

Chancery Bulletin - Vol. 10, No. 8.3 | August 19, 2025

- Catechesis & Evangelization
- Chancery
- <u>Communications</u>
- Consecrated Life
- Diaconate
- Marriage & Family Life
- Ministries
- Mission Office
- Sacred Worship

- <u>Safe Environment</u>
- Schools Office
- Social Concerns
- Stewardship and Development
- <u>Temporalities</u>
- 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 announcements:

The Reverend **Rajendran Anandan**, Pastor of St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish in Almond is appointed Associate Pastor of Our Lady Queen of Heaven Parish and St. Lawrence Parish in Wisconsin Rapids, and St. Philip Parish in Rudolph, with residence at St. Lawrence Parish rectory, effective September 1, 2025.

The Reverend **Arockia Amirtha Raj Stanislaus**, Pastor of St. Mary Help of Christians Parish in Colby, St. Bernard Parish in Abbotsford and St. Louis Parish in Dorchester, is appointed Pastor of St. Maximilian Kole Parish in Almond, with residence at the parish rectory, effective September 1, 2025.

The Reverend **Keith J. Kitzhaber**, Associate Pastor of St. Bernard Parish of Abbotsford, St. Mary Parish in Colby and St. Louis Parish in Dorchester, is appointed Pastor of the parishes, with residence at St. Bernard Parish rectory, effective September 1, 2025.

The Reverend **Yesu Prabhu Balraj**, with the permission of the Rev. Dr. Ambrose Pitchamuthu, Bishop of Vellore, is appointed Associate PAstor of St. Mary Parish in Colby, St. Bernard Parish in Abbotsford and St. Louis Parish in Dorchester, with residence at St. Bernard Parish rectory, effective September 1, 2025.

<<Top >>



Chancery Office

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

<< qoT>>



Events

As of August 19

Tuesday, August 19

All day

Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe Choir Camp for High-Schoolers 2025 - La Crosse (Day 2/5)

Wednesday, August 20

All day

Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe Choir Camp for High-Schoolers 2025 - La Crosse (Day 3/5)

Thursday, August 21

All day

Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe Choir Camp for High-Schoolers 2025 - La Crosse (Day 4/5)

Friday, August 22

All day

Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe Choir Camp for High-Schoolers 2025 - La Crosse (Day 5/5)

Sunday, August 24

All day

50th Wedding Anniversary Mass and Celebration

3710 East Ave S, La Crosse

10:00 AM - 2:30 PM

Holy Rosary Parish Fall Festival - Lima Holy Rosary Catholic Church, N6235 County Rd V, Durand

Sunday, August 31

10:00 AM - 4:30 PM

St. Wenceslaus Annual Picnic and Homecoming - Eastman

St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church, 57975 Baer CT, Eastman

Saturday, September 6

4:00 PM - 10:00 PM

St. Mary's Fall Faith and Food Fest - Durand

4:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Holy Family Parish Fall Festival - Arcadia Holy Family Catholic Church, 223 Maple St, Arcadia

Sunday, September 7

9:30 AM - 1:30 PM

St. John the Baptist Parish Fall Festival - Cooks Valley

St John the Baptist Catholic Church (Cooks Valley), 4540 WI-40, Bloomer

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Holy Family Parish Fall Festival - Arcadia Holy Family Catholic Church, 223 Maple St, Arcadia

10:30 AM - 4:00 PM

St. Mary's Fall Festival - Colby

Monday, September 8

All day

Footsteps of Padre Jose Pilgrimage (Day 1/11)

Tuesday, September 9

All day

Footsteps of Padre Jose Pilgrimage (Day 2/11)

Wednesday, September 10

All day

Footsteps of Padre Jose Pilgrimage (Day 3/11)

Thursday, September 11

All day

Footsteps of Padre Jose Pilgrimage (Day 4/11)

11:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Mary, Mother of the Church Parish Chicken

Q - La Crosse

Mary, Mother of the Church Parish, 2006

Weston St, La Crosse

Friday, September 12

All day

Footsteps of Padre Jose Pilgrimage (Day

5/11)

All day

Worldwide Marriage Encounter - Dubuque (Day 1/3)

Saturday, September 13

All day

Footsteps of Padre Jose Pilgrimage (Day 6/11)

All day

Worldwide Marriage Encounter - Dubuque (Day 2/3)

Sunday, September 14

All day

Footsteps of Padre Jose Pilgrimage (Day 7/11)

All day

Worldwide Marriage Encounter - Dubuque (Day 3/3)

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Sacred Heart Parish Charcoal Chicken

