

NOLACatholic e-Bulletin



ARCHDIOCESE OF
NEW ORLEANS

March 4, 2026

SECTION I

Lenten Confessions Letter from Archbishop Checchio

Please read Archbishop Checchio's pastoral letter in [English](#) and [Spanish](#), about Lenten Confessions, at all Masses March 7-8, and print in bulletin.

Please see Archbishop Checchio's letter regarding the [Seminarian Education Fund Second Collection](#), and announce and place in the bulletin on the weekend of March 7-8.

Archbishop Checchio's Events

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| Thursday, March 5 | 10:30 AM. Lenten Morning of Prayer for Priests, St. Rita Church, New Orleans. |
| Thursday, March 5 | 6:00 PM. Access Joie de Vivre Gala, Metairie Country Club |
| Friday, March 6 | 9:00 AM. Women's History Month Mass. Ursuline Academy, New Orleans |
| Saturday, March 7 | 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Sankofa Lenten Morning of Reflection, Schulte Auditorium, NDS |
| Saturday, March 7 | 4:30 PM. Mass, St. Joan of Arc Church, LaPlace |
| Sunday, March 8 | 11:00 AM. Mass for Jefferson Parish First Responders, St. Catherine of Siena Church, Metairie. |
| Sunday, March 8 | 2:30 PM. Order of St. Louis IX Ceremony, St. Catherine of Siena Church, Metairie. Archbishop Checchio will present medallions to members of the laity for outstanding service to the Church. |
| Wednesday, March 9 | 3:30 PM. Farewell to Martha Mundine, Chancery |
| Monday March 9 | 6:00 PM. 2 nd Baptismal Scrutiny, Neocatechumenal Community, Blessed Seelos, New Orleans |
| Tuesday, March 10 | 12:00 PM. Tulane FOCUS Missionaries – private event |
| Tuesday, March 10 | 6:30 PM. Christ in the City, St. Francis of Assisi Church, New Orleans |
| Wednesday, March 11 | 4:30 PM. Catholic Community Foundation Board of Directors' Meeting – private event |
| Thursday, March 12 | 10:00 AM. Seminaries Board of Trustees Meetings. St. Joseph Seminary – private event |
| Friday, March 13 | 10:00 AM. LCCB Meeting – private event |
| Saturday, March 14 | 4:00 PM. Mass, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Belle Chasse |
| Sunday, March 15 | 10:00 AM. Mass, Assumption of Mary Church, Avondale |
| Sunday, March 15 | 3:00 PM. Silver Anniversary Celebration, Our Lady of the Rosary Church, New Orleans |
| Sunday, March 15 | 5:30 PM. TET Celebration, St. Agnes Le Thi Thanh Church, Marrero |
| Monday, March 16 | 5:30 PM. Mass with Jesuit Community – private event |

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

Guidelines for Fast and Abstinence

Liturgical Guidelines for Lent, Easter Triduum and Easter

Seminarian Education Fund

Golden Wedding Anniversary

Job 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.*

Tuesday, March 17	11:30 AM. St. Patrick's Day Mass for the Ancient Order of Hibernians, at St. Patrick's Church in New Orleans.
Wednesday, March 18	9:00 AM. Mass, Catholic Women in Action's Southshore Lenten Morning of Reflection, St. Rita Church, New Orleans
Wednesday, March 18	11:00 AM. Meeting of Councils. Private event
Wednesday, March 18	5:00 PM. Feast, Archbishop Rummel High School
Wednesday, March 18	6:00 PM. Bless St. Joseph's Altar, Irene's Restaurant, New Orleans
Thursday, March 19	8:15 AM. St. Joseph Altar & Father/Son Mass, Stuart Hall School, New Orleans
Thursday, March 19	10:00 AM. Mass, St. Joseph Church and Shrine, Gretna
Friday, March 20	9:00 AM. Mass, St. Stephen School, New Orleans
Saturday, March 21	In Rome
through Friday, March 27	
Friday, March 27	12:00 PM. USCCB headquarters meeting, private event
Saturday, March 28	4:00 PM. Mass, Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church, Westwego
Sunday, March 29	8:30 AM. Mass, St. Mary Magdalen Church, Metairie
Sunday, March 29	11:00 AM. Mass, St. Louis Cathedral, New Orleans
Sunday, March 29	5:00 PM. St. Augustine High School Fundraiser, Drago's, Metairie
Tuesday, March 31	10:00 AM. Chrism Mass, St. Louis Cathedral, New Orleans Followed by Priest Luncheon
Thursday, April 2	7:00 PM. Holy Thursday Services, St. Louis Cathedral, New Orleans
Friday, April 3	3:00 PM. Good Friday Services, St. Louis Cathedral, New Orleans
Saturday, April 4	8:00 PM. Easter Vigil Mass, St. Louis Cathedral, New Orleans

Diocesan Events

Confessions will be available in all parishes from 5:00 p.m. — 6:30 p.m. on the following Wednesdays during Lent: March 11, 2026, March 18, 2026, and March 25, 2026.

