



Chancery Bulletin - Vol. 10, No.10.1 | October 7, 2025

- [Catechesis & Evangelization](#)
- [Chancery](#)
- [Communications](#)
- [Consecrated Life](#)
- [Diaconate](#)
- [Marriage & Family Life](#)
- [Ministries](#)
- [Mission Office](#)
- [Sacred Worship](#)
- [Safe Environment](#)
- [Schools Office](#)
- [Social Concerns](#)
- [Stewardship and Development](#)
- [Temporalities](#)
- [Vocations](#)
- [Vicar for Clergy](#)
- [Youth and Young Adult Ministry](#)
- [Past Chancery Bulletins](#)



Officials

The Most Reverend Gerard W. Battersby, D.D., Bishop of La Crosse, makes the following announcement:

Deacon **William T. Church**, with the permission of the Most Reverend James Sean Wall, Bishop of the Diocese of Gallup, is appointed to serve as Deacon at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Ellsworth, effective October 4, 2025.

[<<Top >>](#)



Chancery Office

Chancellor Very Rev. William Dhein | wdhein@diolc.org

No items this week.

[<<Top >>](#)



Office for Catechesis & Evangelization

Director: Ann Lankford | alankford@diolc.org

New Series of Bulletin Inserts Requested by Parishes:

We are excited to develop a new series of bulletin inserts in response to requests by parishes. The content of these bulletin inserts will start at a basic level and slowly progress in order to systematically deepen a foundation of the Faith in the hearts of readers. The authors of these inserts include Ann Lankford, Father David Olson and Christopher Ruff. The first in the series of new bulletin inserts is found below.

Bulletin Insert:**The Meaning of Life: The Desire for God is Written on Your Heart**

Every human heart longs for something more. We look for a happiness that never fades, for the meaning of life especially during difficult times and for the truth that sets us free from fear and worry.... That unmet longing within us is actually a gift, for that longing is God's call written on our heart. Click [here](#).

For your Parish Bulletin:**Jesus is Our Hope (1 Tim 1:1)**

Take a few quiet moments to look at Jesus hanging on a Crucifix, and you will recognize that He gave everything for you. Pope Benedict XVI explained how God "gives the cross to prove to us: 'I love you. You can trust Me.'" During this Jubilee Year of Hope 2025, ask Jesus to increase in you the gift of hope so that you will trust Him through life's challenges and suffering, believing that He "works all things together for the good of those who love Him" (Rom 8:28).

(Reminder) Bulletin editors: Additional bulletin announcements for the Jubilee Year of Hope were developed and added on Sept. 30—entries found [here](#).

An Inspiring Parish Pilgrimage:

If your parish is looking to organize a pilgrimage for the Jubilee Year of Hope, consider the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe. I (Ann Lankford) am so pleased that I attended a pilgrimage this past Sunday, which was organized by Blessed Sacrament Parish. Starting at the Shrine Pilgrim Center, it took about an hour and a half. The pilgrimage was simple and yet so beautiful, led by Rueben, the pilgrimage coordinator, with the focus on our journey to the house of God and heaven, while being grounded in hope. An extra bonus: the flowers at the Shrine are in full bloom and gorgeous!

October is Dedicated to the Rosary:

Families are encouraged to pray together a decade of the Rosary each day for peace in our hearts, our homes and our country. A simple prayer card, with brief meditations that are applicable to life, [is available here](#). For those wishing a higher level of meditations, Bishop Barron prays the Rosary on youtube with compelling meditations. Google the particular mysteries of the Rosary by typing in Bishop Barron joyful mysteries, for example.

Catechetical Leader Information:**Short Formational Handouts for Parents:**

Please consider making use of the new set of handouts (labeled bulletin inserts above) for ongoing formation for parents. The handouts will be one-side of a page and starting at a basic level. This is meant to help with deepening our relationship with Jesus Christ.

