CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF LEXINGTON

News Notes

October 2025

Office of the Chancellor

Student Safe Environment Training: Circle of Grace – Circle of Grace materials have been updated. We are scheduled to receive access to these new materials in the coming days and will share this new information with you as soon as we can. Please contact Greta Hernandez at ghernandez@cdlex.org with your questions.

Catholic Schools and Religious Formation share a common link. The student training report forms are now combined for school and CCD reporting. Please be sure to include 'Parish' or 'School' when you list the location

As always, please plan to teach the program in the first semester of the school year and submit audit recap forms to Greta's attention at the Catholic Center.

Due to copyright restrictions, Circle of Grace lessons are not available for download. You will need to contact Greta Hernandez directly at **ghernandez@cdlex.org** to obtain electronic lesson files.

Annual Mass Counts – The yearly September Mass Counts are due Friday, October 12, 2025 to Deacon John Brannen at jbrannen@cdlex.org. Please list each Mass time, language, and total in attendance. The counts will cover the Vigil Mass on Saturday, September 6 through Sunday, September 28.

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

Pastoral Life

Family Life and Evangelization

Save the Dates for these Diocesan Masses this Fall:

- *Wedding Anniversary Mass*: Saturday, October 18, 5pm at the Cathedral of Christ the King
- *White Mass for Healthcare Professionals*: Saturday, October 25, 9am at Pax Christi

Liturgical Commission

All Saints and All Souls – This year the Solemnity of All Saints and the Memorial for All Souls fall on Saturday, November 1, and Sunday November 2. As a result, there are a few things to note. First, All Saints is not a holy day of obligation this year. Second, for the Liturgy of the Hours on November 1, Evening Prayer I, Morning Prayer, and Evening Prayer II are from All Saints. Third, if there is a Vigil Mass on Saturday November 1 for the weekend, that Mass is taken from All Souls. Finally, all Sunday Masses for November 2 are to be taken from All Souls Day.

Annual Liturgical Resources – The 2026 LTP Liturgical Resource Form is attached to this email.

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.

Our next event will be on October 2nd at Mirror Twin Brewery Annex (732 National Ave. Lexington KY 40502) and will feature Dr. Dan Sheffler, who will talk to us about Christianity and personhood. As usual, we anticipate this being a packed house this time around (we've 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.

Calvary Cemetery

Walk to Remember – On Sunday October 5 at 3pm we will host the Third Annual Walk to Remember, rain or shine, along with CHI St. Joseph Health Women's Hospital. October 15 is National Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month. *"Each October the Church in the United States celebrates Respect Life Month, and the first Sunday of October is observed as Respect Life Sunday. As Catholics, we are called to cherish, defend, and protect those who are most vulnerable, from the beginning of life to its end, and at every point in between."* (www.respectlife.org/celebrate)

Calvary has hosted SJH's bi-monthly burials of 0–12-week fetuses since February 2015, partnering for the respectful disposition of more than 1,000 little ones. All are welcome to attend.

October 14 is the Memorial of Saint Callistus I, patron saint of cemetery workers…please intercede for us.

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

Vicar General

Peace and Justice Office

Season of Creation Celebration on October 4th – The Diocesan Season of Creation Event is on October 4 at Hemphill Community Center in Letcher County. See attached flyer for details and contact laudatosi@cdlex.org if you have any questions.

Respect Life Month

Encountering God: A Pilgrimage from Hollywood to Haiti – Led by award-winning author and filmmaker Gerard Straub, this cinematic event weaves together prayer, storytelling, and cinema to reflect on our call to encounter God in unexpected places. ***October 8, 7pm at the Cathedral of Christ the King, 299 Colony Blvd, Lexington, KY 40502***

Virtual Gathering for Walking with Moms in Need Ministries – This will be a time for members of Walking with Moms Ministries and Respect Life Ministries from across the diocese to gather together, share, and learn about new resources for their ministry. October 16, 7pm.
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89449469395?pwd=cLmxmo68fD9W7oa4d3ug5Pyt11Tbab.1
Meeting ID: 894 4946 9395 Passcode: 742801

Mass For Persons with Disabilities – October 25, 5pm at Pax Christi, 4001 Victoria Way, Lexington, KY 40515. Reception to follow.

