

MICAH 6:8

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



Diocese of
Green Bay

Department of Living Justice

JULY 2015

“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.”

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Calendar of Events

JULY

- ◆ 20th - “A Marriage in the Lord” Part II, St. Pius X, Appleton from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
- ◆ 24th - “A Marriage in the Lord” Part II, Diocesan Campus, Green Bay from 6 - 8 p.m.

AUGUST

- ◆ 10th - “A Marriage in the Lord” Part II, St. Pius X, Appleton from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
- ◆ 22nd - “A Marriage in the Lord” Part I, St. Pius X, Appleton from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- ◆ 29th - Diocesan Gathering of Families, Camp Tekakwitha, Shawano at 10 a.m.

SAVE THE DATE!

- ◆ November 11-13 Justice for Immigrants National Convening in Chicago. Visit JFI’s [home page](#) or click [here](#) to register.

Prayer for Justice

Father, you have given all peoples one common origin.

It is your will that they be gathered together
as one family in yourself.

Fill the hearts of mankind with the fire of your love
and with the desire to ensure justice for all.

By sharing the good things you give us,
may we secure an equality for all
our brothers and sisters throughout the world.
May there be an end to division, strife and war.

May there be a dawning of a truly human society
built on love and peace.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord.

Amen

(Catholic Online)

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A Note From the Director

It has been a busy and challenging few weeks in the area of Living Justice because of all the recent Supreme Court decisions on the Affordable Care Act (ACA), same-sex marriage, death penalty drugs, and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations. While the rulings on the ACA and especially same-sex marriage dominated media attention, the other two rulings are also significant for Catholics.

Each of these rulings, in one way or another, affect how Catholics think about their faith and how they can be a public witness to it. For example:

- The ACA, while continuing to provide people access to universal healthcare, that the US bishops' [have called for since 1919](#), is flawed because it does not address other provisions that can undermine the religious liberty of individuals and institutions by forcing them to pay for services that go against their teachings and values.
- Same-sex marriage is an extremely hot-button issue. We know very clearly the [Church's position](#) on it; however, this decision challenges Catholics to figure out how to pastorally embrace all individuals as children of God regardless of their sexual orientation, while at the same time, speak the truth about what marriage truly is: one man and one woman joined together, who are open to new life.
- Although Wisconsin has not had the [death penalty since 1853](#), the Supreme Court decision to uphold the use of a controversial death penalty drug reminds us that [capital punishment is still active in 31 states](#) in our country. Many states, including some in the Midwest, regularly execute prisoners.
- On the heels of Pope Francis' [encyclical release, Laudato Si'](#), the Supreme Court ruled against the EPA limits on [mercury emissions from power plants](#), which begs the question: how do we advocate for God's creation on a systemic level?



Eric Weydt
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Dear Friends,

Pope Francis asks us to pray for all of the social inequality in Latin America this month in his July [Apostleship of Prayer](#) intention. This region of our world has a very large income inequality between rich and poor in getting basic services. There are also marked differences between rural and urban areas, ethnic groups and gender.

Some progress has been made in recent years in this area. However, there still is a ways to go before the people of Latin America are guaranteed their basic rights and needs, for all men and women, regardless of their social origins.

Please take Pope Francis' advice to follow Jesus and remember to care and pray for the poor to help against hunger and deprivation.

God Bless,

Eric
(2015 Apostleship of Prayer)

A Note from the Director (cont)

All of these rulings, which are far from perfect, provide Catholics an opportunity to bear witness to the faith, which is not easy now-a-days. However, in order to transform our culture and strengthen God's kingdom, we must lovingly speak the truth of the Gospel. These opportunities may come up within our own families or at work or in a more random place like at the grocery store with a complete stranger. In any event, do we have the courage to speak the truth?

May God continue to bless you, your families, and your ministries!

Catherine

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Family Gatherings, Holy Mass and Praying with the Family of God

Summertime is a special time for me to enjoy my family. When we all gather, it usually involves the eager arrival of swimmers waiting for a swimming party. Cousins and their parents gather bringing their bags of towels, suits, food and drink. There is lots of hugging, talking, laughing, riding bikes, tossing balls in the backyard, throwing the Frisbee. And what gathering would be complete without “family discussions” – may include the Brewers and Packers, fantasy sports. It is time for all ages to share their news and concerns – the good, the bad and the ugly. When the party’s over, everyone leaves tired, but refreshed with the love and goodness of family that is taken back to their homes.

I find that family gatherings reflect what we do in the Holy Mass on Sundays. We gather as families or households – individuals, single people, parents, kids, and grandparents; we greet each other; we tell and listen to Scripture stories; we pray for the concerns of the Church, the world, the local community and parish; we offer ourselves in the gifts we bring; we share a Meal – the Holy Eucharist; we go forth bearing the Good News, nurtured by the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ to BE Christ in the world.

