



# ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK

## ***CURIA REPORTS*** ***FEBRUARY 2023 [x.vi]***

### ***Administration [Frank Napolitano]***

- The archdiocesan insurance program provides dollar first coverage for all auto liability claims. As a requirement to provide this coverage, remember to protect the archdiocese from certain liabilities, all outside groups using or renting parish facilities must execute a facility usage agreement and provide a certificate of insurance naming the covered location, the archdiocese, and the archbishop as additional insureds. In addition, special events liability insurance should be purchased when an archdiocesan facility is allowing an individual or organization to use its facilities for a non-sponsored activity, such as a baptism party or bridal shower. The current cost is \$100 per event. This provides \$1,000,000 in liability insurance for bodily injury and property damage for the special event user, the parish, and the archdiocese. Risk management information is available to guide the parish when allowing outside organizations to use the facilities. Topics include liquor liability control, security and food handling. Contact Catholic Mutual Group (CMG) at [wspellman@catholicmutual.org](mailto:wspellman@catholicmutual.org) or 646-794-3025, or the Risk Management and Insurance Division at [louise.zacher@archny.org](mailto:louise.zacher@archny.org) or 646-794-2969 for further information and to arrange for the purchase of insurance.
- There are currently 50 capital project RFAs pending approval with a total value of \$23.6 million. Seven new submissions were received in the past month. Projects relate to both school and church building improvements. Thus far in fiscal 2023, a total of 54 capital projects have been approved with a combined value of \$21.8 million.
- 2022 Income Taxes for Priests Only ICS is offering a discount on the latest version of Scott Hoselton's familiar manual. Order online at <https://nyics.org/2022-income-tax-for-priest-and-deacons> or call the ICS Customer Care team at 646-794-2600.

### ***Adult Faith Formation [Elizabeth Guevara de Gonzalez]***

- The ChristLife Evangelization Conference will be held on March 24-25 at St. Joseph's Seminary.
- The New York Catholic Bible Summit will be held on June 3. Registrations will open soon.
- Share your Eucharistic Revival events with us at [revival@archny.org](mailto:revival@archny.org). Also, check out what's happening around the archdiocese for the revival at [archyn.org/eucharisticrevival](http://archyn.org/eucharisticrevival). There you will find information on upcoming events and resources to help you plan an event to draw people closer to Jesus Christ fully present in the Eucharist.

### ***ArchCare [Father John Anderson, iv dei]***

- To learn more about how your parish can partner with ArchCare to provide health services, bolster health care ministries, or access community health-related resources, contact Michael Guglielmo, *Director of Parish Integration* at [mguglielmo@archcare.org](mailto:mguglielmo@archcare.org) or (646) 229-7413.

- For Catholic chaplaincy coverage/access issues to hospitals and nursing homes, contact John Schultz, *Director of Health Care Chaplaincy Apostolate* at [jschultz@archcare.org](mailto:jschultz@archcare.org) or (646) 942-0640.

### **Archives [Kate Feighery]**

- To try to finalize the information for the priest database on current priests, area deans encouraged them to complete the form. We will be working with the staff in the priest personnel office to keep the database up-to-date and as user-friendly as possible. Thank you to everyone who updated their records for the project, and further updates can always be submitted at <https://form.jotform.com/222712364912048>.
- The office continues to work with legal counsel on discovery for the CVA cases, responding to requests for documents and records as they come in.
- Archives staff has begun a several-months long project to digitize the paper records stored at 1011. We have met with several departments to help them begin to review their paper documents, and ideally would like to have all the department meetings wrapped up by early March.

### **Black Ministry [Brother Tyrone Davis, cfc]**

- Fully involved in the celebration of Black History, and using this as a special time for evangelizations; starting off the month with first Friday devotions at many of our churches, then a special program on “Black Faith Matters” at the Sheen Center, and rounding off the weekend with the archdiocesan Black History Month Mass at the cathedral, involving family representatives from many of our parishes throughout the Archdiocese; and now moving local, to the local celebrations in many of our parishes & schools.
- The applications for the 2023 Pierre Toussaint and P.T.-Mother Cabrini Scholars Program have been made available to through all our parishes, most of our high school, and on our website; deadline for submission is Friday, March 3.
- The Pierre Toussaint scholars will be reviewing applications to the scholars’ food pantry fund committee.

