

ARCH SUPPORT

Issue 158

August 2023

From The Desk Of The Chancellor...

Unexpected Occasions of Grace is the title of a short book of stories written by Mike Carotta, a nationally recognized religious educator and consultant who worked in the Archdiocese of Louisville many years ago as our Director of Youth Ministry. In the book he tells of experiences he has had with a baseball coach in a Boston bar, a hotel shuttle driver at an airport, during a retreat Mass, at a winery in Sonoma, a rectory kitchen, a youth conference, an exchange between inner city principals, a high school reunion, the front porch one evening, the health club before dawn, a funeral request, while on a subway, and many more everyday settings. He refers to these encounters as “occasions of grace.”

Mike was one of the presenters when more than 70 of our lay ecclesial ministers gathered in July for an assembly we held at St. Meinrad Seminary. The group included music ministers, pastoral associates, parish catechetical leaders, youth ministers, business managers, and a variety of agency personnel from Catholic Cemeteries, Catholic Charities, Multicultural Ministry, Catholic Schools, and others. The four-day event was a wonderful time for learning, prayer, relaxation, and community building. While we were there we prayed for our colleagues, present and missing, and therefore prayed for you.

The theme of the assembly was the *Call to Leadership and Discipleship*. This call depends on God’s initiative and our response in faith. We need grace in order to respond. As Catholics, we understand that grace is first a gift of the Holy Spirit. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches, “Grace is favor, the free and undeserved help that God gives us to respond to his call to become children of God.” We are certainly aware of the sanctifying grace we receive through the sacraments of the Church. Through it we become a “new creation,” as daughters and sons of God.

In Mike’s book, he relates experiences when he observes how individuals express something about God’s presence, God’s grace, in their lives. He suggests that these encounters are teachable moments.

Since the assembly, I have paid new attention to situations during which it appears that persons are acting on their faith in unexpected ways:

- On the Feast of the Transfiguration, my parish, St. Patrick, celebrated the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick. Members of the congregation wishing to be anointed were invited to come forward for the anointing. I was moved by the fact that at just this one Mass, thirty-eight parishioners from various age groups came to stand before the altar. They were permitted to have family members or other supporters join them and stand behind them with their hands on their shoulders. As the anointing progressed, parishioners noticed some being anointed without anyone with them. In complete silence and without instruction, folks left their pews and came forward to stand behind anyone without visible support. No one stood alone. This was an unexpected occasion of grace.

- A few weeks ago, while on summer vacation, four of us visited Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, the place of the famous and tragic civil war battle and later Lincoln's address. On a tour one evening, the guide identified one of about two dozen "Witness Trees" that are reported to be old enough to have been standing during and after the 3-day battle in 1863. The one we saw even had bullet holes in the bark. What occurred next was unexpected when some folks on the tour moved up and placed their hands on the tree, some clearly praying. One told me she was praying for those she believed had lost their lives at the foot of the tree. Everyone present knew we were standing on sacred ground.

We are all moving into one of the busiest times of the year. More changes than usual are occurring with full fall calendars, new software, medical insurance changes, and new staff members. As you move through these weeks, I encourage you to pay extra attention to unexpected occasions of grace. These may be inspiring moments to nurture your own faith.

Be good to yourself. Let's continue to pray for one another.

Let us continue to pray for one another.



Take Note...From Brad Harruff CATHOLIC MUTUAL CLAIMS/RISK MANAGER

Storm season started early this year and shows no signs of letting up. Some things you can do at your location may help. Such as:

1. Trimming trees and removing dead ones
2. Never store valuable records or items on the floor of the lowest level of the building
3. Repair minor damage areas on roofs and clear the gutters
4. Use battery backups on sump pumps that endure heavy use in storms
5. Use surge protection on valuable systems whenever possible.

Special event certificates and payments now come directly to Catholic Mutual office at the Maloney Center

On certificates of insurance requested by third parties, to be named additional protected, be sure to get that requirement in writing from them and send a copy of the full contract that notes the requirement in your request.

Billing questions can go directly to our account manager Shelly Grote at 1-800-228-6108 Ext. 2367

Premium payments are not on a structured schedule, so if your location prefers monthly, quarterly, or lump sum payments they are all acceptable.

Thanks to all of you that have or are suffering from storm damage for being extremely helpful and understanding with our office and amid the frustration with vendors who are understandably backed up.

