

Formation for Ministry Update

What's Buzzin' in Formation for May?



From the desk of Sr. Kathy...

Dear Friends:

The month of May is filled with so many wonderful celebrative days – we celebrate the role and faith of Mary our Blessed Mother, graduations, first communion, the Ascension of the Lord (May 30th), and Mother's Day, to name a few. Our post-Easter liturgical readings are filled with experiences of the early church community, and the gospels challenge to us to remain in Jesus' love and life.

In this edition of Buzz News, I include an excerpt from Our Holiness, Pope Francis' Easter Vigil homily, news from the national office of Catholic bishops, and local news about Year Five of Formation for Mission and Ministry. This August, we will be inviting chancery and parish staff, as well as stewardship representatives and leaders of parishes.

As we enjoy these beautiful days of May, may we continually thank our gracious and loving God for all the gifts that He has given us. Each baptized person has been given gifts, and it is our task to discover what these are and to use them for the honor and glory of God.

May God grant you peace,

Sister Kathy Adamski, OSF
Office of Formation for Ministry



GLOBAL NEWS

Easter Vigil Homily by the Holy Father

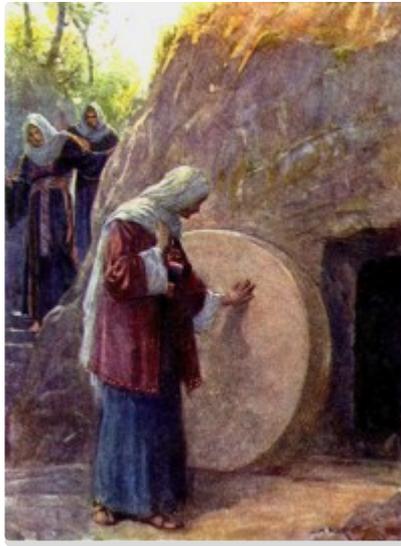
I think Pope Francis' message is wonderful for us to reflect on as we prepare for Pentecost. The following paragraphs are excerpted from His Holiness, Pope Francis', Easter Vigil homily:

Why do you seek the living among the dead? The women hear the words of the angels, who go on to say: "Remember what he told you while he was still in Galilee" (Lk 24:6). Those woman had lost hope, because they could not recall the words of Jesus, his call that took place in Galilee. Having lost the living memory of Jesus, they kept looking at the tomb. Faith always needs to go back to Galilee, to reawaken its first love for Jesus and his call: *to remember him, to turn back to him with all our mind and all our heart*. To return to a lively love of the Lord is essential. Otherwise, ours is a "museum" faith, not an Easter faith. Jesus is not a personage from the past; he is a person living today. We do not know him from history books; we encounter him in life. Today, let us remember how Jesus first called us, how he overcame our darkness, our resistance, our sins, and how he touched our hearts with his word.

The women, remembering Jesus, left the tomb. Easter teaches us that believers do not linger at graveyards, for they are called to go forth to meet the Living One. Let us ask ourselves: *In my life, where am I going?* Sometimes we go only in the direction of our problems, of which there are plenty, and go to the Lord only for help. But then, it is our own needs, not Jesus, to guide our steps. We keep seeking the Living One among the dead. Or again, how many times, once we have encountered the Lord, do we return to the dead, digging up regrets, reproaches, hurts and dissatisfactions, without letting the Risen One change us?

Dear brothers and sisters: let us put the Living One at the center of our lives. Let us ask for the grace not to be carried by the current, the sea of our problems; the grace not to run aground on the shoals of sin or crash on the reefs of discouragement and fear. Let us seek him in all things and above all things. With him, we will rise again.

<http://www.ncregister.com/blog/edward-pentin/pope-francis-easter-vigil-homily-2019-full-text>



NATIONAL NEWS

Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo Issues Statement Regarding the Release of Pope Francis' Motu Proprio

On May 9, 2019, Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo, Archbishop of Galveston-Houston and President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, issued the following statement regarding the release of Pope Francis' *Motu Proprio*. In Catholic canon law, it refers to a document issued by the pope on his own initiative and personally signed by him. Such a document may be addressed to the whole Church, to part of it, or to some individuals. The *Motu Proprio*, *Vos estis lux mundi* ("You are the light of the world"), is a worldwide order to the Church from the Pope, in response to the evil of sexual abuse. The new law comes after a meeting in Rome that brought together all episcopal conference presidents from across the globe to discuss the Church sex abuse crisis.

Cardinal DiNardo's full statement follows:

"Today, Pope Francis ordered a worldwide response to the evil of sexual abuse. It calls for the establishment of easily accessible reporting systems, clear standards for the pastoral support of victims and their families, timeliness and thoroughness of investigations, whistleblower protection for those making allegations, and active involvement of the laity. It also leaves latitude for national bishops' conferences, such as the USCCB, to specify still more to account for their local circumstances. We receive the *Motu Proprio Vos estis lux mundi* ('You are the light of the world') as a blessing that will empower the Church everywhere to bring predators to justice, no matter what rank they hold in the Church. It also permits the Church the time and opportunity to bring spiritual healing.

