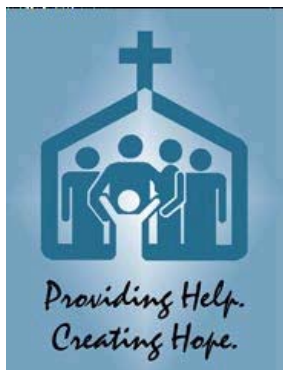


Focus on Life ~ Justice ~ Peace

Office of Peace, Justice / Respect Life

July/August 2010



Office of Peace, Justice/
Respect Life
Catholic Charities
Diocese of Raleigh
715 Nazareth Street
Raleigh, NC 27606
919-821-9751
jurski@raldioc.org

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And more!

*Did you know you can cut and
paste any item in this newsletter
for placement in your parish
bulletin??*

Parish Social Ministry Today

Parish social ministry is an expression of faith shown through care for poor and vulnerable people and action for justice and peace.

Authentic parish social ministry strives to grow in four critical areas.

1. Parish social ministry brings to life Jesus' call to build the Kingdom of God on earth.

The Gospel calls everyone to care for poor, vulnerable and suffering people and work for justice and peace. The Gospel message is relevant to our times, and the Catholic Church, through Catholic social teaching, breaks open the pressing issues of our day to help evaluate them through Gospel principles.

Parish social ministry makes this teaching attainable to the faithful in our parishes and by providing them with opportunities to act on this call and to understand the implications of the teaching on society and their lives.

2. Parish social ministry promotes conversion and growth in love of God and neighbor.

Like the other elements of parish life, social ministry helps parishioners to grow in love with God and neighbor. Social ministry draws parishioners to the side of the most vulnerable and asks them to be the presence of God's love. It is not easy.

In order to carry out this ministry, the faithful need reflection upon the Word of God and Catholic social teaching, a supportive community, the encounter with God through the Sacraments, occasions to stretch beyond our comfort zone, opportunities to form and discipline our conscience, and develop a deeper spiritual relationship with God.

3. Parish social ministry protects the life and dignity of all people, especially those who are poor, vulnerable or suffering.

Parish social ministry stretches the faith community to do what is in the best interest of poor, vulnerable and suffering people in order to improve the quality of their lives and be a witness to Christ's love to them.

To do so, the parish needs to take a step back from the crisis to determine what is causing the assault to life or dignity. Additionally, the parish needs to connect with those who are impacted by the assault, to walk with them.

4. Parish social ministry engages the entire faith community.

In order to engage the entire community, parish social ministry works in two spheres: together and as individuals. To do parish social ministry together, the work must be organized to broaden its reach and engage more people.

Secondly, individual parishioners will have multiple opportunities to live out their faith in their roles at home, school, work, and civic society. Parish social ministry forms and supports these people to do what is in the best interests of poor, vulnerable, and suffering people in their everyday lives.

(Above are excerpts from an article Rachel Lustig,
Director of Parish Social Ministry, Catholic Charities USA, wrote in 2007.
The entire article can be found at
<http://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org/NetCommunity/Page.aspx?pid=1204>)

Respect Life Updates



SAVE THE DATE: 2010 FALL 40 DAYS FOR LIFE CAMPAIGN DATES

September 22, 2010 - October 31, 2010

For more information contact Mary Smith at prayforlife247@gmail.com or this office at Jurski@raldioc.org.

Abortion Center Closure

We are happy to share with you a message from Bishop Burbidge at this time of the closure of the abortion clinic in Raleigh. Many of you have stood and prayed there for many years to stop the abortions. Many of you have joined in the 40 Days for Life along with Bishop Burbidge and prayed for life. Please share the Bishop's thanks to others in the parish. We give thanks to God for the blessing of life.

You may find more information about the history of the site and its closure on the diocesan web-site, www.dioceseofraleigh.org

Project Rachel Support Group

Abortion is one of the most common procedures in the US experienced by millions of women, many of whom are Catholic. Abortion creates a deep wound in post-abortive women, one that affects them spiritually, mentally and emotionally. Project Rachel assists women and men who have been wounded by abortion find truth and healing. There is a support group beginning in the Triangle area in August. If you have participated in an abortion and would like more information about the support group contact Project Rachel at (919) 852-1021 or email projectrachel@nc.rr.com. For more information go to <http://projectrachelnc.org/> (website) Calls and appointments are kept strictly confidential.

Moratorium on the Death Penalty in North Carolina

Now is the time to contact your state representatives on this respect life issue. Visit www.pfadp.org and find out more. Click on "Take Action" to learn more about the Abolition Petition which reads:

"I, a United States citizen, join People of Faith Against the Death Penalty in seeking to repeal the death penalty and using the funds for new programs to support murder victims' families and crime prevention."



