

# MICAH 6:8

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



Diocese of  
Green Bay

## Department of Living Justice

JUNE 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

#### JUNE

- ◆ 21st - Father's Day
- ◆ 21st - July 4th - Fortnight For Freedom

#### JULY

- ◆ 4th - Happy Fourth of July
- ◆ 9th - 12th - Lifest, Oshkosh

### HAPPY FATHER'S DAY TO ALL DADS

Your example of love for your family, living your Catholic Faith and being a Christian role model in today's world is vital for your family to see!

#### Prayer for Fathers

God our Father,  
in your wisdom and love you made all things.  
Bless our father.

Let the example of his faith and love shine forth.

Grant that we, his family,  
may honor him always  
with a spirit of profound respect.

Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen

*-Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers*

### Pope Francis' Prayer to Our Blessed Mother for Migrants

Oh Mary, star of the sea, once again we recourse to thee, to find refuge and serenity, to implore your protection and help.

Mother of God and our Mother, turn your sweet gaze towards those who face the dangers of the sea every day to guarantee their families the necessary sustenance for life, to protect the respect of creation, to serve peace between peoples.

Protector of migrants and itinerants, assist with maternal care all men, women, and children who are forced to flee their lands in search of a future and of hope. May their meeting with us and our people not become a source of new and heavier slavery and humiliation.

Mother of mercy, ask forgiveness for us who, blinded by selfishness, concerned by our interests and prisoners of our own fears, have become distracted towards the needs and sufferings of our brothers.

Refuge of sinners, obtain the conversion of heart for those who generate war, hate and poverty, who exploit their brothers and their fragility, who make an undignified commerce of human life. Model of charity, bless all men and women of good will, who receive and serve those who dock on this land: may the love received and given be a seed of new brotherly ties and the dawn of a world of peace.

Amen.

*(June 20 is World Refugee Day.)*

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## A Note From the Director

I recently returned to work after having spent two wonderful months on maternity leave enjoying the time with my first child, James Geraghty. He has brought so much joy to my husband and me, and it is delightful to see how much happiness he brings to many other people too. Grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, friends, neighbors, colleagues etc. all want to be a part of this child's life because they see how much of a blessing he truly is.

Additionally, this little child constantly reminds me that God blesses every person on a daily basis, but we need to be able to recognize those blessings, no matter how big or small, and then thank Him for them. Being a proud Marquette graduate, I pray utilizing the Ignatian Examen, which helps me identify God's presence in my daily life. If you have never prayed with the examen, I would encourage you to learn more about it [here](#).

While the majority of my prayers now revolve around my son, I am grateful to the many individuals who have and continue to support me during this transition back to work. God has put you in my life, and I am incredibly grateful for each and every one of you.

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

Catherine

Below is a version of the five-step Daily Examen that St. Ignatius practiced:

1. **Become aware of God's presence.**
2. **Review the day with gratitude.**
3. **Pay attention to your emotions.**
4. **Choose one feature of the day and pray from it.**
5. **Look toward tomorrow.**

Click [here](#) to see more.



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## Dear Friends,

On May 21, the House Foreign Affairs and Senate Foreign Relations Committees each passed nearly identical versions of the Girls Count Act, setting the stage for floor votes. The legislation supports programs in developing countries to improve birth registration for girls and boys, and promotes policies that prevent discrimination against girls. Catholic Relief Services supports this legislation.

The legislation would make it official U.S. policy to support the birth registration and other legal documentation of children in the developing world and to support programs that help develop government's abilities to register all births. Lack of proper registration can make it more difficult for governments to accurately assess educational and other social service needs.

An estimated 36 percent of children under the age of five worldwide (about 230 million children) do not possess a birth certificate or national identity card. Without such documentation, it is nearly impossible for individuals to participate fully in the social services, economic, legal, and voter rights of their society.

After a natural disaster such as the earthquake that just hit Nepal, lack of birth registration can hamper family tracing efforts. If a family is divided or a child orphaned, authorities may not know to look for a person who is not properly documented. Registering children is a proactive protection measure that reduces the risk of human trafficking.

