



Department of
Evangelization & Catechesis

PCL Connect E-Newsletter
Glorifying God – Growing in Faith
Living our Catholic Faith in the World
January 2023 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)

January PCL Connect/CLADD Formation Session with special guest John Gaffney and friends – Implementing the new Diocesan Strategic Plan – What it means for Lifelong Formation in Faith:



When: January 19 from 9:30 to 11:30 am

Where: ZOOM

Why: To help you answer what implementing this new pastoral plan means for your ministry outreach in lifelong formation in faith

Last Summer Bishop Joensen shared the new vision and mission that are foundational for our strategic plan. The actual plan itself has been in development throughout this fall and we are in the beginning process of implementation.

Join us for a vibrant discussion on the six strategic priorities and the pastoral process being used to implement the plan.

- Creating a Culture of Care & Welcome
- Inviting People into an Encounter with Jesus Christ
- Accompanying our Youth into Discipleship with Jesus Christ
- Engaging our Young Adults into Full Participation
- Preparing Disciples for the Domestic Church (Households of Faith)
- Cultivating connections in Christ by communicating our message more boldly and clearly

This session will focus on the ‘why’ of each pastoral priority while exploring the what and the how of implementation as a group. Breakout sessions will be used for small group synodal type discussions. Please join us for a vibrant opportunity to learn about the direction for the Church of Southwest Iowa and how your insights and wisdom can help our implementation be more effective. Let [me](#) know if you have any questions.

Topic: PCL Connect/CLADD Session – Implementing the Strategic Plan

Time: Jan 19, 2023 09:30 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83240879298?pwd=RFZvOWtNNEF5Mw0eFcySGFUSnVZUT09>

Meeting ID: 832 4087 9298

Passcode: 229033

**PCL/CLADD Winter Retreat Feb. 2 & 3, 2023 with Deacon Matt Halbach, Ph.D. –
Cardiovision: Seeing with the Eyes of Faith:**



Our 2023 retreat will look at how we can see things more as God does, beginning with our own lives. This holy seeing is not just reserved for the saints. It is a faculty that is derived from the gift of faith that can be applied in everyday life.

Join us on February 2 & 3 at the Hilton Garden Inn in West Des Moines, as we reflect on how God desires to help us to see a new and deeper truth about ourselves, others, and creation—and how we might see God in a new light as well—as we explore together Seeing as God Sees.

About Deacon Matt Halbach: Deacon Matthew Halbach, Ph.D. was ordained in 2018 for the Diocese of Des Moines. He is the Executive Director of Catechesis for William H. Sadlier, Inc. and a national author and speaker on the topics of mercy, accompaniment, evangelization, and catechesis.

Location of Retreat:

Hilton Garden Inn

205 South 64th Street

West Des Moines, IA 50266

515-223-0571 (reservations under CLADD Retreat)

Cost of Retreat is \$85.00 per person

Cost of Hotel Room is \$129.00 plus fees & taxes

Use [this link](#) to reserve room online. Book hotel by January 18, 2023 for the special rate.

Retreat Schedule:

February 2, 2023

- Retreat begins at 1:00 pm
- Session 1 (afternoon)
- Dinner
- Session 2 (evening)
- Social

February 3, 2023

- Breakfast

- Session 3 (morning)
- Lunch
- Session 4 (afternoon)
- Retreat ends at 3:00 pm

Retreat registration must be made by Friday, January 27, 2023. No refunds after January 27, 2023 due to catering contract.

Scholarships are available. Contact [me](#) or call at 515-237-5026

Contact [Sherri](#) or [me](#) if you have questions.

January is Respect Life Month:



This following links will take you to the Leaders Kit to provide to help catechist, youth ministers, and clergy build a culture of life throughout the year, whenever Respect Life themes best fit into your faith formation curriculum. The provided resources, ideas, and activities are only suggestions. The USCCB team encourages you to adapt them as necessary for your faith formation processes. Feel free to get creative as you build "an authentic civilization of truth and love" (*Evangelium Vitae*, 6) within your parish.

By clicking on the Respect Life banner at the top, you will return to the home page where you will find prayers for life, a variety of respect life resources including an image gallery, as well as the leader's kits.

- [Faith Formation kit](#)
- [Youth Ministry kit](#)
- [Clergy kit](#)

Items from Disability Ministry:

NOURISH FOR CAREGIVERS Session on January 25 AT 6:00 PM HELD AT HOLY TRINITY PARISH:



It is not a secret that when someone takes on the role of caregiver they take on stress, exhaustion, and frustration. As a result, caregivers often report declining health, emotional fatigue, depression and even spiritual depletion.

Nourish For Caregivers is designed to provide the tools and resources to build a caregiver's resilience by supporting their practical, emotional and spiritual needs, so they can experience the many blessings that come with caregiving.

The next session for Nourish for Caregivers will be held on January 25, 2023 at Holy Trinity

parish in Des Moines beginning at 6:00 pm. It will be held in the school media center. The topic is One Day at a Time. Please see the attached flyer for more details. Contact [Deacon Dan Maxcy](#) or [Deacon Jim Houston](#) with questions.

