



Department of
Evangelization & Catechesis

Growing Disciples – Wednesday Wrap
Glorifying God – Growing in Faith
Living our Catholic Faith in the World

August 4, 2021 Edition

“Jesus Christ loves you; he gave his life to save you; and now he is living at your side every day to enlighten, strengthen and free you.” (Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium, 164)

Welcome to a new catechetical season:



“During our lives, more than one person has gazed on us with pure eyes, gratuitously. Often, these people are educators, catechists, persons who carried out their roles above and beyond what was required of them. And they provoked us to be grateful. Even friendship is a gift for which we should always be grateful” (Pope Francis, December 30, 2020 General Audience).

Bishop Joensen and all of us here working in Evangelization and Catechesis are grateful for you, for your friendship, for your faithfulness, and for your deep desire to share Jesus with the group or person that God has placed before you.

This year finds us continuing to accompany the faithful while inviting them into deeper relationship and encounter with Jesus as we emerge from the collective trauma of the past 16 months. Several themes will emerge as we engage in ministry over the next twelve months:

- Diocesan Strategic Visioning process will encourage local reimagining of ministry based upon the spiritual needs of your community.
- Staffing shortages among volunteers will require parish formation leaders to evaluate programming and new ways to invite the faithful into mission.
 - Here is a great article to get you started on regathering this fall. It is from our colleagues at Loyola Press – [Five Ideas for Accompanying Catechists Back to the Classroom](#)
- Equipping parish leaders for mission will be the first step towards placing adult formation at the center of community life for parish renewal and vibrancy.
- Breaking open the new Directory for Catechesis and implementing Kerygma to ongoing formation (not just initial formation) within a community of believers invites the community to live lives transformed by faith in Jesus within the Church.
- Networking among local parish leaders, colleagues at either end of our diocese, as well as reaching out to diocesan staff, will be essential to help us navigate the many challenges

before us and seize the opportunities that may go unnoticed if not reflected upon with a colleague at another parish or at the diocese.

Whether this is year 1 or 30 in parish formational leadership; whether you are full-time or part-time or a volunteer; whether your ministry focus is with teens, or children, or adults; we are in for a transformative year. Thank you for your YES and please know of our commitment to be by your side with each of you whenever you need a face-to-face visit, a ZOOM call, or a quick e-mail.

Parish Catechetical Leader/CLADD Summer Kick-Off Event – August 24 at All Saints Parish in Stuart:



You are invited to All Saints Parish in Stuart on August 24 from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm to be renewed personally and in your ministry. We will also look at reimagining professional formation to you through a facilitated conversation.

The day will be filled with an opportunity to reconnect with colleagues and connect with those new to the ministry, be renewed as we enter a new catechetical season, and dialogue on needed

changes in diocesan structure to better equip you with professional development designed to enrich your parish ministry. Tom Quinlan will be with us to lead us through the day. Register [online](#) or contact Sherri Simmer at ssimmer@dmdiocese.org. This kick-off event is free and includes lunch. The agenda is attached to this e-newsletter.

Not knowing what will come out of our time together on August 24, I ask that you keep the following dates in your calendar as we take what is offered see how it works with these dates that have been secured.

- East Dates 9:30 to 1:00 pm (lunch included)
 - [September 16--Open](#)
 - October 21--St. Boniface, Waukee
 - November 18--OLIH, Ankeny
 - January 20--St. Francis of Assisi, WDM
 - March 10 (spring break is the next week)--St. John, Adel
 - April 21--SS John & Paul, Altoona

- West Dates 9:30 am to 12:30 pm (lunch included)
 - [September 21--Open](#)
 - October 19--SS Peter & Paul, Atlantic
 - November 16--Holy Rosary, Glenwood
 - January 18--St. Patrick, Neola
 - March 8 (spring break is the next week)--Holy Rosary, Glenwood
 - April 19--St. Mary, Shenandoah

- East/West gathered dates (meals included as part of the programming)
 - Summer gathering – 9:30 am to 2:30 pm August 24 at All Saints parish in Stuart
 - PCL/CLADD Retreat with Becky Eldredge – February 3-4, 2022 in Des Moines
 - Year-end gathering – 10:00 am to 1:00 pm on May 10, 2022 – Place TBD

Disability Resources for Catechetical Leaders:



Disability Ministry resources are available for you to provide to and encourage your catechists to utilize. Remember inclusion activities for children with disabilities benefits ALL children. Check out resources on the [Disability Ministry Catechist Leader Resources page](#).