Dinner - Cassel

222761 County Rd S, Marathon City

11:00 AM - 2:30 PM

St. Patrick Parish Fall Bazaar - Seneca

21140 WI-27, Eastman

Monday, September 15

All day

Footsteps of Padre Jose Pilgrimage (Day

8/11)

Tuesday, September 16

All day

Footsteps of Padre Jose Pilgrimage (Day

Wednesday, September 17

All day

Footsteps of Padre Jose Pilgrimage (Day

10/11)

Thursday, September 18

All day

Footsteps of Padre Jose Pilgrimage (Day

11/11)

<<Top >>



Office for Catechesis & Evangelization

Director: Ann Lankford | alankford@diolc.org

Information for Parish Leaders:

Adult Bible Studies or Faith Studies for the Parish

The vision of the Church is that adult formation is to be the major focus of a parish. It is essential for every adult Catholic to be part of a group that meets regularly for prayer, study and fellowship. For those with proper faith formation, please consider facilitating a group this fall. <u>Click here</u> for a list of excellent small group resources, including Bible Studies and Faith Studies.

For your Parish Bulletin:

(Reminder) Jubilee Year of Hope 2025

Need Hope? Take a Minute to Get to Know "the God of All Hope" (Rom 15:13)

In the Book of Genesis, when Adam and Eve were tempted by the devil, they let their trust in their Creator die in their heart and, abusing their freedom to do good, they disobeyed God's command. All personal sin committed subsequently is disobedience toward God and lack of trust in His goodness. God is perfect goodness and only wants what is best for us. After this Original Sin, God did not stop loving our first parents, as shown through His promise of a Savior who would rescue us from the consequence of being separated from our Heavenly Father. The promise was kept as Jesus came to rescue us from Satan, sin and eternal death. Let us ask Jesus to strengthen the gift of hope in us, to trust in His goodness.

Bulletin editors: Additional bulletin announcements for the Jubilee Year of Hope were developed and added on August 18th. Entries found here.

For Parish Leaders:

(Reminder) Seven Sisters Apostolate: Praying for a Priest

The Seven Sisters Apostolate is a way of praying for priests in the offering of one Holy Hour each day of the week. There are seven women that each commit to a different day of the week and offer one Holy Hour on that day for the priest and thus offer a seamless week of Holy Hours for him. This gift is for a year's time, but then may continue on. This is not an exclusive group, and if others learn of these efforts and desire to offer Holy Hours, this will be welcomed.

If you feel called to begin a Seven Sisters group for your parish pastor or associate, a priest serving in a non-parish setting, a retired priest or a bishop, you must contact the Seven Sisters coordinator in order to be officially recognized as members of this apostolate. If you are ready to go, fill out the "Start a Group" form on our contact page to begin the process or use your camera's smartphone to scan the QR code above. If you will be the coordinator, see also the anchoress.

Catechetical Leader Information:

(Reminder) Registration for New DRE/CRE/Youth Minister Training | Sep 19 | Holy Cross Diocesan Center:

New catechetical leader training will be provided on Friday, September 19th at the Holy Cross Diocesan Center in La Crosse. Further details are provided on the registration page. Register using fillable boxes here or using a Google registration here.

Further, parish staff are asked to alert Ann if a change in personnel is taking place with regard to the position of catechetical leader.

(Reminder) Two Textbook Series Available:

If you are interested in catechist manuals, student textbook and student workbooks and other resources for the following textbook series, multiple copies for kindergarten - Grade 8:

- Spirit of Truth by Sophia Institute (new for free) contact Ann Lankford
- Finding God by Loyola Press (new for ½ price) contact Mindy Konkol at mindy@rapidscatholic.org.

(Reminder) Catechetical Sunday 2025:

September 21 has been designated Catechetical Sunday 2025. The theme is "Always be ready to give an explanation for a reason for your hope." (1 Pet 3:15) This corresponds beautifully with the Jubilee Year of Hope. Materials for download and purchase are available here.

Parents are truly the primary catechists of their children. They prepare the soil and plant the first seeds of faith. On Catechetical Sunday, we not only highlight the work of catechists in parishes and schools, but we also commend parents and guardians and encourage them to take seriously their role of making their Catholic households a place where faith is passed on to the next generation. This is why the rite of blessing of catechists used on Catechetical Sunday includes a blessing of parents and guardians.

<<Top >>



Office for Communications

Director: Erik Archer | earcher@diolc.org

We're Hiring! Creative Lead—Graphic and Digital Media Designer:

The Diocese of La Crosse will soon post an opening for a Graphic and Digital Media Designer. This position is vital in helping to share the beauty of our Catholic faith through graphic design, photography and visual storytelling. The posting will be live shortly. Please keep an eye out, spread the word and think of anyone who might be a great fit to share their creative gifts in service to the Church. Contact Erik with any questions or recommendations!

