



Jubilee of Mercy:

Thank you to all who attended our CLADD Sessions on the Jubilee of Mercy facilitated by Dr. Ryan “Bud” Marr from the Mercy College of Health Sciences. The goal was to provide everyone some intellectual fuel to consider what your pastoral outreach this year will include.

I suggest everyone read the Papal Bull announcing the year. The Diocese has reformatted this a bit to make it a bit easier (including pictures and some extra white space. We will continue to nuance this over the next few weeks and include a companion piece or breakout pieces within the document itself for prayer reflection and group study questions. I will e-mail you a link to our diocesan web page once this project is completed.

A few things that will be of interest though include as you pastorally plan:

- Paragraph 2: The quest to constantly contemplate mercy
- Paragraph 3: Specifics on the beginning and ending of the year as well as information on the holy door pilgrimage opportunities
- Paragraph 13: Cultivating silence to meditate on the Word of God
- Paragraph 15: Outreach to those on the fringes and the need to cultivate the corporal/spiritual works of mercy
- Paragraph 17: 24 Hours for the Lord and the need to experience God’s presence in the Sacrament of Confession and Penance
- Paragraph 18: Being open to receiving the Missionaries of Mercy and their message of joy and forgiveness.
- Paragraph 24: Cultivating a piety with Mary, the Mother of Mercy

I have attached a copy of the Papal Bull and Dr. Marr’s information he shared at CLADD.

The Diocese has launched a Steering Committee which will help the diocese and individual parishes with opportunities to live into this extraordinary celebration. More to come...

Famlying the Faith Webinar with Dr. Nancy Going – October 1 beginning at 12:00 pm:

Yes, that’s family as verb.

**It is the relational processes that the Spirit uses to form faith.**

We believe that “famlying” is the missing piece of the movement to reclaim the role of family in the formation of faith and the primary reason why many of the attempts at family ministry at churches have fallen short. The picture of the formation of the faith within the Christian story

has always been one of making NEW families, family as verb or familying. Join us for our conversation Dr. Nancy Going, our Executive Director, to explore the theological and relational riches of re-claiming family as verb. Most profoundly, get a glimpse of the impact that familying makes on families of all kinds.

The cost for this webinar is \$20.00 and is sponsored by Vibrant Faith Ministries. To register follow this link: [http://vibrantfaith.org/events/familying-the-faith/?mc\\_cid=7a6d82370f&mc\\_eid=5cb858c271](http://vibrantfaith.org/events/familying-the-faith/?mc_cid=7a6d82370f&mc_eid=5cb858c271)

#### Resource that Can Help Spirituality Extend the Diocesan Year of Marriage and Family:

Twenty-Third Publications has just published a wonderful book by Dr. Wendy Wright titled *Sacred Dwelling: Discovering and Living Your Family Spirituality*. Thanks to our friends at the publisher I had the wonderful opportunity of previewing this book. My wife and I found it insightful and profound. Perhaps this may be a wonderful book for your small intentional Christian communities such as a mom's group or dad's group?

For more information (including a text sample) and ordering information follow this link: <http://store.pastoralplanning.com/sadwiandliyo.html>

Dr. Wright is a professor of Historical Christian Spirituality at Creighton University.

What should you say and do when the parents of those in your programs do not attend Mass?:

Our friends at the Patheos Blog had an insightful entry regarding a subject that we all encounter. Sometimes Father gets a bit upset when he doesn't see our RE, youth ministry and school families at mass on the weekend. Perhaps this year you can consider one or two of these strategies when visiting with parents about the importance of Mass.

Blog link: <http://www.patheos.com/blogs/jenniferfitz/2015/09/religious-ed-parents-who-dont-come-to-mass-what-to-say/>

#### USCCB Coverage of Pope Francis' Historic Visit to the United States:

The USCCB is hosting live coverage of all the Pope's activities while he is in the United States. Follow this link for live coverage: <http://www.usccb.org/about/leadership/holy-see/francis/papal-visit-2015/papal-visit-2015-live-stream.cfm>

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

- **October 1, 2015** – Des Moines Area Youth Ministers Meeting at St. Augustin's parish
- **October 11, 2015** – Year of Marriage and Family concluding celebration – "Family is a School of Virtue" at St. Boniface Parish from 1:00 pm until 5:30 pm. More information can be found at <http://www.dmdiocese.org/finish%20flyer%20english.pdf>
- **October 15, 2015** – CLADD East (Place to be determined) – Laudato Si Encyclical – What Does it Mean for Lifelong Formation in Faith?" with Fr. Bud Grant, environmental theologian at St. Ambrose University

- **October 19, 2015** – CLADD South (St. Edward parish in Afton) – *Laudato Si* Encyclical – What Does it Mean for Lifelong Formation in Faith?” with John Gaffney
- **October 20, 2015** – CLADD West (St. Patrick parish in Missouri Valley) – *Laudato Si* Encyclical – What Does it Mean for Lifelong Formation in Faith?” with Fr. Bud Grant, environmental theologian at St. Ambrose University
- **October 25, 2015** – Diocesan Catholic Youth Conference – “Saved by the Call” – For more information follow this link: <http://www.dmdiocese.org/dcyc.cfm>
- **November 2, 2015** – Des Moines area Adult Formation Director’s Meeting at Ss. John & Paul parish in Altoona

**Prayer of Intercession of St. Junipero Serra (Prepared Vianney Vocations):**

O humble and sincere Saint Serra,  
 we ask for your intercession that those called to serve  
 our Lord through priestly and religious vocations might do so with  
 the same obedience, zeal and humility you exhibited as a priest,  
 teacher and spiritual father.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
 Amen

