

**Vianney - Cure of Ars is coming to our area!** The Diocese of Lansing tour is slated for March 27 - March 31. Holy Spirit, Hamburg has booked Saturday, March 27, 2010. Other scheduled dates in our area are: Gabriel Richard High School, Ann Arbor on March 22, 2010 & Sacred Heart Major Seminary on March 23, 2010. For more information or to book Vianney at your parish please go to [www.vianneydrama.com](http://www.vianneydrama.com)

**VOICES ALIVE TO PUBLISH ELECTRONIC EDITION ONLY**

Effective with the January, 2009 edition VOICES Alive! the newsletter of the Central Service Departments of the Catholic Diocese of Lansing will no longer publish a hardcopy edition. The newsletter will only be available online, at the diocesan website <http://www.dioceseoflansing.org>. An e-mail notification will be sent each month when the newsletter is posted to the site.

September, 2009  
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**31ST EMMAUS CONVOCATION**

Diocesan Priests will gather for their annual Convocation Sept. 28 - Oct. 1, 2009 at McGuire's in Cadillac. Msgr Thomas Caserta will present The Priesthood - Human and Spiritual. Msgr Caserta, from the diocese of Brooklyn has been actively involved in the spiritual formation of clergy, seminarians and religious both here and abroad. He has given retreats in over a dozen diocese and seminaries.

**DEACON CONVOCATION**

A one-day Deacon Convocation will be held Saturday, October 3rd, 2009, 9:00am - 3:00pm at St. Agnes, Fowlerville. The Deacon community will gather along with their wives for this event. Fr. Matt Fedewa will lead a discussion on Pope Benedict's encyclical Deus Caritas Est (God Is Love). Mrs. Rita Thiron will speak on the theology of the changes in the newly revised G.I.R.M.

**SACRED CIRCLES - LAY MINISTRY CONVOCATION**

The Professional Pastoral Ministers Association (PPMA) in collaboration with Diocese of Lansing Office of Lay Ecclesial Ministry is sponsoring a One Day Convocation for all those in ministry. Sacred Circles - Spiritual Support for Pastoral Leaders - a Day for Co-Workers in Communion Friday, October 16, 2009, 8:30am - 3:30pm at St. Agnes, Fowlerville. Featured speaker is Mr. David Ware. Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Boyea. Contact Mrs. Nancy Joseph at 517-342- 2512 or [njoseph@dioceseoflansing.org](mailto:njoseph@dioceseoflansing.org) for more info and registration.

**VIANNEY - CURE OF ARS**

This one-man stage production, VIANNEY, is a story of perseverance against all odds - the story of a humble pastor with a passion for souls. "It is my prayer that when people meet John Vianney, they will, just like the people of Ars, be transformed by his life, story and message," says Leonardo Defilippis. "I know that young men looking for a radical way of serving God will be drawn to the priesthood through his example."

# CATHOLIC CHARITIES



## RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

The Office of Restorative Justice is concerned with all aspects of the continuum of crime and incarceration. As a church, we are concerned for the spiritual, physical and emotional needs of all. In the USCCB statement on Responsibility, Rehabilitation, and Restoration, the Bishops remind us that our work is to focus on the restoration of "a sense of civility and responsibility to everyday life, and promote crime prevention and genuine rehabilitation."

The Office of Restorative Justice works to move the hearts of the Catholic community to recognize victims of crime, those incarcerated and their families as brothers and sisters. This office seeks to treat all persons involved with, or touched by crime as worthy of time, compassion and spiritual healing. Also to create programs necessary to facilitate restitution and rehabilitation. Specifically, this office targets the needs of the ex-offender, offenders under sentence, victims of offenders and families of offenders. Restoration to society as a productive member for the ex-offender, counsel and support for victims, support and reunification with the offender, if possible, for families, and the benefit of the sacraments for those incarcerated are the primary goals of this office.

