

THE PRAIRIE CATHOLIC

Pastoral news from across the Diocese of New Ulm

Minnesota's Most Rural Diocese Diocese of New Ulm Vol. 25 No. 1 September 2010



(See pages 3 & 10 in this issue for additional information.)

Catholic Charities USA to mark 100 years of service to those in need Diocese of New Ulm joins in the jubilee supporting 50 years of related services

by Thomas Keaveny, director
Catholic Charities

September 2010 marks Catholic Charities' Centennial Month, to be highlighted by Super Sunday, on September 26 (www.catholiccharitiesusa.org). On this day, parishes throughout the nation will reflect on the service Catholic Charities agencies provide in thousands of programs serving an estimated 8.5 million persons annually. Services provided are diverse and quite unique, created by need, history, and the call from parishes and dioceses for the Catholic Church to respond.

Services vary from the simplicity of soup kitchens in church basements to the complexity of substance abuse treatment in a residential/hospital

based setting. A few examples of the programs that Catholic Charities agencies provide are homes for the homeless, residential treatment and foster care, adoption and post-abortion counseling, planning after an unplanned pregnancy, counseling to prevent a marriage dissolution or counseling following a marital breakup, legislative advocacy and policy development, and response to natural disasters.

Catholic Charities at the diocesan level

The Diocese of New Ulm has its own unique history of Catholic Charities and related services since the announcement of its establishment in 1957.

In 1959, under the leadership of Bishop Alphonse J. Schladweiler, Fr. Raymond Neudecker was appointed the first director of Catholic Family Service and he received graduate preparation in social work from the Catholic University in Washington, D.C. Upon his return in the 1960s, the diocese began providing counseling services, services to unmarried parents, foster care, and related adoption services. Catholic Family Service staff included a social worker, providing pregnancy counseling and adoption services, a family and marriage counselor, Fr. Neudecker, the director, and a secretary, Kathy Huebert, who still serves on the diocesan staff.

After the closing of Catholic Family Service in the 1970s, adoption and pregnancy counseling services continued to be provided through collaborative agreements with Catholic Charities of the dioceses of St. Cloud and Winona.

From 1980 and through 1996, Sr. Cathan Culhane, OSB (1980-1990) and then Barbara Dietz (1990-1996) provided pregnancy counseling and adoptive services in conjunction with the licensed child placement resources of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of St. Cloud. Similarly, Mark Ludowese (then director of the Rural Life program for the diocese) and staff worked in collaboration with Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota to provide counseling and support through the "Neighbor to Neighbor" project. Initially designed for farmers losing homesteads and farms during the farm crisis of the late 1980s and following the drought of 1988, it also came to include townspeople and business owners, and provided related training and support for clergy.

Annual DMA provides ongoing financial support

In 2007, Bishop John C. Nienstedt directed the implementation of a new Catholic Charities for the Diocese of New Ulm with offices located in Hutchinson, Willmar, Marshall, and New Ulm. This followed the first Diocesan Ministries Appeal (DMA), which enjoyed an overwhelming amount of support.



(photo by Joan Weicherding)

Diocese of New Ulm Catholic Charities staff

Since that time, 274 individuals, couples and/or families have received ongoing counseling services; 97 individuals have received counseling services related to an unplanned pregnancy, planning for an adoption, or addressing a post-abortion question or experience; and approximately 2,200 individuals have participated in educational programs or groups processing grief and loss following a tragedy or an unexpected death.

These are but glimpses of the various outreach and related social services the faithful of the Diocese of New Ulm have helped support through the annual DMA.

It is due to these generous gifts to the DMA that the diocese continues to be able to provide Catholic Charities services to those in need and *Hope for Years to Come*.

Pictured above (front, l-r) Pualette Kral, administrative coordinator; Thomas Keaveny, MSW, LICSW, director; (Back row) Counselors - Sandra Rickertsen, MS, LAMFT; Tami Dale, MS, LPC, LSW; and Lois Byrne, PBVM, MSW, LICSW. Consultants - Lester Heitke, MA, LP; Kristen Peltola, MS, LPC, LMFT; and Ane Fitzgerald, Ph.D, LMFT.

Catholic Charity advisors (not pictured): Barb Dietz, LSW; Meg Dwyer-Lee, PSY, DLP; Sr. Therese Collison, SSND; Sr. Carol Freking, OSF; Noel "Chuck" Koenigs, MSW; Cindy Nelson, LSW and Fr. Paul Schumacher.



If you or anyone you know is in need of Catholic Charities services call toll-free 1-866-670-5163.

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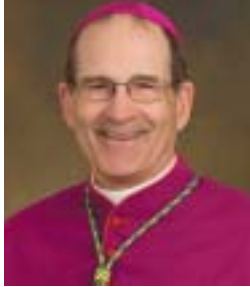
Thomas Keaveny

Vocations Team

Bishop John M. LeVoir, team leader;
Fr. Todd Petersen, director; Fr. Craig
Timmerman, associate director;
Margaret McHugh, vocation awareness

BE NOT AFRAID

“Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship”



Bishop John M. LeVoir

Politicians are beginning to garner support for themselves as the fall elections draw near. In making decisions about a politician's suitability for public office, it is important for Catholics to follow the principles of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops document, *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*. The document is not lengthy and I strongly encourage reading it. This column will summarize some of its salient points.

Faithful Citizenship calls Catholics to evaluate policy positions, party platforms, and candidates' promises and actions in light of the Gospel and the moral and social teaching of the Church in order to help build a better world. The document assists in this evaluation by addressing four questions:

1. Why does the Church teach about

issues affecting public policy?

2. Who in the Church should participate in political life?

3. How does the Church help the Catholic faithful to speak about political and social questions?

4. What does the Church say about Catholic social teaching in the public square?

Why does the Church teach about issues affecting public policy?

Faithful Citizenship says: "Some question whether it is appropriate for the Church to play a role in political life. However, the obligation to teach about moral values that should shape our lives, including our public lives, is central to the mission given to the Church by Jesus Christ. Moreover, the United States Constitution protects the faithful citizenship right of individual believers and religious bodies to participate and speak out without government interference, favoritism, or discrimination. Civil law should fully recognize and protect the Church's right, obligation, and opportunities to participate in society without being forced to abandon or ignore its central moral convictions" (no. 11).

Who in the Church should participate in political life?

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* says: "It is necessary that all participate, each according to his position and role, in promoting the

common good. This obligation is inherent in the dignity of the human person...As far as possible citizens should take an active part in public life" (nos. 1913-1915). The role of the bishops in promoting the common good is to hand on the Church's moral and social teaching. For their part, the laity, formed in this teaching, has a direct duty to work for a just ordering of society (see *Deus Caritas Est*, no. 29).

How does the Church help the Catholic faithful to speak about political and social questions?

The Church equips the faithful to speak about political and social questions by helping them to develop a well-formed conscience. "The formation of conscience includes several elements. First, there is a desire to embrace goodness and truth. For Catholics this begins with a willingness and openness to seek the truth and what is right by studying Sacred Scripture and the teaching of the Church as contained in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. It is also important to examine the facts and background information about various choices. Finally, prayerful reflection is essential to discern the will of God. Catholics must also understand that if they fail to form their consciences they can make erroneous judgments" (no. 18). *Faithful Citizenship* states that:

"There are some things we must never do, as individuals or as a society, because they are always incompatible with love of God and neighbor. Such actions are so deeply flawed that they are always opposed to the authentic good of persons. These are called 'intrinsically evil' actions. They must always be rejected and opposed and must never be supported or condoned. A prime example is the intentional taking of innocent human life, as in abortion and euthanasia" (no. 22). "Similarly, direct threats to the sanctity and dignity of human life, such as human cloning and destructive research on human embryos, are also intrinsically evil. These must always be opposed. Other direct assaults on innocent human life and violations of human dignity, such as genocide, torture, racism, and the targeting of noncombatants in acts of terror or war, can never be justified" (no. 23).

Catholics are called upon not only to combat evil, but to do good as well. As Blessed Pope John XXIII taught, "[Each of us] has the right to life, to bodily integrity, and to the means which are suitable for the proper development of life; these are primarily food, clothing, shelter, rest, medical care, and, finally, the necessary social services" (*Pacem in Terris*, no. 11). These are goods in

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Bishop's September Calendar

1 New Ulm: 10 a.m. Catholic Pastoral Center. Capital Campaign Staff Meeting.

New Ulm: 1:15 p.m. Cathedral of the Holy Trinity. School Mass for the Opening of the Academic Year.