<<Top >>



Office for Consecrated Life

Director: Sr. Donna Krzmarzick, ISSM | <u>dkrzmarzick@diolc.ora</u>

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

For Your Parish Bulletin:

The Renewal Project: Simple, Achievable, Life-Changing

The Renewal Project is not a checklist or a program—it's a personal invitation for you to engage with your faith on your time and on your terms. Rooted in prayer and community, this diocesan-wide effort encourages each of us to take a simple step deeper in our relationship with

Jesus Christ. You will find a variety of invitations to help you reflect, grow, and respond to the Lord in your daily life—whether as parents, couples, singles, or students. It's about opening your heart to His presence and letting Him renew you from the inside out. To learn more and begin your journey, visit here or use your smartphone's camera to scan the QR code to the right. Pasting this introduction and the QR code in the bulletin allows parishioners to instantly visit this valuable resource. Come and see what the Lord desires for you.

For Your Parish Bulletin:

Worldwide Marriage Encounter | Sep 12-14, 2025 & Feb 13-15, 2026 | Dubuque, IA Married couples - would you like to relive the excitement, romance and passion from your honeymoon? Rekindle that spark on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. Upcoming dates are September 12-14 and February 13-15, 2026 both in Dubuque, Iowa. Sign up here

soon as space is limited.

For more information call Greg and Denise at drubner9419@gmail.com.

<<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

No items this week.

<<Top >>



Office for Sacred Worship

Director: Christopher Carstens | ccarstens@diolc.org

Liturgical Calendar Advisories for November 1-2:

From the USCCB's Committee on Divine Worship: November 1, The Solemnity of All Saints, is NOT a Holy Day of Obligation this year because it falls on Saturday. It is one of the Holy Days whose obligation is abrogated when it falls on a Saturday or Monday according to the complementary norms for canon 1246 §2.

On Friday and Saturday, Evening Prayer I and II is for All Saints. Saturday evening Masses that regularly anticipate the Sunday Mass should observe the Mass of All Souls' Day (cf. "The

Liturgical Celebration of Consecutive Feast Days" *Newsletter* May-June 2016, 19-20; *Notitiae* 20 [1984], 603-605).

Weddings celebrated within Mass on Saturday must use the orations for All Saints Day, and the selection of readings should follow the guidance given in the *Order of Celebrating Matrimony*, 34. Funeral Masses are allowed on Saturday because of the abrogation of the obligation (GIRM, 380), but other Masses for the Dead (except the anticipated Mass for All Souls' Day) and ritual Masses are not permitted.

November 2, The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day) replaces the 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time. Anticipated Masses on Saturday evening should be for All Souls' Day. On Sunday, the Liturgy of the Hours for the 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time is said in individual recitation; the Office of the Dead may be used if Morning or Evening Prayer is celebrated with the people (Liturgy of the Hours, vol. IV, November 2).

Online Course: Sacramentals and the Liturgy of the Hours and Devotions:

Adoremus joins the Avila Institute in offering "Mystery and Mission in the Sacred Liturgy," a series of four introductory courses on liturgical prayer and the sacraments, and taught by Christopher Carstens, Director of the Office for Sacred Worship. The last of these four courses examines Sacramentals, the Liturgy of the Hours, and Devotions. While the celebration of the seven sacraments forms the heart of our liturgical relationship with God, the sacramentals (blessings, consecrations, and exorcisms) extend the grace of the sacraments into many other aspects of Christian life. The Liturgy of the Hours likewise radiates the grace of the daily Eucharist through the hours of day.

Expanding further, devotional and private prayer continue to sanctify the moments of life and are an essential part of a mature, Catholic spirituality. This six-week course meets live online Thursdays, 6:30–8:00 p.m. Central, from September 4 through October 16, 2025. Faithful from the Diocese of La Crosse will receive a 25% discount and can take the course for \$150. Anyone interested in participating should apply at the Avila Institute for Spiritual Formation and enter the discount code LACROSSE to waive the application fee. Once a participant has been accepted for the course, a representative from the Avila Institute will follow up by assisting in enrollment, which includes processing the 25% discount. Consider joining us!

