

Diocese of Des Moines  
Evangelization &  
Catechesis



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

January 21, 2015 Edition

Prayers for Diane Thierer and family:

Diane's brother Daniel Hernandez of Cedar Rapids passed away unexpectedly at home on January 16. Mr. Hernandez leaves behind a son, Keith, two siblings Diane and Paul (and their families), his former wife and best friend Pam, and a lifetime of friends. Diane and the family appreciate our prayers during this time of loss and mourning. Information about the funeral services can be found at this link:

<http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?ca=9e24952b-f05e-418b-a7c1-8531f17b98b8&c=7bb647f0-51b9-11e3-834b-d4ae52843aae&ch=7de5d220-51b9-11e3-836a-d4ae52843aae>

Eternal rest grant unto Daniel, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Confirmation Retreats this spring:

Based upon our recent research here is what we have:

- **Des Moines, St. Joseph**—Jan. 24-25 (Stacy Halbach cell: 301-448-2809)
- **Emmaus Retreat**-- St. Thomas More Center—Sunday February 22nd (Tessa 515-237-5098)
- **Red Oak, St. Mary**—May 31<sup>st</sup> (Cindee Hays cindee5882@yahoo.com)

We did hear from some parishes that they have yet decided on a Confirmation Retreat date. Please let Sherri Simmer know as soon as possible when you confirm a date and if you would be willing to have other people attend the retreat. I know that Council Bluffs area parishes will also have a retreat later this spring. You can contact Sherri Simmer at [ssimmer@dmdiocese.org](mailto:ssimmer@dmdiocese.org).

Some parishes have small directed retreat mornings or afternoons for those who could not attend the scheduled retreat. If you would like resources for these types of reflection days, please contact John at <mailto:jgaffney@dmdiocese.org> or Tessa at <mailto:troberts@dmdiocese.org>.

Lenten Resources for 2015:

Are you looking for food for your spiritual journey and are not sure where to begin? Would you like to have something delivered to your computer, tablet or smart phone daily? Perhaps Lent is the perfect time to explore the sites listed below and incorporate one or more of them into your routine.

Center for Action and Contemplation (daily reflections from Fr. Richard Rohr, OFM)	<a href="http://cac.org">cac.org</a>
Concord Pastor Comments (daily reflections from Fr. Austin Fleming in Concord, NJ)	<a href="http://concordpastor.blogspot.com">concordpastor.blogspot.com</a>
Creighton University Ministries On-line (daily reflections, on-line retreat in the Jesuit tradition)	<a href="http://onlineministries.Creighton.edu">onlineministries.Creighton.edu</a>
Divine Office On-line (prayer of the Church/Liturgy of the Hours)	<a href="http://ebreviary.com">ebreviary.com</a>
Divine Office On-line (prayer of the Church/Liturgy of the Hours and daily readings)	<a href="http://universalis.com">universalis.com</a>
Henri Nouwen Society (daily reflections from the works of noted author, Fr. Henri Nouwen)	<a href="http://Henrinouwen.org">Henrinouwen.org</a>
Loyola Press (three-minute retreat in the Jesuit tradition offered on-line)	<a href="http://loyolapress.com">loyolapress.com</a>
Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI (daily reflections from noted theologian and author, Fr. Ron Rolheiser)	<a href="http://Rolheiser.com">Rolheiser.com</a>
Sacred Space (website of the Irish Jesuits offering daily reflections)	<a href="http://sacredspace.ie">sacredspace.ie</a>
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (the readings of the day are available...you may sign-up to have the readings delivered to your in-box daily at no charge)	<a href="http://uscgb.org">uscgb.org</a>
University of Notre Dame (reflections on the readings from the daily mass)	<a href="http://faithnd.edu">faithnd.edu</a>

Some other materials available for purchase that can be used with parents, volunteers and children/youth include:

**Liturgy Training Publications** resources for Lent, Triduum and Easter (includes bilingual resources): <http://www.ltp.org/c-3-lent-triduum-and-easter-season.aspx>

**Catechist Resources LLC** resources for children (includes bilingual resources): <http://www.catechistplace.com/products>

**Lighthouse Catholic Media:**  
<http://www.lighthousecatholicmedia.org/store/category/lent-easter>

**Our Sunday Visitor:** <https://www.osvparish.com/Shop/Resources/Lent.aspx>

**Loyola Press Lenten Resources:** <http://www.loyolapress.com/liturgical-year-lent.htm>

**Bridges to Contemplative Living (Lent) with Thomas Merton:**  
<https://www.avemariapress.com/product/1-59471-204-2/Lent-and-Holy-Week/>

**Saint Mary's Press Lenten Resources:**  
<http://www.smp.org/resourcecenter/category/Lent/15/>

### CLADD Retreat 2015 in Urbandale:

The 2015 Catechetical Leader retreat will be held on February 12-13 in Urbandale at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites. Attached please find the flyer. Here is what is in store for you:

- Dr. Tom Neal, former director of the Saint Joseph Educational Center and current professor of Spiritual Theology at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans, is our retreat facilitator. His motto when facilitating retreats is “The Word made fresh.”
- This year’s theme is “Echoes of Mercy: Building a Culture of Compassion through Catechetical Ministry.”
- The retreat fee will be \$70.00 and includes materials along with wonderful meals (dinner and lunch along with afternoon and morning snacks)
- For those staying at the Holiday Inn and Suites, the room charge is \$104.95 (plus taxes) for an executive king room or a double queen room. A deluxe breakfast is included at Bennigan’s Restaurant for those staying.
- The CLADD Retreat is open to current and retired catechetical leaders, youth ministers, adult faith formation directors, and any staff who work in formational ministry. The retreat topic focuses on ministry and the lay minister, not a specific ministry. If you haven’t attended in the past please give this a shot...you will not be disappointed.
- Registration is open by contacting Sherri Simmer at [ssimmer@dmdiocese.org](mailto:ssimmer@dmdiocese.org).

Attached to the E-Newsletter you will find a flyer for the Retreat. You do not want to miss our annual retreat opportunity. Scholarships are available to help offset the cost of the retreat. For more information about the retreat or scholarships, contact John Gaffney at [jgaffney@dmdiocese.org](mailto:jgaffney@dmdiocese.org).

### Blessing for a Child in the Womb (USCCB Book of Blessings):

God, author of all life,  
bless, we pray, this unborn child;  
give constant protection  
and grant a healthy birth  
that is the sign of our rebirth one day  
into the eternal rejoicing of heaven...  
~ *excerpt from the Prayer of Blessing*

Trusted curated sites used for this newsletter include:

- Diocese of Des Moines Department of Evangelization & Catechesis - <http://www.dmdiocese.org/evangelization-and-adult-faith-formation.cfm>
- USCCB - <http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/prayers/pro-life-blessings.cfm>