

# I Am *The Good Shepherd*

*A good shepherd lays down his life  
for the sheep*

*I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I will lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. These also I must lead, and they will hear my voice, and there will be one flock, one shepherd.*  
~ John 10:14-16



## 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

*"This is why the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again." - Jn 10:17*

**SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 2024**

**4th Sunday of Easter**

**R**ecently I was with my little dog Libby at a retreat center in the Arizona desert. I sat in a chair near a ravine filled with shrubs. Unbeknownst to me, Libby wandered down there and disappeared. Suddenly an animal's wild shriek erupted from the area. Without thinking, I bolted down into the ravine fully expecting to see coyotes, javelinas, or rattlesnakes. I didn't care. I desperately wanted to get Libby out of there, without any self-regard. Before I could face whatever danger lay hidden, my dog blissfully trotted out from an entirely different area, utterly unaware that I had (quite heroically) just placed my life on the line.

When the adrenaline wore off, I thought to myself: how far would I have been willing to go to save her? I don't know. But I do know, if I had literally died, my friends and family would have certainly thought me insane for dying for a dog. No offense, Libby.

How passionately Jesus wants us to know him and his willingness to die for us! This week he says, **"I know my own and my own know me,"** and **"I lay down my life for the sheep."** Here we encounter an insanely excessive love for us. Christianity is a relationship and not simply a religion or ethical code. In Jesus, God rescues and saves us. He laid down his life for you and me — and he has taken it up again. So often we are like Libby — blissfully ignorant of the reality of both our spiritual danger and his saving love. This Easter season, the risen Jesus calls us to be more conscious than ever before about his love. He never ceases to lay down his life for us.

~ Father John Muir @ LPI

**OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY - FRIDAY, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

**1614 Maplewood Rd • Harrison, AR 72601 • 870-741-5234 FAX: 870-741-4234**



**MARY MOTHER OF GOD  
CATHOLIC CHURCH • HARRISON, AR**

**mmgchurch@yahoo.com • Fr. Ben's Email: [pastor.mmg.church@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.mmg.church@gmail.com)**

**FIND BULLETINS FOR MARY MOTHER OF GOD & ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH AT [HARRISONCATHOLIC.ORG](http://HARRISONCATHOLIC.ORG)**

***We Welcome all Visitors to Mary Mother of God Catholic Church.***

***We Hope You Enjoy Your Stay in This Area and May God Be With You on Your Trip Home.***

**PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:** The mission of Mary Mother of God Catholic Church is to carry on the ministry of Jesus Christ, as members of His living body, the Church, to bring the Kingdom of God into the world through evangelization, worship, religious education, and service in our families, parish, and community.

# Dive into a friendship with God!



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**AGES PRE-K - 6TH GRADE**  
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**Monday, June 3 - Friday, June 7**  
**5:30 — 8:00 PM**

Register Today By Visiting  
[www.MYVBS.org/MMG](http://www.MYVBS.org/MMG) or By Calling  
the Church Office at 870-741-5234

## FLOCKNOTES

PARISH COMMUNICATIONS SUCH AS PRAYER REQUESTS, UPDATES, MASS CANCELLATIONS, ETC., ARRIVE AS A FLOCKNOTE MESSAGE



## SIGN UP NOW!

(Pick One) ~ Visit our parish at: [www.flocknote.com/marymotherofgodchurch](http://www.flocknote.com/marymotherofgodchurch) OR text flocking to 84576 from your phone to subscribe to updates. Need help to set up your Flocknote?

**CALL 870-741-5234 FOR MORE INFORMATION**



## PARISH HANDYMAN

Responsible for grounds keeping, internal and external building maintenance at

**Mary Mother of God Catholic Church**

- Completes plumbing maintenance tasks and advises the Parish Manager/ Pastor when the services of an outside expert are necessary.
- Performs required work on drains and fixtures.
- Replaces bulbs as needed and/or makes necessary repairs of fixtures and replaces HVAC filters.
- Plunges toilets and drains when necessary.
- Provides painting services incl. room preparation, paint mixing and clean-up.
- Maintains and routinely cleans maintenance storage.
- Collects and disposes of trash.
- Picks up various supplies, parts and building materials
- Collects recycling and takes to Recycle Center.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

Please Email Resume to [mmgchurch@yahoo.com](mailto:mmgchurch@yahoo.com)  
OR mail to: Mary Mother of God Catholic Church,  
1614 Maplewood Rd, Harrison, AR 72601  
**NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE**

## 2024 WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

### 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

- **SATURDAY, APRIL 20**  
4:30PM - Rosary & Confessions  
5:00PM - MASS: SI - All Parishioners
- **SUNDAY, APRIL 21**  
8:00 AM - Rosary & Confessions  
8:30 AM - MASS: +Jim Rowe
- **MONDAY, APRIL 22 - NO MASS**
- **TUESDAY, APRIL 23**  
5:00 PM - Rosary & Confessions  
5:30 PM - MASS: +Richard Gokenbach
- **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24**  
4:30 PM - Evening Prayer & Confessions  
5:15 PM - Benediction  
5:30 PM - MASS: +Liza ZuRn
- **THURSDAY, APRIL 25**  
8:00 AM - Rosary & Confessions  
8:30 AM - MASS: +Linda Hoyet
- **FRIDAY, APRIL 26**  
8:00 AM - Rosary & Confessions  
8:30 AM - MASS: SI - Chua Family  
9:00 AM - Fatima Rosary
- **SATURDAY, APRIL 27**  
4:30 PM - Rosary & Confessions  
5:00 PM - MASS: +Newt & Ruth Foster  
**Praise & Worship Mass**
- **SUNDAY, APRIL 28**  
8:00 AM - Rosary & Confessions  
8:30 AM - MASS: +Steve Gutting  
**Graduation Mass**



# CINCO DE MAYO *¡FIESTA!*

*Saturday, May 4th • Following 5:30 Mass*

*¡COMIDAS!*

*¡BEBIDAS!*

*¡MÚSICA!*

*¡Y MÁS!*

**FOOD! DRINKS!**  
MUSIC PROVIDED DJ SWIRL

**\*\* GRADUATION MASS** is Sunday April 28th-Please contact Holly Coffman if you are graduating from High School or College.

