



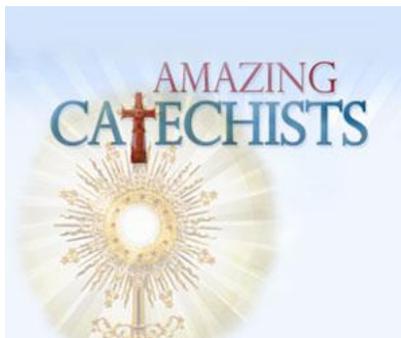
Dept. of Evangelization &
Catechesis

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

March 8, 2017 Edition

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.



Summer Formation Opportunity – Revelation: A Book of Hope in Troubled Times:



As part of our relationship with the University of Saint Mary of the Lake lay ecclesial ministers, religious and clergy in the Diocese of Des Moines to their summer scripture seminar which will be held June 25-30.

Our colleagues at the University not only invite us each year they seek us out as an intended audience for their annual seminar. The Summer Scripture Seminar has become a community of women and men committed to ministry and learning in the Church. Since the Bible is

the soul of theology, the University of Saint Mary of the Lake chose to stress ongoing study of the scriptures as the emphasis of the seminar. Speakers and audience come from anywhere across and outside the United States. Approximate audience blend is 50% ordained priests & deacons, 25% religious brothers or sisters, and 25% lay ministers, educators or catechists.

For more information go to this website link, <https://usml.edu/event/summer-scripture-2017/> or contact Diana Bernacki at 847-837-4575.

Confirmation Ministry Opportunity – The Four Marks of the Church:

This week I have the pleasure of being at St. Theresa parish in Des Moines with their freshman Confirmation candidates. Attached is the program I used to create vibrant discussions surrounding the Four Marks of the Church. I use the web resource Poll Everywhere as the vehicle for a large group discussion including some very difficult and challenging questions both about the Church as institution and their own personal discipleship. The teens are asked to bring their phones to the session.



Meg Howes and the team's teens really enjoyed the session and found it useful, and so did the adults. I am happy to come to your parish and do this with your Confirmation candidates as well regarding any content you would like me to cover. Contact me at jgaffney@dmdiocese.org and we can schedule a session for you. The session is scheduled for an hour but it could be lengthened. Attached to this e-mail is the session plan.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month:

A Prayer for Healing – Victims of Abuse (by the USCCB- 2014)

God of endless love,
ever caring, ever strong,
always present, always just;
You gave your only Son
to save us by His blood on the cross.
Gentle Jesus, shepherd of peace,

join to your own suffering
the pain of all who have been hurt
in body, mind and spirit
by those who betrayed the trust placed in them.

Hear the cries of our brothers and sisters
who have been gravely harmed,
and the cries of those who love them.
Soothe their restless hearts with hope,
steady their shaken spirits with faith.
Grant them justice for their cause,
enlightened by Your truth.

Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts,
heal your people's wounds
and transform brokenness into wholeness.
Grant us the courage and wisdom,
humility and grace, to act with justice.
Breathe wisdom into our prayers and labors.
Grant that all harmed by abuse may find peace in justice.
We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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

@Pontifex
March 1, 2017