Additionally, we seek to move the hearts of all toward forgiveness, understanding the need for sanction. The existence of mandatory sentencing guidelines does not allow for discretion in sentencing and ignores the "spirit of the law." Sentencing children to life in prison without parole does not recognize the person's ability to rehabilitate or the mental/emotional development of the child.

Contact Tim Metts at (517) 342-2495 for further information.

## PERSONS WITH DIS / ABILITIES

Annual Family Day for Persons with disAbilities with Bishop Boyea Ministry with Persons with disAbilities & Catholic Deaf/HH invites all persons with disAbilities and their family to join us on Sunday, October 25, 2009 for Mass at 12:00 Noon at St. Mary Cathedral, Lansing and lunch to follow in St. Mary Parish Center. Please call or e-mail Joann at 517-342-2497 [jdavis@dioceseoflansing.org](mailto:jdavis@dioceseoflansing.org) to make reservations by October 19th.

Christians Concerned about Mental Illness - (CCMI) will begin our monthly meetings on September 22nd. Meetings are held the 4th Tuesday of each month from noon to 1:00pm in the diocesan center, Lansing. Meetings are a chance to pray and share our stories. Call or e-mail Joann Davis at 517-342-2497 [jdavis@dioceseoflansing.org](mailto:jdavis@dioceseoflansing.org) for more information or visit our website at: <http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/disAbilities/index.html>

## NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

Note: There will be a charge of \$ 10.00 per couple, for all Introductions to Natural Family Planning Classes. All couples register with the Natural Family Planning Office before taking the class. All checks should be made out and mailed to: Diocese of Lansing, 300 W. Ottawa Street, Lansing, MI 48933.

Introduction to Natural Family Planning Classes The Introduction to Natural Family Planning classes will be offered as follows:

Thursday, October 1, 2009 at 7:00pm at Queen of the Miraculous Medal Parish, Jackson;

Sunday, October 04, 2009 at 4:00pm at St. Gerard Parish, Lansing;

Thursday, October 15, 2009 at 7:00pm at St. Joseph Parish, Dexter;

Saturday, October 24, 2009 at 10:00am at St. Mary Parish, Charlotte.

Pre-registration is required for all participants. For more information contact: NFP Program at 517-342-2587 or [nfp@dioceseoflansing.org](mailto:nfp@dioceseoflansing.org).

### NFP Classes Offered in the Diocese of Lansing

Several methods of Natural Family Planning are taught, pre-registration is required for the following classes:

Family of Americas Ovulation Method:

Call the NFP Office to register: (517) 342-2587.

Sympto-Thermal Method: taught by Couple to Couple League (CCL) Lansing Area Class – at St. Mary Cathedral. Call Ed & Michelle Rivet, 517-676-5915, or visit <http://www.ccl-mi.org>

Creighton Model Fertility Care System: call Amanda Venema, 517-242-3710 or e-mail: [venemafamily@cablespeed.com](mailto:venemafamily@cablespeed.com)

Billings Ovulation Method: call Maria: 517-523-3526.

# CATHOLIC CHARITIES

## DEAF/HH MINISTRY

The 2009-10 ASL and Interpreted Mass schedule for the Deaf/HH community is now available on the Diocese of Lansing website. Go to: [Dioceseoflansing.org](http://Dioceseoflansing.org); then click on Offices and Ministries – Alphabetical list; then click on Catholic Deaf/HH Ministry. Masses are listed under the name of the City where the church is located. If you know of a Church that has interpreted Masses but is not listed here, please contact Rose Smith at [rsmith@dioceseoflansing.org](mailto:rsmith@dioceseoflansing.org)

## CCHD

National Grant information for the 2010-2011 grant cycle is available here: <http://www.usccb.org/cchd/grants/process.shtml>. The online eligibility quiz is available as of September 1, 2009.

## PROJECT RACHEL

Struggling with grief from an abortion, or know someone who is? The Diocese of Lansing has an extensive list of resources including counseling, retreats, and support groups. Use our confidential phone line 517-745-5579 for help.

