

THE CHANCERY BULLETIN & CATECHETICAL LEADER

NOVEMBER 2025 | VOLUME 68 | NO.11

NATIONAL VOCATION AWARENESS WEEK



DIOCESE OF SUPERIOR | THE BISHOP HAMMES CENTER

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ATTACHED AT THE END OF THIS BULLETIN:

- Pastoral Council Minutes 10.18.25
- Priest Substitute List
- Respect Life Essay Contest Flyer and Reflection
- Girls Night In Flyer
- Bethany Brunch Flyer
- OCIA Workshop Flyer

LINKS

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CONTACT US

CHANCERY
Amy Little: alittle@catholicdos.org
715.394.0225

BISHOP HAMMES CENTER
JulieAnne Johnson:
jjohnson@catholicdos.org
715.234.5044

CALENDAR



NOVEMBER 1
ALL SAINTS DAY

NOVEMBER 2
ALL SOULS DAY

NOVEMBER 2 - 8
VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK

NOVEMBER 7 - 8
SCHOOL OF SERVANT LEADERSHIP
ST. ANTHONY | TONY

NOVEMBER 8
BETHANY BRUNCH
ST. PATRICK | HUDSON

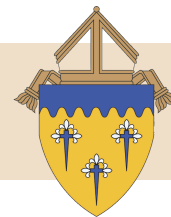
NOVEMBER 10
PRINCIPAL RETREAT
ST. ANNE | SOMERSET

NOVEMBER 14-16
HIGH SCHOOL DISCIPLESHIP WEEKEND
CROSSWOODS ADVENTURE CAMP

NOVEMBER 16 - 22
DISCOVER CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

NOVEMBER 27 - 28
DIOCESAN OFFICES CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING

DECEMBER 6
OCIA WORKSHOP
ST. JOSEPH | HAYWARD



CHANCERY NEWS

UPDATED SACRAMENTAL RECORD GUIDELINES

The guidelines for recording sacramental records has been updated to include the OCIA process. Also, please note for confirmations happening with multiple parishes, the guidelines state...

RECIPIENTS FROM MORE THAN ONE PARISH

When more than one parish joins together (as in a cluster of parishes) for the celebration of confirmation, the pastor of each of the parishes involved is responsible to see to the recording of the confirmations of his parishioners in his own parish register and to notify the places of baptism. When confirmation is celebrated on a deanery level, the same responsibilities rest with the individual pastor of those confirmed.

The updated guidelines can be found at <https://catholicdos.org/sacramental-records>.

RESPECT LIFE NEWS | “LIFE: OUR SIGN OF HOPE” - ANNUAL YOUTH ESSAY CONTEST

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Committee on Pro-Life Activities annually selects a theme highlighting the dignity of each person and respect for his or her life. The October 2025 – September 2026 theme is **Life: Our Sign of Hope**, highlighting our baptism, where we share in the life of Jesus, and our hope for eternal life.

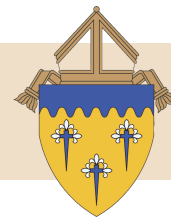


In conjunction with this theme, the Diocese of Superior Respect Life Committee annually holds a pro-life youth contest, endeavoring to:

1. Help young people deepen their understanding of our God-given human dignity and what it means for our daily lives and decisions, particularly within the context of respect for human life, and
2. Move hearts and minds with the joyful Gospel of Life through the artistic expressions of the young participants.

The contest is intended for use across multiple age ranges and disciplines. Youth in grades 5-12 are eligible to enter. Contestant entries can be in essay or poem format. Please encourage your parish youth to participate in this initiative and engage them in the Catholic faith, help them grow in their relationship with Christ, and provide them an opportunity to bear faithful witness in our local community. Please see the attached flyer and reflection for more information.

Essays from each grade category will be honored with an Amazon Gift Card and recognition in the Catholic Herald Newspaper. Entries should be submitted to Carol Grund at the Chancery no later than Monday, February 16, 2026.



CHANCERY NEWS

VATICAN UNVEILED COMING TO MALL OF AMERICA® | JANUARY 10 - FEBRUARY 1

SAINT PAUL, MN - While we wait and hope Pope Leo XIV will return to the Twin Cities – where he studied as a seminarian in the early 1980s – we know that 250-300 items from previous popes, saints and others are coming here this winter.

In celebration of the 175th anniversary of the Catholic Church in Minnesota, the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis is hosting Vatican Unveiled, an exhibit of the largest collection of papal artifacts outside of Rome. Father Richard Kunst, a priest of the

Diocese of Duluth, serves as curator of the exhibit. Father Kunst has a deep knowledge of the items and a passion for telling their stories.



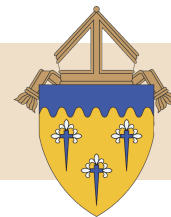
This unique, historical collection will be hosted daily at Mall of America from January 10 – February 1, 2026. Some of the items will include a document with the second oldest papal signature outside of the Vatican and a Swiss Guard uniform from the time of Pius X so rare that the Swiss Guard asked to borrow it for their own exhibit.

The 19,000 square foot exhibit is open and welcoming to all, as people will experience interesting historical perspectives, artistic items with old-world craftsmanship, and papal artifacts that show the humanity behind the leaders.

News gatherers, content creators and show hosts are encouraged to tour Vatican Unveiled and speak with Father Kunst and Archbishop Bernard Hebda when each is available, as well as willing attendees. We are confident your readers, viewers and listeners will be interested in the educational and spiritual opportunities an exhibit like this presents.

