

### **FROM BISHOP ZINKULA**

**Churches to be Closed:** As the number of people with COVID-19 continues to rapidly rise in Iowa, we need to do more to help people maintain safe distancing recommendations to slow the spread of the virus. All church buildings in the diocese are to be closed to public access as soon as possible and no later than 8:00 a.m. Monday morning, April 6. Parish offices may remain open as determined by the pastor or parish life coordinator. Baptisms, weddings and funerals, all outside of Mass, can continue with the minimum number of people involved: child to be baptized, parents, Godparents and cleric for baptism; bride, groom, 2 witnesses and cleric for weddings; and no more than 10 gathered for funerals. For the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation, call a priest in advance to arrange a time and place to meet that offers safe distancing.

### **DISASTER TEAM**

*In Lent, we remember how Christ gave his life for us. To love is to die. So we are being called to die to what is familiar, comfortable, even precious. We are being called to do so for the sake of, for the love of, others: those who are most susceptible to this infection, and for those who will suffer as health care and other resources become scarce, and as this pandemic takes its toll financially and socially. But our faith tells us that Easter follows Lent. To love is to die, but to die is to live. That's the message of the Cross, which we—all of us, together—are being called to embrace in a profoundly deep way this Lent.*

There is a wealth of information on the diocesan website regarding the Covid-19 pandemic. There are three different web pages:

1. **Planning for Pandemic Influenza & Other Outbreaks:** <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/flu>
2. **Prayer and Support:** <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/prayer-and-support>
3. **Q and A:** <https://www.davenportdiocese.org/qa>

### **VISION 20/20**

**From Bishop Zinkula:** After a lot of thought and prayer, I have decided to postpone the June 14 Vision 20/20 event due to the COVID-19 virus pandemic. With so much uncertainty, it is difficult to say at this time whether we could gather a large group in June. Therefore, we will continue to pray and look forward to the time when we can gather together to celebrate evangelization in our diocese!



### **CENSUS 2020**



**From Bishop Zinkula:** For several weeks we have asked diocesan parishes and schools to promote the 2020 Census due to its importance for all of our communities. As the COVID-19 virus has impacted our ability to gather, the need to encourage participation in other ways has become critical. We ask that you share the following message on your websites. In addition, please ask various parish and school leaders to pass it on through their email lists and, if necessary to reach specific groups, through phone calls. Knights of Columbus, Altar and Rosary Societies, prayer groups, parent-teacher organizations among others can encourage a complete and accurate count. The message:

*The Census impacts resources and representation for our communities over the next 10 years, and every household should participate. Please complete your census information online, by phone or on paper. Responses are secure and protected by federal law, and there is no citizenship question. Make sure to count children. Your response helps achieve an accurate count and prevents the need for a visit by a census taker. Thank you for making sure everyone counts!*

## **LITURGY OFFICE**

The April issue of *LiturgyNotes* is available [here](#).

By request, we're highlighting the different pages of the diocesan liturgy website. This month, I want to highlight three pages dedicated to specific ritual books:

1. The Missal (<https://www.davenportdiocese.org/new-roman-missal>)
2. The Order of Celebrating Matrimony (<https://www.davenportdiocese.org/new-order-of-celebrating-matrimony>)
3. The OCIA (RCIA) (<https://www.davenportdiocese.org/ocia>).

On these pages, we answers about and provide resources for using the latest editions of these ritual books.

## **SOCIAL ACTION OFFICE**

**COVID-19:** During this hard time our office would like to hear from you on how your community is doing. If you would like to share some information please contact [Kent Ferris](#).

**Tax Help Update:** The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program has been suspended in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The good news is that the IRS is providing a 90-day extension to taxpayers that expect to owe money on their Federal Return. However, people need to file for an extension. For more information go to the IRS website [here](#).

**Flood Preparation:** Go to the Iowa Human Resources Disaster Council (of which the diocese is a member) [website](#) for help in crafting what may be lifesaving plans and preparations. If you need more information about preparedness contact [Glenn Leach](#), 563-888-4214 or go to our [website](#) to find additional resources.

