CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF LEXINGTON

News Notes

November 2025

Office of the Chancellor

Food Pantry Assistance – In response to the delay in SNAP benefits, our communications office and Catholic Charities are updating the master list of food pantries in the Diocese. This is both to help with letting our people know where we can serve them, and to give people an avenue to donate directly to the pantries. Please email to Ward Klein (wklein@cdlex.org) your pantry contact name and number ***by tomorrow, Tuesday November 4***. We hope to have the list assembled and send out the link to the resource page by mid-week so it can be shared via your social media and any other ways possible.

Statistical Reports and Sacramental Registers for 2025 – The forms for the reporting of annual statistical information are available on the diocesan website (www.cdlex.org) on the Chancellor's page or at https://cdlex.org/annual-statistical-information/.

The **Parish Leadership Report, Sacramental Registration, and Statcomputer Report** are due January 19, 2026, to Deacon John Brannen at jbrannen@cdlex.org

Vocations Office

Seminarian to Be Ordained a Deacon – Seminarian Matt Smyser will be ordained to the diaconate on Saturday, November 29, at 10:30am at the Cathedral of Christ the King in Lexington. All are invited to share in this joyful liturgy as Matt begins a life of ordained service to the People of God in the Diocese of Lexington.

Pastoral Life

Youth and Young Adult Ministry

Theology on Tap (September 4) – Theology on Tap is a place where young adults can come together, share a drink, and talk about things that matter. Admission is free and comes with one drink ticket. Upcoming events:

November 6 – Fr. Bob Rottger: Exorcism and Spiritual Warfare
December 4 – Dr. Samuel Awuah: Are Faith and Science Incompatible?

Calvary Cemetery

Plenary Indulgence, November 1-8 – One of the Spiritual Works of Mercy is to pray for the living and the dead, and one of the Corporal Works of Mercy is to bury the dead. All of this culminates in the fact that, as Catholics, we have special encouragement in November to pray for All Souls. The Indulgence may be obtained if one participates in Sacramental Confession, Communion, Prays for the Intentions of the Holy Father (all to be carried out within days of each other or at the same time), and visits a cemetery (Calvary's gates open at 8 AM and close at 5 PM), and fervently prays for the deceased. (At other times of the year, the Indulgence is Partial).

Services for Miscarried Babies – On Wednesday November 5 at 1pm there will be a Prayer Service & Burial of Miscarried Babies (0-12 weeks gestation) from St. Joseph Hospital at the Via Dolorosa Mausoleum. This is both a Corporal and Spiritual Work of Mercy. Please dress weather-aware.

The Way of the Cross – Also a Spiritual Work of Mercy, you can pray 'The Way of the Cross for the Holy Souls in Purgatory' at 3pm on Fridays November 7, 14, and 21. The Stations of the Cross are displayed in the cupola of the Via Dolorosa Mausoleum, and prayer booklets are provided for use during the prayer gatherings. Please dress weather-aware.

Veterans' Day – On Tuesday, November 11, Calvary will have USA flags available on the office front porch if you would like a flag for your Veteran's grave.

Wreaths for the Holidays – The Holidays are approaching, and many will want to place wreaths at loved-ones' graves. Orders will be accepted between now and November 13. Wreaths, artificial flowers, or other semi-permanent décor are permitted from November 1-March 1. Calvary is again partnering with the LCHS Band's Annual Fundraiser! Contact Calvary at 859-252-5415 to order your Christmas Wreaths. We will set them at your loved ones' graves on or about December 5. Thank you for helping to beautify the Cemetery during this festive season of love and hope, and for supporting the LCHS Band!

St. Gertrude the Great…pray for us! – The champion of the Souls in Purgatory, her feast day is November 16. The prayer of St. Gertrude: ***"Eternal Father, I offer thee the most precious blood of thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal church, those in my own home, and within my family. Amen."*** The Columbarium at Calvary's St. Gertrude Section was blessed by Bishop John Stowe on November 6, 2022.