### **Development [Kelvin Gentles and Kathleen McGowan]**

- As of February 3, the 2023 *Cardinal’s Annual Stewardship Appeal* has raised \$2,592,814 in commitments and \$1,971,208 in cash through 5,941 donors.
- St. Joseph’s Seminary is excited to announce William P. Harrington, Esq. as the award recipient at the second annual gala.
- The cathedral landmark restoration is currently focusing on three projects – organ upkeep, external lighting of the cathedral, and updates to the main entrance area. In addition, preparations are underway for the annual cornerstone dinner scheduled for May 17.
- The Saint John Vianney Clergy Residence website and marketing materials are being refreshed with new language to showcase our retired priests. Tours are in the works with 2-3 prospective funders and foundation grants are also being explored.
- The Alfred E. Smith Memorial Foundation is beginning outreach to past dais members for the 2023 Dinner. In addition, the board committees are preparing to meet later in February and early March for the springboard meeting.

### ***Ecumenical and Interreligious Activities, Ethnic Apostolates, Lay Ecclesial Movements and Community Outreach*** [Father Brian McWeeney]

- Participated in the sixth annual gathering of ecclesial movements and organizations in the USA under Bishop Sam Jacobs. Both the continental phase of the synod and the Eucharistic revival were discussed with representatives of the USCCB. Our council is continuing preparations for our annual day of reflection with the title *Food for the Journey*.
- Our Ecumenical works continues unabated with notable contacts with the Greek Archdiocese of America, the Episcopal Church, and the Lutheran ELCA. In terms of interreligious activity, the director will be part of a Moslem and Catholic seminar convoked in California as well as participating in the ongoing dialogue sponsored by the USCCB. The Buddhist dialogue continues with exposure to various diverse expressions of faith.
- Ethnic Apostolate Offices is seeking to expand the possibilities of the Italian apostolate as well as the Filipino apostolate. With the director of the Hispanic apostolate various discussions have been entered into furtherance of religious freedom and the spread of anti-Semitism.

### ***Education*** [Michael Deegan]

- All staff in the superintendent's office/department of education are engaging in professional development through June 2023 to better understand and implement the *National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools* (NSBECS) throughout Catholic schools. These sessions are led by Melodie Wyttenbach, Ph.D., the executive director of the Roche Center for Catholic Education.
- The office of teaching and learning is aligning all academic planning documents and resources to reflect the NSBECS.
- Early childhood sites are preparing to participate in the essential community building that occurs during Catholic Schools Week. Various activities include UPK students are partnering with "buddies" in the upper grades for story time and heritage activities, a community breakfast with local service workers, and a "gathering day" which will see UPK students and families involved in a food and donation drive to support their local community.

### ***Family Life*** [Ted Musco]

- Safe Haven Sunday, an annual weekend to address the harms of pornography, will be celebrated in the parishes of the archdiocese on March 12. Parishes in need of booklets in English or Spanish or other assistance should contact Ted Musco at 646-794-3186 or [Theodore.Musco@archny.org](mailto:Theodore.Musco@archny.org) by March 1 to request free copies of the books (quantity is limited). Visit [Introduction to Safe Haven Sunday](#) and [Homily Video](#).
- Continue to publicize and support the first annual Family Life Conference *Behold, I Make All Things New!* on March 25 at Cathedral High School. Information and registration can be found online at <https://archny.org/ministries-and-offices/family-life/> Contact Jeanne Travis at [FLEvents@archny.org](mailto:FLEvents@archny.org) or 646-794-3181 for discounts for more than six people from one parish/collaborative parish.
- The staff is collaborating with Catholic Faith Technologies (CFT) to begin a series of training and formation opportunities related to various aspects of family life. A priority will be given to an expressed concern by several pastors and parish leaders regarding those in parishes serving in various family life ministries. Share with Ted Musco at 646-794-3186

or [Theodore.Musco@archny.org](mailto:Theodore.Musco@archny.org) any thoughts regarding training or formation opportunities for your staff and parishioners.

### **Finance [Bill Whiston]**

- KPMG is near completion of 17 different archdiocesan entity audits, where most reports are due to be issued in March 2023.
- Employee Retention Tax Credit (“ERTC”) is available to all parish entities that meet the criteria set by the Internal Revenue Service. 175 parish entities have submitted applications totaling \$21.8 million for employee tax credits. To date, 99 entities have received \$12.4 million. This is an opportunity for all our parishes, parish-based schools, parish based high schools and parish cemeteries to participate in.
- Resurrection Cemetery, Staten Island has successfully installed two new banks of glass and granite fronted niches for the burial of cremated remains. Over 15% of the spaces were sold in the first two weeks of pre- installation. A new mausoleum will be constructed at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Hawthorne. A new section at Calvary Cemetery, Queens for 335 in-ground plots will open early fall for full body burial.

### **Hispanic Ministry [Wanda Vasquez]**

- The archdiocesan Our Lady of Guadalupe team serving under its chaplain, Father Jesus Ledezma in collaboration with the office of Hispanic ministry has begun visiting our parishes. Its purpose is to coordinate the visit of the pilgrim statue and provide formation on the history and apparitions of Our Lady of Guadalupe and Saint Juan Diego.
- Monsignor Eduardo Chavez, the postulator of the cause for Juan Diego and canon of the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City has been invited to visit the parishes and give presentations on the background of Mary’s apparition and the full meaning of the message given to Juan Diego. He is multilingual and can provide formation in the English or Spanish languages. Contact the chaplain or lead coordinator of the archdiocesan team: Father Jesus Ledezma, Chaplain: 212-243-0265; Artemio Silva, Lead Coordinator: 347-641-4448; or contact the office (646) 794-2983.

### **Marketing [Rachael Sheehan]**

- *The Good Newsroom* is off to a successful start with 48,000 visitors to the website and 8,300 video views in the month of December. The team is continuing to develop news stories with several published articles and videos each day. We are also seeing an increase in advertiser interest in *The Good Newsroom* and would appreciate any leads on potential advertisers. You can reach *The Good Newsroom* team at [thegoodnewsroom@archny.org](mailto:thegoodnewsroom@archny.org)
- *The Good Newsroom* app launched on January 31. You can download it on the Apple App Store and on Google Play.
- In both Marketing and *The Good Newsroom* we have helped to promote Black History Month and Catholic Schools week, among other initiatives. We are preparing to support the season of Lent with messages and other communications.

### **Parish Planning [Eileen Mulcahy]**

- Meetings are scheduled with the pastors of several deaneries to discuss the best way for parishes to collaborate at the regional level. Meetings also continue to take place throughout the archdiocese at the collaborative parish group and parish levels to discuss potential parish mergers and the sharing of resources among neighboring parishes. After

consultation with their parish councils, trustees, and finance councils, some pastors have requested canonical guidance. Canonical consultations are planned for the coming months.

- In the process of scheduling a series of meetings with the pastors of merged parishes where both churches have a regular schedule of Masses and sacraments. As we made it clear that parishes were on a two-year review schedule, these meetings will include a pastoral, financial, and real estate review of each parish.

### ***Respect Life* [Sister Virginia Joy, sv]**

- 40 Days for Life begins Ash Wednesday February 22. See our website for more information. <https://archny.org/ministries-and-offices/respect-life/>
- Spanish Feminine Genius Brunch (Bronx) on Saturday, February 25. Cynthia Psencik will be our main speaker.
- More information and fliers will be in the combined mailing regarding Assisted Suicide here in New York.
- Generation Life Missionaries, February 5-11. Several Catholic schools and parishes will host Generation Life Missionaries to give talks on chastity and pro-life topics throughout the week.

