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## Message from Gary

### Catechetical Sunday 2021

Catechetical Sunday will be September 19, 2021. This year's theme is "Say the Word and My Soul Shall be Healed." These words which we pray at Mass are especially relevant in these times. Our need for healing became so evident this past year – healing from illness, of course, but also healing amidst social divisions, racism, isolation, uncertainty. We seek healing individually, as families, as a society, even as church communities. We turn to Jesus, the "Divine Physician," to beg for healing. But we turn to him in confidence, like the centurion whose words we allude

to (Matthew 8:8), asking only that Jesus say the word, knowing he can heal beyond our expectations.

This also serves as a reminder to us as catechetical leaders that our own ministry must be a healing ministry. Those we serve are often hurting, wounded, diminished, perhaps feeling unworthy. Their hurt and weakness can be an obstacle to full engagement, learning and growth. They need healing first. Do they find in us, in our gatherings, in our programs, a healing word? Do they encounter the Lord who can strengthen and heal them? So, as we attend to all the organizational details, the hospitality, the program content, let's not forget to also be a healing presence to those we encounter.

Catechetical Sunday Resources – We have a Commissioning Service for Catechists on our [Catechetical Sunday webpage](#). There are also links to other resources. (As of this writing, the annual resources produced by the US Bishops are not yet available.)

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## **Office of Catechesis News**

### **Changes & Communication**

If you are leaving a catechetical position due to retirement, position changes, a position at a new parish or any other reason, please let us know. If you are aware of someone newly hired for your parish or in your area, let us know. It is essential that we know who is serving in which positions and parish. Please email [Jennifer Murphy](#).

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### **Finish Line 2022**

Are you interested in hosting The Finish Line next year? If so email [Jennifer Murphy](#).

The Finish Line is an end-of-year event for DREs & YM normally planned by a deanery or a group of catechetical leaders & hosted in one of the parishes.

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### **Share your Registration Form and/or Job Description with Us**

We are developing a model Registration Form for Faith Formation. Sometimes parishes ask for guidance on updating their registration process, wondering what sort of information is important when parents are registering children for faith formation. If you think you have a fairly good registration form, please send to us. We are mostly interested in the types of information, the data

fields, the questions you ask, the permissions, and so on. Format or the means of collection (electronic or paper) is not important.

We are also interested in samples of job descriptions. It has been many years since we reviewed actual samples. We offer an archdiocesan model on the website, but sometimes parishes are looking for language beyond the model. Job descriptions vary greatly from parish to parish. But if you have a job description you are willing to share, please send. . . We are interested in the overall description, specific responsibilities, work relationships, skills/knowledge/abilities required, and so on.

Please send Forms and Descriptions to [Jennifer Murphy](#).

## Upcoming Events

### Catechetical Conference

Registration is now open for the 2021 Catechetical Conference. This year's conference will be held on **Friday, August 27th from 9am - 2:30pm** at the Mary Mother of the Church Pastoral Center in Milwaukee. The day will begin with Mass and will include general sessions, workshops as well as important ministry updates.

**Cost to Attend Conference: \$25**

\*\*\*Register by August 13th and save \$5

More information on the conference can be found on the [Catechetical Conference Webpage](#).

Register to Attend

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### New Directors Institute

The [New Directors Institute](#) is designed to provide information, support and resources to help you as your ministry unfolds. All directors of religious education, youth ministry and faith formation, who are new or nearly new to ministry, or new to archdiocese, are encouraged to join us.

Institute sessions are scheduled twice a month, beginning in September. In-person sessions will be held on the 1st Thursday of the Month from 9:30am – 2:30pm and will include lunch. Virtual sessions will be held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month from 9:30am – 11:00am. There will be a kick off session on August 26th from 9:30am - 1:00pm. More information including session dates and topics can be found on [New Directors Institute page](#). You can also register there as well.

## Archdiocese News

### **The Catholic Comeback - Updated Matrix**

Thanks for your attention to safety as parish and school life in the Archdiocese continues to blossom. The [latest version of the Catholic Comeback matrix](#) is now available. Unless there is a change in the current trend, we anticipate this will be the final version of the matrix, and the next communication will indicate “no restrictions.” However, Archbishop Listecki will continue to consult with his advisors regarding the best timing for such an announcement, likely as summer draws to a close.

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### **Camp De Sales 2021 | Summer Vocations Camp**

Young men in high school and middle school are invited to join Fr. Luke, Fr. John, and Milwaukee seminarians for Camp De Sales, an opportunity to encounter God in prayer and community. All camps will be held at St. Francis de Sales Seminary. For more information, or to register your son, please contact the Vocation Office at [vocationoffice@sfs.edu](mailto:vocationoffice@sfs.edu) | 414-747-6437 or visit [www.thinkpriest.org/events/](http://www.thinkpriest.org/events/)

### **Middle School Day Camps:**

Tuesday, July 22, 9am - 3pm

Thursday, August 10, 9am - 3pm

## From Our Friends

### **Arise Milwaukee Family Day July 24, 2021**

Families of all ages and sizes are invited to gather for a day of fun at Menomonee Falls Village Park featuring: Activities such as a bounce house, magician, face painting, balloon animals and games; Snacks such as Kona Ice and popcorn, and; An opportunity to mingle with Archbishop Listecki, Priests, Seminarians, and Religious Sisters! Family Activities run

3:30 to 6 pm. BYO picnic dinner to enjoy at 6 pm. Optional Stay for Arise Saturday Night featuring Eucharistic Adoration, Confession, and a worship band from 7 – 8:30 pm. All are welcome! Advance registration, \$20, required by 7/20 for Family Day Activities at [aristemke.org](http://aristemke.org). Arise Saturday Night, 7 – 8:30 pm, is free and open to the public. For more info and to register please visit:

[www.aristemke.org/family-day](http://www.aristemke.org/family-day)

**Arise MKE**

*Arise Family Day*  
SATURDAY, JULY 24

MENOMONEE FALLS  
VILLAGE PARK  
N87W16748 Garfield Dr.  
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051

*Pre-Registration*  
\$20/FAMILY  
MAY 1<sup>ST</sup>-JULY 20<sup>TH</sup>  
REGISTER AT: [ARISEMKE.ORG](http://ARISEMKE.ORG)

*Schedule*  
3:30-6:00 PM  
**ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES**  
Visit with Archbishop Lutański and Socialize with Priests, Seminarians & Religious Sisters!  
Bounce House, Magic, Face Painting, Balloon Animals, Snow Cones & Popcorn

6:00-7:00 PM  
BYO Picnic Dinner

7:00-8:30 PM  
Arise Saturday Night  
FREE & Open to the public

## We Are All Wonderfully Made - Morning Retreat of Faith

On **Saturday, August 14**, the Journey Ministry of Washington County is hosting a Morning Retreat of Faith for children and youth 6-14 years old with developmental and cognitive disabilities. This morning of fun will include interactive activities and learning about how much God loves them just the way they are and to recognize that they are a gift with many talents. The Retreat will take place at St. Mary's Immaculate Conception Parish and Queen of Angels Park, West Bend from 9am – 1130am. The cost to attend is \$10/child. See [Flyer](#) for more information. To register, complete and email the [Registration Form](#) to [Christina Spindler](#).

## Forming the Catechetical Spirit- BASIC - Starting September 11th

Forming the Catechetical Spirit is a parish-based program leading to religious education certification. The program provides adult learning experiences in the areas of scripture, theology and catechetical methods, along with opportunities for spiritual formation, networking and community-building.

Holy Cross in Wilmot will be hosting Forming the Catechetical Spirit - Basic Religious Education Certification on the 2nd Saturdays of the Month, starting September 11th. The sessions will be from 8:30 am – 12:30pm except September and May, which will be from 8:30 am - 2:30 pm. For more information, visit: [www.formingthecatecheticalspirit.com](http://www.formingthecatecheticalspirit.com). Keep an eye out for additional locations.

## Certificate in Catechetical Ministries returns at Cardinal Stritch University

The St. Clare Center at Cardinal Stritch will once again offer its popular Certificate in Catechetical Ministries. This program is intended specifically for DREs, youth ministers, and other faith formation staff members. The Certificate can be completed in 4 semesters. Classes are held at Cardinal Stritch University on Thursday afternoons. Courses provide participants with a clearer vision and with practical tools that can be used in their ministry. [See Flyer](#) for more information or contact [Michael Taylor](#), Director of the Saint Clare Center.

This is one of two certificates offered by the St. Clare Center's Lay Ministry Institute. The Institute offers non-degree, continuing education courses for Catholics who want to learn more about their faith so that they can serve better in their parishes. In addition to the Certificate in Catechetical Ministries, the Lay Ministry Institute offers a Certificate in Foundations for Ministry. [See Flyer](#)

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## Summer Explorer Day Camp at the Catholic Ecology Center

The Catholic Ecology Center (Neosho, west of Holy Hill) is offering [Summer Explorer Day Camps](#)! Some spaces are still open for young explorers.

The [Catholic Ecology Center](#) just opened this past year. It is a ministry of the Laudato Si Project, an organization named after and inspired by Pope Francis' encyclical on Care for our Common Home. They have been doing Catholic ecology education and events for several years, and now have their own camp. You can read about it in the [Catholic Herald](#). See [Flyer](#) for other offerings during the year at the Catholic Ecology Center.

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## Summer Camps for Kids at Catholic High Schools

If families in your parish are looking for summer opportunities for their children, consider camps offered by our Catholic high schools. There are camps featuring athletics, arts, acting, leadership, music, faith, wellness, STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, math), languages, pet safety, history and more!

- [Marquette University HS](#)
  - [Dominican HS](#)
  - [Pius XI HS](#)
  - [Divine Savior Holy Angels](#)
  - [Catholic Memorial](#)
  - [St. Thomas More](#)
  - [St. Joan Antida](#)
  - [Catholic Central HS](#)
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## Resources

### **Litany of St. Joseph**

During this year of St. Joseph, you may wish to use the [Litany of St. Joseph](#) for prayer during a gathering. Did you know that Pope Francis added seven new invocations to the litany? On May 1, Feast of St. Joseph the Worker, he added: Guardian of the Redeemer, Servant of Christ, Minister of salvation, Support in difficulties, Patron of exiles, Patron of the afflicted and Patron of the poor.

The Litany not only expands on the significance of Joseph, but reminds us that being a parent is not one-dimensional. One is not only a parent – which is an awesome role in itself – but a parent stands in relationship to the many beyond the family who need protection and support.

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### **World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly**

Did you know that Pope Francis established a new celebration to recognize grandparents and the elderly as vital members of the Church and so important in passing on the faith. July 25, 2021 will be the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. The celebration is to be marked each year on the fourth Sunday in July.

- Pope Francis offers a [Message for the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly](#).
- [A Blessing of Grandparents](#) is available for use at Mass or at home.

You may realize that here in the US, we also have a national “Grandparents Day” on the first Sunday after Labor Day (established 1979). Of course, you do not need a designated day to raise up grandparents, to affirm their vital role in the lives of their grandchildren and to recognize their contribution to the Church’s mission.

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### **Formation Resources**

Discover free-of-charge resources to supplement or enhance your lessons. Videos, lesson plans and other resources have been vetted by our review team, and are listed by general topic and by age group. Visit: <https://www.archmil.org/Catechesis/Technology/Formation-Resources.htm>

Do you have a favorite resource to share? Send us your suggestions under "Submit a Resource."

## **Job Openings**

**Director of Evangelization** - Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, Milwaukee

**Faith Formation Coordinator** - Resurrection, St. Lawrence

**Director/Coordinator of K-8 Faith Formation** - Kenosha-Racine County Line Catholic Parishes

**Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry** - St. Charles Borromeo, Milwaukee

**Coordinator of Youth Ministry** - St. Jerome, Oconomowoc

**Director of Children's Formation** - St. Lucy, Racine

**Youth Minister and RCIA Coordinator** - St. Mary of the Hill, Hubertus

**Director of Religious Education** - Basilica of St. Josaphat, Milwaukee

**Children's Discipleship & Baptism Assistant** - St. Charles, Harland

**Middle School/High School Ministry Coordinator** - Lumen Christi, Mequon

**Middle School/High School Ministry Assistant**- Lumen Christi, Mequon

**Coordinator of Faith Formation (Grades K-6)** - St. James & St. Theresa, Mukwanago/Eagle

**Coordinator of Faith Formation (Grades 7-11)** - St. James & St. Theresa, Mukwanago/Eagle

**High School Coordinator/Minister** - St. Dominic, Brookfield

To see all job listings in the Archdiocese,  
visit the [Archdiocese of Milwaukee's Career Page](#).

## **Contact Us**

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**This ministry is supported by the Catholic Stewardship Appeal.**

*Do you have an article, event or district meeting you would like included in the newsletter???*

*Please send information to: [murphyjc@archmil.org](mailto:murphyjc@archmil.org)*

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Archdiocese of Milwaukee

St. Francis 53235

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