In the Diocesan Loop

Stay In the Diocesan Loop and check out what your diocese is doing to serve you.

- The Communications Office is working to launch a new diocesan website by mid-December that will have a blog and be able to accept online donations for the diocese and Catholic Charities. Keep an eye on www.dmdiocese.org.
- Bishop Pates’ weekly live radio show airs at 10 a.m. on Fridays and is now being broadcast simultaneously on KWKY 1150 AM out of Des Moines and KVSS Spirit Catholic Radio 102.7 FM out of Omaha. You can pick up the show live by going to www.kvss.com.
- To help more easily identify attachments that you need, a directory will be listed at the end of this newsletter.

Diocesan Departments

Bishop

Radio

“In the Heartland With Bishop Pates” airs every Friday at 10 a.m. on KWKY 1150 AM and KVSS 102.7 FM, and is simulcast at www.kvss.com. Ask the bishop a question by calling the show about 10:40 a.m. at 515-223-1150. Upcoming show topics are:

-- Nov. 13 – Campus ministry featuring Tom Primmer and Father Joel McNeil of St. Catherine of Siena, plus staff from the college ministry program FOCUS.
-- Nov. 20 – Bishop will talk with local youth in Kansas City at the National Catholic Youth Conference.
-- Nov. 27 – Families share what they’re thankful for this Thanksgiving holiday.
-- Dec. 4 – Bishop talks with Bishop John Ricard, of Pensacola-Tallahassee, Florida.
-- Dec. 11 – Bishop will talk about the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Administration

Catholic Campaign for Human Development

Attached is a copy of the letter Bishop Pates sent to the pastors about the upcoming special collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. In addition to the many groups throughout the United States who receive support in their effort to provide lasting solutions to poverty, grants are also available within our own diocese. Please do what you can to encourage parishioners, even in these challenging economic times, to be generous in their response. If concerns are raised about past grant recipients which have not supported Church teaching, please refer to the note in this regard in Bishop's letter.
Safe Environment Program

We are pleased to share the report from the 2009 audit process which was received just this week. The diocese has once again been found in compliance with The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. While there is need for continued improvement, we are most grateful for the progress which has been made in each parish and school to assure a safe environment for all of our children. Thank you for your commitment to this effort.

Our diocese is scheduled for an in-depth, on-site audit in 2010 which will involve the presence of at least one auditor in the diocese for approximately one full week. An added component of the on-site audit in this cycle will be visits to selected parishes and schools to review local compliance efforts; please do all you can to maintain accurate and current records for all employees and volunteers.

Please encourage all employees who are required to complete the monthly online bulletins provided by Virtus to review the status of their compliance with this requirement. A random review of some employees' records showed that some are current in their completion of the bulletins and some have more than 50 bulletins remaining. We congratulate those who are current in this regard and ask that others make compliance their immediate top priority. This area is a significant part of our program and a responsibility which must be taken seriously.

Catholic Charities

Counseling Program now taking insurance

Catholic Charities Counseling Program is now taking insurance for its professional individual, couple and family counseling services. The program will continue to serve those without insurance through their sliding scale fee structure that is based on income and family size. Licensed therapists work with clients of all faiths regarding a number of issues including depression, anxiety, stress, issues concerning relationships, child behavior problems, marital conflict, eating disorders, sexual abuse, separation and divorce issues, criminal behavior, addictions, physical handicaps, health problems and spiritual crisis. Offices are located in downtown Des Moines, Altoona, Ankeny, Waukee, Perry and Council Bluffs. Evening appointments are available. To schedule an appointment contact the Des Moines office at 515-244-3761 or the Council Bluffs office at 712-328-3086.

Celebrate, Educate & Take Action during Catholic Charities Week Nov. 29-Dec. 6

During Catholic Charities Week we encourage you to celebrate all that you have, educate yourself about the needs of others and take action to help those living in poverty. Catholic Charities has many opportunities for people of all ages to get involved during the week-long celebration, including a Bare Essentials Collection for personal care items, classroom materials developed specifically for Catholic Charities Week by Stephanie Wilson, Director of Teaching and Learning for the Diocese of Des Moines, a Poverty Simulation and more. Go to www.CatholicCharitiesDM.org for more information or call 515-237-5078.