Media day – with live broadcast opportunities starting very early in the morning – will be Friday, January 9. You will receive more information about media day in mid-December. You may find more details about the exhibit on the Archdiocese's [Vatican Unveiled](#) website, along with this media kit and special promotional video from Archbishop Hebda. Archbishop Hebda and the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis look forward to hosting you and your viewers, listeners and readers.

About Father Richard Kunst: Originally from Duluth, Minnesota, Father Richard Kunst was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Duluth in 1998. Prior to ordination, he worked in the political realm as a staff member for U.S. Senator Rod Grams of Minnesota. As a priest, Father Kunst juggles parish assignments as well as diocesan duties, including columnist for The Northern Cross and oversight of initial phases of the sainthood cause of Monsignor Joseph Buh. Father Kunst has a deep love for Church history as can be seen in the collection of papal and other artifacts he has curated.



CHANCERY NEWS

OFFICE OF PARISH TRANSFORMATION NEWS

GOVERNANCE AND GOAL SETTING WORKSHOP | JANUARY 13, 2026

10:00am-3:00pm
St. Joseph, Hayward

This workshop is being led by the Office of Parish Transformation and will include a review of the parish finance and pastoral council articles and by-laws as well as an introduction to Appreciative Inquiry as a process for strategic planning and goal setting. There will be an option to attend this workshop either in-person or virtually. More information will be sent later this month.

NORTHLAND FERTILITYCARE TO SERVE THE DIOCESE OF SUPERIOR

With the support of Bishop Powers, Northland FertilityCare is honored to begin serving the Diocese of Superior through a new diocesan-wide partnership. For over 40 years, Northland FertilityCare has been dedicated to walking with women and couples by providing professional instruction in the Creighton Model FertilityCare™ System—a natural family planning



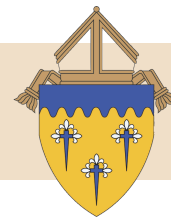
method that honors the dignity of the human person, strengthens marriages, and equips families with tools for understanding fertility and health.

Parishes were sent promotional materials from Northland FertilityCare to help launch this initiative locally. These materials must be given to all couples in marriage preparation. This is a highly valued partnership that provides each new client one full year of personalized care for women and couples seeking NFP. The Diocesan membership includes the cost of the first year of NFP sessions through Northland FertilityCare, leaving a small cost of the materials to the client. **Please contact Loree Nauretz with any questions regarding implementing this Natural Family Planning and Fertility Education Program in your parish at: (715) 394-0229 | lnauretz@catholicdos.org.**



He said to them "come after me and I will make you fishers of men."

Matthew 4:19



CHANCERY NEWS

THE CHANCERY IS HIRING! | COORDINATOR OF EMPLOYEE BENEFITS AND INSURANCE

The Diocese of Superior is seeking a full-time Coordinator of Employee Benefits and Insurance at the Chancery in Superior. This position is responsible for tasks of the administration of employee benefits such as group health, cafeteria flex plan, dental, life and disability insurance including open enrollment and compliance with the Affordable Care Act, plus assist in the administration of property, liability, vehicle and workers' compensation insurance.

Qualifications: Two or Four-year degree in business, finance, or human resources, with benefit administration experience, or an equivalent combination of education and experience, a working knowledge of QuickBooks, and MS Word, Excel and Outlook. The ability to communicate clearly and effectively, plus maintain a high level of confidentiality is a must. Salary commensurate based on qualifications and experience. A practicing Catholic is preferred. If you or someone you know is looking for upward professional growth, send a letter of interest, résumé, and references to : Cindy Gronski, Director of Policy Coordination, Benefits & Payroll at cgronski@catholicdos.org.

DIOCESAN POLICY MANUAL NOW ONLINE

The Diocesan Policy Manual is now on the diocesan website at catholicdos.org/diocesan-policies. A hard copy version will not be sent out to parishes. This electronic version will allow us to update policies in real time. If you have any questions, please contact Cindy Gronski, cgronski@catholicdos.org.

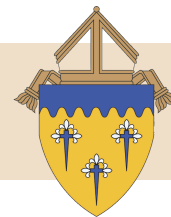
RELIGIOUS ORDER OF WOMEN AND MEN DIRECTORY 2026

The Diocesan Religious Order of Women and Men Directory for 2026 has been updated and is now available in hardcopy or electronically in .pdf format. If you are interested in a copy, please contact Amy Little, alittle@catholicdos.org.



November 13

St. Francis Xavier Cabrini



CHANCERY NEWS

Catholic Medical Association Guild

The following is a message from Amy Schneider, a doctor in Rice Lake, who is working with Bishop Power's blessing to establish a local chapter of the Catholic Medical Association. She writes:

"Catholic Medical Association was established in the early 1900's and is the largest association of Catholic physicians and healthcare professionals in the United States, with a mission to help physicians imitate Jesus Christ. Catholic Medical Association is active in a variety of areas, including working on public policy regarding bioethical issues, supporting the spiritual health of CMA members, providing resources for Catholic healthcare professionals faced with conscience protection issues, and more. Local CMA Guilds are active in over 80 dioceses around the country. Up until now, the Diocese of Superior has not had a CMA Guild, but that is hopefully changing! Together with Andrew Smith, seminarian for the diocese, and Father Adam Laski, who has agreed to be our chaplain, I'm trying to form a guild for our diocese. It is open to all healthcare workers (active and retired) and clergy, or really anyone interested in the questions of how to follow Jesus more closely through the practice of medicine. Our three specific goals for our Guild as we begin are:

1. Monthly virtual prayer meeting to pray for our patients, our workplaces, and any other intentions.
2. Yearly in-person event to include Mass, meal together, and an educational component that might be something like a speaker or presentation related to faith and medicine or bioethical concerns.
3. Encourage the membership to join CMA at the national level and potentially attend the CMA annual conference (for those interested/able).