In the spirit of evangelization, perhaps we can help others see this connection between family life (“domestic church”) and that which we celebrate as Church in the Holy Eucharist. I am quite saddened to hear that only 20-25% of Catholics attend Sunday Mass. This concern is not just the parish’s issue. The challenge is for each of us to do something! Bishop Ricken tells us that we need to share our personal stories of faith; our relationship with Christ. How is Christ a part of our family’s life? This is one way that we can to share faith with another person. Have courage to invite the person or another family to come with you to Mass on Sunday. Offer to meet them at church, sit together and maybe come to your house for breakfast or lunch. Personal invitations and witness of faith is a beautiful summer family action of love.

Give thanks to God! Do something. Keep it simple – do something that you are already doing as family and invite one other family to join you and include the Church’s Family.

(continued on page 5)



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Monica Meyer Grant

We are pleased to announce that the Monica Meyer Grant application process will be open from July 8-August 31.

This grant exists in the Catholic Foundation to assist parishes of the Diocese of Green Bay in planning and executing parish based pro-life/anti-abortion activities and events. Funding under this grant is available up to and including \$1,000.00 per parish per project. Priority will be given to those projects/events or causes that raise the conscience of the community while having a long term impact.

From one of last year's grant recipients:

“This is the first year St. Edward Parish in Mackville is using the Rosebud Program thanks to the Monica Meyer Grant. It has been wonderful to see people bringing their prayer intentions to all of us through this means. The varied rosebuds reflect so many of the natural concerns of people. We offer an intention at each weekend Mass and also have pray-ers for these special intentions. It is a very beautiful way to see our parish supporting LIFE in all its stages.”

Let us work together, continuing to build a culture of life in our parishes and beyond!

Click [here](#) for grant application

Be Alerted When Abortionist is Present in Grand Chute

If you are looking for a way to show your support for life, a current effort is in place where you can receive a text message alert when an abortionist is present at the abortion clinic in Grand Chute.

Charles Estermann will send out text alerts to encourage you to go to the clinic and pray there that day or to pray from wherever you are. Because the clinic has no set schedule, this is a way to get the word out.

If you are interested in receiving these alerts, please contact Charles at cestermann@new.rr.com.

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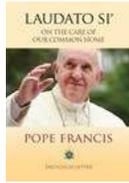
Legislative Advocacy

Action Alert : Urge Governor Walker to [Veto Payday Lending Expansion](#)

WCC Capitol Update: [Check Out What's New](#) in our State

New 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"



JustMatters Module offered at Resurrection "God's Creation Cries for Justice"

Using the lens of faith and science, this 8-session module will include prayer, discussion of readings and DVDs and Pope Francis' new encyclical *Laudato Si'*, *On the Care of Our Common Home*.

Meeting every 3rd Monday at 6:00 PM beginning Sept. 21, 2015.

Registration deadline for ordering materials is Sept. 4th.

Contact Michele Becker at Resurrection:
mbecker@gbres.org for more information.



Human Trafficking in Northeast Wisconsin "Why Don't the Victims Just Leave?" by Sister Celine Goessl

(For more information regarding the Living Justice Society and Sister Celine, contact Eric Weydt at 920-272-8344 or eweydt@gbdioc.org.)

As I go around the diocese giving presentations on human trafficking, people sometimes ask: "Why don't the victims just leave?" or "What happens to them once the police can rescue them?" I believe the following true story can give you some concrete answers.

Click [here](#) to read the entire article.

The Dangers of POLST

Please click [here](#) to view an educational video on the dangers of POLST. Look for Bishop Ricken in this video.

Preparing for the World Meeting of Families 2015

Theme #9 - Mother, Teacher, Family: The Nature and Role of the Church

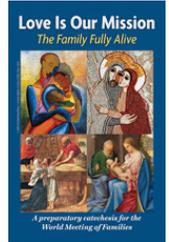


Everyone is invited to prepare for the World Meeting of Families. Not everyone can attend the event in September 2015. The preparatory catechism can be a tool to encourage

study, personal reflection and discussion in parish groups, families, schools, or other groups, like marriage enrichment or with young adult groups, among others. This book is written so all God's people can understand the meaning of "domestic church," how the Church can serve families and how families can serve the Church. The catechism is a collection of what Catholics believe about human purpose, marriage, and the family.

The theme for the World Meeting of Families is "Love Is Our Mission: The Family Fully Alive." Love is our mission, and it is by loving God and one another that we will be fully alive.

The preparatory catechism plays a central role in each World Meeting of Families. The catechism, like the World Meeting, is for people of all ages at all stages of life. The catechism can be purchased through Our Sunday Visitor: www.osv.com.



Teachers, Catechists, Parents! You can find ready-made lesson plans for all grades K-12 about the themes of the World Meeting of Families. Click [here](#).

