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## October 18, 2019

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## Message from Gary

### Professional Associations:

Ministerial associations are a valuable source of support, information, and sharing new ideas. This is in addition to other opportunities for networking that you may have among co-workers, in your deanery, or at events. Associations bring people in common ministries together into a community of support, learning, and professional practice.

On the local level, **Mareda** is the association of catechetical leaders here in the Archdiocese of

Milwaukee, and is open to any leaders who serve in catechetical roles. Read a letter from Mareda Chairperson, Denise Murre [below](#). Visit the website at [www.mareda.org](http://www.mareda.org)

On the national level, **NCCL** is the professional association for parish catechetical leaders, evangelization ministers, diocesan directors, catechetical publishers, and academics in the field of religious education. See information about membership below, or visit [www.nccl.org](http://www.nccl.org).

## **Technology Competence:**

What knowledge and abilities should today's catechetical leader have or acquire? See our list of [Technology Competencies for Parish Catechetical Leaders](#) in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. We know that individuals have varying backgrounds – for example, some of us are digital natives, having grown up along with new technologies, and some are digital immigrants, having learned as adults. We also have different styles, different preferences, different habits. But as leaders, we sometimes need to stretch ourselves for the benefit of our ministries and those we serve. We try to be aware of the opportunities that technology presents, but also the challenges.

Being competent is not just about knowing HOW-TO use devices and programs. It also involves understanding the impact of technology on our culture, and therefore on our parishioners and students. Competence includes understanding dangers and safe practices, learning styles and effective methods, and the relation of virtual and face-to-face encounters. This list of competencies reflects national standards, local experience and discussions, and the input of leaders right here in the archdiocese.

In order to use the Tech Competencies for your own self-assessment, planning, and parish conversations, our Technology in Faith Formation Committee has developed a NEW [Technology Competencies Assessment Form](#)

It is a fillable PDF that can be completed on a device, or can be printed. Use it yourself, or share it with your staff and discuss your individual assessments together.

## **Office of Catechesis News**

### **Co-Workers in Transition:**

Continuing our updates on new directors of religious education or faith formation, we welcome:

- Katie Delemont - St. Martin of Tours, Franklin - Christian Formation

For all those beginning a new role this year, let us pray, and let us pledge our support and companionship along the way.

If you know of someone new to a position that we have not listed, please let us know. You can find the lists of other transitions in the past [two newsletters](#).

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## **Please Update your Catechist Information for the Archdiocese**

We ask each parish annually to update your catechist names and email addresses in the archdiocesan database so that we can ensure catechists are able to receive occasional information about training opportunities and relevant resources. As a Catechetical Leader at your parish, you may or may not be involved in updating this database on your own. If not, someone else in your parish will be able to update this list for you. It may be an administrative assistant, parish secretary or business manager. There are [PDF instructions](#) for Editing Names. All catechists should be included in the database and tagged as a catechist, which is found under Religious Education Tags. If you need your own login credentials or if you have any questions about the process of editing, transferring or adding individuals, email [Dale Klein](#) or call 414-769-3440.

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## **Become a NCCL Member through the Archdiocese**

The National Conference for Catechetical Leadership (NCCL) promotes catechesis and evangelization in the Church and enhances the ministerial effectiveness of its members. For more information on NCCL Membership visit the [NCCL website](#).

Parish Catechetical Leaders (PCLs) can become NCCL members as part of our Archdiocesan Membership.

- If you serve in a parish in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, in a catechetical leadership role, you may now enroll as a member and receive all benefits, at a greatly reduced cost.
- PCLs include directors or coordinators of religious education, faith formation, youth ministry, child ministry, evangelization, adult formation, and so on.
- During 2019, membership through the Archdiocese is available for a \$24 contribution to NCCL, instead of the normal membership fee of \$102.

To join NCCL:

1. Register through the Archdiocese by using the link below. Provide contact information and submit.

2. Once your PCL status is verified, you will receive instructions for activating your membership via the NCCL website. It will be on the NCCL webpage that you will pay the \$24 contribution.

### [Register for NCCL Membership](#)

Note: If you are already a member of NCCL, we will send information about renewing your membership, which will also require the \$24 contribution this year.

