

MICAH 6:8

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



Diocese of
Green Bay

Office of Living Justice

March 2013 | Vol. 1, Issue 6

In This Issue

Note from Director
Themes of Catholic Social Teaching
Natural Family Planning Info
40 Days for Life
Free to Be Fully Alive Youth
Conference
End of Life Documents Workshop
News to Celebrate!

Living Justice Contacts



Catherine Zirngibl
Living Justice Director
920-272-8299
czirngibl@gbdioc.org

A Note from the Living Justice Director

Greetings!

Welcome to Micah 6:8! If you are a first time reader of our newsletter, we are very happy to have you join us. In it, you will learn about all of the wonderful happenings in the Diocesan Offices of Living Justice.

But, we also want to hear your voice! In case you have not seen it, below is a brief survey that we are asking a representative from each parish to fill out in order for our offices to better serve you. Please click [here](#) to access the survey.

This information will help our staff better serve your needs, especially throughout the implementation of Bishop Ricken's pastoral letter, "*Parishes: Called to be Holy, Fully Engaged, Fully Alive.*" In it, Bishop Ricken says he is very proud of all the parishes who continuously reach out in assistance to others in so many very practical ways.

One way that we can reach out to others is to support the U.S. bishops' effort to pass compassionate and comprehensive immigration reform. In last month's newsletter, I mentioned that there was a bipartisan Senate plan drafted by 8 senators. Our legislators need to continue to hear the Catholic voice on immigration! The USCCB's Justice for Immigrants office has a post card campaign that will help make sure our voice gets heard. Please click [here](#) to send this electronic post card to your legislators.

We hope that you enjoy hearing about the on-goings in our offices, and we look forward to hearing from you!

Many blessings,

Catherine

Catholic Social Justice



Celia McKee
 Dignity of Human Life
 Coordinator
 920-272-8271
cmckee@gbdioc.org



Eric Weydt
 Catholic Social Justice
 Coordinator
 920-272-8344
eweydt@gbdioc.org



Peg VandeHey

Themes of Catholic Social Teaching

"Sustaining a common culture and a common commitment to moral values is not easy in our world." (United States Catholic Bishops, 1986, Economic Justice for All)

This month, we will be exploring the second of the seven "Themes of Catholic Social Teaching" titled "Call to Family, Community and Participation." In looking at this theme, clearly we need a moral vision, especially in the current "hot button" areas of economics and politics.

As Catholics, we need a moral vision now more than ever. Economically, our country and communities have clear pressure between the cultures and economic demands that are placed upon them. Unemployment, rising fuel prices and the recession in general have all contributed to this pressure. The cost of this fragmentation is a decline in how one's work serves the whole community and an increased emphasis on personal goals and private interests. The dignity and life of millions of men, women, and children hang in balance. The most basic moral criterion for all economic decisions, policies and institutions is this: They must be at the service of all people, especially the poor.

In the political world, our church calls for a different kind of engagement: one shaped by the moral convictions of well-formed consciences and focused on the dignity of every human being, the pursuit of the common good, and the protection of the weak and vulnerable. The family - based on marriage between a man and a woman - is the first and foremost societal unit for the creation and nurturing of children. Respect for the family as well as dignity for all human beings especially the weak and vulnerable, should be reflected in policy and program and should be prominent in our moral decision making.

How we organize our society - in economics and politics, in law and policy directly affects the common good and the capacity of individuals to develop their full potential.

May the season of Lent bring you closer to our Lord and Savior.

Eric Weydt
Catholic Social Justice Coordinator

Resources

- Economic Justice for All, United States Catholic Bishops (1986)
- Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship-A Call to Political
- Responsibility from the Catholic Bishops of the United States (2007)

Family and Married Life

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

Balanced information? How often do we hear about what the Catholic Church is against? How often do we hear what the Catholic Church is promoting and

Family and Married Life
Coordinator
920-272-8315
pvandehey@gbdioc.org

Database Updates

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

Please contact Theresa McKenna, the new administrative assistant for the Department of Worship and Living Justice, at tmckenna@gbdioc.org if you have a new email address that should be on file for Living Justice newsletters. Thank you for your help!

Save the Date

March 23
End of Life Documents
Workshop

March 24
Palm Sunday

March 28
Holy Thursday

March 29
Good Friday

March 30
Holy Saturday

March 31
Easter Sunday

**Please note that the
Diocesan offices will be closed
from March 28-April 1.*

April 5-7
Retrouvaille
Click [here](#) to learn more

April 10
Catholics at the Capitol

why? With the increased media attention about the retirement of Pope Benedict XVI and the HHS Mandate, there has also been increased media focus toward the Church's stance on artificial contraception. However, there is no consideration given to the teaching that supports the life-giving approach for married couples to live their vows by being open to life. With support of the Church, there is a method for married couples to space their children, is low in cost, has no physical side effects, fosters authentic marital love, respect, honesty and communication. It is called Natural Family Planning.

Click [here](#) to read more.

What is it Natural Family Planning (NFP)?

Natural Family Planning is an educational program, based on scientific research that helps a couple plan their family. Couples are taught to observe simple natural signs and symptoms to become aware of their fertile and infertile periods. Once a couple learns about their fertility, NFP is used to achieve or space pregnancies without drugs, devices, or surgical procedures. Natural Family Planning builds communication between couples and promotes the dignity of the human person within the context of marriage and family life. Click [here](#) to read about NFP.

