

Diocese of Des Moines
Evangelization &
Catechesis



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

January 29, 2014 Edition

Paulist Evangelization Ministries’ New Lenten Resource for Teens “*Living the Eucharist*”:

The priests and staff from Paulist Evangelization Ministries are offering a new Lenten resource to engage your teens in Lent on living the Eucharist and being a witness for Christ in the World. “Teens meet weekly during Lent with other high school students to watch a short video and discuss how you can grow closer to God through the Eucharist. Each session has a fun and thought provoking video design just for teens. Small groups prepare for the upcoming Sunday Mass. During Lent, teens strengthen their sense of community and prepare to renew their baptismal promises at Easter by learning more about the Eucharist” (Paulist Evangelization Ministries).

View a sample of the video - <http://www.livingtheeucharist.org/preview-the-living-the-eucharist-materials/teen-video>
[preview/?utm_source=Copy+of+LE+Small+Groups&utm_campaign=LE2014&utm_medium=email](http://www.livingtheeucharist.org/preview/?utm_source=Copy+of+LE+Small+Groups&utm_campaign=LE2014&utm_medium=email)

Preview a participant booklet - http://www.livingtheeucharist.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/SAMPLE-Teen-P-Book-Year-A.pdf?utm_source=Copy+of+LE+Small+Groups&utm_campaign=LE2014&utm_medium=email

Ordering information - http://www.abdi-ecommerce10.com/LTE/p-14-small-group-participant-booklet-for-teens-english.aspx?utm_source=Copy+of+LE+Small+Groups&utm_campaign=LE2014&utm_medium=email

Candlemas Procession and Celebration of the Holy Eucharist with members of the Religious Communities in our Diocese:

Sunday, February 2 at the 10:30 AM Mass at St. Ambrose Cathedral, Bishop Pates will celebrate with members of religious communities their beautiful commitment to Christ and the Church. Everyone is invited to attend. Members of religious communities and anyone else who would like to participate, will be invited to be part of the candle light procession to begin the service. At the end of the prayer of the faithful, members of the religious communities will have an “Expression of Commitment” and a blessing by the Bishop.

Candlemas is a traditional Christian festival held on February 2 to commemorate the presentation of Christ in the Temple. Candles have been traditionally blessed in this festival.

Candlemas is a wonderful way to promote a more active role of the domestic Church...connecting the domestic Church to the parish/diocesan Church. A few ideas:

1. Have children pick-out a special candle and take it to Church for the priest to bless. Light the candle during any moment throughout the year when Christ's presence as symbolized in the candle, is needed: during times of sorrow, protection, concern or thanksgiving.
2. Have candles from around the home brought together for an in-home Candlemas ceremony. Mom or dad lights all the candles from one central candle while the other parent, or an older child, reads Luke 2. Dad or mom reminds the children that the light from these candles symbolize Jesus as the light of the world.

We have members of 15 religious orders serving in the Diocese of Des Moines. They include:

- Congregation of the Humility of Mary (CHM)
- Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (IHM)
- Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration (FSPA)
- Sisters for Christian Community (SFCC)
- School Sisters of Saint Francis (SSSF)
- Presentation Sisters of the Blessed Virgin Mary (PBVM)
- Sisters of Mercy (RSM)
- Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (BVM)
- Friar Servants of Mary (OSM)
- Society of the Precious Blood (CPPS)
- Congregation of the Holy Ghost Fathers (CSSP)
- Society of Jesus (SJ)
- Society of the Divine Word (SVD)
- Franciscan Friars of the Third Order Regular (TOR)
- Clerics of Saint Viator (CSV)

Save the Date – 2nd Year for Nigerian School Lenten Project for Parishes and Schools:

This Lent the Diocesan Department of Evangelization and Catechesis and the Diocesan School's Office invite your parish RE and youth ministry program to help raise funds for the Nigerian Holy Ghost Father's School Project. We are blessed to have several Holy Ghost priests working in the Diocese and last year's contribution by children and youth came close to \$38,000.00.

The progress from last year is detailed by Father Chris Chukwu, C.S.Sp. "The renovation work started with some demolitions and reconstructions both inside and outside since early August, 2013 and have continued. Meanwhile lots of work are yet to be done, which include replacing dilapidated wooden windows of the ground floor of the academic building that houses the Science Laboratories, fixing new doors, building of standard Library shelves, library tables and seats are currently in progress; electrical rewiring of the entire academic building is in progress and will soon be completed. The crack walls have been reinforced; iron rails are put in place. We are hoping that both major and minor fixings would be completed by mid-November before we start the painting of the academic building.

We remain ever grateful and appreciative. Will keep you updated as the project progresses."

Parish RE and youth ministry programs that participated last year include:

- Holy Family parish – Mondamin
- St. Patrick's – Irish Settlement
- Our Lady's Immaculate Heart parish – Ankeny
- St. Patrick parish – Dunlap
- St. John parish – Adel
- St. John parish – Greenfield
- St. Luke the Evangelist parish – Ankeny
- St. Mary parish – Red Oak
- St. Mary parish – Shenandoah
- St. Mary parish – Portsmouth
- St. Mary/Holy Cross parish – Elkhart
- St. Patrick parish – Missouri Valley
- St. Peter parish – Council Bluffs
- St. Peter parish – Defiance

More information will be sent soon on the 2014 Lenten campaign and ideas to involve your children, youth and families. Thank you once again for all you do in your parish, your community and the world!

Prayer for parents:

Grant us, O Lord Jesus, to imitate faithfully the example of your Holy Family
and to make our home another Nazareth.

May peace, love and happiness prevail.

Grant us the grace to be the parents we should be for our children.

Grant that our child may find solid support for human dignity
and growth in truth and love within the embrace of our home.

When the time comes for each of us to go to the everlasting home you have prepared for us,
may your glorious mother Mary and St. Joseph take us to you,
after the final grace of a happy death.

Amen.