



The Friday E-Pistle

January 11, 2013

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A message from Bishop Vásquez

Year of Faith Plenary Indulgences

Guidelines for Plenary Indulgences during the Year of Faith in the Diocese of Austin have been established. The guidelines are available in English and Spanish at the link below.

- [Information on Plenary Indulgences](#)

Office closures

All diocesan offices will be closed on Monday, Jan. 21 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Diocesan offices will reopen on Jan. 22.

World Day for Consecrated Life

The religious orders and communities of women and men serving in the Diocese of Austin will celebrate World Day for Consecrated Life on Feb. 2, as Bishop Vásquez' guests at the Pastoral Center in Austin. The event begins at 11:30 a.m. in the John Paul II Conference Room with a presentation by Bishop Vásquez on the New Evangelization. The event will include an opportunity to honor our Jubilarians, as well as an opportunity to tour the recent Pastoral Center renovations, including a visit to the Catholic Archives of Texas which has relocated to the Pastoral Center. Mass will not be celebrated at this event. Members of religious communities who have not already responded to the initial invitation, please respond by Jan. 21 to Janice Ingram at (512) 949-2401 or e-mail her at the address linked below. Those who are celebrating a jubilee year in 2013 should also inform Janice Ingram.

- [Janice Ingram](#)

Reflection question

Gospel meditation

Please consider using the following question for the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Jan. 20):

- Jesus, his disciples and his mother attend a wedding at Cana in Galilee. In John's Gospel, this is the first sign Jesus performs in his public life. The Church sees this story as a sign of the importance of marriage. How is your marriage or your parents' marriage a sign of faith and hope for others? In what ways can you support married couples?
- Jesús, sus discípulos y su madre asistieron a una boda en Caná de Galilea. En el Evangelio de Juan, este es el primer signo que Jesús realiza en su vida pública. La Iglesia ve la historia como una señal de la importancia del matrimonio. ¿Cómo es su matrimonio o el matrimonio de sus padres un signo de fe y de esperanza para los demás? ¿De qué forma puede usted apoyar a las parejas casadas?

Year of Faith

Lenten resources

For parish leaders and those who plan parish events, the liturgical calendar is sometimes a challenge. This year is one of those times. There are only five more Sundays to the First Sunday of Lent! From the perspective of the Year of Faith, Lent 2013 offers a unique opportunity to call people to a renewed conversion to Christ. Through our baptism, Christ calls us to a lifelong conversion process of mercy and forgiveness. Lent is often a time of sharpening our spiritual practices. As the Year of Faith continues, parish communities might offer a parish mission, additional times of adoration, reflections on the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and opportunities for service in the community. The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith is also asking for parish communities to reflect on how the sacrament of Penance is readily available for parishioners. If one of the purposes of celebrating the Year of Faith is to call people to a deeper relationship with Christ and the Church, reconciliation is often at the heart of this conversion process.

There is also a resource available from the Diocese of Victoria called "Disciples on the Journey: Lent 2013." Based on the Sunday Readings for Lent, the booklets are designed for any gathering of adults in the parish. They are available in packs of 10, Spanish or English. For more information call (866) 590-3688 or send an e-mail to the address linked below.

- [Diocese of Victoria e-mail](#)

Cedarbrake Catholic Retreat Center

Upcoming retreats

- A Silent Day of Reflection will be presented Jan. 28 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Cedarbrake Catholic Retreat Center in Belton. For more information or to register, contact Cedarbrake at (254) 780-2436.
- Fireside Reflection, The Life You Save May Be Your Own will be presented Feb. 8-10 at Cedarbrake Catholic Retreat Center in Belton. Dr. Angela O'Donnell will be the presenter. For more information or to register, contact Cedarbrake at (254) 780-2436.

Diaconal Formation

Information Session for Diaconal Formation Class of 2019

Men interested in learning more about the Diaconate and the Formation Process are invited to attend an information session at the diocesan Pastoral Center from 2 to 4 p.m. on Jan. 13. Spouses of the men interested in the diaconate are welcomed – and strongly encouraged – to attend. The information session will be offered in English and Spanish. The 2019 Diaconal Formation Class will have both English and Spanish tracks. Before attending an information session, men must first meet with and obtain their pastor's approval to attend. Those approved should complete an Interest in Attending Info Session form, following the instructions on the form to submit it to the Diocesan Office of Diaconal Formation. Until attending an information session, an interested man should continue to pray, alone and with his wife, about their call to serve the Church. Questions can be directed to: Deacon Tom Johnson at (512) 949-2410 or Deacon Dan Lupo at (512) 949-2411.

- Los varones interesados en recibir información sobre el Diaconado y el proceso de formación están invitados a asistir a una sesión informativa en el Centro Pastoral diocesano, de 2 a 4 p.m. el 13 de enero. Las esposas de los señores interesados en el diaconado son bienvenidas - y se les alienta asistir. Las sesiones informativas se ofrecen en inglés y español. La Clase de Formación Diaconal de 2019 tendrá sesiones en inglés y en español. Antes de asistir a una sesión informativa, los varones deben primero consultarlo con su párroco y obtener su aprobación para asistir. Los que sean aprobados deberán llenar un formulario de interés para asistir a la sesión de información, siguiendo las instrucciones de la forma para presentarla a la Oficina Diocesana de Formación Diaconal. Hasta que asista a una sesión informativa, un hombre interesado debe continuar orando, solo y con su esposa, sobre su llamado a servir a la Iglesia. Las preguntas pueden ser dirigidas a: Diácono Jessie Esquivel al (806) 773-5706.