3 New Ulm: 1 p.m. Catholic Pastoral Center. Vocations Team Meeting.

7 New Ulm: 9:30 a.m. Catholic Pastoral Center. Diocesan Staff Meeting.

8 Olivia: 11 a.m. Church of St. Aloysius. Capital Campaign Regional Meeting.

Olivia: 12:30 p.m. Church of St. Aloysius. Committee on Parishes Meeting.

10-12 Duluth: Deacon Formation Program.

13 United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People Meeting (via Video Conference).

14 Olivia: 1 p.m. Church of St. Aloysius. Priests' Council Meeting.

Montevideo: 5 p.m. Church of St. Joseph. Capital Campaign Regional Meeting.

15 New Ulm: 1 p.m. Catholic Pastoral Center. Finance Council Meeting.

New Ulm: 7 p.m. Catholic Pastoral Center. Property Committee Meeting.

16-20 Kansas City, Kansas: Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem Annual Meeting and Investiture.

21 New Ulm: 10:30 a.m. Catholic Pastoral Center. Priest Personnel Board Meeting.

22 St. Paul: 9 a.m. Carondelet Center. Minnesota Catholic Conference Board Meeting.

24 Sleepy Eye: 9 a.m. Church of St. Mary. School Pastors-Principals Meeting.

Winsted: 7 p.m. Ben Weinbeck Field. Homecoming Football Game.

25 Morgan: 4 p.m. Church of St. Michael. Pastor Installation of Msgr. Eugene L. Lozinski.

26 Lamberton: 9 a.m. Church of St. Joseph. Pastoral Administrator Installation of Michel A. Pekar, Jr.

Springfield: 10:30 a.m. Church of St. Raphael. Confirmation.

27 New Ulm: 1 p.m. Catholic Pastoral Center. Capital Campaign Committee Meeting.

28 Olivia: *Good Leaders. Good Shepherds.*

30 Sleepy Eye: 5 p.m. Divine Providence Community Home Chapel. 50th Anniversary Mass.

English translation of the new Roman Missal gets the green light from Vatican

U.S. adaptations to Mass prayers also approved; implementation set for first Sunday of Advent 2011

Washington - Catholics in the United States will begin using the long-awaited English translation of the Roman Missal on the first Sunday of Advent in 2011, Cardinal Francis E. George of Chicago said August 20. The Cardinal's announcement as president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops marks the formal beginning of a more than 15-month period of education and training leading to the first use of the "third typical edition" of the Roman Missal at English-language Masses in the United States.

The text was approved by the Vatican, and the approval was accompanied by a June 23 letter from Cardinal Llovera Antonio Cañizares, Prefect of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments. The Congregation also provided guidelines for publication.

In addition, on July 24, the Vatican gave approval for several adaptations, including additional prayers for the Penitential Act at Mass and the Renewal of Baptismal Promises on Easter Sunday. Also approved are texts of prayers for feasts specific to the



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United States such as Thanksgiving, Independence Day, and the observances of feasts for saints such as Damien of Molokai, Katharine Drexel, and Elizabeth Ann Seton. The Vatican also approved the Mass for Giving Thanks to God for the Gift of Human Life, which can be celebrated on January 22.

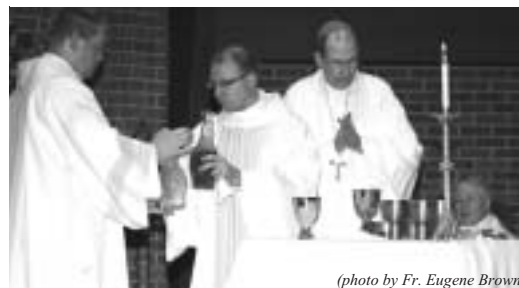
Cardinal George announced receipt of the documents in an August 20 letter to the U.S. Bishops and issued a decree of proclamation that states, "The use of the third edition of the Roman Missal enters into use in the dioceses of the United States of America as of the

First Sunday of Advent, November 27, 2011. From that date forward, no other edition of the Roman Missal may be used in the dioceses of the United States of America." The date of implementation was chosen to allow publishers time to prepare texts and parishes and dioceses to educate parishioners.

"We can now move forward and continue with our important catechetical efforts as we prepare the text for publication," Cardinal George said.

Staff of the bishops' Secretariat of Divine Worship will begin to prepare the text for publication and collaborate with the staff of the International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL), which will assist bishops' conferences in bringing the text to publication. In particular, ICEL has been preparing the chant settings of the texts of the Missal for use in the celebration of the Mass. Once all necessary elements have been incorporated into the text and the preliminary layout is complete, the final text will go to the publishers to produce the ritual text, catechetical resources, and participation aids for use in the Liturgy.

Jacob Niemand ordained June 5 to the diaconate



(photo by Fr. Eugene Brown)

Diocese of New Ulm seminarian Jacob R. Niemand was ordained to the Holy Order of the Diaconate on June 5 at the Church of St. Joseph, Montevideo, by Bishop John M. LeVoir. Niemand has finished his third year of theology and is currently doing his parish internship at the Church of St. Mary in Sleepy Eye until the fall of 2011. He is the son of Carleton and Patricia Niemand of Montevideo. Pictured (l-r): Deacons Zachary Peterson and Jacob Niemand, Bishop LeVoir, and Fr. James Devorak, pastor of St. Joseph.

Three diocesan priests receive *Spirit of TEC* award

by Fr. Dennis Labat



Fr. Petersen Msgr. Wyffels Fr. Hesse

Each year the TEC (Together Encountering Christ) Conference, an organization designed to sustain the spiritual quality of the local TEC movements, formed in dioceses throughout the country, invite diocesan level TEC Centers to nominate individuals to receive the *Spirit of TEC* award. Recipients should show dedication and service to TEC, and in doing so, have strengthened the spirit of TEC through their witness and example.

Since we recently celebrated the Year for Priests, it was fitting that the Diocese of New Ulm Riverbend TEC nominate three diocesan priests who have been or are currently involved in supporting the TEC retreats in the diocese. In past years, a number of the priests have received this award. Since Riverbend TEC began in 1977, there have been thirty-six priests who have made a TEC weekend.

Recipients of this year's *Spirit of TEC* award are Fr. Todd Petersen, Msgr. Robert Wyffels, and Fr. Anthony Hesse. Following are

excerpts of the narrative that was submitted for award consideration:

Fr. Todd Petersen is a man of deep faith and devotion to the Church and to her people. His love is evident in the way he talks about the Paschal Mystery with excitement and eager joy. . . . Riverbend TEC and the diocese have been richly blessed by his presence and ministry; as a parish priest, as a spiritual director on TEC weekends, and as diocesan Vocations Director. . . . We thank you, Fr. Todd, for your dedicated service to TEC, to the Church, and to her people.

Msgr. Robert Wyffels has long been a supporter of TEC. He made RB # 4, the first Riverbend TEC in Sleepy Eye. He helped the program to grow when he welcomed the retreat weekends to St. Mary's in Sleepy Eye in 1978.

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Bishop announces changes to diocesan staff

Bishop John M. LeVoir has announced the following changes to the Diocesan Pastoral Center staff.

Effective June 30, 2010

Sr. Mary Charles Mayer, RSM, has submitted her resignation as director of Communications, and it has been accepted. She has been reassigned by the Religious Sisters of Mercy to begin a new foundation of her community in St. Louis. In addition, she has been appointed director of the Office of Consecrated Life for the Archdiocese of St. Louis, effective July 1.

Effective September 1, 2010

Dan Rossini will assume the duties of the director of Communications, while retaining his responsibilities as Coordinator of Staff. He has considerable experience in this field. Most recently, he spent six years as editor and general manager of *The Catholic Times*, the diocesan newspaper of the Diocese of La Crosse, Wisconsin, before coming to the Diocese of New Ulm last year.

Thomas Keaveny, MSW, LICSW, has been appointed director of pastoral planning,

while retaining his duties as director of Catholic Charities. He has extensive expertise in this area, having served as the director of planning for the Diocese of St. Cloud from 1997 to 2002.