We are currently working on establishing our group as an official CMA Guild. Our first prayer meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, November 13, at 12:15 via Zoom**, link below. The goal is that perhaps people can join to pray on their lunch breaks. It should be 30 minutes at max and it is ok to either join late or step out early if needed. I'm aiming for the second Thursday of each month over lunch. If others in the membership have a different time they would like to suggest, please reply back and I can make a second meeting option. I certainly need all the prayer I can get.

Zoom link for 11/13/25 at 12:15:

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/87370782767?pwd=vULDOqs1lSbDtxfRRBjhERev9qozhm.1>

Please pass along this message to anyone else who might be interested! Contact me by email or phone (715-937-8397) with any questions."



JUBILEE 2025 - PILGRIMS OF HOPE

The Universal Church is celebrating the [Jubilee Year 2025](#) – 2,025th anniversary of the Incarnation of our Lord. The Jubilee Year offers the faithful opportunities to participate in various jubilee events at the Vatican and in local dioceses. The great tradition of opening the Holy Door began when Pope Francis opened the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica on December 24, 2024. Bishop Powers opened the Jubilee Year on December 29, 2024 at Cathedral of Christ the King in Superior.

As a special focus in the Diocese of Superior, Cathedral of Christ the King in Superior and St. Joseph in La Pointe on Madeline Island are designated as holy sites to receive indulgences. Another special focus for the Jubilee Year is on celebrating the Consecrated Life that served our parishes in the past and the faithful sons and daughters of our diocese who committed themselves to Consecrated Life.

A handbook for parishes to use to plan events and also celebrate with the diocese can be found [HERE](#). Additional information is here: usccb.org/jubilee2025. For any questions, please contact Peggy Schoenfuss, pschoenfuss@catholicdos.org.

CELEBRATION OF JUBILEE DAYS THROUGHOUT 2025

The Holy See has designated a number of Jubilee Days throughout 2025 to recognize and celebrate different groups of people and various ministries in the Church. These resource packets can be used and/or adapted by dioceses, eparchies, parishes, schools, campuses, apostolates, movements, organizations, or individuals to plan their specific Jubilee celebration. These resources may also serve as a catalyst or inspiration for the creation and development of local or year-round resources for your community.

OCTOBER 31 - NOVEMBER 2 | [JUBILEE OF THE WORLD OF EDUCATION](#)



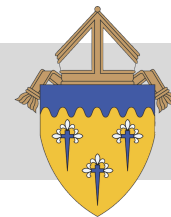
NOVEMBER 16 | [JUBILEE OF THE POOR](#)



NOVEMBER 22-23 | [JUBILEE OF CHOIRS](#)



Joy is a net of love by which we catch souls. -Mother Teresa



BISHOP HAMMES CENTER

NATIONAL VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK | NOVEMBER 2 - 8



Looking for ways to celebrate National Vocations Awareness Week in your parish? Vianney Vocations has numerous materials and resources! Check out books, bulletin inserts, prayer cards, bookmarks, posters, coloring sheets & so much more. Click [here](#) to view them all!

GIRLS NIGHT IN | NOVEMBER 7

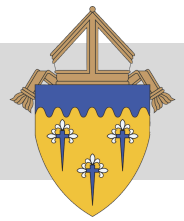
Youth Ministers - there will be a "Girls Night In" for high school ladies the evening of November 7th at St. Anne in Somerset. The evening will include games, dinner, adoration, and talks. This is a great opportunity for high school gals to encounter some awesome religious sisters from the [Handmaids of the Heart of Jesus](#)! Your students should register with you or the diocesan Women's Discernment Coordinator Emily at esjomeling@catholicdos.org. Flyer can be found at the end of this bulletin.

BETHANY BRUNCH | NOVEMBER 8

Young adult women ages 18 to 40, we have an invite for you! The Diocese will be hosting a morning of prayer, formation and beautiful hospitality for young adult women called a Bethany Brunch at St. Patrick Church in Hudson beginning with morning Mass at 9:00am. There will be young sisters there joining us and leading us deeper into our relationship with the Lord as young women. It's a unique opportunity for young women to freely come together and spend time with young sisters who understand where they are at. The morning is not at all designed exclusively for young adult women that are thinking about religious life. It's designed for any young woman! Here's a [link to register](#)! See attached flyer and spread the word!

HIGH SCHOOL DISCIPLESHIP WEEKEND | NOVEMBER 14 - 16

High School Discipleship Weekend is coming up! Registration is closed, but if you have students who are coming, make sure they get their online registration done. Packing list can be found [HERE](#). The weekend will begin at 8:00pm on Friday, November 14th and conclude at noon on Sunday, November 16. This year, the diocese will not be providing the journal booklets, so please be sure your students bring their own journals! Reach out with any questions, jjohnson@catholicdos.org.