ACCOMPANIEMENT RESOURCES FOR PEOPLE IN OUR PARISHES AND FAITH COMMUNITIES:



In your roles as parish leaders in guiding people in their faith journeys, you are also accompanying persons and households during difficult circumstances and times of their life. Parish members, or those in the larger community, may contact you asking for support and assistance.

Our [Diocese Disability Ministry website](#) has a [Partner Organization Resource page](#) that includes resources for persons with disabilities, mental health and many other areas of life that we all may need support in during different times of our life journey. See the attached handout for examples of the resources available including links.

Please contact [Patty Origer](#), Coordinator of Persons with Disability Ministry if you have questions or need additional resources.

Final Call for early bird tickets - 10th National Eucharistic Congress Early Bird Ticket Process:



NATIONAL Eucharistic Revival

This is a reminder that the early bird ticket request deadline is Monday, January 16, 2023. The email below is what was sent out on December 16, 2022 spotlighting our process.

Your pastor may have already reserved the allocation for your parish. However, if he hasn't, you may want to visit with him and see if he wants to reserve the two tickets for each parish community (three tickets if your parish includes a school). The early bird ticket price is \$200.00. I will extend the ticket offer to all the faithful on January 16, based upon how many are available.

Email [me](#) if you have questions or would like to check if your parish has reserved your allocation. Tickets will cost \$350.00 beginning in February and I know our allotment of early bird tickets will run out once the tickets are available to the faithful of SW Iowa

Use [this link](#) for more information about the 10th National Eucharistic Congress.

National Eucharistic Congress Advanced Ticket Process:

- The National Eucharistic Congress will be held in Indianapolis on July 17-21, 2024.

- The Diocese of Des Moines has reserved 200 tickets, the most we could reserve for our size.
- Advanced ticket price is \$200.00 per ticket.
- 2 tickets reserved per parish – for example Father Trevor Chicoine will have four tickets reserved: two for St. Mary parish in Anita and two for Ss. Peter & Paul parish in Atlantic
- 1 ticket reserved per school
- 10 tickets reserved for Pastoral Center Staff
- 6 tickets reserved for religious
- 6 tickets reserved for seminarians
- 2 tickets for members of the Diocesan Pastoral Commission or Young Catholic Adult leadership
- Tickets need to be ordered by January 15, 2023 by emailing John Gaffney at jgaffney@dmdiocese.org. Reserve tickets not ordered by January 15 will be pooled together and offered to all groups on a first come/first serve basis.
- The Diocese will invoice your parish for ordered tickets.
- Beginning in February, the ticket price increases to \$350.00 once our allocation of 200 tickets is exhausted.

National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) 2023 November 16-19, 2023 in Indianapolis:



You are invited to come to Indianapolis with us from November 16 through 19, 2023, as we join thousands of other young people from around the country for this wonderful experience of the vibrancy and life that exists in the young Church. There's nothing like being in the midst of the young Church to bring home the message that we are part of something much bigger than our local parish communities.

NCYC Indianapolis is the largest gathering of Catholic youth in the country--it is a biennial three-day experience of prayer, community, and empowerment for Catholic teenagers and their adult chaperones. Teens and their group leaders enjoy speakers, workshops, live music, rousing large sessions, reconciliation, and a beautiful closing liturgy.

Perhaps best of all, teens are part of an enormous community of peers who love Jesus and their Catholic faith, and aren't afraid to show it. Teens and youth leaders will be assisted with harnessing the experience and bringing it back to their parishes.

Details are still being planned but use [this link](#) for the most up to date information as you plan your pilgrimage.

Contact [Justin White](#), Diocesan Director of Youth Ministry, and/or [Jessica Hernandez](#), Coordinator of Hispanic Youth Ministry, for more information.

Announcing NCCL's February 2023 Online Conference – February 15 & 16:



Two important topics are the focus of NCCL's winter online conference that is FREE for all participants: What is working in parent and family faith formation (February 15) and What is working in Adult Faith Formation (February 16).

The February 15 program:

11:00 am - Session 1. Family Faith Formation in the Parish
Dr. Kathie Amidei (St. Anthony on the Lake Parish, Pewaukee, WI)
Patrice Spirou (Archdiocese of Atlanta)

1:00 pm - Session 2. Family Faith Formation at Home
Catherine LaVecchia (Church of the Presentation, Upper Saddle River, NJ)

3:00 pm - Session 3. Parent Faith Formation
Denise Utter (Family Living Faith, Chicago)

Each session is 75 minutes with:

- Presentations by the guest presenters
- Group Discussions with other church leaders
- Group Reports on practical strategies
- Questions for the presenters
- Summary Reflections from the presenters

Use [this link](#) to register for this free professional development day.