- There are links to handouts, articles, guides, lessons and webinars such as Tools for Teaching Children with Disabilities or a webinar “Creating Learning Environments Using Universal Design”.
- Resources from National Catholic Partnership on Disabilities (NCPD) such as Adapted Faith Formation Lessons.
- Religious Education programs, Individualized Religious Education Plan and Registration Form Examples and Tools including questions to add to your registration form to encourage parents to share information to help their child have successful experience in Faith Formation.
- Sensory/Fidget Tool Resources
- Teaching the Mass video
- Youth Leader Resources of Confirmation Sacramental Preparation Program in ASL and resources for raising awareness of disabilities and mental illness awareness tools and programs.
- List of Books on Disability Ministry topics that you can borrow or try out from Disability Ministry Library.

A couple of books with great resources are listed below:

- "The Adaptive Teacher: Faith-Based Strategies to Reach and Teach Learners with Disabilities" - from Loyola Press, and written by John Barone and Charleen Katra (from NCPD). This book addresses a wide variety of special needs, and the "additional resources" section in the back of the book includes worksheets, activities, Church documents, recommendations, and additional resource suggestions. I think this is a great resource, and every parish should have a copy, and every catechist should read it!
 - Click on the link below, there is a listing of adaptive resources and books for teaching children with special needs: <https://store.loyolapress.com/the-adaptive-teacher>
- "How Each Child Learns: Using Multiple Intelligence in Faith Formation" (Twenty-Third Publications) gives examples of how to adapt teaching styles to fit the needs of every

child. This book is a little more academic, but has good stories, and incorporates scripture.

For further questions on resources, please contact Patty Origer, Coordinator of Disability Ministry, 515-237-5073, or [email](#).

Say the Word/Una Palabra Tuya – Southeast Catechist Conference 2021 – August 12-15:



Our colleagues out east want to invite you to join in the largest collaborative diocesan event to date at Virtual Catholic Conference--The Southeast Catechist Conference. And it's FREE! [Register here.](#)

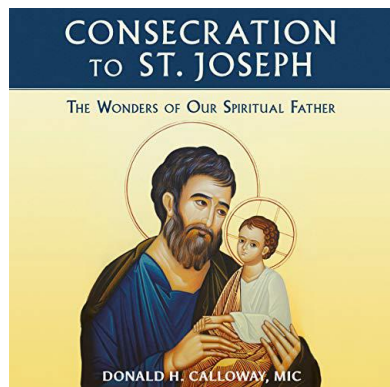
What started as a single archdiocesan conference in 2020 has expanded to 16 dioceses

across the eastern seaboard of the United States. At this event we are forming the formators: from the top diocesan leaders to parents in the pew. And regardless of the fact that we are in Des Moines Iowa, you are welcome to join them this August 12-15 for FREE and learn how to better witness the Catholic faith. The entire conference will feature 90+ presentations and live sessions with 40+ in Spanish.

Some of the highlights include:

- A Pastoral Response to Gender Ideology - Mary Hasson
- Divine Intimacy and the Secret of Transformative Catechesis - Matthew Leonard
- Why Youth Ministry? Evangelizing Disaffiliated Teens - Mark Hart
- The Impact/Implications of the Bible in a Year Podcast - Fr. Mike Schmitz
- How Parents Witness the Faith to Children - Dr. Joe Paprocki
- Faith, Reason, and Science - Fr. Robert Spitzer
- and many more

Consecration to St. Joseph and Mass on August 15 with Bishop Joensen:



By now many of you have heard, or have become familiar with Fr. Donald Calloway's 33 Day Consecration to St. Joseph. Many individuals, as well as groups, have consecrated themselves to the Protector of the Universal Church since the release of his book in January 2020, along with Pope Francis declaring this the year of St. Joseph. Attached to this E-Newsletter is a flyer and a consecration to St. Joseph FAQ sheet.

There is a focused effort to introduce even more people to the intercessory power of St. Joseph while commemorating the 110th

Anniversary of the Des Moines Diocese. An outdoor celebration of Mass and Consecration to St. Joseph will take place on Aug. 15th, 2021 at St. Patrick's Irish Settlement parish in Cumming at 4:00 pm, with Bishop William M. Joensen presiding. Those who have already been consecrated are invited to participate, as well as those who will complete their 33 day preparation on that day.

Some have asked for the Prayer to St. Joseph after the Rosary. You can find the prayer and a greater explanation at [this link](#).

Please contact Deacon Mark Campbell if you have any questions or comments at campbell.markh@yahoo.com.

Liturgy Training Publications Spanish Programing:



¡Este otoño acompáñenos a una capacitación y formación de Liturgy Training Publications! Estamos ofreciendo tres eventos a quienes participan en el ministerio de iniciación cristiana (RICA).