Help make ‘Room at the Inn’

No Room at the Inn, Catholic Charities annual awareness and fundraising event for St. Joseph Emergency Family Shelter, will be held Dec. 4-6 at the Catholic Pastoral Center at 601 Grand Ave. in downtown Des Moines. This year’s events include:
• **Fundraising Reception** for St. Joseph Emergency Family Shelter on Fri., Dec. 4 from 5-8 p.m. For a minimum donation of $38 per person (the cost of one night’s stay at St. Joseph Shelter) guests can preview the exhibition of 300 nativities, enjoy hors d’oeuvres and cocktails and hear words from Bishop Richard Pates all in support of Polk county’s only emergency family shelter that keeps the entire family unit together.

• **Poverty Simulation** on Sat., Dec. 5 from 1-4 p.m. Co-hosted by JustFaith of Des Moines, the simulation is designed to help participants begin to understand what it might be like to live in a low-income family trying to survive month to month. Registration is required and the simulation is designed for those 18 years and older. Go to www.CatholicCharitiesDM.org simulation for details.

• **Holiday Open House** on Sun., Dec. 6 from 1-5 p.m. Join Bishop Richard Pates and Bishop Joseph Charron as they read the Christmas story at 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m., view more than 300 nativities, a live nativity and listen to music from local choirs. Admission is a gift of a personal care item or donation to help families in need. This year’s choirs include: the Ankeny Community Chorus, St. Francis Children's Choir, St. Augustin Children's Choir, Holy Trinity Children's Choir, Catholic Youth Choir of Central Iowa, and Spanish Themes from Our Lady of the Americas.

Social Justice Consortium

Go to www.CatholicCharitiesDM.org and click on the “Social Justice Consortium” link to read minutes from quarterly meetings.

  o **Respect Life**
    Word of Life: Nov. 2009

  o **JustFaith** - Are you interested in exploring our Gospel call to love and serve others? Integrating your personal spirituality with social ministry? Sharing a journey of faith and compassion with others? JustFaith is a 30-week, transformation process consisting of weekly meetings, three retreats, four “hands-on” experiences, occasional videos or guest speakers, and extensive reading based on the social justice traditions of the Church. **Engaging Spirituality** - Are you interested in breaking open your life? Penetrating the realities of our times? Exploring the intersection between Christian spirituality and Gospel justice? Engaging Spirituality is a twenty-one week, contemplative process consisting of weekly meetings, two retreats, two immersion days, and weekly reading/journaling. JustFaith and Engaging Spirituality groups are formed every fall, but it's never to early or late to consider the processes or ask questions! Please contact Celeste Egger at 515-274-6483 or eggerj@mchsi.com for more information. Des Moines Area JustFaith is a member of the Diocesan Social Justice Consortium.

**Domestic Violence & Sexual Abuse Public Education**

The Phoenix House Domestic Violence Shelter and Sexual Abuse Program in Council Bluffs offers public education presentations to parishes, schools, businesses and other groups with the goal to prevent violence before it ever occurs by educating about the tools needed to create violence free playgrounds, schools, workplaces and homes. For more information about
scheduling a free presentation, call Vicki-lynn Anderson at 712-256-2059 or go to

For more information on any of these programs or services call 515-244-3761 or go to

Communications

Website

The Communications Office is working to launch a new diocesan website by mid-
December that will have a blog and be able to accept online donations. Watch

Bulletin announcements

See the attached Word document with upcoming bulletin announcements. They also are
available at www.dmdiocese.org, click on “News” and then “Local News.”

Radio

Calls are welcomed during “In the Heartland With Bishop Pates” radio show airing
each Friday from 10-11 a.m. on KWKY 1150 AM or KVSS 102.7 FM, also carried live at
www.kvss.com. Place your call about 10:40 a.m. by dialing 515-223-1150.

Faith Formation

On a Journey Together

Many of the parishes are completing the first season of On a Journey Together,
Awakening to Christ. Parish core teams are busily forwarding feedback to the office of
Evangelization and Adult Faith Formation. The comments thus far received are positive,
encouraging and spirit filled.

The second season, Following Christ, will begin during the season of Lent. Books are
already available in English. Spanish language books will be available after the first of the
year. For more information please contact Cheryl Fournier in the office of Evangelization and
Adult Faith Formation at cfournier@dmdiocese.org or at 515-237-5006.

