

Department of
Evangelization & Catechesis

Growing Disciples – Wednesday Wrap
Glorifying God – Growing in Faith
Living our Catholic Faith in the World
March 7, 2018 Edition

Radix Retreat Was Fruitful for our Teens – See what they had to say:



Thanks to the volunteer retreat team, staff at the St. Thomas More Center and teen participants, the Radix Retreat for 12th grade students was a fruitful experience of faith. However do not take my word for it, below are the comments thus far from some the retreat participants:

- Definitely go on Radix in order to feel more prepared and assured in your future as a witness of Christ's love.
- It was the best retreat experience I have had. It was the perfect mix of learning and growing in my faith, as well as having free time to meet the other retreatants and the team leaders.
- As I came from a public school. I didn't know much. Especially not knowing how to read the Bible or how to look in the Bible. Go to Radix it will change tremendously and it's a great thing.
- I wasn't really sure that I wanted to go on Radix, but the weekend far exceeded my expectations and helped me grow in my faith in ways that I hadn't even considered before. I would definitely recommend going.
- It provides a reprieve from the hectic schedule of being a senior and allows for re-focusing on what's important and where you want to be headed.

The retreat participants rated the retreat at 4.93 out of a possible 5, with 93% rating the retreat as excellent. There were 45 teen participants for the weekend due to bad weather cancelling the February 2018 retreat.

Our hope is to serve more teens as they are transitioning from high school years into the next phase of their life. **Plan the Radix Retreat dates for 2019 in your ministry calendar now.** We schedule one Radix Retreat in February and one in March, usually during the Lenten season if possible.

To receive a copy of the complete survey results or if you have questions on how to promote to your teens so they register, please contact Justin White at jwhite@dmdioocese.org or at 515-237-5098.

Faith in Action – Be Part of the Diocesan Chrism Mass by pouring the Sacred Oils:

The Chrism Mass will be held at 7:00 pm on Friday March 23. Sherri and I are working with Sandy Reisberg on recruiting volunteers who can help during the Mass pouring the sacred oils into the vessels to be distributed to parishes.



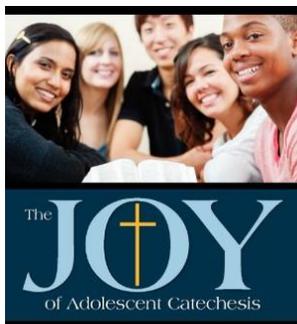
The pouring of the oils must be done during the Mass so the volunteers would not be participating in the Chrism Mass. Our task is to recruit teen volunteers from parishes to help. It would be a wonderful experience for current Confirmation candidates since this Chrism will be used at their Confirmation Mass. Each teen volunteer would also receive service hours. I need 30 to 35 for this project so two to four from each parish would be ideal. In the past we have ordered pizza or Subway platters for the volunteers. Sandy Reisburg will provide more information for those interested, but ideally they would arrive around 6:45 pm wearing clothes that can get dirty in case they spill oil on themselves.

If you can help with recruiting and teens agree to help with the project please do the following:

- Contact me (jgaffney@dmdiocese.org) or Sherri (ssimmer@dmdiocese.org) and let us know the number and names of the teens
- Please let us know if we can e-mail an information sheet directly to them or their parents or if you would like that to be sent to you (include e-mail address)

I need to know by noon on Monday, March 19 if you have teen volunteers so that the information sheet can be e-mailed on Tuesday. The Chrism Mass is beautiful and many people from around the diocese work very hard to make the celebration look like the many faces of the diocese. I hope your teens can be part of this beautiful celebration. Thank you for your help.

Upcoming Webinar on March 20 at 1:00 pm – Preparing the Soil for a Plentiful Harvest:



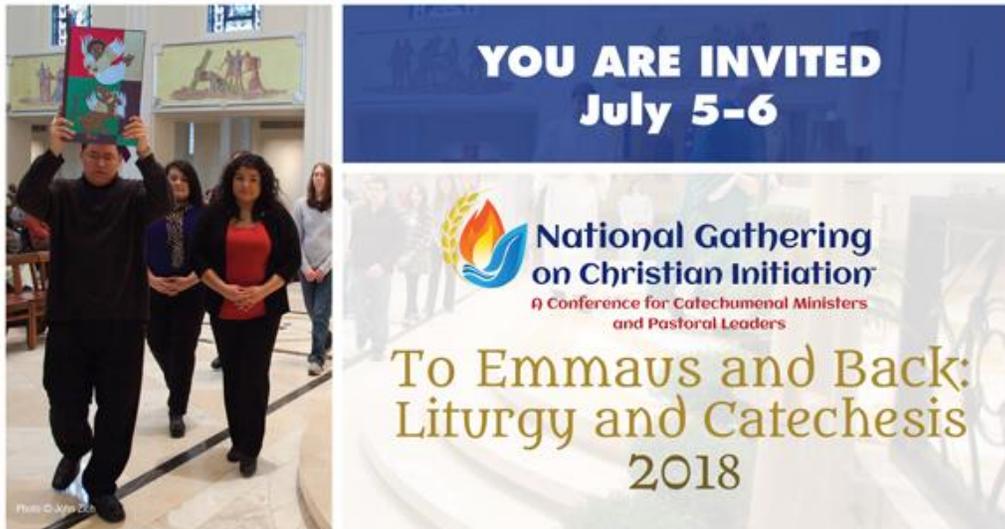
For effective formation and catechesis for young people, we need to build partnerships with those who love our young people and families to better share the treasures of our Catholic faith. Join the conversation to identify principles, strategies, and methods that build effective partnerships with teens and parents in the parish and school community. When the soil of partnerships has been well tended, faith and discipleship grow and bear an abundant harvest. Tune in and See!