## FAMILY LIFE

Find out “Why Marriage Matters” <http://www.nationformarriage.org/atf/cf/%7B39D8B5C1-F9FE-48Co-ABE6-1029BA77854C%7D/CatholicEnglish.pdf>

Also visit Marriage Matters Jackson here <http://www.marriagemattersjackson.org/> for great local events, support, enrichment, and workshops to promote, prepare and preserve marriage.

## NAFIM

Resources on disAbilities: The National Apostolate for Inclusion Ministry (NAfIM) is a nonprofit membership organization of persons with and without disabilities working and praying together for the good of the whole Church to realize justice for persons of all abilities in the parish and in religious, social and civic life. We share with you and invite you to share with us. New Publication Information Sheets on Catechesis in English and Spanish and First Reconciliation Preparation Tips for Parents, Teachers and Pastors at: <http://www.nafim.org/files/index.php?section=resources&cat=infoSheets>

## GUIDELINES FOR RECEIVING SACRAMENTS

Resources available from Ministry with Persons with disAbilities - “Guidelines for the Celebration of the Sacraments with Persons with disAbilities” by: USCCB also “Opening Doors of Welcome and Justice to Parishioners with Disabilities – A parish Resource Guide” by: National Catholic Partnership on Disability. Please contact Joann, for these and other resources available at 517-342-2497 or [jdavis@dioceseoflansing.org](mailto:jdavis@dioceseoflansing.org) Information is also available at: <http://www.ncpd.org/views-news-policy/policy/church/bishops>

**Deaf/Hard of Hearing Technology** Parish staffs or individuals who want to learn more about Assistive Listening Devices (ALD) for those who experience hearing loss can find a wealth of information on hearing instruments, mobile and cell phones as well as specialized technological developments at <http://www.hearingloss.org/learn/assistivetech.asp>

## NEW LIFE

New Life is a faith-based movement whose mission is to provide the necessary spiritual, emotional and physical needs of recent parolees to the Lansing area. New Life provides mentoring, direct aid and encouragement to ex-offenders. They are encouraged to attend church services and volunteers provide transportation to those services.

A primary focus of the program is a fourteen week class called “Image”. This is a self esteem building program which has been specifically modified to address the needs of ex-offenders. The program runs continuously and a parolee may begin at any point in the program to complete the fourteen weeks.

The output services provided include mentoring, employment assistance, clothing, groceries, medications needed and housing. They are assisted in obtaining job training and those skills necessary to function in society.

New Life identifies success through a reduction in recidivism from the current rate of over fifty per cent.

New Life cannot succeed without the generous support of volunteers. Without our support, the people coming out of prison will not succeed. They have done their time. It is now time for us to use our expertise to assist those willing to work with us giving a helping hand through volunteering, mentoring and giving our love and compassion.

In addition to New Life, there are other aftercare organizations in other cities of the diocese. Regeneration - Beginning Anew is in Jackson and REAP - Re-entry After Prison is in Adrian. Also, there are efforts in Flint and Washtenaw areas.

# EDUCATION AND CATECHESIS

## MINISTRY POSITION OPENINGS

If your parish is seeking applicants for a position, or you or someone you know is interested in current openings in youth or young adult ministry, religious education, adult faith formation, RCIA, evangelization, or pastoral ministry, call Pat Rinker at 517-342-2486; Michael Andrews at 517-342-2479; Nancy Joseph at 517-342-2512.

## THANK YOU LETTER FROM SR. DORITA WOTISKA...

My sincere thanks and deep appreciation for your presence at my retirement event. Your gifts and kind (pay back) words were thoroughly enjoyed.

Over these 27 years of my service to the Diocese of Lansing, I have been privileged to work with so many of you who have kindly and graciously assisted me in numerous ways and always with a smile.

I will remember you with fond memories and keep you in my prayers. Please do the same for me.

May God bestow His choicest blessings on you.

Sr. Dorita Wotiska, OP

## CRIMINAL RECORD BACKGROUND CHECK

New employees must have a criminal record background check verified before a final contract is signed.

Call Sally Ellis at 517-342-2551 with any questions.