Dr. Edward Hahnenberg to Speak in Ames

On March 14 and 15 Dr. Edward Hahnenberg from Xavier University in Cincinnati will
be speaking at the all Iowa conference to be held at the Gateway Center in Ames. In his three
presentations over the course of the day and a half Dr. Hahnenberg will be assisting those in
attendance to look more closely at their role as ministers in the Church today. The conference
is being planned by the four dioceses of Iowa and should be an excellent opportunity for those
who minister or desire to minister in the Church to reflect again on their call and response.
Registration information will be available soon.

Catechetical Services

The Catechetical Leadership Association for the Diocese of Des Moines (CLADD) will
meet in various regional groups during the month of November. The review of diocesan
catechetical policies will continue. For a meeting closest to you, see below.
The South Central CLADD group will meet at the Knotty Pine Family Steak House just outside of Afton, IA on Monday, Nov. 9 at 6 p.m. for dinner, presentation and discussion. Jo Anne Dalhoff will walk through a family oriented Advent activity with members of the group. Materials for this activity will be provided.

The West End CLADD group will meet at St. Patrick Office Center, 223 Harmony St., Council Bluffs on Tuesday, Nov. 17 at 9a.m. Kyle Lechtenberg, diocesan Director of Worship, will speak to the group about the “Sacrament of Confirmation.” Lunch will be served following the meeting.

The East End CLADD group will meet at St. John Parish, 501 Adair Street in Adair on Thursday, Nov. 19 at 9a.m. Kyle Lechtenberg, diocesan Director of Worship, will speak to the group about the “Sacrament of Confirmation.” Lunch will be served following the meeting.

The Portsmouth group of parish catechetical leaders (CLADD) will not meet until Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2010.

Creighton Certificate in Ministry Spring Course Announced

The spring course, “Theology of the Church and Sacraments” will begin on Friday, Jan. 8, 2010. The class will meet on Jan. 16, Feb. 6 & 27, March 27, April 17, and May 1. Paulette Chapman, director of faith formation at Holy Trinity Church in Des Moines will be the instructor.

For information or brochures please contact Office of Lay Ecclesial Ministry at formation@dmdiocese.org or by calling 515-237-5058

Advent Scripture Study Resource

Each Advent and Lent Fr. John Ludwig, pastor of St. John the Apostle in Norwalk prepares a simple study guide for the scripture passages that will be proclaimed at the Sunday liturgy. We are pleased to make the attached Advent guide available to you for use in your community. Perhaps there is a group that meets to break open the word; maybe there are people who are not able to be with the community for worship and would like to feast on the Word and ponder some questions the scripture more deeply; maybe a small group of folks participating in On a Journey Together wants to continue to meet and share faith during the Advent season; perhaps there are others that I have not thought of that would find this helpful and refreshing. Please use it as you see fit.

Youth Ministry News

Youth Rally

This past weekend we hosted our Jr. High and Sr. High youth rallies. Both were a huge success. Judy McDonald and Anne Marie Cribbins were our keynote presenters and did a great job. Special thanks to Bishop Pates for joining us both days and for all the work done by our diocesan youth council.

Catholic Youth Camp 50th Anniversary: This year we will be celebrating 50 years of Catholic Youth Camp in the diocese. Mark your calendar now for a big celebration being planned on May 29, 2010. More information to come.
NCYC: Later this month our diocese will be joining 23,000 youth from around the United States at NCYC. We have 518 participants from our diocese including 9 priest, 1 bishop and our mascot the Cool Corn Guy. Please pray for us as we travel to Kansas City.

**Finance and Technology**

In November the Diocesan Finance and Technology Departments will release our new *Parish and School Resource Manual*. A valuable resource for your parish or school, this manual will be a guide for pastors, school administrators, bookkeepers, business managers, and Finance Council members. The material covered in this manual will surround: Financial Statements and Accounts, Internal Controls, Payroll, General Ledgers and Payables, Annual Diocesan Appeal goals, Raffles and Bingo, Property and Casualty Insurance, and Technology.

A copy of the manual will be distributed at these diocesan meetings and will be available on the website. Join us on Tuesday, November 17 at 9:00 a.m. in Des Moines at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 601 Grand Avenue, Des Moines or on Friday, November 20 at 9:00 a.m. at Queen of Apostles’ Parish Hall, 3304 4th Avenue, Council Bluffs, Iowa.

