



Archdiocese of New Orleans

Office of the Archbishop

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Dear Brothers in Christ,

As we approach the conclusion of this year's Lenten journey, I pray it has been a time of blessing for you and your people.

As you know, new media is transforming not only daily lives, but the way we evangelize. We are called to use every means available to us to proclaim the Good News of the Gospel and bring people to Christ. Technology is a powerful tool and one we must use to welcome and engage people into the life of our church.

I am very pleased to announce that after several months of conversation and deliberations and with the recommendations of the Offices of Communications and Information Technology and The Catholic Foundation, that the Archdiocese of New Orleans has partnered with eCatholic to provide each parish the tools to create a beautiful, new website. This initiative is underwritten by the archdiocese with the hope that by making these tools available to each parish we will be able to not only fulfill our synod implementation actions but truly harness the efficiency and effectiveness of new media enabling each church parish to be a welcoming place of witnessing the faith online.

There are many good tools and resources that will be available to you and your parish staffs through eCatholic, and for those of you that already use eCatholic, this agreement will benefit you as well. To begin the process of working with eCatholic and for more information about what this means for your parish, I ask you to please go to <http://connect.nolacatholic.org/> where you will identify a parish representative to lead this initiative on the parish level. This could be you or another clergyman in the parish, a staff person or possibly a trusted volunteer from your parish council or other parish group. This person, designated as your eCatholic "Champion", will be the main contact with eCatholic. For more information, testimonials and FAQs, please click here <http://connect.nolacatholic.org/faq>. You may also be directly in touch with Sarah McDonald in our archdiocesan Office of Communications who will be available to work with you and help answer questions as you begin. She can be reached at (504) 596-3023 or smcdonald@arch-no.org.

I believe this is an exciting and innovative initiative that will help all of us better communicate with one another, with our parishioners and with those we want to engage. I hope that all parishes, schools, and ministries take advantage of this great opportunity.

Please join us as we transform the way we communicate, inspire, and evangelize.

Wishing you God's blessings, I am,
Fraternally in Christ,

Most Reverend Gregory M. Aymond
Archbishop of New Orleans