



Diocese of
Green Bay



Micah 6:8

Live, Love, Walk

December, 2012- Vol 1, Issue 4

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A Note from the Living Justice Director

The Advent and Christmas seasons are two of my favorite times of year! There is something so magical about the fact that we are going to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ in just four short weeks. It is a season of hope and joy and filled with opportunities to celebrate this time with our families. Thanksgiving, while not part of the Advent or Christmas seasons, was another time to celebrate with our loved ones. I treasure the time that I have with them because I know in the chaos of everyone's life, it is rare to be able to gather everyone together.

With that in mind, each year, it continues to shock me as I watch the consumerism of our society take over these treasurable moments. Black Friday, (which starts in some stores on Thanksgiving Day!), Small Business Saturday, Cyber Monday...I'm amazed Sunday does not have a new name yet. We are ignoring our own immediate families to go shopping, and we can see alienation theory come to life because it is precisely the consumerism that isolates us and corrodes our relationships with others. Why can we not take the time to enjoy the holiday without rushing off to grab the new "it" toy? Also, when we are so caught up in the shopping mode, we have to remember how we may alienating our brothers and sisters in Christ from across the globe.

The consumerism is rampant largely in part because people are obsessed with finding a good deal. But finding a good deal also comes at a cost. When a person is obsessed with what the final price or what the final markdown of a product is, they oftentimes forget to check the label to see where the product is made. It is important to remember that a large percentage of products sold in the United States are made overseas in developing countries like China, India, Bangladesh, etc. that are working to enter into the free market in on a global level. However, the opportunities to enter into fair trade agreements are much more difficult for small business owners and entrepreneurs overseas. But, Catholic Social Teaching calls us to live in solidarity with our brothers and sisters from around the globe. It states, "We are one human family whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences. We are our brothers' and sisters' keepers, wherever they may be. Loving our neighbor has global dimensions in a shrinking world." By participating in the Fair



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Updating our Database

The Office of Living Justice is updating our email database! Please contact Tanya at twollenberg@gbdioc.org if there is a new email address that we should have on file for you to receive Living Justice updates. Thank you for your help!

Save the Date

Free Advent Concerts for Families
 A Free Concert! Families will enjoy!

**Behold the Lamb of God:
 The True Tall Tale of the
 Coming of Christ**

Come experience the story of salvation through the music of Andrew Peterson contemporary Christian Artist.

This one hour presentation visits the Old Testament up to the birth of Christ. It is a wonderful Advent reflection. People of all ages will enjoy the music and story- telling.

A local group of musicians will be performing the pieces. The story, set to music, will enhance your Advent experience and bring greater appreciation for Christmas.

Bring your family, friends, and loved ones for this unique expression of

The concerts scheduled for the remaining Wednesdays of Advent

Wed., Dec. 5 at 6:30 PM - St. Katharine Drexel Parish - St. Mary's Site, 119 W 7th St. Kaukauna

Wed., Dec. 12 at 7:00 PM - St. Pius Parish, Appleton

Wed. Dec. 19 at 6:30 PM - St. Mary Parish, Appleton

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December 24-January 1

Trade movement inside the United States, it is a wonderful way to support sustainable opportunities for disadvantaged producers in other parts of the world. To learn more about how you or your parish can start using Fair Trade products, please check out the Catholic Relief Services website: <http://www.crsfairtrade.org/> or feel free to contact me for more information.



During the Advent and Christmas seasons, let us take back the opportunities to spend time with our families, celebrate Christ together, and really take a look at how our purchases in the United States have a global impact.

May God continue to grace each of us with abundant blessings!

Catherine

Catholic Social Justice

The end of November marked the birthday of a man who many have not heard of but know the phrase he created, social justice. Luigi Taparelli (1793-1862) was an Italian Jesuit Scholar who wrote frequently about the developing social issues resulting from the Industrial Revolution. His influence was vast on Pope Leo XIII's social encyclical, Rerum Novarum, which emphasized all people have equal rights and thus recognized the dignity of the poor and working classes.



Taparelli believed social justice should emphasize freedom and respect for human beings and that small community institutions (family, church, local organizations) should be allowed to flourish and not be overrun by government. A much different approach is prominent today as many social challenges are addressed by government intervention rather than smaller associations and communities. Small, local based organizations can be created to meet the individual needs of the

community and its members. Each situation of need is truly unique and thus should require the attention of its population for best focus and resolution. Today, for example, poverty is commonly addressed by more government spending on welfare programs. Yet, many times these various federal programs discourage work and marriage. True social justice should strengthen marriage and nurture employment opportunities so people have the opportunity to properly escape poverty and thus strengthen families.

We still share many of the same challenges that Luigi Taparelli did in his day. Our diocese is currently forming a social justice society and board for the purpose of strengthening our parishes, communities and families to adequately address social justice

Diocesan Offices Closed
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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Please join The Most Reverend David L. Ricken, DD, JCL at the Diocesan Respect Life Masses at 7:00 p.m.

Saints Peter and Paul
Catholic Church, Green Bay
Friday, January 18th
&
St. Bernadette
Catholic Church, Appleton
Tuesday, January 22nd

Click [here](#) for a copy of the Respect Life Mass flyer.

