



Department of
Evangelization & Catechesis

Growing Disciples – Wednesday Wrap
Glorifying God – Growing in Faith
Living our Catholic Faith in the World
August 29, 2018 Edition

Youth Protection and Ministry (from NFCYM):



NFCYM
NATIONAL FEDERATION FOR
CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY

NFCYM has compiled a catalogue of policies and practices in the area of Youth Protection. We must always approach with vigilance this area of our ministry. Our work protecting the most vulnerable amongst us will never be complete. On behalf of Bishop Pates and your pastors, I ask that you read, or reread, *Promise to Protect, Pledge to Heal: Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* found [here](#). The Spanish document *Promesa de Proteger, Compromiso para Sanar: Estatuto para la protección de niños y jóvenes* is found [here](#). The linked documents include the June 2018 revisions.

The NFCYM resource page includes:

- Church Sexual Abuse Resources
 - Statements and Articles
 - Talking with Children and Teens
 - Discussion and Prayer
 - Resources En Español
- National Child Abuse Prevention Resources
 - Resources and Organizations
 - Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect
 - National Hotlines on Where to Get Help

Please let me know if you need additional resources from the Diocese on reporting suspected child abuse or neglect. The first calls should be with your pastor and local law enforcement. Although according to Iowa law, catechetical leaders are not mandatory reporters, we do have a moral obligation. Thank you for all you do to help provide our children and youth a safe and faith-filled environment.

Reimagining Confirmation Ministry with Youth Webinar Recording and Resources:

Over 500 catechetical colleagues youth ministry and religious education leaders) participated in yesterday's NFCYM webinar on looking at



Confirmation preparation with new eyes. I found the webinar very helpful and invite all of you who work on Confirmation to listen with critical eyes on your programming and seeing where your parish community can make adjustments for a transformative experience for the teens and your community. Last year I visited with several parishes to evaluate their programming: what was working well, what needs some minor tweaks and what needs to be tossed. I will be scheduling more of these sessions in 2018-2019. Contact [me](#) if you would like to put on the list for your program for upcoming changes in 2019-2020.

[Reimagining Confirmation Ministry with Youth Recording Link](#)

Tool # 1 – Dreaming Exercise (attached to the E-Newsletter above)

Tool # 2 – Planning for Contexts (attached to the E-Newsletter above)

Tool # 3 – Planning for Elements of Confirmation Ministry (attached to the E-Newsletter above)

Best Practice in Adult Faith Formation: Milestone Ministry – A “GEM” of a Resource from Sr. Janet Schaeffler, OP:



As you continue to plan offerings with your adult faith formation team, consider the bright spot opportunity of Milestone Ministry. Sr. Janet Schaeffler, OP provides a great resource for planning and implementing Milestone Ministry in your parish community.

Sr. Janet writes, “More and more research tells us, too, that people are most open to learning and most affected by their faith in the transition times of life, the joyous celebrations and the complicated challenges.

Another way to name these meaningful moments is through the lens of milestones. When we pause and think about our lives we realize that they have been – and are – filled with many milestones:

- Birthdays
- A new job
- Anniversaries
- Cancer diagnosis
- New homes
- Grandparenthood
- Graduations
- Paying off a car
- Pregnancy
- Retirement
- Miscarriage
- Snowbirds traveling south
- Blended family
- The end of medical treatment
- Loss of a pet
- Anniversaries of death
- ... and the list could go on and on.

Within our faith community, we also celebrate milestones continually:

- Baptism
- First Eucharist
- First Reconciliation
- Confirmation
- Marriage
- Illness and Death
- ... and the list could go on and on.

We usually do a good job with celebrating milestones within our parishes. What about our everyday milestones? Are they – could they – be connected with our faith?"

The attached Gems Newsletter Resource is attached with this E-Newsletter. You will find a variety of incredible formation resources from Sr. Janet [here](#).

Register Today for the upcoming CLADD Sessions for September – Conversations and Best Practices to Catechize your Catechists with Patsy Carlson & Cindee Hays (SOUTH CLADD Presenter: John Gaffney)

What are the best methods you have discovered to catechize your catechists? Do you struggle in this area? Join two of our diocese's most experienced catechetical leaders as they facilitate a discussion and share their experiences. Facilitated by Patsy Carlson and Cindee Hays.



- CLADD West will be held on September 18 from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm at St. Patrick parish in Neola. **Register [here](#) by September 14.**
- CLADD East will be held on September 20 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at St. Francis of Assisi parish in West Des Moines. **Register [here](#) by September 17.**
- CLADD South will be held on September 13 from 6:00 to 8:30 pm at St. Edward Parish in Afton. CLADD South serves primarily the Osceola region of parishes. **Register [here](#) by September 11.**

Upcoming Webinars from Ave Maria Press and NFCYM:



Webinar 1 – “How to Make the Case for Catholicism” with Brandon Vogt.

In this webinar you will experience:
- How reason and history affirm the Catholic Church

- Why the Church’s goodness and beauty can serve as routes for God
- How to delicately propose the Catholic Faith to people, even when they’re set against it.

The webinar is scheduled for 2:00 pm on Tuesday, September 11 for one hour. Register [here](#) to participate in the webinar.

Brandon Vogt, author of [Why I Am Catholic \(and You Should Be, Too\)](#), did not grow up Catholic. He chose to enter the Catholic Church in college, precisely when so many of his friends were heading in the other direction. Learn what drew him to Catholicism and how you can make the same case to others, especially atheists, agnostics, and the "spiritual but not religious."

You can find an archive of past recorded webinars from Ave Maria Press [here](#).

Webinar 2 – “Is Your Parish Ready to Grow Young?” with Leisa Anslinger.

What do parishes that intentionally engage their young people have in common? What can we learn from their experience? How do we engage parents, leading them to live and grow in faith as families (or domestic churches)? Explore this vital topic and learn what you can do to help your parish “grow young.”

Leisa Anslinger is a frequent presenter at national and diocesan conferences as well as parish leadership days. She is the Director of Catholic Life and Faith, a center for pastoral leadership development. She is a certified Growing Young speaker and trainer. Her most recent projects include: Grateful Disciples and The Bridges Leadership Series. Leisa is a contributing author for Twenty-Third Publications and Liturgy Training Publications. She is a founding team member of the Catholic Strengths and Engagement Community.

The webinar is scheduled for 1:00 pm on Tuesday, September 18 for one hour. Register [here](#) to participate in the webinar.

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