Steve Spilman has been hired as capital campaign administrator. He will work on the promotion, organization, and execution of the diocesan-wide campaign for at least the next two years. Spilman is currently a deacon candidate for the Diocese of New Ulm and the director of Religious Education at Church of St. Paul, Nicollet.



por Obispo John M. LeVoir

Mientras las elecciones de otoño se aproximan, los políticos están comenzando a obtener apoyo. A la hora de tomar decisiones sobre la idoneidad de un político para cargos públicos, es importante para los católicos seguir los principios del documento de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de los Estados Unidos, *Formado la Conciencia para ser Ciudadanos Fieles*.

Ciudadanos Fieles llama a los católicos a evaluar las posiciones sobre la política, plataformas de los partidos y las promesas de los candidatos y sus acciones debido al Evangelio y la doctrina moral y social de la Iglesia a fin de ayudar a construir un mundo mejor.

(1) ¿Porqué enseña la Iglesia sobre cuestiones que afectan a la política pública? Ciudadanos Fieles dice: "Hay quienes preguntan si es apropiado que la Iglesia juegue un papel en la vida política. Sin embargo, la obligación de enseñar acerca de los valores morales que deberían dar forma a nuestra vida, incluida nuestra vida pública, es un elemento central de la misión que Jesucristo encomendó a la Iglesia. Lo que es aún más, la Constitución de Estados Unidos protege el derecho de cada creyente y de cada institución

No Tengas Miedo Formando la Conciencia para ser Ciudadanos Fieles

religiosa a participar y decir lo que piense que son interferencias gubernamentales, favoritismos o discriminación. La ley civil debería reconocer y proteger totalmente el derecho, la obligación y las oportunidades de la Iglesia a participar en la sociedad sin ser forzada a abandonar o ignorar sus convicciones morales centrales." (no. 11).

(2) ¿Quién en la Iglesia debería participar en la vida política? El Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica dice: "Es necesario que todos participen, cada uno según el lugar que ocupa y el papel que desempeña, en promover el bien común. Este deber es inherente a la dignidad de la persona humana... los ciudadanos deben cuanto sea posible tomar parte activa en la vida pública (nos. 1913-1915).

(3) ¿Cómo ayuda la Iglesia a los fieles a tratar cuestiones sociales y políticas? La Iglesia equipa a los fieles hablar sobre preguntas sociales y políticas ayudándoles para desarrollar una conciencia bien formada. "La formación de la conciencia incluye varios elementos. Primero, existe el deseo de abrazar el bien y la verdad. Para los católicos esto comienza con el deseo y una actitud abierta de buscar la verdad y lo que es correcto, estudiando la Sagrada Escritura y la doctrina de la Iglesia, contenida en el Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica. También es importante examinar los hechos y antecedentes de las distintas opciones. Finalmente, una reflexión iluminada por la oración es esencial para

discernir la voluntad de Dios. Los católicos también deben entender que si fallan en la formación de su conciencia, pueden cometer juicios erróneos." (no. 18).

Ciudadanos Fieles indica que: "Hay cosas que nunca debemos hacer, ni como individuos ni como sociedad, porque estas son siempre incompatibles con el amor a Dios y al prójimo. Tales acciones son tan profundamente defectuosas que siempre se oponen al bien auténtico de las personas. Estas acciones se llaman 'actos intrínsecamente malos.' Estos siempre se deben rechazar y ser objeto de oposición y nunca se deben apoyar o aprobar. Un ejemplo claro es quitar intencionadamente la vida de un ser humano inocente, como es el caso del aborto y la eutanasia" (no. 22). "Asimismo, las amenazas directas a la santidad y dignidad de la vida humana, como lo son la clonación humana y la investigación científica destructiva de embriones humanos, también son intrínsecamente malos. Estos actos deben siempre ser rechazados. Otros ataques directos a la vida de seres humanos inocentes y la violación de la dignidad humana, como lo son el genocidio, la tortura, el racismo y atentar contra los no combatientes en actos terroristas o de Guerra, jamás pueden ser justificados" (no. 23).

Los católicos están llamados no sólo para combatir el mal, sino para hacer el bien también. Como enseñó el Papa Juan XXIII, "[cada uno de nosotros] tiene el derecho a la vida, a la integridad corporal y a los medios que sean adecuados para el desarrollo

apropiado de la vida; estos son principalmente los alimentos, la ropa, la vivienda, el descanso, la atención médica y por último, los servicios sociales necesarios" (Pacem in Terris, no. 11).

(4) ¿Qué dice la Iglesia sobre la doctrina social católica en el ámbito público? El derecho a la vida y la dignidad del ser humano es el más fundamental de todos los derechos humanos. Una ética coherente de la vida debería guiar a todo compromiso católico en la vida política. La obligación fundamental de respetar la dignidad de cada ser humano como hijos de Dios es la base para el compromiso católico de defender la

vida humana y de otros derechos humanos, desde la concepción hasta la muerte natural.

Hay siete temas claves y perdurables de la tradición social católica que puede ofrecer un marco moral para tomar decisiones en la vida pública. Como se menciona en Ciudadanos Fieles, estos son: La vida y la dignidad de la persona; el llamado a la familia, a la comunidad y a la participación; los derechos y deberes; la opción por los pobres e indefensos; la dignidad del trabajo y los derechos de los trabajadores; la solidaridad; y el cuidado por la creación de Dios. Cada uno de estos temas se explica con más detalles en el documento.

Be not afraid (continued from page 2)

accord with human dignity that Catholics are called upon to promote. (I would strongly suggest reading sections 21 to 39 in *Faithful Citizenship* which treat more thoroughly the complexities of making moral choices and which are not easily summarized.)

What does the Church say about Catholic social teaching in the public square? The right to life and the dignity of the human person are the most fundamental of all human rights. A consistent ethic of life should guide all Catholic engagement in political life. The fundamental obligation to respect the dignity of every human being as a child of God is the foundation for the Catholic commitment to defend human life and other human rights, from conception until natural death.

There are seven central and enduring themes of the Catholic social tradition that can provide a moral framework for making decisions in public life. As listed in *Faithful Citizenship*, these are: The Right to Life and the Dignity of the Human Person; Call to Family, Community, and Participation; Rights and Responsibilities; Option for the Poor and Vulnerable; Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers; Solidarity; and Caring for God's Creation. Each one of these themes is treated more fully in the document itself.

I would like to conclude with a quote from Pope Benedict that is included in *Faithful Citizenship*. The quote highlights the necessity of manifesting outwardly, in public life, our celebration of the Eucharist. "It is important to consider what the Synod Fathers described as *eucharistic consistency*, a quality which our lives are objectively called to embody. Worship pleasing to God can never be a purely private matter, without consequences for our relationships with others: it demands a public witness to our faith. Evidently, this is true for all the baptized, yet it is especially incumbent upon those who, by virtue of their social or political position, must make decisions regarding fundamental values, such as respect for human life, its defense from conception to natural death, the family built upon marriage between a man and a woman, the freedom to educate one's children and the promotion of the common good in all its forms. . . ." (*Sacramentum Caritatis*, no. 83).

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Web site has many resources that can be used to assist in the formation of consciences. See in particular the prayers for *Faithful Citizenship*, www.faithfulcitizenship.org/.

Web site highlights Church's role in immigration debate

Washington - The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Migration and Refugee Services (USCCB/MRS) has partnered with The Catholic University of America to develop an educational Web site that highlights the significant role that the U.S. Catholic bishops and the institutional Church in the United States have played on immigration related issues for almost a century. Visit <http://archives.cua.edu/education/immigration/immigrat>

ion-wel.cfm. For more than eighty years the Catholic Church in the United States, through the successive variations of what today is the USCCB, has provided a strong, institutional presence in support of immigrants and in favor of more just immigration laws. This Web site will facilitate access to primary documents that help to highlight these efforts and an expansive narrative that will provide the historical context necessary to

understand the importance of these documents. In addition, there will be a number of other educational tools that students, faculty, and researchers can use. Diocesan and parish directors of religious education and social concerns may also find this Web site to be a useful resource when highlighting immigration and the role of the U.S. Catholic Church in this issue in recent decades.