The following bipartisan leadership must be acknowledged for their legislation in this act. Senators Marco Rubio (R-FL) and Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH); and Representatives Ed Royce (R-CA), Eliot Engel (D-NY), Steve Chabot (R-OH), Betty McCollum (D-MN), Chris Smith (R-NJ), and Brad Sherman (D-CA).

*May 2015, Catholic Relief Services*

Please remember to keep all children in your prayers.

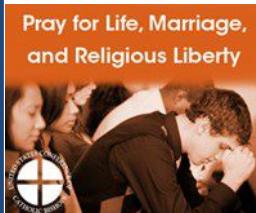
Eric Weydt

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**Call to Prayer**  
Join thousands in a call to prayer, penance, and sacrifice for the sake of renewing a culture of life, marriage, and religious liberty in our country. We focus right now on praying for the Supreme Court as they deliberate on marriage.

Get a weekly text reminder on your phone! Visit [www.usccb.org/fast](http://www.usccb.org/fast) to subscribe to receive the weekly reminder, intention, and reflection by email. **Or text "FAST" to 55000 to receive text messages.**

## Marriage and the Supreme Court

The Supreme Court is now considering whether states can define marriage as the union of one man and one woman, and whether a state that does so must recognize a “marriage” contracted out-of-state by two persons of the same sex.

The Court is expected to rule on both questions by the end of June. A broad, adverse ruling would redefine marriage in the law throughout the entire country, changing thousands of laws regarding marriage, family and children and threatening religious freedom in numerous ways. The United States Catholic Conference of Bishops has urged the Supreme Court to *uphold* the right of states to define marriage as the union of husband and wife and to recognize only such unions, all for the good of society and particularly for children. What can you do? Click [here](#) to read more.

## Definitions Matter

The Supreme Court is currently considering two questions: whether the 14th Amendment requires states to issue marriage licenses to two persons of the same sex and whether states are required to recognize same sex “marriages” that were contracted in another state. The answer should be “no” to both questions.

Marriage is and can only be the union of one man and one woman. It is the only institution that unites a man and a woman with each other and with any child who comes from their union. Only a man and a woman can become husband and wife, father and mother, together.



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## WCC Joins Coalition Opposing Assisted Suicide

“The WCC has become a member of the newly formed ‘Wisconsin Coalition Against Doctor-Prescribed Suicide.’ The coalition was formed in response to a nationwide movement that seeks to make assisted suicide legal in all 50 states. Companion bills Senate Bill 28 (Sen. Fred Risser, D-Madison) and Assembly Bill 67 (Rep. Sondy Pope, D-Cross Plains) would legalize assisted suicide in Wisconsin. Though neither bill is likely to receive a public hearing this session, disability rights groups, medical organizations, faith-based groups, right-to-life groups, and family organizations have formed a coalition to speak out on the issue.” (Wisconsin Catholic Conference)

## USCCB Video on Physician Assisted Suicide

The USCCB is pleased to announce that the second video in their series on physician-assisted suicide is now ready: *Jeanette's Story: 15 Years Later*.

"In 2000, when Oregon resident Jeanette Hall was told she had less than a year to live, she asked her cancer doctor for the pills to commit suicide. Dr. Kenneth Stevens got to know her better and inspired her to consider treatment. The tumor just “melted away” and now, 15 years later, Jeanette says: 'It's great to be alive!'"

Click [here](#) to view the video.

## Nebraska Becomes the 19th State to End Death Penalty

Click [here](#) to read more.

## Burning Hearts Disciples

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

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## Legislative Advocacy

### Save the Date

[USCCB/Justice For Immigration National Convening](#),  
November 11-13, 2015

### Action Alert

[Protect Poor Households](#) - House of Representatives to vote on funding for transportation and affordable housing programs

### WCC Capitol Update

[Abortions on Pain-Capable Unborn Children](#) and new bills of interest

## Human Trafficking in Northeast Wisconsin

Human trafficking is the fastest growing criminal industry in the world. People are used for sexual exploitation and labor. Of those trafficked, 80% are women and 50% are children. Human trafficking is present in the Fox Valley, Green Bay and rural areas within the Diocese.