(Reminder) Preparation for Confirmation Information

The following downloadable information regarding preparation for the sacrament of confirmation is available [on the catechesis & evangelization webpage](#), on the side menu under sacramental prep:

- Confirmation brochure for parents and confirmandi
- Schedules for four different programs, including *Theology of the Body*
- Guidelines for confirmation retreats
- Confirmation sponsor form (four different choices)

[<<Top >>](#)

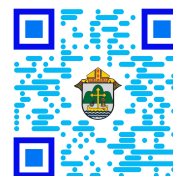


Office for Communications

Director: Erik Archer | earcher@diolc.org

Latest Episode of "Martin's Minutes" - Deacon Kyle Lang's Ordination:

Father Martin's most recent "Martin's Minutes" reflection [is located here](#) and at the QR code to the right. These are inspiring thoughts of holiness and humor - made easily accessible so you can share the reflection on your social media, parish bulletins and with youth groups, OCIA teams, etc.



Photos from Deacon Lang's Ordination:

The PNAC published their Mass of Ordination to the Sacred Order of Deacons photo album. The entire album (600+ photos) [is located here](#).

Relevant photos are listed below if you prefer to not sift through the entire Flickr album.

<https://flic.kr/p/2rwZxgC>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rwZTa2>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rwZx9t>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rwTQfD>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rwZSFg>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rwZSFm>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rwZwNt>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rwYaJQ>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rwZwLK>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rwYaJu>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rwYaBL>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rwZqYi>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rwYavU>

<https://flic.kr/p/2rwYaeS>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rwZweh>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rwYaeM>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rwZqqe>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rwZw1w>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rwTPbj>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rwY9VR>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rwZpLo>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rwY9KL>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rwZvFo>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rwY9F7>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rwYGeC>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rx1pbp>

<https://flic.kr/p/2rwYG7D>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rx13Y8>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rwUkN6>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rwYFYn>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rx13RQ>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rx13JL>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rwYFPK>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rwYFtQ>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rwYFDz>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rx13tA>
<https://flic.kr/p/2rx1oCf>

(Reminder) Rural Life Day Mass Photos:

Photos from the Recent Rural Life Day Mass, held at the Van Wychen family farm in Warrens, are available for viewing and (free) download on [the diocesan Flickr website](#). Please share broadly and feel free to download and print as desired.

[<<Top >>](#)



Office for Consecrated Life

Director: Sr. Donna Krzmarzick, ISSM | dkrzmarzick@diolc.org

No items this week.

[<<Top >>](#)



Office for the Diaconate

Director: Deacon Robert Riedl | rriedl@diolclergy.org

No items this week.

[<<Top >>](#)



Office for Marriage & Family Life

Director: Christopher Rogers | crogers@diolc.org

No items this week.

[<<Top >>](#)



Office for Ministries

Director: Christopher Ruff | cruff@diolc.org

No items this week.

[<<Top >>](#)



Office for Missions

Director: Father Woodrow Pace | wpace@diolc.org

World Mission Sunday—Oct. 19, 2025:

Please join all Catholics in our global annual celebration of worship, prayer and collection on World Mission Sunday (always the penultimate Sunday of October and not to be confused with summer Mission Coop Program). Your prayers and sacrifices support over 1,124 mission territories where the Gospel is being proclaimed for the first time, courageously upheld despite persecution, or brought to communities still discovering Christ's love.



Letters should have arrived at your parishes from the Mission Office, along with posters and envelopes sent directly from the national office of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. Although envelopes may direct otherwise, please have parishioners submit donations and make checks payable to their local parishes; parishes then submit totals to the Mission Office. Further information including Bulletin Announcements, General Intercessions, Homily Helps, and the message of the Holy Father [can all be found here](#). Please [contact the mission office](#) if you need additional supplies or have any questions. May God answer your prayers and reward your sacrifices with His peace.

[<<Top >>](#)



Office for Sacred Worship

Director: Christopher Carstens / ccarstens@diolc.org

(Reminder) Liturgical Calendar Advisory for the Immaculate Conception:

December 8, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, will fall on a Monday in 2025, but it will remain a Holy Day of Obligation. Since the Second Sunday of Advent, December 7, ranks higher in the Table of Liturgical Days than the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, any Mass celebrated on Sunday evening must be that for the Second Sunday of Advent. Likewise, Evening Prayer for Sunday, December 7 is Evening Prayer II for the Second Sunday of Advent, and not Evening Prayer I for the Immaculate Conception.