Where can I learn more?

In the Diocese of Green Bay, there are over twenty certified instructors of Natural Family Planning, teaching several different methods. Click [here](#) for a listing of instructors.

Learning about NFP is not limited to engaged couples. Couples in all stages of married life can also learn from instructors. Please check the listing of instructors [here](#).

For inner peace and for family happiness, let God reign in your heart and in your marriage! Couples who respect God's order of creation will enjoy His blessings.

Dignity of Human Life



Feb. 13-March 24

Green Bay is strongly in the midst of its 40 Days for Life campaign, being a prayerful presence at the Medical Arts Building 24 hours per day. Their dedication is powerful!

Catholics at the Capitol

Please join us this year for **Catholics at the Capitol** on Wednesday, April 10!



Our theme is "Reclaiming the Common Good in the Year of Faith." There will be a keynote address by The Most Reverend Peter F. Christensen, Bishop of Superior, Wis., with several breakout sessions addressing the various themes of Catholic Social Teaching. Participants will also have the opportunity to visit with their legislators in order to continue professing the Gospel message.

To register, please fill out the [attached form](#) or feel free to contact the Living Justice office.

News to Celebrate!

-Planned Parenthood Closings!

- Four in Wisconsin
- Two in Iowa
- One in North Carolina
- One in Oregon

-As of Day 28 of March for Life (March 12), 346 babies have been saved!

-A pregnant Texas teen has won the right to have her baby

For those of you who are unfamiliar with 40 Days for Life, the campaign seeks "to bring together the body of Christ in a spirit of unity during a focused 40 day campaign of prayer, fasting, and peaceful activism, with the purpose of repentance, to seek God's favor to turn hearts and minds from a culture of death to a culture of life, thus bringing an end to abortion." (www.40daysforlife.com)

Since the beginning of this Campaign, which began on February 13, there have been **346 confirmed babies saved** (this data is as of March 12)! For more results from the 11 Campaigns which have been held, please visit 40 Days for Life [website](#).

****Respond to 1 brief survey question about 40 Days for Life [here!](#)**

Free To Be... Fully Alive Youth Conference - February 24



Fox Valley Catholic Youth Ministry Association - Fox Valley and the Diocesan Dignity of Human Life Office held its Youth Conference called, "Free to Be... Fully Alive" on February 24 at St. Thomas More in Appleton. About 135 people (mostly young people) participated in the day.

Ice breakers began the conference, including videotaping our own version of the Harlem Shake! Click [here](#) to see it.

Following the opening, Drew Mulloy led us in a session about the Mass, bringing us into a deeper awareness as we joined the Liturgy at St. Thomas More that morning. Presiders included: Fr. Dan Schuster (Vocations Director), Fr. Jewel Aytona (Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help), and Fr. Jim Lucas (Pastor of St. Thomas More).

Fr. Jewel entertained the group after lunch with his break-dancing and beat-boxing moves!

after she reached an agreement with her parents, who she had sued claiming they were forcing her to abort the baby!

-WomanKind Medical Clinic, a crisis pregnancy center in Appleton, has expanded its facility! Bishop Ricken blessed the new addition on Thursday, February 28th. Click [here](#) for The Compass article.

Surveys

If you have attended either of these events, please take the survey by clicking the link!

40 Days for Life

Free to Be...Fully Alive Conference

Diocesan Website and Social Media Links

Diocese of Green Bay website

For more information on the Diocese of Green Bay, visit www.gbdioc.org.

Like us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter!

Diocese of Green Bay

Like us on Facebook 

Follow us on  twitter

The Compass

Official newspaper for the diocese

Like us on Facebook 



Marcellino and Anthony D'Ambrosio led us in sessions about how we are "free to be... fully alive" in our world today when we place our faith and trust in the Lord, even if that means sacrifice and persecution.

We ended the day with Eucharistic Adoration, as well as a teen witness.

*****Please take a moment to share with us what you feel is the top moral threat to our youth today. Click [here](#)!***

End of Life Documents Workshop

A workshop on End of Life Documents will be held on Saturday, March 23, from 10 am to 12 noon at St. Pius X, 500 West Marquette Street, Appleton for all the Catholic parishes in the Fox Valley. Park in the lot bound by Marquette and Division Streets, enter the far north doors for the meeting in the Fellowship Hall. Tina Poppe, a hospice nurse from St. Paul Elder Services, Sara Buscher a retired attorney and volunteer with the Diocesan Dignity of Human Life Office, and Jan Beringer, Parish Nurse for St. Katharine Drexel Parish in Kaukauna will be the presenters.

To register, please call or email Celia McKee, Diocesan Dignity of Human Life Office at 920-272-8271 or cmckee@gbdioc.org. If you want to be sure your family can make decisions for you if you cannot, you need to attend this program!

Follow us on 

Website for Parishes

[Click here to visit the diocesan website for parishes.](#) At this website you can read Bishop Ricken's pastoral letter, "*Parishes: Called to be Holy, Fully Engaged and Fully Alive,*" and find other parish-building resources.

