



OREMUS COMMUNICATIONS DECEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

As usual, the calendar for November was full of spiritual events. Too many to enumerate in a one page newsletter, but we will try anyway.

One that stands out was the National Vocation Awareness Week (NVAW) which began this year on November 4th and concluded on November 10th. This annual event sponsored by US Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) first started in 1976 in an effort to deal with the shortage of vocations. From 1980 to 2012, the ratio of Catholics to priests increased globally with the number of Catholics to priests declining from 1,085 to 3,026. The total number of priests from 1981 to 2016 has also declined from 58,534 (1981) to 37,192 (2015). This represents a loss of almost 36% in this time period.

Accordingly, Oremus Communications (OC) wholeheartedly supports efforts like the NVAW to reverse this trend and increase the number of priests in the USA. Obviously, the sexual abuse scandal in the church has not helped matters. We believe that it is imperative that this issue be dealt with forthwith so we can put this problem behind us ASAP.

Also, taking place at the same time as the NVAW was the Human Life International (HLI) Conference (REDESSVIDA) in Phoenix, AZ for pro-life training conferences. These are aimed at training seminarians and priests primarily, but also laity. There were many notable clerics in attendance such as Bishop Thomas Olmsted of the Diocese of Phoenix, AZ and our own Father Peter Welsh, a frequent co-host on the Oremus Communications Family Rosary Program (OCFRP). Father Peter gave a great summary of the talks and shared his impressions with followers of OCFRP on Monday, November 26th. (His interview can be heard on our archives for that date.)

On Sunday, November 25th, the 37th Annual Stand Up for Life Dinner took place and proved to be a great success. More than a thousand pro-lifers were in attendance to hear the main speaker Sister Grace Dominic of the Sisters of Life deliver an inspirational speech aimed at each of us to give witness to the sacredness and beauty of each human life. Dr. Monique Ruberu, MD also challenged everyone in attendance to become more involved in the cause for human life, especially in the 40 Days for Life Campaign.

In fact, OC was successful in obtaining Dr. Monique Ruberu as a special co-host of OCFRP for Thursday, December 13th. Dr. Ruberu has proven to be one of the most effective pro-life OB-GYN doctor's in Southeastern Pennsylvania, and we are greatly looking forward to her presence. (OCFRP begins 12:00pm EST, login to [www.oremuscomms.com](http://www.oremuscomms.com) and click on "listen live").

Also in the month of December, Mr. Carl Malburg, from the International Pilgrim Virgin Statue Foundation, will be with us on Tuesday, December 11 to talk of the Feast of Our Lady Guadalupe. And on Friday, December 28th, Feast Day of the Holy Innocents will co-host the OCFRP, talking about the year 2018 in review.



**Picture on the left:** From left to right: *Dr. Monique Ruberu, Dr. Scott Hahn, noted Theologian, and our own Charlie DeFeo from OC at the Family Fully Alive Festival at St. Joseph's Church in Downingtown on September 22, 2018*



**Picture Above:** *Bishop Olmsted of the Diocese of Phoenix (left) with HLI President, Father Shenan J. Boquet (right) at HLI Conference, November 4-10*

**Picture on the right:** *One of the group pictures of Father Peter Welsh (center) from St. Helena Parish in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia and fellow clerics at the Human Life International REDESSVIDA on November 4-10, 2018.*



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!  
OREMUS

p.s. Visit our website at [www.oremuscomms.com](http://www.oremuscomms.com) for details including to "listen live" to our programs, how to access the archived copies of each program, and program schedule including our latest program Legion of Mary Immaculate Conception Praesidium Divine Mercy Chaplet Program (every Friday at 3pm EST).