

Department of
Evangelization & Catechesis

Growing Disciples – Wednesday Wrap
Glorifying God – Growing in Faith
Living our Catholic Faith in the World
March 27, 2019 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)

New Sacramental Preparation Product Webinar next week – sign-up today:

The Augustine Institute has created a new product to assist you with your parents in engaging them in the process of Sacramental Preparation

SIGNS of GRACE™

for 1st Holy Communion and 1st Reconciliation. The program is called Signs of Grace. I have been very impressed with it as have parents of children preparing for these sacraments. It seems like a great opportunity to really assist our parents in reclaiming their role as the leaders of the domestic church. If your parish already is using “Formed”, this is a natural addition in your programming.

The most important thing to do is to sign-up: whether you can watch it live or not. If you can't be available for the live webinar, you will receive a link in your e-mail to watch the webinar which includes participation from local parish catechetical leaders.

Please register for Signs of Grace - A New Approach to Engaging Parents in Sacramental Preparation for the Diocese of Des Moines on Apr 1, 2019 3:00 PM CDT at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5888607543587469314>

Don't miss this special webinar for parishes and schools in the Diocese of Des Moines about the Augustine Institute's new "Signs of Grace" Sacramental Prep Program that includes a special parental component. The webinar will feature an overview of both "You Are Loved" for First Communion Sacramental Preparation and "You are Forgiven" for First Reconciliation Preparation.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. Brought to you by GoToWebinar®.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Prayer & Action Mission this summer – Shenandoah and Atlantic:



Prayer & Action is a Catholic youth ministry program that incorporates mission work within the boundaries of our diocese. It provides the opportunity to evangelize those participating in the mission weeks (youth and adult chaperones) but also the entire communities of Shenandoah and Atlantic

where the teams will work and live. Each week I will share more about the Prayer & Action experience.

We are currently accepting registrations for each of the weeks. This is perfect for two or three young people in your parish along with one adult chaperone who is Virtus trained with a background check. Prayer & Action would be ideal for Boy Scout/Girl Scout troop leaders, Knights of Columbus members bring a few teens or just an awesome parent with one's child and a few friends.

Today's focus is on the 'the work in Shenandoah.' Due to the recent historic flooding the communities of southwest Iowa are in need of clean-up and restoration. Many families have been displaced and some may have lost everything. We will concentrate our efforts in the communities of Shenandoah and Hamburg during weeks one and two.

To make a big impact for our sisters and brothers we need YOU! Consider registering within the next few weeks especially for week 1 & 2. We will be working on minor house repair, clean-up and painting.

The cost for a full week of Prayer & Action is \$80.00. Contact Justin White at jwhite@dmdiocese.org for information or view our website at <https://www.dmdiocese.org/ministries-and-faith-formation/youth-and-young-adults/youth-ministry/prayer-action>.

Location 1: Shenandoah, Iowa

Week 1--June 16th-21st

Week 2--June 23rd-28th

Location 2: Atlantic, Iowa

Week 3--July 7th-12th

Week 4--July 14th-19th

April CLADD Sessions Canceled:

Due to the historic flooding out west and the ongoing status of emergency operations planning in most parishes, our programming for CLADD West and East for April are canceled. We considered alternative programming but it may not have been as vital to miss time in the parish as was the



original programming the CLADD Leadership team desired with the presentation and conversations around emergency operations planning.

If you have not had an opportunity to take the survey about Emergency Operations Planning, please do so today. The results are already useful to me and I am sharing them with the team leading the process. Some of the suggestions already received will be shared in future Growing Disciples E-Newsletters and during individual parish visits.

Survey link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NTYYWJM>

Please join us on Tuesday, May 7 at St. John parish in Adel for our year-end celebration, Mass and awards. Our guest speaker for the morning will be Kevin O'Donnell who is the co-director for the Emmaus House Retreat Center in Des Moines. He will provide an inspirational and spiritually thought-provoking reflection as we finalize our catechetical year.

Upcoming Free Webinar on 'Engaging Today's Parents' with Tom East – April 23:

Families that pray together, share faith and engage in service together, transform their faith, change our parishes and ultimately share Christ's love in the world. What do we need to inspire and support parents of youth today? This webinar will explore practical ways to re-imagine our ministry with families in mind.

Tom is the Director of the Center for Ministry Development and Project Coordinator for the Certificate in Youth Ministry Studies Program. Previously, Tom was the Director of Youth Ministry and the Associate Director for Religious Education for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. Tom has provided workshops on volunteer management in dioceses and parishes for over twenty-five years. He holds a Master of Arts degree in Religious Studies from Mount St. Mary's College in Los Angeles.

The webinar will be held on Tuesday, April 23 at 3:00 CDT. Use this link to register for this free event sponsored by NFCYM: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7325976003136332812>

“Let the Church always be
a place of Mercy
AND Hope,
where everyone is welcomed
Loved and Forgiven.” Pope Francis