**\*\* VBS REGISTRATION** is going on right now. Register your youth or volunteer by visiting [harrisoncatholic.org](http://harrisoncatholic.org) and clicking on the Scuba VBS to register or contact Holly Coffman.

**\*\* PRE REGISTRATIONS** will be sent out soon for the 2024-2025 year. If you are new to the parish and need to register your youth, please contact Holly Coffman.

*(PRE CLASS THIS WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24)*

## The LECTIO DIVINA Group Met Last Week.

The purpose of this group is to implement the methods learned in our recent Scripture Study on PRAYER. At this time we are using the Gospel of John as our guide, and you are all invited! We will continue to meet every Sunday after Mass for one hour in the Parish Hall.

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK of APRIL 21

April 21: Acts 4:8-12 / Ps 118: 1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29 (22) / Jn 3:1-2 / Jn 10:11-18  
April 22: Acts 11:1-18 / Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4 / Jn 10:1-10  
April 23: Acts 11:19-26 / Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7 / Jn 10:22-30  
April 24: Acts 12:24-13:5a / Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8 / Jn 12:44-50  
April 25: 1 Pt 5:5b-14 / Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17 / Mk 16:15-20  
April 26: Acts 13:26-33 / Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab / Jn 14:1-6  
April 27: Acts 13:44-52 / Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 / Jn 14:7-14  
April 28: Acts 9:26-31 / Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 (26a) / 1 Jn 3:18-24 / Jn 15:1-8

**VIGIL CANDLES** - If you wish to light a 6-day vigil candle, a suggested \$3 donation is requested.

**CONFESSIONS ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE** half hour before all Daily & Sat/Sun. Masses or by appointment.

**\*\* Personal Listening Devices are Available for Mass. \*\* Please see an usher in the vestibule to sign one out.**

**CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS** We welcome new members to our Church through the process and Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). Please contact the church office.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM** Parents and Godparents are required to participate in a preparation process before the Baptism of children. Registration is required. Please contact the church office.

**SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK** Please contact Father Ben.

**COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND** Extraordinary Ministers are available to bring Holy Communion to parishioners who are not able to attend Mass. Call the church office about anyone who would like to receive the Eucharist at home.

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE** Arrangements for wedding must be made at least six months in advance. Please contact the church office.



The Catholic Diocese of Little Rock is committed to protecting children and young people. If you are aware of abuse or have been abused by Clerics, Church volunteers, or Church workers, please contact the State of

Arkansas Hotline for Crimes against Children at 800-482-5964 and the Chancellor for Canonical Affairs, Dcn. Matthew A. Glover, (501) 664-0340 ext. 361.

For pastoral assistance please contact the Victim Assistance Coordinator for the Diocese of Little Rock: Laura Gottsponer at 501-664-0340, ext. 425. Diocese of Little Rock, 2500 N. Tyler Street, Little Rock, AR 72207



Military & Emergency Personnel, Veterans, Victims of Natural Disasters, COVID-19, Terrorism and War, Vocations, Logan Anthony Baker, Patricia Bel, Donnie Billups, Tim Billups, Shari Broscovak, Dede Brown, Betty Burge, Norma Calhoun, Cavin Peter Clark, Brian Coffman, Donald Coffman, Larry/Rita Coffman, Jim/Karen Conner, Sally Conner, David/Mary Decker, Ruth Deischer, Wayne Dixon, Wink Duncan, John Forrest, Casey Gibbs, Lorraine Gokenbach, Thea Greenhaw, Tom Guili, Bill/Levi/Ruth Haley, Pete Hartman, Waylen/Preston

Hetrick, Dianne Hoberock, Connie Israel, Chris Jasper, Jeannie, Ed Karlovic, Caven James Keith, Darby Kester, Dr. Charles Klepper, Mary Koenig, Pat Kohl, Jane Krone, Martha Lamboy, Sandy/Mike Luckenbill, Lynn & Glenn, Courtney Martin, Mary Martin, Gary Methvin, Ransey Methvin, Emily Myers, Becky Mueske, Christine Neely, Beth Nelson, Jimmy Pierce, Dr. Grace St. Pierre, Eliska/Glenn Pollock, Martha Pollock\*, Joel Ray, David Reuter, Jacob/Jaxson Rivera, Amber Roberts, Nora Roche, Terry Rodery/Kenna Rodery, Teresa Rotkowskii, Nick/Summer Rykert, Sabine Schwarzmann, Ed Servis, Phil Sides, Margaret Smith, Margie Stephen, Greg Stephens,

**\*New this month**



Mary Stephens, Kim Tennyson, Linda Utaski, Carly Webb, Jimmie/Rita Wells, Jean Williams, John Zollo. **Our Nursing Home Residents:** David Allen, Mary Allen, Terry Bodson, Steve Crawford, Lylia Laffoon, Bob/Diane Patterson, Jaque Radisch, Dan Roberts, Giovanna Sandri, Liz Smalley.

Please keep our list current by notifying the office to add/delete names

## UPCOMING MASSES

PRAISE & WORSHIP Mass - Sat. 4/27  
 GRADUATION Mass - Sun. 4/28  
 FIRST COMMUNION Mass - Sun. 5/5

## UPCOMING COUNCILS

PASTORAL - Thurs. 4/25  
 FINANCE - Fri. 5/3

## NOW ON MONDAYS

Legion of Mary Meetings @ 3:30pm



If you would like to volunteer to work at the Mary Mother of God Elks Festival booth, please contact Holly Coffman, 870-416-9928

**BUTLER CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC**  
 811 Ranch House Plaza  
 P.O.B. 1614 • HARRISON AR  
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**MARY MOTHER OF GOD CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**Catholic Christian Women (CCW)**  
 109 Years of Serving our Parish  
 See Bulletin for Meeting Dates & Times

**Selling 726 REALTY**  
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 selling726.com • 128 N. Willow • Harrison

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If You Have any Gardening Items You Would Like To Donate, or if You Would Like To Inquire About Volunteer Opportunities,

PLEASE CONTACT:

Arah Dean and Lark



Hope grows here!

