



Department of
Evangelization & Catechesis

PCL Connect E-Newsletter
Glorifying God – Growing in Faith
Living our Catholic Faith in the World
February 2023 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)

Save the date – February 16 – Eucharistic Missionary Fr. Samuel Hakeem, OP at St. Francis parish in West Des Moines:



We are pleased to invite you to engage with Father Samuel Hakeem, OP on the topic of Eucharistic Revival on February 16, 2023 at St. Francis of Assisi parish in West Des Moines.

The morning begins at **9:30 AM** with a light breakfast. The presentation will begin at 10:30 AM and end at 12:00 PM.

Father Samuel Hakeem, OP is a respected speaker on the topic of Eucharistic, serving as a Eucharistic Speaker for the USCCB during these three years of Eucharistic Revival. He has a wealth of knowledge and experience to share and we are honored to

have him be with us.

The morning conversation will provide valuable insights and inspiration as we lean into Eucharistic revival.

In order to ensure enough seating and breakfast for all attendees, **please RSVP to [John Huynh](#) by February 13, 2023.**

We hope that you will be able to join us for this event and look forward to seeing you there. If you are unable to join in person, we have arranged to livestream through ZOOM at [this link](#).

Save the Date PCL Connect/CLADD Session March 9 with Kelly Mantoan and Scott Caldwell:

Our March 9, 2023 PCL Connect/CLADD session is a full day program (9:00 am to 3:00 pm) focused on helping each of us in our role as professional lay ecclesial ministers to support our families, dealing with so much these days.



- Kelly Mantoan will discuss the stages of grief many special-needs parents go through. How they can look past the sorrow of their child's diagnosis to find the joy in everyday life? What is our role in accompanying parents, grandparents, children, and teens?
- Scott Caldwell, program director for Catholic Charities will visit with us about the level of mental health issues family members face today and help us orient our pastoral presence to meet them where they are at and help point them to the professionals who can help with healing.

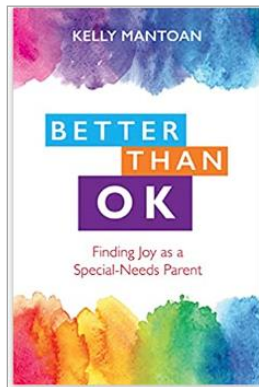
Location of Session:

Saints Peter and Paul Parish Hall
105 West 5th Street
Atlantic, IA 50022
515-223-0571 (reservations under CLADD Retreat)

A light breakfast and lunch is provided. See the attached flyer for the program agenda.

Contact [Sherri](#) to register. Contact [Patty Origer](#) or [me](#) if you have questions.

March 9 evening Special Needs Program for parents: Better than OK – Finding Joy as a Special Needs Parent with Kelly Mantoan:



All parents of children with disabilities are invited to attend a presentation about how parents can look past feeling sorry for their child's diagnosis to find the joy in everyday life. That joy can strengthen them in caring and advocating for their child.

Kelly Mantoan, author and speaker at the event, craved support as Catholic parent with special needs children, but most secular support groups couldn't help her see and understand God's plan.

Please promote her presentation in Des Moines on the evening of March 9, 2023, with the attached flyer and social media post!

Diocesan Lenten Resources:



Jesus, about to transition from the hidden mission of home to the public mission of proclaiming the Good News of God's love, was drawn to pray and fast for 40 days in the desert. The desert. Why would Jesus go there – on purpose? Why does he invite us to join him there every Lent? And how do we do this?

Our resources offer perspective on the “desert” practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving; as well as give ideas for how to live them — individually or as families. We trust the Lord, by the power of his Resurrection, will bless our desert sojourn with newness of life and renewed energy for our own mission.

Use [this link](#) for our Lenten essentials. .

- [Living Lent](#) – A four-page “how to” guide that **gives perspective and context to the Lenten practices** of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Offers **creative ideas** for how to live Lent as a family.
- [Lent Faith Conversations](#) – One page per week of Lent, providing an **adult reflection** on the Sunday readings & questions **to spark family conversations** of faith. Also: a weekly **prayer** & suggestion for **fasting & almsgiving** as a family.
- Additional stand-alone resources that are also hyper-linked in the Living Lent four page resource.

Thanks to the team of Kristi and Tom Quinlan as well as Anne Marie Cox for the development and promotion of the product which we help is an on ramp opportunity for households of faith.

