



News Notes

June 2025

Pastoral Life

Youth, Young Adult & Campus Ministry

Servant Leadership Institute (July 7 – 12) – The Servant Leadership Institute will return this summer! This week-long program is the successor to the Christian Leadership Institute we've hosted in years past, working to form young people in an authentically Catholic model of leadership. The Institute is open to all rising 10th graders through recently graduated seniors (basically anyone who was in high school for the 2024-25 school year), who show leadership potential within the parish. We'll be hosted by Holy Trinity parish in Harlan, KY, and the cost will be \$150 per youth. Registration is open now at <https://cdlex.org/youth-young-adult-campus-ministry/servant-leadership-institute/>.

Theology on Tap (July 1) – Theology on Tap is a place where young adults can come together, share a drink, and talk about things that matter. This event will be monthly over the summer. Admission is free and comes with one drink ticket.

Our next event will be on July 1 and will feature our very own Bishop John Stowe, who will talk to us about what it's like to be a bishop. We anticipate this being a packed house this time around (we've already been standing room only since we've restarted the program), so I do request that if you aren't a young adult, please sit this one out to leave room for the 20- and 30-somethings in our community.

Registration is not required, but greatly appreciated. You can register by visiting our website here: <https://cdlex.org/young-adult-ministry/>

Vicar General

Peace & Justice

Catholic Relief Services – Catholic Relief Services recently received formal notification that the administration has terminated all but two of Catholic Relief Services' *McGovern-Dole Food for Education* school feeding programs – cutting off daily meals for nearly 800,000 children in 11 countries beginning in July. For many, this was their only meal of the day. Please visit <https://support.crs.org/act/mcgovern-dole> to learn about how you and your parish can stand up for CRS and the Church's mission.

Laudato Sí – Parish Laudato Sí Coordinator meetings are the second Tuesday of every month. These meetings are a time to discuss the implementation of parish plans, to share information and resources, and to plan for future Laudato Sí events. Please contact Josh van Cleef at jvancleef@cdlex.org if you have any questions.

Laudato Sí Commission – The Laudato Sí Commission is hosting an *Art Retreat* with Rosie Fedorchuk on September 13 at Pax Christi Church, 4001 Victoria Blvd., Lexington, 10 a.m. Register at laudatosi@cdlex.org.

There is a registration fee of \$25 that can be mailed to Sister Kathleen Weigand (150 Mount Tabor Road, Martin, KY 41649), or paid on site the day of the event. The fee will cover supplies and lunch. Registration will be capped at 30 people so don't delay!

The closing event for the Diocesan celebration of the *Season of Creation* will be Mass in the Mountains at Hemphill Community Center in Letcher County on October 4. Father Dan Noll will celebrate Mass at 4 p.m.; other events for the day are in the planning stages and will be announced in the coming publications.

Development

2025 DAA Trainings – Mark your calendars! Training for the 2025 DAA will take place on the following dates:

- Wednesday, August 20 - St. William Church Conference Center, London, 9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- Thursday, August 21 - Catholic Center – Bluegrass Conference Room. 9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

A delicious lunch will be provided. Register early at <https://bit.ly/2025-daa-dev> for a chance to win a fabulous door prize!

May prize winners for registering early!

- Sam Smith – Desk lamp
- Anna Courtney – Cordless vacuum cleaner
- Fr. John List – Insulated pastor tumbler
- Fr. Terrence DeSilva – Insulated pastor tumbler

MORE GREAT PRIZES TO COME SO REGISTER NOW for June prizes!!!!

Parishes that have registered:

- Holy Spirit
- Christ the King
- St. Mark
- Pax Christi
- St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
- St. Francis of Assisi
- Annunciation / St. Joseph

- St. Lawrence – Lawrenceburg
- Sts. Peter & Paul
- Holy Trinity – St. Stephen / Resurrection
- St. Julian / St. Anthony
- St. Peter Claver
- St. William – London
- St. Martha
- St. Andrew / St. Mary
- St. William / St. Sylvester

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Development Office for additional assistance. Let's build on this increased engagement to bring more people into a relationship with Jesus through our parish worship, fellowship, and intentional stewardship. May we all be One in Christ.



Providing for Our Future – This initiative is underway and going strong!

- The starting debt of \$11 million has been reduced to \$7.3 million.
- This year, we've already secured over \$600,000 in new pledges and payments

Catholic Charities

Catholic Charities Community Agriculture Program – As mentioned in last month’s News Notes, our program has been expanding its support to several groups throughout the Diocese to help establish community and pollinator gardens. We've been providing essential supplies like straw, manure, seeds, peat moss, soil, and wood chips to help jumpstart these gardens. So far, we have worked with Transylvania University, Holy Cross in Jackson, St. Joseph’s in Winchester, St. Mary’s School in Paris, St. Athanasius in Nicholasville, Good Shepherd in Campton, and the Business Cultivation Foundation in Grayson.

Because our donated supplies are running low, we are reaching out to farmers in the Diocese who may be able to offer in-kind donations. We are especially in need of soil and manure, but grass clippings, leaves, mulch, and other organic waste are also welcome. We kindly ask that any donated materials be free from artificial chemicals, pesticides, or herbicides, including those used on the animals producing the manure. Your generosity will directly support the growth of these vital community projects. If you can donate, please email Cory Banta crbanta@cdlex.org, or call or text him at 859-787-9777.

Assets/Needs Assessment of our Entire Diocese – As mentioned last month, we are obtaining input regarding the strengths of your communities and the gaps of service that Catholic Charities can fill independently, or by partnering with parishes and/or existing agencies. To help with our assessment, please go to <https://forms.gle/RaFp9uXoMRw1gqzJ7> to complete the google form. This assessment will continue through May, followed by a strategic planning process with our board of directors. I am deeply excited about the future of Catholic Charities – building relationships, serving those in need, and making a lasting impact across all 50 counties.

New Facebook Page – Stay up to date with all the latest Catholic Charities news by following our new Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/CatholicCharitiesLexington>.

New Phone Number – We have a new Administrative Offices phone number: 859-475-5522.