The Notre Dame Seminary Gala will take place at 6:00 PM on Saturday, March 21, 2026, at Notre Dame Seminary.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

March 11, 2026	Confession available in All Parishes 5:00 – 6:30 PM
March 18, 2026	Confession available in All Parishes 5:00 – 6:30 PM
March 25, 2026	Confession available in All Parishes 5:00 – 6:30 PM
**May 16, 2026	Transitional Diaconate Ordination
May 30, 2026	Priesthood Ordination
Priest Convocation	September 9-11, 2026

****This is a change of date**

DEATHS

Sr. MarieClare Powell, SSND, died on January 24, 2026, at the age of 99. Please keep Sr. MarieClare and the School Sisters in your prayers.

Sr. Gwen Grillot, O.Carm., died on February 24, 2026. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 11:30 AM on Friday, March 6, 2026, at St. Dominic Church. Please keep Sr. Gwen, her family, and the Sisters of Mt. Carmel in your prayers.

SECTION II ACTION REQUESTED

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

LITURGICAL GUIDELINES FOR LENT, EASTER TRIDUUM AND EASTER

As usual the Office of Worship has provided the liturgical guidelines for Lent, the Easter Triduum, and Easter from the Office of Worship. Please review them carefully. The document can be found here:

<https://files.ecatholic.com/16596/documents/2026/2/LENTANDEASTERGUIDELINES%202026.pdf?t=1770664881000>

GUIDELINES FOR FAST AND ABSTINENCE

The following is provided for parishes to publish in their bulletin to assist parishioners in the Lenten practices.

During the season of Lent, the Church urges the faithful to reflect a spirit of penance in their daily lives through performing acts of fast and abstinence and unite themselves to Christ and one another in prayer and voluntary sacrifice so that we might prepare ourselves to rejoice fully in the joy of the Resurrection.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on the evening of Holy Thursday.

Abstinence -- Abstinence forbids the eating of meat or poultry. Catholics over 14 years of age are bound to the obligation of abstinence. Abstinence is to be observed on Ash Wednesday (February 18) and on all Fridays of Lent. This obligation does not prohibit the eating of eggs, milk products or condiments of any kind, even though made from animal fat.

Fasting -- Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are bound to the obligation of fasting. Ash Wednesday (February 18) and Good Friday (April 3) are the days of fasting. On these days, only one full meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices are allowed.

Easter Duty—Catholics who have been admitted to the Sacraments of Penance and Eucharist are obliged to receive Holy Communion and Confession at least once a year between the First Sunday of Lent (February 18) and Holy Trinity Sunday (May 26). Three Wednesdays in Lent (March 11, March 18, and March 25) have been designated as the Archdiocesan “Nights for Confession.” On these dates, the Sacrament of Penance is to be available in all churches from 5:00 p.m - 6:30 p.m.

SEMINARIAN EDUCATION FUND

On March 14 and 15, the Archdiocese of New Orleans will host a very important second collection to raise funds to offset the costs of educating seminarians at Notre Dame Seminary and St. Joseph Seminary College. All funds collected will go directly to supporting the education and formation of the 23 men currently studying to be priests in the Archdiocese of New Orleans. The annual cost to fund a single seminarian is \$45,000, and this total is one of the largest budgetary items in the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Please continue to pray for these men and those who work with them on their priestly formation. Please give generously to this very important fund that will provide monetary support to those men who will minister to the people of God in New Orleans for many years to come. (Parishes are asked to insert the graphic provided [online here](#) in their bulletins or use them online the weeks of February 23 through March 15 as they are able.)

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

MORNING OF REFLECTION

Join the Office of Black Catholic Ministry for a **Lenten Morning of Prayer** on **Saturday, March 7, 2026**, from **8:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon**. This sacred time of reflection will be led by **Deacon Jesse Watley** and facilitated by **Rev. R. Tony Ricard**. Come and set aside time during this holy season to pray, reflect, and renew your spirit as we journey toward Easter.

A **continental breakfast and lunch will be provided**.

This is a **free event**.