USCCB Resources:
Respect Life Month Statement: https://www.usccb.org/news/2025/respect-life-month-bishop-thomas-calls-catholics-be-agents-hope,
Respect Life Novena (Oct 22-30): https://www.respectlife.org/respect-life-month-novena
Respect Life Podcast: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=blS9Wn6GaPs

Development

Diocesan Annual Appeal 2025 – Thank you to everyone who worked to make the kickoff to this year's One in Christ Annual Appeal such a great success! So far, we have had a very good response from the mailing to each household on record. The public campaign for the Diocesan Annual Appeal goes through November 30. Please encourage parishioners to mail in their gift, drop it at the parish, or give online. Please send all gifts to the Development Office at the Chancery, and do not process them at the parish level. Please also keep sending out the video in English and Spanish!

https://pushpay.com/g/catholicdioceseoflexington

Your family participation goal is at least 65%. Please reach out to Robert Watts at x1049 or rwatts@cdlex.org and Sara Spellman at x1051 or sspellman@cdlex.org if you need help in reaching your parish participation goal. It's important now more than ever that we raise funds as one body to provide critical support throughout the diocese. Thank You!

Second Collections – ***Collection for World Missions is scheduled for October 18-19***. In 1926 Pope Pius XI instituted Mission Sunday for the whole Church with the first worldwide Mission Sunday Collection taking place in October 1927. This special day is mandated by the Code of Canon Law and is crucial for sustaining the Church's outreach in over 1,150 mission territories. Pope Francis has given us a powerful theme that resonates deeply in this Jubilee Year: ***'Missionaries of Hope Among All Peoples.'***

iGiveCatholic – Registration and page set up is still open, with a deadline of November 1, 2025. Giving Tuesday is on December 2, 2025. For more information, contact Sara Spellman at sspellman@cdlex.org.

While registration continues through November 1, the earlier you register, the better you can take advantage of the resources and action plans from the iGC program. Remember, there is no cost to register!

Here is the direct link to the Diocese of Lexington site, where you can find your organization (if you participated in previous iGC campaigns) or you can add your organization if you have not previously participated:

https://www.igivecatholic.org/

Click on "Register" to get started. Also of interest, you can click on "MENU" at top right to check out the many resources and how to's for making your iGC campaign a great success.

As always, the *MightyCause* tech support is excellent for answering your questions and stepping you through any part of the registration process. You can also feel free to contact our consultant, Sara Spellman sspellman@cdlex.org, with any concerns or questions.

We're looking forward to approving more participants to iGC!

Thanks for all you do to continue our mission to worship and evangelize!

Catholic Charities

We're excited to welcome Diane Gottfried as our new **Development Director!** Diane joined us in August and is a lifelong Catholic who recently made Kentucky her home. She brings a strong background in stewardship, marketing, communications, and special events – and a deep love for serving others. "I'm thrilled to be part of such a meaningful mission," Diane said. "I can't wait to connect with people across the Diocese who share the vision of a world where we love God and our neighbor." Diane may be reached at dgottfried@cdlex.org or 859-475-5522.

In Eastern Kentucky, our Disaster Recovery efforts continue – helping with home repairs, funding, and essentials. Thanks to the St. Vincent de Paul Council of Washington, Indiana, we've delivered 2,400 meals to families in need.

This Giving Tuesday, December 2, join #iGiveCatholic at bit.ly/CatholicCharitiesLex. Thanks to a generous donor, the first $1,000 raised will be matched! Your gift helps families across Central and Eastern Kentucky stay in their homes and access essential support – double the impact, double the hope!