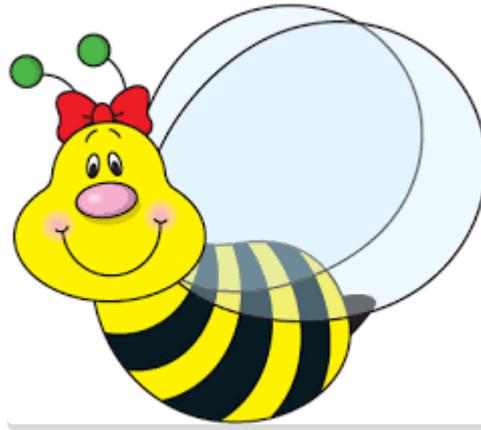


BUZZ REPORT

Office of Spirituality and Formation for Ministry



FROM THE DESK OF SR. KATHY...

Dear Friends:

August has arrived, and I know many of you are parents and grandparents. Friends have told me it is that time of year to go shopping for school clothes and materials. I often remember August fondly, as I taught in a high-school classroom for 15 years. I always looked forward to this time of year. Of course, not all is perfect, and we still must deal with the Covid Delta variant and wait to see what will be forthcoming for our schools, businesses and our diocese. Know that God is with us through it all. God will never forget his people, as the readings from the Book of Exodus have highlighted over the past month.

This Buzz will be different in that most of it will be explaining an historic happening in the Church in which our diocese will be participating this coming fall and spring. The Holy Father has reinstated the ancient practice of having a synod. The word "synod" comes from the Greek syn-odos, "walking together," and its goal is to have all God's people come together and decide and discern the future vision of the church. Now anytime we use the word "discern" usually in the Church we talk about the Holy Spirit. This synod will be inherently about "Spirituality." In the early church, the church had its first council, the Council of Jerusalem to deal with whether or not Gentiles had to prescribe to certain Jewish customs such as circumcision. At that time, it was decided by leaders of the church that faith in Jesus' life, death and resurrection was the most important factor in becoming a Christian. They declared that "it has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us" (Acts 15:28) not to impose on non-Jewish Christians the regulations of Jewish law.

In Pope Francis book, *Let Us Dream*, he states that God made a covenant of salvation with a single people, which Christ recovered and offered to all of humanity, irrespective of race, nation, or language. This is why Christianity has never been confined to a particular culture but has been enriched by the cultures of the peoples where it has taken root. (p. 82)

This August newsletter, then, will explain the goal of the synod and a brief introduction of what will be happening in our diocese this fall and into spring. I ask that you get involved in whatever way you can so that the Church will grow and flourish into the future. The Church has dealt with serious issues before in her history, and the Holy Spirit always gave her the wisdom and grace to respond appropriately. I have no doubt that the Spirit will come to our aide once again.

Last, I ask all parish staffs to please check the included schedule for our Formation seminar scheduled throughout the diocese this year. Please pay special attention to any e-mails, blasts or alerts from this office in case any changes need to occur with the Delta variant.

May the peace, joy and love of the Lord be with you, as we continue to discern and search for the path that will lead all of us to salvation.



SYNOD FOR SYNODALITY

What exactly is a Synod (Walk Together)?

Introduction - History.

As stated in my letter this month, the concept of a synod or meeting is to discern issues in the Church,

leadership of the Church realize that a renewed process is needed today which takes into account the multitude of cultures and the richness of each culture as we, together, forge a future full of hope (Jer. 29). The theme for this special gathering in 2023 is "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission."

The Synod of Bishops is a permanent institution established by Pope Paul VI on September 15, 1965, in response to the desire of the Fathers of the Second Vatican Council to keep alive the positive spirit experienced by the bishops at the Council. This concept of "synod" makes clear that we must be in communion with God as missionary disciples who join the Father, Son and Holy Spirit in a love relationship. The bishops are to minister in a spirit of cooperation and shared responsibility as leaders of the Church with the bishop of Rome. A Synodal Church is one where bishops, priest and all the baptized walk together in a common mission. Pope Francis wants greater involvement of lay people in decision making. What a welcome to all of us.