<<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 <u>policies and procedures</u>, 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 <u>on</u>

<u>the diocesan website</u>. Individuals are also encouraged to take their reports directly to civil authorities. Copies of the diocesan policy are available through your local Parish and on the <u>diocesan website</u>. If you have any questions about the Diocese of La Crosse and the implementation of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, please contact Teresa Brown, Diocese of La Crosse, at 608.791.2679 or <u>tbrown@diolc.org</u>.

<u>NEW</u>: Online training has been updated to include the Diocese of La Crosse code of conduct. Going forward this is part of annual training. The Annual Verification of Protect and Heal Form has been updated to include the code of conduct. This form along with the confidential questionnaire must be kept at the parish or school. The Code is also slide 4 of online training.

<u>REMINDER:</u> Staff and volunteers at parishes and schools must be background checked and trained before they begin working or volunteering. Please send print cards as soon as possible. Applicants can be hired as soon as they have a successfully completed background check, but their employment is contingent on the successful completion of a comprehensive background check(fingerprinting).

If the Safe Environment contact information has changed for the upcoming year, please email the new name and email to Teresa: tbrown@diolc.org

The Protect and Heal video was recently updated. To be compliant with training this video must be viewed at least once.

Construction is over. The Safe Environment website has been updated. Log in, and look around, it's much easier to move around and find the resources you need.

If you are interested in onsite or Zoom training at your parish or school, please contact me soon as dates are filling up. I will be at the following locations in August for Safe Environment Training:

August 18: Rockland (Middle Ridge) St. Peter's at 7:30 pm

August 19: Wisconsin Rapids Assumption at 9:00 am

August 19: Colby, St. Mary, Help of Christian School and Parish 1:00 & 6:00 pm

August 20: Alma Center, Immaculate Conception Parish at 6:00 pm

August 21: Thorp Catholic at 1:00 pm and All Saints in Stanley at 6:00 pm

August 22: Wausau Newman- 10:00 am and 1:00 pm (at St. Anne's Parish Hall)

August 25: Zoom Training - email Teresa if you are interested in attending at 6:00 pm

Invite Link

"Let all you do be done in love." (1 Corinthians 16:14)



Office for Catholic Schools

Superintendent: Thomas Reichenbacher | treichenbacher@diolc.org

No items this week.



Office for Social Concerns

Director: Christopher Ruff | cruff@diolc.org

For Your Parish bulletin:

44th Annual Rural Life Day | September 22nd at 10am | 3365 Auger Road, Warrens, WI

The 44th Annual Rural Life Day will be held at the Wetherby Cranberry Co., in Warrens on Monday, September 22th. Join Bishop Battersby for Mass at 10:00 am followed by awards, the blessing of farm animals, crops and machinery and a delightful lunch. Wetherby Cranberry Co. is located at 3365 Auger Road, Warrens, WI. This is your chance to celebrate rural life, enjoy the beauty of God's creation and maybe even leave with a craving for cranberries!

<<Top >>



Office for Stewardship & Development

Director: Jeff Reiter – 608.791.2653 | <u>ireiter@diolc.org</u>

(Reminder) Pick your parish's kickoff weekend 2025-26: Diocesan Annual Appeal:

We have created and published <u>this year's kickoff sign-up form</u>. A link to this form is also on <u>the appeal portal</u>. Please <u>review the 10% material quantity</u> before completing the form.

(Reminder) 2025-26 Diocesan Annual Appeal Materials:

It is never too early to start praying for a successful diocesan annual appeal. Here is the <u>prayer</u> <u>card</u>. A link can also be found on the appeal portal.

We have begun loading copies of the materials for the upcoming diocesan annual appeal onto the <u>appeal portal</u>. As we complete more of the materials, we will be uploading copies for your enjoyment and use. Our diocesan annual appeal preview road show will be coming to a location near you. Keep an eye out for the forthcoming details.

(Reminder) Stewardship Bulletin Reflections for Weekends: 08/24/2025 / 08/31/2025 / 09/7/2025 / 09/14/2025

(Reminder) Stewardship Homily Reflections: <u>08/17/25 - 09/14/25</u>

(Reminder) Weekly Stewardship Quotes: July - September 2025 / Spanish Version

(Reminder) Weekly Stewardship Prayers of the Faithful: <u>July - September 2025</u> / <u>Spanish Version</u>

What is a Steward?

<u>The term "steward"</u> is derived from the Greek word "oikonomos," which means "household manager." In the New Testament, particularly in 1 Cor 4:1-2, the Apostle Paul states, "This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy." This duality is the expectation that stewards must be faithful and responsible.

Jesus often spoke of stewardship in His parables, such as the parable of the talents (Matt 25:14-30), where the master entrusts his wealth to the servants, expecting them to use it wisely.