Choose Life License Plate Rally

On May 25, a rally was held in front of the Legislative Building in Raleigh. The Most Reverend Peter J. Jugis, Bishop of Charlotte, called on Catholics of North Carolina and all who share the Christian faith and all who support the life of the unborn to correct what he called "an injustice" by encouraging state legislative leaders to allow the Choose Life specialty plate legislation to be brought up for a vote in both houses of the legislature.

Speaking on behalf of the Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, who was in attendance, Bishop Jugis addressed the "Choose Life" rally. Noting that more than 120 specialty plates are available in North Carolina, Bishop Jugis said, "Only one, the Choose Life plate, has yet to receive even a vote by a committee after seven years of waiting. This is an injustice!"

See <http://www.catholicvoicenc.org/index.html> for more information about how you can contact your legislators!

1st Annual Mass and Picnic Celebrating Natural Family Planning Awareness Week

The Office of Marriage and Family Life of the Diocese of Raleigh Cordially invites you to attend the Saturday July 31 at 11:00am at St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church (520 West Holding Avenue, Wake Forest, NC 27587) Picnic hosted by the Knights of Columbus. For more information about this event please contact Allison Dooley at NFP@raldioc.org. Reservations required. To RSVP email Linda Bedo with number of guests at bedo@raldioc.org by July 21st.

Pro-life Chair Voices 'Grave Concern' Over FDA Plan to Approve Abortion Drug for 'Emergency Contraception'

WASHINGTON, June 17, 2010—The chairman of the U.S. Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities voiced "grave concern" to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) over its move toward approving a new drug that may induce early abortions as an "emergency contraceptive." In a June 17 letter to Dr. Margaret Hamburg, Commissioner of the FDA, Cardinal Daniel DiNardo of Galveston-Houston criticized the FDA's move to hold an advisory committee meeting on the drug Ulipristal "without broad public input or a full record on the drug's safety for women or their unborn children." See www.usccb.org for more details on this letter and for ideas on how you can also have your voice heard!

Schedule & Registration Information



Respect Life Seminar

For ALL Parish
Respect Life Representatives and Committee Members

Saturday, August 21, 2010
Our Lady of Lourdes, Raleigh

Schedule of the Day

- 9:30 Gathering, Fallon Center
 - 9:45 Welcome and Prayer
 - 10:00 Respect Life Ministry: Family Honor
- Family Honor creates opportunities and provides tools for parents and children to connect on important life issues, with a special emphasis on chastity and God’s gift of sexuality.
- 11:00 Mass, Church
 Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge
 - 12:00 Lunch, Fallon Center
 - 12:45 Plan for Diocesan Pro-Life Activities
 - 1:45 Closing Prayer

Registration: - ***Diocese of Raleigh Respect Life Seminar***

Please complete this form and mail along with check to the Diocese of Raleigh.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

PARISH _____

LUNCH ____ regular ____ vegetarian

Registration Fee includes: continental breakfast and lunch

Cost: \$15.00
(\$20 after August 10)

Includes breakfast and lunch

Send registration to:
Registrar
Catholic Diocese of Raleigh
715 Nazareth Street
Raleigh, NC 27606

Make checks payable to:
Catholic Charities

Or email: register@raldioc.org
Questions? Call (919) 821-9751

2010 Parish Social Ministry Training Day



Event Sponsored by:

*Catholic Charities,
Diocese of Raleigh*

Questions?
Call the Office of Peace, Justice/
Respect Life
(919) 821-9751

SAVE THE DATE-
MARK YOUR CALENDARS TODAY!

September 25, 2010

St. Mary Mother of the Church, Garner

9:30 am– 3:00 pm

Don't miss being part of our day as we explore
our journey to fulfill the mission of our Church!

Keynote Address:

Parish Social Ministry: Living the Gospel

Larry DiPaul,

Director of Life and Justice for the Diocese of Camden,
and Co-Director of the Romero Center in Camden, NJ

Workshops will include:

Our Journey Rooted in Christ

Our Journey in Accompaniment

Our Journey in Welcoming All in My Parish

Our Journey in Building Parish & Community Collaboration

Our Journey in Promoting the Social Mission within My Parish

***In addition, the keynote address will be translated
simultaneously to Spanish and Spanish workshops will
be available.***



**More details and registration information
will be available mid-July!**



1910 • Centennial • 2010

**Catholic Charities USA-
Centennial Celebration**

Sunday, September 26, 2010

Mass at Sacred Heart Cathedral at 10:30 am
Bishop Michael F. Burbidge presiding

DID YOU KNOW???