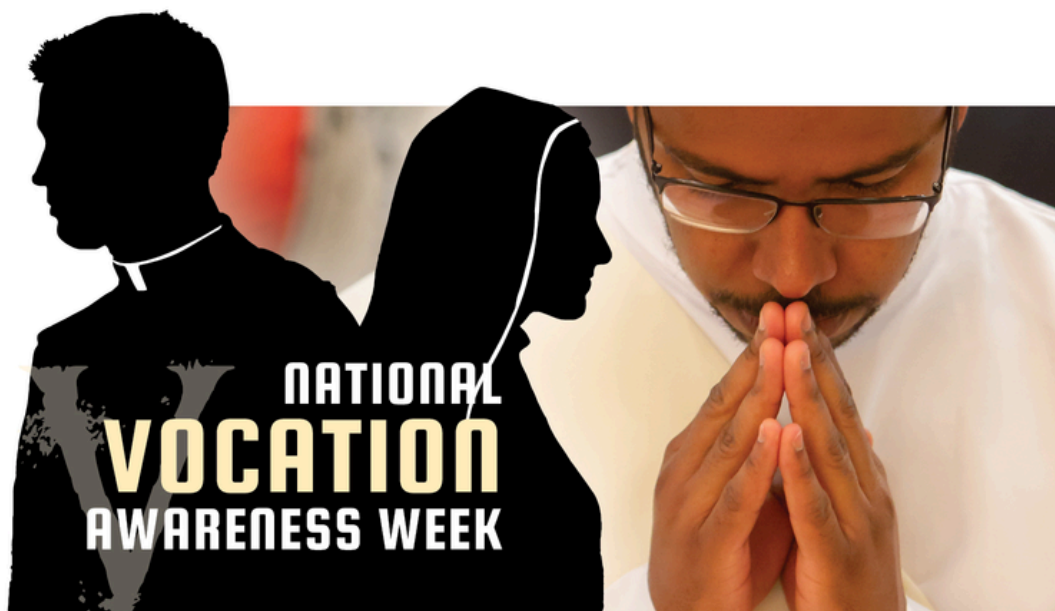
BISHOP HAMMES CENTER

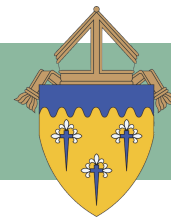
DISCOVER CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK | NOVEMBER 16 - 22

NCEA continues promoting a second week for Catholic schools to leverage their good news in a national initiative with Discover Catholic Schools Week (DCSW). The weeklong DCSW is November 16 – 22, 2025, and is designated to help schools connect with prospective families, donors, educators and community members. Catholic schools choose to participate in both weeks or one—that's okay! What is most important is to join in on the national celebrations in a way that works best for your school community. Make CSW your own and share your ideas with NCEA and other schools using #CSW2026 and nceatalk@ncea.org, [YouTube](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#), [X](#).

OCIA WORKSHOP | DECEMBER 6

The diocese will host a workshop for OCIA teams at the St. Joseph parish center in Hayward on Saturday, December 6th from 9:00am to 2:30pm. The day will provide an in-depth overview of the OCIA process, the structure, the rites, and how OCIA fits in the broader context of the mission of Evangelization. Fr. Isaiah Schick will be the primary presenter. The Offices of Evangelization & Missionary Discipleship and the Office of Worship are co-sponsoring this important event. There is no cost for this workshop. Lunch will be provided. See flyer at the end of this bulletin. To register, call or email (715) 234-5044, jjohnson@catholicdos.org.





OFFICE OF ECCLESIAL MINISTRIES | [Chris Newkirk](#)

SCHOOL OF SERVANT LEADERSHIP PROGRAM CALENDAR 2025-2026

August - April

Fridays, 6:00pm - 9:00pm and Saturdays, 8:30am - 4:00pm

Meals provided

St. Anthony Parish Hall | Tony



His mother said to the servers, "Do whatever he tells you."
(John 2:5)

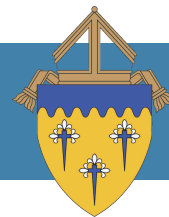
Get ready to lead with purpose! The Diocese of Superior's 2025-2026 School of Servant Leadership is back – and you won't want to miss it!

This inspiring series of presentations is designed for those who feel called to lead – in the Church, in the community, or in the workplace – and who recognize that true leadership begins with service.

Led by Christine Newkirk, Blurette Puchner, and a lineup of engaging speakers, this year's program will challenge and empower you to embrace your vocation to serve with courage, compassion, and commitment. Discover what it means to be a servant leader, and, as a disciple of Christ – someone who lifts others up, fosters growth, builds community, and lives with purpose. Whether you're discerning your path or already leading in your parish or profession, this is your chance to be inspired, equipped, and transformed. Answer the call. Step into your potential. Be a light to the world.

September 12-13	Foundations in Servant Leadership	Tom Thibodeau
October 3-4	Servant Leadership through Evangelization and Missionary Discipleship	Chris Hurtubise
November 7-8	Building Assets and Affirming Strengths	Bob Lecheler
December 12-13	Building Community	Richard Kyte
January 16-17	Stewardship/Ethical Decisions	Richard Kyte
February 13-14	Prophetic Leadership	Bob Lecheler
March 13-14	Peace Building Conflict Resolution	Sr. Georgia Christensen
April 17-18	Ritual/Tradition/Celebration	Tom Thibodeau

Course information and program details are available online at catholicdos.org/school-of-servant-leadership. Registration for the complete program has closed, but you may contact Christine directly if you are interested in registering for a specific course, or with any other program-related questions. Registration forms may be mailed to the address listed on the registration form, or register online by clicking the link [here](#).



OFFICE OF WORSHIP | [Paul Birch](#)

2025- 2026 DIOCESAN CALENDAR OF FEASTS, FASTS AND PARTICULAR LITURGICAL OBSERVANCES

catholicdos.org/liturgical-seasons: Call the Office of Worship at (715) 394-0233 for paper copies.

