

NolaCatholic e-Bulletin



ARCHDIOCESE OF
NEW ORLEANS

November 20, 2019

SECTION I

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHBISHOP

Announcements

- Attached please find my summary of the USCCB meeting last week. Thanks for those who supported us in prayer.
- Thank you to Fr. Nile Gross, Betty-Ann Hickey, and the Office of Worship for the Archdiocesan Musicians' Convocation held at Notre Dame Seminary on Saturday, November 16, 2019. It was well attended by more than 180 musicians.
- All Administrative Offices of the archdiocese will close for the Thanksgiving holiday at noon on Wednesday, November 27, 2019, and will re-open at the beginning of the business day on Monday, December 2, 2019. Please be assured that my prayer on Thanksgiving Day will include all of you as we continue to encounter Jesus and grow as his disciples.
- The annual Notre Dame Seminary Christmas Luncheon for Priests will be held on Tuesday, December 3, 2019. The day will begin with Mass at Immaculate Conception at 10:30 AM. The reception and luncheon will follow at the Roosevelt Hotel at 11:30 AM.
- Archbishop Hughes, Bishop Cheri, and I will be in Rome November 30 -December 8, 2019, for the Ad Limina Visit. We visit the various offices in Rome and meet with the Holy Father. This is required by church law.
- The Presbyteral Council will meet Thursday, December 12, 2019, at Notre Dame Seminary at 10:00 AM.
- The Ministerial Council will meet on Friday, December 13, 2019 at Notre Dame Seminary at 9:00 AM.
- The Archdiocesan Administrative offices will be closed from Friday, December 20, 2019, through Wednesday, January 1, 2020, for the Christmas holidays. The offices will re-open on Thursday, January 2, 2020.
- The Epiphany gathering for priests will take place on Thursday, January 2, 2020. It will begin with vespers at 5:30 PM at Notre Dame Seminary Chapel followed by a reception at my residence. You must RSVP to Alison Guerra at 861-6269 or aguerra@arch-no.org by December 13, 2019. Please see the [attached](#) flyer for more information.

This bulletin is also available on the Archdiocesan website, www.nolacatholic.org

Fr. Peter Hammett,
O.S.B. Book
Signing

2019 Lay
Enrichment Series

Retrouvaille
Weekend for
Troubled
Marriages

First Fridays at St.
Stephen Church
Extraordinary
Form of the Mass
of the Roman Rite,
"Tridentine"
(Latin) Mass

Advent Morning of
Reflection

Inside and
Outside: An
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Opportunities

Mission Statement for the Departments and Offices of the Archdiocese of New Orleans

Impelled by God's call and inspired by the vision of the Ninth General Synod, the ministries of the Archdiocese of New Orleans, in union with the Archbishop and with one another, serve the people, parishes, schools and organizations of the archdiocese, enabling them to encounter Jesus and witness his love with joy.

Mark Your Calendars

March 18, 2020	Confession available in all parishes 5:00 PM-6:30 PM
March 25, 2020	Confession available in all parishes 5:00 PM-6:30 PM
April 1, 2020	Confession available in all parishes 5:00 PM-6:30 PM
May 16, 2020	Transitional Diaconate Ordination
May 30, 2020	Priesthood Ordination
September 9, 2020	Confession available in all parishes 5:00 PM-6:30 PM
September 15-17, 2020	Priest Convocation for the Archdiocese of New Orleans
May 22, 2021	Transitional Diaconate Ordination
June 5, 2021	Priesthood Ordination
September 20-22, 2021	Louisiana Priests Convention
September 7-9, 2022	Priest Convocation for the Archdiocese of New Orleans
September 6-8, 2023	Priest Convocation for the Archdiocese of New Orleans

Death

Sister Mary Paule Vardigan, DC, a Daughter of Charity, died November 13, 2019, in Brighton, Missouri, at the age of 101. Until this past June, Sister resided at the Chateau de Notre Dame. She served in New Orleans for many years at Charity Hospital and Hotel Dieu. Wake and Liturgy were held November 18th in Brighton, Missouri, with burial in Marillac Cemetery, Normandy, Missouri, on November 19th. Let us keep Sister Mary Paule, her family and the Daughters of Charity in our prayers.

**SECTION II
ACTION REQUESTED**

Pastors and parish secretaries are asked to please ensure response and follow-up on the items

- ✓ Please note the correct email address for Blessed Sacrament-St. Joan of Arc is bssjaparish@arch-no.org.

Please note these are my personal notes and not an official summary of the USCCB meeting recently held in Baltimore.