To register, please contact Roni Argetsinger at (515) 237-5007 or rargetsinger@dmdiocese.org if you haven’t already responded to the invitation.

Several representatives from our diocese recently returned from Detroit, Michigan where they attended the national users’ conference of ParishSoft. They included Beth Wilson from St. Patrick Parish (Council Bluffs), Wilma Ernesti from Queen of Apostles Parish (Council Bluffs), Joy Zingler and Chris Aldinger from Christ the King Parish and School (Des Moines), Joan Sieczkowski from Our Lady’s Immaculate Heart Parish (Ankeny), Roni Argetsinger and Tammy Mason from the Diocese of Des Moines staff. We will be sharing our newly gained information with others in the diocese at future meetings. In the meantime, please call on any of the attendees if you have questions or would like an update.

**Tribunal**

The Tribunal processes and facilitates marriage case studies that may result in determining prior marriages invalid according to Church law thereby enabling those concerned to seek a new marriage in the Church.

The studies can be done in a reasonable amount of time if suggestions are followed and respected. We suggest that you plan on a period of one year; however, many cases are finished in six months. The cost for a formal study is $400 the balance of the cost is provided by the Annual Diocesan Appeal. No one is turned away due to the inability to pay.

The Tribunal also serves as a resource for clergy and others to provide answers to questions concerning canon law and its application.

**Permanent Diaconate**

The deacons will have their annual meeting Nov. 7 at All Saints Parish in Stuart. Bishop Pates will preside at Mass followed by a presentation on the status of the diocese and an update of his goals for the diocese, and the role of the deacons in his plans.

There will be a presentation by Sr. Pat Shearer, Ross Fackrell and Celeste Egger regarding “Refugees and the Christian Response”.
The meeting will conclude with the business meeting and the election of the deacon council officers.

**Marriage Ministry**

Phone 515-237-5056 or email luft@dmdiocease.org  
*Listen to KWKY weekdays for: Building Marriages One Minute at a Time*

**Sponsor Couple Training**  
- Nov 15- Sponsor Couple Training- St Pius X Church, 1pm-5pm Urbandale

**Marriage Preparation Programs for 2010**

**Pre Marriage:**

Sessions will be held at the pastoral Center in Des Moines 9a.m.-5p.m. Couples must do **one** session A and **one** session B.  
Session A: Life Skills  
- February 27-July 31-October 9  
- Session B: Sacramental  
- March 5-August 7-October 16

**Con-Validation:**

Council Bluffs session held at Catholic Charities; Des Moines sessions held at the Pastoral Center, 6-9p.m. A light dinner is served.  
- Council Bluffs Feb. 17, Oct. 20  
- Des Moines Feb. 10, May 5, Oct. 6

**Diocesan Assessment**

We offer assessment for couples with previous marriages, couples in which one or both are 21 or under and any couple bringing children to the marriage.

**Additional Opportunities**

We offer resources to parishes to assist building marriages such as “Education for Relationships- Children of Divorce- Building Step Families seminars and Marriage enrichment gatherings.

*Tools for a better marriage- Teams of Our Lady info@teamsofourlady.org -Worldwide  
Marriage Encounter dsmiaexecs@mchsi.com-  
Natural Family Planning- Couple to Couple League feakers@q.com*

*Fertility Care Services of Central Iowa naproworks@msn.com  
Natural Family Planning of Central Iowa bmcgehe@aol.com*

**Schools**

**Catholic school students walk in support of Red Ribbon Week**

More than 400 eighth grade students from the Des Moines metropolitan area Catholic schools walked around Gray’s Lake on Oct. 19th as part of the nationally recognized Red Ribbon Week. Red Ribbon Week promotes the value of a drug-free lifestyle.  
In addition to the walk, students at all of the Des Moines metro area Catholic schools participated in service projects throughout the week and raised a total of $2,837 for the House of Mercy. House of Mercy is one of Iowa’s largest providers of transitional housing and clinical services for parenting women with addiction.
You’re Invited

If you’re interested in increasing the number of students attending Catholic Schools, you won’t want to miss this reception event to launch the Diocese of Des Moines Catholic Schools Marketing Plan with Bishop Pates, Dr. Gubbels and members of the Diocesan Schools Marketing Committee. Enjoy appetizers and be part of the exciting efforts to promote Catholic education.

