

MICAH 6:8

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



Diocese of
Green Bay

Department of Living Justice

JANUARY 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.”

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Calendar of Events

JANUARY

- ◆ 14th - Respect Life Mass @ St. Bernadette, Appleton (6:30 pm Rosary; 7:00 pm Mass)
- ◆ 15th - Respect Life Mass @ Ss. Peter and Paul, Green Bay (6:30 pm Rosary; 7:00 pm Mass)
- ◆ 16th - Human Trafficking Awareness Presentation @ St. John the Baptist, Howard (8 am - 12 pm)
- ◆ 22nd - Diocesan Family Event: A Celebration of Life!, @ St. Bernadette, Appleton (5 pm - 7:30 pm)
- ◆ 29th - [Mass and Healing Service](#) @ Our Lady of Good Help, Champion (1 pm)

FEBRUARY

- ◆ 9th - Adele Brise Days Presentation @ the Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help, Champion (1 pm)
- ◆ 12th - 14th - Lakeshore Retrouvaille Weekend Retreat @ St. Norbert Abbey, De Pere
- ◆ 16th - Human Trafficking Regional Workshop and toolkit distribution @ Holy Spirit, Kimberly (6 - 8 pm)
- ◆ 23rd - Human Trafficking Regional Workshop and toolkit distribution @ St. Agnes, Green Bay (6 - 8 pm)

SAVE THE DATE!

- ◆ March 5th - Hispanic Pre-Marriage Retreat Leader Training

Prayer For Respect Life

Heavenly Father, thank you for the precious gift of life.

Help us to cherish and protect this gift, even in the midst of fear, pain and suffering.

Give us love for all people, especially the most vulnerable, and help us bear witness to the truth that every life is worth living.

Grant us the humility to accept help when we are in need, and teach us to be merciful to all.

Through our words and actions, may others encounter the outstretched hands of Your mercy.

We ask this through Christ, Our Lord, Amen.

Every Life is Worth Living, 2015 United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, D.C.

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A Note From the Director

As we move from Christmas to Ordinary Time, it is important to pause and recognize this liturgical season before jumping into Lent, which begins on February 10 with Ash Wednesday. While Advent and Lent are more penitential in nature and Christmas and Easter are celebratory, Ordinary Time is when the faithful can reflect more closely on the life of Jesus.

Jesus, being human in nature, lived a life that ebbed and flowed just like ours. He lived, worked and attended the synagogue in Nazareth with his family. However, because He was also divine in nature, we begin to hear more about Jesus's ministry from the miracle at Cana to His prophetic teachings in the synagogue. When we learn more about Jesus' ministry, we begin to understand that within these every day scenarios, we get a glimpse of His divinity.

As we pack away our Christmas decorations and once again settle into a routine, let us pray that we embrace God in the small things whether that is helping shovel out a neighbor or being present for a friend in need. As St. Josemaria Escriva said, "Understand this well: there is something holy, something divine hidden in the most ordinary situation, and it is up to each one of you to discover it."

May God bless you, your family and your ministry!

Catherine



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Pope Francis, Human Trafficking and the Dignity of Life

Dear Friends,

January is a month of recognition for both respect life and human trafficking. In recent months, Pope Francis has addressed both and spoke frequently on the relationship between them. These are reflections on how our pope feels these issues are related.

In recent months, Pope Francis prayerfully speaks of migrants who have been lied to regarding jobs in foreign lands, adults and children held captive in labor trafficking and debt bondage, those caught in the snares of sex trafficking, and those who have suffered (and often died from) organ trafficking. It is rather ironic that those individuals migrating are trying to find better opportunities for themselves and their families. In many cases, these new situations can be much worse. The migrant and immigrant issues that are currently occurring throughout the world are thus also closely linked to trafficking and respect life.