- [Diaconate Information Packet](#)

Criminal Justice Ministry

National Prisoner's Family Conference

The fifth annual National Prisoner's Family Conference will be held Feb. 20-22 in Houston. The conference addresses the traumatic experiences of families and friends having incarcerated loved ones and seeks solutions through the dissemination of information and active advocacy on behalf of prisoners and their families. For more information, visit the website linked below.

- [National Prisoner's Family Conference website](#)

Weekly notes

Bishop Vásquez' prayer intention

Please consider Bishop Vasquez' prayer intention for the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Jan. 20):

- Through the intercession of Mary, Our Blessed Mother, may married couples grow in a stronger bond of love as they share the joys, blessings and hopes of married life.
- Que a través de la intercesión de la Virgen María, nuestra Santísima Madre, las parejas casadas puedan crecer en un vínculo más fuerte de amor, mientras comparten las alegrías, bendiciones, y esperanzas de la vida matrimonial.

Church DB training

The next ChurchDB training will be Jan. 17 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Pastoral Center in Austin. The topic will be Groups and eGroups and how to use ChurchDB to communicate with your parishioners.

Ethics and Integrity in Ministry (EIM)

Upcoming EIM Basic and Refresher Workshops

EIM Basic and Refresher Workshops are scheduled on a quarterly basis by the EIM Office, coordinating with the EIM site administrator at parishes, schools and other diocesan agencies. Staff of these sites wishing to host a workshop must coordinate with their EIM site administrator. The EIM site administrator should make all workshop requests on the Workshop Request Table

which is sent to parishes/schools a few months prior to each new schedule block. **Additional workshops will not be added to the EIM workshop calendar unless the EIM office determines a particular need.** EIM site administrators may direct inquiries about EIM workshop scheduling to [Emily Hurlmann](#) or [Colleen Schiller](#) in the EIM Office at (512) 949-2400.

To determine which type of EIM workshop you need to attend, please click [here](#). Currently scheduled 1½ hour EIM Refresher Workshops and 3-hour EIM Basic Workshops are listed here:

Date	Time	Location	Phone
Wed, Feb 6, 2013	6 to 9 p.m.	St. Louis Catholic School, Waco , Waco	254-754-2041
Thu, Feb 7, 2013	6 to 7:30 p.m.	St. Jerome Parish , Waco - REFRESHER*	254-666-7722
Thu, Feb 7, 2013	7 to 8:30 p.m.	St. Mary Cathedral Parish , Austin - REFRESHER*	512-476-6182
Thu, Feb 7, 2013	6:15 to 9:15 p.m.	St. Mary, Church of the Assumption , West	254-826-3705
Sat, Feb 9, 2013	9 a.m. to noon	St. Joseph Regional Health Ctr, 2801 Franciscan Blvd, Bryan 77802 (Education Ctr - basement rm E-F)	979-776-3988 opt 3
Sat, Feb 9, 2013	9 a.m. to noon	Emmaus Parish , Lakeway - En Español	512-261-8500
Sat, Feb 16, 2013	9 a.m. to noon	Ascension Parish , Bastrop	512-321-3552
Sat, Feb 16, 2013	9 a.m. to noon	St. Margaret Mary Parish , Cedar Park - En Español	512-259-3126
Sat, Feb 16, 2013	9 a.m. to noon	St. Louis Parish , Austin	512-454-0384
Sat, Feb 16, 2013	9 a.m. to noon	St. Anthony Marie de Claret , Kyle	512-268-5311
Mon, Feb 18, 2013	6 to 9 p.m.	St. Julia Parish , Austin - En Español	512-926-4186
Sat, Feb 23, 2013	9 a.m. to noon	San Jose Parish , Austin - En Español	512-444-7587
Sat, Feb 23, 2013	6:30 to 9:30 p.m.	St. William Parish , Round Rock - En Español	512-255-4473
Wed, Feb 27, 2013	6 to 9 p.m.	St. Catherine of Siena, Austin (a regular English-language workshop; also includes sign language interpreter)	512-892-2420
Thu, Feb 28, 2013	7 to 8:30 p.m.	St. Martin de Porres Parish , Dripping Springs - REFRESHER*	512-858-5667
Sat, Mar 2, 2013	1 to 4 p.m.	St. Anthony Marie de Claret , Kyle - En Español	512-268-5311
Sat, Mar 2, 2013	9 to 10:30 a.m.	St. Anthony Marie de Claret , Kyle - REFRESHER*	512-268-5311
Sat, Mar 2, 2013	1 to 2:30 p.m.	St. John the Evangelist Parish , San Marcos - REFRESHER*	512-353-8969
Tue, Mar 5, 2013	6 to 9 pm	St. Jerome Parish , Waco	254-666-7722
Thu, Mar 7, 2013	6:30 to 9:30 p.m.	St. Martin de Porres Parish , Dripping Springs	512-858-5667
Mon, Mar 18, 2013	6 to 9 p.m.	St. Joseph Parish , Manor - En Español	512-272-4004

Click here to view [sample bulletin announcements](#) to let parishioners know of these workshops.

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