



WEEKLY MEMO from BMW

Date: June 6, 2014  
From: Bishop Michael W. Warfel  
To: Clergy, Religious, Lay Ecclesial Ministers et al

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This weekend I will ordain nine men to the permanent diaconate. Please remember to pray for Robert Ackerman, Robert Ferguson, Tom Landry, Ed Malone, Tim Maroney, Richard Miske, Jim Rodgers, Greg Simpson, and, Peter Woelkers who will soon begin their ministry on behalf of the Diocese of Great Falls-Billings. Also, remember to pray for Deacon David Wilkins and Deacon Garret Nelson. David will be ordained a priest at St. Ann's Cathedral on Tuesday, June 24, 2014 and Garret will be ordained a priest at St. Patrick's Co-cathedral on Thursday, June 26, 2014.

Also, I would like to remind you to remember the priests serving in the Diocese. On Friday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Church universal observes "World Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests." Helpful resources to observe this day in the parish may be found at <http://www.worldpriestday.com/world-priest-day-theme/>. I urge all parishes to implement this observance and join together to pray for our priests. Those hitting milestones and celebrating significant ordination anniversaries this year are: Fr. Leo McDowell, Fr. Michael Schneider and Fr. Bob Sewvello mark their 20<sup>th</sup> year of ordination; Fr. Steve Zabrocki and Fr. Marcel Vogel mark their 25<sup>th</sup> year of ordination; Fr. Dick Schlosser, Fr. Bob Grosch and Fr. Joseph Ponessa mark their 40<sup>th</sup> year of ordination; Fr. John Houlihan marks his 50<sup>th</sup> year of ordination; Fr. Ray Nyquist and Fr. Charlie Gorman mark their 60<sup>th</sup> year of ordination; Fr. Richard Hopkins marks his 70<sup>th</sup> year of ordination. Please remember to thank them for their priestly service.

Catholic Rural Life is collaborating with Catholic Relief Service to implement the Farmer- to-Farmer program. The program promotes sustainable economic growth, food security and agricultural development. They are looking for volunteer technical assistance from US farmers, business people, universities, etc., to help develop productivity, to access new markets and conserve environmental and natural resources. Volunteers work with farmers, producer groups, rural businesses and service providers. Volunteers are not paid, but all expenses are covered by CRS, including pre-departure costs (passport, visa, vaccinations), airfare, lodging, meals and in-country transportation. Presently there are around 500 projects in Ethiopia, Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya. Length of volunteer service is generally for several weeks. For more information contact Beth Hyer at: [beth@ncrlc.com](mailto:beth@ncrlc.com) or [www.farmertofarmer.crs.org](http://www.farmertofarmer.crs.org).

The Vatican recently released *Praying the Rosary with Pope Francis* published in the US by USCCB Communications. It is a small pamphlet with quotations from homilies and talks by Pope Francis that connect with the particular mystery of the rosary. They are \$7.95 a piece but may be ordered via the Bishop's Only site for \$4.77 a copy. If

interested, contact Laurie Horton at the Chancery so that they may be ordered in bulk. There is a July 15 deadline for the order to be received.

The USCCB spring meeting is in New Orleans next week. I'll need to travel there a day early, on Monday, since I'm on the Committee for Priorities and Plans. I return on Friday in time for Fr. Zabrocki's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration on Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup>. Fr. Bob Grosch will be representing priests from Region XII.

I would like again to mention the **Fortnight for Freedom: Freedom to Serve** program which begins on June 21<sup>st</sup> and runs through July 4<sup>th</sup>. There is an ample amount of materials available at [www.Fortnight4Freedom.org](http://www.Fortnight4Freedom.org) to include a 14-Day Study Guide, Homily Helps, sample Prayers of the Faithful, a Holy Hour Template and a sheet with frequently asked Q & A. I encourage all to participate in some way.

Archbishop ListECKI of Milwaukee, is the Episcopal Advisor for the Rosary Evangelization Apostolate. He recently sent a letter from this group noting that they will provide bumper stickers, free of charge, with the slogan **Help America Pray the Rosary**. A diocese may request any quantity. The bumper stickers come in lots of 250. If there is interest in obtaining these, please contact the Chancery.

As for my schedule for the near future, in addition to what I have mentioned above, I will be celebrating Mass at Big Timber this Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup> and at St. Patrick's on Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup> at the Vigil Mass. On Wednesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, I will celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary Mass in honor of Fr. Ray Nyquist at St. Ann Cathedral at 11:00 AM. On Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, I'll be off to Chicago for a meeting with the Catholic Common Ground Initiative and return Saturday evening.