

MICAH 6:8

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



Diocese of
Green Bay

Department of Living Justice

JUNE 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

JUNE

- ◆ 21st - July 4th - [Fortnight for Freedom](#)
- ◆ 22nd - [St. Thomas More Society Mass](#), 7:15 a.m. @ St. Willebrord Parish, Green Bay
- ◆ 23rd - [“Walking Together”](#) Financial Workshop, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. @ St. Brendan’s Inn, Green Bay
- ◆ 25th - [inter-ACT: Bridges out of Poverty Seminar](#), 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. @ St. Vincent de Paul, Green Bay
- ◆ 30th - [inter-ACT: Bridges out of Poverty Seminar](#), 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. @ St. Vincent de Paul, Green Bay

JULY

- ◆ July 7th - July 10th - [Lifest, @ the Sunnyview Expo Center in Oshkosh](#)

SAVE THE DATE!

August 14th - Wisconsin Right to Life Family Picnic
 September 28 - November 6 - 40 Days for Life
 October - Respect Life Month
 October—Diocesan –wide Diaper Drive

Have an enjoyable summer!

Prayer to St. John the Baptist

O God, You raised up St. John the Baptist to prepare a perfect people for Christ. Fill Your people with the joy of possessing His grace, and direct the minds of all the faithful in the way of peace and salvation.

Grant that as St. John was martyred for truth and justice, so we may energetically profess our Faith in You, and lead others to the Way, the Truth, and Eternal Life.

Amen.

Prayer House 2007

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A Note From the Director

Summer is upon us, and with that comes food, fun, and spending time with family and friends! In recent years, the 4th of July has become a time to reconnect with my childhood friends, many of whom live scattered across the country. Every 4th of July weekend, we return to our hometown, grill out, play several games of bean bags, and just catch up on what is happening in life.

I am sure, as with many of your family and friend gatherings, the conversation will inevitably turn to politics. Despite the fact that every one of us are on differing ends of the political spectrum, my friends and I continue to dialogue about our values and beliefs. How we have remained friends for over 20 years is the fact that we have continued to foster a relationship with one another in a civil way. Civil discourse must always be at the center of any conversation, especially when discussing politics.

A colleague of mine recently wrote a blog post for the USCCB's Justice, Peace and Human Development blog that emphasized civil discourse, and I wanted to share it with you. You can read it [here](#).

Being a disciple of Christ is not easy in our world today, especially during an election year. But we must always pray to be courageous enough to speak God's truth, humble enough to know that we do not know everything, patient enough to listen to someone else's viewpoint and kind enough to always regard the other person as a child of God.

May God bless you, your families and your ministries this summer!

Catherine



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"Now this was John's (the Baptist) testimony when the Jews of Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him who he was. He did not deny, but confessed freely, "I am not the Christ." They asked him, "Then who are you? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" He answered, "No." —
John 1:19–21

Hello Friends,

St. John the Baptist has a birthday on June 24, this is one of the oldest feasts, and aside from the birthdays of our Lord and His Mother, this is the only saint's birthday to be celebrated. All the other saints were born with original sin.

John is justifiably known as a preacher, prophet and baptizing people in the Jordan River. He is also known for his justice. As an example, John the Baptist once said, "He that has two coats, let him give to him that have none; and he hath meat, let him do in like manner." (Luke 3:11) To soldiers, (more than likely Jewish police officers) he recommended not to do violence to any man, nor falsely denounce anyone. (Luke 3:14)

As we journey through June, keep in mind the amazing faith that John exhibited throughout the Gospels. As the apostle John describes a man sent from God who "was not the light," but "came as a witness, to bear witness to the light, so that through him everyone might believe". Lastly, remember John the Baptist explicitly taught charity, baptized tax-collectors, and advised soldiers.

May God's blessings be yours throughout the summer months.

Eric

*2016 Trinity Communications
2015 Catholic Encyclopedia*

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Love, Mercy, Life: Opening the Heart of Marriage – NFP Awareness Week

It's not too early to promote **Natural Family Planning Awareness Week** which is July 24-30, 2016. The theme this year is *"Love, Mercy, Life: Opening the Heart of Marriage."* Natural Family Planning (NFP) Awareness Week is a national educational campaign. The Natural Family Planning Program of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops develops a poster each year with basic supportive materials. To see posters, bulletin announcements, homily tips and more, please click here: **[NFP Awareness Week - July 24-30, 2016.](#)**

It is interesting to note that the dates of Natural Family Planning Awareness Week highlight the anniversary of the papal encyclical, *Humanae Vitae* (July 25), which articulates Catholic beliefs about human sexuality, conjugal love and responsible parenthood. The dates also mark the feast of Saints Joachim and Anne (July 26), the parents of the Blessed Mother. For further information, contact **nfp@usccb.org**.

Learning about Natural Family Planning is not just for engaged couples preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage. Married couples often discover the great benefits of NFP at various stages of their married life.

In the Diocese of Green Bay, we are blessed to have a good number of teachers who teach various methods. The diocese has a new NFP website with educational material and information about the teachers. Please check it out and pass the word! **www.ournaturalfamily.org** .



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Respect Life Poster and Essay Contest

The Office of Dignity of Human Life held a respect life poster and essay contest, beginning on the Feast of the Annunciation, when Mary said "Yes!" to life. We used the USCCB Respect Life theme: Every Life is Worth Living.

We received over 375 entries between the two contests! We were touched by all the amazing (and simple, everyday) ways our young people are respecting life in our diocese. And it was very apparent that the value of life was modeled from their families (whether parents, grandparents, siblings...).