The pope knows that human trafficking is not simply another money-making venture. Human trafficking includes the marketing of human organs and tissues, the sexual exploitation of boys and girls, slave labor, including prostitution, the drug and weapons trade, terrorism and international organized crime. Whenever sin corrupts the human heart and distances us from our Creator and our neighbors, those individuals who are subjected to trafficking are not regarded as beings of equal dignity, as brothers or sisters sharing a common humanity, but rather as objects. Whether by coercion or deception, or by physical or psychological duress, human persons created in the image and likeness of God are deprived of their freedom, sold and reduced to being the property of others and thus do not have the opportunity of a dignified life. They are treated as means to an end.

Pope Francis calls for an end to indifference and tolerance of human trafficking, not only on the part of nations, but on the part of each individual. Many organizations besides governments have a role to play in ending trafficking.

Please continue to support efforts respecting life and dignity of all individuals. They are directly related to many of the other social justice/concern issues that are facing our brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the world. (2015 Pope Francis)

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Happy New Year!

Looking back on the year 2015, we can all list significant things that happened – some with great joy and some with sadness.

Now it is the year 2016 - new beginnings, fresh outlooks and hopeful future.

I have noticed that many people love top ten lists. In our busy lives, sometimes it is just nice to have a simple list to keep before us and to check off. I came upon this list of 10 things that Pope Francis proposed to his Vatican staff and their families before Christmas (*Note: these appear to be similar to New Year's resolutions!*).

I personally like this particular list for three reasons: 1) the pope addresses issues of real family life; 2) the list keeps love and mercy in the forefront; and 3) the pope relates Catholic social teaching to family life.

1. Take care of your spiritual life, your relationship with God, because this is the backbone of everything we do and everything we are.
2. Take care of your family life, giving your children and loved ones not just money, but most of all your time, attention and love.
3. Take care of your relationships with others, transforming your faith into life and your words into good works, especially on behalf of the needy.
4. Be careful how you speak, purify your tongue of offensive words, vulgarity and worldly decadence.
5. Heal wounds of the heart with the oil of forgiveness, forgiving those who have hurt us and medicating the wounds we have caused others.
6. Look after your work, doing it with enthusiasm, humility, competence, passion and with a spirit that knows how to thank the Lord.
7. Be careful of envy, lust, hatred and negative feelings that devour our interior peace and transform us into destroyed and destructive people.

(cont. on p. 4)



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43rd Anniversary of Roe v. Wade

This year marks the 43rd anniversary of when abortion became legal in the United States of America. People across the nation will be standing up for life in various ways. We invite you to participate in some of the following:

- 1) **9 Days for Life** - an intentional 9-day period of prayer, focused on ending abortion Saturday, January 16 - Sunday, January 24, 2016. There are several ways to sign up and receive the already prepared prayers. PLUS, there are resources for leaders (bulletin inserts, Facebook hints, prayers, images...). Available both in English and Spanish. For more information and to sign up, please click [here](#).
- 2) **Respect Life Masses**
Bishop Ricken will be presiding at our two annual Respect Life Masses:
Thursday, January 14 at St. Bernadette, Appleton and
Friday, January 15 at Ss. Peter and Paul,
Green Bay 6:30 p.m. rosary; 7:00 p.m. Mass
- 3) **Family Celebration of Life!**
Join us for food, musical entertainment (Randy Peterson), prayer (Grace Urbanski, Apostleship of Prayer), birthday cake, and activities.

Friday, January 22 at St. Bernadette (starts in the school) in Appleton

5 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. (Note: Free dinner will be served from 5-6 p.m. Come when you can!)

For more information and to register, visit:
www.gbdioc.org/celebratelife

(cont. on p. 4)

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Happy New Year *(cont from p. 3)*

8. Watch out for anger that can lead to vengeance; for laziness that leads to existential euthanasia; for pointing the finger at others, which leads to pride; and for complaining continually, which leads to desperation.
9. Take care of brothers and sisters who are weaker ... the elderly, the sick, the hungry, the homeless and strangers, because we will be judged on this.
10. Make sure your Christmas is about Jesus and not about shopping. *(my note: this can be anytime of the year! It's all about JESUS!)*

Posted on January 1, 2016 by Cindy Wooden, Catholic News Service

Diocesan Family Event: A Celebration of Life! Friday, January 22, 2016 St. Bernadette, Appleton

“Every life is worth living” is the theme of this year’s Respect Life program through the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. We are going to celebrate the lives that God has given to use through his love!