Tuesday, Nov. 10, 5:30 pm – 7 p.m., Catholic Pastoral Center, 601 Grand Ave, Des Moines

To RSVP, please contact Darcie Tallman at dtallman@dmdiocese.org or 515-237-5088.

St. Malachy School Dedication

St. Malachy School in Creston, Iowa will be holding a mass and dedication for their new school addition on Nov. 11 at 9:15 a.m. The dedication of the building will follow mass that will be concelebrated by Bishop Pates and Father Pins. The new building is for 6-8th grade students and features a chapel, science lab, media center and classrooms.

Professional Development

Professional development for the ’09-‘10 school year will focus on a teaching strategy called Differentiation. In the last issue, we talked about defining the theory and its goals in the classroom.

You were introduced to some of the Core Principles in the last installment. Below are the last of the Core Principles teachers follow when differentiating in their classrooms.

The Core Principles (continued)

- Students do respectful, meaningful, and appropriate work
  - Students understand the goals and purpose of each task
  - Tasks are appropriate to student’s readiness level
  - Tasks are focused on learning the benchmarks and GLEs

- Teachers and students work together for successful learning
  - Collaboration between teachers and students and teachers, students and parents is essential for student success
  - Students can sometimes choose their activities or tasks with the teacher’s guidance

- Assessment and instruction are used together
  - Assessment of student’s readiness levels is important throughout a unit to determine the next area of instruction
  - Assessment is ongoing in a differentiated classroom

- Teacher can modify:
  - content (what they learn)
  - process (how they learn)
  - product (how they show what they learned)
  - learning environment (when and where they learn)

Please look for the next installment focusing on Modifying Content.

**Catholic Tuition Organization**

Are the tax savings when donating to CTO too good to be true?

Yes – a donation to the CTO will give you a 65% tax credit, which means for a $1,000 contribution, you deduct $650 from your Iowa taxes. And – when you itemize on your federal return, you include the full $1000 as a charitable contribution resulting in lower taxable income at the federal level.

Why would the state do this? –

For the 1,200 children receiving an award from tuition, the cost to the state was $740 in lost revenue. If those same tuitions went to the public school because their parents couldn’t afford Catholic school, it would have cost the state $5,800. It was a smart business decision for the state and for all Iowa taxpayers.

Ask your tax preparer today if donating to the CTO is a smart choice and then:

Call Jeanne Wells at 515 237-5010 to donate.

**Vocations**

Quo Vadis – Where Are You Going?

Quo Vadis, formerly known as the Men’s High School Discernment and Prayer Groups, continues with their schedule of meeting once a month at Dowling Catholic in Des Moines and at St. Albert’s in Council Bluffs. We are off to a great start at both the Des Moines and Council Bluffs locations. Quo Vadis, translated from Latin as “Where Are You Going?” meets once a month at both locations during the school year and is open to any young man in high school (freshmen through seniors). It is up to the pastors and priests of each region to invite young men to these meetings, however, there are no expectations that the priests be present for these meetings. Please know their presence is always welcome.

At these meetings, we basically take some time to pray together and afterward get something to eat. It is another opportunity for young men to get to know some priests and ask any questions they might have concerning priesthood. Our hope is that they will eventually ask, “How do I become a priest; how do I become a seminarian?"

Upcoming Quo Vadis dates for 2009 are as follows:

**Des Moines**

Sunday, November 15th
Dowling Priest Residence
5:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 13th
Dowling Priest Residence
5:30 p.m.
Andrew Dinners

The Andrew Dinners are now in the process of taking place throughout the diocese. The dinners are an opportunity for our young people who are juniors and seniors in high school, college age or those interested in adult vocations, to meet Bishop Richard Pates and many of the priests of our diocese, as they share their journey to the priesthood as well as the joys they have experienced in their life as a priest. The first Andrew Dinner in Council Bluffs on Oct. 29th brought six young men, which we consider to be a great show of interest. With seven Andrew Dinners scheduled throughout the diocese this year, we are hopeful that these numbers will yield two or three seminarians in the near future.

