



Dept. of Evangelization &  
Catechesis

Growing Disciples – Wednesday Wrap  
Glorifying God – Growing in Faith  
Living our Catholic Faith in the World

November 16, 2016 Edition

**Need Some Inspiration? Catholic Extension's Stories Series is your answer:**



You, and those you work with, will be inspired by the good news of our Catholic Faith and its power to transform hearts, lives and our culture. This series also gives you a chance to see Pope Francis' vision in action since Catholic Extension serves in some of the most marginalized parts of our country. The series allows you to meet faith-filled people serving their communities in unique ways. Father Jack Wall, the

president of Catholic Extension, is your host.

Currently there are seven episodes in the series. Each episode is about 30 minutes long.

- Episode 1 – The Catholic Extension Story, the Joy of Consecrated Life and Bishop Barron on the importance of supporting seminarians
- Episode 2 – Humanity and Compassion of the Catholic Church with founder of Homeboy Industries – a gang prevention program
- Episode 3 – The Church reaching out in special and unique ways featuring Father Dave Dwyer, founder of Busted Halo
- Episode 4 – Inspiring people in our Church with stories about women religious, U.S. Military Chaplains and Bishop George Thomas from the mission diocese of Helena Montana
- Episode 5 – The millennial Church featuring Father Joshua Johnson who is known as the rapping priest
- Episode 6 – Focuses on the 'good shepherds' with a spotlight on Tucson Diocese's Bishop Kicanas
- Episode 7 – Celebrates women leaders in the Church featuring both lay and women religious.

To find these episodes follow this link: <https://www.catholicextension.org/stories/catholic-extension-episodic-series>

Catholic Extension assists us in the Diocese of Des Moines by being a vital partner in our Hispanic Ministry outreach.

## **Great Formation Opportunity – Ordination of Deacon Carlos to the priesthood:**

Ordinations to the priesthood are a great blessing and one of the two key liturgies of the Diocese (the other being the Chrism Mass). Sadly many ordinations occur during the early days of summer after the catechetical year is complete. However, this year we will have an ordination scheduled for Sunday, December 18 when Deacon Carlos Emilio Gómez Pineda will be ordained at St. Ambrose Cathedral at 4:00 pm.



Ordinations have many beautiful symbols and the experience would be rich for:

- Middle school and high school teens (especially those in Confirmation) This is a way in which to keep vocation in front of the youth, “What is God calling you to do with your life?”
- Adults participating in an on-going faith formation process
- Catechists, youth ministry volunteers and RCIA team members
- Catechumens, Candidates and Sponsors in the RCIA process

There is ample parking on the weekends near Saint Ambrose Cathedral although I would try and arrive early if you are bringing a group.

## **CLADD Advent Luncheon – December 15 at Our Lady’s Immaculate Heart Church:**



The CLADD Mentoring Group invite you to a festive Advent-Christmas Lunch at Our Lady’s Immaculate Heart parish in Ankeny from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm on Thursday, December 15. The mentoring team will provide a wonderful lunch and inspire all to sing Christmas Carols. Please bring a dozen or so homemade cookies for a cookie exchange. A flyer is attached. Please RSVP to Diane at [diane@olih.org](mailto:diane@olih.org) by December 9.

## **CLADD November Update – Kim Mandelkow:**

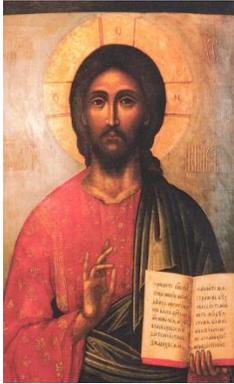
Thank you Kim for presenting a thought provoking presentation on the Mass at CLADD in November. It was inspiring and a wonderful model that underscores how vital adult faith formation is to open eyes to the richness and beauty of our Catholic faith.

Kim is available to share this presentation at your parishes. She asks first that you seek approval from your pastor but she would be honored to be with you and your parish community. For openings within her schedule please contact Kim at [kmandelkow@dmdiocese.org](mailto:kmandelkow@dmdiocese.org).



For more resources from the Diocesan Office of Worship, please follow this link: <http://www.dmdiocese.org/worship.cfm>. Here you will find Kim’s monthly newsletter with information on formation, upcoming worship events and more.

**The Rich Soil Catechetical Certificate Program retreat feedback and last call:**



At the time of this publication, our Council Bluffs retreat for the western part of the diocese has occurred and the one for the eastern portion of the diocese is scheduled for this Saturday, November 19 at St. Boniface parish in Waukee (in the Mary and Joseph Fellowship Hall). Attached please find the results of participant comments regarding the retreat. From my perspective as the facilitator and someone who loves catechetical ministry, it was a blessing to be with others who shared this passion and their desire to grow.

As I shared in a recent e-mail, it isn't too late to register for the retreat this Saturday for catechists on the east side of the diocese and we will have extra materials for walk-ins. **Please send the registration form to Sherri ([ssimmer@dmdiocese.org](mailto:ssimmer@dmdiocese.org)) as soon as possible so we can have materials available for everyone.**

What if I cannot attend the retreat, can I still register for the sessions? YES! However, I also need the registration forms as soon as possible so I can set up the infrastructure and have practice sessions available for all participants in our digital class room. Our first catechetical session is December 6. However, training is available on November 29 and December 1. **Please try and register those participants desiring to take the classes by Monday, November 28.**

Each time we have a session, I will have an opportunity for feedback from the participants. This information will be shared with you as a way to experience the process through their eyes. It will also give us a chance to see what needs to be adjusted before we begin the second cohort in 2017-2018.

Thank you for your support of catechetical certification in our diocese. I am confident with an outstanding process whose goal is an encounter with Christ, we will continue to see steady growth throughout the years.

*Today I ask you,  
in the name of Christ and the  
Church, never tire of being  
merciful."*

*Pope Francis  
The Church of Mercy*

