

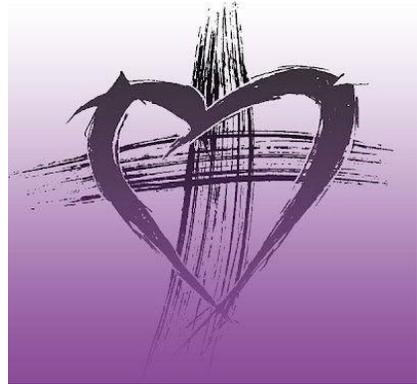
Dept. of Evangelization &
Catechesis

Growing Disciples – Wednesday Wrap
Glorifying God – Growing in Faith
Living our Catholic Faith in the World
March 1, 2017 Edition

Encounter Lent 2017 – Parish and Personal Resources:

The Diocese of Des Moines has provided each parish with three excellent resources whose goal is to establish a deeper relationship between Jesus and yourself. These processes lead to an ever more fruitful bonding with your parish families, your volunteers as well as your family and friends. Two of the resources are designed for faith sharing groups while the third is designed for individual reflection. To download these free resources follow this link:

<http://www.dmdiocese.org/evangelization-and-adult-faith-formation.cfm>



Option 1 – ***The Message of Lent by Pope Francis*** - Pope Francis' insights will provide you with an opportunity to ponder the gifts of God's Word and the human person. The resource is recommended for discussion with parish staffs or could be an excellent catechist formation during Lent.

Option 2 – ***Encounter Lent*** – Framing the process around the Emmaus story, Encounter Lent is a process of first engaging in what it means to allow Jesus to accompany us, for us to accompany others and the joy found as we move to be missionary disciples. This five week program is designed for small group faith sharing but also has a personal reflection component.

Option 3 – ***Caring for Our Common Home: Lenten Reflections for Iowans*** – Inspired by Pope Francis this resource provides daily Lenten reflection in order to deepen our appreciation of creation. Today's ACT portion of the resource asked me to contemplate God in the web of creation trying to see God in the creation He has made. Since it is Ash Wednesday, it also asks for me to remember the ashes on my head and reflect upon this powerful Lenten symbol.

Attached to this e-mail you will find a poster that you can distribute or place in the public areas of your parish community. Please know that you and your parish community or in our daily prayers this Lenten season.

Teen Ministry Opportunity – Walking with Your Peers using Social Media:

Last week I had the pleasure of being at Holy Rosary parish in Glenwood with their high school teens. Attached is the program I used with the Emmaus story as the backdrop for how the teens, as peers, can accompany others using digital media. I use the web resource Poll Everywhere as the vehicle for a large group discussion including some very difficult and challenging questions. The teens are asked to bring their phones to the session, making them very happy.



Theresa's teens really enjoyed the session and found it useful, according to Theresa, and so did the adults. I am happy to come to your parish and do this with your teens as well. Let me know. Dates I have available on Wednesday include March 22, 29, April 12, 26. The session is scheduled for an hour but it could be lengthened. Attached to this e-mail is the session plan.

CLADD Sessions in March:

The CLADD Leadership team has provided great programming for March. Attached to this e-mail you will find the flyers for CLADD South, West and East. Please take time out of your schedule to join us for outstanding professional development and an opportunity to reconnect with your colleagues in catechetical ministry.

CLADD South & East in March - The Care & Feeding of Catechists: 7 Simple Strategies to Honor, Inspire, and Motivate Your Catechists:

The General Directory states that nothing is as important as the person of the catechist and Pope Francis supports the vocation of catechists when he says: "More than ever we need you and your catechetical ministry, so that with your creative gestures, you may as David did, bring music and joy on your journey with God's tired people." Join us as we share strategies to affirm the courageous call to this vocation and inspire catechists on their formative journey. CLADD East will be facilitated by Nancy Bird from RCL Benziger while CLADD South will be facilitated by John Gaffney

- CLADD South will be held on March 9 from 6:00 to 8:30 pm at St. Edward Parish in Afton. CLADD South serves primarily the Osceola region of parishes.
- CLADD East will be held on March 23 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at Ss. John & Paul parish in Altoona.

CLADD West in March (rescheduled from January) - A New Way Forward – Talking About What Matters:

Organizations pay a deep price for ignoring the elephants in the room. Our March session helps us as part of parish leadership to speak openly in hope to better achieve our ministry and parish goals. This session will be an interactive morning of learning certain practices and putting them into action. Our session will not only enhance our work relationships but our personal relationships as well. Tom Green, Mary Green's husband, is our facilitator.

- CLADD West will be held on March 21 from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm at St. Patrick Parish in Neola.

Lenten Morning of Renewal – Ss. John & Paul Parish:

Ss. John & Paul parish in Altoona will be holding a Lenten Morning of Renewal on Saturday, March 11 from 8:30 am to 12:00 pm. The flyer is attached to the e-newsletter. Sr. Marie Micheletto will share insights on *The Tender Mercies of God*. She is an outstanding presenter with a great sense of humor. The session will be in the new social hall at the Faith Development Center, which is located at the north end of the building. This will be a great gift to yourself this Lenten Season. For more information, please contact Sr. Virginia Jennings, OSF at vjennings@ssjohnpaul.org.

Lent is a new beginning,
a path leading to the certain
goal of Easter, Christ's victory
over death.

@Pontifex
March 1, 2017