Pope Paul VI wrote an Apostolic Letter, *Apostolica Sollicitudo*, (Concern of the Pope) in which he issued a "Motu Proprio" (on his own initiative) It was Pope Paul's concern to carefully survey the signs of the times. "The Church needs to make every effort to adapt the means and methods of the holy apostolate to the changing circumstances and needs of our day. This effort impels us to establish ever closer ties with bishops in order to strengthen our union with them "whom the Holy Spirit has placed to rule the Church of God."(AS)

Pope Paul was writing in the spirit of the Council and saw a need for the Bishops of the world to come together to discuss and discern the needs of the future church.

2014-2018

An International Commission met from 2014-2018 to discuss this notion of synod and wrote that the dynamism of a synod implies that the participation and co-responsibility of "all" the baptized be seen not only from Rome but in each diocesan Church, as it is understood in the entire Church. Pope Francis gave a speech in 2015 in which he stated "it is precisely the path of synodality (meeting to forge together a future) that God expects of the Church of the third millennium. Pope Francis sees this process of mutual discussion, discernment and mission of all the faithful as a "constitutive element" of the Church. (Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Institution of the Synod of Bishops, 10.17.2015.)

2021-2022

The Synod on Synodality will encompass a questionnaire sent to all dioceses in the world. Many parishioners will be sent this questionnaire in our diocese, and we ask that you answer the questions very forthrightly and sincerely. The data will then be organized and summarized and an Executive Report will be written by our team on the Executive Committee of the diocese. Last, the report will be sent to the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops in Washington, DC by February/March, 2022.

SUMMARY

I hope you can sense the excitement in the words above. Indeed, we are part of an historic moment in the life of the church. In a very real sense, the former symbol of the church being a pyramid is changing to be an inverted pyramid. The Holy Father and the bishops truly want each of us to take our rightful place in the future functioning of the church. No longer are issues and concerns coming from "on high"; rather, our Church needs to be one of communion, participation and mission of the entire People of God. Praise God! May the Holy Spirit continue to guide us along this spiritual journey.



FORMATION FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY SEMINAR SCHEDULE

2021/2022

ROCK HILL DEANERY

Wednesday, September 1, 2021 — The Oratory, Rock Hill

- 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Lunch Provided
- St. Philip Neri (Fort Mill)
- St. Anne (Rock Hill)
- St. Catherine of Siena (Lancaster)
- St. Joseph (Chester)
- St. Mary (Rock Hill)
- All Saints (McCormick)
- Divine Savior (York)
- Our Lady of Grace (Lancaster)
- St. Michael Mission (Great Falls)

MYRTLE BEACH DEANERY

Wednesday, September 8, 2021 — St. James the Younger, Conway

- 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Lunch Provided
- St. James the Younger (Conway)
- St. Andrew (Myrtle Beach)
- Our Lady, Star of the Sea (North Myrtle Beach)
- St. Denis Mission (Bennettsville)
- St. Joseph Mission (Darlington)

Thursday, September 9, 2021 — St. Michael the Archangel, Murrells Inlet

- 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

- Lunch Provided
- St. Michael the Archangel (Murrells Inlet)
- Precious Blood of Christ (Pawleys Island)
- St. Mary Our Lady of Ransom (Georgetown)

Tuesday, September 14, 2021 – St. Ann, Florence

- 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Lunch Provided
- St. Ann (Florence)
- St. Anthony (Florence)
- St. Mary the Virgin Mother (Hartsville)
- St. Peter (Cheraw)
- St. Louis (Dillon)
- St. Ann (Kingstree)
- St. Patrick Mission (Johnsonville)
- St. Philip, the Apostle (Lake City)
- St. Ernest Mission (Pageland)
- Church of the Infant Jesus Mission (Marion)
- Church of the Resurrection Mission (Loris)

GREENVILLE DEANERY

Tuesday, September 21, 2021 – St. Anthony of Padua, Greenville

- 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Lunch Provided
- St. Anthony of Padua (Greenville)
- St. Mary (Greenville)
- Blessed Trinity (Greer)
- Prince of Peace (Taylors)
- Our Lady of La Vang (Greenville)
- St. Paul the Apostle (Spartanburg)
- Sacred Heart (Gaffney)
- Our Lady of the Rosary (Greenville)