NEW TRANSLATION OF RITUAL BOOK:

Order of the Anointing of the Sick and their Pastoral Care

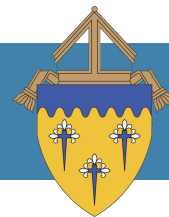
This newly translated text will replace the Anointing ritual that has been in use since the early 1980's, Pastoral Care of the Sick: Rites of Anointing and Viaticum. Besides the newly translated texts, the structure of the ritual book has changed. The ritual from the 1980's was arranged in a manner suitable for use by both clergy and lay ministers. The new ritual text will be only for use by Priests and Deacons. However, as the implementation date approaches, the USCCB will ensure that non-ordained ministers continue to have access to those texts which they use in ministry to the sick and homebound. The newly translated rite may begin to be used as of February 11th, 2026 (the Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes). Its use is obligatory as of April 5th, 2026 (Easter Sunday). Once information about the publishers is released there will be an opportunity for a diocesan bulk order of the new ritual books, timed so that they will be available for pick-up at our diocesan 2026 Priest Assembly / Mass of Chrism – Sunday, March 22nd through Tuesday, March 24th. catholicdos.org/ritual-books-new-editions

SYNOD ON SYNODALITY IMPLEMENTATION STAGE 2025-2028

Within the implementation stage of the synod, our local Church is called to receive the directives of the [Final Document](#) of the Synod and begin to apply them through a process of accompaniment and evaluation. In review of the Final Document, the Diocese of Superior has identified that much of what is expressed and expected of the local Church is already in process through our Maintenance to Mission initiative and pastoral plan. As a diocese, we will continue follow the [Pathways for the Implementation](#) through our Maintenance to Mission Initiative. While we remain on this journey, **please continue to recite the Synodal Prayer at Mass at a minimum of one weekend per month**. If you have any questions, please contact Peggy Schoenfuss, pschoenfuss@catholicdos.org.

ADVENT COMMUNAL PENANCE MATERIALS

The diocesan Office of Worship provides Advent Communal Penance Service materials for parish use. The format includes a leader's booklet intended for use by the Priest-celebrant and assisting ministers. A separate one-page worship booklet for assembly use is also provided. Click on the link for the materials: catholicdos.org/communal-penance-services



OFFICE OF WORSHIP | [Paul Birch](#)

SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE | SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23

The Solemnity of Christ the King, a feast born out of resistance to totalitarian incursions against religious liberty, is an excellent opportunity to preach about religious liberty, both in the United States and abroad. USCCB resources for this celebration are found here: <https://www.usccb.org/christtheking>.

In 2025 Christ the King is also the date we celebrate our Eucharistic Consecration as a diocese, culminating our “33 Days to Eucharistic Glory” spiritual pilgrimage initiative—a catalyst for ongoing faith. Begun on October 22, 2025, the diocese now formally consecrates itself to the Lord Jesus in the Most Holy Eucharist, fostering in us a deeper, more personal and lifelong surrender to Christ’s presence in the Eucharist.

THANKSGIVING DAY | THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27

In the diocese of Superior, Thanksgiving Day has been chosen as one of our four Special Days of Prayer and focuses on gratitude for the harvest and the fruits of the earth. Proper orations and a preface for Mass on this day are found in the Missal at Masses and Prayers for various Needs and Occasions, either its no. 28 (After the Harvest) or no. 49 (For Giving Thanks to God) along with their suggested prefaces. Options for scripture readings are found in Volume IV of the Lectionary (nos. 943-947 – In Thanksgiving to God).

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION | MONDAY, DECEMBER 8

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is celebrated as a holy day of obligation in 2025.

SOLEMN CLOSING OF THE JUBILEE YEAR | | SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

More information about our diocesan celebration of this event will be distributed, soon.

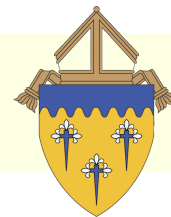
SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD | THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 2026

This is celebrated as a holy day of obligation in 2026.

LITURGY TRAINING PUBLICATIONS MATERIALS AVAILABLE AT A 35% DISCOUNT

Most LTP materials include a 35% discount if ordered via our diocesan website [HERE](#). Upon receipt of the LTP invoice, parishes should reimburse LTP directly. LTP shipping charges (minimum \$9) are 10% of order value or actual cost, whichever is higher, plus a fee of \$6.00 per drop-ship delivery address. Orders for electronic items do not qualify for the discount.

Joy is a net of love by which we catch souls. -Mother Teresa

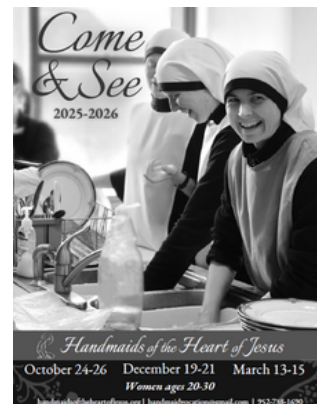


SUBMITTED EVENTS

HANDMAIDS OF THE HEART OF JESUS COME & SEE OPPORTUNITIES | 2025 AND 2026

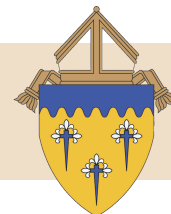
2025: December 19th - 21st | 2026: March 13th - 15th

The [Handmaids of the Heart of Jesus](#) are a religious community of sisters in New Ulm, MN. They are offering a handful of Come and See opportunities this school year. "A Come and See retreat is designed to give women an experience of our life from the inside. In addition to entering into our rhythm of prayer and the joys of community life, retreatants receive conferences on religious life and guidance in their discernment. Above all, it is a time to be with Jesus as He reveals His love and the desires of His Heart. Good candidates for a Come and See retreat are single Catholic women, ages 20-30, who are in good health and have been living a life faithful to prayer and the sacraments for at least one year." Click [here](#) for more info!