Presented by Greg “Dobie” Moser and Father John Serio. Dobie Moser has degrees in Secondary Education, Family Systems Counseling, and a Doctorate in Ministry Leadership. He has written formation materials and has done training nationally in Catechesis, Confirmation, Family Ministry, and Youth Ministry. Fr. John Serio is the principal of Salesian High School in New Rochelle, NY and has

served as a member of the Partnership For Adolescent Catechesis. This webinar is offered free to you by our membership partners including NCCL, NFCYM and NCEA.

Registration link is <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5120153359862156545>

LTP Conference on Liturgical Catechesis in Chicago on July 5-6 – Worth Registering:



Liturgy Training Publications invites all parish leaders, initiation ministers, and regional and diocesan trainers to join us for the 2018 National Gathering on Christian Initiation to reflect on the essential bond between liturgy and catechesis in the process of Christian initiation.

This year's team of presenters include:

- Donna Eschenauer, PHD, associate dean and associate professor of pastoral theology at St. Joseph's Seminary and College in New York.
- Patricia Hughes, DMIN, director of the Office of Worship for the Diocese of Dallas.
- Fr. David Loftus, pastor at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Northridge, CA.
- Michael Ruzicki, training and events manager at Liturgy Training Publications and the director of music for Notre Dame de Chicago Parish.

For more information about the team or the National Gathering on Christian Initiation, visit www.NGCI.org/2018. Registrations will be taken until May 11, 2018.

Registration link is

https://www.ngci.org/register/register?utm_source=2018+NGCI+Register&utm_campaign=FY18+NGCI+&utm_medium=email

Fanning the Flame Retreat –

Retreat rescheduled to April 7th due to weather.

Registrations are open for April 7th Retreat.

Fanning the Flame is a day of prayer, reflection, and fellowship, all oriented towards identifying the movements of the Holy Spirit in our daily lives. This day will be very helpful for 9th and 10th graders preparing for Confirmation. There is a separate track for sponsors and/or adult chaperones accompanying the teens to help them grow deeper in their faith as well.



The cost is \$40.00 for teens and \$20.00 for adults. The retreat will be held at the St. Thomas More Center. For questions or registration information, please contact Justin White, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry, at jwhite@dmdiocese.org or (515) 237-5098.

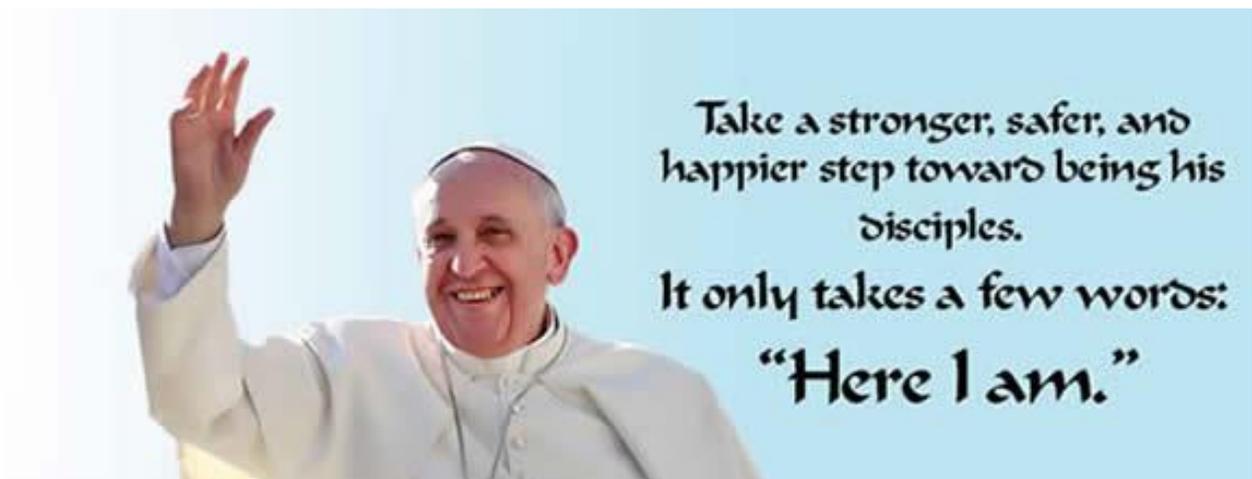
Building the Kingdom Lenten Mission:



This Lent, we once again are raising funds to help support a high school seminary in Nigeria led by the Congregation of the Holy Spirit. This seminary has provided our diocese four priests who are currently serving here, and anything we can do to help support their work and the work of the future priests of our universal Church is appreciated! For more information, give us a call. If you need additional envelopes or posters, please contact Sherri Simmer at ssimmer@dmdiocese.org or at 515-237-5058. Thank you.

To show the Building the Kingdom video to your children, teens and families follow this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=egNFi IMPAs>



Take a stronger, safer, and
happier step toward being his
disciples.
It only takes a few words:
"Here I am."