## Upcoming Events

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### **Launching Young Families in Faith: Making the Most of Baptismal Preparation and Follow-Up**

**A program for clergy, catechetical leaders, pastoral associates, and anyone who prepares parents for the baptism of their child.**

**Wednesday, October 30, 2019 6:30 - 8:00 pm**

**OR**

**Friday, November 8, 2019 10:00 - 11:30 am**

**At the Mary Mother of the Church Pastoral Center in Milwaukee**

**There is NO COST to you for this program  
funded by a Grant from Faith in Our Future**

**When parents present themselves to the Church for the Baptism of their child what does the preparation look like in your parish?**

**How can we optimize this opportunity to make it a moment that invites the family to move deeper into a life of faith?**

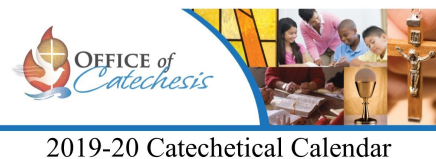
## How do we follow-up after the celebration of Baptism over the next few years?

Please join us for this session presented by **Dr. Kathie Amidei**, Catechetical Consultant

### Download Information Flyer

### Register to Attend

Download the Office of Catechesis Calendar to stay up to date on events.



### 2019-20 Catechetical Calendar

<b>October 2019</b>	<b>February 2020</b>
29 New Directors Institute 9:30 @ MMCPC	11 Family Focus Holy Habits 1:00 @ MMCPC
30 Family Focus-Baptismal Prep and Follow-up 6:30 @ MMCPC	13 New Directors Institute 9:30 @ MMCPC
<b>November 2019</b>	26 Ash Wednesday
1 All Saints Day - Office Closed	<b>March 2020</b>
8 Family Focus Baptismal Prep and Follow-up 10:00 @ MMCPC	3 New Directors Institute 9:30 @ MMCPC
19 New Directors Institute 9:30 @ MMCPC	24 Family Perspectives Take Two- Families and Scripture 10:00 @ MMCPC
28-29 Thanksgiving - Office Closed	26 New Directors Institute 9:30 @ MMCPC
<b>December 2019</b>	<b>April 2020</b>
12 New Directors Institute 9:30 @ MMCPC	10 Good Friday - Office Closed
24-25 Christmas Eve Day - Office Closed	12 Easter Day
31 New Year's Eve - Office Closed	18 Celebration of Catholic Scouting 4:00 @ MMCPC
<b>January 2020</b>	30 Family Perspectives 9:00 @ MMCPC
1 New Year's Day - Office Closed	<b>May 2020</b>
9 Gifts, Gifts and God 9:00 @ Our Lady of Lourdes Parish	12 Finish Line
21 New Directors Institute 9:30 @ MMCPC	25 Memorial Day - Office Closed
30 Family Perspectives 9:00 @ MMCPC	

Updated October 18, 2019

#### Contact Us

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## From our Friends



Letter from Denise Murre, Mareda Chairperson

Dear Friends in Ministry,

The Mareda board wishes to welcome and support you as you begin another catechetical year filled with classes, retreats and sacramental preparation in your parish ministries. Mareda is an independent association of catechetical leaders...[Keep Reading](#)

The next Mareda event is on Monday, October 21:

## **It's Okay to Start with You: Taking Care of Yourself**

Hospitality at 9am - Presentation at 9:30am - Lunch Provided

St. Mary by the Lake

7056 Lakeshore Drive, Racine, WI 53402

Julia Hogan, therapist, speaker and author of *It's OK to Start with You* (Our Sunday Visitor, 2018) will address how church ministers can and should take care of themselves while caring for others.

Click here for the [flyer](#).

Click here to [register](#).

To join Mareda, [visit their website](#).

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## **WDREF Retreat**

The Wisconsin Directors of Religious Education Federation (WDREF) is offering a retreat for catechetical leaders this fall. This is a great opportunity for spiritual refreshment and camaraderie with co-workers from around the state.

WDREF Retreat

November 3-5, 2019

“Discipleship: Blessed, Broken & Shared”

St. Anthony Spirituality Center

300 E. 4th Street

Marathon, WI

[INFORMATION & REGISTRATION FORM](#)

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## **Resources**

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### **Vocation Resources**

At the beginning of October, **DRE's, youth ministers and principals received a packet of materials from the archdiocesan Vocation Office.** These can be a great resources for your

formation programs.