(courtesy of USCCB)

Deacon Matthew Wiering ordained to priesthood July 3 at Cathedral

“Priests come from families that encourage their sons to be open to the word of God. . .”

by Christine Clancy
The Prairie Catholic

There was a sense of joy and gratitude in the air at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in New Ulm as Bishop John M. LeVoir ordained Tyler, Minnesota, native Matthew J. Wiering to the Holy Order of the Priesthood on Saturday, July 3. This was Bishop LeVoir's first priestly ordination since he became the bishop of the Diocese of New Ulm in the fall of 2008.

During his homily, the bishop stated, "Priests come from families that encourage their sons to be open to the word of God. Deacon Wiering will be changed by this sacrament. He will be changed into a priest of Jesus Christ. As a priest he will carry out the mission of our Lord – to teach, to shepherd, and to sanctify. And, he will be a parish priest – working among the people in a special way."

A 1999 graduate of Russell-Tyler-Ruthton High School, Wiering attended the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, receiving a Bachelor's degree in Catholic Studies and English in 2003. In 2009, he was ordained to the diaconate at the Basilica of St. Peter in Vatican City by the Most Reverend Robert Carlson, Archbishop of St. Louis. For the past four years, he has been studying theology at the North American College in Rome, which he says has been a powerful experience for him and his faith. "One thing that has been very important to me as a Catholic is to be near the Holy Father and to hear him preach and to speak, and try to be formed by his vision of the Church," he said.

Wiering, the son of Ronald and Rhonda Wiering, members of St. Dionysius in Tyler, grew up in a Catholic family that took its faith very seriously. "My dad and mom taught me how to pray, and I consider this to be foundational to my hearing and responding to God's invitation to be a priest. We would say prayers together as a family every night. We would pray the Rosary as a family," he said.

From a young age, Wiering started to pray on his own. "Through prayer, my relationship with God became a

'personal' one, in which - eventually, once I finally became open to the idea - I was able to hear God speaking to me through my conscience, inviting me to be a priest. And through his grace, I decided to give seminary a try. The rest is history."

Fr. Wiering's first assignment as a priest has been serving the Church of St. Mary in New Ulm. "I am very excited to celebrate the sacraments and to teach and just to be with people to try to show them God's love, which so many people don't experience," he said.

In late September, Fr. Wiering will return to Rome for a final fifth year of theological study. "Once I have finished that year and I have my degree, I will return back to the diocese for full-time ministry," he said.

For additional photos of Fr. Wiering's ordination, visit the diocesan Web site, www.dnu.org.



(photo by Dan Rossini)



Wiering's personal journey to choosing priesthood

"While still in high school and pondering the thought many times of the priesthood, it wasn't until I went to the University of St. Thomas (half way through my freshman year) that I actually became open to entering the seminary. However, when it came time to graduate and move on to

(photo by Msgr. Douglas Grams)



Fr. Wiering concelebrates with Bishop John M. LeVoir in the Liturgy of the Eucharist joined by brother priests of the diocese and beyond. A special guest in attendance was Archbishop John C. Nienstedt of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. (photo by Dan Rossini)

(Below-right) During the Litany of the Saints, Deacon Wiering lies prostrate symbolizing his unworthiness for the office to be assumed and his dependence upon God and the prayers of the Christian community. Pictured (kneeling-right) parents, Ronald and Rhonda Wiering.

(Below-left) Fr. Wiering and Msgr. Eugene Lozinski exchange a Sign of Peace, while Fr. Todd Petersen, diocesan Director of Vocations looks on.



(photo by Fr. Eugene Brown)

theology, I was not quite certain that God was calling me. So, instead, I spent a couple of years teaching high school religion to juniors and seniors in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Being only twenty-two years old myself, many of my students behaved terribly! Every day was a trial by fire. But after nine months or so of struggle, the strangest thing happened - I started to love the students. I loved even those who tried my patience because I could see how much they needed to be and feel loved.

I would give students advice when they came to me with their problems. I would laugh with them, and on a few occasions I cried with them. I really felt like a "father" to them.

One day after explaining all this to a nun who also worked at the school, she said to me very matter-of-factly, "Matt, this is the same way a priest feels!"

I think that's when I began to realize that through the mystery of the celibate priesthood, God would fulfill my natural desires for children and for a wife."

Bishop LeVoir attends 128th KC Convention in Washington



Faithful of the Diocese of New Ulm attending the 128th Knights of Columbus Convention with Bishop LeVoir are: (left-right) Peni and Robert Penas of Silver Lake, Linda and Greg van der Hagen of Hutchinson, and Gloria and Gene Hippe of Willmar.

On August 3-5, Bishop John M. LeVoir attended the 128th Knights of Columbus Supreme Convention in Washington, DC. There were nearly 2,000 Knights and their families in attendance as well as many priests, men and women religious, and bishops.

According to Bishop LeVoir, the highlight of the convention was the opening Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. The celebrant was Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl. There were some ninety-three bishops who concelebrated. "The beautiful Basilica was a magnificent setting. It was good to see the church filled to overflowing," said Bishop LeVoir.

Participants at the convention were reminded of the charitable works of

the Knights. DVDs were shown highlighting their Wheelchair Project in Haiti, which supplied hundreds of wheelchairs to those who lost limbs in the earthquake. The chairs were personally delivered by the Knights. Another DVD highlighted the Knights of Columbus Ultrasound Program that assists pregnant women and their families to choose life.

Knights employment opportunity

Due to tremendous membership growth in the New Ulm diocese, the Knights of Columbus, a Catholic, family, fraternal, service organization, has a career opportunity representing their insurance and financial service program. Visit www.kofc.org or contact Aaron Jelinek, (952) 513-8784; aaron.jelinek@kofc.org.

Henderson parish to celebrate significant anniversary

The Church of St. Joseph in Henderson will celebrate 150 years of parish history October 10. Bishop John M. LeVoir will celebrate a 10 a.m.

Mass with Fr. Keith Salisbury, pastor of St. Joseph, concelebrating. There will be a catered roast beef and fried chicken dinner from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. No reservations are necessary. Highlights of the day will include: the church history presentation beginning at 11:30 a.m., music



from noon - 2 p.m., free horse drawn wagon rides, country store, children's games featuring a mime presentation at noon and 2 p.m., beverage garden, and silent auction. There will be a raffle with many cash prizes at 3 p.m. All the faithful of the diocese are invited to attend.

The first official record of the Church of St. Joseph is 1859. The parish was incorporated June 15, 1882.

San Lucas mission parish devastated by recent tropical storm Agatha

by Kathy Huebert
San Lucas Mission Office

On Saturday, May 29, the Diocese of New Ulm mission parish of San Lucas Toliman and the surrounding areas were struck by the winds and rains of Tropical Storm (Hurricane) Agatha. The results were overwhelming. Mudslides inundated San Lucas and several of the outlying communities, seriously damaging some 400 houses and filling others with mud. Ten people died. Survivors were put into temporary shelters or housed with extended families and friends. Water lines were strewn about. Corn and black bean crops were destroyed and coffee fields were swept down from the mountainside. Many small farmers, dependent on their crop for their yearly food or income, saw their crops buried under mud.

For many it means they must begin anew. Much of the land affected by mudslides has been declared unfit by the government and people can no longer live there. The survivors have turned to the mission to help them find and purchase land on



which to live. Road access, potable water sources, sewer systems, and electricity come next and then adequate housing. Much can and will be done by the government and larger institutions, but land must be made available to the people first. The government will not help with the purchase of land.

Rains continue as this is the rainy season. Even a little rain is frightening to the people. Over 200 families continue to live in shelters and with family and friends. A small piece of property purchased by the mission for a workshop/artesian school will now be used to house families in a tent-like structure until adequate housing can be found.

Land is very expensive, but nonetheless a search has begun. In the meantime the mission is helping the victims with basic necessities. It is helping the small coffee farmers with coffee trees and through the farm, looking into the best practices for replanting fields. A process to reforest the hillsides has also begun. The people know it will be many years before the damage is repaired and the fields are once again a source of livelihood for the families but the people are willing to start again. Please visit the mission's Web site, www.sanlucasmission.org, or contact the San Lucas Mission Office at (507) 359-2966 for updates or to learn how you can help.