Because Monday, December 8 is a Holy Day of Obligation, the faithful are obliged to attend Mass for the Second Sunday of Advent and for Immaculate Conception: one Mass does not fulfill two obligations (see Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy *Newsletter*, February 2017, 5-6, for more information). But *which* Masses the faithful attend allows for some curious leeway. The Code of Canon Law simply states that "A person who assists at a Mass celebrated anywhere in a Catholic rite either on the feast day itself or in the evening of the preceding day satisfies the obligation of participating in the Mass" (Can. 1248 §1). In other words, the laity's only obligation is to attend Mass twice, but not necessarily one Mass with readings and orations for the Second Sunday of Advent, and a second Mass using readings and prayers for the Solemnity of Immaculate Conception. Consequently, if one were to attend Mass for the Second Sunday of Advent on either Saturday evening or Sunday Morning, he could attend Mass on Sunday evening (even though it celebrates the Second Sunday of Advent) to satisfy the obligation for the Immaculate Conception. Also, pastors have an obligation to celebrate a Mass for the People on both days (canon 534 §1).

[<<Top >>](#)



Office for Safe Environment

Director: Teresa Brown – 608.791.2679 / tbrown@diolc.org

DIOCESE OF LA CROSSE GUIDELINES FOR REPORTING INSTANCES OF CHILD ABUSE:

The Diocese of La Crosse, through its [policies and procedures](#), seeks to provide a prompt, appropriate, and compassionate response to reporters of sexual abuse of a child by any diocesan agent (bishop, priest, deacon, employee, religious, vendor, or volunteer). Anyone

wishing to make a report of an allegation of sexual abuse should send that report to Mrs. Teresa Brown, Complaint Intake Agent, at the Diocese of La Crosse, P.O. Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602-4004. Alternatively, you can contact Mrs. Brown at 608.791.0179 or intakeagent@diolc.org. The reporting form is available through the Diocese of La Crosse Office of Safe Environment or on the diocesan website at: diolc.org/safe-environment/reporting. Individuals are also encouraged to submit their reports directly to the relevant civil authorities. Copies of the diocesan policy are available through your local parish and on the [diocesan website](http://diocesanwebsite.org). If you have any questions about the Diocese of La Crosse or the implementation of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, please contact Teresa Brown at 608.791.2679 or tbrown@diolc.org.

Are you using a personal email for Safe Environment correspondence instead of a parish or DioLC email? If you are, please consider changing it. If you leave the position, all Safe Environment or diocesan emails sent directly to you will be lost and can't easily be transferred to the next person in that position. Now is also a great time to update emails at your location to include new contact information.

Please look over print cards and background check forms before sending them in. Many are coming in missing information that prevents them from being processed, causing delays in your hiring process. All cards and forms must be signed, have their complete name, date of birth, address and social security number.

Have you started thinking about the March 1 Safe Environment report? St. Mary's in Torun and Sacred Heart in Marathon have sent their completed reports in. If all your staff and volunteers have a current background check and have trained this year and if your CCD students have been trained, why wait? Send your report in now. The report form [can be accessed here](#).

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline:

If you or a loved one are struggling or are experiencing suicidal thoughts, please: call 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline (multiple languages), text message to 988 (English only) or use the chat feature at 988lifeline.org (English only). The most important thing in suicide prevention is connecting people who are in pain with immediate, compassionate help. Be direct and non-judgmental when speaking to them.

"To be in your children's memories tomorrow, you have to be in their lives today." Anonymous

[<<Top >>](#)



Office for Catholic Schools

Superintendent: Thomas Reichenbacher | treichenbacher@diolc.org

No items this week.

[<<Top >>](#)



Office for Social Concerns

Director: Christopher Ruff | cruff@diolc.org

For Your Parish Bulletin:

(Reminder) October is Respect Life Month:

In October, the Church in the United States celebrates Respect Life Month. For links to a pro-life article on La Crosse's Alliance Women's Clinic in the current issue of *Catholic Life Magazine*, and to a video-recorded interview with Ginna Cross, founder of Alliance, visit the [diocesan Respect Life website](#), or scan the QR code to the right. You will also find a link there to the U.S. Bishops' Respect Life website, featuring many downloadable resources.