November 2019 USCCB Meeting

1. We sent greetings to our Holy Father, Pope Francis, assuring him of our prayers and asking for his continued spiritual support of our episcopal ministry.
2. Our Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Christophe Pierre, addressed the bishops. He greeted us in the name of Pope Francis and expressed our Holy Father's gratitude to the United States bishops. He reflected on our sense of mission and acknowledged the challenging times in the world and the United States. At the same time, he spoke about the many dedicated Catholics who live their faith and give witness. Several national Catholic meetings underscore this reality. The nuncio gave thanks for the "ad limina" reports from each diocese and affirmed the work of evangelization and pastoral planning. In his talk he reminded us that the Church must give witness in this secular culture. This takes prayer, planning and leadership; we should include the laity and use their gifts in our ministry of evangelization. We were reminded to continue to strengthen our unity with the pope, other bishops and our priests. He acknowledged the polarization in our world and Church. Also, we must continue to build a "Culture of Vocations" in our dioceses. Though there are challenges, much good is taking place in fulfilling the mission of Christ today in the United States.
3. Our USCCB president, Cardinal DiNardo, addressed us. He recalled visiting the border detention centers and called us to care for immigrants and refugees. Also, we must continue to protect the life of the unborn. As bishops, we must reach out to abuse victims/survivors and continue to provide safe environments in all dioceses. The president reminded us that "clericalism," which separates us from the people, is damaging. We are grateful to our youth and young adults for the life they bring to the Church. In acknowledging the negativity in our world, we must be a light and a voice of hope.
4. The National Advisory Council, made up of clergy, religious and laity, reviews our agenda and offer insights for our discussion. Col. (Ret.) Anita Raines represented the Council. Their insights and suggestion are always helpful in our discussion and voting.
5. The bishops approved the USCCB Revised Strategies Priorities for 2021-2024 and the 2020 USCCB Budget.
6. The chair of the Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development gave a report on gun violence. There are 40,000 gun-related deaths in the United States, two-thirds suicide and one-third homicides. Gun policies supported by USCCB are as follows: Ban on assault weapons, universal background checks, criminalize gun trafficking, better access to mental health, limitations on handguns, gun locks and safe storage, assessment of violence in media and limiting large-capacity magazines. These policies reflect our belief in the sacredness of human life. God alone is the Lord of life.

7. Bishop Robert Barron has done research with many others on how to reach out to the religiously unaffiliated. Also he addressed how we can get young people back to the Catholic Church. We must persevere with hope. There is a 20-minute video by Bishop Barron that explores these questions. The “nones” - how do we get them back to Christ and the Church?
 - 1) Get young people involved in the works of justice. Enable them to know our teaching on social justice. While other teachings of the Church may distance them, the work of justice can make the Church more credible and invite them back.
 - 2) Use the “way of beauty.” Examine the beauty within our Catholic heritage (our churches, websites of churches, movies). We have engaged the finest artists and musicians who lead us to God’s beauty.
 - 3) Stop dumbing down the faith. Young people have many unanswered questions. Accompany young people and let them voice their confusion and difficulty in believing. They are asking about the existence of God, problem of evil and sexuality. They ask - is our religion the right religion?
 - 4) Turn every parish into a missionary society. Active Catholics need to be disciples whose mission is to go out to others. We need to be patient, on fire and willing to walk with others. Parishes need to reach out.
 - 5) Creatively use the new media. Media needs to be used for evangelization. Media can invite others to know Christ, draw people into the mysteries of faith. Invest time and money to creatively use the media to bring Jesus to others and walk with them in their questions and disbelief.

Three young adults addressed the bishops.

Some youth have no real understanding of the Mass, thus finding it boring and meaningless. Good music and good homilies draw some back to Church. We can never underestimate the personal invitation. Disciples make disciples. Youth ministries should involve catechesis.

8. A report on Pro-Life activities was given by the Bishop Chair of the Committee. He reminded us that we must continue to reach out to women in difficult and unwanted pregnancies. Many poor women and those emotionally distraught are more likely to choose abortion. Project Rachel is an important retreat to those who have had abortions and are seeking God’s mercy and peace. We have Project Rachel in the Archdiocese of New Orleans.

March 25, 2020, is the 25th anniversary of “The Gospel of Life” by St. Pope John Paul II. The theme for March 25, 2020-March 25, 2021: “Walking with Moms in Need: A Year of Service.”

9. The bishops approved the following:

- a. “The Program of Priestly Formation” – 6th edition for use in the U.S. (Vatican approval will be requested.)
- b. The translation for the “Order of Christian Initiation of Adults” – for use in the U.S. (Vatican approval will be requested.)
- c. The translation of the “Hymns of the Liturgy of the Hours” – for use in the U.S.
- d. A short letter to supplement the 2015 statement for “Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship” and video scripts for five short videos to supplement “Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship”
- e. To authorize the Committee on Cultural Diversity (Subcommittee on Hispanic affairs) to lead the process of developing a formal statement and vision for Hispanic ministry in response to the V Encuentro process.
- f. Support the request to ask the Holy Father to name St. Irenaeus a Doctor of the Church.