Be sure to consider using Catholic Mutual's video training for picnics and a variety of issues at the CMGConnect training hub.

Stay safe.



Help Your Parishioners Plan Ahead

Did you know that approximately 67% of American adults don't have a will? Your parishioners may plan to remember your parish in their will, but many have never finalized or even begun their estate planning. The Office of Mission Advancement offers several estate planning resources for you and your parishioners.

1. We can help your parish set up an estate planning information session, with a local attorney, for your parishioners to learn more about wills, trusts, Medicare planning and more. These sessions are complimentary and provide basic information.
2. We can provide bulletin blurbs and newsletter inserts that emphasize the importance of estate planning and how easy it is to get started.

For more information, contact Melody Denson at 502-585-3291, Ext. 1117.



New Employee Welcome and Orientation

Lunch-and-Learn Session

Wednesday, September 20, 2023
11:30 am – 2:30 pm, Pastoral Center

The Archdiocese of Louisville is hosting a welcome and orientation session for new parish and archdiocesan employees. This three-hour, lunch-and-learn format will acquaint new employees with the Archdiocese, explore the collaborative relationship between our agencies and parishes, and highlight archdiocesan resources frequently requested by parishes.

Agenda content is primarily intended for employees hired in the past year, though longer-term staff who would benefit from the introductory content are also welcome to attend.

Please register online at:

www.archlou.org/welcome-and-orientation/

Attendance for this session is limited to the first 50 registrants.

When: Wednesday, September 20, 2023
Program: 11:30 am – 2:30 pm
Optional tour of the Pastoral Center at the conclusion

Where: Archdiocese of Louisville
Pastoral Center
3940 Poplar Level Road
Louisville, KY 40213

For more information, contact Mr. Tink Guthrie at (502) 585-3291 or tguthrie@archlou.org.



Slips, Trips and Falls

I think it is safe to say **SUMMER** has finally arrived! It has been a relatively mild Summer, but the heat on any given day can still be tremendous. Please remember to stay hydrated.



In looking back over our past few years, I thought it would be a good idea to review the top categories of Workers Compensation claims exposure for the Archdiocese. In 2022, Slips, Trips and Falls were significantly less than 2021, but they remain our highest claim category under the Archdiocese Workers Compensation Insurance. We saw a significant improvement in all categories in 2020 over previous years, but this was for one obvious reason: Due to the Covid Pandemic, no one was at work; therefore, there were not nearly as many claims. In 2021, we took a tremendous backslide topping the \$250,000.00 mark. In 2022, our numbers indicate a significant improvement over 2021; however, we still have two categories, Slips on Ice and Trips On Same Level, that contribute to our claims history. Thanks to the efforts of our Safety Coordinators, 2022 was not nearly as bad as 2021. Our claims history for these types of injuries in 2021 versus 2022 are as follows:

	2021-YTD	2022-YTD	Change	
1. <u>Slips On Ice</u>	\$0.00	\$18,478.00	Up	\$18,478.00
2. <u>Trips On Same Level</u>	\$204,957.00	\$15,614.00	Down	<\$189,343.00>
3. <u>Trips On Stairs</u>	\$0.00	\$0.00	No Chg.	\$0.00
4. <u>Falls From Diff. Level</u>	\$0.00	\$0.00	No Chg.	\$0.00
5. <u>Falls On Wet Floors</u>	\$0.00	\$0.00	No Chg.	\$0.00
Totals	\$34,092.00	\$14,354.00	Down	<\$170,865.00>

While 2022 showed a significant improvement over 2021, we cannot let down our guard. Safety is something that needs to be constantly remembered and monitored. Here are a few things we all can continue to do to help promote Safety and prevent Slips Trips and Falls.

1. **Slips On Ice** – Clear snow and ice from parking lots, walks and steps as soon as possible. Pay particular attention to areas that do not receive direct sunlight, these areas tend to accumulate snow and ice faster and more often than others. In those areas apply salt or ice melt materials. Most of all have a solid plan in place that is to be followed when weather conditions dictate.



Preventing
Slips, Trips & Falls



2. **Trips On Same Level** – Pay attention to placement of low objects like book bags, back-packs, boxes, rolled up throw rugs, desks and chairs. Remove these objects from work areas and walkways immediately and store them properly. Periodically walk around and assess all areas for potential hazards.

