

From Bishop Burbidge:

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, I write to you on this effective date for the General Norms for the Celebration of the Sacred Liturgy of the Mass in the Forma Ordinaria in the Diocese of Raleigh (October 19). I express my gratitude for how many of you have taken the time to review the text of these Norms and the bulletin inserts which have served to amplify the theological foundations for the Sacred Liturgy. I also express my appreciation to our priests, deacons, religious and lay faithful who attended the workshops on these Norms held throughout our Diocese. These workshops are now available on DVD from our Diocesan Office of Worship and thus will continue to serve as an important resource for the on-going liturgical formation of four many parish communities on these Norms. Later this month, with our new full-time Director for the Office of Worship, Mr. Gerry Hall, further resources for liturgical formation will be made available to parishes throughout our Diocese. Through the manifold graces of the spiritual life, our Lord Jesus continually invites each of us into a more profound relationship with Him and His People. As the Church at prayer, may these Norms guide us to celebrate the mystery of our faith with even greater reverence, care, devotion and love. With the intercession of Mary, Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, Patroness of the Diocese of Raleigh, may you remain ever close to Her Son so that, having been nourished by Him at Mass, you may be, in words of our Holy Father, Benedict XVI, "witnesses of hope." Sincerely in Christ, Most Reverend Michael Burbidge

News Conference on Justice for Immigrants

Bishop Burbidge joined yesterday with leaders of four faith groups to speak on the necessity of justice for immigrants, specifically a justice that reflects: the fundamental human dignity of every person, the basic human rights that are never abrogated by national sovereignty, the duty of government to protect family life and the biblical roots of welcoming the stranger. I invite you to access our Diocesan website and view the statement of Bishop Burbidge along with the faith leaders who also spoke at the news conference: Rabbi Eric Solomon of Beth Meyer Synagogue; Imam Oliver Muhammad of As Salaam Islamic Center; and Reverend Cookie Santiago of the NC Conference of the United Methodist Church. In addition, you may also see the statement added by the Reverend George Reed, Executive Director of the North Carolina Council of Churches. The news story and these statements can be accessed directly by the following link to our Diocesan website: http://www.dioceseofraleigh.org/news/immigrants_pressconf08.aspx . Kindly take the time to read these statements as they will directly apply to questions you may receive from the faithful and their formation in this issue and its implications for the exercise of faithful citizenship.

Executive Director for the Office of African Ancestry and Evangelization

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Raleigh is a growing and vibrant Diocese spanning 54 counties of eastern North Carolina and comprising 96 parishes, missions and stations and seven centers for campus ministry. The Executive Director for the Office of African Ancestry and Evangelization assists the Episcopal Vicar for African Ancestry in developing, designing and implementing the programs of the Office; in developing, formulating and managing the budget of the Office; in developing and implementing the calendar of events of the Office; and in management of the day to day operation of the Office. Qualified candidates are to be practicing a Catholic in good standing, preferred to have a Bachelors degree, leadership experience in African Ancestry ministry, and management skills and experience. The position offers comprehensive benefits package and salary commensurate with experience. Send resume with salary requirements to: Director of Human Resources, Diocese of Raleigh, 715 Nazareth Street, Raleigh, NC 27606 or Leo.Tapler@raldioc.org