870-204-5602

[hopecottagesharrison@gmail.com](mailto:hopecottagesharrison@gmail.com)

## Joseph F. Koenig, CPA

400 N. Main, Ste 3 • Harrison, AR 72601

870.741.5647

[jfkcpa@windstream.net](mailto:jfkcpa@windstream.net)

**DeVito's RESTAURANT**  
 Sunday Lunch 11am - 1:30pm  
 Dinner Tues - Sat 4:30 - 8pm  
 TROUT - STEAKS - ITALIAN  
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 500 Yards East of Junction 412-62-65 Hwy North

**Greg Klott**  
 VP | Business Development & Lending  
[greg.klott@firstcommunity.net](mailto:greg.klott@firstcommunity.net)  
 PH: 870-204-5600  
 CELL: 417-337-0574

## FIRST COMMUNITY BANK

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## DO YOU WANT TO SERVE THE LORD!?

Please sign up as soon as possible. If you are new to serving, please contact the church office or fill in your chosen ministry below, drop it in the collection basket, and someone will contact you for a brief training session.

**CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE, 870-741-5234**

## ARE YOU INTERESTED? YES! We Need You!

You can be an active participant at Mary Mother of God Church. We want many people to volunteer so no one gets 'stuck' with certain ministries all the time.

**Lector:** Read the Scripture readings during Mass.

**Rosary Leader:** Lead before Mass.

**Extraordinary Minister:** Distribute Body & Blood of Christ during Communion.

**Altar Servers:** All youth who have celebrated their First Holy Communion.

**Usher:** Greet people, guide them to empty seats, hand out bulletins after Mass, check pews after Mass for debris or loose hymnals/missalettes.

## WE NEED YOUR HELP

We are looking for parishioners to sign up for Daily Mass as Rosary Leaders and Lectors. Please sign up in the vestibule or call the office for details.

### MUSIC MINISTRY REHEARSAL SCHEDULE:

**Handbell Choir** — Mon., Apr. 22 at 7:00PM in Julie's office

**P&W Band Rehearsal** Tues., Apr. 23 at 5:30PM in Julie's office

**Handchimes/Youth Choir Rehearsal** - Wed. Apr. 24 at 7:30PM in Julie's office

**MMG Choir--NO REHEARSAL THIS WEEK!** - See you Sun., Apr. 28 at 7:30AM

**Silver Bells** — See you Wednesday, May 8 at 11am!

## THE PILGRIM STATUE OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA

is available again for you to bring to your home for a week, and for you & your family to honor our Blessed Mother. Ways to honor her might include praying a daily family rosary and/or other prayers. She is sure to bless your family in return.

Please pick up the statue after a weekend Mass and return it by 5 pm on Saturday so it will be available for the next family.

*Legion of Mary meetings now held on Mondays, 3:30 pm.*

A sign-up sheet will be in a notebook in the church vestibule while the box with the statue will be in the church library

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION THE LORD WAITS FOR YOU!

"May the great mysteries of Gethsemane, the trial, and Calvary unfold in our hearts because of their intimate union with Jesus. And when our beloved has expired on the cross, may our hearts be his tomb, closed to everything else, until our eyes see his glorified wounds". *Venerable Mother Mary Magdalen of Jesus in the Eucharist, C.P.* To register to adore during daytime hours, please write to [g.carmen.8786@gmail.com](mailto:g.carmen.8786@gmail.com).

Please **CALL** or **TEXT** Carmen if you have any questions at 305-815-1795



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<https://FORMED.org/promo/daily-reflections-signup>

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Register!**

**NEW IN THE PARISH?**  
PLEASE COMPLETE & RETURN IN THE COLLECTION

Names: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Previous Parish/Town: \_\_\_\_\_


New In Parish     Change of Address/Phone/Email

**CATHOLIC CEMETERY GRAVESITES**

Available to purchase from a Cemetery Committee representative.

**Gravesites are \$500 ea.**


*A monthly payment plan is available.*



Purchase 4 or more gravesites at the same time, a 10% discount is applied. Cost is \$450 p/gravesite.

For more info, call Marlene Rowe at 870-715-9962

**Retreats at Coury House**



**Mother's Day Gift Idea!**

Fr. Richard Walz will lead an overnight retreat on "The Sermon on the Mount" May 10-11 at Coury House, Subiaco Abbey, Subiaco, Ark. The retreat is open to anyone, but this could give Mom a time apart in a place apart for a spiritual breather. Call 479-934-1290 to register. Cost is \$110 for a private room; \$90 per person in a shared room and \$45 for a commuter. Includes all

*Preparing for Pentecost*



**Come and See!**

*Come and Experience the Fullness Promised By Jesus  
 Each Talk Will Help You to Come to Understand  
 God's Love, Healing, And God's Empowerment  
 To Bring the Kingdom Of God Into Our Midst  
 From Fellow Catholics Who Have Experienced It!*


<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experiencing God's Love &amp; Fruits of the Holy Spirit</li> <li>• Preparation of Heart: Prayer, Healing &amp; Forgiveness</li> <li>• Equipping the People Using God's Gifts &amp; Charisms</li> <li>• Salvation &amp; Changed Life: Prayer for the Gifts of the Holy Spirit</li> </ul>	<p><i>Saturday</i>                  April 27                  9:00 am - 5:00 pm                  Cost: \$20.00                  Lunch Included</p> <p><i>Healing Service</i>                  Individual Prayer                  Vigil Mass</p>	<p><i>Location:</i>                  St. Joseph Catholic Church                  Spiritus Center                  3225 College Ave                  Conway, AR 72034</p> <p><i>For More Information</i>                  Contact:                  Marlene @ 479-692-1837                  Leave a message</p>
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Register online at [arccc.org](http://arccc.org) or mail to DCUR, 2500 N Tyler Street, Little Rock, AR 72207

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ # of people registering: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$20.00 ea = \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ ST: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Please list any food allergies: \_\_\_\_\_




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ADORATION · TALK · MUSIC · CONFESSION  
 Thursday, April 25, 2024 · 5:30 - 7:00 pm Service  
 ALL ARE WELCOME!