November 15
St. Albert the Great

If you are interested in having an event submitted to the Chancery Bulletin, please email Amy Little (alittle@catholicdos.org) or JulieAnne Johnson (jjohnson@catholicdos.org). Please include 1) Name of event 2) Location 3) Date & time 4) Basic information about event 5) How to register (if applicable) 6) Contact person/phone/email for event.



CLERGY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

11/07 Dcn. Jason Martin
11/08 Dcn. Michael D. Cullen
11/14 Dcn. Clarence L. Campbell
11/21 Dcn. Clarence D. Towle
11/23 Dcn. Owen T. Gorman
11/25 Rev. William J. Murphy
11/29 Dcn. Thomas J. Weiss

ORDINATIONS

11/01 Rev. James J. Kinney
11/01 Dcn. Joseph F. Paron
11/03 Rev. Gerald A. Hagen
11/04 Dcn. Brian J. McCaffery
11/07 Dcn. Clarence D. Towle
11/26 Dcn. Arthur E. Gil de Lamadrid
11/26 Rev. Ronald Serrao

CLERGY PRAYER CALENDAR

WORD OF LIFE

WALKING WITH MOMS IN NEED

OFFICE OF RESPECT FOR LIFE | Bonita Thom

IMPACT

OFFICE OF STEWARDSHIP & DEVELOPMENT | Steve Tarnowski

SPECIAL INTERCESSIONS

OFFICE OF VOCATIONS | Intercessions for Mission/Evangelization, Youth and Vocations

HANDBOOK CHANGES

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR | Peggy Schoenfuss

DIOCESE OF SUPERIOR PASTORAL COUNCIL AGENDA

St. Anthony de Padua Parish Hall, N5323 Maple Street, **Tony**

Saturday, October 18, 2025

10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

I. Preliminaries

- a. Welcome and Call to Order – *Dcn Larry Amell*
- b. Prayer
- c. Roll Call & Introductions

Present: Bishop Powers, Joan Lauer, Greg Hughes (virtual), Tony Pintens, Sally Hilsgen, Dennis Berends, Neil Adler, Bill Mattes, Linda Kulesa, Linda Applebee, Robert Hoffman, Barbara Eretto (virtual), Pam Berdal, Stephanie Leischer, Dcn. Larry Amell, Sr. Pat Cormack, SCSC, Sr. Theresa Sandok, OSM, Dan Blank, Chris Newkirk, Peggy Schoenfuss

Absent: Amy Patel, Dcn. Ken Kasinski

II. Review and Approval of April 5, 2025, Minutes

Motion to approve: Linda Kulesa, second: Pam Berdal, Approved.

III. Review and Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve: Bill Mattes, second: Linda Kulesa, Approved.

IV. Bishop Powers' Report

- a. Catholic Charities Supreme Court Case

As was presented at the last meeting, the U.S. Supreme Court voted 9-0 in favor of Superior Catholic Charities. Since the ruling, the State of Wisconsin has not honored the decision but are rather trying to figure out ways to work around the decision. Dan Blank explained that the state wants to find a way around the decision and are trying to figure out how to change the law that was declared unconstitutional in order to tax the Church. The State Division of Industry and Labor seems to want to fight this battle. There are a second set of briefs to go to the Wisconsin Supreme Court declaring that the U.S. Supreme Court should hold precedence.

- b. Jubilee Year

The Mass at St. Joseph, LaPointe in August was a wonderful event, drawing over 175 people from all over the diocese. Hopefully we are hearing about signs of hope during homilies. The group shared that the Webster Cluster took about 50 people on a pilgrimage to Holy Hill and are participating in reading the Bible sessions. The Frederic/Grantsburg cluster took a pilgrimage to Champion. The Mellen Cluster took a pilgrimage to LaPointe. The Ladysmith teachers took pilgrimage to LaPointe. The Somerset Cluster had a group go to Superior Cathedral and they also say the Jubilee prayer at their meetings.

- c. Immigration

When we refer to immigration, we are referring to our working with the status of our international priests. It has not been easy. Once we understand what's going on, things change and unfortunately, this has become the norm. It's not just the Catholic church struggling with this situation. The Green Card process is backed up 2-3 years. Now we have about 2-3 international priests that will need to go back to India for a year in order to come back to serve our diocese. We ceased starting green card status because of the backlog and how difficult it is with them being gone for a year. We are only working for green cards for those priests who have home dioceses that allow them to stay for more than five years.

This process for bringing in international priest's costs about \$5000 per priest. If priests have to go back for year, we are stuck. Our immigration attorney encourages our laity to contact representatives to work on this process. Councilors asked if someone could send out a common language to say to representatives. The hope is that the USCCB and other religious organizations would be able to work with Congress to drop the year length to a month. The question was raised if there was an advantage to advocate for one individual priest. The answer is no. It's the greater process that is the issue.

