

Department of  
Evangelization & Catechesis

Growing Disciples – Wednesday Wrap  
Glorifying God – Growing in Faith  
Living our Catholic Faith in the World  
November 8, 2017 Edition

**National Conference for Catechetical Leadership Partners with Sony Pictures on the movie *The Star*:**

A small but brave donkey named Bo yearns for a life beyond his daily grind at the village mill. One day he finds the courage to break free, and finally goes on the adventure of his dreams. On his journey, he teams up with Ruth, a loveable sheep who has lost her flock and Dave, a dove with lofty aspirations. Along with three wisecracking camels and some eccentric stable animals, Bo and his



new friends follow the Star and become unlikely heroes in the greatest story ever told – the first Christmas. **The Star will be in theaters beginning November 17, 2017.**

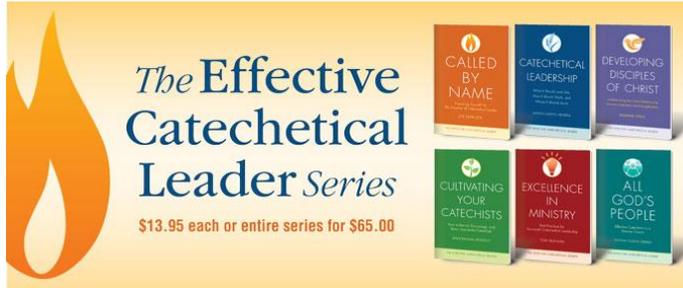
NCCL offers a variety of wonderful Catholic resources inspired by the movie for use in your religious education and Catholic school classrooms as well as for parents working with their children. The link for the resources is [http://origin-flash.sonypictures.com/ist/thestar\\_resources/thestar\\_nccl\\_curriculum.pdf](http://origin-flash.sonypictures.com/ist/thestar_resources/thestar_nccl_curriculum.pdf).

You will find lessons on:

- The Christmas Story
- Divine Providence
- Friendship
- Prayer
- Las Posadas
- Vocation

Check it out today and you will be very surprised. NCCL is the national professional conference for those who serve the Church in any aspect of lifelong formation in faith. Contact John Gaffney at [jgaffney@dmdiocese.org](mailto:jgaffney@dmdiocese.org) for more information about membership benefits.

## **Effective Catechetical Series launched with a new series by Loyola Press and NCCL:**



Many of us who serve in an advisory capacity to NCCL have been asking for a renewal of the *Effective Catechetical Leader* series. For many of us who started back in the 1990s, this series was helpful for developing a quality and faith-filled religious education parish program. For me, many of the lessons I

learned I still use today.

Thanks to Loyola Press and many volunteers at NCCL the series has been updated by some of the top catechetical leaders in the country. This series provides practical skills, strategies and approaches that ensure parish formation in an evangelizing manner.

The series includes the following titles:

- Called by Name – Joe Paprocki
- Cultivating Your Catechists – Jayne Mondoy (a colleague from Hawaii)
- All God's People (Effective Catechesis in a Diverse Church) – Donna Tolliver Grimes
- Catechetical Leadership – Adrian Alberto Herrera
- Developing Disciples of Christ – Julianne Stanz (a colleague from Green Bay)
- Excellence in Ministry – Tom Quinlan (a colleague from Joliet)

For more information about the series as well as their wonderful free APP follow this link <https://www.loyolapress.com/products/parish-ministry/the-effective-catechetical-leader-series>

More on our use of this series in the Diocese to come.

## **Share the Journey Activities & Reflections about Migration and Refugee Crisis – Spotlight on a Pilgrimage activity on the refugee crisis for elementary children:**

*Share the Journey* has many opportunities in which people of all ages can enter into Pope Francis' advocacy campaign on helping us understand the stories of people who are refugees and migrants to new lands.

Resources include:

- Prayers
- Church Teaching
- Videos
- Activities and Reflections
- Resources in Spanish



This week's spotlight is a pilgrimage that has been designed for your elementary children (grades 3 up through 8) that help them understand why people around the world have become refugees and to encourage action in solidarity with refugees. The lesson plan is attached to this e-newsletter. For more resources follow this link: [https://www.sharejourney.org/resource-library/?\\_ga=2.100363230.1387801583.1510163969-1365370595.1506540544#activities-and-reflections-about-the-migration-and-refugee-crisis](https://www.sharejourney.org/resource-library/?_ga=2.100363230.1387801583.1510163969-1365370595.1506540544#activities-and-reflections-about-the-migration-and-refugee-crisis)

**Save the Date – NCCL Conference & Exposition – May 30-June 2 in Chicago – Walk with Christ/Camina con Cristo:**



Come to be spiritually, intellectually and pastorally fed. The NCCL is designed for YOU in mind. This is the professional development conference for catechetical leaders whether full time, part time or a volunteer. You will come away from the conference with confidence, a broader network of people to help you with ideas and challenges, and fresh ideas for ministry. It is designed for all who minister at any point in lifelong formation in faith. Registration opens December 2017.

Contact John Gaffney at [jgaffney@dmdiocese.org](mailto:jgaffney@dmdiocese.org) for questions about attending the NCCL Conference. Since it is so close, it would be sad not to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity for YOU and YOUR parish community.