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# COMMITTEES • ORGANIZATIONS • SERVICE

**Pastor:** Father Ben Riley .....870-741-5234

**Deacon:** Mark Scouten .....870-741-1579

**Secretary:** Lucia McArthur .....870-741-5234

## PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

**CHAIR:** Stacy Burge  
**VICE-CHAIR:** Mary Stephens  
**SECRETARY:** Anne Milburn

Henry Adamos,  
 Terra Atkinson,  
 David Krueger,  
 Joan Lipsmeyer

## FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS

**CHAIR:** Joe Koenig

Emy Adamos, Wes Bradford, Norm Rottler,  
 Patricia Virnig

## PARISH LIFE COUNCIL MEMBERS

**CHAIR:**  
 Holly Coffman

• **COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**  
 Adam Lampe  
 Lucia McArthur  
 Frank Taheny  
 Sherry Zollo

• **FAITH FORMATION COMMITTEE**

Carrie Culhane  
 Dr. Tom Hoberock  
 Julie Jasper  
 Judy Keith  
 Wayne Keith  
 Dc. Mark Scouten

• **SOCIAL COMMITTEE**

Chad Coffman  
 Jason Johnson  
 Jennifer Johnson  
 David Krueger  
 Jennifer Lampe  
 Anne Milburn  
 Robin Reeves  
 Marlene Rowe  
 Renae Whiteside

• **SPIRITUAL COMMITTEE**

Carmen Andrade  
 Jerry Hogue  
 Pat Knickerbocker

Adult Scripture Study: Jerry Hogue.....870-378-2605	Liturgy/Sacraments/Devotions: Dc. Mark Scouten .....870-741-1579
Building/Maintenance:	Music Ministry: Julie Jasper .....870-688-9369
Catholic Christian Women (CCW): Holly Coffman.....870-416-9928	Pastoral Council: Stacy Burge.....870-741-5234
Catholic Youth Ministries (CYM): Holly Coffman .....870-416-9928	Pro-Life: Sandra Guidry .....870-688-5433
Cemetery Committee: Marlene Rowe.....870-715-9962	Religious Education/Formation (PREP): Holly Coffman .....870-416-9928
Communion to Sick/Legion of Mary:	Safe Environment: Holly Coffman .....870-416-9928
Pat Knickerbocker.....405-824-3454	Seven Sisters: Carmen Andrade .....305-815-1795
Custodian: Lori Goulet.....870-404-1935	Social & Charitable Outreach: Lucia McArthur.....870-741-5234
Eucharistic Adoration: Carmen Andrade .....305-815-1795	Trail Life USA: Wes Bradford.....870-743-6103
Finance Council: Joe Koenig .....870-741-5647	Tribunal: Dc. Mark Scouten .....870-741-1579
Flocknote: Lucia McArthur .....870-741-5234	Wedding Coordinator: Bonnie Tauer .....870-688-1084
Head Sacristan: David Krueger .....870-741-5234	Welcome New Catholics (RCIA): Wayne/Judy Keith .....870-365-3570
Knights of Columbus: Jerry Hogue.....870-378-2605	Bulletin Editor: Sherry Zollo.....Email: <a href="mailto:annzsherry@gmail.com">annzsherry@gmail.com</a> *
Knights of Columbus, 4th Degree: Everett Burr.....870-741-8020	
Libraries: Jennifer Johnson.....870-416-9930	

(PLEASE SEND YOUR INFO FOR THE BULLETIN TO THE ABOVE EMAIL)





# *Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel*



St. Michael the Archangel,  
defend us in battle.

Be our safeguard against  
the wickedness

and snares of the devil.

May God rebuke him, we humbly pray,  
and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts,

by the power of God,

cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits  
who roam through the world  
seeking the ruin of souls.

Amen.