**And CCUSA is not the only organization 100 years old!
Catholic Charities is Raleigh has roots
over 100 years old as well.**

**Catholic Charities USA Reports Major
Assistance Being Provided in Gulf Coast Areas
(June 4, 2010)**

(excerpted from Catholic Charities USA website:
<http://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org/NetCommunity/Page.aspx?pid=2078>)

**Close to 10,000 Families and Individuals Helped to Date; Need
Expected to Grow Substantially**

Alexandria, VA—As the Gulf oil spill continues unabated, Catholic Charities agencies along the Gulf Coast are serving thousands of people and families who have felt the effects of the economic impact almost overnight.

Food, household supplies and clothing have been the primary needs to date, but increasingly Catholic Charities' disaster response and case management services are focusing on employment assistance, anger and stress management, and crisis counseling.

“Livelihoods and ways of life have been halted just like that, with very little recourse for other options to generate any income to pay the bills and put food on the table,” said Rev. Larry Snyder, President of Catholic Charities USA. “While homes and other personal property have not been destroyed by rising waters or raging fires, nonetheless the economic toll is equally immediate and devastating.”



**Upcoming
Events**

August 21, 2010

Respect Life Seminar

Our Lady of Lourdes, Raleigh
9:00 am—2:30 pm

Mass with Bishop Michael F. Burbidge

August 28, 2010

Run for Life

For more information e-mail Bob & Kathy Klein,
blk4jnj@juno.com

September 22– October 31, 2010

40 Days for Life

Contact Mary Smith for more information-
prayforlife247@gmail.com

September 25, 2010

Parish Social Ministry Training Day

St. Mary Mother of the Church, Garner
9:30 am– 3:00 pm

September 26, 2010

**Catholic Charities USA Centennial Celebration
Raleigh Celebration**

Mass at Sacred Heart Cathedral, 10:30 am
Bishop Michael F. Burbidge

October 1, 2010

Benefit for Life Gala

For information e-mail Deb Oronzio, doronzio@gmail.com

October 3, 2010

Annual Diocesan Respect Life Mass

St. Andrew, Apex
Mass at 9:30 am

with Bishop Michael F. Burbidge

Raleigh Life Chain

For more information e-mail Bob & Kathy Klein,
blk4jnj@juno.com

October 16, 2010

Catholic Convocation

Cardinal Gibbons High School
For more information see

<http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/how/cfe/index.aspx>

Coming in 2011:

**January 15– North Carolina March for Life and Prayer
Breakfast, Raleigh
January 24– National March for Life, Washington D.C.**

Immigration Reform Update

According to Justice for Immigrants (JFI), the Catholic Campaign for Immigration reform (<http://www.justiceforimmigrants.org/>), now is the time to continue building legislative capacity around the issue of Immigration Reform.

The Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors Act (DREAM Act), is a piece of legislation that has been introduced both in the U.S House and U.S Senate. This proposed bill would give certain undocumented students a path to citizenship. In order to qualify for the DREAM Act, the student must have:

- * Entered the country before the age of 16
- * Graduated from a U.S. high school or obtained a GED
- * A good moral character (no criminal record)
- * At least five years of continuous presence in the US
- * Must be between the ages of 12 and 35 at time of bill enactment



If the student meets the above requirements, once the DREAM Act passes, the student will be given a period of six years to either obtain a two-year college degree or serve in the military for at least 2 years. During this six year period, the student will be granted a "conditional" status. If the student meets all of the requirements at the end of the 6-year period, he/she will be granted permanent residency and could then become a U.S. citizen. **Please contact Senator Kay Hagan and ask her to support the DREAM Act. Phone: 1-877-852-9462 or e-mail from her website: <http://hagan.senate.gov/?p=home>.**

The Diocese of Raleigh is preparing a long-term plan for immigration education and action that will reflect the values of the Church. More information will be forthcoming.

Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) Update

“Besides the good of the individual, there is the good that is linked to society: the common good. It is the good of all of us... To desire the *common good* and strive towards it is a *requirement of justice and charity*.”

Caritas in Veritate, Pope Benedict XVI, 2009

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) helps people to lift themselves out of poverty. It invests in the dignity of people living below the poverty line. The programs support self-sufficiency and self-determination for people who are working to bring permanent change to their communities. The monies used to fund the programs are collected each year in November.

The philosophy emphasizes empowerment and participation for those in poverty. By helping the poor to participate in the decisions and actions that affect their lives and communities. CCHD empowers them to move beyond poverty. Since 1970, CCHD has provided nearly 8,000 grants to self-help projects developed by grassroots groups of poor persons nation-wide. Each year CCHD distributes national grants to more than 300 projects based in local communities. In addition, hundreds of smaller local programs are funded through the 25 percent share of the CCHD collection retained by dioceses. The program's successes and the relationships developed have significantly changed the lives of the poor in our country.