U.S. Bishops: "What happens to a nation when violence no longer shocks us?"

If you visit the [U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops \(USCCB\) website](#), you will see at the very top, in powerful, bold letters, a link to a 3-minute audio reflection by the President of the USCCB, Archbishop Timothy Broglio. He addresses the epidemic of violence we have been witnessing, and proposes a solution rooted in our faith in Jesus Christ and the recognition of the sacred dignity of every member of the human family, no matter our disagreements.



Oct. 10 World Day Against the Death Penalty

Part of Respect Life Month is the continued call for an end to the death penalty in our nation and around the world. Read a [Vatican News story](#) about this effort, or scan the QR code to the right.



For Your Parish Bulletin:

Wisconsin Bishops' Pastoral Letter on End of Life Decisions

Last fall, Wisconsin's bishops released the 4th edition of their pastoral letter on end of life decisions, *Now and at the Hour of Our Death*. The letter provides guidance on many aspects of end-of-life planning and decisions, and it [can be accessed here](#), or by scanning the QR code to the right. For questions related to the moral principles for end of life decisions, you may contact Christopher Ruff in the Office for Ministries and Social Concerns (cruff@diolc.org).



NOTE to Pastors:

For hard copies of "[Now and at the Hour of Our Death](#)" (in English or Spanish), or for promotional flyers with QR code for online viewing (also English or Spanish), please contact Christopher Ruff in the Office for Ministries and Social Concerns (cruff@diolc.org).

(Reminder) For Your Parish Bulletin:

Ukraine is being Decimated – Please Help Chalice of Mercy bring Relief



Valentyna Pavsyukova

Russia continues to devastate the people of Ukraine through missiles and drone attacks. Through it all, Valentyna Pavsyukova and her brave colleagues in Chalice of Mercy risk their lives daily to provide life-saving medical and humanitarian supplies to the most dangerous areas of their decimated



homeland. Please support them with your prayers and financial contributions. Visit [here](#) or

scan the QR code to the right. And watch “8 Days in Ukraine,” a deeply touching 26-minute documentary on their mission, which can be seen [here](#).

[<<Top >>](#)



Office for Stewardship & Development

Director: Jeff Reiter – 608.791.2653 | jreiter@diolc.org

Diocesan Annual Appeal: The Annual Appeal is a crucial event for our parishes:

39 Parishes have already kicked off their Appeals, and another eight are starting this weekend. If you haven't signed up for a specific weekend, your parish will be kicking off on October 25/26. Your support and leadership are greatly appreciated.

For your convenience, we have compiled helpful [scripts](#) and [plans](#) for conducting a successful appeal on our [appeal portal](#). Additionally, there are numerous other resources available to support the success of your parish's diocesan annual appeal. We are here to help you every step of the way.

Stewardship Bulletin Reflections: [10/12/2025](#) - [10/19/2025](#) - [10/26/2025](#) - [11/02/2025](#)

Stewardship Homily Reflections: [10/12/25](#) - [11/02/25](#)

Stewardship Prayers of the Faithful for October: [English](#) - [Spanish](#) - [Hmong](#)

You can find more reflections on stewardship on our [portal](#).

[<<Top >>](#)



Office for Temporalities

Diocesan Finance Officer: James Reider | jreider@diolc.org

No items this week.

[<<Top >>](#)



Office for Vocations

Director of Vocations: Father Steven Weller 608.791.2666 | sweller@diolc.org

No items this week.

[<<Top >>](#)



Office for Vicar for Clergy

Director: Father Samuel Martin | smartin@diolc.org

No items this week.

[<<Top >>](#)



Office for Youth & Young Adult Ministry

Director: Christopher Rogers | crogers@diolc.org

No items this week.

[<<Top >>](#)



Events

As of Oct 7.