The following Andrew Dinners remain to be held this year:

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Region</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, November 5</td>
<td>Osceola Region</td>
<td>St. Bernard’s Catholic Church Osceola</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, November 12</td>
<td>Red Oak Region</td>
<td>St. Mary’s Parish Hall Red Oak</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, November 24</td>
<td>Des Moines Region</td>
<td>Sacred Heart Church West Des Moines</td>
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<td>Thursday, December 3</td>
<td>Portsmouth Region</td>
<td>St. Mary’s Catholic Church Portsmouth</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, December 10</td>
<td>Des Moines Region</td>
<td>Christ the King Parish Hall Des Moines</td>
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Planning is underway to set the date for the Adair Region Andrew Dinner sometime in January.

Campus C.R.A.W.L.

Call Received: Answer With Love

College is a time of great discernment for every young person as they seek to discover what God has planned for them. However, all too often that discernment takes place without any connection to the faith community that they come from and in some cases outside of the Church altogether. In an effort to stay connected to our young people in college, the Office of Vocations has started our Campus C.R.A.W.L. program to let them know that even when they are away from home, they still have the prayers and support of the people in the Diocese of Des Moines and we are here to help them discover God’s unique call in each of their lives.

October was a busy month for Father David Muenchrath, as he visited the University of Iowa Newman Center, University of Northern Iowa St. Stephen’s Student Center, and Iowa
State University St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Student Center. In most cases, these meetings included a Mass or liturgy service, dinner, and discussion. Simpson College in Indianola is on the list to visit on Nov. 8, beginning with Mass at 5 p.m. followed by a dinner and talk afterwards. Additionally, a visit to Loras College is in the process of being arranged for Dec. 2. Stay tuned for further details.

Please check In the Diocesan Loop for future dates. If you have any questions about these programs, please contact the Office of Vocations. If you know of any young person at one of these schools, please pass their names on to Father David Muenchrath.

**Encounter with God’s Call Weekend**
**Nov. 14-15**

The seminarians at Conception Seminary College once again invite any young man discerning God’s will in their lives to join them for a weekend of prayer and discernment. If you know of someone interested in this event, please have them contact Father David for more details.

**Seminary Visits Set to Begin**

Bishop Richard Pates and Father Dan Kirby, Director of Seminarians, will be heading off to visit with Rectors, Vice Rectors, staff, and seminarians at the following seminaries and colleges:

- **Nov. 8**  Bishop Pates and Fr. Daniel Kirby visiting Kenrick-Glennon, St. Louis, MO
- **Nov. 9**  Bishop Pates and Fr. Daniel Kirby visiting St. Mary of the Lake Mundelein Seminary, Mundelein, Illinois
- **Nov. 10** Bishop Pates and Fr. Daniel Kirby visiting Loras College, Dubuque, Iowa
- **Dec. 13** Bishop Pates and Fr. Daniel Kirby visiting Conception Seminary, Conception, Missouri

**A Seminary Experience:**

**A visit to St. Pius X Seminary at Loras College**
**Nov. 22 – 23**

A visit to St. Pius X Seminary at Loras College in Dubuque, is planned for Sunday, Nov. 22, beginning at 6:30 p.m., and ending on Monday afternoon, Nov. 23. This event is intended for men who are considering the possibility that God may be calling them to the priesthood. This is an effort by St. Pius X Seminary to provide accurate information about seminary and its formation in discerning God’s call. The event is free of charge and overnight accommodations will be provided. Please contact Fr. David Muenchrath at dmuenchrath@dmdiocese.org for further information. Deadline to apply is Nov. 19.

**Bishop Pates’ Vocations Retreat**
**Dec. 18-20**

Bishop Richard Pates is offering a retreat for men, age 18 to 40, who are interested in the priesthood. The retreat weekend begins on Friday evening, Dec. 18 and runs until noon on
Sunday, Dec. 20. The location is the Creighton University Retreat Center, 16493 Contrail Avenue, Griswold, Iowa.

The retreat will consist of communal and private prayer, Eucharistic Adoration, Mass, and presentations by Bishop Pates that are designed to help participants discern their future vocation.

For further information, you can contact the Office of Vocations at (515) 237-5050 or e-mail Fr. David Muenchrath at dmuenchrath@dmdiocese.org. A retreat fee of $25 is requested, however, no one will be turned away for financial reasons.