Bishop McRaith returns to diocese for celebration in his honor

Sleepy Eye - On June 13, the Most Reverend John J. McRaith, Bishop Emeritus of Owensboro, Kentucky, a Hutchinson native, and a priest ordained for the Diocese of New Ulm, returned to the diocese for a Mass of Thanksgiving and reception in honor of his 50th anniversary of priesthood hosted by the Church of St. Mary, Sleepy Eye. In a letter he addressed to his 'friends of the diocese,' thanking them for coming to his celebration, he writes: "It was such a blessing for me to be able to return to the parish and church where I was ordained. It was a great joy to see so many people who came. . . It certainly brought back many good memories of the twenty-three years that I served as a priest of the diocese. I also want to thank those who were responsible for



Bishop McRaith greets the congregation following his June 13 Mass of Thanksgiving at the Church of St. Mary in Sleepy Eye.

planning and making the celebration a memory I shall never forget. A special thanks to Fr. George Schmit who organized the celebration and all those who helped him. Finally, thank all of you

for your generous gifts, cards, and kind words. The Diocese of New Ulm has always been in my prayers and will continue to be remembered in the future."

New program helps priests to be 'Good Leaders, Good Shepherds'

Sleepy Eye - Bishop John M. LeVoir and twenty-two diocesan priests are participating in the *Good Leaders, Good Shepherds* program presented by the Catholic Leadership Institute. The first gathering was held at the Church of St. Mary in Sleepy Eye in June. An aspect of the program, which meets for 29 days over the course of 18 months, is to help priests identify their individual leadership strengths and apply them in various areas of the parish, including one-on-one situations, working with teams and staff members, and as the overall parish leader.

The course began in June with Module 1, a four-day residency that helped the priest understand his leadership behavior. Module 2 began with a three-day residency in August titled "Leadership in the Self Context." It will continue with one-day sessions in each of the next three months. Future residencies will focus on creating a vision for the priest's ministerial role, defining key responsibility areas and leadership in different contexts. A final residency, scheduled for January 2012, will

cover strategic relationships between organizations.

Fr. Eugene Brown, a retired priest of the diocese, said, "For most of my years as pastor of a parish, I was convinced that to be successful I had to be an extrovert. Since I am an introvert, INFJ on Myers-Briggs, I could not be a successful pastor. *Good Leaders, Good Shepherds* has taught me that this is not true. Effective pastors can be found in all four of the leadership styles on which the program is based. It is a matter of first understanding your preferred style and then learning how to relate to others who have different leadership styles, whether this is the bishop, fellow priests, the members of the Parish Council, or the people in the pew. This is valuable information that I can use now as chaplain of a nursing home."

Good Leaders, Good Shepherds brings in a variety of experienced presenters from around the country to different sessions. While some of the concepts covered come from the business world, the program has been



Bishop LeVoir and twenty-two diocesan priests are currently participating in the 18-month Good Leaders, Good Shepherds program which began in June.

(photo by Fr. Eugene Brown)

tailored to apply in parish and church settings.

Program participant Fr. Keith Salisbury, pastor of the Church of St. Joseph in Henderson, said, "So far it has been a great experience to see how other priests function and how to learn from others that have been priests longer than I have been. I look forward to not only the upcoming modules and the one-day session, but also for more insight from others and what more I can learn to be a good shepherd for my parishioners."

Fr. Jeff Horejsi is also among the

priests taking the course. "The first session focused on understanding our patterned, instinctive behavior. I was reminded that I tend to be more introverted and accepting, more continuation-oriented and less willing to confront people even when the situation calls for it. Acting out of one's natural disposition can sabotage one's ministry, and I learned that we all need to adapt our

behavior to interact more effectively with others."

More than thirty dioceses across the country have offered the course and more are investigating it. The parish or institution will pay one-fourth of the cost of the program; each priest will pay one-fourth from their own money; the remaining fifty percent will come from diocesan funds for the education of priests.

Catechetical Sunday September 19 in parishes

Each year, we honor and pray for our catechists on Catechetical Sunday. This year, Catechetical Sunday, September 19, will focus on the theme, "Matrimony: Sacrament of Enduring Love."

Catechists include those who teach the faith at the parish level. In addition, those who serve as catechists for the RCIA and

sacramental preparation are included. Our Catholic school religion teachers are catechists as well. On Catechetical Sunday, parishes are encouraged to offer a blessing prayer during the liturgy as catechists are commissioned for their ministry.

Catechetical Sunday is a great opportunity to reflect upon the role

that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel.

For further information and free downloads of material for Catechetical Sunday, www.usccb.org/catecheticalsunday/

Discernment retreat for young men considering priesthood



Sleepy Eye - On August 9, five young men, some accompanied by their parents, participated in a day discernment retreat held at Schoenstatt on the Lake in Sleepy Eye. The retreat, sponsored by the diocesan Vocations Office, was led by five Diocese of New Ulm seminarians, Bishop John M. LeVoir, Fr. Craig Timmerman, and Fr. Todd Petersen. The day consisted of praying the Rosary, Liturgy of the Hours, and Mass celebrated by Bishop LeVoir, in addition to a spontaneous nature

walk and a lot of laughter and food. There were four meditations given throughout the day: "What is Discernment," "Discernment and Prayer," "Discernment and the Need for Input from Others," and Bishop LeVoir sharing his personal discernment story. A model for discernment was given, which is helpful for any discernment process, whether it is to one's vocation in life or even in what college to attend or major to take.

If you or anyone you know is considering a vocation to the priesthood, contact the diocesan Office of Vocations, (507) 359-2966; e-mail: toddpetersen@mac.com; www.dnu.org.

Women Religious GOOD NEWS

Sr. Madeline Portner, SCC, 97, formerly of New Ulm and a member of the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, recently celebrated 75 years of religious life as a member of the Sisters of Christian Charity. Her sibling, Frances Brandel, currently resides in rural New Ulm. Sister's major area of ministry has been the teaching profession

particularly in the Archdiocese of Chicago. Sister currently resides at the SCC Retirement Center, 2221 Elmwood Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois 60091.

Sr. Kathleen Bierne, PBVM, was installed June 20 as a member of the Presentation Sisters new leadership team. She was re-elected as vice president of the congregation. Sister ministered in the diocesan tribunal for the Diocese of New Ulm from 1998-2003.

Three women received their habits and religious names as Handmaids of the Heart of Jesus on May 30. They are Barbara Evans, Rose Coleman, and Bernadette Shaffer. The Handmaids, a new religious institute, made their home in the diocese at the invitation of Bishop John M. LeVoir. For more information contact Queen of Peace Convent, 18173 1st Avenue, New Ulm, MN 56073; (507) 276-9128.

Faith Formation Day to feature expert on the liturgy and the Roman Missal



Kathy Coffey

The featured speaker during this year's third annual Faith Formation Day will be liturgy and Roman Missal expert Kathy Coffey. Set for Saturday, September 25 at the Church of St. Catherine in Redwood Falls, the day will begin with an optional Mass at 8:00 a.m. for early bird participants and conclude around 2:30 p.m.

Coffey's presentation will be on the Eucharist and the third edition of the Roman Missal.

Coffey is an author of many books that deal with liturgy, the RCIA, and the sacraments. Her upcoming book published by Liturgical Training Publications (LTP) will assist catechists to prepare for the third edition of the Roman Missal.

Past participants of Faith Formation Day will find an increase in exhibitors. Catholic publishers will exhibit curriculum offerings, sacramental preparation materials, and other Catholic resources.

Faith Formation Day is open to all adult Catholics, especially all catechists, youth ministers, liturgists, teachers, and parents of both Catholic school students and catechetical formation students in parishes. This is one of the ways for catechists to be trained and gain confidence in passing on the faith to others.

Registration is \$12; scholarships for catechists are available through the *Mohr Catechist Formation Fund*. Online registration and scholarship applications are available on the diocesan Web site, www.dnu.org/word/reduction.

For further information contact Bryan Reising, diocesan Director of Religious Education and Faith Formation, (507) 359-2966; breising@dnu.org.