MARY MOTHER OF GOD CATHOLIC CHURCH, Harrison, AR

APRIL 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Mar 31</b> <b>EASTER SUNDAY</b> 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ Easter Egg Hunt Light Breakfast ++ CYM Easter Basket <b>RAFFLE</b>	<b>Apr 1</b> NO MASS ++ Hand Bell Choir NO REHEARSAL ++ Office Closed	<b>Apr 2</b> 5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass ++ Knights of Columbus 6PM Fellowship Meal 7PM Meeting	<b>Apr 3</b> 4:30 PM Evening Prayer & Confessions ++ 5:15 PM Benediction 5:30 PM Mass ++ 6 PM PRE Dinner 6:30 PM PRE Classes ++ 7:30 PM - Julie's Office HandChimes Rehearsal	<b>Apr 4</b> 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 3:30 PM Legion of Mary ++ 5:30 PM - Sanctuary P&W Rehearsal ++ 6:30 PM - Sanctuary MMG Choir Rehearsal	<b>Apr 5</b> <b>First Friday</b> 8 AM Patriotic Rosary 8:30 AM Mass 9 AM Fatima Rosary	<b>Apr 6</b> <b>First Saturday</b> 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 9 AM First Saturday Devotions ++ 9-10AM Confessions ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass
<b>Apr 7</b> 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ Second Collection: Maintenance Fund ++ 2 PM BINGO	<b>Apr 8</b> NO MASS ++ Hand Bell Choir 7PM - Rehearsal Julie's Office ++ Office Closed ++ SOLAR ECLIPSE	<b>Apr 9</b> 5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	<b>Apr 10</b> 11 AM Silver Bells Rehearsal & Soup Lunch ++ 4:30 PM Evening Prayer & Confessions ++ 5:15 PM Benediction 5:30 PM Mass ++ 6 PM PRE Dinner 6:30 PM PRE Classes ++ 7:30 PM-Julie's Office HandChimes Rehearsal	<b>Apr 11</b> 8 AM Rosary 8:30AM MASS ++ 9 AM Rosary w/CCW Coffee/Sweets-ParishHall ++ 5:30 PM - Sanctuary P&W Rehearsal ++ 6:30 PM - Sanctuary MMG Choir Rehearsal	<b>Apr 12</b> 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass 9 AM Fatima Rosary	<b>Apr 13</b> 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass
<b>Apr 14</b> 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ FLOAT TRIP <b>Deadline to Sign Up</b> ++ <b>LECTIO DIVINA</b>	<b>Apr 15</b> NO MASS ++ Hand Bell Choir 7PM - Rehearsal Julie's Office ++ <b>3:30 PM</b> <b>Legion of Mary</b>	<b>Apr 16</b> NO MASS	<b>Apr 17</b> NO MASS ++ 6 PM PRE Dinner 6:30 PM PRE Classes ++ 7:30 PM-Julie's Office HandChimes Rehearsal	<b>Apr 18</b> NO MASS ++ 5:30 PM - Sanctuary P&W Rehearsal ++ 6:30 PM - Sanctuary MMG Choir Rehearsal	<b>Apr 19</b> NO MASS ++ <b>Office Closed</b>	<b>Apr 20</b> 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass ++ Diocesan Training
<b>Apr 21</b> 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 2 PM BINGO ++ <b>LECTIO DIVINA</b>	<b>Apr 22</b> NO MASS ++ Hand Bell Choir 7PM - Rehearsal Julie's Office ++ <b>3:30 PM</b> <b>Legion of Mary</b>	<b>Apr 23</b> 5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	<b>Apr 24</b> 4:30 PM Evening Prayer & Confessions ++ 5:15 PM Benediction 5:30 PM Mass ++ 6 PM PRE Dinner 6:30 PM PRE Classes ++ 7:30 PM-Julie's Office HandChimes Rehearsal	<b>Apr 25</b> 8 AM Rosary 8:30AM MASS ++ 5:30 PM - Sanctuary P&W Rehearsal ++ 6:30 PM - Sanctuary MMG Choir Rehearsal	<b>Apr 26</b> 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass 9 AM Fatima Rosary	<b>Apr 27</b> 4:30 PM Rosary ++ 5:00 PM Praise & Worship Mass
<b>Apr 28</b> <b>Graduation Mass</b> 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ <b>LECTIO DIVINA</b>	<b>Apr 29</b> NO MASS ++ Hand Bell Choir 7PM - Rehearsal Julie's Office ++ <b>3:30 PM</b> <b>Legion of Mary</b>	<b>Apr 30</b> 5 PM Rosary 5:30 PM Mass	<b>May 1</b> 4:30 PM Evening Prayer & Confessions ++ 5:15 PM Benediction 5:30 PM Mass ++ 6 PM PRE Dinner 6:30 PM PRE Classes	<b>May 2</b> 8 AM Rosary 8:30AM MASS	<b>May 3</b> <b>First Friday</b> 8 AM Patriotic Rosary 8:30 AM Mass 9 AM Fatima Rosary	<b>May 4</b> <b>First Saturday</b> 8 AM Rosary 8:30 AM Mass ++ 9 AM First Saturday Devotions ++ 9-10AM Confessions ++ 4:30 PM Rosary 5 PM Mass ++ <b>CINCO DE MAYO FIESTA</b>

PLEASE CHECK YOUR WEEKLY BULLETIN FOR POSSIBLE CHANGES TO THIS CALENDAR.

**\*\* ITEMS IN RED ARE REVISIONS \*\***

# DECLINE TO SIGN

## ARKANSAS ABORTION AMENDMENT PETITION

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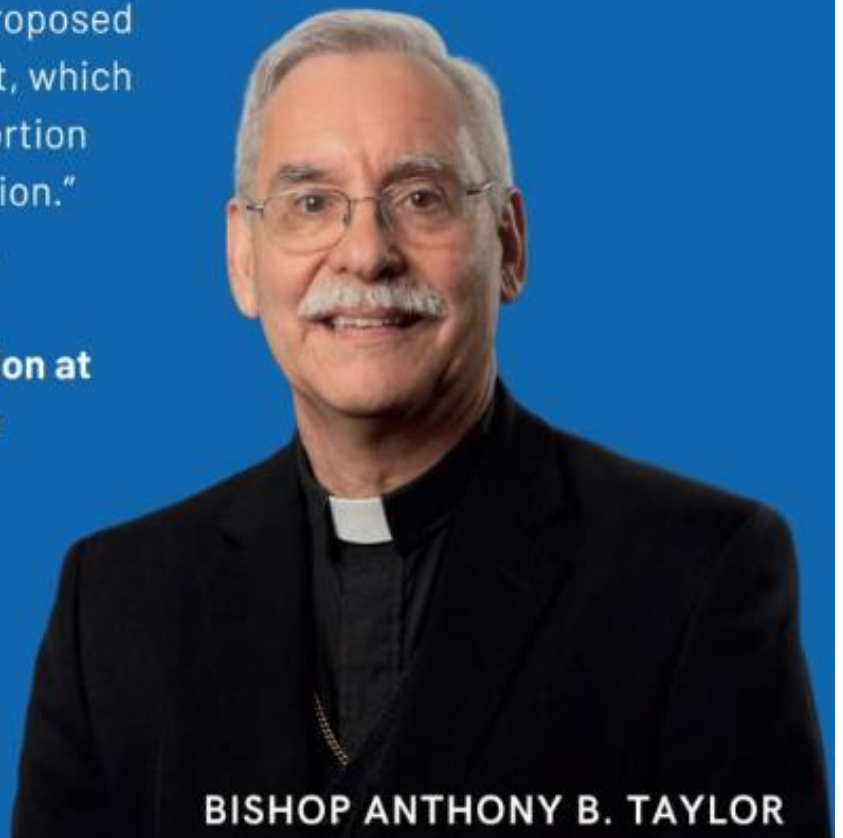
"It is critical that all registered voters decline to sign the petition to allow the Arkansas Abortion Amendment on the November 2024 ballot."