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August 6 and 7, 2013 for anyone in ministry to engaged couples preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage. On the evening of August 6th the focus will be given to parish volunteers whose focus area of ministry is marriage preparation. During the day of August 7th the focus will be directed to pastors, parish directors, coordinators and pastoral associates who minister to engaged couples. More details to come.

needs. We are in need members and involvement for the program to succeed.

Please feel free to contact me at (920) 272-8344 if you wish to find out more on how to assist our diocese in helping our needy people.

Eric Weydt

Catholic Social Justice Coordinator

Family & Married Life

HOLY NAMES

Recently, the members of the Diocesan Curia studied the Second Commandment as part of the monthly USCCA classes we all attend. The Second Commandment states: "You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain" (Ex 20:7) (CCC, # 2142-2167).

This commandment calls us to reverence God's holy name, to respect the name of God, and avoid the improper use of God's name, of Jesus Christ, of our Blessed Mother and of the saints in an offensive way.

During this season of Advent, I extend an invitation to reflect on the many beautiful names of Jesus Christ; to take a moment each day to quietly speak the many names found in the Scriptures and in our prayer traditions. Looking at the names of Jesus in the "O Antiphons," which are prayed the last week of Advent before Christmas is a good place to begin: Wisdom, Ruler, Root of Jesse, Key of David, Rising Dawn and Dayspring, King of the Gentiles, Emmanuel. Recently, I uncovered a beautiful Christmas card that I saved (sent by a now-deceased friend), with various names for Jesus printed on the cover: Savior, Lord, Son, Author of Love, Sacrifice, Heavenly Dove, King of Kings, Ruler of Today, Light, Truth and the Way.



As a family, around the table during Advent, perhaps these names or titles of Jesus Christ can be shared and tell why the names are meaningful. Take time to also have a conversation about why person's name is so important. Tell children why you gave them their names. Tell the stories and recall the special

people in your life for whom you named the children. Reflect on why your own parents gave you your name. Within this special time together, pray for family members and people who are in need, using their names.

Hush the Rush! Amid the rush of Advent, let's try to take little moments throughout the day to hush. Reflecting alone or together as a family, on the Holy Name of Jesus can be a simple practice to prepare for Christmas. Blessings of peace and hope in this season of Advent!

Dignity of Human Life



*"Only with prayer -
prayer that storms the heavens for justice
and mercy,
prayer that cleanses our hearts and souls-
will the culture of death that surrounds us
today
be replaced with a culture of life."*

-Pastoral Plan for Pro-Life Activities, U.S. Catholic Bishops

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Opening Prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe (December 12:
Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe)

Mary, Mother of Jesus and Mother of Life, we honor you as Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Thank you for guiding us to your Son, Jesus, who is the Savior and hope of the world.

Renew our hope in Him, that we all may have the courage to stand up for life and bring light into a culture that so desperately needs His love, peace, and guidance.

Please be with us during the next 40 days as we prepare our hearts for the 40th Anniversary of Roe V. Wade, recognizing the many lives lost and the hearts left suffering.

We pray for those who will be participating in the local and national Marches for Life. Give them hope to continue their work for the helpless, and to be a witness to our nation, reminding our country of its commitment to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for all people.

We thank you for listening to our prayers and we ask that you present them to your Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Novena Prayer [40 Days: from Dec. 13-Jan. 21 (remembering the 40th anniversary of Roe V. Wade)]

Our Lady of Guadalupe, we turn to you who are the protectress of unborn children and ask that you intercede for us, so that we may more firmly resolve to join you in protecting all human life.

Let our prayers be united to your perpetual motherly intercession on behalf of those whose lives are threatened, be they in the womb of their mother, on the bed of infirmity, or in the latter years of their life.

May our prayers also be coupled with peaceful action which witnesses to the goodness and dignity of all human life, so that our firmness of purpose may give courage to those who are fearful and bring light to those who are blinded by sin.

Encourage those who will be involved in the March for Life; help them to walk closely with God and to give voice to the cry of the oppressed, in order to remind our nation of its commitment to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for all people.

O Virgin Mother of God, present our petitions to your Son and ask Him to bless us with abundant life.

Amen.

<http://old.usccb.org/prolife/prayervigil/novena.shtml>

Concluding Prayer (January 22: Anniversary of Roe V Wade and Presidential Inauguration)

Our Lady of Guadalupe, we thank you for being with us the past 40 days as we prayed through you to your Son, Jesus Christ. We ask you to hold our nation in your loving arms today as it celebrates the Inauguration of our President and as we remember the 40th Anniversary of Roe V. Wade. Give us courage to be the light of Christ in our nation, sharing our love and hope that come from our faith in your Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Then pray the following prayer for our nation:

God of all nations,
Father of the human family,
we give you thanks for the freedom we exercise
and the many blessings of democracy we enjoy in these United States of America.

We ask for your protection and guidance
for all who devote themselves to the common good,
working for justice and peace at home and around the world.

We lift up all our duly elected leaders and public servants,
those who will serve us as president, as legislators and judges,
those in the military and law enforcement.

Heal us from our differences and unite us, O Lord,
with a common purpose, dedication, and commitment to achieve
liberty and justice
in the years ahead for all people,
and especially those who are most vulnerable in our midst.

Amen.

*Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers, revised edition
(Washington, DC: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops,
2007). The "Prayer After an Election" by Cardinal Adam Maida,
Archbishop of Detroit, is used with permission.*

<http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers/prayer-after-an-election.cfm>

Please click [.b.e.ra](#) for a copy of this prayer card.