Vocation Lay Advisory Committee Undertaking

The members of the Vocation Lay Advisory Committee is undertaking the task of helping the Office of Vocations develop Vocation Committees throughout the parishes of the Diocese of Des Moines. Having a vocations representative and/or committee that would, in collaboration with the pastor, work with the Office of Vocations is one of Bishop Pates’ objectives in building a sound vocation program for our diocese. The attached document from the Diocese of Oakland, California contains a wealth of resources toward this endeavor. The Vocations Lay Advisory Committee will be reviewing these and other materials in order to recommend to the Bishop the appropriate steps in the formation of these committees.

Office of Worship

Special Liturgy Planning

The Office of Worship is available to assist parishes and schools in the development of special liturgies to celebrate important moments in the lives of these communities, particularly dedication liturgies at which Bishop Pates will preside. Because a creatively planned and prayerful liturgy takes time to prepare, it is requested that representatives of the parish or school contact Kyle Lechtenberg in the Office of Worship a minimum of 4 weeks in advance of the liturgy. Many thanks for looking ahead in your calendars so the Office of Worship can better serve you.

Holy Hour for Life

As we in the U.S. continue to work for health care reform that respects all life, from conception to natural death, the USCCB has developed an excellent prayer resource, called a Holy Hour for Life. It is suggested that this ritual be prayed in the presence of the exposed Blessed Sacrament. Pastors and liturgy directors are encouraged to be creative and to use music which might complement the prayer texts. The texts are attached to this mailing. Please contact Kyle Lechtenberg if you have questions about how to use this or to learn of a couple recommendations for modification.

Liturgical Music Workshops:

More than 100 music ministers, pastors, and interested parishioners have attended, and there are still two more scheduled. (see below for dates) Open to all interested parishioners, with a special focus on music ministers high school age and older: singers, cantors, accompanists, guitarists, all instrumentalists. Additionally, pastors and deacons or any singing member of the assembly (that’s everyone!) will glean something for their own participation in the singing of the liturgy. Parish music directors are strongly encouraged to send as many as possible to these workshops of renewal, team-building, and theological/musical reflection. The
workshops will be rooted in *Sing to the Lord*, the U.S. bishops’ 2007 document on music in worship and will include pastoral, theological, musical, and liturgical components in an interactive format that respects and fosters excellence and prayerfulness in music ministry—whatever the style or genre.

Each workshop is open to every parish and any number of participants.
Nominal registration fee of $10 for each individual up to 3 individuals from a parish or $35 for any number greater than 3 from your parish:

---$35 gets your entire music ministry there!

- Sunday, Nov. 8, 1:30-4:30 pm: Council Bluffs Region Liturgical Music Workshop, Holy Rosary Parish, **Glenwood** (Call today or walk-in on Sunday)
- Saturday, Nov. 14, 9:00 am-12:00 pm: Adair Region Liturgical Music Workshop, All Saints Parish, **Stuart** (register by Nov. 10)

Registration on-site is possible after the registration deadline.

**EASY TO REGISTER**
1. E-mail Sandy Riesberg at sriesberg@dmdiocese.org with the following information:
   a. Name, phone, email of all participants
   b. Your parish affiliation
   c. Your chosen workshop date and site
2. Mail your check (payable to the Diocese of Des Moines Office of Worship) to Diocese of Des Moines Office of Worship to 601 Grand Ave., Des Moines, IA 50309. You may also bring the check to the workshop that day.
3. Spread the word!

**Hymnals**
St. Theresa Parish in Des Moines has approximately 50 copies of Children’s Glory & Praise Hardback Hymnals and 15 Traditional Choral Praise Paperback Hymnals to give away. You can contact Barb Woods at St. Theresa Parish, 515-279-4654 or bwoods@sainttheresaiowa.org.

**Diocesan Hispanic Pastoral Commission**

**Summary of Oct. 28 meeting**

“To enable and promote ministry to Hispanic Catholics in the Diocese of Des Moines”

Megan Callan led a discussion on the revamping of the diocesan web site and the commission’s website needs. Please see her recent e-mail on the subject.

Bishop Pates reported on his recent trip to El Salvador to attend the ordination of Father Reynaldo Hernandez and to visit sister parishes of three parishes in the Diocese of Des Moines. He noted two characteristics of the Salvadoran church: its extreme poverty, and the fact that it has had an extraordinary number of martyrs who have had an obvious impact on the number of priestly vocations. A study by an Irish Franciscan who has been in El Salvador many years has
found that an archbishop, 13 priests and about 500 catechists gave their lives for their faith during the 12-year civil war that ended in 1992.