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Through July 5, canvassers are collecting signatures for the proposed Arkansas Abortion Amendment, which would allow unrestricted abortion "within 18 weeks of fertilization."

Please decline to sign.

**Know the truth about abortion at**  
**[dolr.org/declinetosign](https://dolr.org/declinetosign)**



**BISHOP ANTHONY B. TAYLOR**



## DIOCESE OF LITTLE ROCK

2500 North Tyler Street • P.O. Box 7565 • Little Rock, Arkansas 72217 • (501) 664-0340 Fax (501) 664-6304

February 12, 2024

To the People of the Diocese of Little Rock,

A petition is currently being circulated in Arkansas to place an amendment on our November 2024 voting ballots that would change our state constitution to allow abortions until 18 weeks after conception. As Bishop of the Diocese of Little Rock, I urge all Catholics and all people of good will not to sign this petition.

During this campaign to enshrine abortion in our constitution, we expect that our media will be flooded with emotional propaganda. We should all know the truth about abortion and women's healthcare.<sup>1</sup> Abortion, the direct and intentional killing of a child in the womb, is never morally permissible. Abortion is never medically necessary. It does not treat or solve any pregnancy-related complication. It is not the same as treatment for miscarriage, because in miscarriage the baby has already died. Banning abortion does not prevent women from receiving true healthcare that they need. In rare cases, and in the absence of better alternatives, life-threatening maternal health conditions may require interventions that indirectly and unintentionally lead to the death of an unborn child— but this is not abortion.

This radical amendment would also strip our government from protecting women and their unborn children by gutting the state's regulatory laws like requiring parental consent before a minor has an abortion, informed consent and ultrasound requirements, or abortion facility inspection. Arkansas would be unable to protect unborn children who can already feel pain from dismemberment abortion.

The citizens of Arkansas share in the responsibility to legally protect every human life from conception to natural death. It is critical that all registered voters decline to sign the petition to allow the Arkansas Abortion Amendment on the November 2024 ballot. Rather than abortion, women should be provided love, compassion, and support through pregnancy and into each child's early years. Together we can protect the lives of thousands of innocent babies.

Sincerely in Christ,



+Anthony B. Taylor  
Bishop of Little Rock

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<sup>1</sup> USCCB infographic, 2022, *The Truth about Abortion and Women's Health*  
<https://www.usccb.org/resources/Women's%20Health%20Infographic.pdf?bc=sg/m-scanner=d280fd9b-af6d-954b-9122-71e974e6c2e6>

# The Truth About **Abortion** & **Women's Health**

**Abortion does not save women's lives.**

**Abortion** is the **direct** and **intentional** killing of a child in the womb.

**Abortion is never medically necessary.** It does not treat or solve any pregnancy-related complication.

**Outlawing abortion will not affect treatment for miscarriage.**

**Treatment for miscarriage and abortion is not the same thing.**

There is a complete moral and legal difference between losing a child through miscarriage and intentionally taking the life of a child.

In the tragic case of miscarriage, surgery may be necessary—and is an ethical treatment—to remove the remains of an unborn child who has *already died*.

While the same surgery is done to perform an abortion, abortions impose this procedure on a *living child* with the **intention** of ending his or her life.

**Women can get the lifesaving treatments they need—without abortion.**

In rare cases, and in the absence of better alternatives, life-threatening maternal health conditions may require interventions that **indirectly** and **unintentionally** lead to the death of an unborn child. **Abortion restrictions will not prevent women from receiving these treatments.**

When the lives of mother and child are in immediate danger, the goal is to fight to save both patients. **Effective treatments exist that seek to save the life of the mother and never to intentionally harm her unborn child.**

When a woman's life is at risk in pregnancy, preterm delivery may be used as a lifesaving medical intervention to preserve the life of both mother and child.<sup>1</sup>

**Ectopic pregnancies** result when an embryo implants outside the uterus—often in the fallopian tube. Sadly, such embryos cannot survive and this condition can pose serious risks to the mother. While ectopic pregnancies sometimes resolve naturally, interventions are often necessary.

**When done ethically, treatment for an ectopic pregnancy is not abortion.** Ethical interventions include the removal of the damaged fallopian tube containing the embryo or, if embryo death has already occurred, medication can be used to resolve the ectopic pregnancy.

**Bottom line: Abortion restrictions never prevent women from receiving life-saving treatment.<sup>2</sup>**

*If you or someone you know is struggling after involvement in an abortion, the Church offers confidential, compassionate help through Project Rachel Ministry. Visit [www.hopeafterabortion.org](http://www.hopeafterabortion.org) for more information.*

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<sup>1</sup> Busk Miller, C. 2018. "The ethics of interstitial and cesarean scar ectopic pregnancies: four case studies and a review of the literature". The Linacre Quarterly 85(3): 252-269.  
<sup>2</sup> For further information on these topics, reference: [1] National Catholic Bioethics Center, "Medical Interventions During Pregnancy in Light of Dobbs," <https://www.ncbcenter.org/nchc-news/bioethics-public-policy-report-august-17-2022-0002/>. [2] American Association of Pro-Life Obstetricians and Gynecologists, "Myth vs. Fact: Correcting Misinformation on Maternal Medical Care," [https://aaolog.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/AAPOG-Myth-vs-Fact\\_v5.pdf](https://aaolog.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/AAPOG-Myth-vs-Fact_v5.pdf).