Workshops

Family Formation 101, Matt Brounstein and Family Formation Team Members of Ham Lake

Preparing Children's Liturgies, Ann Przybilla, director of Worship

Preparing Yourself for Relational Youth Ministry, Joe Roueche of NET Ministries

Feasts, Fasts and Fun with the Catholic Calendar, Kathy Coffey

How to Effectively Lead a Small Group or RE Class, Joe Roueche of NET Ministries

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd: Called by Name, Shelley Olson

Children are a Blessing, Not a Right, Sr. Candace Fier, ISSM, director of Family Life Education

The Eucharist Calls Us to Show Mercy and to Seek Justice, Chris Loetscher, director of Social Concerns

How to Involve the Families and the Parish in Confirmation Preparation, Pixie Smith, RCL Benziger

Ripening Green Bananas, Mary Brouillard, *Our Sunday Visitor*

First session of *Together in Ministry* begins this month

The first in a series of seven sessions of *Together in Ministry*, a new lay leadership initiative in the Diocese of New Ulm, is set to begin September 18 in Redwood Falls. It is open to anyone who serves their parish community as a lay volunteer or paid employee. "We wanted to offer something to those seeking practical advice with their ministry at the parish," said Ann Przybilla, diocesan Director of Lay Ministry.

Participants will not be committed to all seven sessions as in *Foundations* and *Together in Communion*, two additional lay leadership formation programs sponsored by the diocese. Rather, they will take part in the session that corresponds to their ministry in the parish or area faith community.

Each *Together in Ministry* session will be held at the Church of St. Catherine in Redwood Falls from 9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. The cost is \$10 per session.

To register or for further information, contact Paulette Kral at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, (507) 359-2966. Registration forms are also available on-line at www.dnu.org. Click on the Adult Faith Formation button.



What's Your Ministry? SIGN UP TODAY!

SEPTEMBER 18
Youth Ministry

OCTOBER 23
Ministry of Lector

NOVEMBER 20
Administrative Issues

JANUARY 22
Catholic Social Teaching

FEBRUARY 26
Pastoral Musicians

MARCH 19
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

APRIL 16
Catechists

U.S. bishops' Labor Day statement calls for new social contract for 'new things' in today's economy

Washington - With millions unemployed and U.S. workers experiencing tragedies such as mining deaths in West Virginia and the oil rig explosion and subsequent oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, Americans "must seek to protect the life and dignity of each worker in a renewed and robust economy," said Bishop William Murphy of Rockville Centre, New York. Bishop Murphy addressed these issues in the 2010 Labor Day Statement of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), entitled "A New 'Social Contract' for Today's 'New Things.'" Bishop Murphy, Chairman of the USCCB Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development, compared the

challenges faced by today's workers to the changing society of the Industrial Revolution addressed by Pope Leo XIII in the 1891 encyclical, *Rerum Novarum* (Of New Things).

"America is undergoing a rare economic transformation, shedding jobs and testing safety nets as the nation searches for new ways to govern and grow our economy," said Bishop Murphy. "Workers need a new 'social contract.' Creating new jobs would require new investments, initiative, and creativity in the economy."

He also drew on the teachings of Pope Benedict XVI, which call for placing the human person at the center of economic life and

emphasize the role of civil society and mediating institutions such as unions in pursuing the common good.

"Workers need to have a real voice and effective protections in economic life," said Bishop Murphy. . . "New jobs with just wages and benefits must be created so that all workers can express their dignity through the dignity of work and are able to fulfill God's call to us all to be co-creators. A new social contract, which begins by honoring work and workers, must be forged that ultimately focuses on the common good of the entire human family."

Read entire statement in both English and Spanish at www.usccb.org.

Registration now open for WYD 2011 in Madrid

Washington - Registration to participate in World Youth Day (WYD) Madrid 2011 is now open. Though the registration is done online with the WYD organization in the Spanish capital, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has updated its existing World Youth Day page (www.wydusa.org) to allow access to the registration process through its Web site. The site includes links to important information regarding the event. Content will be progressively built up as additional information becomes available.

WYD 2011 theme, which will be held August 16-21 in Madrid, is "Planted and Built Up in Jesus Christ, Firm in the Faith." Organizers estimate that nearly 600,000 young people from countries other than Spain, about 25,000 of them from the United States, will participate in the events. Pope Benedict XVI officially opened the registration process on July 1, by becoming the first to register for the event.

If interested in traveling with the New Ulm diocesan pilgrimage group, contact Margaret McHugh, diocesan director of Youth Ministry, (507) 233-5327; e-mail: mmhugh@dnu.org.



from the desk of the DCCW President

Audrey Prokosch of Redwood Falls is the NUDCCW president-elect. A member of the Church of St. Anne, Wabasso, she replaces past president Jeane Appel of Lake Benton.

This year the National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW) is celebrating its 90th Birthday! The celebration will take place at the 2010 NCCW Annual Convention on November 10-13 at the Renaissance Hotel in Washington, DC. All New Ulm Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (NUDCCW) are encouraged to attend. The convention theme is "Celebrating 90 Years: Rejoice & Renew."

Many NCCW affiliates (parishes, regions, and dioceses) have some type of programs that members can apply to for help in defraying the cost of registration.

There will be lots to do and see!
- Educational workshops focusing on leadership, spirituality, and service
- Networking
- Liturgies including Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine
- Exhibits and silent auction.

Visit www.nccw.org for convention and registration details.

The NCCW has supported, empowered, and educated Catholic women in spirituality, leadership, and service for ninety years.

It is a time to rejoice in the long and proud history of service of the organization. NCCW is a voice for

American Catholic women today and transforms the world through prayer and action. It unites more than 4,000 affiliated Catholic women's groups, and nearly 4,000 individual Catholic women in the United States, supports social action through Gospel values, teaches Catholic women to become leaders at the intersection of Church and society, provides a forum for Catholic women to speak and act on matters of mutual interest, and represents U.S. Catholic women in the national and international arenas.

I hope to see you in Washington, DC!



FALL DCCW REGIONAL GATHERINGS

Come to Pray, Learn, and Enjoy!

REGION 1

September 16
Holy Rosary, North Mankato
Speaker: Connie Nelson
Behind Closed Doors
Registration 5:30 p.m.;
Mass 6 p.m. followed by supper
and speaker

REGION 2

September 9
St. Raphael, Springfield
Speaker: Msgr. Greg Schaffer
San Lucas Mission
Registration/supper 5:30 p.m.
Speaker 6:30 p.m., Mass follows

REGION 3

September 13
St. Michael, Milroy
Speaker: Connie Nelson
Topic to be announced
Registration 5:30 p.m.
Mass 6 p.m. followed by
supper and speaker

REGION 4

October 7
Place to be announced
Catholic Charities
Registration 5:30 p.m.;
Mass 6 p.m. followed by
supper and speaker

REGION 5

September 27
St. Patrick, Kandiyohi
It is the Spirit that Gives Life
Registration 5:30 p.m.
Mass 6 p.m. followed by supper
and speaker

REGION 6

September 20
St. Anthony, Watkins
Speaker: Lois Byrne, PBVM
Catholic Charities
Registration 5:30 p.m.
Mass 6 p.m. followed by supper
and speaker

Strengthening prayer life - a vital lifeline between you and God

by Rhonda Wiering

Many of us attended weddings this summer. What a wonderful gift from God! But what can couples do to strengthen their marriages and to help them grow stronger? Just as we need to take care of ourselves by exercising and eating right, our marriage can be strengthened through several intentional strategies. One of these is prayer.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has an excellent Web site, www.foryourmarriage.org that focuses on marriage and family. It is packed with numerous articles and relevant topics for dating, engagement, marriage preparation, raising kids, and marriage strengthening including how to deal with difficult times.

While finding time to pray may seem impossible, it can be a vital lifeline between you and God; who loves you and desires to help you. Just like Jesus did, try to find some

time alone to be with your Father. Whether for ten minutes or sixty minutes, God hears our prayers and respond to us if we listen. Recognizing that we lead busy lives, try to figure what will help you and

"... God hears our prayers and will speak to us if we listen."

your family grow in your prayer life. How about praying while you travel? My family has prayed the Rosary while traveling for many years. Catholic radio stations are also a good resource. Get in the habit of praying at meals and at bedtime as a couple and/or as a family. Offer words of thanksgiving to God as you end your day. Try browsing through Catholic book stores that offer a rich collection of prayer books. Or, perhaps find a friend that can help you grow in your faith, holding you accountable and encouraging you to stay faithful.

A good friend can be an answer to prayer.

Please remember to pray for other, especially our diocesan priests. The *Shepherd of the Field* project that the Council of Catholic Women promote is a wonderful way for families and individuals to affirm priests and encourage them to strive for the new life that Christ lived and desires for us all. Involve your family by posting the name of your *Shepherd of the Field* on the refrigerator. Consider adding one Hail Mary a day to your prayers for this priest.