Registration is not required, but it is appreciated to help us prepare adequate food for all who plan to attend. All are welcome. Come and be refreshed for the Lenten journey. [See attached flyer](#).

ARCHBISHOP CHECCHIO AT CHRIST IN THE CITY & YOUNG CATHOLIC PROFESSIONALS EXECUTIVE SPEAKER SERIES | TUESDAY, MARCH 10th AT ST. FRANCIS ASSISI

Our next Christ in the City will be held along with Young Catholic Professionals New Orleans chapter on Tuesday, March 10th at St. Francis Assisi [631 State Street, New Orleans.] We are excited to have Archbishop James Checchio, JCD, MBA with us in one of the first opportunities for our new archbishop to meet & pray with young adults.

The evening starts at 6:45 PM with Christ in the City, the monthly evening of Eucharistic Adoration for young adults in their late teens, 20s, and 30s sponsored by the CYO/Youth & Young Adult Ministry Office of the Archdiocese of New Orleans. It is our hope that the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available as well.

At 7:30 PM, YCP New Orleans' Monthly Social & Executive Speaker Series will take place at St. Francis Assisi. Archbishop Checchio will be the featured presenter.

For more information on Christ in the City and Young Adult Ministry, please visit nolacatholic.org/citc or contact James Behan, Associate Director for Young Adult Ministry and Marriage and Family Life, at yam@arch-no.org.

For more information on Young Catholic Professionals New Orleans Chapter and to RSVP for their event, visit <https://www.youngcatholicprofessionals.org/chapter/new-orleans>.

LENTEN REVIVAL

Join the Office of Black Catholic Ministries, St. Raymond–St. Leo the Great Church, and Corpus Christi–Epiphany Church for a powerful Lenten Revival, March 23–25 at 6:30pm nightly at St. Raymond–St. Leo the Great Church. Come experience spirit-filled praise and worship led by the St. Augustine High School Knights of Praise. Let this sacred season be a time of renewal, reflection, and revival as we prepare our hearts for Easter. All are welcome. Come and be refreshed! [See attached flyer.](#)

LISTEN, TEACH, SEND: A NATIONAL PASTORAL FRAMEWORK FOR MINISTRIES WITH YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS

You are invited to an upcoming transformative workshop on [*Listen, Teach, Send: A National Pastoral Framework for Ministries with Youth and Young Adults*](#), the United States Bishops' guide for families and pastoral ministers in the accompaniment and evangelization of youth and young adults in their journey to and with Jesus Christ. This workshop is hosted by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in partnership with the CYO/Youth and Young Adult Office and the Department of Catholic Education and Faith Formation. Our program will be led by the staff of the Secretariat of Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth Executive Director, Dominic Lombardi, and Assistant Director for the Laity, Dr. Maria Parker.

The workshop will be held on Wednesday April 22 from 9AM-4PM at Schulte Hall on the campus of Notre Dame Seminary. There is a fee of \$25 to assist covering the costs for lunch and workshop materials. Scholarships are available. Please save the date and consider joining us as we unpack the new USCCB Pastoral framework on youth and young adults. This will be a regional event, and we are expecting the event to fill up so please register soon. We are giving you a headstart before we invite our co-workers from Region 5 to join us. [See attached flyer](#) for more information. Registration link: giving.parishsoft.com/App/Form/8bf52567-a6ad-4f5d-9fb3-ef524c2c4a77

GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The Office of Marriage and Family Life is pleased to announce the annual Archdiocese of New Orleans Golden Wedding Anniversary Celebration will be held on Sunday, June 7, 2026 at 3:00 p.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church, New Orleans. This prayer service will honor couples who are celebrating or have recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. The celebration is open to couples married in **1976** or before. **(To register, please contact your parish office before Friday, April 17, 2026).** **Please Note: The Golden Wedding Anniversary Celebration is a prayer service, not a Mass and will not fulfill the couple's Sunday obligation.** Couples should plan to attend Mass at their home parishes.

Instructions for Parishes:

Please share the above announcement in your bulletin, social media, or other suitable places. Parishes are asked to register couples for the ANO Golden Wedding Anniversary Celebration using an online form, which may be found at www.nolacatholic.org/wedding-anniversary no later than **Friday, April 24, 2026** to facilitate the sending of confirmation letters, preparing of scrolls, and seating of the couples. Your cooperation in maintaining this deadline is appreciated. Contact the Office of Marriage and Family Life at 504-861-6243 or mfl@arch-no.org with any questions.