### ***Safe Environment/Public Policy* [Ed Mechmann]**

- An education and advocacy campaign to oppose the New York State bill that would legalize assisted suicide (in conjunction with the respect life office).
- Education on the FDA decision to permit local pharmacies to dispense chemical abortion drugs (also in conjunction with the respect life office).
- Monthly young adult discussion group ("Discussion and Discipleship") on issues of Church teaching and current events.
- Parish rosters have been sent out. These must be returned to our office, either in print or via the online roster portal.
- Continuing efforts to get back rosters from schools, religious education programs, and CYO, which were sent in the fall but have not yet been returned.
- Return of rosters is essential so that compliance can be assessed. Ensure that all rosters are returned from your parish and programs.
- Compliance visits have resumed to parishes and religious education programs.

### ***Sheen Center* [MaryLou Pagano]**

- On February 23, *The Rev and The Rabbi Live* from The Sheen Center with Mayor Eric Adams and Vanessa Adams.
- On March 4 we are presenting *Swingtime* with Jive Aces.
- On March 9 we are presenting CHIEF the story of William Feehan the highest-ranking official who died on 9/11.

### ***Special Projects and Events* [Melecia Ming]**

- In January, the office partnered with *Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal* on the Leadership Mass and Brunch which featured nearly 200 donors.
- In February, we are working with:
  - *Cardinal's Appeal* on an event at Holy Family Parish in Manhattan.
  - Respect Life on the first Spanish speaking Feminine Genius event in the Bronx.

- We continue to support the office of the cardinal on various miscellaneous events and projects while also working with the adult faith formation office on the Eucharistic Revival and assisting in the planning of New York Catholic Bible Summit (6/3/23) and ManUp NY (10/7/23).

#### **University Apostolate [Vinny DaSilva]**

- Campuses have welcomed back students for the 2023 Spring Semester. All sites continue to celebrate on-campus masses and will host Ash Wednesday services with the help of clergy, or in connection with neighboring parishes.
- In partnership with Christina Davis and the office of youth ministry, we will prepare to pilot the FOCUS *Seek where you are* program, a companion to the SEEK 23 conference, focusing on building discipleship in small, self-paced groups.

#### **Vicar for Religious [Sister Joan Curtin, cnd]**

- During Lent the vicar's office will be offering a 3-part scripture series based on Matthew's gospel. The title is "A New Kind of Fasting". The presenter will be Sr. Carol Perry, SU who is being brought back "by popular demand". Sr. Carol's Advent series was very successful.
- Sr. Joan and Sr. Teresita will be attending celebrations for the World Day for Consecrated Life being offered in two deaneries. All sisters/brothers in each particular deanery have been invited to celebrations which will consist of Sunday Mass followed by brunch in both SI and Rockland County.
- Sr. Joan will be visiting several religious communities during February and will also continue to collaborate with Sr. Mary Anne Dennehy, OCarm of ArchCare regarding health care concerns/issues and various religious communities in the archdiocese.

#### **Young Adult Outreach [Colin Nykaza]**

- Upcoming events include Mardi Gras Happy Hour in Manhattan, Mardi Gras Rockland social, Ash Wednesday Mass and homeless outreach to launch Lenten initiative, and re-consecrating Hudson Valley communities under Mary.
- Ongoing efforts include cultivating community among artists, start of planning for Love and Responsibility, and regional leadership development.

#### **Youth Faith Formation [Ela Milewska]**

- Last month we hosted 32 Catholic teachers who work in public schools for a retreat at St. Joseph's Seminary.
- On February 2, 86 people registered to attend the webinar, *Fostering Eucharistic People* with Dr. Tim O'Malley. The recording is available on ArchNYLAB.
- Parishes that are interested in increasing the effectiveness of their ministry with middle school youth and their faith formation, a full-day training will be hosted on February 11 at St. Joseph's Seminary.
- March 2-3 will be the Ministerial Formation Days for DREs and YM coordinators on "Parent's as Partners." Details and registration available on our website.