*All funded projects must conform to the teachings of the Catholic Church.

Applications are reviewed by the local pastor, the diocesan CCHD committee, and approved by the Bishop.

Learn more about a locally funded

Catholic Campaign for Human Development Group

St. Ann Neighborhood Youth Center, Fayetteville

St. Ann Neighborhood Youth Center is an afterschool outreach program. It's mission is:

“St. Ann Catholic School and Neighborhood Youth Center is a culturally diverse educational institution that serves the entire community by promoting excellence in education, personal growth, and service to others in a nurturing Christian environment.

We achieve this through innovative programs taught by dedicated professionals and volunteers, supported by active community partnerships.”

The center provides tutoring, cultural awareness, diverse activities, and spiritual awareness to over fifty students grades K-5. The majority of the students reside in federal housing and come from low performing schools. Volunteers are responsible for tutoring, supervising field trips, and providing an early evening meal two days per week. The total operation of the Neighborhood Youth Center is dependent on funds acquired through grants and donations. The needs are great.

This year the CCHD funding is being used to fund a Home School Library. Each child will be given books and magazines to use at home. Certainly this will aid these children in their academic success! Congratulations to the St. Ann Youth Center and may God bless the work you do!

NC Catholic Voice

Go to the website www.CatholicVoiceNC.org
for more information and to register.

More than 800,000 residents of North Carolina profess the Catholic faith in the 187 parishes and missions of the Dioceses of Raleigh and Charlotte. Catholic Voice NC facilitates a grassroots effort by concerned Catholics in North Carolina to educate and influence our lawmakers. When an important issue arises you will receive an e-mail alert with the option to contact your legislator to express your Catholic views.

Register today, it's free!

Each of these issue areas are currently covered:

- Respect Life
- Stem Cell Research
- End of Life
- Immigration
- Family Life



**Office of Peace, Justice/
Respect Life Resources**

www.dioceseofraleigh.org/how/peace_justice/index.aspx

We have an entire page dedicated to Catholic Social Teaching Resources, Parish Social Ministry, Advocacy resources, and more!

Don't see what you need here??


Call us, we can help!

Contact the Office of Peace, Justice/
Respect Life

919-821-9751 / jurski@raldioc.org

Receiving this in the mail?


E-mail us today to receive it electronically!



Diocese of Raleigh
**CATHOLIC
CONVOCATION**

2010

The Sacred Liturgy:
Proclaiming, Celebrating and Witnessing
to the Mystery of Christ



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2010

Cardinal Gibbons High School, Raleigh, NC

8:30 am - Registration and Hospitality

9:30 am - Opening prayer followed by Keynote Addresses, Lunch and Workshops

KEYNOTE SPEAKER & PRINCIPAL CELEBRANT:
The Most Reverend Wilton D. Gregory,
Archbishop of Atlanta

KEYNOTE SPEAKER IN SPANISH:
Sister Doris Turek, S.S.N.D., Secretariat of Divine

4:30 pm - Mass for the 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

PRINCIPAL CONCELEBRANT & HOMILIST:
The Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Bishop of Raleigh

♦ A wide variety of speakers and workshops to choose from throughout the day.

♦ The day includes tracks for:
~All the Faithful
~Youth and Youth Ministers
~Hispanic Ministry
~Music Ministry
~RCIA Catechumens and Candidates

There's something for everyone!

\$40 Adults
\$35 Groups of 5 or more
\$30 High School Youth
\$50 Day of Convocation

For more information visit our website: www.dioceseofraleigh.org

Parish Social Ministry Resources for your whole Parish

Did you know that Catholic Charities USA has a Parish Social Ministry (PSM) Section?

Go to www.catholiccharitiesUSA.org for more information.

The PSM office of Catholic Charities USA endorses national growth and development of Parish Social Ministry by supporting Catholic Charities agencies, dioceses, and parish leaders in integrating the Church's social mission into parish life.

Want to share what you are doing? Please e-mail Melissa DuCharme at melissa.ducharme@raldioc.org!

*A Prayer for the Oil Disaster
In the Gulf of Mexico*

#

Creator God, you have given us the great and gracious gift of the natural world to be our home. Forgive us for the lack of respect we have shown this gift, for our greed and our turning from the common good. We ask that you help us to respond to the tragedy in the Gulf as concerned citizens, as people of faith who want to cherish your Creation, and as brothers and sisters to those whose livelihoods are being destroyed as the waters of the Gulf are being contaminated. May this tragedy be a call to us that we can no longer ignore, and may we be renewed in our efforts to promote the common good and to respect the integrity of Creation.
Amen.



This prayer is from the Education for Justice website: <http://www.educationforjustice.org/>.