

Department of
Evangelization & Catechesis

Growing Disciples – Wednesday Wrap
Glorifying God – Growing in Faith
Living our Catholic Faith in the World
November 28, 2018 Edition

“Jesus Christ loves you; he gave his life to save you; and now he is living at your side every day to enlighten, strengthen and free you.” (Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium, 164)

Clergy Abuse Forum Resources:

Anger, sorrow and disappointment are very palpable emotions expressed by many of the faithful as they, and perhaps you, wrestle with the clergy child sex abuse and leadership scandal rocking the Church once again. Many parishes want to provide an outlet for parishioners to share questions, concerns and their feelings with those in Church leadership.

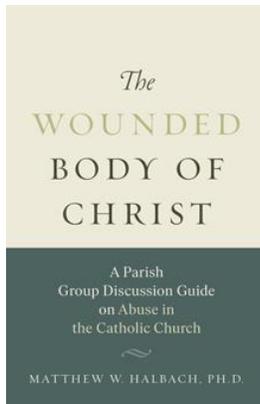
Attached to this E-Newsletter is a framework developed by the St. Theresa Peace and Justice Committee. It was very well attended with a little over 90 attendees packing their parish hall. They have given me permission to share this framework with the other parishes we serve. As a panelist I found the process an excellent first step in helping people heal. If you would like to know more



about how the Peace and Justice Committee created this framework, please contact Anita Holub at holubanita@gmail.com. The only negative feedback that was reported on their comment cards was that the amount of time for responses by the panelists did not allow for all the questions to be answered. Otherwise, 88% of respondents said it was helpful and met their expectations and 85% would like additional events such as these to be held in the future. I have visited many parish communities on behalf of the diocese and would be honored to come to your parish if your pastor and leadership feel it would be helpful. Given enough time, we can also arrange other panelists too. Please contact me at jgaffney@dmdiocese.org if interested.

Deacon Matt Halbach, Ph.D. has authored a powerful resource titled *The Wounded Body of Christ: A Parish Group Discussion Guide on Abuse in the Catholic Church* published by 23rd Publications. The goal of the resource is for “clergy and laity, together, to take more proactive steps...in the process of healing and reuniting the Church.” The purpose for the materials is fourfold:

- “to engage, through education and faith sharing, adult Catholic whose faith has been challenged by the presence and effect of clergy abuse in the Church;



- to provide an opportunity for the Church to discuss clergy abuse in a constructive, reflective, and prayerful manner;
- to highlight the call for justice and mercy-making as necessary agents in healing;
- and to solicit new ideas and means of protecting the body of Christ from future abuse and to share this feedback with appropriate leadership.

To review this resource and to order, please follow this [link](#).

Free Youth Ministry Training for Volunteers who work with Middle School and High School Age Youth:

The Archdiocese of Atlanta has launched a free training tool for youth ministry volunteers. This tool provides your parish with the means to train the volunteers who are serving in Catholic youth ministry. This tool is available in both English and Spanish. It features nationally recognized youth ministry experts and includes reflection guides for use by individuals or if you use this tool in a gathered group formation.



Volume 1 includes the following four pillars:

- The Vision of Youth Ministry
- Evangelization and Youth
- Adolescent Development and Pastoral Care
- Ministry Among Diverse Populations

Volume 2 includes the following four pillars:

- Leadership Development
- Youth Ministry Planning
- Liturgy, Worship & Music
- Moving from Service to Justice

If you have issues with internet connection, don't worry. The resources can be downloaded and saved for broadcast without a wifi access. We are grateful for the investment of the Archdiocese of Atlanta and grants from Our Sunday Visitor and the Catholic Foundation of North Georgia who supported the first phase of this project.

Justin and I will be using this platform for youth ministry formation in YOUR area after the first of the year. Stay tuned.

To review the material follow this [link](#).

Follow-up to November 2018 CLADD Session on Prayer:



The CLADD Leadership Team thanks Theresa Romens and Randy Henderson for a prayerful and practical session on prayer. I was inspired by the faithfulness, reverence and creativity our colleagues utilize as they prepare prayer services.

For those who couldn't make the session I have included the resources provided by Theresa and Randy on the Diocesan Resources website. You can access all the resources using this [link](#).

It seems this updated approach to CLADD sessions is really being well received. The CLADD Leadership Team will be developing a survey that will be sent out in the next week to gather your feedback on our September, October and November sessions. We will utilize this information as we prepare for the January, March and April sessions as well as our February retreat.

Speaking of January, please mark January 15 (CLADD West) and January 17 (CLADD East) for our annual session on minister self-care. Our facilitator will be our good friend, Tom Green, will shepherd us into the topic of tending to our own spiritual, mental and physical well being. More to come next month.

CLADD Retreat 2019 – Register Today:

Colleagues are already signing up for our CLADD 2019 Retreat which will be held in Des Moines on February 7 & 8, 2019. YEAH! This year we are limiting the number to 44 people. You do not want to miss Julianne.

Her topic for the retreat is *The Seven Keys to Spiritual Wellness: Tending to YOUR Soul as a Minister.* For more information and registration, please see the attachment to this E-Newsletter. Throughout the retreat, Julianne will offer seven enduring and reliable strategies for achieving spiritual wellness: a spiritual path. This is a path whose guideposts for spiritual wellness are sure to lead us to a more meaningful life and to a much richer experience of our faith.



If you are not convinced, I invite you to watch this video of Julianne as she shares “Baptism on a Mission.” The link is: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qJzt9qZRetY> I also invite you to seriously consider staying overnight at the Holiday Inn so you can truly get away and spend some quality time with God. The room rate is secured until January 18. You can treat yourself to some private time or you can share the cost with another colleague. Please remember that we do have limited scholarships that can be provided for all, or some of the cost. I pass on to you what a good friend and spiritual director once reminded me, “God is more interested in you than in your ministry.” Take time out this February to be with God and your colleagues at the 2019 CLADD Retreat.