



Catechesis Promotes a knowledge of the meaning of the Liturgy and the Sacraments (from NCCL CI Weekly):

- Lectio Divina - Lectio Divina can be a practical way to more actively engage in the Sunday liturgy. PrayAsYouGo.Org (<http://www.pray-as-you-go.org/home/>) has a daily lectio podcast, including a podcast for the weekend liturgies. Experiment with streaming this in your car, on your work computer, or in the family living room, and experience the benefits of engaging in the scriptures using technology. These Jesuits also have an app that you can download on your devices called PrayAsYouGo, available for both Android and iOS devices. Imaginative contemplation (<http://pray-as-you-go.org/index.php?id=133>) is also a resource that is available which uses stories from the Gospel to imagine ourselves in the story.
- Liturgy of the Hours (CCC 1178) “The Liturgy of the Hours, which is like an extension of the Eucharistic celebration, does not exclude but rather in a complementary way calls forth the various devotions of the People of God, especially adoration and worship of the Blessed Sacrament.” There are some wonderful apps to guide the Liturgy of the Hours. Laudate (<http://www.rc.net/wcc/readings/laudate-app-daily-readings.htm>) and divine-office.com (<http://divine-office.com/>) are two examples. You can use the resource on the website for free but the apps are not free.

Opportunity for you and/or your catechists to witness to catechetical ministry in a national publication:

We have been approached by the editors of *The Catechetical Review* (<https://catechetics.com/>) to seek testimonies of our catechists (the age to whom one ministers with is not important) on the question “How is God working within your catechetical setting?”

Dr. James Pauley, the editor, writes, “We all preach that the Holy Spirit is the primary agent in evangelization, and we all know that God is present and moving and active when His Word is proclaimed and taught...and I thought that testimonies would be a wonderful way to re-convince readers who may need a boost. A testimony story need not have taken place super recently, of course. Even a wonderful story from some years back would be most welcome.”

Here is the link to the submissions page: <https://catechetics.com/article-submission-guidelines>. Scroll down about halfway and you will find the guidelines for the "Encountering God in Catechesis" which is the relevant part of this link.

This opportunity is for you and your volunteers. Advocacy is such an important role in ministry and we have some great inspirational stories. We hope you will consider submitting your witness story and promoting this opportunity to your formation team as well.

#### Looking for an Adult Formation process that evangelizes?:

We are blessed with many outstanding adult formation processes to choose from today. However, a majority of them speak to our sisters and brothers in the pew who have chosen to be a disciple of Christ. However, the reality is that a majority of the parish family we sit next to each week has not made a conscious choice to live their lives as a disciple. Thus, a majority of what we offer doesn't help moving adults towards conversion. Over the next few newsletters I hope to provide a few resources that have nationally been very helpful for those parishioners who are in the pre-evangelization and evangelization stages. These stages primarily focus on opening one's heart to the working of the Holy Spirit and allowing conversion to take place.

*Alpha for Catholics* – At the NCCL Conference in Buffalo, I met many parish catechetical leaders who shared wonderful conversion stories that occurred in their parishes because they had offered *Alpha for Catholics*. Alpha is a tool for the new evangelization that is being used by thousands of Catholic parishes in over 70 countries around the world. It creates an environment and opportunity for an encounter with Jesus.

For more information you can review their website at this link:

[http://alphausa.org/Groups/1000042056/Alpha\\_Catholic\\_Context.aspx](http://alphausa.org/Groups/1000042056/Alpha_Catholic_Context.aspx)

There is also a video testimony which mirrors a lot of that parish leaders shared with me at the NCCL Conference. Follow this link to watch the video: Steve's Story  
([https://vimeo.com/128149501?utm\\_source=bm23&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=Watch+More&utm\\_content=Growing+unity+within+the+Church&utm\\_campaign=CATHOLICS+-+July+2015+MUE&\\_bta\\_tid=3.g\\_Y.CFPZxw.Fzez.AT6YVA..AgYhkA.b.I.B46B.a.VbfO2A.VbfndA.psjlcw&\\_bta\\_c=2d36pb26e468bj4ioxajcfyyqi113](https://vimeo.com/128149501?utm_source=bm23&utm_medium=email&utm_term=Watch+More&utm_content=Growing+unity+within+the+Church&utm_campaign=CATHOLICS+-+July+2015+MUE&_bta_tid=3.g_Y.CFPZxw.Fzez.AT6YVA..AgYhkA.b.I.B46B.a.VbfO2A.VbfndA.psjlcw&_bta_c=2d36pb26e468bj4ioxajcfyyqi113))

#### Important Dates to Mark on Your Calendar:

- **August 11, 2015** – All CLADD Kick-Off – Holy Rosary parish in Glenwood - Joan Weber from the Center for Ministry Development will share with us the ways our ministries can create a culture of encounter by using the example set for us by Pope Francis. This session is intended to be multi-faceted to connect to the specific ministry you find yourself: adults, family ministry, a traditional K-8 or Catechesis of the Good Shepherd environment, RCIA, youth ministry, special needs ministry, etc.
- **August 27-29, 2015** – Youth Ministry Fall Kick-Off Week – Discipleship Focused Youth Ministry
  - Thursday August 27, 2015 at Ss. Peter & Paul Parish in Atlantic (6:30 to 8:30 pm) - We invite you to enjoy dinner and an inspirational talk from Eric Gallagher. Eric will be speaking on intentional discipleship in youth ministry, explaining how the general idea of four marks of discipleship can be incorporated into whatever models of youth ministry you are currently using. This is a free evening for all.

- Friday August 28, 2015 at St. John Parish in Adel (9:00 am to 3:30 pm) – Coordinator Training Day - We invite you to begin the day with Mass before diving deep into a day-long training session on the DFYM model. It will introduce you to the model in its fullness and show how the principles could be applied within what you are already doing. The diocese will provide breakfast, lunch and resource materials free of charge.
- Saturday, August 29, 2015 at St. Boniface Parish in Waukee (9:00 am to 12:00 pm) – DFYM Small Group Leader Training - We invite parish volunteers to a morning training session focused on volunteers and what they need to start discipleship groups from scratch. The diocese will provide breakfast, but we ask that the individual or parish cover the \$15 resource fee per person.
- **October 25, 2015** – Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference – “Saved by the Call” – This year’s initial conference will be held at Dowling Catholic High School. Plans are underway for a great day including Jackie Francois as our keynote, separate tracks for middle school, high school and adults, Mass with Bishop Pates, vendors, games and so much more...Please put this wonderful event on your ministry calendar and start letting your teens know that this event will be awesome.

**Generosity Prayer attributed to Saint Ignatius of Loyola (Feast Day is July 31)**

Lord, teach me to be generous.  
 Teach me to serve you as you deserve;  
 to give and not to count the cost,  
 to fight and not to heed the wounds,  
 to toil and not to seek for rest,  
 to labor and not to ask for reward,  
 save that of knowing that I do your will.

Amen

