

Diocese of Des Moines  
Evangelization &  
Catechesis



Growing Disciples – Wednesday Wrap  
Glorifying God – Growing in Faith  
Living our Catholic Faith in the World  
July 2015 Edition

Free Webinar – Resources for Strengthening Families by OSV – July 7 from 2:30 to 3:30 pm:  
Join nationally-recognized clinical psychologist and best-selling author Dr. Joseph White for an informative webinar on Our Sunday Visitor resources available to help strengthen families. You'll learn how Dr. White's books, *The Way God Teaches*, *A Catholic Parent's Tool Box*, and other OSV books, pamphlets and resources can help families.

To register follow this link:

[https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/7384120348074787585?utm\\_source=Joseph+White+webinar+email+6%2F30%2F2015&utm\\_campaign=Joseph+White+webinar+promo+7%2F1%2F15&utm\\_medium=email](https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/7384120348074787585?utm_source=Joseph+White+webinar+email+6%2F30%2F2015&utm_campaign=Joseph+White+webinar+promo+7%2F1%2F15&utm_medium=email)

Essential Tasks in July in Catechetical Ministry:

- Take time to reflect and rewind from the previous year. Ask yourself after a bit of time away, what was helpful and what was challenging in the previous catechetical year? What could you do to increase the opportunities that were helpful and decrease the challenges? This is a great month to consider this.
- Update catechist and parent/family handbooks
- Evaluate and update crisis management plans.
- Meet with your parish faith formation committee or school board discuss:
  - When are the best times to meet each month
  - What information is needed prior to the monthly meetings that will help in making better decisions
  - Revisit the pastoral plan on lifelong formation: what are the areas of strength in the parish community and what are areas that need improvement
- Inventory supplies that will be needed for the next season of formation
- Recruit a volunteer who would like to shop for back-to-school specials
- Continue to recruit for catechists and substitute catechists
- Finalize plans for catechist/youth ministry volunteers and other volunteer training in August
- Put monthly CLADD gatherings on your calendar when they are publicized this month or in early August.

ALL CLADD Kick-off save the date:

Our CLADD catechetical season will begin on either August 11 or 13 at Holy Rosary in Glenwood. The CLADD Leadership team is planning a wonderful year of programming on July 8 which will include finalization of plans for this day. Knowing our colleagues, it will be great!

Questions About the Future of Youth Ministry:

Tom Schwolert from Vibrant Faith Ministries has some very interesting and provocative things to ponder about the future of youth ministry based upon the strategies some may be using today. Why not take some time and consider what is being proposed as a lens within your own parish experience and see if some tweaking or a major reinvention is needed. Either way, your colleagues at the Diocesan Department, Tessa and John, have some practical ideas for you. Let us know if you would like a consult.

Join us for the Youth Ministry Kick-Off Trainings in August: August 27 in Atlantic (6:30 to 8:30 pm), August 28 in Adel (9:00 am to 3:30 pm) and Saturday August 29 in Waukee (9:00 am to 12:00 pm.) More to come within the next few weeks.

Blog Post Part 1 – You Could Change the Landscape of Youth Ministry -  
<http://vibrantfaith.org/2015/06/dismantling-youth-ministry-part-1/>

Blog Post Part 2 – You Could Change the Landscape of Youth Ministry -  
<http://vibrantfaith.org/2015/07/you-could-change-the-landscape-of-youth-ministry-part-2/>

**Prayer for Religious Liberty (USCCB):**

Almighty God, Father of all nations,  
for freedom you have set us free in Christ Jesus (Gal 5:1).  
We praise and bless you for the gift of religious liberty,  
the foundation of human rights, justice and the common good.

Grant to our leaders the wisdom to protect and promote our liberties.  
By your grace may we have the courage to defend them,  
for ourselves and for all those who live in this blessed land.

We ask this through the intercession of Mary Immaculate, our patroness,  
and in the name of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with whom you live and reign, one God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