The Holy Father said a 'continuous and profound conversion of hearts is needed, attested by concrete and effective actions that involve everyone in the Church.' Pope Francis was clear that this responsibility 'falls, above all, on the successors of the Apostles.' As part of this responsibility, bishops also will be held accountable under the authority of this *Motu Proprio*, which covers sexual abuse of minors or vulnerable persons, sexual acts compelled through the abuse of authority, and any coverup of such crimes.

Read more at: <http://www.usccb.org/news/2019/19-087.cfm> or read more here: https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/analysis-vos-estis-and-vulnerability-39974?utm_source=CNA&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=daily_newsletter



LOCAL NEWS

Year V of Formation for Mission and Ministry Set to Begin in August

We are excited this fall to offer year five of Formation for Mission and Ministry in the form of a retreat which falls under the pillar of "Spiritual Formation". You will recall that years one through three included intellectual formation where we studied teachings of the church; last year, we concentrated on "Human Formation", and we explored the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator to understand ourselves and those with whom we minister better.

The Office of Stewardship and Mission Development is collaborating with my office so that we understand the proper role of stewardship in the life of a believer. Actually, stewardship is a way of life and a way of giving back to God all that we have received. In August, we will be discussing charisms, what they mean, the role of discernment, and we will take a Catholic Spirituality Inventory. I remember reading once that a gift is only a gift when you accept it, acknowledge it, and reach out in service to others. The Office of Stewardship, then, will be inviting members of parishes who minister on Stewardship teams or key leaders in the parish to attend this retreat. Our hope is that this retreat can then be taken back to the parishes and offered to our parishioners. I will hold a brief orientation for these Stewardship leaders after lunch.



Diocese Partners with the Newman Connection

The Diocese of Charleston has partnered with The Newman Connection in an effort to connect graduating seniors in our diocese with the campus ministry programs at colleges and universities throughout South Carolina and other states.

It is critically important that we pursue every possible opportunity to connect our graduates with Catholic resources available at colleges and universities. We must keep them engaged in the faith and help these young adults personally encounter Christ and His unending love. Studies have shown that young adults respond to personal invitations from college campus ministry.

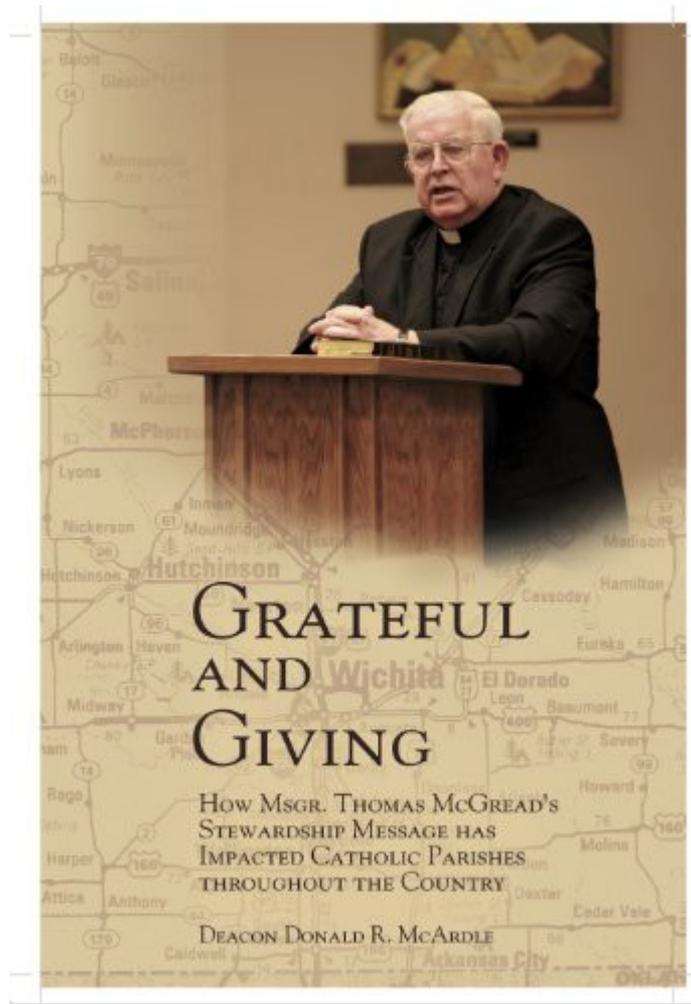
If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Anne Durney in the Office of Stewardship and Mission Advancement, adurney@charlestondiocese.org or 843-261-0437. Thank you for your assistance and commitment.



BOOK OF THE MONTH

Grateful and Giving by Deacon Donald McArdle

A great spiritual book to read before fall or for your summer reading is *Grateful and Giving* by Deacon Donald R. McArdle published by Catholic Stewardship Consultants, Inc. 2011. Kindle: \$9.99; Paperback: \$20.67; used available too.



FACTOID

Suicide Facts from Dr. Edith Bracho Sanchez -- CNN Report 5-17-19

Suicide rates in girls are rising, study finds, especially in those age 10 to 14. Suicide is the second leading cause of death in kids and teens ages 10 to 19 in the USA after accidents and unintentional injuries, according to the CDC. Girls are turning to more lethal means and this could have dire consequences for the rates of completed suicide in this group. A likely contributor to this is social media.





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