

Diocese of Des Moines
Evangelization &
Catechesis



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

January 22, 2014 Edition

CLADD Follow-up for January Session on Catechist Certification:

Thanks go out to everyone who attended the January CLADD session on a proposed catechist certification process for the Diocese of Des Moines. The insights and dialogue regarding Cheryl's outstanding work blending the experience and needs of local catechetical leaders with the vision and scope that the USCCB and national organizations such as the National Conference for Catechetical Leaders has been helpful in designing a systematic process that supports all structures of on-going formation: whether it is offered at the diocese, within the parish structure, at National or regional conventions, through on-going formation sessions such as Catechesis of the Good Shepherd certification, or through the many opportunities offered through publishers and national organizations.

The next task includes reporting to Bishop Pates what was discussed at CLADD along with updating the process with his insights and ideas to decide what the best step toward implementation is.

CLADD Retreat – February 13 & 14, 2014 – Red Coach Inn in Red Oak, Iowa – Tom & Kimi Tomaszek – Sacred Path: The Four Movements of God's Love

The United States Bishops ask lay ecclesial ministers to attend to three dimensions within our own formation in this ministry: being, knowing and know-how. A retreat is an excellent opportunity for each of us to step away from life's hectic pace and "be" with God and "know" of God's love for each of us...we are his delight. Nurturing the personal and spiritual development of the catechist is essential to achieving a fruitful growth in faith of those seeking to be catechized. Furthermore, it is hard to ask families to give up time for a parish retreat or diocesan youth event if we can't spare a few hours ourselves.

With that said the CLADD leaders have a GREAT retreat lined up for you. Tom and Kimi Tomaszek will be our retreat facilitators. This is the first time that we have had a married couple facilitate our retreat experience. Tom's experience as an author, composer, educator and pastoral minister helps him lead retreats that are deeply spiritual, insightful and inspiring. Along with his wife Kimi, they direct *The Five Loaves* which is a ministry that provides methods and online resources for lifelong spiritual growth and renewal (see www.thefiveleaves.com).

What will I get if I register for the retreat?

- an opportunity to get away from the routine of life, lots of personal prayer time, and gatherings to engage in conversation, reflection and catching-up
- 26 hours of retreat using the construct of **Take, Bless, Break and Give** as a way to reflect on our Eucharistic spirituality as Catholics.

- Great food and lodging from the Red Coach Inn in Red Oak
- Exceptional hospitality from our CLADD Leadership Team (Diane, Jill, Mandie, Julie, Cindee and Paulette) as well as Cheryl, John & Tessa from the Diocesan Department of Evangelization & Catechesis

All in all, the CLADD 2014 Retreat is not only an exceptional experience for on-going formation in our Catholic faith, it is also one that is very affordable. Attached to the e-mail is the flyer. Once again we have been able to keep the cost of the retreat at \$60.00. The room fee is \$84.99, but that can include one, two or three people in a room. There are still a limited amount of scholarships available if your parish cannot afford to send you to this retreat.

Registrations are due by January 30, 2014 and we would like to see your name on the retreat participant list. For more information please contact John Gaffney at jgaffney@dmdiocese.org, or Sherri Simmer at ssimmer@dmdiocese.org.

Two New Series Review Completed and awaiting approval by Bishop Pates:

Alive in Christ by Our Sunday Visitor Curriculum Division and *Be My Disciples* by RCL Benziger have been reviewed by the Office of Catechetical Services with a recommendation to Bishop Pates to be included in our list of available resources used in parish and school programs. A few parishes around the diocese have been using these resources already with much success. Both resources have received approval by the USCCB Conformity Review Committee that these resources are in conformity with the fullness of teachings found in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. Both resources have updated texts that support the new translation of the Roman Missal. Our office will update you with Bishop Pates' decision on these texts once it is provided.

We are awaiting arrival of Ascension Press' new Confirmation series entitled *Chosen*. This program is a DVD based process so the USCCB does not put it through a Conformity review. Please allow our department enough time this winter/spring to preview all the material and make a recommendation to Bishop Pates regarding its use in the Diocese of Des Moines.

Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children (January 22, 2014):

Prayer to Mary, Mother of the Life Within

O Mary, Mother of the Life Within, all life we entrust to you;
 The life of every expectant mother and the child within her womb:
 The life of every human body,
 the life of every human soul;
 The life of every newborn child and the life of all grown old.
 You held the Lord to your own heart and drew Him so close in.
 So draw us now in all our needs,
 O Mother of the Life Within.

Amen.