3. **Trips On Stairs** – Pay attention to step treads and lose bull nosing on stairs. Make sure ALL handrails are securely fastened to the wall. Encourage employees to use the handrail that is provided when going up and down steps.
4. **Falls From Ladders** – Check all ladders to be sure they are in good working condition. If they are old and worn out, discard them and replace them with new OSHA approved ladders. Check scaffolding before every use. Make sure all safety rails are in place. If climbing a scaffold greater than six (6) feet off the ground, be sure to use proper “Fall Protection” for the safety of our employee’s. This is an OSHA required safety standard.
5. **Falls On Wet Floors** – Place “WET FLOOR” signs in a conspicuous place when mopping floors. If it is a high traffic area consider keeping the personnel responsible for the project on site to warn people about the wet floor until it is substantially or completely dry. For particularly difficult hard surface areas consider looking in to slip resistant cleaners and floor care products or provide walk-off mats.

SLIPS, TRIPS and FALLS are not 100% preventable; but they can be significantly reduced with just a little attention to the details described above. Your designated Safety Coordinator has been given information in much greater detail pertaining to these types of injury categories. The decrease in 2022 directly correlates to the efforts of our Safety Coordinators at your parish.

If you have any questions or need additional help evaluating specific situations in your facilities, please feel free to give Bill Zoeller, Archdiocese of Louisville, Director of Facilities, a call. He can be reached at 502-636-0296 x1227.



YMCA OF GREATER LOUISVILLE

We are happy to announce that all Archdiocese of Louisville employees are eligible to join the YMCA with a 100% discount on the joining fee. Please see the flyer included for all YMCA benefits.

The Archdiocese of Louisville employees can go to any Greater Louisville area YMCA October 9 - 15, 2023 for a free week at the Y! Be sure to take a copy of the flyer included with this newsletter with you.

**EMPOWER EDUCATION SERIES**

Join us for a live webinar: An Apple a Day - Planning for Retirement Health Costs

Key takeaways

Join us for a live webinar to discuss:

- 1 Planning for future healthcare expenses in retirement
- 2 What you need to know about Medicare

➤ educationseries.empowermytime.com



Sessions are available throughout the month.
Register today. Use the link to the left or the QR code to sign up for the session that best fits your schedule.

Closed Captioning (CC) is available for all sessions. Ofrecemos sesiones de educación en español.

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Arch Support Meetings
October 2023 Annual Benefit Meetings

Dates & Times will be announced by email

Please note these October Meetings are the 2024 Annual Benefit Meetings. A representative from each group participating in the benefit program is required to attend one of these meetings. Representatives will receive a Signup Genius link for these meetings, so we can accommodate the number of people in each meeting.



Parish and Regional Schools Business Manager Roundtable
August Roundtable
Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 11:00am
Location: St. Peter the Apostle
Hosted by: Adam Thieneman
RSVP & agenda items to: athieneman@saintpeterapostle.org

Humana Go365 Update

As announced in February, our medical plan with Humana along with the Go365 program will be ending 12/31/2023.

Since there will be many members moving off the plan at the same time, we recommend you shop and use your Go365 Bucks as early as possible. This will help to ensure your favorite ecard, clothing item, or fitness device is still available!

In addition, shopping early will provide you with extra time to resolve technical issues and glitches, should they arise.

Please remember that you will lose your Go365 Bucks if you do not spend them by 12/31/2023! So have fun and shop now!



WE ARE ROLLING OUT THE RED CARPET TO WELCOME.....

- Alaina Bleuel, Housekeeping – Pastoral Center
- Chaz English, Associate Director - Tribunal
- Lindsay Jenkins, Design & Digital Media Specialist – The Record
- Brian Lewis, Maintenance – Facilities
- Todd Popson, Associate Director – Vocations
- Lucie Stansbury, Editorial & Advertising Assistant – The Record

**2023 Parish Mailing Dates**

September 8
September 22
October 6
October 20
November 3
November 17
December 8

**ARCH SUPPORT ON THE WEB**

To read this newsletter online or print additional copies: Go to the archdiocesan web site www.archlou.org

- Click on “About the Archdiocese.”
- Click on “Publications/Media”
- Click on “Arch Support”
- Choose Specific Issue