## JAMBOREE, NOVEMBER 1, 2009 R.O.C.K. RELY ON CHRIST THE KING

Materials were mailed to parishes - posters and brochures. Additional brochures and posters can be downloaded from our web page - <http://dioceseoflansing.org/youthministry/index.html>

Features at this year's Jamboree are:

- Keynote speaker, Bob Rice, author of song, "Will There be Hand Motions in Heaven". He comes to us from Steubenville and is an excellent speaker.
- Ron Kenney, a wonderful youth ministry leader in our diocese for many years will be a featured speaker
- Workshop presenters include Ron Landfair, Mary Lou Hahn-Setta, Jim Corder, Emily Crockett, Teresa Hurd, Doug Moore, Noelle Garcia, Jared Ambroiser and Pat Rinker.
- Music with Thicker Than Water and Youth Fusion.
- Mass with Bishop Boyea and other priests from our diocese.
- Reconciliation, organized by Jack Armstrong with priests from our diocese.
- Metro Inflatables & Dance music with Jon Roty.
- NCYC Kick Off with Bob Rice for all NCYC participants.

## BASIC TRAINING OPORTUNITIES

Basic Training in youth ministry for adults and teens will occur on Monday evenings at St. John Student Center in East Lansing. Registration form is on the our youth ministry web page. <http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/youthministry/index.html>

Basic Training for young adult ministry will be a full day training Saturday, October 10 at Holy Redeemer Church in Burton. Registration form is on our young adult ministry web page. <http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/youngadult/index.html>

## FIRST YOUTH COMMITTEES MEETINGS

The Diocesan Youth Advisory Committee and the three youth committees, DYLC, Jamboree and Rally, will meet Saturday, October 10, 10:00 AM – Lunch at Holy Redeemer Church, Burton.

## WORLD YOUTH DAY 2011

Information for the Diocesan group going to Madrid, Spain in August of 2011 is on the Diocesan web pages for youth, young adult and campus ministry. Information for groups from St. Fancis AA, St. John, Davison, and Siena Heights University will be posted as information arrives. <http://www.dioceseoflansing.org/youthministry/index.html>

# SAFE ENVIRONMENT

## SHIELD THE VULNERABLE - A Shared Responsibility

Shield the Vulnerable is dedicated to raising awareness of abuse and neglect, and providing training and resources to help protect the most vulnerable members of our communities. Shield the Vulnerable provides “. . .innovative, state-specific, online training. . .to teach adults who interact with children, youth and elders how to recognize, report and prevent abuse or neglect.”

Beginning July 1, 2009, Shield the Vulnerable [STV] was implemented in the Diocese of Lansing as the online training for adult volunteers who interact with children and youth. The course incorporates state-specific mandatory reporting law and the Diocese of Lansing Volunteer Code of Conduct. STV courses are available in both English and Spanish.

STV is for adult volunteers who absolutely are unable to attend a VIRTUS Protecting God's Children for Adults Awareness Session. The volunteer will register themselves for the STV course. STV has a comprehensive Data Management System that makes tracking and reporting easy to meet the USCCB audit requirements. You will receive further information/instruction as soon as STV is tailored to the Diocese of Lansing.

Questions? Call Sally Ellis, Safe Environment coordinator, 517-342-2551.

# FORMATION CALENDAR

**September 24:** Formation Review Committee meeting - 1-3pm  
Veritas Hall, Diocesan Center

**September 28 - Oct 1:** Presbyteral Convocation - McGuire's,  
Cadillac

**October 3:** Deacon's St. Francis Day - St. Agnes, Fowlerville

**October 16:** Lay Ecclesial Ministry Convocation - St. Agnes  
Fowlerville

**October 16-18:** Discernment Retreat for Women, Ann Arbor

**October 21 & 22:** Lay Ecclesial Ministers Certification Interviews -  
Diocesan Center

**October 22-25:** Seminarian Discernment trip to Minneapolis

**October 26 & 27:** Lay Ecclesial Ministers Certification Interviews -  
Diocesan Center

**October 27:** 7th Grade Vocation Mass with Bishop - St. Mary  
Cathedral 10:00am

# PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

The following Adult Awareness Training Sessions have been scheduled. Pre-register for a session at <http://www.virtus.org/virtus/>