Lastly, I encourage you to read the CCW newsletter published this fall with specific suggestions about enriching your spiritual life.

Rhonda Wiering is the DCCW church commission coordinator. She is a member of the Church of St. Dionysius, Tyler.

Spirit of TEC awards (continued from page 3)

Though it has been some time since he has worked a TEC weekend, he has continued to be involved in significant ways, hearing confessions on the weekends and encouraging young people in his parishes to experience the retreat. While teaching at Holy Trinity in Winsted he was such a strong supporter of TEC that you would be hard-pressed to find students who had *not* made a TEC weekend. His gentle persuasion and encouragement have allowed many to know Christ at a deeper level, yet in his humility, Msgr. Wyffels would never take the credit - reminding us that Christ is the one who calls us. In his priestly ministry, he is a humble man who leads by example, reminding all of us of our call to be a servant. He is a holy, prayerful person who lives the Paschal Mystery daily. We thank you, Msgr. Wyffels, for sharing the love of Christ with us and helping the Riverbend TEC program to blossom into what it is today.

Fr. Tony Hesse is a Christ-centered priest. When you talk to him he really listens to what you

have to say and takes his time to respond in a loving, caring manner. He has a great sense of humor and relates well to young and old alike. His love for people is evident in his commitment to TEC as well as to those he serves in parish ministry. He is quick to respond to their needs and takes the extra time to help them develop a relationship with our Lord. He has a passion for living out the Gospel message and brings that message alive in his preaching and in his everyday life. He approaches each situation by asking, "What would Christ do here?" and is always focused on the Spirit in making decisions as a leader. . . He has been a great supporter of the TEC program and has touched many hearts. Fr. Hesse truly lives out the *Paschal Mystery* in both his words and his actions. We thank you, Fr. Hesse, for being the example that you are to the TEC community as well as to the parishes you serve.

Fr. Dennis Labat is spiritual director for the Diocese of New Ulm Riverbend TEC, www.riverbendtec.org.

Welcoming the New Roman Missal - an interview with Msgr. James P. Moroney



**NEW WORDS,
A DEEPER MEANING,
BUT THE SAME MASS**

Editor's note: On August 2010, Cardinal George announced the Vatican approval of the new Roman Missal English language translation. Implementation is set for the first Sunday of Advent 2011. Following is one of four interviews conducted by Kevin Aldrich, author and educator, with Msgr. James P. Moroney, one of the foremost authorities on the new English translation of the revised Roman Missal. For further information and resources on the new Roman Missal, visit the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Web site, www.usccb.org. (photo courtesy of USCCB)

Why a new translation?

by Kevin Aldrich

The new English translation of the new Roman Missal will soon be the way that most English-speaking Catholics around the world celebrate the Eucharist. Already, though, voices of dissent are criticizing and hoping to stop the new translation. One Web site claims over 20,000 signatures to its petition "What If We Just Said Wait?" in regard to the implementation of the new translation.

Recently, I spoke with Monsignor James P. Moroney, one of the foremost authorities on the new English translation of the revised Roman Missal. Following is the first part of our interview focusing on the need for a new translation, how the translation was prepared, and who is responsible for the Missal we will soon be using.

Monsignor Moroney, can you tell readers a bit about your background, experience, and (even) expertise when it comes to the Roman Missal?

"While I am, at heart, a parish priest, I hold pontifical degrees in liturgy and have spent most of my priestly life working in this field, whether as Chairman of the Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions, Executive Director of the Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy, a consultant to the

Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, or the Executive Secretary of the Vox Clara Committee. In each of these capacities I have been involved in one or another aspects of the Roman Missal."

Briefly, what is the Roman Missal? "The Roman Missal is that liturgical book which contains the rites, prayers, and chants which we use for the celebration of the Mass."

You've authored a DVD program called *A New Translation for a New Roman Missal*. Can you explain the difference between the new Roman Missal and the new English translation? "In 2001, the Holy See issued the third edition of the Latin Missale Romanum for the whole Roman Catholic Church. Vernacular editions, in each of the languages Catholics use throughout the world, were subsequently developed by the bishops from throughout the world, including the *Misal Romano* (the Spanish translation) and the Roman Missal (the English version)."

Some people say (and I agree) that English is the "new Latin," that is, it has become the common international means of communication. Does this have any bearing on why there is just

one new English translation of the Roman Missal rather than many national English versions: i.e., one for Americans, another for South Africans, another for Indians and Pakistanis, even one for British-English speakers?

"In the age of instant communication English has certainly become more standardized because what I post, tweet, or blog in Massachusetts is quickly read and responded to by folks in India, Scotland, and South Africa. As a result, the differences between English spoken in various parts of the world is not so great as to require different translations of liturgical texts. This relative universality is not true for all languages, however, most notably Spanish, as there are seven different translations of the Roman Missal for the Spanish-speaking world."

In his instruction *Liturgiam authenticam*, what criticism did Pope John Paul II level against some liturgical translations published after Vatican II? Was he thinking especially of the English translation?

"Through the instruction *Liturgiam authenticam*, the Holy Father made clear his concern that "translations of liturgical texts in various localities stand in need of improvement through correction or through a new draft" (*LA*, no. 6). This was particularly true for English because of the enormous influence which our language has on the world. At the same time it should be made clear that the problems were due to an evolving realization that certain theories of translation which were popular forty years ago have been improved and developed."

What kind of new translations did John Paul II call for? What is wrong with the English translation we've been using for the last forty years? "*Liturgiam authenticam* called for a translation which was more precise and thus gave the listener a more authentic sense of the original Latin text. Such a translation was to be

"without omissions or additions in terms of their content, and without paraphrases or glosses" (*LA*, no. 20).

How come it has taken fifteen years to get this new English translation (and why do we still not have it)? "Because the celebration of the Eucharist is the source and the summit of the entire Christian life, there are few more important tasks than the preparation of translations which are, at the same time, beautiful, precise, and proclaimable. Such a task involved the work of hundreds of bishops, theologians, liturgists, Biblical scholars, pastors, poets, musicians, and specialists in both liturgical Latin and English literature. The fruits of such an enormous undertaking will soon be evident to the Church in the English-speaking world."

Can you briefly define the "players" in the new translation: ICEL, Vox Clara, and the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of

the Sacraments? "The Fathers of the Second Vatican Council assigned the task of the translation of liturgical texts to the Conferences of Bishops, with the confirmation of the Holy See. The International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL) is a mixed commission of the eleven major English-speaking conferences of bishops which is charged with the development of translations. Once these have been emended by the bishops of each conference, they are submitted for the confirmation of the Holy See. The Vox Clara committee simply advises the Holy See in regard to its confirmation of the texts which have been approved by the bishops. The Congregation for Divine Worship, among other duties, approves translations of liturgical books, acting in the Pope's name."

* * *

Next month's interview will focus on the content of the new English translation.

Seeking to become Catholic diocese sponsors two-day institute at Church of St. Catherine, Redwood Falls



On August 6-7, the Church of St. Catherine, Redwood Falls, was host to forty-three participants who attended the two-day institute "Concerning the Baptized" sponsored by the Diocese of New Ulm and North American Forum on the Catechumenate. The institute focused on the catechesis, liturgical rites, and doctrinal formation for baptized Christians who seek to become Catholic. Bishop John M. LeVior led the opening prayer and Sr. Gael Gensler, OSF and Msgr. Michael Clay were the presenters. If you or anyone you know is seeking to join the Catholic Church, please contact the diocesan Office of Worship, (507) 359-2966; e-mail: apryzbilla@dnu.org.

SUMMER CAMPS EQUAL SUMMER FUN!

Fiesta de María in Sleepy Eye

by Sr. M. Catherine Ditto, ISSM

¡Es tiempo para las Posadas! (It's time for Posadas!) This Hispanic tradition was the theme of the four-day Fiesta de María held June 28-July 2 at the Schoenstatt Shrine of Mary in Sleepy Eye. Fiesta de María is an outreach to the Hispanic community of the Sleepy Eye area, sponsored by the Schoenstatt Girls' Youth High School camp, with the assistance of the Church of St. Mary and the Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary, both of Sleepy Eye.