WORLD YOUTH DAY, 2027 IN SOEUL

The Archdiocese of New Orleans Youth & Young Adult Ministry Office is excited to open up registration to young adults for their pilgrimage to Seoul, South Korea for World Youth Day 2027 from August 1 - 10, 2027.

Journey with other young adults from the Archdiocese of New Orleans to Seoul to participate in World Youth Day celebrations with the Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, meet other young adult Catholics, and connect with the global Catholic Church.

Those who are 18 years or older as of August 1, 2027 are invited to learn more about the pilgrimage, its itinerary, and expectations of pilgrims at an online Information Session on Monday, March 23rd at 7:00 PM.

To register for this session and learn more about the young adult pilgrimage, visit nolacatholic.org/wyd27 . For questions, contact the Office at yam@arch-no.org. [Please see attached flyer.](#)

SECTION IV NEWS AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

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

ROADS TO RECOVERY - 2026 COMMUNITY FORUM AND RESOURCE FAIR ON ADDICTION

Substance Addition Ministry announces the annual 2026 Community Forum and Resource Fair on Addiction “Roads to Recovery,” featuring guest speaker Dr. Dan Lynch, DO. This evening will take place at 6:00 PM on Thursday, March 5, 2026, at St. Angela Merici gym, 2101 Pomona St., Metairie. [See attached flyer for more information.](#)

ENJOY YOUR MARRIAGE WORKSHOP

Mary, Queen of Peace is excited to offer the **Enjoy Your Marriage Workshop** on Saturday, April 11, hosted by national speakers **Julie Alexander** and **Greg Alexander**.

Once on the verge of divorce, the Alexanders experienced a powerful encounter with Christ through His Word, leading them to recommit to their marriage and transforming their family life. In gratitude for all God has done, they now dedicate themselves to strengthening marriages through engaging stories and practical tools couples can apply right away. The Enjoy Your Marriage Workshop has proven to be an effective catalyst, inspiring couples to initiate positive change in their relationships.

Whether you are engaged, have a strong marriage, or are experiencing challenges, you will leave with renewed hope and encouragement. This workshop is for every marriage—whether you’re newly married, have been together for decades, or simply desire to grow stronger as a couple.

Register today: <https://giving.parishsoft.com/App/Form/685a376a-f0cd-4f78-afdc-0231978ddb96>. For more information, contact Audrey Huck at ahuck@maryqueenofpeace.org [See attached flyer.](#)

2026 BORN TO RUN

Woman's New Life Clinic's annual Born to Run – New Orleans 5K & 1/2-mile Fun Run will be held on Saturday, March 21, 2026, at Bonnabel Boat Launch in Metairie. The 1/2-mile Fun Run will begin at 8:30am, and the 5K will begin at 9:15am. Registration includes a post-race "Birth" day Party with free food, music, and fun for the whole family as well as a t-shirt to those who register by Monday, February 23, and the opportunity to win race prizes. This fantastic fundraising event is open to the public. Runners and walkers of all ages and fitness levels are welcome. Participation in Born to Run - New Orleans directly supports the life-affirming work of Woman's New Life Clinic, which provides free help to women in unplanned pregnancies. For more information or to register, visit www.womansnewlife.com/borntorun. Sponsorship and Underwriting opportunities are also available. For those interested in helping with this event, adult and high school volunteers are welcome. This is a great opportunity for service hours! Visit <https://runsignup.com/Race/Volunteer/LA/Metairie/BornToRun5KNewOrleans> to sign up as a volunteer.

BEGINNING EXPERIENCE WEEKEND RETREAT

Divorced? Separated? Widowed? Grieving the Loss of Your Marriage? Looking for Hope and Healing?

- Beginning Experience Weekend® Retreat program transforms lives for those experiencing Divorce, Separation or Death of a Spouse.
- Peer-facilitated ministry guides participants in grief resolution and hope.
- Enable yourself to love yourself, others and God.
- Guidance to a new beginning in your life.
- Provides tools to deal with the pain of your loss and anger.
- Navigate the road through grief to healing.

The \$295 Weekend® program includes materials, five meals & two-nights lodging at the Cenacle on the Lake in Metairie, LA. A non-refundable deposit of \$95 is required with your registration. Weekend Dates: April 10 – 12, 2026. Questions & Registration: Liz (504) 858-1813, lbthreis@yahoo.com; Tiffany (504) 495-3553, tiffanycrowson@earthlink.net.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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!

Submissions are due by 2 pm on Monday for the week the e-Bulletin will be published. Please send submissions or inquiries regarding the NolaCatholic e-Bulletin to communications@arch-no.org.