The Living Justice Society Board of Trustees has been using some of their meeting time to become educated in what human trafficking looks like in Wisconsin. To prove that human sex exploitation is happening right in our back yards, an officer from the Brown County Sheriff's Department presented, to the Board, his experience working to help eradicate this heinous crime in our city and our state.

He has encountered a woman engaging in illegal activities in an establishment across from the Diocesan Offices. The officer is trying to ascertain whether this woman is working on her own or if she is being held in captivity by a pimp who controls her. Most victims are not free to carry on business but are carefully sent and watched by a pimp who supplies Johns for the purpose of sexual exploitation.

Sister Celine Goessl, a Holy Cross Sister whose provincial house is in Merrill, Wisconsin but who lives in Green Bay, works with numerous groups concerned about this crime in our country, which is second only to drug and gun trafficking. She is available to give presentations on what human trafficking looks like in Wisconsin and the dangers it has for our children.

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

To find out more on human trafficking, click [here](#).

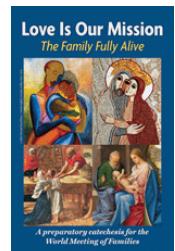
The Green Bay Press Gazette recently printed an article on human trafficking. Click [here](#) to read the article.

## Preparing for the World Meeting of Families 2015 Theme #8—A Home for the Wounded Heart



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 Catechesis plays a central role in each World Meeting of Families. The catechesis, 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](http://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 # 8—A Home for the Wounded Heart

Many people, especially today, face painful situations resulting from poverty, disability, illness and addictions, unemployment, and the loneliness of advanced age. But divorce and same-sex attraction impact the life of the family in different but powerful ways. Christian families and networks of families should be sources of mercy, safety, friendship and support for those struggling with these issues.

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## 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](#).



## Diocesan Gathering of Families August 29, 2015

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

## 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.

## "A Marriage in the Lord"

The 2015-2016 schedule will soon be ready. Parishes, check your mail for new brochures at the end of June. The schedule will also be available on line at [www.marriageinthelord.org](#).

## Fortnight For Freedom 2015 Resources

[Diocese of Green Bay Living Justice Website](#)  
[USCCB - Fortnight 2015:Freedom to Bear Witness](#)

## Family and Married Life

**Christian Family Movement:** Are you interested in getting together in small groups in your parish? Christian Family Movement (CFM) is a national network of parish/neighborhood small groups of Catholics and their families. Parents, including empty-nesters and grandparents, meet regularly in one another's homes or at the parish. Through the use of programming and the dynamics of group interaction, Christian values are reinforced and families are encouraged to reach out in action to others. Check it out! [www.cfm.org](#)

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

- Do you feel lost, alone or bored in your marriage?
- Are you frustrated, hurt or angry with your spouse?
- Are you constantly fighting? Or, do you simply shut down?
- Have you thought about separation or divorce?
- Does talking about it only make it worse?

... Retrouvaille provides marriage help!



## Be Alerted When Abortionist 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 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](mailto:cestermann@new.rr.com).

## The Dangers of POLST

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

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## Make a Difference

Do you have an interest in making our community safer? Do you have a genuine willingness to help others? Consider being part of our mission:

*People helping people transition from incarceration into community*

Volunteers needed to be in weekly support group meetings for ex-offenders released from incarceration. Contact Danel Burchby @ 920-840-3037 or dburchby\_gw.gwicc.org. Click [here](#) for the brochure or visit [www.circles-of-support.org](http://www.circles-of-support.org).

## Journey of Hope

[Journey of Hope](#) is a Prayer Service developed and led by a team of survivors of sexual abuse, friends of survivors and other caring persons. It is a gathering in hope and prayer for all those affected by sexual abuse. Everyone and anyone is welcomed. The last 2015 date is July 9th.

## 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 Office of Living Justice is continuing to update our email database.

Please contact Theresa McKenna at [tmckenna@gbdioc.org](mailto: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.gbdio.org](http://www.gbdio.org).

Like us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter.