



Dept. of Evangelization &
Catechesis

Growing Disciples – Wednesday Wrap
Glorifying God – Growing in Faith
Living our Catholic Faith in the World
May 24, 2017 Edition

Thank You For Making a Difference this Catechetical Year:



By now, all of our programs are completed for this catechetical year. Many of our parish communities are looking forward to Vacation Bible School, Mission Trips to distant places and close by, Confirmation Masses with Bishop Pates, and a more relaxed summer schedule in many of our ministry areas such as teen, young adult and adult formation.

Thank you for your dedicated service to your parish in which you work. Without you, all those faith formation opportunities would never be at the level of quality that they are. Because of you, our adults, children and teens are led to a deeper faith in Jesus Christ and his Church.

Sherri and I, soon to be joined by Justin White (Diocesan Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry), continue to work throughout the summer preparing for another awesome year in lifelong formation in faith. If you would like to schedule a meeting to visit about your program, please contact me at jgaffney@dmdiocese.org. The summer is a great time in which to tweak your programming for the upcoming year.

This week's edition of Growing Disciples, is the last weekly e-newsletter until August 2, 2017. You will receive two summer editions on:

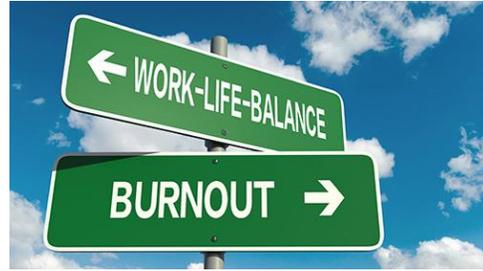
- June 21, 2017
- July 19, 2017

Please take some time for rest and renewal this summer as we launch into a new catechetical year this fall.

Turn or Burn(out): How To Avoid Lay Ministry Burnout:

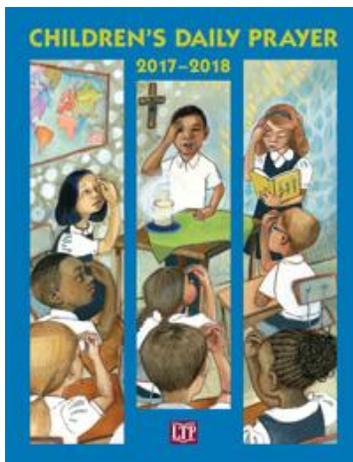
Brandon Early is the Director of Student Ministries at Valley Church, a Protestant Church in Des Moines, for over 20 years. Recently he video blogged on ways to avoid burnout after a few recent conversations with local colleagues who had grown weary in their ministry. His advice is very good for all of us in lay ecclesial ministry, not just youth ministry. Here are his five main points:

1. Prioritize your time with your family first, not just what is left over after the all the events your parish has scheduled. Prioritization requires using the word “No.” There are times we need to exercise this word a little more so that we can balance our family life with our professional life.
2. Prioritize your meetings and events. Often we prioritize everything as the top priority rather than realistically looking at our week and differentiating the events/meetings. Part of this prioritization is also looking at the work required in advance of the event/meeting as part of this prioritization. If you realize that an event/meeting further down the list will prevent the top priorities from being done well, perhaps you need to reschedule an event/meeting or ask someone else to help cover the event/meeting.
3. Surround yourself with great people: great colleagues, great volunteers and great mentors. This takes time and work. However it is well worth it when these people can throw you a life-line when it is needed; and vice-versa.
4. Leaders are learners. A constant in-flow of good information and continuing education allows each of us to get better at what we do. Today there are awesome ministry webinars, books and bogs that help us keep our professional edge.
5. Treasure the support of family, friends and colleagues as often as you can.



Brandon Early is a regular contributor to www.youthministry.com which is an outreach of Group Magazine.

Order Your Liturgy Training Publications (LTP) Children’s Daily Prayer and other Resources by June 9:



Sandy Riesberg from our Diocesan Worship Office has put together an order form for the most popular items used in our parish programs. If ordered through the Worship Office, you will receive a substantial discount on each of the products if you return the order form to Sandy by June 9.

LTP has wonderful resources for a variety of ministries. The link to their website is <https://www.ltp.org/>. If there is another title that you would like to order through Sandy, add it on the order form on the last page. If you want to know if there is a discount on the additional item, contact Sandy at 515-237-5046 or e-mail her at sriesberg@dmdioocese.org. The order form is attached to this e-newsletter.

Congratulations CLADD Leadership Team for 2017-2018:

Unanimously the 2017-2018 slate was affirmed. Your CLADD Leaders for 2017-2018 are:

Paulette Chapman (Ss. John & Paul – Altoona), Annette Lorenzen (St. Patrick – Missouri Valley), Jane Ann Becicka (St. Theresa – Des Moines), Theresa Romens (Holy Rosary – Glenwood), Bernie Koch (St. Patrick – Neola & St. Columbanus – Weston), Kelly Howard (St. John – Adel). They will gather one day in July to set professional development programming for 2017-2018. Please contact anyone of them if you have suggestions on programming that would be helpful for your ministry.

Save the Date – ALL CLADD Fall Kick-Off scheduled for August 17 in Glenwood:

The Fall CLADD Kick-off is an enjoyable way to grow in professional ministry, renew old friendships, meet new people in our ministry, and have a delicious meal prepared by Theresa Romens and friends in Glenwood.

The topic will be announced late this summer. The CLADD Leadership team will soon be vetting several names that could be available for this day-long celebration and professional development. Save the date today in your calendar and we will see you this August.

