



Department of
Evangelization & Catechesis

PCL Connect E-Newsletter
Glorifying God – Growing in Faith
Living our Catholic Faith in the World
March 23, 2022 Edition

“Jesus Christ loves you; he gave his life to save you; and now he is living at your side every day to enlighten, strengthen and free you.” (Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium, 164)

Resources for Parish Catechetical Leaders:

Living Holy Week:



Our family resources for Holy Week were uploaded on the diocesan website last week. You can find them using [this link](#). Please feel free to share with your parish families as we continue our Lenten journey. If families already have the link to [Living Lent](#), they will find *Living Holy Week* near the bottom of the page.

Because of the many connection to the liturgical movement of Holy Week, our diocesan worship director, Father Trevor Chicoine, reviewed the material and had this to say to Kristi Quinlan and our diocesan colleagues working on this, “This is a lovely production. I pray it will bring many families a taste of the beauty of these holy days, especially those who perhaps are on the margins of faith lives. Really well done: the content’s great and it’s also a beautiful publication: I found it very inviting (I suspect that was the idea)! I am especially appreciative of the invitation for families to enter the silence of these days. I thought fasting from TV/social media was a brilliant thing to point out.”

You will find in *Living Holy Week* an overview, formation ideas, and tone for the day for Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter Sunday along with beautiful original artwork by Christine Hilbert.

Another addition to the Living Lent website are *Living Lent 2022 Video Reflections*. As of the writing of this e-newsletter there are three video to share with your families.

Week One is on growth and renewal -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=11DoxTMBsOI&t=16s>

Week two is on prayer and answering God’s call -

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bl75r1y_k6U

Week Three is on fasting - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hHAhdPVfZqQ>

Dream and Apply for a Catholic Foundation of Southwest Iowa (CFSWIA) Grants by April 8:



- What is something you would like to try in your parish but don't have the funds in your budget?
- Has it been a while since you have had a parish mission or retreat and would like funds to bring in a gifted facilitator?
- Would you like to partner with an evangelization organization to train parish leadership to move from maintenance to mission?
- What is the answer to your what if question? (What if we could do this? How would it help our community have an encounter with Jesus?)

There is only one way to know, apply for a grant by April 8. If you have applied or grants in the past and were turned down, you may want to try again this year. Please note that some of our normal criteria will not be enforced (ie: speaker fees, consumables, etc.) for the Parish Mission Renewal grants. For more information, please reach out to [John Gaffney](#) or [Sue McEntee](#).

How can this happen? This year, and for years to come, grants are being provided through CFSWIA and from the IGNITE! Campaign Diocese of Des Moines. One of the areas that the Diocesan IGNITE! Capital Campaign is raising funds for is to grow and strengthen our diocesan **Parish Renewal programs within our parishes.** The funds available to grant to this purpose will increase as the campaign progresses, and as gifts are made into this fund, using only a portion of the annual fund value each year. CFSWIA will facilitate issuing all of the grants described here.

Lenten Retreat with Julianne Stanz from NFCYM:



Title: Lenten Retreat: Braving The Thin Spaces of Your Ministry presented by Julianne Stanz

Description: The concept of a thin space is an ancient one, arising from the Celtic tradition but it captures well the time that we currently find ourselves in. For many of us, the pace of life has moved over concrete and inhospitable ground and we find ourselves deeply searching- for, joy, forgiveness, healing,

completion and peace. Navigating ministry can be its own particular thin space where we meet God and humanity meet in a powerful way. In these moments, we feel a sense of breakthrough as we break free of the ordinary and experience the extraordinary amid our daily lives. Drawing on her Irish-Celtic heritage, Julianne Stanz helps us explore those times and holy places of transformation. Inspired by faith and guided by spiritual practices, we can experience each thin place as a point of departure on a sacred journey to a truer understanding of who we are meant to

be. Julianne Stanz will explore how, in these thin spaces we encounter ourselves, our relationship with others and ultimately with God and how they can open up new ways of seeing, fresh avenues of thinking and ultimately, transformed ways of being.

Date: Tuesday, April 12, 1:00pm CT

[Register Here >](#)

Faith in Action – Be Part of the Diocesan Chrism Mass by pouring the Sacred Oils:



The Chrism Mass will be held at 5:00 pm on Friday April 8 at 7:00 pm. Sherri and I are working with Sandy Riesberg on recruiting volunteers who can help during the Mass pouring the sacred oils into the vessels to be distributed to parishes.

The pouring of the oils must be done during the Mass so the volunteers would not be participating in the Chrism Mass. Our task is to recruit teen and/or adult volunteers from parishes to help. It

would be a wonderful experience for current Confirmation and RCIA candidates since this Chrism will be used at their Confirmation Mass. Each teen volunteer would also receive service hours. We need 30 to 35 for this project. Sandy Riesberg will provide more information for those interested, but ideally they would arrive around between 4:30 and 5:00 pm wearing clothes that can get dirty in case they spill oil on themselves.

If you can help with recruiting and teens agree to help with the project please do the following:

- Contact Sherri (ssimmer@dmdiocese.org) or me (jgaffney@dmdiocese.org) and let us know the number and names of the teens
- Please let us know if we can e-mail an information sheet directly to them and their parents or if you would like that to be sent to you (include teens and parent's e-mail address)

The Chrism Mass is beautiful and many people from around the diocese work very hard to make the celebration look like the many faces of the diocese. Even if your teens or adults may not be able to assist, I encourage you to have them attend as part of their formation. Thank you for your help.

March and April Important Dates:

- March 24 – [Saint Oscar Arnulfo Romero](#)
- March 25 – [The Anunciation of the Lord](#)
- April 7 – [Saint John Baptist de La Salle](#)
- April 10 – [Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion](#)
- April 14 – [Holy Thursday](#)
- April 15 – [Good Friday of the Lord's Passion](#)
- April 16 – [Saint Bernadette Soubirous](#)
- April 17 – [Easter Sunday](#)

- April 19 – [Saint Gianna Beretta Molla](#)
- April 21 – [Saint Anselm](#)
- April 24 – [Divine Mercy Sunday](#)
- April 25 – [Saint Mark](#)
- April 29 – [Saint Catherine of Siena](#)