One particular resource is the [Vocation Lessons](#) from Vianney Vocations. Our Vocations office has purchased these lessons for the whole Archdiocese. Lessons focus on teaching students about vocations to marriage, holy orders and religious life. This curriculum helps students listen for God's call in their lives. There are no textbooks; the content is 100% online. However, you have an option for printing out PDFs of the lessons and worksheets. Follow the [link](#) and use these codes:

Teacher Access Code: MilwaukeeVocations414

Student Access Code: StJohn414

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## Mission Resources

Mission Curriculum Materials are available in a monthly email from the **Missionary Childhood Association**. It has resources to incorporate global mission into your own classroom. To receive the MCA materials, [register here](#).

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## Respect Life Resources

**The US Bishops have a new [Respect Life Website](#).** They have materials for [October/Respect Life month](#), but there are also ideas for other times of year: [January/Row v Wade](#), [March/Annunciation](#) and [May/Mother's Day](#). Plus you will find a section for [Faith Formation](#).

**A recent article**, "[There are Many Ways to Teach Kids the Value of Life](#)" or in the print edition.

**The archdiocesan source for Respect Life information is the Office for the Dignity of the Human Person.** [Rob Shelledy](#) is the director. The office offers [online pro-life resources](#) and connects all issues related to the dignity of persons – pro-life efforts, justice for immigrants, water security, emergency relief, fair trade and more.

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## Get Families Talking about Relationships, Sex, and Safety – A Free Webinar

Tuesday, November 12, 2019 at 1:00 pm CT

Parents want to have meaningful conversations about important topics, but they don't always know how to do that. By harnessing the power of parental love, we can encourage them to guide their children in matters of life, faith, and morals. Help the families of your parish to have these critical conversations in healthy and effective ways. How can you engage parents in discussions with their children that they would not have on their own? How do we help them to start early, building the small steps of trust children need so that they will discuss important issues with their parents when they reach their teens?

Presented by: Dr. Kathie Amidei and Sister Kieran Sawyer

Moderated by: Jane Angha

[Register for this Free Webinar](#)

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## **175th Anniversary Patches are still available**

Here's a great way to get kids connected with our Archdiocese's history. Archdiocese of Milwaukee is offering a patch commemorating our 175th Anniversary. Patch can be earned by young people in grades 1st - 12th by completing the activities that help them learn about the history of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. This is a great activity for Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, youth groups, classes, families or any young Catholics. Adults who assist youth with requirements and activities are eligible to earn the patch as well. When requirements are complete, patches are purchased online through the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. [Learn more about the 175th Anniversary patch and download activities.](#)

Looking for other 175th Anniversary resources, visit the [Archdiocese's 175th Website Page](#).

## **Save the Date**



### **Gigs, Geeks & God**

January 9, 2020

Our Lady of Lourdes, Milwaukee

This conference on technology, faith formation and parish ministries will feature a keynote speaker, workshops, exhibitors, and ample time for sharing ideas with experts and colleagues.

## **Mark your calendar for THE professional development conference for catechetical leaders - just across the river!**

MAY 17-21, 2020

GRAND RIVER CENTER

500 Bell Street

Dubuque, Iowa 52001



Just a 2 ½ to 3 ½ hour drive from anywhere in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.



## **Job Openings**

**Child Minister Leader** - St. Mary of the Hill, Hubertus

**Youth Minister** - St. Thomas Aquinas , *Waterford*

**Elementary Formation Coordinator** - Holy Family, *Fond du Lac*

**Director of Faith Formation and Pastoral Associate** - St. Luke, *Brookfield*

**Child Ministry Coordinator** - St. Eugene, *Fox Point*

**Youth Activities Coordinator** - St. James, *Mukwonago*

**Director of Faith Formation** - Blessed Savior, *Milwaukee*

\*\*\* To have your job openings included in the newsletter, please send information with a link to: [catechesis@archmil.org](mailto:catechesis@archmil.org)

# District Meetings

## District 7 - Dodge County

November 21 @ 12:00 noon - St. Mary - Mayville

## Milwaukee SE and SW Deaneries

November 5 @ 12:00 noon - St. Matthias Parish

## 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: [catechesis@archmil.org](mailto:catechesis@archmil.org)*

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