Twenty-three high school girls from various dioceses, including New Ulm, St. Cloud, Winona, the Archdiocese of St. Paul and



Each day of the Fiesta de María had a different theme for the teaching time, based on the tradition of Las Posadas. On the first day the girls looked at María, the second day was José (Joseph), the third day led the girls to Jesús, and the final day ended with La Familia – both natural families and the great family of the Church.

Minneapolis, and La Crosse, Wisconsin, participated. Between 25-30 Hispanic youth attended camp each day.

Las Posadas is a traditional Advent

novena held during the nine days before Christmas. The goal of this "Christmas in July" was to help the children to understand their own Catholic cultural traditions in a deeper way.

Boys' Camp 2010 held in Renville

On June 24-25, Vocation Team members Fr. Todd Petersen and Fr. Craig Timmerman, assisted by Margaret McHugh, directed the 2010 Boys' Camp held at the diocesan Youth Center in Renville. The theme was "Navigators."

Following is Shawn Polman's camp experience. He is from the Church of St. Mary, Cottonwood.



2010 Boys' Camp participants with Vocation Team Members. (front row-left) Fr. Craig Timmerman, (back row, left) Margaret McHugh as well as assistants (far right) Diocese of New Ulm seminarians Deacons Jacob Niemand and Zachary Peterson. Not pictured is Vocation Team director Fr. Todd Petersen.

They also talked about failure. This was one of my favorite talks.

Fr. Craig Timmerman told a story about the first time he went mountain climbing. He was afraid to let go of the rocks. Near the end of his talk, he said that we can't be afraid to let go; God will provide. This hit me right away. I don't know about other teenagers, but I was afraid at failing in life. I wanted to give God perfection and I wanted to make people proud. But after Fr. Craig's talk, I

realized that the best gift I can give to anyone is my best effort.

The camp was definitely a boost to my spiritual life and it helped me to look at life differently. I thank God for the small things in life, the things we don't really notice at first until we take a second glance. This year's camp was fun and I encourage all young men to take advantage of this blessing that God has given them.

The Boys' Camp held at the diocesan Youth Center (a.k.a. the Barn) in Renville was a lot of fun and I got to meet many new people. I learned to play a few new games such as Mafia and Roof Ball. The food was fabulous! The weather was nice for the majority of the weekend with a few showers here and there.

One of my favorite parts of the camp was the talks given by seminarians, priests, and David Shaheen, Amanda Vernon's husband. They talked about chastity and how you see something on the horizon and the many obstacles you must face to reach that goal or destination.

Upcoming Events

Good Shepherd SERRA Club will meet September 2 at Divine Providence Chapel and Marian Conference Room in Sleepy Eye at 7 p.m. Call (507) 747-2181.

Charismatic Renewal evening will be held on Thursday, September 9, at the Church of St. John, Darwin, beginning with Mass at 7 p.m. The evening is sponsored by the New Ulm Diocesan Charismatic Renewal. Keynote speaker Walter Matthews will speak on the "Past, Present, and Future" of the renewal of Pentecost. No pre-registration necessary. Free will offering. Reception to follow. Call Jan Crowe, diocesan Charismatic Renewal liaison, (320) 275-2424.

Institution to Acolyte for the eleven deacon candidates of the diocese will be October 9, at 5:30 p.m. at the Church of St. Mary in Sleepy Eye.

Diocesan Senior High Youth Rally will be October 24 from 1-7 p.m. at Willmar Senior High Gym, Willmar. Keynote will be Tony Melendez. Contact your local parish minister or DRE to register or visit www.dnu.org for further details and schedule.

Children's Holy Field Trip sponsored by the Diocese of New Ulm will be October 13 at 10:30 a.m. at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in New Ulm. Call diocesan Office of Education, (507) 359-2966 for further information.

Virtual Learning Community for Faith



Formation (VLCFF) Cycle 7 will be from October 24-November 27. VLCFF is an Internet-based e-learning initiative for adult faith and catechist formation. It is an opportunity for participants to deepen their understanding and enrichment of their faith. VLCFF is sponsored by the Institute for Pastoral Initiatives of the University of Dayton (<http://vlc.udayton.edu/>) and the Diocese of New Ulm. For further information contact Bryan Reising, director of Religious Education and Faith Formation for the Diocese of New Ulm, (507) 359-2966; breising@dnu.org. Registration deadline for Cycle 7 is October 14.



Fourth annual Bishop's Guild dinner will be held Sunday, October 3, at Max's Grill in Olivia with social hour at

5 p.m. followed by dinner at 6 p.m. The Bishop's Guild is made up of donors who have contributed \$1,000 or more to the 2009 Diocesan Ministries Appeal (DMA). Personal invitations will arrive by mail in September. The evening includes dinner with Bishop John M. LeVoir and several short presentations about the annual appeal and its contribution to the work of the Church in the Diocese of New Ulm. Visit www.dnu.org for DMA contributions by parish.

Parish Festival Fun!
visit www.dnu.org for dates and times.

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A downloadable brochure is available
on the diocesan Web site
www.dnu.org

THE DRAIRIE CATHOLIC

Pastoral news from across the Diocese of New Ulm

Minnesota's Most Rural Diocese Diocese of New Ulm Vol. 25 No. 1 September 2010



(photo by Fr. Eugene Brown)

Three promises

Matthew J. Wiering ordained a diocesan priest

The Most Reverend John M. LeVoi ordains Matthew J. Wiering to the Holy Order of the Priesthood on Saturday, July 3, 2010, at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in New Ulm. Seminarian Deacon Zachary Peterson assists with the ritual. As part of the ordination ceremony, the candidate makes three promises to the bishop: celibacy, to respect and obey the bishop and his successors, and the promise to pray faithfully the Liturgy of the Hours.

(Read more, page 5)

catholic trends

The centenary of the birth of Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta was August 26 and *Time* magazine has just released an illustrated book on the woman who moving toward sainthood in the Catholic Church. Titled *Mother Teresa at 100: The Life and Works of a Modern Saint*, the book includes essays by some who knew her, including the Protestant pastor Rick Warren, Jesuit Father James Martin, Susan van Houte, who was adopted as an infant from one of Mother Teresa's

residences for expectant women in Calcutta, and Fr. Brian Kolodiejchuk, MC, a member of the priests' society of Mother Teresa's order, the Missionaries of Charity. Fr. Kolodiejchuk is official promoter for her sainthood cause.

Pope Benedict XVI will preside at the beatification ceremony of Cardinal John Henry Newman in England, during a four-day visit to the United Kingdom September 16-19. Cardinal Newman is a figure of great literary culture, a poet and a

pastor, and a towering figure in English history over the last 200 years. An Anglican cleric, he founded the Oxford Movement to bring the Anglican Church back to its Catholic roots. He became Catholic at the age of 44 after a succession of clashes with Anglican bishops and was made a cardinal by Pope Leo XIII. He died in Birmingham in 1890 at the age of 89.

A free one-hour online tour of the Official Minnesota Catholic Directory, with complete listings of parishes, priests, schools, religious in the Diocese of New Ulm and across the state is now available. Go to www.mncatholicdirectory.com, click on "Sign Up," fill out the information boxes, and then choose a free hour to browse the directory for information. After producing a print edition for the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis since the early 1960s and a statewide edition since 1972, *The Catholic Spirit Publishing Company* has made this well-used resource even more valuable by making it

interactive.

Cardinal Daniel DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, chairman of the Committee on Pro-Life Activities of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, welcomed the federal court injunction against the Obama administration's funding of human embryonic stem cell research, calling the ruling a "victory for common sense and sound medical ethics." He said this ruling also vindicates the bishops' reading of the Dickey amendment, the amendment approved by Congress since

1996, which prevents federal funding of research in which human embryos are harmed or destroyed. "I hope this court decision will encourage our government to renew and expand its commitment to ethically sound avenues of stem cell research," Cardinal DiNardo added. "These avenues are showing far more promise than destructive human embryo research in serving the needs of suffering patients." The full statement can be found at www.usccb.org.



Diocesan SENIOR HIGH RALLY
OCTOBER 24, 2010

1:00-7:00 p.m.
Willmar Sr. High Gym
Willmar, MN

FEATURING
Tony Melendez, keynote/musician

Contact your local parish youth minister or DRE to register.
Visit www.dnu.org for further details and day's schedule.