

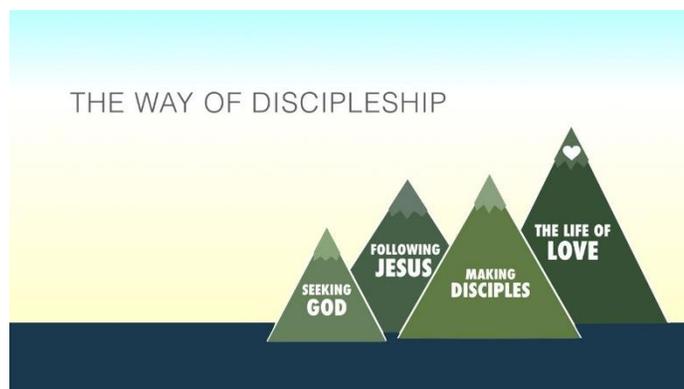


Department of
Evangelization & Catechesis

Growing Disciples – Wednesday Wrap
Glorifying God – Growing in Faith
Living our Catholic Faith in the World
October 24, 2018 Edition

CLADD October Session Follow-Up:

Our catechetical community had a great opportunity presented to us with Deacon Matt Halbach's facilitated "prayer-shop" on setting goal's aimed at discipleship. Attached you will find his hand-out (sorry for my notes but the digital copy we had was somehow corrupted) and a PowerPoint I used with CLADD South which included Matt's four points.



The handout includes some ideas to break open the four major points, reflection questions and a prayer. Whether or not you were able to attend, I invite you to review the handout and prayerfully go throughout it yourself. If you would like a conversation partner, let me know and we can visit over coffee or tea at your parish or someplace close to your community.

These resources are not ministry specific and would be an excellent exercise for all Lay Ecclesial ministers.

The PowerPoint is based on the fabulous work from Julianne Stanz from Loyola Press in the book *Developing Disciples of Christ*. With this presentation, I also covered the importance of knowing and using the Kerygma at every session of any aspect of lifelong formation in faith. It isn't only the first proclamation it is the one that needs to be presented over and over again to those we minister to and with. There is also a great section covering the Divine pedagogy.

Please contact me if you would like any of the handouts I used with CLADD South. They include resources you can share with your catechists and pastor on the Kerygma, the Seven Signs of an Evangelizing Community, the Process of Evangelization, the Six Tasks of Catechesis, and the Nine Indicators of an Evangelizing Catechetical Program. Click [here](#) to send me an e-mail requesting the handouts.

An Inspiring Poem – *The Cookie Thief* by Valerie Cox:



Recently Tom Green, Mr. Mary Green, shared with me a poem that was quite profound; especially in today's culture that is very combative. It is called *The Cookie Thief* by Valerie Cox. I invite you to prayerfully read this poem, especially the next time you are ready to judge someone's behavior without first walking in her/his shoes. By the way, I have read this poem almost every day since Tom introduced it to me.

Read the poem by clicking the link [here](#).

How often have you been absolutely convinced of something, only to find out later that you were mistaken? It happens to me more times than I would like to admit.

Perhaps you were certain you put your keys on the dining table, but found them in your pants pocket. Or you were convinced you failed at presenting a lesson to the teens or adults, but ended up getting fantastic feedback.

Most of us have a tendency to err on the side of pessimism, justifying this by claiming it is more "realistic" and saying that we don't want to get our hopes up and be disappointed. Unfortunately, we don't really do ourselves or those with whom we serve in the Lord's vineyard any favors by doing so. Most of the time we undermine our own self-image or create a self-fulfilling prophecy of behaviors of people we interact with so we don't get hurt. Does being pessimistic make us more determined, persistent, focused, poised under pressure, enthusiastic, resilient, and lead to more dynamic performances?

One of the most consistent findings in the sport psychology literature is the connection between self-confidence and success. I imagine that this is because self-confident individuals tend to be persistent. How persistent, how self-confident are you likely to be if you are pessimistic about the possibilities available to you or to the families you minister to and with? Before being pessimistic about someone's motives, consider sitting down with them and get to know them first. Moral of the story — don't jump to conclusions...don't be a cookie thief.

Opportunities for growth:

- **An Advent Evening of Reflection** with Katie Patrizio, M.A.
Thursday, November 29; 7-9pm
St. Francis of Assisi Church, Parish Hall and Sanctuary

Experience an inspirational evening of learning and time for prayerful reflection as we prepare to enter the season of Advent. Our presenter will be popular speaker, teacher and

radio guest Katie Patrizio. Register at saintfrancischurch.org/adultfaith/events or call (515) 440-1030. There will be a free will offering. Limited childcare available with advance registration.

- **A Day in the Desert** at the Emmaus House Spirituality Center
Are you looking for time and space for prayer and reflection, but don't have the time for a long retreat? Are you finding it challenging to hear God's gentle voice in the midst of your busy life? If so, please consider joining your colleagues for "**A Day in the Desert**" at Emmaus House Spirituality Center. ALL ARE WELCOME! (Flyer attached)

Dates

11/3/2018 - "*Slowing Down*"

12/1/2018 - "*Waiting*"

1/5/2019 - "*New Beginnings*"

2/2/2019 - "*Stillness*"

3/2/2019 - "*Liminal Spaces*"

(come once or come to all 5)

Schedule

8:30 to 9:00 a.m. - arrival at Emmaus House

9:00 to 9:30 a.m. - introduction / group prayer & reflection

9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. - individual silent prayer & reflection

3:00 - 3:15 p.m. - reconvene as a group to "gather the graces" of the day

- **Inclusive Ministry Conference at Valley Church in West Des Moines**

Friday, Nov. 9 (6:00 pm to 9:00 pm) & Saturday, Nov. 10 (8:00 am to 4:45 pm)

The goals of this conference is to support, inform and equip families and ministries impacted by individuals with special needs.

For more information and to register follow this link [here](#).

A Virtual Workshop Offered by Liturgy Training Publications on November 6:

“The Eucharistic sacrifice is the source and culmination of the whole Christian life. . . . When the faithful adore Christ present in the sacrament, they should remember that this presence derives from the [Mass] and has as its purpose both sacramental and spiritual communion” (Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist Outside Mass, 79–80).

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament continues to gain popularity among youth

and young adults as a way to spend time in song and silence with the Risen Lord. In this virtual workshop, we will examine the official rite of the church, discuss practical ways to prepare and implement Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, and the necessary tools to prepare the faithful. This virtual workshop is especially designed for youth ministers and leaders of faith formation.



The virtual workshop will be held on November 6 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The presenter is Fr. John Thomas Lane, SSS (Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament). Register [here](#) for this workshop. The cost is \$10.00.

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