**Rice Bowl Collection:** Now more than ever our diocese relies on your donations to help us fight hunger locally and around the world. Contributions allow us to have a more healthy collection during these difficult times, making funds available for local grants to organizations around the diocese that help fight hunger. Ways to donate:

1. Mail a check to Diocese of Davenport  
Rice Bowl Collection, Attn: Nancy Karn  
780 West Central Park Ave., Davenport, IA 52804-1901
2. Give directly to CRS (Catholic Relief Services)
  - a. By phone: 877-435-7277
  - b. By mail: Catholic Relief Services  
CRS Rice Bowl  
PO Box 17090, Baltimore, Maryland 21297-0303

Parishes are reminded to remit all Rice Bowl funds by May 31. On the check memo line please mark Rice Bowl Contribution and address the envelope to the attention of Nancy Karn.

CRS Holy Week resources are available [here](#).

**Available Grants:** All grants must be in our office by 4:00 p.m. on May 15, 2020. For questions contact [Loxi Hopkins](#), 563-888-4212.

- **Rice Bowl Grant Deadline:** 1) This grant is for organizations providing/supporting direct services to people who are hungry (first foot of social justice). The project requesting funds must be operated within the geographical boundaries of the Diocese of Davenport. 2) Projects must conform to the social teachings of the Catholic Church. 3) The project requesting funds provides direct services to alleviate poverty and hunger in the Diocese of Davenport.
- **CCHD Grant Deadline:** All grants must be in our office by 4:00 p.m. on May 15, 2020. This grant is for organizations and projects that promote systemic change (second foot of social justice). To apply send your request in a 1-2 page letter along with the Catholic Campaign for Human Development Grant Agreement.

**Due to COVID-19 the Immigration Office** closed March 18, 2020 and will remain as such until further notice. The staff is handling all current cases remotely. We are unable to schedule any new appointments. Please check back at the beginning of July. Continue to call the diocese, 563-324-1911 and leave a detailed voice mail message

as we are checking messages periodically. Please be sure to leave your first and last name and a good phone number where you can be reached. USCIS is also closed and will be rescheduling any appointments and clients will be notified by US mail. If you have an urgent matter and need immediate assistance inquiring about a case please contact your local congress person's office.

**Buy Ethical Trade:** The new SERRV Spring/Summer 2020 catalog is now available buy Ethical Trade handcrafts and gourmet food items from disadvantaged producers around the world. [Online Catalog.](#)

**Project Rachel** is a confidential, post-abortion healing ministry of the Catholic Church offering hope and healing to women and men hurting from past abortions. You may contact Project Rachel staff by calling the local Helpline: 563-333-4107 or email, [projectrachel@diodav.org](mailto:projectrachel@diodav.org). If you would like to support Project Rachel please make a financial contribution, payable to the Diocese of Davenport. In the memo line write Project Rachel and mail to Diocese of Davenport, Project Rachel, 780 West Central Park Avenue, Davenport, IA 52804-1901.

**St. Vincent's Home Corporation Grant:** The grant deadline is September 15. [Click here for application details.](#)

**Social Action Google Groups:** These two Google groups are for people who wish to receive information related to parish social action or social action advocacy. The Google Groups are intended to support discussion about issues, although you can simply read the emails without responding. If you wish to join either group contact [Amy Kersten](#).

## **FAITH FORMATION OFFICE**

**At-Home Resources:** We have developed an [At-Home Resources](#) webpage that is continually updated with resources you can use to deliver ministry into people's homes. Please be sure to check out this page on a regular basis.

**Share the Wealth:** Bishop Zinkula would like to know more about how people are handling faith formation and youth/young adult ministry during this COVID-19 crisis. We're also sure that many of you would like to know what others are doing to address this. So we've created a [What Are You Doing?](#) webpage where you can share what you're doing. Just complete the form on that page, and hit "Submit." You can then find these submissions on the [Examples of At-Home Ministry](#) page.

### **Youth and Young Adult**

**April Youth Ministry Leaders' Gathering:** Our April meeting will be held virtually on Tuesday, April 7 beginning at 10 AM. We'll gather on Zoom (contact [Barb Butterworth](#) for the link). Our agenda will include a time to check in with each other on how we're doing personally and with our ministry, programming updates, our final discussion on *Christus Vivit* (Chapters 8-9), along with maybe a few other items. The agenda will be posted on the [Gathering webpage](#).

### **Adult Formation**

**Online Formation through STEP at Notre Dame:** The Diocese has partnered with STEP at the University of Notre Dame to offer online formation for parishioners. Courses are offered in a variety of topics and no prior formation is necessary. *Core Course: Introduction to the Catholic Faith* is a great course for catechists and adults who desire to deepen their knowledge of the faith. The next session of courses begins April 20. [Click here for a list of courses](#). Cost is \$74.25 per course after diocesan discount. For more information, contact [Rosina Hendrickson](#), 563-888-4244 or visit our [website](#).