There will be food, entertainment (well-known Randy Peterson) and prayer (Grace Urbanski from Apostleship of Prayer). **funds provided by Wisconsin Right to Life: Fox Valley*

Come join us as we celebrate life!

Please register by January 20th at www.gbdioc.org/celebratelife.

“A Marriage in the Lord” Marriage Preparation Program

The 2015-2016 marriage preparation schedule is available online at www.marriageinthelord.org for registration. If you want brochures, please call Theresa McKenna at 920-272-8291 or send an e-mail to tmckenna@gbdioc.org.

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.

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

43rd Anniversary of Roe v. Wade *(cont from p. 3)*

4) Coffee & Conversations

New to the USCCB Respect Life Program, offer Coffee & Conversation around the themes of this year's program! The already created materials (free and downloadable!) can be for individual reflection or for small groups. We encourage you to

check it out and to pass the word onto others. Click [here](#) for the English version. Click [here](#) for the Spanish version.

5) National Prayer Vigil for Life

Most of us will not be in Washington DC to participate in the National Prayer Vigil for Life in person, but you can always spiritually join from wherever you are! The Vigil begins on Thursday, January 21 with Mass at 6 pm. ET, and it concludes with Mass on Friday, January 22 at 7:30 am. Please pray for the protection of all life, especially those who are most vulnerable!

Legislative Advocacy

Urge Congress to Protect Poor and Vulnerable People from the Devastating Effects of Our Changing Global Climate - click [here](#)

[WCC Capitol Update](#) - Here's what happened in December.

[Action Alerts](#) from the USCCB

Vote No on HR 4038. Send the following message to your U.S. Senators: “Dear Senator, Protect deserving, carefully vetted Syrian and Iraqi refugees and their families fleeing violence and death. Please vote No on HR 4038.” Click [here](#) to learn more.

[Take Action Now](#) - Urge Congress to press Israel to stop confiscation of Christian lands in Cremisan Valley.

Year of Mercy Monthly Resources

[March, 2016](#)

[April, 2016](#)

[May, 2016](#)

Teach My People to Pray Quarterly Resources

Looking for ways to pray with your family? Check out these resources to help foster family prayer in our home.

[Quarter 3 Resources](#) - January, February, March

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Wisconsin LCWR Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force

The trafficking of human beings is a heinous crime plaguing our world today, and it has been insidiously kept “under the radar” far too long. A few years ago President Obama drew national attention to this fact by declaring January **Anti Trafficking Awareness Month**. Too many people think “our” town or city is safe from the threat of traffickers; *it is not!*

To help you raise awareness with your community about the reality of trafficking in your own parish neighborhoods, the Wisconsin Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR) has produced a valuable toolkit for each Wisconsin parish. Beginning in February, you can attend a regional workshop to learn how you can keep vulnerable children and adults safe and receive this valuable toolkit centered on Catholic social teaching. Your toolkit will contain:

- **A message from the Bishops of Wisconsin** encouraging parish leaders to develop a plan for addressing the reality of human trafficking in your area in the upcoming months;
- **Wisconsin Resource Sheet** – A summary of anti-human trafficking speakers in your area, advocacy groups, websites, and social media sites;
- **Hotline cards** – The national hotline is easy to remember: 888-3737-888. Let’s make sure people know it. A few courtesy copies will be enclosed, and you can make more using the artwork on the flash drive. Distribute the cards to your parishioners, stock them in your parish gathering space and/or circulate them where victims might see them: hotels, truck stops, doctors’ offices, shopping malls, restaurants/bars, etc.
- **Two DVDs** (both focus on sex trafficking):
 1. “Chosen” by Shared Hope International. Includes discussion guides to precede and follow showing.
 2. “What Does Human Trafficking Look Like In Wisconsin?” coordinated by S. Celine Goessl, SCSC, featuring resource persons familiar with the Wisconsin experience. Facilitator’s guide on flash drive.
- **Wisconsin-based infographics** about sex trafficking and labor trafficking.
- **Flash drive**
 1. PowerPoint presentation – Defines human trafficking, what industries are often connected to it, Catholic Social Teaching of human trafficking, how prevalent labor and sex trafficking are in Wisconsin, recommended resources and how to help. Speaker’s notes are included.
 2. Artwork for hotline cards – Order through gotprint.com for lowest prices -- 500 cards for only \$13 or 1,000 cards for \$17 (prices subject to change).
 3. Facilitator’s guide to DVD, “What Does Human Trafficking Look Like In Wisconsin?”

Click here for the [flyer](#) and workshop schedule. Plan to attend the workshop nearest your parish.

Are We Pro-life Beyond the Decision?

We are often challenged as to what we do for women when we tell them they should not have an abortion. That is a great question to ask ourselves in our parishes and communities as we head toward the 43rd anniversary for Roe v. Wade!

If a teenage girl comes to us and lets us know she is pregnant, what do we do? What does our face express? (Judgment? Love and concern? Joy for new life?...) Where do we send her for help? How do we follow up with her after she has the baby? How do we follow up if she chooses to have an abortion?

If a married couple has 3 children and lets us know with anxiety that they have an unexpected pregnancy, how do we respond? They are unsure if they can provide for this child and are not sure what to do. How do we support them to make a life-affirming decision? How do we make sure their baby’s needs are provided for, especially at the beginning? Do we offer them meals or other support (babysitting the other children for doctor’s appointments, or folding laundry, or...).

If a woman comes in and shares that she had an abortion 25 years ago, what do you do? What does your face express? There are some individuals in the pro-life community who really struggle with this. When a woman with a contrite heart asks for forgiveness, the Lord is ALWAYS there to offer mercy. Healing and hope through the love of our Lord!

If a man is grieving because he has been affected by abortion in some way, what kind of support do we have to offer him?

Building a culture of life is building the support needed to protect and love ALL life because every life is worth living! Thank you for all you do!

World Day of Marriage

The USCCB recently released a memo and bulletins regarding the upcoming World Day of Marriage to be celebrated on Sunday, February 14th. Click [here](#) for the memo and bulletins.



Click [here](#) for the daily prayer intention for each of the 9 days which begins on January 16th.

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Pope Francis' Speeches

In case you missed any of his homilies or speeches from the World Meeting of Families and visit to the United States, check out this [link](#) to catch up on them.

Pope Quote

"Do not forget that the greatest legacy that you can give your children is faith. Cherish it to make sure is not lost, to make it grow and to leave it as a legacy," (1/10/16 Homily on the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord).

The Pope's Monthly Prayer Intentions January, 2016

Universal Intention - **Interreligious Dialogue**. *That sincere dialogue among men and women of different faiths may produce the fruits of peace and justice.* [read the reflection](#)

Evangelization Intention - **Christian Unity**. *That by means of dialogue and fraternal charity and with the grace of the Holy Spirit, Christians may overcome divisions.* [read the reflection](#)

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.

CST Resource Videos

CST 101 is a collaborative 7-part video series presented by the USCCB and Catholic Relief Services on Catholic Social Teaching.

["Care for God's Creation"](#) Released on September 1, 2015, (which we celebrated as the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation).

["Life and Dignity of the Human Person"](#) Published on October 3, 2015.

["Call to Family Community and Participation"](#) Published on December 14, 2015

Family and Married Life Book Resources

[A Short Guide to Praying as a Family: Growing Together in Faith and Love Each Day](#) (also in Spanish. [A Short Guide to Praying as a Family: Growing Together in Faith and Love Each Day](#)).

[A Short Guide to Praying as a Family: Growing Together in Faith and Love Each Day](#)

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.