St. Clement I …pray for us! – The patron saint of marble workers, his feast day is November 23. Through the generosity of our donors, a marble statue of Mary and Jesus is being made in Italy for Calvary's Priest's Section.

SAVE THE DATE – Saturday December 6 at 5pm – Join us for our second Candlelight at Calvary. This is a musical, ministerial, luminary, and Christmas ornament ceremony in remembrance of your loved ones during the holidays.

Calvary, established in 1874, is the Cemetery of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Lexington located @ 874 West Main Street, ccemetery@cdlex.org, 859-252-5415

Vicar General

Peace and Justice

Catholic Campaign for Human Development – CCHD Collection weekend, the primary income source for the annual CCHD grants, is held **November 17, the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time,** and coincides with the Pope's designation as **the World Day of the Poor.**

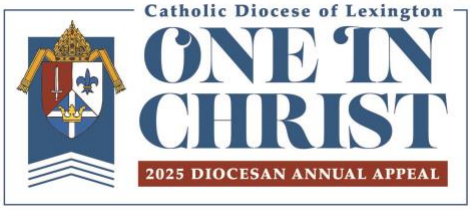
Visit CCHD Collection Resources Page: https://www.usccb.org/committees/catholic-campaign-human-development/catholic-campaign-human-development-collection

November is Black Catholic History Month – National Black Catholic History Month is celebrated in November to honor the history and contributions of Black Catholics. Consider ways to commemorate Black Catholic History Month in your parish or ministry.

Resources: https://www.usccb.org/committees/african-american-affairs/black-catholic-history-month

Development

Diocesan Annual Appeal 2025



There's still time to make your gift to the **Diocesan Annual Appeal** and help your parish reach its **65% participation goal by November 30**. Every gift – no matter the size – makes a difference in strengthening our parishes and the ministries that serve people across the 50 counties of our diocese.

Your support provides vital funding for Catholic education, formation, and outreach programs that bring the love of Christ to those most in need. When you participate, you join Catholics throughout the Diocese in living out our shared mission of faith, service, and hope.

If you haven't yet made your gift, please take a moment to do so today. Together, we can ensure every parish meets this milestone and continues to grow in faith and generosity.
Make your secure online gift today at **pushpay.com/g/catholicdioceseoflexington**

Advanced Giving for #iGiveCatholic Opens November 18!
Mark your calendars – Advanced Giving for **#iGiveCatholic** begins **Monday, November 18**. This early giving period is your opportunity to make a gift ahead of Giving Tuesday and help propel our **parishes, schools, and apostolates** toward achieving their goals. By giving early, you not only show your support but also help build momentum that inspires others to participate. Your early gift can make an immediate impact – funding parish outreach, supporting Catholic education, and strengthening ministries across our diocese. Together, we can make this year's #iGiveCatholic our most successful yet!

Visit **www.igivecatholic.org/community/lexington** beginning **November 18** to make your gift and help lead the way in celebrating our Catholic faith through generosity.

Mission and Ministry Grant Applications Open December 1
Mission and Ministry Applications are set to open on December 1st at https://apply.cdlex.org/. Now is the time to decide on the program or project your parish, school, or apostolate for which you would like to request funding. For questions regarding the application process, please contact Sara Spellman at sspellman@cdlex.org or (859) 253-1993 ext. 1051

Catholic Charities

Food Pantry Assistance – With the current interruption in SNAP benefits, many families and individuals across our Diocese will be struggling to meet their basic food needs. Catholic Charities of Lexington is working with parishes to ensure that we know where food and monetary donations are going so we can identify any gaps in support. When your parish takes up a collection of food or funds for a food pantry, please use this form to let us know where you decide to donate the goods or funds:

https://forms.gle/uQsfPTXfR5Er8hiL7

This will help us coordinate assistance throughout the diocese and make sure that every community has access to needed resources. Thank you for helping to feed our neighbors and live out our call to serve.

iGiveCatholic – Catholic Charities of Lexington participates in the iGiveCatholic program. To make it easy for those who wish to support us in this way, we have attached to this email a flyer (in jpeg format) that includes a QR code and may be used in bulletins, on websites, or on social media.