



September 14, 2017

Dear Monsignor, Father, or Sister,

Last year we had a tremendous response from our vocation discernment dinners. Altogether, about 80 men attended the St. Andrew Dinners and 28 young women attended the Miriam Dinner. This year we will continue with these two programs to help build a culture of vocations in our parishes, schools, families, and diocese. As of this date, we have five St. Andrew Dinners and one Miriam Dinner scheduled.

St. Andrew Dinners

Monday, October 2	Church of the Good Shepherd, West Middlesex
Thursday, October 12	Ss. Cosmas and Damian, Punxsutawney
Monday, November 6	Our Lady of Peace, Erie
Sunday, November 12	Our Lady, Queen of the Americas, Conneaut Lake
Sunday, February 11	St. Eulalia, Coudersport

Miriam Dinner

Wednesday, October 18 Julia House, Erie

At the dinners, we will spend some time in discussion about discipleship, discernment, the priesthood, the consecrated life and, ultimately, a relationship with the Lord. The dinners give me the opportunity to meet young men and women in a non-liturgical, relaxed setting, to interact with them, and to encourage them to follow the Lord's call.

Speak to your religious education teachers, youth ministers, all those who work with the youth, to assist you in identifying young men and women who might benefit from such an experience. Priests and sisters who have invited a young man or woman who will attend one of the dinners are encouraged to attend that dinner as well. **Please remember that all diocesan norms regarding the transportation of minors should be adhered to.**

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Lawrence T. Persico

The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, JCL
Bishop of Erie



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High school students invited to National Catholic Youth Conference

High school students in Erie who would like to attend the National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) Nov. 16-19 in Indianapolis, but whose parishes are not planning to attend, are invited to contact Kathleen Peterson, director for Youth & Family Ministry at Our Lady of Peace Parish, Erie, at kathleen.peterson@olp.org or at 814-833-7701, ext. 234. The contingent from Our Lady of Peace welcomes you to join them. The cost for the trip is \$300. The registration deadline is Sept. 25. A \$40 late fee is added for registrations after that date.

‘Spirituality and Gender’ is topic of Mercyhurst lecture

Greg Baker, campus minister at Mercyhurst University, Erie, will deliver a public lecture at Mercyhurst’s Walker Recital Hall Oct. 4 at 7 p.m. His topic is “Spirituality and Gender: Catholic Perspectives on a Whole and Just Life.” See the attached flier for more information.

Rosary March marks 100th anniversary of Fatima

The 23rd annual Rosary March in the Diocese of Erie will be held Oct. 8 at 2 p.m. at St. Peter Cathedral, W. 10th and Sassafras streets, Erie. Bishop Lawrence Persico will give the homily at the Cathedral following the march through the downtown area. The World Apostolate of Fatima is sponsoring the event, which takes on special meaning this year as the Catholic Church celebrates the 100th anniversary of the appearance of the Blessed Mother to three children in Fatima, Portugal.

**OFFICE OF THE TRIBUNAL AND
MATRIMONIAL CONCERNS
ANNULMENT INFORMATION SESSIONS**

In December of 2015,

Pope Francis launched the most significant reform of the Church’s norms regarding the nullity of marriage in over 30 years. His desire to enact this reform was “fed by the great number of Christian faithful who, as they seek to assuage their consciences, are often kept back from the juridical structures of the Church because of physical or moral distance. Thus charity and mercy demand that the Church, like a good mother, be near her children who feel themselves estranged from her” (Mitis iudex Dominus Iesus, Introduction).

It is with this in mind that the Office of the Tribunal and Matrimonial Concerns is pleased to take our services on the road to the people of the Diocese of Erie in a series of information sessions about the process for a declaration of nullity, or an annulment, in the Catholic Church.

WHO?

Anyone who is interested in pursuing a declaration of nullity or who simply would like to learn about the process is invited.

WHAT?

Each session will include a short presentation on the annulment process followed by the opportunity for individuals to meet one-on-one with a member of the Tribunal staff to ask individual questions and to get the process started.

WHERE & WHEN?

Each session will begin at 7:00 PM at the following parishes:

- October 4th, Notre Dame, Hermitage
- October 11th, St. Bernard, Bradford
- October 18th, St. Catherine, Dubois
- October 25th, St. Boniface, Erie

Please call 814-824-1140 with any questions.

Hope to see you there