Planned Giving:

Empower parishioners to leave a lasting legacy through wills, bequests, and endowments. Did you know that from 1638 to 1755, among 1,656 wills filed in Manhattan (beginning with Dutch rule in New Amsterdam), 5.7% included charitable bequests? Today, an estimated 5-7% of people include such gifts in their wills—a small but meaningful step forward. Notably, over 70% of these bequests come from wills written within the last five years of life.

Most people who leave a charitable bequest are in their mid-to-late 80s, often motivated by a lifetime of philanthropy or a late-in-life wish to make a difference. Personal experiences, accumulated wealth and a passion for giving back influence these choices, particularly as individuals age.

We provide tools and resources to help parishes support individuals in creating a lasting legacy. Contact our office to learn more or to arrange a presentation for your parish.

Planned Giving Bulletin Ads:

Download <u>ready-to-use bulletin ads</u> to inspire your community. Our ancestors entrusted us with the precious gift of vibrant parishes. It's our duty to ensure that future generations experience the same reverence and beauty. We can secure that future together through capital campaigns and education on endowments, trusts, and bequests.

Save on Estate Planning Costs:

Our estate planning guide can help you save hundreds of dollars in legal and financial fees. We've mailed out hundreds of copies upon request, and every parish has received one. Need more? Contact our office!

Explore More at diolclegacy.org:

Visit our planned giving website for calculators, estate planning guides, newsletters, and instructions on IRA rollovers, donor-advised funds (DAFs), beneficiary designations, and stock transfers. Visit here to get started.

For more details, legacy giving support, presentations, or bulletin ads, contact Jeff Reiter at ireiter@diolc.org. Let's build a lasting legacy!

<<Top >>



Office for Temporalities

Diocesan Finance Officer: James Reider | <u>ireider@diolc.org</u>

2025 Summer Parish Finance Webinar | Thursday, 18 September 2025 | Zoom

Hosted by the Office for Temporalities Location: via <u>this Zoom link</u>. Registration is required. To register, follow <u>this registration link</u> This session will be recorded and posted to the <u>Temporalities website</u> afterwards. Parish accounting contacts, finance council chairpersons, administrative assistants, secretaries, pastors and other parish staff are cordially invited to

attend this important webinar. The session will last for approximately two hours. For more details of the meeting agenda, click on this link.

<<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

SEALED! Confirmation Retreats:

The next SEALED! Confirmation Retreats will be held December 6, 2025 at St. Olaf Catholic Church in Eau Claire and February 28, 2026 at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Stevens Point.



Your attendees can register here at the <u>following link</u> or by using your camera's smartphone to scan the QR code to the right (perfect for pasting into bulletins).

Scholarships for LifeTeen Empower Events:

This scholarship could be used for the following Empower training in our area for up to 3 people per parish (yourself, core team member, catechist, priest, music minister, etc): August 16th (Milwaukee), September 6th (Green Bay) or September 13th (Rochester, MN).

Please see the Empower registration page for more information.

To apply for a scholarship for your parish, simply fill out this application.

For Your Parish Bulletin:

The Renewal Project: Simple, Achievable, Life-Changing

The Renewal Project is not a checklist or a program—it's a personal invitation for you to engage with your faith on your time and on your terms. Rooted in prayer and community, this diocesan-wide effort encourages each of us to take a simple step deeper in our relationship with Jesus Christ. You will find a variety of invitations to help you reflect, grow, and respond to the

Lord in your daily life—whether as parents, couples, singles, or students. It's about opening your heart to His presence and letting Him renew you from the inside out. To learn more and begin your journey, visit here. Come and see what the Lord desires for you.

(Reminder) National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) | November 20-23, 2025 | Indianapolis, IN

It is with great enthusiasm and a profound sense of purpose that we write to invite you and your youth to join us for the National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) See the official website here or by using your camera's smartphone to scan the QR code to the right (perfect for pasting into bulletins). NCYC is a vibrant, faith-filled event that brings together young Catholics from across the nation to celebrate their faith, deepen their relationship with God, and connect with peers who share their spiritual journey. It is an event that promises to inspire, empower, and ignite the hearts of our youth, helping them to grow in their faith and become active, engaged members of our Church community with a mission to go and make disciples.

We are asking parish leaders to prayerfully organize a group, big or small, to join us. We invite you to register as the group leader, using this form, to let us know you are interested in bringing a group. For more information including a promotional video, click on this link.

<<Top >>

Diocese of La Crosse | 3710 East Ave S | La Crosse, WI 54601 | 608.788.7700 To unsubscribe from this e-mail message contact mwilson@diolc.org