Items from Disability Ministry:

HELP RAISE DISABILITY AWARENESS IN MARCH BY HOSTING AN AWARENESS SUNDAY:

Celebrate persons with disabilities in March in your parish. March is the month to celebrate the gifts of persons with cerebral palsy and developmental disabilities. Resources such as pew cards, tips for welcoming persons with disability and additional Disability Awareness and Welcoming resources are located on the [Disability Ministry Parish Resource page](#). Or include them in your prayer petitions during the month of March by finding prayers on our [Disability Ministry Prayer Page](#).

Nourish for Caregivers next support group meeting will move to a **new** location St. Pius X in Des Moines on a **new** night of Thursday, Feb 23rd 6:00 pm. Additional information on the event will be made available on the Diocesan Event page and social media. Contact Deacon Dan Maxcy danm@holyltrinitydm.org for more information.



Mindspring offers free webinars on mental health topics. This next month includes topics such as Understanding Trauma/PTSD, Supporting Emotional Regulation in Kids and Stress: Signs, Symptoms and Prevention.

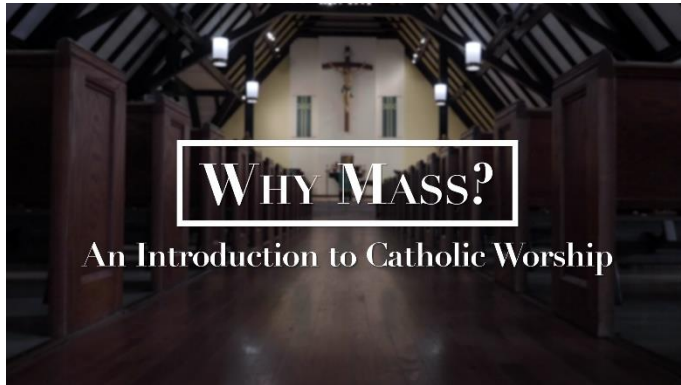
We are looking for individuals/parishes to begin a Mental Health ministry program at their parish. We have several options of programs and resources for parishes to consider to help them get started on this very important ministry of accompaniment. Contact Patty Origer if you know of someone in your parish that might be interested in beginning a ministry at your parish.

Please contact **Patty Origer**, Coordinator of Persons with Disability Ministry if you have questions or need additional resources.

Diocese of Des Moines Disability Ministry



Why Mass? New Video Series Produced by the Diocese of Des Moines in partnership with the Saint Joseph Evangelization Center:



In the Spirit of the Eucharistic Revival, we're excited to share with you the release of a new, locally produced, 5-part video series clearly explaining why we do what we do during the Mass.

Narrated by nationally known speaker and author Jon Leonetti, each video is just 3-4 minutes long followed by a reflection question for discussion among small groups. The video series is intended

for those who want to learn more about the Mass and its parts, or those who go through the motions and have forgotten the meaning of what we're celebrating.

Invite parents, faith-sharing groups, RCIA teams and others to take a look at WhyMass.org and let us know how you plan to use this new resource during the Lenten season. **We will continue to add resources to this webpage that accompany the videos. Check back often.**

To watch and use the video series go to www.WhyMass.org.

National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) 2023 November 16-19, 2023 in Indianapolis:



You are invited to come to Indianapolis with us from November 16 through 19, 2023, as we join thousands of other young people from around the country for this wonderful experience of the vibrancy and life that exists in the young Church. There's nothing like being in the midst of the young Church to bring home the message that we are part of something much bigger than our local parish communities.

NCYC Indianapolis is the largest gathering of Catholic youth in the country--it is a biennial three-day experience of prayer, community, and empowerment for Catholic teenagers and their adult chaperones. Teens and their group leaders enjoy speakers, workshops, live music, rousing large sessions, reconciliation, and a beautiful closing liturgy.

Perhaps best of all, teens are part of an enormous community of peers who love Jesus and their Catholic faith, and aren't afraid to show it. Teens and youth leaders will be assisted with harnessing the experience and bringing it back to their parishes.

Details are still being planned but use [this link](#) for the most up to date information as you plan your pilgrimage.

Contact [Justin White](#), Diocesan Director of Youth Ministry, and/or [Jessica Hernandez](#), Coordinator of Hispanic Youth Ministry, for more information.

February Important Dates:

- February 1 – [Presentation of the Lord](#)
- February 2 – [Saint Blaise](#)
- February 2 – [World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life](#)
- February 5 – [Saint Agatha](#)
- February 7-14 – [National Marriage Week](#)
- February 11 – [Our Lady of Lourdes](#)
- February 11 – [World Day for the Sick](#)
- February 14 – [Saints Cyril and Methodius](#)
- February 21 – [Saint Peter Damian](#)
- February 22 – [Chair of Saint Peter](#)
- February 22 – [Ash Wednesday \(Readings\)](#)
- February 23 – [Saint Polycarp](#)