- Theme #1—Created for Joy
- Theme #2—The Mission of Love
- Theme #3—The Meaning of Human Sexuality
- Theme #4—Two Become One
- Theme #5—Creating the Future*
- Theme #6—All Love Bears Fruit
- Theme #7—Light in a Dark World
- Theme #8—A Home for the Wounded Heart
- Theme #9—Mother, Teacher, Family: The Nature and Role of the Church

Theme #9 - Mother, Teacher, Family: The Nature and Role of the Church

The Church has institutional forms because she must work in the world. But that does not exhaust her essence. The Church is the Bride of Christ, a "she," not an "it." In the words of Saint John XXIII, she is our mother and teacher, our comforter and guide, our family of faith. Even when her people and leaders sin, we still need the Church's wisdom, Sacraments, support and proclamation of the truth, because she is the body of Jesus himself in the world; the family of God's people writ large.

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Diocesan Gathering of Families August 29, 2015



The "Diocesan Gathering of Families" is August 29 at Camp Tekakwitha. This day at camp is a local celebration that precedes the "World Meeting of Families 2015" in Philadelphia.

Click [here](#) to register or visit www.gbdioc.org/familydayatcamp for more information and to view our [brochure](#).

You may download and print the brochure or call our office at 920-272-8291 or e-mail tmckenna@gbdioc.org if you would like printed copies.



Come for a day
of family, fun and
faith!

NFP Awareness Week July 19-25

The theme for NFP Awareness Week 2015 is:

1. All Natural!
2. Natural Family Planning
3. Good for the body. Great for the soul!
4. "Celebrate and reverence God's vision of human sexuality."
5. Discover Natural Family Planning

See the beautiful new poster which can be downloaded! Prayers, intentions for liturgy, couple stories to share and more!



Visit the USCCB website for more on [NFP Awareness Week](#).

"A Marriage in the Lord"

The 2015-2016 marriage preparation schedule was mailed to all parishes the last week in June. If you have not received your packet or want additional brochures, please call Theresa McKenna at 920-272-8281 or send an e-mail to tmckenna@gbdioc.org. The schedule, along with other related information is available on line at www.marriageinthelord.org. All registrations must be made online.

Family and Married Life

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

Retrouaille - A Lifeline for Marriages: A program to help couples heal and renew their marriages.

Family, Gatherings, Holy Mass... (Cont. from page 3)

We are so blessed in the Catholic Church to be part of a larger family of God, including the Communion of Saints. We celebrate their feast days and call on them to pray for us. The calendar is full of reminders of these holy saints who lived through life's trials and now are triumphant in Heaven. During the month of July, there are many saints who can teach us virtues from their experiences of life with Christ. Make time to talk about these saints with family members and friends. It is a great gift to know we have extended family to help us in the joys and struggles of life. Have a saint party this summer!

Here are a few good websites to check out these saints, and to ask their intercession for your family and friends. All you holy men and women - Pray for us!

[American Catholic Saint of the Day](#)
[Catholic Online Saint of the Day](#)
[Franciscan Media Productions Saint of the Day](#)

July's Saints Days

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| 1- Blessed Junipero Serra | 23 - St. Bridget |
| (Pope Francis to canonize) | 25 - St. James |
| 3 - St. Thomas | 26 - Ss. Joachim & Anne |
| 6 - St. Maria Goretti | (Jesus' Grandparents) |
| 11 - St. Benedict | *Start a novena to St. Anne on |
| 13 - St. Henry | July 17 |
| 14 - St. Kateri Tekakwitha | 29 - St. Martha |
| 15 - St. Bonaventure | 30 - St. Peter Chrysologus |
| 16 - Our Lady of Carmel | 31 - St. Ignatius of Loyola |
| 22 - St. Mary Magdalene | |

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Make Mass a Priority This Summer

Don't miss Mass this summer! Make attending Mass a priority with your family this summer, even when you are on vacation. Check out www.masstimes.org to find times and location. Make it an adventure with your children.

Quote from Pope Francis

“Lord Jesus, give me a free heart that is not a slave to any evil in the world, that is not a slave to the community, that is not a slave to a comfortable life, that is not a slave of vice, that is not a slave to a false liberty that is the desire to do whatever we want, whenever we want to do it.”

- message to young people in Asunción, Paraguay on July 12, 2015

Burning Hearts Disciples

Check out this website that may be of interest for your family's faith growth: <http://www.burningheartdisciples.org/> Come and discover a faith that is a relationship with Jesus Christ - who you can come to know intimately and personally.

USCCB Pro-Life Subscriptions

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) offers a variety of [pro-life subscriptions](#): Bishops' Call to Prayer for Life, Marriage and Religious Liberty, People of Life e-newsletter, Word of Life, Life Issues Forum and Pro-Life Action Alerts. If you are not already signed up, we encourage you to check them out. Please pass the information on to your parish community.

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](#).

Database Updates

The Department of Living Justice is continuing to update our email database.

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.