Wednesday, October 8

4 – 7:30 PM

St. Peter Parish Annual Sauerkraut Supper -
Middle Ridge
St Peter Catholic Church, W697 WI-33,
Rockland

Thursday, October 9

9 AM – 6 PM

St. Joseph Parish PCCW Thrift Sale -
Menomonie
St Joseph's Catholic Church, 910 Wilson Ave,
Menomonie

Friday, October 10

9 AM – 5 PM

St. Joseph Parish PCCW Thrift Sale -
Menomonie
St Joseph's Catholic Church, 910 Wilson Ave,
Menomonie

Saturday, October 11

All day

Worldwide Marriage Encounter (Day 1/2)
St. Mary's, West Bend

All day

Annual Appeal Kickoff 2 - Oct. 13 - 14 (Day
1/2)
All parishes

All day

Married Love: Two Becoming One Retreat
Marshfield

Sunday, October 12

All day

Worldwide Marriage Encounter (Day 2/2)
St. Mary's, West Bend

All day

Annual Appeal Kickoff 2 - Oct. 13 - 14 (Day
2/2)
All parishes

7:30 AM – 12 PM

St. Mary Parish Pancake Breakfast - Coon
Valley
St Mary Parish, 904 Central Ave, Coon Valley

8 AM – 2 PM

Immaculate Conception Parish Festival - Eau
Claire
Immaculate Conception Catholic Church,
1712 Highland Ave, Eau Claire

9:30 – 11:30 AM

St. Joseph Parish Fall Breakfast - Galloway

2 – 4:30 PM

Evening of Hope - Wausau
Church of the Resurrection Catholic Church,
621 N 2nd St, Wausau

Monday, October 13

8 – 10 AM

108th Anniversary of the Miracle of the Sun
at Fatima - Wisconsin Rapids

6 – 8 PM

Mary, Mother of the Church Parish ALPHA
Series - La Crosse

Mary, Mother of the Church Parish, 2006
Weston St, La Crosse

Wednesday, October 15

4 – 7 PM

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Parish Annual Fall Dinner - Viroqua

Friday, October 17

All day

Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe Queen of
the Americas Guild Conference - La Crosse
(Day 1/2)

Saturday, October 18

All day

Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe Queen of
the Americas Guild Conference - La Crosse
(Day 2/2)

All day

Married Love: Two Become One Retreat
St Paul Catholic Church, 603 4th St, Mosinee

Sunday, October 19

2 – 5 PM

St. Matthew Parish Mass and Healing
Service - Wausau

St Matthew Catholic Church, 229 S 28th
Ave, Wausau

Monday, October 20

All day

Fall Ministry Days (Day 1/2)

6 – 8 PM

Mary, Mother of the Church Parish ALPHA
Series - La Crosse

Mary, Mother of the Church Parish, 2006
Weston St, La Crosse

Tuesday, October 21

All day

Fall Ministry Days (Day 2/2)

Friday, October 24

All day

Youth Leadership Camp (October 24-26,
2025)

CrossWoods Adventure Camp LLC, 15010
Black Bear Rd, Delta

Monday, October 27

6 – 8 PM

Mary, Mother of the Church Parish ALPHA
Series - La Crosse

Mary, Mother of the Church Parish, 2006
Weston St, La Crosse

7 – 10 PM

Granny Basketball benefitting Casa Hogar
Juan Pablo II - La Crosse

Sunday, November 2

9:30 – 11:30 AM

Holy Cross Parish PCCW Fall Bazaar & KOC
Breakfast - Cornell

Holy Cross Catholic Church, 107 S 8th St,
Cornell

Monday, November 3

6 – 8 PM

Mary, Mother of the Church Parish ALPHA
Series - La Crosse

Mary, Mother of the Church Parish, 2006
Weston St, La Crosse

Friday, November 7

4 – 7 PM

St. Olaf Men's Club Fish Fry - Eau Claire
2407 North Ln, Eau Claire

4:30 – 9:30 PM

Father Joseph Walijewski Legacy Guild
Benefit Dinner - La Crosse

4:30 – 7:30 PM

Holy Rosary Parish Fish Fry - Lima
6235 County Rd V, Durand

To have your parish events listed on the diocesan calendar, diolc.org/calendar, and in *Catholic Life* magazine, please send an email to datebook@diolc.org. Make sure you include the following details: date, beginning/ending times, event location, description, menu and cost, etc. If you have any questions, please email Clint at cberge@diolc.org for more information.

Diocese of La Crosse | 3710 East Ave S | La Crosse, WI 54601 | 608.788.7700

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