# INFORMED

THE FORMED NEWSLETTER FOR PASTORS AND PARISH LEADERS

## FEATURED: WITNESS THE JOY OF EASTER



This Easter, we are called to share the celebration of Christ's Resurrection with those around us. In the closing of his Easter Vigil homily in 2000, St. John Paul II said, "Yes, Christ is truly risen and we are witnesses of this. We proclaim this witness to the world, so that the joy which is ours will reach countless other hearts, kindling in them the light of the hope which does not disappoint." The Lord invites each of us to bring others into the joy of this season so that they too may encounter Christ in the glory of his Resurrection.

The evangelistic invitation of this great mystery must first begin within the family. By sharing with our children and relatives, we are bringing those closest to us into the fold of union with Christ. Through the sacraments, family traditions, and fruitful conversations, your parishioners can begin to share this joy.

To encourage and aid in this invitation, FORMED is offering resources and specials that are designed to share the joy of Easter with the whole family, helping each member deepen their relationship with Christ.



**Holy Week & Easter Special |  
Laugh and Grow Bible for Kids**  
With a wonderful balance of  
entertainment and education, the

*Laugh and Grow Bible* series offers an exciting way for children to connect with the powerful stories of the Bible. Through animation and engaging storytelling, this series provides a foundation for a strong and meaningful understanding of Scripture. In their special on Holy Week and Easter, your families can journey together to encounter Christ after his Resurrection and discover the meaning of his ultimate victory over death.



**He Is Risen! The Power of the  
Resurrection | Brother Francis**  
Encourage your families to embark  
on an educational journey in this

special Eastertime episode of *Brother Francis*. In this show, viewers can witness the pivotal moments of Jesus' life, death, Resurrection, and Ascension into heaven and experience Holy Week and the Easter Triduum in vivid animation. Rooted in Scripture, *Brother Francis* guides its audience through these sacred events, creating a moving and instructive episode that reveals the joyousness of the Easter season.

This Easter, consider how you can encourage your parishioners to witness the joy of the season with this content and more on FORMED.

# HIGHLIGHTS ON FORMED

As we continue witnessing the joy of the Easter season, encourage your parishioners with this informative and exciting content on FORMED:



## *Lectio: Salvation with Dr. Michael Barber*

At every Sunday Mass, Catholics confess that Jesus came down from heaven "for us men and for our salvation." But what does "salvation" mean? In this remarkable 10-part video series, Scripture scholar and theologian Dr. Michael Barber provides a thorough, deeply Catholic, and deeply biblical answer. Drawing from Scripture and Tradition, this series is a wonderful addition to your parish Bible studies and beyond.



## *A Bible Study on the Glorious Mysteries (5-Part Series)*

Have you ever wanted to grow in your understanding and devotion to the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary? Join Dr. Ben Akers and professors from the Augustine Institute Graduate School as they walk through these biblical mysteries and seek to grow in understanding and love for Christ through them.



## *The Resurrection with Dr. Michael Barber*

At the heart of the Gospel message is the story of the Resurrection. Throughout the Easter season, encourage your parishioners to renew their understanding of this great mystery with this talk from the Augustine Institute Bible Conference. Featuring the insight of Dr. Michael Barber, viewers can unpack the biblical account of Christ's Resurrection as they rediscover the joy of Easter.

# LITURGICAL CALENDAR

This April, invite your parishioners to grow as witnesses to the faith with these great resources on FORMED:



## **The Season of Easter**

### *Via Lucis: The Stations of the Resurrection*

*Via Lucis*, or the "Stations of Light," is a devotional practice guiding listeners to reflect on the joy and hope of the Resurrection during the Easter season. Modelled after the Stations of the Cross, which commemorate Jesus' journey to his Crucifixion and death, the *Via Lucis* contain fourteen stations that focus on the events following Christ's Resurrection. Rooted in Scripture, this series is great to pray with your parish.



## **April 7: Divine Mercy Sunday**

### *Misery Meets Mercy: St. Faustina Kowalska*

On May 5, 2000, the Vatican declared the Second Sunday of Easter to be Divine Mercy Sunday, in recognition of Jesus' request to St. Faustina, a mystic and nun from Poland in the 1930s. In this episode of *FORMED Now* join Dr. Ben Akers and Neocatechumenal priest Fr. Mateusz Ratajczak in a conversation around this day and understanding the nature of God's mercy. As viewers dive into this topic of the Father's love, they can discover more of how to drink from this wellspring of God's life.



## **April 25: Feast of St. Mark**

### *Lectio: Mark with Dr. Tim Gray*

As we approach the Feast of St. Mark, encourage your parishioners to celebrate with *Lectio: Mark* with Dr. Tim Gray. In this fascinating 14-part series, viewers can dive into the action-packed Gospel that offers St. Peter's account of Christ's life and teaching. With thoughtful insight and a prayerful approach, this series is great for helping your parish better understand and encounter the Lord in the Gospel of Mark.

# CONTENT SPOTLIGHT

## A Witness to Mercy

The sin of our first parents, Adam and Eve, has distorted the way we see God. But God hasn't given up on us. In fact, he has tirelessly worked to heal our distorted image of him through his "School of Trust," beginning even as far back as the Old Testament.

As we approach the Sunday of Divine Mercy, the Lord invites us to rediscover the trust he calls us to and to encounter his love for us. But how can we witness this love and invite others into it?

*Divine Mercy* with renowned speaker and author Fr. Michael Gaitley, offers a beautiful journey for viewers to walk through as they discover the Lord's mercy. Based on the book *The Second Greatest Story Ever Told* this series tells the dramatic history of God's love and mercy as interwoven through the transformative message of St. Faustina, the miraculous appearance of Mary at

Fatima, the witness of Maximilian Kolbe, and the world-changing papacy of Pope St. John Paul II.

