

Buzz Report

Office of Spirituality & Formation for Ministry

January 2022



Synod on Synodality Deadline Extended

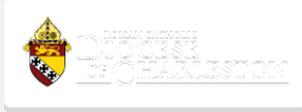
IMPORTANT NOTICE

The deadline for all responses to the Synod on Synodality has been extended to April 1, 2022. There are two ways to participate: hold a Listening Session at your parish or merely take the brief survey. Let your voice be heard!

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has **extended the deadline** for responses for the Synod on Synodality, or journeying together. Therefore, our diocese has extended the deadline for all Listening Sessions and Surveys to April 1, 2022.

The brief survey can be taken online on your smartphone, laptop, or desktop computer and only takes a few minutes of your time. We really need to renew our diocesan effort in participating in the Synod. As of the end of December 2021, only 1.5% of parishioners in our diocese had responded. Please help this project to be successful and our diocese to be represented well by sharing this information with others and encouraging them to take the survey.

For assistance with taking the survey or scheduling a Listening Session visit [here](#) or contact [Sr. Kathy](#).



[Survey for the Syn...](#)

charlestdiocese.org

From the desk of Sr. Kathy...

Dear Friends:

Happy New Year!

I pray that each of you had a wonderful Christmas with family and friends. May 2022 be a year filled with happiness, good health, and peace. This month's Buzz features several items. Of most importance is the news that our Synod on Synodality, Pope Francis' hope for gathering information from people in the pews regarding the future of the church, has been extended to April 1, 2022. If you have not heard about it from your parish, please inquire as to how you can take part. Hopefully, this newsletter will assist you in finding additional information.

As of January 1st, our Holy Father is dedicating the Church to be under the protection of Mary. I am named after her (Mary Kathleen), so she has always had a special place in my heart.

Nationally, this month we celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. and the March for Life. Regionally, I am preparing to be facilitator for the South Carolina Council of Catholic Women's Myrtle Beach Retreat in March with the theme "Who Do You Say That I Am?" as well as a local parish retreat in February with the theme "Renew and Refresh."

May this first month of the new year be filled with renewed energy.

Peace,

Sr. Kathy Adamski, OSF

GLOBAL NEWS



Pope Offers Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God

Pope Francis' first public act of 2022 was to offer Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God. The Holy Father encouraged people to place their lives under her protection.

“The new year begins under the sign of the Holy Mother of God, under the sign of the Mother. A mother’s gaze is the path to rebirth and growth. We need mothers, women who look at the world not to exploit it, but so that it can have life. At the beginning of the New Year, then, let us place ourselves under the protection of this woman, the Mother of God, who is also our mother,” Pope Francis said in St. Peter’s Basilica on January 1.

Read his homily [here](#).

Catholic Church and climate change: Why Catholics care about climate change



Laudato Si' Movement

Pope Francis has renewed his call this year for the international community to “discover and implement common solutions” to tackle the biodiversity crisis and climate emergency in the new year, calling 2022 a “fundamental year.” When speaking to the Holy See Diplomatic Corps earlier this month, the Holy Father said that migration, the COVID-19 pandemic, and the climate crisis have “clearly

demonstrated that we cannot be saved alone and by ourselves: the great challenges of our time are all global.”

Read more [here](#).

NATIONAL NEWS



Martin Luther King Jr. Day

A reflection from Sr. Kathy on the issue of racism and privilege

Each year on the third Monday of January we observe Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and reflect on the work that still needs to be done for racial equality. We explored the importance of modern-day prophets in our Year VII Formation for Ministry seminars this year. Perhaps instead of just thinking of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day as a day off, one may want to consider what can be done to celebrate his work for peace and justice. Perhaps merely saying a prayer for racial justice could give us a different perspective. Currently, I am reading the latest book by Fr. Dan Horan, OFM, *"A White Catholic's Guide to Racism and Privilege."*

As I was being raised, my parents stressed the importance of loving our neighbor whether one was Black, brown, red or white -- that is until my dad, was beaten up in 1969 by a group of Black teenage boys. When everyone was moving around us because the neighborhood was becoming multi-racial, my parents decided to remain in our neighborhood, despite my dad's experience. As a teenager, I did not understand the issue of race. I only knew that "Black" boys beat up my Dad. It was the beginning of becoming a racist. I thought I could not enter the convent with these views, but I did. The Franciscans taught me about social justice and the need I had for conversion. I have tried to be as non-racist as I possibly can be, but I know there are probably still some remnants of old thoughts. Fr. Horan's book resonates with what I feel in my heart.

LIVE | March for Life 2022

A graphic for the 49th Annual March for Life in Washington, D.C. 2022. It features the text "49TH ANNUAL MARCH FOR LIFE WASHINGTON, D.C. 2022" in red and white. A central play button icon is overlaid on a red ribbon, with a black and white photo of a young girl's face to its left. The background includes a map of Washington, D.C. and a sunflower field on the right side.

49TH ANNUAL MARCH FOR LIFE WASHINGTON, D.C. 2022

49th Annual March for Life

Pro-Life parish teams throughout the country marched once again for the rights of the unborn on Friday, January 21. The theme this year was "Equality Begins in The Womb." Prior to the event, March for Life Education and Defense Fund President Jeanne Mancini expressed hope that this year's March for Life theme of "*Equality Begins in the Womb*" would allow "not only for hearts and minds to be changed," but a path towards a "robust debate.". The legality of abortion in the U.S. is "not settled law." In fact, many states are implementing stricter abortion laws to uphold pro-life values, including Texas.



Human Trafficking Awareness Month

The USCCB offers the following statistics regarding human trafficking:

The International Labour Organization (ILO) and Walk Free Foundation's "Global Estimate of Modern Slavery" (2016) provides alarming statistics on the prevalence of human trafficking worldwide:

- 25% of all victims are children aged 17 or younger, representing 10 million girls and boys worldwide;
- Nearly 30% of all victims are men and boys, jumping to 46% for victims of forced labor;
- Of the 24.9 million victims of forced labor and commercial sexual exploitation, nearly 1 of 4 were exploited outside their home country;

- For every 1,000 people across the world in 2016, 5.4 were victims of human trafficking.

For more information on the truth about human trafficking and how you can help stop it, visit <https://www.usccb.org/offices/migration-refugee-services/human-trafficking>



Poverty Awareness Month

"I want a Church which is poor and for the poor." - Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium

During Poverty Awareness Month, join the U.S. Bishops, the [Catholic Campaign for Human Development](#), and the Catholic community in the United States in taking up Pope Francis' challenge to live in solidarity with the poor! In addition to the [calendar](#), [longer daily reflections](#) are also available. All of these resources are also [en Español](#). You can [sign up](#) to have the daily reflections emailed to you during Poverty Awareness Month!

LOCAL NEWS

PROPHETS

YESTERDAY & TODAY



Year VII Formation for Mission and Ministry Goes Virtual

The remaining FFMM seminars for Year VII will be held virtually out of concern for the extreme rise in the number of Covid-19 cases. The topic, however, is most important, as we look at Prophets Yesterday/Prophets Today and pay special attention to the topic of racism. If you have not yet attended a seminar and wish to attend on February 1, please email [Cathy Roche](mailto:Cathy.Roche) to register and receive your workbook.

**New Ways of
Being Church**

Come eLearn with Us
Classes forming March 7

Virtual Faith Formation Classes Cycle 2 Classes Begin March 7 - Registration Now Open

The diocesan Office of Spirituality and Formation for Ministry has partnered with the University of Dayton to offer continuing education courses. Virtual-learning faith formation classes are open to parish ministry leaders including catechists, youth ministers, RCIA team members, parish staff and volunteers. Classes are available in both *English* and *Spanish*.

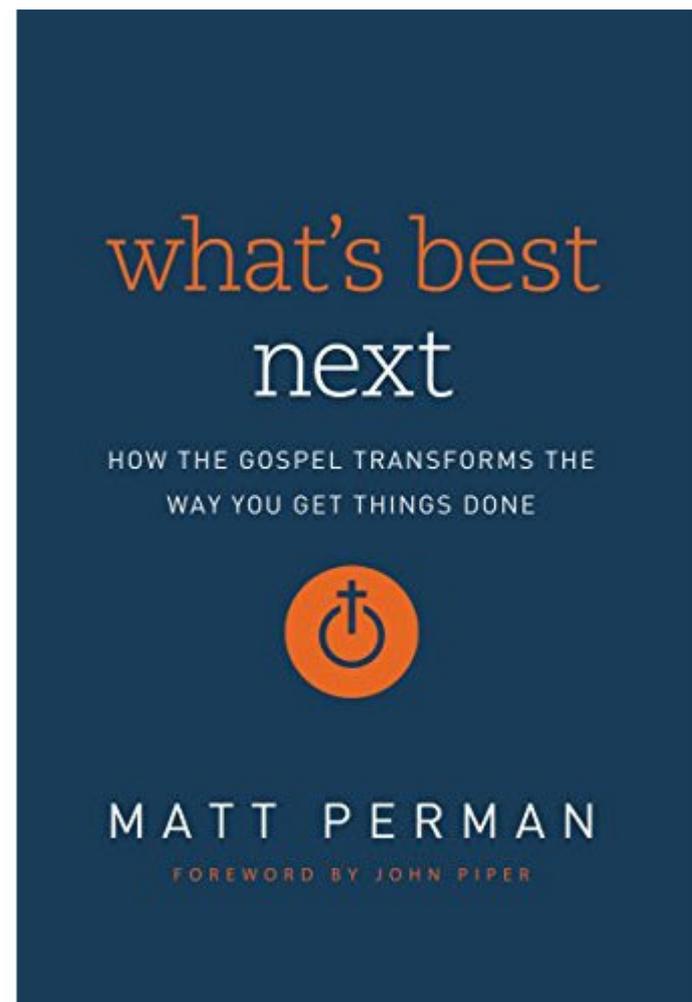
Registration for Cycle begins January 19 and runs through March 2. Classes begin March 7. **GRANT MONEY IS NOW AVAILABLE FOR TUITION ASSISTANCE.** Contact Sr. Kathy Adamski, OSF in the Office of Spirituality and Formation for Ministry to apply for a grant: 843.261.0498 or kadamski@charlestdiocese.org.

[2022 Calendar of Courses](#)

[Click Here for Courses by Cycle Offered in English](#)

[Click Here for Courses by Cycle Offered in Spanish](#)

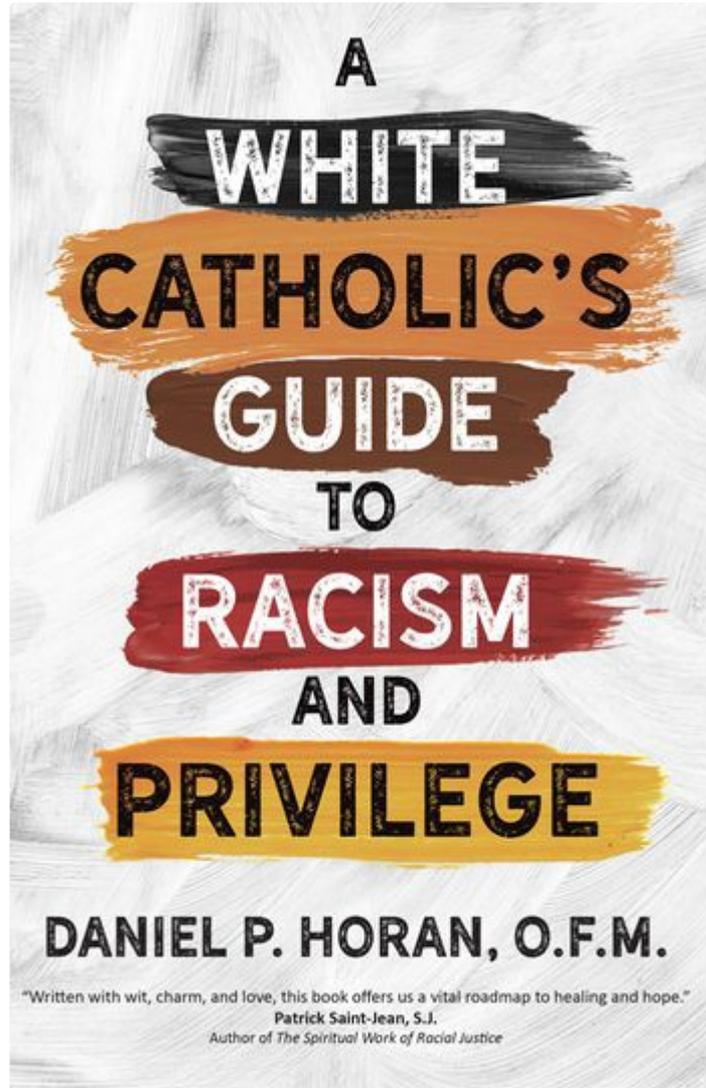
See what UD has to offer at <https://vlcff.udayton.edu>.



BOOKS OF THE MONTH

What's Best Next: How the Gospel Transforms the Way You Get Things Done (Matt Perman)

Matt Perman started his "What's Best Next" blog in 2008 which led to his book containing a God-centered, Gospel-oriented perspective that addresses the proper motivation to drive your productivity – seeking the good of others and the glory of God. This motivation is the path to finding the greatest possible meaning in your work and, paradoxically, is also the path to greatest effectiveness. Available from [Amazon](#).



A White Catholic's Guide to Racism and Privilege (Fr. Dan Horan, OFM)

Growing up, Fr. Daniel Horan never thought much about race, racism, or racial justice except for what he read in history books. His upbringing as a white, middle-class Catholic shielded him from seeing the persistent, pervasive racism all around him. Fr. Horan shares what he has since learned about uncovering and combating racial inequity in our nation and in our Church, urging us to join the fight. Available from [Ave Maria](#).

FACTOID



Photo courtesy of www.bbc.com/news

Missionary of Charity Accounts Frozen

On Christmas, the Indian government froze the account of Mother Teresa of Calcutta's Missionary Charities. This meant that 22,000 patients and employees were without medicine and food. The reason behind the action was the accusation that the sisters forced young girls to convert. (Shared with permission from the School Sisters of Notre Dame News North America – January 2022 Edition)



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE
OF CHARLESTON

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