - A Lifeline for Marriages](#): A program to help couples heal and renew their marriages.

[A Short Guide to Praying as a Family: Growing Together in Faith and Love Each Day](#) (also in Spanish, *A Uno invitacion para Orar En Familia: Creciendo Unidos Cada Dia en la Fe y El Amor*).

Database Updates

Please contact Theresa McKenna at tmckenna@gbdioc.org if you have a new e-mail address that should be on file for Living Justice newsletters.

Diocesan Website and Social Media Links

For more information on the Diocese of Green Bay, visit www.gbdioc.org. Like us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter.