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Message from the Office

Happy Catechetical Sunday!

Catechetical Sunday is a day we draw attention to the role that each member of the Church plays in passing on the faith, and in particular, we affirm the special role of catechists in our parish communities. Whether your parish is celebrating on this Sunday or another time, we wish you, your catechists and your parish abundant blessings as you launch into a new year of faith formation.

Blessing on your new year,
Office of Catechesis & Youth Ministry News

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR WORKSHOPS
For Gigs Geeks and God Conference – January 19, 2017

Gigs, Geeks and God is a training day for parish staff and volunteers, aimed at helping parishes understand and integrate technology in their education programs, communications, and parish administration. The Conference will be held:

Thursday, January 19, 2017
10:00am - 5:00pm
Our Lady of Lourdes, Milwaukee

The day includes workshops on topics of interest to religious educators, business managers, youth ministers, clergy, parish council members, teachers and volunteers. Dynamic presenters and innovative workshops are crucial to the effectiveness of the day. The Technology In Faith Formation Committee invites proposals for workshops.

For more information or if you are interested in presenting at the 2017 Gigs Geeks and God Conference, please click here.

Upcoming Events

Download the Catechesis & Youth Ministry Office Calendar to stay up to date on events.

Family Perspectives
October 20, 2016
9:00am - 2:30pm
Archbishop Cousins Catholic Center, Milwaukee

Family Perspectives is a comprehensive approach to support your efforts to integrate family ministry in your parish! After you attend the one day workshop to review the latest research and Church teaching on ministering to and engaging families in faith, there will be an individualized follow-up for your parish. Parishes that participate will receive 4 to 6 hours of on-site support to offer guidance and resources to make your family ministry come alive and be more meaningful in your community. To find out more and to register, click here

Archdiocese News
Year of Mercy Focus for September 2016: Clothe the Naked
Pope Francis has declared a Jubilee Year of Mercy to begin on December 8, 2015 and continue through November 20, 2016. Catholics throughout the archdiocese are invited to practice the Works of Mercy throughout this Jubilee Year. For September we focus on the Corporal Work of Mercy: “Clothe the Naked.” Take these Mercy Actions throughout the month: Donate your used clothes to a homeless shelter, donate new winter clothes to Catholic Charities, and shop at area St. Vincent de Paul Stores.

2017 Confirmations
The Confirmations for those parishes that have submitted Confirmation requests for 2017 have now been scheduled. The schedule is posted on the website, so you can find your date. There is a liturgy planning guideline available that can help your parish plan for Confirmation. It is at: Confirmation Packet for Liturgy with a Bishop.

If your parish is not scheduled for Confirmation 2017 or you have any questions or concerns regarding your confirmation date, please email the Archdiocesan Confirmation Coordinator, Nicole Bourne, at bournen@archmil.org to make your arrangements. Messages can also be left for Nicole at 414-769-3527.

From our friends . . .

Amoris Laetitia Webinar Series: The Pastoral Response in Accompanying Families in Faith

The Strong Catholic Families National Partnership invites ministry leaders, teachers, parents, and clergy to register for a four-part webinar series focusing on the pastoral implementation of Pope Francis’ apostolic exhortation on the family, Amoris Laetitia (The Joy of Love). Experience master teachers and live follow-up panels as you explore the following:

- Theme 1 (September 18-October 12): Listening to the Joys and Hungers of Families presented by Dr. Tim Hogan, Director of Grace Counseling Center, Detroit
- Theme 2 (October 16-November 2): Accompanying Families presented by Bishop Richard Malone, Diocese of Buffalo
- Theme 3 (November 6- December 7): Assisting Families in Discerning God’s Movement presented by Julianne Stanz, Director of New Evangelization, Diocese of Green Bay

Register for each panel at: www.strongcatholicfamilies.org/amoriswebinar/

Youth Ministry Subscription Discount & Webinar

Youth Ministry Access (YMA) is a subscription website designed especially for Catholic youth ministry leaders in parishes, schools, retreat centers. . . Because more than 10 parishes in the archdiocese are subscribers, the Center for Ministry Development is offering subscribers within the Archdiocese of Milwaukee 20% off renewals or new subscriptions!

Take a tour of Youth Ministry Access and see what it offers. Sign up for the webinar on Thursday, September 22 at 1pm.

St. John Bosco Youth Day
October 1, 2016
Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary Help of Christians at Holy Hill

This year’s theme is “Prodigal,” recalling Jesus’ parable of the Father’s great mercy ...” The day-long event promises to be spiritually fruitful, with inspirational and relevant speakers such as Justin Fatica, Jackie Farancios Angel, and Sarah Swafford, heartfelt prayer, beautiful surroundings and faithful fun, as young Catholics come together to celebrate our Catholic faith. Each year, hundreds of youth from throughout Wisconsin’s five dioceses gather to show their faith in Jesus Christ. The day will close with mass at 4:30pm with Archbishop Listecki. Share this experience with the youth you serve! For more information and to register your group, visit the Holy Hill [website](https://629896.content.nlgrid.com/wf/webmail?rp=ZTI1bGQzTnNaWF1wWlhKZmFXUTZNVEi6TkN4MWMyVnlYMmxrT2pJMU5qVTBmUWV5SnVaWGR6Y) or call Holy Hill at 262-628-1838. Pre-Registration is Required.

**WCLA Fall Conference**

The Wisconsin Chapter of the Catholic Library Association will hold its one-day conference on Friday, October 7, 2016, in the Wisconsin Dells. Participants include librarians from Catholic elementary and high schools, and parish library coordinators.

For information, download *Kaleidoscope*, the newsletter of the WCLA.

**Receiving, Sharing and Living Mercy through the eyes of Jesus and Pope Francis with Rich Harter**

Monday, October 10, 2016 at 9:00am
St. Dominic’s, Brookfield

Hospitality/Registration at 9:00 am
Presentation at 9:30am
Lunch at 12:15pm
Sponsored by: Sadlier

For more information and to register visit Mareda’s Website

**Make the Climb. Encounter Christ.**

October 29-30, 2016
Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary Help of Christians at Holy Hill

In the story of the Transfiguration, Jesus asks Peter, James, and John to follow him up a mountain to pray. While Jesus was praying, his appearance became dazzling white. For a moment, they caught a glimpse of the Divine Son of God that Jesus was. Wish you could have a “mountain-top” experience like Peter? Get ready to make the climb and encounter Christ on the Summit. This weekend is perfect for students who want to go deeper in their faith and learn how to share that faith with others. Oct. 29-30 at Holy Hill, $45. Max capacity of 40 people. Download flyer and registration form

**Resources**
Catholics Care. Catholics Vote.

Elections are a time for debate and decisions about the leaders, policies, and values that will guide our nation. The bishop’s Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship gives pastoral guidance to help Catholics exercise their political responsibility in light of our faith. This teaching document integrates new policy developments in the U.S. as well as new papal teachings, including those of Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis. Faithful Citizenship is not a voter’s guide or a scorecard of issues. It doesn’t offer direction on how to vote, tell Catholics who to vote for, or offer guidance on which candidate or party best reflects the Church’s moral framework. Instead, it shares Church teaching to help assess political platforms, campaigns, and some of the important issues that face our communities and world today. Click here to learn more about faithful citizenship or to attend the Faithful Citizenship sessions here in the Archdiocese.

Save The Date

WDREF Biennial Convention
November 9-11, 2016
Osthoff Resort, Elkhart Lake WI

Registration is now open for the 2016 WDREF Biennial Convention - “The Heavens Proclaim God’s Glory,” will be held November 9 – 11, 2016 at the Osthoff Resort in Elkhart Lake WI. The convention will explore the rich and exciting ways in which the realms of science and faith are intersecting today, and how this interplay informs faith formation in the 21st century. For more information, visit the WDREF website.

2016 National Conference on Catholic Youth Ministry (NCCYM)
December 1-3, 2016
San Jose, CA

Registration is Open!! Participants from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee receive a $20 discount on registration because we are an affiliated archdiocese. Be sure to visit the NCCYM website to find out more information and to register.

If you are planning to attend NCCYM, let Gary Pokorny know. We can help you network with others from the Archdiocese who will be attending. You might want to get together for a meal there, arrange to share a hotel room, or just want to know who else is going.

Gigs, Geeks & God
January 19, 2017
Our Lady of Lourdes, Milwaukee

This conference on technology, faith formation and parish ministries will feature a keynote speaker, workshops, a “quick fire” session, exhibitors, and ample time for sharing ideas with experts and colleagues.
September District Meetings

**District 12**
September 19 @ 11:00am
Saint Sebastian, Milwaukee

**District 4/5**
September 27 @ 9:30am
St. Mary, Waukesha

**District 15/16 - Child Ministers**
September 28 @ 12:00pm
St. Mary, Hales Corners

**District 10**
October 11 @ 1:00pm
Lumen Christi, Mequon

**District 9**
October 11 @ 1:00pm
Blessed Trinity Lodge, Sheboygan Falls

*** To have your district meetings included in the newsletter, please send your meeting information to: murphyjc@archmil.org

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Do you have an article, event or district meeting you would like included in the newsletter???
Please send information to: murphyjc@archmil.org

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