Join the Couple to Couple League in prayer for NFP Week

Submitted
Engaged and married couples of all ages are invited to join the Northern Kentucky Chapter of the Couple to Couple League for prayer and fellowship in observance of Natural Family Planning Week, July 24-30.

Teaching couples and promoters from the League will gather at St. Anthony Church, Taylor Mill, July 30, 10 a.m., for Mass followed by a continental breakfast.

“We are hoping many friends and couples we have taught over the years will join us,” said William Purcell, coordinator of the local chapter.

Members of the local chapter have requested Masses at a number of parishes for the intention of the Couple to Couple League and couples who use Natural Family Planning. Scheduled Masses are listed here, but check your parish bulletin for more.

Bishop Foye's Our Lady of Lourdes as personal, quasi-parish

Laura Koerner

Bishop's Schedule

July 15 Mass, Carmel Manor, Mt. Thomas, 9:30 a.m.
Vespers with the postulant, Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption, Covington, 4:30 p.m.
July 16 Mass and dedication of Marian grotto, St. Peter and Paul Parish, California, 5 p.m.
July 17 Mass, St. Benedict Parish, Covington, 8 a.m.
July 18 Mass, St. Benedict Parish, Covington, 8 a.m.
DPA Priests' Committee meeting, 10 a.m.
Individual meeting, 2 p.m.
July 19 Mass, St. Benedict Parish, 8 a.m.
Diocesan Building Commission meeting, 10 a.m.
Diners' meeting, 1:30 p.m.
Holy Hour and Mass for vocations, Thomas More College chapels, 9:30 a.m.
July 20 Mass, St. Benedict Parish, 8 a.m.
July 21 Diocesan staff directors' meeting, 9:30 a.m.
Serra Club seminarian cookout, Ryland Lakes County Club, noon
Episcopal Council meeting, 1:30 p.m.
Confession, St. Benedict Parish, 6 p.m.
Mass, St. Benedict Parish, 7 p.m.
July 22 Mass, St. Benedict Parish, 8 a.m.
Individual meeting, 9 a.m.
Diocesan staff and seminarian gathering, 11:30 a.m.
July 23 Mass, St. Benedict Parish, 4:30 p.m.
July 24 Mass and dedication of altar and church, St. Mary Parish, Florence, 9:30 a.m.
July 24-Aug. 2 World Youth Day

In his decree Bishop Foye notes that “the Christian faithful who assist at the liturgy according to the Extraordinary Form of the Roman rite throughout the Diocese of Covington have requested a more stable canonical structure for their community in order to guarantee its continued vitality and rightful place within the life of the Church.”

Therefore, in order to provide for the good of souls, the personal, quasi-parish of Our Lady of Lourdes is being erected.

Father Michael Barth, judicial vicar for the Diocese of Covington, said that the Code of Canon Law defines a quasi-parish as functioning as a parish but that the patronage or community have not yet reached a level of stability. A personal parish, he said, serves a particular group and its members are not defined by geography — in the case of Our Lady of Lourdes that group is the faithful who are attached to the extraordinary form of the Roman rite. In addition to Mass, all sacramental and ritual celebrations (for example, weddings and funerals) celebrated at Our Lady of Lourdes will use the rites prior to 1962.

Bishop Foye, in “Summorum Pontificum,” explains that the ordinary and extraordinary forms of the Roman Missal are both not only valid but also are two uses of one Roman rite. “The Roman Missal promulgated by Pope Paul VI is the ordinary expression of the law or rite of prayer of the Catholic Church of the Latin rite. The Roman Missal promulgated by St. Pius V and revised by Blessed John XXIII is nonetheless to be considered an extraordinary expression of the same lex orandi of the Church and duly honored for its venerable and ancient tradition. These two expressions of the Church’s lex orandi will in no way lead to a division in the Church’s lex credendi (rule of faith); for they are two uses of the one Roman rite.”

To be clear, Our Lady of Lourdes Quasi-parish is in full communion with the Catholic Church and is under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Covington.

Bishop Foye has appointed Missionaries of St. John the Baptist Fathers Shannon Collins and Sean Kopczynski, parochial administrator and parochial vicar, of the quasi-parish, respectively.

The Missionaries of St. John the Baptist are a recently created private association. Father Collins and Father Kopczynski, currently the only two members of the association, are for members of the Fathers of Mercy, Kentucky. The association, as well as the Fathers of Mercy, claim Father Jean Baptiste Ruanz as its founder and are an order of preachers who primarily conduct parish missions and retreats.

Five years ago, both Father Collins and Father Kopczynski desired to promote the extraordinary form of the Roman rite and of sacramental rituals and were encouraged by their religious superiors to seek a benevolent bishop that would support their mission and ministry.

“Bishop Foye opened the door and we took him up on it,” said Father Kopczynski in an interview June 24 at Our Lady of Lourdes Quasi-parish.

Crows were busy painting and renaming the former “Faith Church” building, a non-denominational faith community. The first Mass for Our Lady of Lourdes Quasi-parish will be held in the church underfoot while substantial renovations to the sanctuary and rear of the church are completed. Father Collins and Father Kopczynski have acquired a pipe organ and many statues, Stations of the Cross, and other sacramental necessities to transform the original Lutheran church building into a proper Catholic church building.

The $350,000 renovation project will include a 20-foot outdoor gutter, similar to the gutter in Lourdes. Currently private donations from members and friends total $22,000 — almost 60 percent of the funds needed for the renovation.

“We would like to have this building open for shrines like,” said Father Kopczynski. “We are going to have a gothic where you can light candles, day or night, where you can pray — a core of refuge to pray and find renewed hope.”

Father Kopczynski said that about 50 people regularly attend Mass that has been celebrated very early Sunday mornings at St. Bernard Church, Dayton. Once the community is settled at Our Lady of Lourdes Quasi-parish he expects the number will increase and that two weekend Masses may be offered. He is looking forward to offering the faithful attached to the extraordinary form of the Roman rite a place to call ‘home.’

“People need a home where they can find rest... People are longing to call a place home,” he said.

For information visit the Missionaries of St. John the Baptist online at www.msbcref.org.