

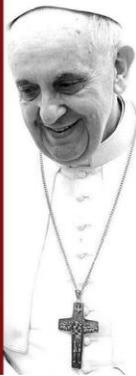


Dept. of Evangelization &
Catechesis

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

March 29, 2017 Edition

Bishop Pates Selects Justin White as our new Diocesan Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry:



Bishop Richard Pates has selected Mr. Justin White as our new diocesan director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry. Justin is a theology teacher at Dowling Catholic High School since 2012 and more recently co-chair of the Theology Department of the school. He brings many gifts to this new position including quite a bit of experience in Kairos retreats, teaching and a strong theological background. Furthermore he has a charismatic personality and his number one priority is to be present in the parish communities and with young adults working together to help our communities grow in discipleship formation.

A native of West Des Moines, Mr. White holds a master's degree from The Catholic University of America in historical and systematic theology as well as a bachelor's degree in philosophy and theology from the same institution. Working with young adults, Justin's teaching experience and theological background will be helpful as they grapple with the issues faced in the many stages of young adulthood. I will be putting together a plan to help coach Justin so that he'll be able to thrive in this position. "The Diocese of Des Moines is most fortunate to enlist the services of an individual of Justin's caliber," said Bishop Pates. "Our outreach and service to youth and young adults are among the highest of priorities in the diocese." Sherri, Father Mark Owusu and I are thrilled about having Justin join our excellent team at the Pastoral Center. I will try and introduce Justin in as many events as possible this spring but his contract at Dowling Catholic doesn't end until June 1.

Can Your Teens Help at the Chrism Mass
– April 7:

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



parish catechetical leaders, youth ministry leaders and sacramental team leaders in the Des Moines region, but today a parish from well outside the Des Moines region volunteered to help. The suggestion was made to send the same notice out around the entire diocese.

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 volunteers from parishes to help. It would be a wonderful experience for current Confirmation candidates since this Chrism will be used at their Confirmation Mass. Each teen volunteer would also receive service hours. I need 30 to 35 for this project so two to four from each parish would be ideal. In the past we have ordered pizza or Subway platters for the volunteers. Sandy Reisburg will provide more information next Tuesday for those interested, but ideally they would arrive around 6:45 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 me (jgaffney@dmdiocese.org) or Sherri (ssimmer@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 or their parents or if you would like that to be sent to you (include e-mail address)

I need to know by noon on Monday, April 3 if you have teen volunteers so that the information sheet can be e-mailed on Tuesday. 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. I hope your teens can be part of this beautiful celebration. Thank you for your help.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) Formation – 2017 and 2018:



Catechesis of the Good Shepherd USA will be holding Level One Atrium Formation beginning this summer and through next summer. This is an excellent opportunity for parishes to train new CGS to train catechists without traveling too far.

CGS Level One Formation will be offered at St. Augustin parish in Des Moines the following dates:

- Part One: July 24-28, 2017 , March 9-11, 2018
- Part Two: July 23-27, 2018

The registration fee is \$390.00 for parts 1 & 2 formation. A brochure and flyer is coming soon. Scholarships are available through Shepherd's Staff. Contact Mary Heinrich at maryheinrich@cgsusa.org or at 515-321-9440 for more information.

LTP to hold conference on Initiation Ministry this summer:

Liturgical Training Publications (LTP) invites parish leaders and RCIA directors to understand more deeply the vision of the *rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* IS the vision of the parish as a community of disciples. The conference is scheduled for July 5-6 at the Sheraton Grand Chicago Hotel.



Several members of the diocesan team and local parish leaders will be attending.

If you are interested, contact me at jgaffney@dmdiocese.org and I will send you a brochure. The cost for the conference is \$250.00 and the room rate is \$149.00 per night.

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

@Pontifex
March 1, 2017