Tuesday, October 6, 2021 – St. Mary Magdalene, Simpsonville

- 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Lunch Provided
- St. Mary Magdalene (Simpsonville)
- St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (Simpsonville)
- Jesus, Our Risen Savior (Spartanburg)
- Holy Spirit Mission (Laurens)
- St. Luke (Easley)
- St. Boniface (Joanna)
- Holy Cross (Pickens)
- St. Augustine (Union)

Thursday, October 7, 2021 – St. Andrew, Clemson

- 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Lunch Provided
- St. Andrew (Clemson)
- St. Paul the Apostle (Seneca)
- St. Francis of Assisi Mission (Walhalla)
- St. Joseph (Anderson)

- St. Mary of the Angels (Anderson)

AIKEN DEANERY

Wednesday, October 20, 2021 – St. Mary Help of Christians, Aiken

- 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Lunch Provided
- St. Mary Help of Christians (Aiken)
- St. Andrew (Barnwell)
- Our Lady of the Valley (Gloverville)
- Sacred Heart (Abbeville)
- Our Lady of Peace (North Augusta)
- St. Edward (Murphy's Village)
- St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception (Edgefield)
- St. Gerard (Aiken)
- Our Lady of Lourdes (Greenwood)
- Good Shepherd (McCormick)

BEAUFORT DEANERY

Tuesday, October 26, 2021 – St. Gregory the Great (Bluffton)

- 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Lunch Provided
- St. Gregory the Great (Bluffton)
- St. Peter (Beaufort)
- St. Francis by the Sea (Hilton Head Island)
- Holy Family (Hilton Head Island)
- St. James the Greater Mission (Walterboro)
- St. Anthony (Ridgeland)
- St. Anthony Mission (Hardeeville)
- Holy Cross Mission (St. Helena Island)
- St. Mary Mission (Allendale)
- St. Anthony (Walterboro)

CHARLESTON DEANERY

Tuesday, January 11, 2022 – Christ Our King, Mount Pleasant

- 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Lunch Provided
- Christ Our King (Mount Pleasant)
- St. Benedict (Mount Pleasant)
- St. Clare of Assisi (Charleston)
- Stella Maris (Sullivan's Island)

Thursday, January 13, 2022 – Pastoral Center Assembly Hall, Charleston

- 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Lunch Provided
- Blessed Sacrament (Charleston)
- Church of the Nativity (Charleston)
- Cathedral of St. John the Baptist (Charleston)
- St. Mary of the Annunciation (Charleston)
- Sacred Heart (Charleston)
- St. Patrick (Charleston)
- St. John (North Charleston)
- Sts. Frederick and Stephen Mission (Edisto Island)

- St. Joseph the Worker (Charleston)
- Our Lady of Good Counsel (Folly Beach)
- Holy Spirit (Johns Island)

Tuesday, January 18, 2022 – Immaculate Conception, Goose Creek

- 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Lunch Provided
- Immaculate Conception (Goose Creek)
- St. John the Beloved (Summerville)
- St. Theresa, the Little Flower (Summerville)
- St. Thomas the Apostle (North Charleston)
- St. Philip Benizi (Moncks Corner)
- Divine Redeemer (Hanahan)
- Our Lady of Peace Mission (Bonneau)

COLUMBIA DEANERY

Thursday, January 27, 2022 – TBD

- 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Lunch Provided
- St. Joseph (Columbia)
- Minor Basilica of St. Peter (Columbia)
- St. Thomas More (USC)
- St. Martin de Porres (Columbia)
- St. John Neumann (Columbia)
- St. Anne & St. Jude (Sumter)
- Transfiguration (Blythewood)
- Our Lady of Perpetual Help (Camden)
- St. Ann (Santee)

Tuesday, February 1, 2022 – Corpus Christi, Lexington

- 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Corpus Christi (Lexington)
- Our Lady of the Hills (Columbia)
- Our Lady of the Lake (Chapin)
- St. John of the Cross (Batesburg-Leesville)
- St. Theresa (Winnsboro)
- Holy Trinity (Orangeburg)
- St. Mark (Newberry)
- St. William (Ward)
- St. Mary, Our Lady of Hope (Manning)

PROPHETS

YESTERDAY & TODAY



VIRTUAL FAITH FORMATION COURSES

Virtual Faith Formation Courses Offered Through University of Dayton

The Diocese of Charleston has partnered with the University of Dayton (sponsored by the Marianist Brothers and Priests) to offer virtual courses at reduced prices. Classes are available in both English and Spanish. Certification programs are also offered.