Keep praying for vocations. We currently have seven seminaries, a good number of men in Diaconate, and an increased emphasis on women religious through Friends of the Bridegroom.

d. [33 Days to Eucharistic Glory](#)

The diocesan consecration to the Eucharist will run Oct 22-Nov 23. A donor is buying the books for any diocese in the world who wants to do this as a diocese. Bishop has asked the parishes to organize small groups to discuss. The hope is that small faith sharing groups continue on into the future. This has been a real boost in the locations that have already done the consecration. The group was asked if the parishes are participating – it appears that yes, everyone has heard about their parishes participating.

V. Discussable Items

a. Catholic Herald

The Catholic Herald is the major form of communication for the diocese. What and how people read has changed drastically. We are running in the red with the budget. The Archdiocese of Milwaukee publishes our paper. The Dioceses of Green Bay and Madison used to also be a part of it, but they have pulled out. We are setting up a committee to work with the Archdiocese of Milwaukee to determine if there is a better way to communicate with the people.

The Archdiocese of Milwaukee is also using Flocknote. Many dioceses have gone to a monthly magazine. The Somerset Cluster uses Flocknote and Dcn. Larry commented that it is very simple and easy to get messages to people. The Eagle River Cluster also uses Flocknote. Pam Berdal mentioned that she also gets the Catholic Herald and the Diocese of LaCrosse magazine. Many councilors commented that it is nice to have a hard copy rather than reading online.

For the elderly/home-bound it would be nicer for them to receive a hard copy – some don't have access to electronic version. Keeping the home-bound connected in some way is important. Merrill Cluster uses Flocknote, but Stephanie says she appreciates the hard copy articles as well. Many newspapers and magazines give options of hard copy or online. The Somerset Cluster takes all of their extra Catholic Heralds to the home-bound when they visit them.

The personal story angle is helping more people want to read the newspaper. So, more information of “around the diocese” would get more people to read. People want local news. Having state-wide information is nice. Mixing up the columns would be beneficial. If you have any ideas please send them to Dan Blank, Anita Draper or Steve Tarnowski (starnowski@catholicdos.org).

b. Blessing at time of Communion

First a little background – Within the Roman Missal of the Mass, the only time in the Mass that a blessing should be administered is at the end of Mass – the final blessing. Many times, since Vatican II, our diocese, along with several diocese throughout the world, were experimental dioceses. One of those experiments was giving permission to invite everyone who professed to be Christian could receive Communion. It was believed that the Eucharist was the greatest unity of Christians, however it is clear that there is not unity in the belief of the Eucharist – true presence of Jesus. Back over thirty years ago under Bishop Fliss, that experiment was stopped.

As a result of this, we have a practice in our diocese of individuals who are unable to receive communion, coming forward, crossing their arms, and receiving a blessing. We are going to continue allowing those to come forward and arms crossed, however, as has already been part of the instruction, only clergy can offer the blessing and lay Eucharistic ministers cannot.

Most of the printed missalettes, have a statement in them that the reception of the Eucharist is only for a Catholic in good standing. The Presbyteral Council is working on a statement to announce before communion to help people understand what we believe and what those who cannot receive should do.

c. Diocesan Office Manager Reports

- i. For a lot of legal and insurance reasons, each parish needs to be identified as independent – each parish is a corporation with Bishop as the president. If there is a cluster letterhead with a combined name, each parish needs to still be identified as an individual parish with their legal name and Inc. We do have a lawsuit in our diocese right now. It is against the individual insurance company, the diocese, the parish and the cluster. The cluster will be taken out because it is not a legal entity.
- ii. The CSA supports a lot of salaries and programs throughout the diocese. Please encourage participation. We are anticipating turnover on diocesan staff due to retirements – please help us to encourage people to apply.
- iii. There are a lot of great things offered from the diocese – Oct. 24 Fall Conference on Artificial Intelligence - Oct 28 finance department “the Great Bookkeeper Get-

together” – January and February Men’s and Women’s Retreats (we would love to see more men participate).

- iv. There are six men in the Permanent Diaconate program. The Rite of Candidacy is next week.
- v. The School of Servant Leadership has 19 people participating. One of the sessions now covers Evangelization and Missionary Discipleship.
- vi. The Office of Parish Transformation – Chris Newkirk, Peggy Schoenfuss and Fr. Andrew Ricci - have been meeting with all the clusters and parishes in the diocese with a focus on evangelization and the pastoral plan. Goal setting will be coming up.

d. [Diocesan Pastoral Plan](#) and Diocesan Goal Setting (*Chris Newkirk*)

In the same way parishes have been asked to submit goals by May 15, the diocese is also doing this. Diocesan staff and clergy have also been working on this. We will be working on the dreams for the diocese as a whole and for the diocesan staff. The end result will be to bring the dreams from all these groups to the Presbyteral Council who will prioritize for Bishop and staff to set the goals for the diocese. Councilors broke into small groups to discuss goals and then each group presented their suggestions.

VI. Next Meetings

- a. April 25, 2026
- b. October 17, 2026

VII. Adjournment & Closing Prayer

Motion to Adjourn: Neil Adler, Second: Dennis Berends, Approved.

Lunch – thank you St. Anthony ladies!