The February 16 program:

11:00 am - Session 1. Faith Formation with Young Adults (20-30s)
Dr. Tracey Lamont (Loyola University Institute for Ministry, New Orleans)
Cassie Schutzer (Young Adult Initiative, St. Meinrad Seminary)

1:00 pm - Session 2. Faith Formation with Adults (40-80s)
Sr. Ruth Bolarte (Villanova University and RENEW International)
Sr. Janet Schaeffler (Author, Adult Faith Formation Consultant)

3:00 pm - Session 3. Adult Faith Formation Programming
John Roberto (NCCL Executive Director)

Each session is 75 minutes with:

- Presentations by the guest presenters
- Group Discussions with other church leaders
- Group Reports on practical strategies
- Questions for the presenters
- Summary Reflections from the presenters

Use [this link](#) to register for this free professional development day.

Free Webinars from Franciscan University:



Tuesday, January 24 at 1:00 pm CST – A Family Approach to Christian Initiation with Lori Smith. Lori is the OCIA/RCIA Advisor for the Diocese of Sacramento. Use [this link](#) to register.

Tuesday, January 31 at 1:00 pm CST – Passing Down Trust: Fostering Creative Leaders in the Catechetical Field through Mentorship with Dr. Petroc Willey,

Mary Ann Wiesinger-Puig, Dr. Bill Keimig of the Franciscan Catechetical Institute. Use [this link](#) to register.

Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation registration opens on January 11 for sessions between February 27 and April 2:



The Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation (VLCFF) is a growing initiative to offer adult religious education and faith formation anytime and anywhere via the internet. The goal is to support the church's professional ministry of religious education and faith formation in cyberspace.

The VLCFF is coordinated and sponsored by the Institute for Pastoral Initiatives (IPI) at the University of Dayton - a Catholic Marianist Institution.

Sessions are paid for completely by the Saint Joseph Evangelization Center or the Diocese of Des Moines upon successful completion of the session. Contact [Tom Quinlan](#) or [John Gaffney](#) to answer your questions and get you registered. See the many sessions below and click on the hyperlink for more information.

- [Basic Catechist Formation: Seminar 1.1 \(Catechesis is...\) \(Sem\)](#)
- [Bible Basics](#)
- [Catechetical Methodology – AMS Military Only](#)
- [Catholic Beliefs](#)
- [Catholic Teaching on Chastity, Family Life, and Human Sexuality Education \(Sem\)](#)
- [Chronic Illness: Mental Illness, Grief, Trauma Support and Counseling](#)
- [Conscience](#)
- [Discovering Integral Ecology in Laudato Si'](#)
- [Ecclesiology: Pilgrim Church](#)
- [Ecclesiology: Reframing Church](#)
- [Evangelization and Discipleship](#)

- [Facilitating Adult Learning and Faith Formation \(AFL 4\)](#)
- [Faith and Human Development](#)
- [Fundamentals in Deaf Faith Formation Methodologies \(SN 2\)](#)
- [Galatians](#)
- [Images of Jesus](#)
- [Introduction to Catechesis](#)
- [Introduction to Pastoral Care](#)
- [Introduction to Practical Morality](#)
- [Introduction to Prayer](#)
- [Introduction to Scripture](#)
- [Introduction to the Sacraments of Initiation](#)
- [Liturgical Books](#)
- [Mary in Scripture and Tradition](#)
- [New Testament](#)
- [Old Testament](#)
- [On the Call to Holiness \(Gaudete Et Exsultate\)](#)
- [Permanent Deacons: Discerning a Call to Holy Orders](#)
- [Praying With Children](#)
- [Praying with Creative Arts: Poetry](#)
- [Principles for Addressing Diversity Issues in Youth Ministry](#)
- [Sacraments](#)
- [Scripture and Justice \(SJ\)](#)
- [Scripture, the Soul of Mariology](#)
- [Survey of Catholic Doctrine](#)
- [The Distinctive Gift of Blackness with the Catholic Church](#)
- [The Parish Nurse as Counsellor and Spiritual Companion](#)
- [Understanding Culture in Ministry: Building Bridges](#)

January Important Dates:

- January 1 – [Mary, Mother of God](#)
- January 2 – [Saint Basil the Great](#)
- January 3 – [Most Holy Name of Jesus](#)
- January 4 – [Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton](#)
- January 5 – [Saint John Neumann](#)
- January 8 – [Saint Angela of Foligno](#)
- January 10 – [Saint Gregory of Nyssa](#)
- January 14 – [Saint Gregory Nazianzen](#)
- January 17 – [Saint Anthony of Egypt](#)
- January 18-25 – [Week of Prayer for Christian Unity](#)
- January 21 – [Saint Agnes](#)
- January 22 – [Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children](#)
- January 23 – [Saint Marianne Cope](#)
- January 24 – [Saint Francis de Sales](#)
- January 25 – [Conversion of St. Paul](#)
- January 26 – [Saints Titus and Timothy](#)

- January 27 – [Saint Angela Merici](#)
- January 28 – [Saint Thomas Aquinas](#)
- January 31 – [Saint John Bosco](#)