GRANT MONEY IS AVAILABLE FOR TUITION through the Office of Spirituality and Formation for Mission. If you are interested in receiving this assistance, please email Sr. Kathy at kadamski@charlestdioocese.org to request the form.

Cycle 7 registration runs through August 18 with classes running August 22 - September 25.

Cycle 8 registration opens August 25 and runs through October 6. Classes run October 10 - November 13.

To view the course calendar, visit <https://vlcff.udayton.edu/calendar/>

For more information or to register and create a student profile, visit <https://vlcff.udayton.edu/>

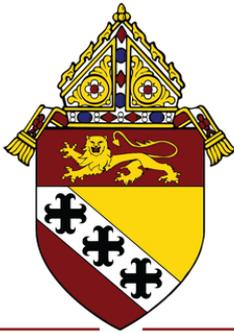
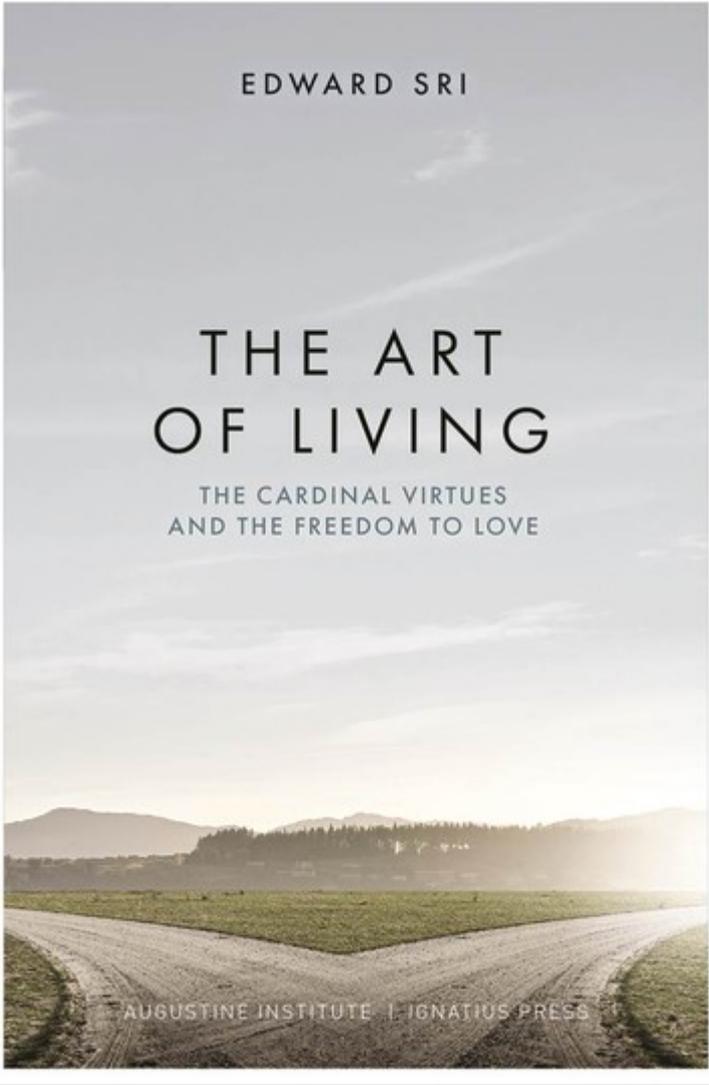
University of Dayton Featured on Today in America TV with Terry Bradshaw



BOOK OF THE MONTH

The Art of Living, the newest book from best-selling author Dr. Edward Sri, unpacks the close correlation between growing in virtue -- especially with cardinal virtues -- and growing in friendship and community with others.

Dr. Sri leads the reader through the cardinal virtues with engaging examples and an uncanny ability to anticipate and answer man's most pressing questions. His distinctive, approachable writing style draws the reader in and demonstrates with creative simplicity how the virtues enable man to give himself to both God and neighbor. *The Art of Living* is a guide to practicing the virtues and enjoying the subsequent freedom to love.



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