- [National Gathering on Christian Initiation: Como implementar el RICA adaptado para niños](#) el 6 y 7 de agosto.
- [Ver el ministerio de iniciación con visión 20/20](#) es un curso digital de tres semanas a partir del martes, 17 de agosto de 10pm a 11:30pm ET (de 7pm a 8:30pm PT).
- [Una introducción al RICA: La visión de la](#)

[iniciación cristiana](#) es un curso digital de seis semanas, los jueves de 7pm a 8:30pm ET (de 4pm a 5:30pm PT) a partir del 2 de septiembre.

También ofrecemos un evento para los ministros de la liturgia:

- [Renovar nuestro llamado al ministerio: Retiro virtual para ministros de la liturgia](#), martes, 21 de septiembre de 7pm a 9pm ET (de 4pm a 6pm PT).

Para más información sobre estos eventos, favor de pulsar los enlaces de este correo electrónico, o bien comunicarse a events@ltp.org.

Contact Rosina Hendrickson, Training and Events Coordinator at LTP for more information or additional events in English and Spanish. You can reach her at rhendrickson@ltp.org or at 773-579-4900, ext. 3532.

Upcoming NFCYM and Catechetical Institute Webinars –:



Topic: Getting Ready for the New Normal: Preparing for Ministry Changes Post-Pandemic - August 11 at 1:00 PM CDT – Cost is \$10.00.

As we prepare for ministry post-virus, important issues to consider include:

- What will the new normal be? And, is returning to normal even really what we want?
- What are the impacts on youth and young adults from the pandemic that we need to consider in our planning?
- What has the pandemic taught us to do better?
- What opportunities for ministry have emerged?

One key element in our preparations is learning how to be more adaptable and moving from being reactive to being proactive. Join our panel of ministry veterans to discuss these issues and more.

Panelists include:

- Dr. Patrick Donovan - Patrick Donovan is the founding executive director of The Leadership Institute in the Diocese of Bridgeport.
- Dr. Charlotte McCorquodale - Charlotte McCorquodale, Ph.D. is the President and CEO of Ministry Training Source.
- Dr. Ansel Augustine - Dr. Ansel Augustine has worked in youth/young adult/campus ministry for over two decades in his hometown of New Orleans, LA and around the country.
- Rosy Hartz - Rosy Hartz has been the Coordinator of Faith Formation at St. Viator Parish in Las Vegas, Nevada since 2001 working with youth ministry and religious education.

Use [this link](#) to register.



Topic: How to strengthen your RCIA process to be the best your parish has ever offered and how the Catechetical Institute can help with that.

The Catechetical Institute is continuing our FREE and fantastic webinar series to answer the most commonly asked questions about successfully implementing www.FranciscanAtHome.com in parishes and schools in creative and effective ways. We've had many requests for this, and we're happy to be able to provide this ongoing additional help!

Register for free today by selecting a time below!

- Click [here](#) to register for Tuesday, August 10 at 2:00pm (Central Time in the U.S. and Canada) or
- Click [here](#) to register for Tuesday, August 10 at 7:00pm (Central Time in the U.S. and Canada)

They will be answering your questions, such as...

- How to know how to reach out effectively in the community to find and call souls towards the Father's saving embrace in the Church?
- How to richly unfold the teachings of the Jesus and His Church in a thoroughly engaging and deeply convincing way?
- How to create an RCIA process that is more than just classes, but an authentic place of conversion and discipleship?
- How to really understand and help participants experience the rich liturgies, blessings, scrutinies, and other rites of the RCIA process?
- How to involve the larger parish community in creative and effective ways in the lives of those seeking to enter the Catholic Church?
- How to lead neophytes to really feel they have a need for the Mass and a deep desire for Jesus in the Eucharist?
- And much more – there will be an opportunity for live Q&A at the end, so don't miss out!

I hope you will join our colleagues at Franciscan at Home for this upcoming event. Remember that you and as many members of your parish who want to participate have access to a free membership. Contact [John Gaffney](#) for more information.

August Important Dates:

- August 4 – [Saint John Vianney](#)
- August 6 – The Transfiguration of the Lord ([What is the Feast all about?](#))
- August 8 – [Saint Dominic](#)
- August 9 – [Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross](#)
- August 10 – [Saint Lawrence](#)
- August 11 – [Saint Clare of Assisi](#)
- August 12 – [Saint Jane Frances de Chantal](#)
- August 14 – [Saint Maximilian Mary Kolbe](#)
- August 15 – [Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary](#)
 - Mass with Bishop Joensen at St. Patrick Irish Settlement Consecration to St. Joseph ([Blessing of St. Joseph's Table](#))
- August 20 – [Saint Bernard of Clairvaux](#)
- August 22 – [Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary](#)
- August 23-31 – The first week of school in many places ([Beginning of School Prayer](#))
- August 27 – [Saint Monica](#)
- August 28 – [Saint Augustine of Hippo](#)