It was very difficult to choose the top winners. A panel of judges voted, and we would like to share the results with you. We also invite you to see or read their works from the link below.

Thank you parents and educators who encouraged their young people to enter! We look forward to working with you again next year! The theme for 2017 will be: "Moved by Mercy."

(Go to Page 5 for the list of winners and sample pictures of the winning posters.)

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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...](#)

Fortnight For Freedom Resources

Please join as we celebrate our first and most cherished freedom during the Fortnight for Freedom June 21 – July 4! Visit the Diocesan [Fortnight for Freedom](#) page for great resources, including details about the St. Thomas More Society Mass being held on June 22nd at 7:15 AM at St. Willebrord’s, 14 witness stories, Prayers of the Faithful, and much more!

This year’s Fortnight theme is *Witnesses to Freedom* and will focus on the lives of women and men of faith, from all over the world, who have borne witness to authentic freedom in Christ. Click [here](#) for two new major resources: 14 stories of witnesses to freedom in both English and Spanish, including Bl. Oscar Romero, Edith Stein and the Coptic martyrs, and a new video on the “Right to Religious Freedom”.



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](#)

Legislative Advocacy

Action Alerts

[\[Call to Action\] Conscience Protection Act 2016](#)

Resources

[WCC Capitol Update](#) (nothing new since April 11, 2016)

[Committee Hearing on Farm Economy](#)

[“Notes for Neighbors”](#) - USCCB-JPHD

[Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship Resources](#)

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul’s Green Bay District Council presents

inter-ACT: Bridges out of Poverty Seminar

Saturday, June 25th **OR** Thursday, June 30th
8:00 AM-3:30 PM

Curriculum from Bridges out of Poverty, featuring Philip DeVol, provides the essential knowledge needed to give unbiased and effective support to under-resourced individuals who are living in or trying to move beyond poverty.

You will gain...

- Understanding of the “Hidden Rules” of each socio-economic class
- Understanding of what it means to be living in the “Tyranny of the Moment”
- Understanding of how a lack of resources limits choices
- Critical awareness of the challenges to escaping generational poverty
- Increased sensitivity to the impact economic class has on life experiences
- Insight into the communication barriers faced by those living in poverty

Curriculum is designed for volunteers, professional caregivers, business owners, policy makers, community members, etc. (*continental breakfast and lunch provided*)

Join us in supporting those who are experiencing poverty by creating a more sustainable community through education, investigation, and empowerment.

Register for this **FREE Seminar (by 6/22/16)**
920-617-5475 or inter-ACT@svdpgb.org

Seminar Location: St. Vincent de Paul District Office, 1529 Leo Frigo Way, Green Bay, WI

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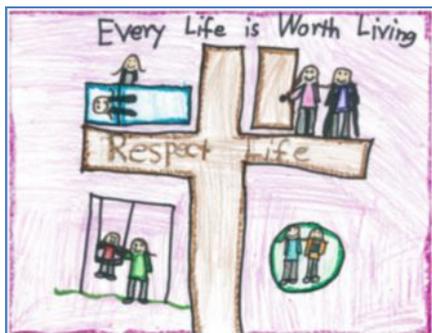
Respect Life Poster and Essay Contest Winners

Respect Life Poster Contest

Grades 1-2 (click [here](#) for all three posters)

First Place

Adria Ponschock (St. Nicholas, Freedom)



Second Place

Hailey Lamers (St. Edward, Mackville)



Third Place

Emily Falbo (St. Mary, Greenville)



Grades 3-4 (click [here](#) for all three posters):

First Place

Claire Murphy (St. Nicholas,
Freedom)



Second Place

Lauren VanCamp (St.
Edward, Mackville)



Third Place

Miranda Romnek (St.
Edward, Mackville)



Respect Life Essay Contest (click on the winner's name to read their essay)

Grades 5-6:

1. [McKenna Kurey \(St. Edward, Mackville\)](#)
2. [Grace Woelfel \(St. Edward, Mackville\)](#)
3. [Jordon Pennings \(Divine Savior, Kiel\)](#)

Grades 7-8:

1. [Eliana Arndt \(St. Francis Xavier, Appleton\)](#)
2. [Jonathan Bryan \(St. Francis Xavier, Appleton\)](#)
3. [Sarah Krajnik \(St. Francis Xavier, Appleton\)](#)

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Pope Quote

“Prayer is what lights up Christian life, and [prayer] is a ‘serious’ matter: a prayer of adoration to God the Father, a prayer of praise to the Holy Trinity, a prayer of thanksgiving, a prayer to request to God... prayer must come from the heart,” (6/7/16 homily).

The Pope’s Monthly Prayer Intentions June 2016

Evangelization Intention - **Seminarians and Novices** *That seminarians and men and women entering religious life may have members who live the joy of the gospel and prepare them wisely for their mission*

Universal Intention - **Solidarity** *That the aged, marginalized and those who have no one may find - even within the huge cities of the world - opportunities for encounter and solidarity.*

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.

“A Marriage in the Lord” 2016-2017 Schedule Soon to be Released

The new schedule is finalized and will soon be available for registrations on our website. The first session of our new schedule will be August 20th at St. Pius X in Appleton. Please contact Theresa McKenna by calling 920-272-8291 or send an e-mail to tmckenna@gbdioc.org with any questions or issues with registration.. Visit www.marriageinthelord.org within the next week to see the new schedule and to begin registering . Remember that if a couple is unable to attend in person, an online option is available and posted on our website or you may call Theresa.

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.