



WEEKLY MEMO from BMW

Date: March 28, 2014
From: Bishop Michael W. Warfel
To: Clergy, Religious, Lay Ecclesial Ministers et al

We are now a couple of weeks into the Care and Share Catholic Appeal for 2014. **Please remember to talk about the Care and Share Catholic appeal** in your respective parishes. It is a primary funding source for the Diocese. It is my sense that many of our parishioners do not fully realize how important the appeal is for allowing us to function as a diocese.

The annual **Chrism Mass** will be celebrated at St. Ann's Cathedral at 6:00 PM on Monday, April 14th. It will be preceded by a Day of Prayer and Reflection for priests serving in the Diocese. The Day of Prayer and Reflection begins at 10:00 AM and will conclude early afternoon to allow the priests sufficient time to have dinner before the Mass. **I ask that all priests intending to come to the Day of Prayer and Reflection please RSVP to Laurie at the Chancery.** In preparation for the Chrism Mass, I encourage all priests to read through the ritual in the Roman Missal. It says much about the intention and purpose of this liturgy and especially with regard to priesthood. As noted in the instruction: "This Mass, which the Bishop concelebrates with his presbyterate, should be, as it were, a manifestation of the Priest's communion with their Bishop, accordingly it is desirable that all the Priests participate in it, insofar as possible..."

For the next couple of weeks, due to necessary meetings on behalf of the Diocese outside of Montana (e.g., for insurance and benefit related matters) a number of key diocesan staff people may not be readily accessible. I ask for your patience until they return to the office.

I placed a note in my last Memo on the next **World Youth Day Pilgrimage** that will be held in **Krakow, Poland**. Info is likewise available on the Diocesan Website. The brochures can be downloaded and printed out from the site. The dates are July 19 through August 1, 2016. Cost of the pilgrimage is \$3800 if departing from Great Falls. Mandy Bell from Glasgow is organizing the trip for the Diocese. Please begin promoting it in your parishes and/or considering joining the pilgrimage yourself. While I know it is yet quite early, **it would be helpful to have some indication of interest**, so please let Mandy know from your respective parishes if there are young people interested. It is my hope to have at least 40 pilgrims participating in this experience.

I have begun some initial plans on a pilgrimage for the 8th World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia that will take place on September 22-27, 2015. It is expected to draw a global audience which will increase exponentially if Pope Francis decides to be present.

In addition to a direct invitation from Archbishop Chaput and the Governor of Pennsylvania, President Obama invited the Pope also. As such, it is quite likely that Pope Francis will be in attendance.

Please plan to join me at the Rural Life Conference set for Saturday, April 26, 2014, beginning at 9:00 am at St. Benedict Church in Roundup. This conference is for anyone who eats or drives a vehicle because your life is touched daily by the development of oil, gas and coal. The day begins at 9:00 am and ends with Mass and the presentation of the *Edwin V. O'Hara Rural Life Award* at 2:30 pm. The program includes a panel discussion on Catholic teaching and the energy development industry, which affects so many of our rural areas, parishes and Catholic families. To register simply send your name to chancellor@dioceseofqfb.org. This conference is free.

Last week, I was in Zambia as a part of a delegation with Catholic Relief Services. Though I was in Zambia for a brief period of time (2 ½ days), it seemed to be a worthwhile experience. The workers for CRS are incredibly gifted and committed people, most of whom have their families with them. Working in often difficult circumstances, they provide aid to some of the neediest of people in our world. Of course, much of what they strive to do is help people to help themselves. In one of the outlying villages we visited, the staff demonstrated how they have been able to help vulnerable farmers to move from purely subsistence farming to producing for markets. Through this cooperative venture, the villagers were able to enhance their livelihood. Given the general level of poor health and lack of education among villagers, I thought it was a very effective program. We also visited the Kasisi Children's Home, another CRS sponsored program, which serves orphaned children. There are 240 children in residence of which 80 children and infants have HIV/AIDS.

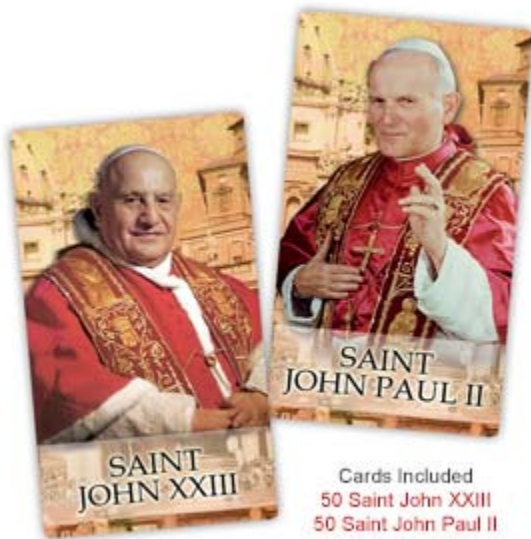
This Saturday, March 29th, I will participate in a youth retreat at Sacred Heart Parish, Miles City. On Sunday, I'll be celebrating Mass at St. William's Parish followed by a parish retreat for St. William's Parish in Gardiner beginning on Monday evening, March 31st through April 3rd. On Sunday afternoon, I and Fr. Leo McDowell will be visiting with students at MSU-Bozeman.

You might want to investigate www.Diocese.com. This company has developed nice resources to celebrate the Canonization of Pope John Paul II and Pope John XXIII. They have created a large, high quality banner that you can place around your Church in the weeks leading up to April 27th. One of these will be in the vestibule at St. Ann's Cathedral. Looking ahead, I will be celebrating **a Mass of Thanksgiving on the occasion of the canonization of these two Pope's at St. Ann's Cathedral on Thursday, May 1st at 6:00 PM.** Priests are, of course, invited to concelebrate.

Banner Information

- Free retractable stand included!
- Size: 33"x80" (over 6.5' tall)
- Easy to move and store
- Vibrant, eye catching color.

In addition to the large banner, they have created high quality prayer cards of each Pope. They are conveniently sized at 2" x 3.5." This makes them small enough to carry with you in your pocket, purse or wallet. *A great item to give to your parishioners.*



Cards Included
50 Saint John XXIII
50 Saint John Paul II