PRIEST WILLING TO ASSIST

Updated November 2025

Name	Contact Info	Address	Considerations
Anderson, Rev. Andy (Barg)	715-719-2875; bganderson05@yahoo.com	20 East John Street, Unit 2, Rice Lake, WI 54868	Unavailable until further notice
Anderson, Fr. Ed	715-817-3736 fatheredanderson@gmail.com	2153 18 ½ Ave, Rice Lake, WI 54868	Willing to go anywhere
Brinkman, Fr. Jim	715-690-5040 j.brinkman536@gmail.com	811 4 th Street, Clear Lake, 54005	SW Deanery only (?)
Devett, Fr. Aaron	715-358-0955	9674 Lin Wood Lane, Woodruff, 54568	
Farrell, Fr. Kevin	H: 715-420-2056; C: 630-361-4916; kfarrel31ltr@gmail.com	3531 Thompson Lake Road Rhinelander, WI 54501	
Harris, Rev. Jerry	C: 715-377-2533 pete51quinn@gmail.com	308 River Street, Apt. 303 River Falls, WI 54022	
Hopefl, Rev. Greg	715-492-5546; ghopefl@charter.net	11677 N. Mosquito Brook Road Hayward, WI 54843	Dec-March: local only
Mullen, Fr. Dennis	715-566-1781; mullen1223@yahoo.com	715 E. South St., Rice Lake, 54868	must be back in Rice Lake by evening
Murphy, Rev. Eugene	203-241-9990 frgmurphy@gmail.com	108 North St., Hudson, 54016	
Thorn, Rev. Robert	715-902-1339 rthorn@diolclergy.org	1649 Lake Road, Monico, WI 54501	

DIOCESE OF SUPERIOR - RESPECT LIFE ESSAY CONTEST

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) announced the 2025-2026 theme which begins in October 2025 and continues through September 2026:



ESSAY OR POEM CONTENT: In thinking about respecting all life & using the theme *Life: Our Sign of Hope*. Explain what it means to you by writing an essay or a poem.

WHO MAY ENTER: Students in Grades 5 through 12

ESSAY REQUIREMENTS:

- ✦ 150-200 words (approximately) - Students in Grades 5,6,7,8
- ✦ 200-300 words (approximately) - Students in Grades 9,10,11,12

*If writing a **poem**, the number of words are not a requirement.*

Entries must include the following information on the following Essay ID ½ page:

- ✦ Contestants' Name, Address, City, Zip code
- ✦ Number of Words in **Essay** (*NOTE: the entry is disqualified if the number of words in the essay does not meet the standards listed above; the number of words in a poem is not required*).
- ✦ Grade
- ✦ Teacher's Name & contact information
- ✦ Fill in blanks for Home School, Religious Education, or Catholic School

SEND ESSAYS TO: **Carol Grund / RESPECT LIFE OFFICE**

Diocese of Superior
PO Box 969
Superior, WI 54880

POSTMARK DEADLINE:

- ✦ *Monday, February 16, 2026*

If you have further questions, please contact Bonita Thom @ 715-394-0206; bthom@catholicdos.org.

QUOTES FROM THE ESSAYS MAY BE INCLUDED IN THE CATHOLIC HERALD NEWSPAPER.

PRIZES AWARDED TO THOSE ESSAYS CHOSEN BY THE JUDGING COMMITTEE.

ESSAY/POEM IDENTIFICATION 1/2 PAGE (include this completed 1/2 page sheet with each entry):

OF WORDS IN ESSAY: _____

CONTESTANT'S NAME, ADDRESS, CITY, ZIP CODE: _____

GRADE: _____

TEACHER'S NAME, EMAIL & PHONE NUMBER: _____

***Home School** - please list the address if different than the contestant's above:*

***Religious Education** - please write the parish info:*

PARISH NAME ADDRESS, CITY, ZIP CODE: _____

***Catholic School** - please write the school info:*

SCHOOL NAME, ADDRESS, CITY, ZIP CODE: _____



Office #: _____

ESSAY/POEM IDENTIFICATION 1/2 PAGE (include this completed 1/2 page sheet with each entry):

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SCHOOL NAME, ADDRESS, CITY, ZIP CODE: _____



Bethany Brunch

A MORNING FOR YOUNG ADULT
LADIES (18 - 40) WITH MASS, BRUNCH,
AND COMMUNITY WITH THE
HANDMAIDS OF THE HEART OF JESUS

NOVEMBER 8

9 AM

St. Patrick Church
1500 Vine Street, Hudson

Spots are limited.
Follow the QR code to RSVP.
Email any questions to
esjomeling@catholicdos.org



**HIGH
SCHOOL
LADIES,
THIS IS
FOR
YOU!**

**DINNER
GAMES
TALKING
ADORATION**

**WITH
THE
HANDMAIDS
OF THE
HEART OF
JESUS**

GIRLS NIGHT IN



**NOV
7TH
5:45PM -
8:30PM**

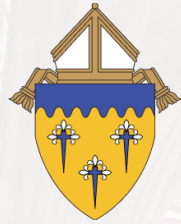
**ST. ANNE
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

141 Church Hill Road
Somerset, WI 54025

RSVP BY NOV. 3RD

TELL YOUR YOUTH
MINISTER, FAITH
FORMATION
LEADER OR SEND
AN EMAIL TO EMILY
LISTED BELOW

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT EMILY AT
ESJOMELING@CATHOLICDOS.ORG



DIOCESE OF
SUPERIOR



OCIA WORKSHOP

DECEMBER 6TH | 9AM - 3PM

For all those who assist with OCIA in the
Diocese of Superior -- this day is for you!
Come and learn the ins-and-outs of OCIA.

Hosted by the Office of Evangelization &
Missionary Discipleship and the Office of Worship.

Register by Friday, 11/21
jjohnson@catholicdos.org
(715) 234-5044

Free of Cost
Lunch provided

📍 St. Joseph | 10586 N Dakota Ave. | Hayward, WI 54843