## **Sunday, September 27**

10:15am, St. Mary Magdalen  
Parish, Brighton

## **Monday, September 28**

6:30pm, St. John Student Center,  
East Lansing

## **Tuesday, September 29**

6:30pm, St. Francis of Assisi  
Parish, Ann Arbor (Session in  
Parish Activity Center)

## **Monday, October 5**

6:30pm, St. Paul Parish, Owosso

## **Tuesday, October 6**

6:30pm, St. John Student Center,  
East Lansing

## **Tuesday, October 6**

6:30pm, St. Mary Parish,  
Westphalia - session in Parish  
Hall

## **Wednesday, October 7**

6:30pm, St. Martha Parish,  
Okemos; session in PAC Room

## **Tuesday, October 6**

6:30pm, St. John the Evangelist  
Parish, Jackson (session in  
Parish Hall)

## **Thursday, October 8**

6:00pm, St. John the Evangelist  
Parish, Davison

## **Thursday, October 8**

6:30pm, Sacred Heart, Hudson

## **Saturday, October 10**

9:00am, St. Francis of Assisi  
Parish, Ann Arbor

Saturday, October 17

9:00am, St. Thomas Aquinas  
Parish, East Lansing (session in  
Fr., Mac Hall)

## **Saturday, October 24**

9:00am, St. Mary Student Parish,  
Ann Arbor



300 West Ottawa, Lansing, MI 48933

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## DIOCESAN CALENDAR September - December, 2009

September 28	Presbyteral Convocation, McGuire's, Cadillac	November 4	10:30am Diocesan CAFE Advisory Committee Teleconference
September 29	Presbyteral Convocation	November 4	11:45am Diocesan Christian Initiation Advisory Committee Teleconference
September 30	Presbyteral Convocation	November 11	10:30am Diocesan Worship Commission, Diocesan Center
October 1	Presbyteral Convocation	November 12	1:00pm Implementation Commission
October 5-10	FDLC National Convention, St. John Retreat Center, Plymouth	November 14	10:00am Scout Committee, St. Patrick, Brighton
October 5	7:00pm Basic Youth Ministry Training, St. John Student Center, East Lansing	November 17	10:00am DRE Orientation Part II, Diocesan Center
October 8-9	NCCL Provincial Meeting, Augustine Center, Conway, MI	November 19	9:30am DRE Advisory Committee, Diocesan Center
October 8	Diocesan Pastoral Council, Diocesan Center	November 19	6:15pm Diocesan Board of Education and Catechesis, Diocesan Center
October 10	9:00am Young Adult Ministry Leadership Training, Holy Redeemer, Burton	November 22	Black Catholic Sunday
October 10	10:00am Youth Events Committees & DYAC, Holy Redeemer, Burton	November 24	9:00am Diocesan Evangelization Advisory Committee, Diocesan Center
October 12	7:00pm Basic Youth Ministry Training, St. John Student Center, East Lansing	November 26	Thanksgiving - Diocesan Central Service Offices Closed
October 16	Lay Ministry Convocation	November 27	Diocesan Central Service Offices Closed
October 19	7:00pm Basic Youth Ministry Training, St. John Student Center, East Lansing	November 29	First Sunday of Advent
October 26	7:00pm Basic Youth Ministry Training, St. John Student Center, East Lansing	December 7	6:30pm Young Adult Council, Diocesan Center
November 1	All Saints (Solemnity)	December 8	Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Holy Day of Obligation
November 1	High School Jamboree, Lansing Center	December 8	9:30am CYM Advisory, Diocesan Center
November 2	Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed (All Souls)		

***Help us decrease printing and posting expenses!***

To receive *VOICES Alive* via e-mail each month, send a request to [mdiebold@DioceseofLansing.org](mailto:mdiebold@DioceseofLansing.org)