**Curated Faith Formation Resources:** The Office of Faith Formation is curating online resources that can be used for Faith Formation, personal prayer and faith growth during this time. Please visit the [Children's Faith Formation](#), [Family Faith Formation](#) and [At-Home Resources](#) (mentioned above).

### **Marriage and Family**

**Thank You** to all of the parishes and schools that participated in celebrating Safe Haven Sunday last month! With schools closed and children at home, this is an important time to help keep families safe online by continuing to share the **free** training programs, articles and videos available on the [Diocese of Davenport Clean Heart webpage](#) with your parish/school families and ministry leaders.

**Cancelled: April 18 Diocesan Marriage Preparation Workshop:** Couples registered for the workshop have been notified and we are working with them to determine alternative preparation options. Under normal circumstances, couples would receive authorization from their parish in order to use an approved online marriage preparation option. This requirement has been waived for the time being in order to insure that all of our engaged couples have access to a safe preparation experience prior to their proposed wedding date. Contact [Marianne Agnoli](#) if you have any questions.

**Cancelled: April 19 –Solon -Introduction to NFP Instruction:** Participation in an Introduction to Natural Family Planning or a method specific instruction is required of all couples of child bearing age preparing for marriage in the diocese. Any engaged couples affected by this or other diocesan cancellations should contact [Marianne Agnoli](#), 563-676-9745 to discuss alternative instruction options.

**Two Become One Remarriage Preparation Workshop: Tentatively** Saturday, May 30, St. Mary Church, Solon. This marriage preparation workshop is designed to meet the unique needs of couples in which one or both of the individuals have been **previously married**. Couples can register until May 22, on the diocesan [Marriage Preparation website](#).

## **PROTECTING GOD’S CHILDREN**

**To report child abuse call** the Iowa Attorney General Clergy Abuse hotline at 855-620-7000 (M-F, 8 am.-4:30 pm.) to speak with a trained advocate or the Iowa Department of Human Services Child Abuse Hotline: 800-362-2178. If it involves clergy or church personnel also notify Alicia Owens, Victim Assistance Coordinator: 563-349-5002, [vac@diodav.org](mailto:vac@diodav.org) or PO Box 232, Bettendorf, IA 52722-0004.

## **OUR LADY OF THE PRAIRIE RETREAT, WHEATLAND**

To register contact: 563-336-8414 or [olpretreat@gmail.com](mailto:olpretreat@gmail.com). To learn more about these programs and Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat visit [prairieretreat.org](http://prairieretreat.org). All programs include a delicious homemade meal prepared with local and organic ingredients.

With the cancellation of retreats at Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat, friends can still have “Beauty of the Prairie” moments by going to our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/PrairieRetreat/>

Though the daily Masses at Humility of Mary Center have been canceled for now, The Congregation of the Humility of Mary offers up prayers each morning and evening in the Magnificat Chapel – If you would like to request a prayer visit [www.chmiowa.org](http://www.chmiowa.org) where you can submit your prayer through an on-line form.

## **BENET HOUSE RETREAT CENTER, ROCK ISLAND, IL**

Contact Sr. Jackie Walsh, OSB at 309-283-2108, [retreats@smmsisters.org](mailto:retreats@smmsisters.org) or Sr. Stefanie MacDonald, OSB at 309-283-2300 or online at <http://www.smmsisters.org/retreats/retreats-and-programs> to register.

Please call to inquire the status of previously scheduled events.

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To support the ministry of your parish, school and the diocese these groups automatically receive the *Mini-Messenger*:

Deacons	Diocesan Corporate Board	Youth Ministers	Pastoral Associates	Directors/Coordinators of Faith Formation
Parishes	Catholic Foundation Board	Sisters	RCIA Parish Contacts	Diocesan Liturgical Commission
Priests	Parish Lay Directors	Bookkeepers	Diocesan Board of Education	
Seminarians	Diocesan Pastoral Council	Principals	Parish Life Coordinators	

Other interested persons are welcome to subscribe. If you have questions regarding your subscription contact Laurie Hoefling, [hoefling@davenportdiocese.org](mailto:hoefling@davenportdiocese.org).