10. There were presentations and discussions on:

- a. USCCB statement on racism
- b. V Encuentro and its implementation
- c. Marriage and Family Life ministry and advocacy (a document is being proposed)
- d. “Christus Vivit” (Apostolic Exhortation by Pope Francis on Young People, Faith and Vocational Discernment). Two young adults addressed the bishops.
- e. Immigration update and issues
- f. Catholic Relief Services
- g. Catholic Charities USA
- h. 100th anniversary of National Council of Catholic Women (NCCW)

These discussions give evidence to the pastoral care and serious concern the bishops give to issues of racism, social justice, family, youth, Hispanic ministry and immigration. It is not possible to summarize the discussions here, but I found them informative and inspiring.

SECTION III PARISH PUBLICITY

Announcements below are made available for publicizing to parishioners via placement in parish bulletins, on parish websites and social media, or other appropriate means

Book Signing

Please consider advertising the following in your church bulletin:

Fr. Peter Hammett, O.S.B., will be signing copies of his new book, *Liturgy: The Pulse of the Universe*, on Saturday, November 30, 2019, at noon, in the Abbey Gift Shop. Fr. Peter's book is available now in the Abbey Gift Shop or on Amazon. During the signing, the book will be available for purchase for \$18 (cash or check accepted). You may download a flyer [here](#).

2019 Lay Enrichment Series

All are invited and welcome to attend the final installment of the Fall 2019 Lay Enrichment Series: A Semester Through the Catechism, which is co-sponsored by Notre Dame Seminary and the Catholic Community Foundation and held at NDS on Wednesday, December 11th, from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM in the Pastoral Center. Dr. Tom Neal will reflect on the rich wisdom of the Catechism regarding the meaning, purpose and fiery power of prayer in the Christian life, along with some practical tips on how to become a man and woman of prayer. Register now at www.les-nds-neal2.eventbrite.com. You may download a flyer [here](#).

Retrouvaille Weekend for Troubled Marriages

Retrouvaille is a program designed to provide help and support to married couples who are undergoing difficulties in their relationship. Sponsored by the Catholic Church, Retrouvaille is open to couples of all faiths. It has proven helpful to couples who are troubled and stressed, or if the relationship has grown cold and distant. The next Retrouvaille Weekend will be January 10-12, 2020, at the William J. Kelly Retreat Center in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi. For registration or additional information, please go to the Retrouvaille website <https://www.helpourmarriage.org/> or email retrouvaillenola@gmail.com.

SECTION IV

NEWS AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

Following is news and information of general interest to the local Church

First Fridays at St. Stephen Church

The Extraordinary Form of the Mass of the Roman Rite, the "Tridentine" (Latin) Mass, will begin to be offered on First Fridays, commencing on December 6th at 6:00 PM, at the Marian altar of St. Stephen Church (Good Shepherd Parish), 1025 Napoleon Avenue, in New Orleans. The Reverend Paul Clark will be the celebrant, with Brian Morgan at the pipe organ. In the apparitions granted to St Marguerite-Marie Alacoque in the 17th Century, several promises were made to those who practiced the First Friday Devotions. For further information, please telephone the Rectory Office, at (504)899-1378.

Catholic Women in Action: Advent Morning of Reflection

Advent Morning of Reflection to be held beginning at 9:00 AM on **Tuesday, December 10th** at **Mary Queen of Peace Church** in Mandeville. The celebrant of the Mass is Fr. Garrett O'Brien. The speaker is Karen Schwaner Sheehy. You may download a flyer [here](#) for more information.

Advent Morning of Reflection to be held beginning at 9:00 AM on **Thursday, December 12th** at **St. Angela Merici Church** in Metairie. The celebrant of the Mass is Fr. Beau Charbonnet. The speakers are Denny Charbonnet, Janice Charbonnet, and Elise Charbonnet Angelette. You may download a flyer [here](#) for more information.

Inside and Outside-An Advent Retreat

On Saturday, December 14, 2019 from 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM the Redemptorist Community & Ministries of New Orleans will host the **Inside & Outside: An Advent Retreat** at the Seelos Welcome Center located at 919 Josephine Street, New Orleans, LA 70130. The retreat will focus on how Advent affects the way we live our daily lives inside our homes as people of faith and outside in the world as people of justice. The retreat cost is \$15 per person and includes a sandwich lunch. To register for the retreat, stop by the Seelos Welcome Center or contact Lillian at 504-522-6748 or lrm1254@hotmail.com or Dawn at 504-525-2495 or ddawson@seelos.org

Employment Opportunities

New job opportunities are currently listed on our HR page: <https://nolacatholic.org/employment>
Please refer to our job-link often and share with qualified referrals!