

Department of
Evangelization & Catechesis

Growing Disciples – Wednesday Wrap
Glorifying God – Growing in Faith
Living our Catholic Faith in the World
October 18, 2017 Edition

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Simulation on the Refugee Crisis:

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) has created a powerful opportunity for the teens (middle school and high school appropriate) in your parish to experience a bit of what it is like to be a refugee.

As of the end of 2014, 38 million people around the world have been forced to flee their homes by conflict and violence. Never in the last 10 years has the world seen such a high estimate for the number of people displaced in a year.



The link to this resource is:

https://www.crs.org/sites/default/files/usops-resources/simulation_on_the_refugee_crisis.pdf

Recipe Ideas to feed large groups of people:



Recently I was at a parish on Wednesday evening for one of my visits and a volunteer in the youth ministry program asked if I had any ideas to help feed the kids when they arrive. They, like many of you, struggle with teens arriving at your doors very hungry because they just left school activities for your programming. Pizza all the time is too expensive so what do you do? Attached to this e-newsletter are some very good recipes to feed lots of people. However, below are a few ideas as well:

• **Make your own tacos/taco salad**

A little more time-consuming, but also a lot of fun. Make sure to offer both meat and beans, so that everyone can have sustenance. Ask your teens to bring a favorite fixing to share.

- **Chicken sandwiches**
Buy big bags of frozen chicken cutlets or patties. Heat them in the oven, and then create an assembly line with buns, lettuce, and other fixings.
- **Casseroles**
Food is important, but not when it results in missing time with each other. This makes casseroles and soups perfect group food. They are something that you prepare ahead and pop in the oven and then walk away, which allows you to do the important work of relationship building. I have a few go-to's, that are also vegetarian friendly:
 - Baked Ziti: a combo of cooked ziti noodles, layered with sauce (with meat if you want), sour cream and Italian cheeses and baked till gooey and delicious.
- **Soups and Chili**
You can prepare these days in advance for convenience and better taste. To serve, use a slow cooker, set on warm. Or make the classic combo of Grilled Cheese & Tomato Soup, but bake the grilled cheese sandwiches. Prepare as usual, except put them on a cookie sheet in a 420 degree oven for 5-7 minutes, and then flip them and cook for another 3-4 minutes.
- **Invite non-youth families and parishioners to bring a meal or to help prepare a meal**
Randall tell us this is a great way for people to see what's going on *and* give back.

CLADD Proposed Retreat Facilitator for 2018 – Marge Fenelon:

The 2018 CLADD Retreat Facilitator has been a bit more difficult task than normal. The CLADD Leaders vetted 6 to 8 excellent people but none were available for 2018: either due to commitments, upcoming surgical issues, pregnancies...

However, one person on our list who we had vetted is now available and we are very excited. Provided all the vetting works out Marge will facilitate our CLADD Retreat on February 8-9, 2017 in Council Bluffs.



Marge is a Catholic wife, mother, award-winning author and journalist, blogger, and speaker. She's been awarded the 2015 Egan Journalism Fellowship, which recognizes exceptional journalists who have demonstrated excellence in their reporting for Catholic media in the United States. She's a frequent contributor to a number of Catholic publications and websites, a weekly contributor to Relevant Radio's "Morning Air Show" and a popular guest on many other Catholic radio and television shows. I'm a longtime contributor to a variety of Catholic and secular publications—including Our Sunday Visitor, National Catholic Register, Catholic News Service/Faith Alive! and Catholic Digest. Her blog, *Catholic to the Core*, appears on the Patheos.com Catholic Channel. She's written several books about Marian devotion and Catholic family life. Her latest book, *Our Lady, Undoer of Knots: Living the Novena (A Guided Meditation from the Holy Land)* (Ave Maria Press, 2015), is a recipient of the 2016 Association of Catholic Publishers Award for Excellence in Publishing.

For more on Marge go to her web page at <http://margefenelon.com/>

Upcoming Youth Ministry Access (YMA) Free Webinar – Planning Retreats and Forming Disciples – October 25 at 1:00 pm:



Youth retreats are part of the Church's pastoral ministry with young people. The opportunity to step back and reflect on the activity and presence of God in their lives offers young people the chance to renew,

refresh, and reinvigorate their faith for the journey ahead.

Our colleagues at the Center for Ministry Development is excited to share the ways you can use Youth Ministry Access to plan retreats and help form your young people for discipleship. Youth Ministry Access is a subscription resource filled with hundreds of sessions and resources for middle school and high school youth ministry - and lots of retreats.

If you'd like to learn more about Youth Ministry Access and how it can help you in your ministry with young people and their families, register now for a free 45-minute webinar. See for yourself how YMA can help you and your leaders meet the needs of middle school and high school youth. The webinar is scheduled for:

Thursday, October 25, 2017 – 1:00 pm Central

To register go to: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7526194861036582145>