Featuring the brilliant cinematic artistry of the Augustine Institute's film studio, the vast panorama of God's work of mercy in the world unfolds as a story to be experienced. In your parish, bringing the story of divine mercy to your families is more than just an event, but an invitation to receive the Lord's mercy and become witnesses to it.

This 10-episode series walking viewers through the story of God's mercy is perfect for parish programs and discussions. Consider showcasing these episodes as a weekly series on mercy, and invite your parish to ask for the Lord's mercy.

This year, invite your parishioners deeper into the wellspring of mercy with *Divine Mercy with Father Michael Gaitley* on FORMED.



## DEVOTIONAL CONTENT



### *Divine Mercy Chaplet | Franciscan Friars of the Renewal*

As you walk your parishioners through the story of God's mercy, consider also how you can invite your flock into prayer with the Divine Mercy Chaplet, led by the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal. Featuring breathtaking footage from Martin Jernberg, viewers can experience the beauty and breadth of the world and the Catholic Church, with whom and for whom we are praying as they ask the Lord for his mercy.





# Catholic Arkansas Sharing Appeal

## A Message from Your Bishop

My brothers and sisters in Christ, over the course of the last 15 ½ years as your bishop, I have come to marvel at the evident vitality of the Church here in Arkansas. We are a mission diocese and we are a diocese with a mission-in two similar but distinct ways: 1) generous Catholics from outside Arkansas help us with needs we are not able to meet on our own, and 2) generous Catholics from within Arkansas reach out to help others in our state through our annual CASA appeal, through our One Church campaign and in other ways as well.

It is easy for us to forget how much we are still a mission Church, in terms of distance and population. Although we have 130 Churches scattered throughout the state, we still have 8 counties with no Catholic Church and 36 counties without a resident priest—almost half of the state. But in much of Arkansas we continue to grow, especially in the northwest part of the state. Indeed, our Catholic population has tripled in the last 50 years, from 55,000 to 166,000, and we now constitute almost 6% of the general population—we used to be less than 3%. Our growth is due in part to the sacrifices of many Catholics outside of Arkansas. Historically it was missionary priests who came to us from Germany and Italy, and then later Philadelphia, at a time when it was difficult to be a Catholic in Arkansas. Today we continue to be blessed with 22 missionary priests who now come mainly from Africa, Latin America and Asia. Without the help of these generous missionary priests, many of our Churches would not be able to have Mass every weekend. Thanks to them, we have not had to close any Churches for lack of personnel during my time as your bishop.

Other outside help has come to us through the Catholic Extension Society, which over the last 25 years has given us \$4.6 million in grant money for Church construction and help with the salaries of many of our sisters engaged in Hispanic ministry. I encourage you to take a moment to thank our missionary priests and our Religious Order priests and sisters. We owe them a lot! But that's only half of the story. The other half are the sacrifices of many Catholics from within Arkansas. That's you! So I want to take this opportunity to thank all 97 priests of our diocese — the 82 Diocese of Little Rock priests in active ministry and our 15 senior priests. And of course, our Benedictine and other religious order priests. I also want to thank our 25 seminarians who give us so much hope for the future, our 107 permanent deacons in active ministry, the 60 men in formation for the diaconate and almost 150 men and women religious, many of whom are elderly. But you know, the mission of the Church is for all of us, not just the clergy and religious. So, I am grateful for our Knights of Columbus who do so much to support the work of the Church across our diocese, and the Serra Club, the Knights and Dames of the Holy Sepulcher, the Knights and Ladies of Peter Claver, and of course our catechists and RCIA coordinators, and so on...you too are missionaries — home missionaries — and I am so grateful for all your sacrifices and dedicated work spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ in your parishes and local communities.

And of course, it costs a lot of money to fund the operation of the diocese and the activities of the Church in Arkansas, which go well beyond just our diocesan offices—hence our annual Catholic Arkansas Sharing Appeal-CASA. You would be amazed at all that is being done on the diocesan level, about which you can read in the latest issue of our weekly Arkansas Catholic newspaper. The Bible calls us to return 10% of our income to the Lord, most of which you should give to your local parish and other charities, but I do ask you to give 1% of your income to our annual CASA appeal. By supporting the work of the diocese, you participate in the missionary outreach of the Church beyond your local parish.

I want to thank you very sincerely for your exceptionally generous response to CASA last year—we made our goal of \$2,000,000! We are a missionary Church, and we are a Church with a mission! Through CASA you participate in the missionary outreach of Jesus' Church right here in Arkansas!

*Anthony B. Taylor, Bishop of Little Rock*

# MAJOR CHANGES TO SAFE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM!

## In The Diocese of Little Rock



### **WHO must do safe environment training and background checks:**

#### **1) Employees**

#### **2) Volunteers with Routine Contact w/Minors**

- a. This includes only volunteers who have routine contact with minors as an essential part of their volunteer duties.
- b. Volunteers who do not have routine contact with minors as an essential part of their duties do not have to do safe environment training or background checks

#### **3) Eucharistic Ministers who serve the homebound**

### **WHAT training programs:**

**“CMG Connect”** online training for **adults**

(<http://www.dolr.org/safe-environment>)

(Or directly at: <http://littlerock.CMGconnect.org>)

**“Circle of Grace”** in-classroom training for children/youth

We will no longer use VIRTUS’s “protecting God’s Children” or “Touching Safety”. Instead, we will use products supported by **Catholic Mutual Group (CMG)**.

All data from VIRTUS will be moved over to CMG Connect. No one who has already done safe environment training and a background check will have to re-do anything at this time. Users who are due for a 5-year recertification will be notified how to do that by their parish/school safe environment coordinator, who will also have information on both new programs.”