He and Tom Carney visited Zacatecoluca, the diocese with which Des Moines has a relationship. Fr. Reynaldo was ordained in a beautiful ceremony in a packed church of his home parish. The bishop and Fr. Chris Reising participated in the ordination; Fr. Reising helped vest the newly ordained priest.

In his homily, Bishop Elias Bolaños said El Salvador has benefited greatly from missionaries provided by the churches in other countries and that it was now El Salvador’s turn to do the same. Fr. Reynaldo and a seminarian from Zacatecoluca, Luis Alonso Mejia, plan to come to Des Moines in January. Both will study English after which Luis will enroll in a theology school and Fr. Reynaldo will work in Our Lady of the Americas parish. The two will probably reside at Mercy Court in Des Moines while studying English.

Fr. Jaime Torres from the Archdiocese of Medellín in Colombia was a guest at the meeting. He is visiting the diocese to help determine whether he, too, will join the Hispanic ministry in the Des Moines diocese.

A tentative plan is to have Fr. Reynaldo help with pastoral work at Our Lady of the Americas and Fr. Torres, if he agrees to return – also after the first of the year – to work in a sort of virtual parish of Hispanics, offering Mass, perhaps, at Christ the King, St. Peter’s and St. John’s parishes.

Commission members discussed at length the need to accommodate the priests and seminarians, including Colombian seminarian Fabian Moncada. It was agreed that the priests and seminarians will need lots of support - emotional, financial and spiritual - to be successful. It will be especially important for the priests of the diocese to welcome and support the two Latino priests to help reduce the possibility of feelings of isolation and loneliness. They will need education in culture, practical day-to-day tasks, on boundaries in dealing with people and on the mechanism and operation of the American church.

The next commission meeting will be at 3:30 p.m., Dec. 4 at the Catholic Pastoral Center in Des Moines.

Notes from Heartland States (Region IX) Meeting
Oct. 6-8, 2009, Griswold

1. About a dozen participants from Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri, Kansas
2. Each representative, the majority heads of Hispanic Ministry offices, gave a report on Hispanic ministry activities in their dioceses. It was apparent to Amparo and Tom Carney that the Des Moines diocese is far behind most of the region’s diocese in pastoral care of Hispanic Catholics. However, it was also apparent that we’re far ahead of most in the kinds of services and advocacy that our Catholic Charities provides (immigration, refugee services and advocacy).
3. Plans made for a region-wide Encuentro to be held at Savior of the World in Kansas City, Kan., April 17-18, 2010. The theme will be “La Presencia de Jesus en el Hogar.” This includes presentations on how to balance family, work and discipleship; domestic violence; separated and divorced families; liturgical music workshop and addictions. Some dioceses also have their own annual encuentros. More details, including costs, to come.
4. See materials from meeting on table in meeting room.
5. Some of the programs the various dioceses have:
a. Some dioceses have Spanish radio shows;
b. Springfield-CG uses a program called “Why Catholic?” in Spanish that the rep
says has been very successful (See material on table);
c. There is a national organization for stewardship for Spanish-speaking Catholics;
d. The Texas facility for training Catholic ministers offers 2-week course for
priests who “read” the Mass in Spanish.

6. Next regional meeting at Griswold Oct. 5-7, 2010. Head of the national office at NCCB
will be present.

Birthdays and anniversaries

Birthdays

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Anniversaries

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Press releases, other publications

All diocesan press releases are archived on the diocesan website [www.dmdiocese.org](http://www.dmdiocese.org) for easy access. Click on “New” and then “Diocesan Press Center.” The following press releases were distributed in the last month:

10-7-09  Catholic Schools Red Ribbon Week  
10-22-09  Catholic Schools Marketing Launch  
10-29-09  Health Care Reform  
11-2-09  Catholic Charities – Catholic Campaign for Human Development Grant Opportunity  
11-3-09  Catholic Charities Refugee Legal Clinic  

Index of Attachments

Communications Office:
- Bulletin Announcements

Worship Office:
- Holy Hour for Life – English
- Holy Hour for Life – Spanish

Vocations Office:

Faith Formation Department:
- Spring 2010 Creighton Ad
- Sundays of Advent C – 2009

Bishop’s Office
- Cardinal Bernardin New Leadership Award brochure
- Cardinal Bernardin New Leadership Award Word document